### **Great Ruler 601**

### **The Great Ruler**

# Chapter 601: The Best 3

The brilliant Golden Battle Stairs stood towering on the Golden Battle Stage. At this instant, the best 3 teams were thoroughly revealed under all the gazes on the top three platforms of the Golden Battle Stairs.

However, when those gazes were shot over, the heavens and earth went into silence as numerous people couldn't help widening their eyes.

On the third level of the Golden Battle Stairs were five charming girls, especially the one that stood at the front, who had instantly attracted the attention of everyone present.

The girl held onto a golden long spear with her hair draped down. Golden battle armor wrapped around her slender and flexible figure, possessing picturesque looks. Her phoenix-like eyes made her look arrogant, her fair neck made her look like a swan, a voluptuous chest with an heart-shaking arc, a slim and tight waist with a snow-white patch beneath her skirt was so beautiful that nothing more could be imagined.

Although the four other girls beside her were appealing, they were a little dull standing beside her as she was simply too dazzling.

Countless gazes were revolving around her body, with many of those gazes radiating with light and blazing with flames.

"Woah!"

When that team appeared, an alarming burst of cheers exploded from the direction of the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy. That was basically the most glamorous region as countless girls were cheering with excited expressions since the team that had just appeared represented their academy.

When the students from the other Spiritual Academies heard the cheers, they involuntarily directed their sights over as their eyes became filled with longing. After all, amongst the Five Great Academies, the male students liked the Myriad Spiritual Academy the most, since no guys could resist the wonderful feeling of being surrounded by tens of thousands of flowers.

"Senior Sister Qingxuan made it to the best 3!"

"Hehe, she's truly worthy of being someone I worship."

"But I imagined Big Sister Qingxuan taking 1st. From the looks of it, there are truly hidden dragons and crouching tigers in this Great Spiritual Academy Tournament."

Under the soft and delicate voices that filled the air, someone finally directed their gazes at the second level as another team was revealed.

That team was dressed in white and every single one their momentum was out of the ordinary. But their facial expressions at this instant weren't as excited as they had imagined as they had gloom all over their faces, especially the one leading whose face was ashen.

"Rank 2 is the team from the Saint Spiritual Academy!"

"Their Captain is that Ji Xuan, right? I have long heard of his name. Reportedly, he was the most popular predicted champion, how did he end up in 2nd place?"

"Not sure about that, either..."

"Even Ji Xuan only took 2nd, who's in 1st?"

An uproar filled the sky as they abruptly shifted their gazes upwards and stopped at the peak of the Golden Battle Stairs. That area was the most eye-catching at this instant.

The light that filled the heavens and earth gathered as the golden light dissipated, revealing five silhouettes in the eyes of everyone.

The one standing at the front was a youth dressed in navy clothes. His figure was tall, like a spear, with outstanding looks. His black pupils were as abstruse as a starry sky and the outline of his face didn't make him look young and inexperienced. On the contrary, there was a smear of decisiveness and self-confidence that was rarely seen for those at his age.

However, be it his appearance or temperament, he wasn't in any way inferior to Ji Xuan.

Standing beside this youth, was a graceful figure. She wore a navy dress and beneath that dress of hers, was an impressive figure that outlined her curves, instilling a rush of excitement for those that were looking at her.

The fact that made countless others gasp in surprise was that she wasn't in any way inferior to Wen Qingxuan. Her skin was as white as the snow with moon-curved brows. Especially her crystal-clear pupils, which seemed to possess magic power, intoxicating others. Looking at her, no matter what troubles they had, all seemed to disappear by looking into her clear pupils.

Her silvery river long hair fluttered in the wind and in the next moment, two words rose in everyone's heart.

Absolutely breathtaking.

Facing such an outstanding girl, even those girls from the Myriad Spiritual Academy who had extremely high judgment fell into silence as they did not dare to make a comparison between her and Wen Qingxuan.

Standing beside that girl, was another beauty. Her hair draped down that made her look exceptionally gentle. Although she wasn't as breathtaking as the former, her gentle temperament was still charming.

Standing beside her, were two towering youths, one with handsome features, while the other was emitting a disdainful temperament. With a glance, anyone could tell that they weren't any ordinary goons. Regardless of temperament or appearance, this team made others gasp in surprise.

The heavens and earth seemed to have fallen into silence for a brief instant as if they were intimidated by this team that stood at the top.

"It's the team from our Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy!"

Suddenly, a voice filled with excitement broke the silence. Countless students from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy direction had their faces glow red from excitement as they yelled.

Astonishment and joy surged from everyone's eyes as the shock brought by the scene before them was simply too strong. They never, in their wildest imagination, imagined that Mu Chen and his team would make it to 1st place!

They actually managed to surpass Ji Xuan, Wen Qingxuan, Wu Ling and Liu Qingyun from the remaining four of the Five Great Academies!

"Big Brother Mu is mighty!"

Innumerable students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy yelled with their faces flushed red as the eyes of everyone were filled with excitement and deafening cheers thundered. Aside from the time when they managed to squeeze into the Five Great Academies, they never had such similar achievements.

Amidst the thunderous roars, Ye Qingling, Su Ling'er, and Yu Xi couldn't control their widening mouths as their eyes were filled with shock.

"Big Brother Mu Chen is simply far too formidable!"

Yu Xi was so excited that her face flushed red, even her speech stuttered. Her eyes were filled with admiration as the achievement by Mu Chen and his team far surpassed the expectations of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy.

"What a monster." Ye Qingling also couldn't help herself as she muttered.

Su Ling'er had stars flashing in her eyes as well that even as someone with her barbaric personality had troubles controlling her emotions from the over-excitement.

"Wa, Big Brother Mu Chen is too great!" Sun'er cheered along.

Ling Xi felt relieved in her heart. Half a year of separation, that youth had been growing up at a rapid speed as he seemed more mature as well.

The excitement from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy pulled back the students of the other academies from their astonishment. Every single one of them had a complicated gaze, especially the students of the Saint Spiritual Academy. The whole time, they believed that the Numero Uno belonged to Ji Xuan, thus the current situation had caught them unprepared.

"What is there to be proud of, it's just the elimination round. The Finals have yet to begin." Criticism spoke from some students of the Saint Spiritual Academy since they couldn't bear how cheerful the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy group was.

The Myriad Spiritual Academy also had countless delicate gazes shoot over at the top of the Golden Battle Stairs.

"I never imagined that the Numero Uno of the elimination round would go to the team from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy."

"Their Captain is quite handsome, but why haven't I heard of such a powerful person of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy in the past?"

"..."

Whispers resounded from the Myriad Spiritual Academy as many girls were a little curious since they were unfamiliar with Mu Chen.

"His name is Mu Chen, a Freshman from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy."

Amongst all the curious whispers, a voice suddenly rang out. All the girls were looking at the direction of the voice in astonishment and saw a green-dressed girl, who was looking at the dazzling figure on the Golden Battle Stage with a complicated gaze.

The appearance of the girl was also extremely gorgeous. Even amongst the flowers, she was still rather eye-catching. Her black hair was tied into a ponytail, with her ponytail curving in at her waist area, which made her look more lively.

"Mhm? Qian'er, you know him?" a voice of exclamation sounded out from a girl.

"Qian'er and he grew up together as childhood sweethearts." A red-dressed girl smiled as she covered her mouth. She was Hong Ling, originated from the Northern Spiritual Academy as well.

The Qian'er that they were referring to was Tang Qian'er, who grew up together with Mu Chen and went to the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy later.

In just two years, the young girl from before had become increasingly more slender and elegant and became even more charming. Her eyes were fixed onto that figure, whom she had not seen for a long time. Although back in the Northern Spiritual Academy, Mu Chen was already very outstanding, she never imagined that he would be able to achieve such a feat two years later.

"Haha, so it turns out that Qian'er and he had that relationship. Why don't you secretly tell him to lose to Big Sister Qingxuan in the Finals, maybe our Dean will make an exception for him to join our academy." The girls that stood by the side laughed.

Tang Qian'er's face flushed red as she shot them an annoyed gaze. Shortly after, her gaze was focused on that figure again as a hint of sentiment that was hard to defect flashed across her eyes When she saw the girl standing beside him, who was comparable to Wen Qingxuan, she couldn't stop herself from biting her rosy lips.

Not knowing why she felt a little regret in her decision to enter the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy.

Despite so, she still felt happy in her heart to see how outstanding he was.

Tang Qian'er pursed her lips as they slid down an unset arc. However, it was only a brief moment, before she firmly lifted them up as she clenched her small fist and spoke in her heart. *Mu Chen, you can do it.* 

If Uncle Mu saw how outstanding you were right now, he would definitely be very happy.

### **The Great Ruler**

# **Chapter 602: The Finals**

When the eight teams made their appearance on the Golden Battle Stairs, deafening cheers resounded in this region. Whether or not it be the teams that represented their Spiritual Academy who made it into the Finals, they all held great expectations for the Final Battle that was about to begin.

All in all, these eight teams before their eyes had risen above the countless Spiritual Academies. Thus, speaking from a certain degree, their strength represented the stronger fighting power amongst the academies.

The Five Great Deans who were seated on the sky overlooked the Golden Battle Stairs, with the exception that every single one of them wore a different expression.

A dense smile had long replaced the indifferent expression on Dean Tai Cang's face as his heart was similarly engulfed in astonishment and surprise.

He wasn't surprised by the fact that Mu Chen's team could make it to the Finals; he just never expected Mu Chen to achieve such a feat in the elimination round.

"Haha, looks like there is a fresh talent emerging from your Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy in this tournament as well, Dean Tai Cang." Dean Wu of the Martial Spiritual Academy shot a glance at Mu Chen as he spoke with an eye-narrowing smile.

"They are just lucky. That Wu Ling of your school doesn't look simple, either. I'm guessing that they are trying to hide their strength and, thus, did not compete for the best 3. Am I right?" Dean Tai Cang responded with a smile as the joy between his brows leaked out. After all, it was years since their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy achieved such results.

"From the looks of it, Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy seems to have improved." Dean Tian Sheng, who was quiet this whole time, let out a faint smile at this moment as he continued, "Dean Tai Cang, I bid my congratulations to you."

The smile on Dean Tian Sheng's face was indifferent with abstruse eyes; no one could tell what he was thinking. From the looks of it, he didn't seem too affected by the fact that Ji Xuan wasn't able to obtain the first place.

"Dean Tian Sheng must be joking, it doesn't mean anything since it was only the elimination round." Although Dean Tian Sheng was an old fox, Dean Tai Cang wasn't someone that's easy to mess with as well as he spoke with a smile. "But no matter how powerful the opponents are, my Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy will spare no effort."

"How expecting."

Dean Tian Sheng responded with a smile as he nodded his head. He shifted his gaze onto the three remaining Deans and spoke, "Since the best 8 are already here, shall we proceed to the Finals?"

The three Deans nodded upon hearing his words.

Looking at their response, Dean Tian Sheng stood up from his throne, which was made from light. In comparison to the vast heavens and earth, his silhouette was especially small. But not knowing why the

instant he stood up, it felt like he was overlooking the heavens and earth, unleashing might which was beyond any ability to describe. Under that terrifying might, the cheers that were resounding in this region fell into silence in an instant as countless revered gazes were looking at him.

Mu Chen, who stood at the top of the Golden Battle Stairs, was also looking at the white-robed figure with his head raised. The might that was emitted from him made his heart jolt and felt his mind sway. That's the true power of experts, compared to that level, there was a huge gap between them. However, he wasn't dismayed by that, because he knew that it was just a matter of time to temper himself to that level.

"Firstly, I would like to congratulate those who managed to get into the Best 8. No matter what the outcome will be, you are already outstanding amongst all the Spiritual Academies." Dean Tian Sheng's voice was faint as it contained sound waves that caused a fine trembling between the heavens and earth; even the Spiritual Energy in everyone's bodies was trembling along with it.

"The elimination round has already come to an end, and now, we will soon start our Final Battle."

"Only the person who rises amongst the others in the Final Battle can be the strongest amongst the innumerable Spiritual Academies, he will represent the apex of all academies."

A multitude had their blood boiled as they heard his speech. The apex was a spot that held unreachable glory for them and right now, there were only eight teams that could fight it out for that glory.

"Every single one in the Champion team will receive a thousand drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid and a Sovereign Elixir."

### Whoooooosh.

His words caused an uproar as many people had their eyes reddened. They were well aware what the Sovereign Spiritual Liquid represented. It was something that was indispensable to ascend the Sovereign Realm.

Even for some Clans, a thousand drops of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid was not a small amount.

Moreover, the Sovereign Elixirs were extremely rare, since it was reported that only Sovereign Spiritual Liquid that had been refined to the limits could be formed into elixirs, having a price tag comparable to a Low Rank Divine Artifact

Everyone was well aware that even if they did manage to get through the Third Grade Spirit Disaster, they still required the support of a huge amount of Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. Not to mention that it wasn't a hundred percent success rate. The moment they failed, the Sovereign Spiritual Liquid that they had stockpiled would all be for naught. Although a Sovereign Elixir still couldn't guarantee an absolute success, it increased the success rate by several folds.

The miracle effect was even more precious compared to a Divine Artifact for them who had not reached the Sovereign Realm.

"Sovereign Elixir... what generosity."

Even Mu Chen exclaimed in admiration. Due to the fact that he had the Spiritual Condensing Bowl, although a thousand Sovereign Spiritual Liquid was still very attractive for him, it still was insufficient to leave him stunned to this level. But his heart was jolting when he heard the Sovereign Elixir.

"It should be a reward pooled by the Five Great Spiritual Academies, making this tournament worthy of participating." Luo Li smiled as she stood by his side. Although the Sovereign Elixir was extremely precious, it wasn't to an extent to make her moved.

"You're the future Empress of the Luo God Clan. A fulfilled Empress has no idea how starved her husband is." Mu Chen teased.

Luo Li helplessly shot an enraged look at him, the flirtatious expression what was unintentionally revealed by her made the minds of others shake. Even those gazes gathered on her from outside the Golden Battle Stage lit up.

When Mu Chen's heart was also shaken by her expression, he sensed a cold gaze staring at him. Turning his head over, he saw Ji Xuan staring in his direction.

At this moment, Ji Xuan's face was covered with a layer of chill, no longer having the gentle expression he had in the past. Clearly, he had fallen into a pit this time. Originally, he thought that he already had Mu Chen stomped beneath him with that surge of 50,000 points at the last minute, but his contentment didn't last long as he saw Mu Chen's points soaring at a terrifying speed, surpassing him before he could firmly sit on the Numero Uno ranking.

Within his raging and shaken heart, Ji Xuan's pride was clearly broken. If it wasn't for the strand of rationale that he held, he might have lost control and attacked one of the best 8 to seize their points...

However, Mu Chen did not give him much time to plan as eight Academy Plaques amongst the Top 16 were already ignited when he surpassed Ji Xuan.

Who would have thought that when Ji Xuan attempted to use his schemes on Mu Chen, he'd smash his own feet instead of with a rock when he chose to end the elimination round and determined his points.

Although the ranking in the elimination round was completely unrelated from the contest over the Championship title, in the end, the feeling of being stepped on still filled Ji Xuan's heart with rage.

He had never suffered such a huge loss in his life, even his confrontation with Mu Chen in the Spiritual Road ended with him as the winner.

Mu Chen looked at Ji Xuan's cold gaze as he replied with a smile and cupped his hands, "Thanks for that."

Hearing Mu Chen's words, Ji Xuan felt suffocation in his heart as his breathing became heavy, even the movements on his face lessened with his gaze turning colder.

"It's still a little early for you to be complacent."

Ji Xuan sneered, "Just hope you don't encounter me in the first round. Otherwise, you might not even get into the Best 4."

"I'll return your words unchanged." Mu Chen smiled as an eerie light spun in his black pupils, "But rest assured, I will have a good fight with you this time."

"It seems like our previous fight gave you a little too much confidence." The corner of Ji Xuan's lips rose as he continued, "You have to be more careful. Otherwise, it will be painful when you fall with such high confidence."

"Don't fall to your death." Mu Chen shrugged.

The exchange between the two was filled with chill, making the confrontation in their words obvious.

Luo Li quietly stood beside Mu Chen as she shot an indifferent glance to Ji Xuan with her clear eyes. Although she did not speak, the supportive attitude she had of Mu Chen made the veins on Ji Xuan's arm throb.

"And now, we will draw lots to determine your opponent!"

Dean Tian Sheng's voice in the sky resonated once again. He waved his sleeve as eight light balls flew from his palm and hovered above the battle stage.

"Pick for yourself. Inside the eight light balls, there are colors classified in pairs. Those who obtained the same color will be your opponent."

Hearing his voice, all those below raised their heads as the Captains of the eight teams made a suction gesture, pulling a light ball into their palms.

The light ball hovered above Mu Chen's hand, he gave Luo Li, Shen Cangsheng and the rest a glance as all of them lightly nodded their heads at him.

Haaaaaaah.

Mu Chen lightly breathed out a mouthful of white mist as his eyes turned sharp, he clenched his fist and caused the light ball to explode.

As the light ball exploded, a pillar dyed in a scarlet red that looked like flames soared into the sky from his palm.

At the same time, the remaining seven teams crushed their light balls and along with that, seven light pillars soared.

All the gazes in this region were nervously directed at them.

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# Chapter 603: Battle of the Best 8

Eight dazzling pillars of light soared into the horizon that looked to have even pierced through the layers of clouds, clearly seen within a radius of a hundred miles.

Eight pillars colored in red, green, black and yellow. The sight of the eight pillars intertwining was extremely spectacular.

Everyone's eyes were fixed to the eight pillars of light as waves of uproars burst out with dense expectation contained in their voices.

Mu Chen had also directed his gaze at the sky following the uproar. His eyes were fixed onto the other red light and slowly moved his gaze along it and stopped at a team donned in green robes.

The Captain of that particular team, Liu Qingyun stood with his hand behind his back as his gaze was also staring at Mu Chen and his team.

Their opponent was the team from the Azure Sky Spiritual Academy.

Haaaaaah.

Shen Cangsheng and the rest of the team inwardly felt relieved. It was a miracle that they did not encounter Wen Qingxuan, Wu Ling and the rest. After all, they had a decent relationship with them, thus meeting them and having any one of them eliminated wasn't something that they wanted to see.

Speaking from a certain angle, the team from the Azure Sky Spiritual Academy was part of Ji Xuan's alliance and could be considered as their enemy. Now that they were facing off, it was a good time to teach them a lesson.

They were well-aware that Liu Qingyun helped Ji Xuan threaten Mu Chen. If it wasn't for the fact that the latter possessed a similar means, they might've been in a bad situation.

Mu Chen shifted his gaze from Liu Qingyun's team as he looked at the battle allocation and was slightly stunned when he discovered that the opponent of Ji Xuan's team was the Undefeated Spiritual Academy, represented by Wen Busheng.

Amongst the Best 8, the Undefeated Spiritual Academy's strength was probably the weakest. Generally speaking, it was impossible for a Spiritual Academy of such strength to get into the Best 8. However, Wen Busheng achieved this feat and no matter what the results might be, he would still be the glory of their Undefeated Spiritual Academy.

Mu Chen looked towards Wen Busheng. The latter's expression was, as usual, he wasn't in dismay from the fact that he had such a thorny opponent like Ji Xuan as his first opponent.

At this time, there was no way Mu Chen could help him, except to cheer for him in his heart.

Wen Qingxuan's opponent was the Nine Cauldrons Spiritual Academy led by Fang Yun, who was once defeated by Luo Li.

The last group made Mu Chen feel a little surprised since it was between Wu Ling of the Martial Spiritual Academy and Xue Tianhe of the Blood God Academy.

Mu Chen did not have any favorable feelings for Xue Tianhe and he even had a hint of killing intent for the latter, since the latter was clearly aiming for Luo Li.

As a person, Xue Tianhe was rather crafty, since he had never revealed his true strength in the elimination round. But, even so, his strength was well-proven by the fact that he could still make it into the Best 8.

Likewise, Wu Ling wasn't someone to mess with. Similar to Xue Tianhe, he had also concealed his strength in the elimination round, since he had never thoroughly displayed his strength.

Right now, the two fellows who had deeply concealed their strengths were allocated to face off against each other. Just thinking about it, the outcome of that battle must be a little confusing.

...

"What luck... meeting Ji Xuan in the first round." The teammate standing at the rear of Wen Busheng spoke with a bitter expression.

"We have already profited from the fact that we made it to the best 8." Wen Busheng smiled as he fixed his gaze on Ji Xuan. There wasn't a hint of fear in his eyes; on the contrary, there was a blazing fighting intent surging within.

"We just need to do our best. It wasn't easy for us to make it this far. So, at the very least, we should fight for the honor for our Undefeated Spiritual Academy."

Seeing how unperturbed Wen Busheng was, the emotions of his teammates calmed down as they grinned. Indeed, it was already out of everyone's expectations with the fact that they could make it to the Best 8. So it didn't matter if they win or lose, they just needed to give their best, since there was nothing to lose.

"Good, let us experience how powerful the team representing the Saint Spiritual Academy is!"

...

"An opponent defeated by Luo Li."

Wen Qingxuan leisurely shot a glance at Fang Yun's team as she lightly flung her mouth aside as she spoke to the four flowers standing behind her, "Don't lose my face. If you guys lose, hmph, don't blame me for being ruthless when we return to the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy!"

She clenched her fists, but when she made the malicious expression with her charming face, it was exceptionally lovable and gorgeous instead; there wasn't any threat coming from her at all.

"Hehe, we got it." Hearing her words, Le'er, Pin'er and the rest showed lovely smiles. Their smiles were like flowers as they shook the hearts of others.

But when Fang Yun's team saw their response to the results, they bitterly smiled inwardly. Even Fang Yun's face wasn't too good as he had also felt the pressure of facing Wen Qingxuan as an opponent.

•••

"The Blood God Academy..."

Mu Ling narrowed his eyes as he looked at the team dressed in blood-red long robes and at the face that was as delicate as a girl as he muttered. Not knowing why he felt a faint danger from Xue Tianhe.

"Those fellows don't seem that simple." Wu Yingying said with a heavy expression behind Wu Ling. At this time, their team had been reorganized at the last moment and thus, this was the reason why Wu Yingying was here together with them.

Wu Ling nodded his head as he lightly flicked his ten fingers and replied with a calm expression on his face, "Leave Xue Tianhe to me, you guys steadily bring out your abilities and try not to make any mistakes."

Wu Yingying and the other three nodded their heads at his words.

...

While the eight teams were secretly examining their opponents on the Golden Battle Stairs, all sorts of whispers came from the students of the various academies outside the Golden Battle Stage. However, none of them could easily come to a conclusion.

Although the Best 8 were ranked, everyone was clear that it was just the elimination round. Thus, it was impossible for every single team to display all of their powers in that round, which simply meant that the Numero Uno of the elimination round might not end up as the Champion.

It wasn't a rare scene that the Rank 8 of the elimination round would end up flipping the situation around and seized the Championship.

But, regardless, this Final Battle would definitely be absolutely interesting. Nearly everyone was curious which of the eight teams would end up in the Best 4.

When the Five Great Deans saw the allocation in the sky, they each had a different expression on their faces; but there wasn't any worry written on their faces since they were clearly confident in the teams that represented their academies.

"Since the allocation is done, the eight teams can respectively stand on their stage."

Dean Tian Sheng's faint voice rang out as he waved his hand, splitting the colossal Golden Battle Stage beneath him into four smaller Golden Battle Stages.

Every single stage was further separated into five pieces as the stage became covered in golden light, making it look like it was made from gold; looking extremely tough.

"The battle for the Best 4 will be regulated in points of seven. Every team member that loses will lose a point and three for the Captains, a total of seven points. The team with the most points between the two will have the qualifications to ascend to the Best 4."

"Seven points... the Captains are actually worth three points."

Mu Chen was a little startled. A total of seven points and the Captains alone would hold nearly half of them. Thus, the importance of the Captain could be seen. Technically, as long as a team managed to defeat the Captain, their victory would be nearly secured, unless the four other team members were defeated.

"Are you all clear?" Dean Tian Sheng overlooked from the sky as he spoke in a slow manner.

The eight teams nodded their heads in acknowledgment.

"Since that's the case, then go up to the stage." Dean Tian Sheng waved his hand.

Rustle!

The eight teams flew out at the same time and with several flickers, they landed on one of the four respective colossal Golden Battle Stages under the countless excited gazes.

Mu Chen's group of five appeared on the utmost left Golden Battle Stage.

"Leave Liu Qingyun to me." Mu Chen said as he looked at the rest.

Their team was reorganized and, thus, the formation of their team wasn't any weaker than any of the other teams. In fact, with Luo Li, they were a little stronger. However, due to the seven points rule, especially since the Captains were worth more points, there was an element of uncertainness in this. The moment the Captains were defeated, it was basically a loss for that team.

Thus, Mu Chen had to deal with the strongest of the opposing team, Liu Qingyun, by himself. Despite understanding that Liu Qingyun wasn't an easy opponent, he still wouldn't fear any opponent at this point in time.

"Be careful." Luo Li nodded her head as she warned. Liu Qingyun wasn't an easy opponent and was a genius from the Wind Spirit Clan. It was definitely not easy to deal with a race that had such a long history.

Mu Chen nodded his head in response.

When Luo Li and the other three saw his reaction, they no longer spoke as they moved to the four other battle stages.

Mu Chen stood on the colossal Golden Battle Stage, alone, with a multitude of sky-shattering cheers bellowing in waves outside the stage.

# Whooooosh!

Screeches of wind rang out as an azure figure mysteriously appeared on this vast Golden Battle Stage. Liu Qingyun stood with his hands behind his back as he shot an indifferent expression over as a faint smile was shown on his face.

"Mu Chen, I am here to halt your steps."

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## **Chapter 604: Fighting Liu Qingyun**

"Mu Chen, I have come to halt your steps." When Liu Qingyun spoke, an apathetic light shot from his eyes as he maintained an indifferent expression on his face.

Perhaps no one would find it inappropriate for Liu Qingyun to speak of such words since he did have the capability to back those words up. Although Mu Chen was the Numero Uno for the Elimination Round, everyone knew that the Final Battle and the Elimination Round were entirely different. All eight teams possessed peak-leveled strengths and every single one of the eight Captains wasn't people to be trifled with.

No one could be guaranteed a hundred percent victory in this kind of battle since the slightest mistake they made would have them ended up as a stepping stone for their opponent.

Mu Chen smiled as he heard Liu Qingyun's words and clenched his fist, following with the appearance of his Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear. A surge of Baleful Aura was unleashed from him as he slowly lifted his spear, pointing the tip of it towards Liu Qingyun.

"Then, we'll have to see if Captain Liu is capable to achieve that." Mu Chen lightly smiled. There weren't any ripples in his voice and showed no signs of being enraged by Liu Qingyun's words. His heart was as calm as an abyssal pool.

Liu Qingyun narrowed his eyes as the indifference on his face faded a little. He wasn't stupid and he had witnessed the fight between Mu Chen and Ji Xuan. Thus, he had a little fear towards Mu Chen, since the latter's strength could be seen as evenly matched to his.

The reason why he provoked Mu Chen was to attempt to break his calm since the slightest mistake made in this battle could make an entirely different result.

However, it was a pity that his small tactics weren't useful.

"What a difficult opponent."

Liu Qingyun smiled indifferently as his heart gradually calmed down. Whirling wind blew with the clench of his fist as the appearance of an azure light was rapidly gathering in his palm.

## Rustle!

The azure light condensed into a halberd that was flickering in a similar azure luster in the hands of Liu Qingyun. As the halberd appeared, visible wind could be seen gathering around him.

The tip of the halberd was constantly devouring the violent wind, sweeping up a gale at the tip of his halberd. Even the surrounding space had fine trembles to it.

The might emitted from the halberd of azure light was even more ferocious compared to the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear in Mu Chen's hand.

Mu Chen's gaze flickered when he saw that the astonishing fluctuations emitting from Liu Qingyun's halberd weren't something a Spiritual Artifact could possess.

Mu Chen slowly inhaled a mouthful of air as a sharpened luster rose in his black pupils.

Longspear versus halberd.

The confrontation between those two was equal in comparison!

As the atmosphere between Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun seemed like daggers being drawn, ripples of Spiritual Energy were being unleashed from the other battle stages as mighty Spiritual Energy pressures were starting to spread out.

Outside the battle stage, students from the various Spiritual Academies held their breaths as they watched the battles. Unconcealable excitement rose in their hearts as the battle of the Best 8 would soon begin.

No one could be certain which team would emerge into the Best 4.

### Dong!

A clear and sharp bell rang out as it resonated between the heavens and earth.

The instant the bell rang, the gaze of Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun grew sharp and, along with it, gales of powerful Spiritual Energy swept out from the two of them.

## Rustle!

The two silhouettes stomped on the ground as their figures flew out like specters. Everyone could only see their blurry figures and, in the next instant, the two figures clashed in the colossal Golden Battle Stage.

### Tssssssshiii!

The Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear furiously stabbed forth, enveloped in a Baleful Aura. It was like a ferocious beast pouncing on its prey. Under the powerful Spiritual Energy, the gale pierced through the atmosphere.

On the opposite, the halberd lit in the azure light carried along the wind, and the tip of the halberd was flickering with ancient runes, giving a tint of mystery to it.

## Ding!

The tips of the long spear and halberd clashed with great precision, creating sparks and visible ripples of Spiritual Energy that swept out. In an instant, they caused explosions in the surroundings.

"Pretty good spear you have there."

Looking at the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear held in Mu Chen's hand, Liu Qingyun lightly smiled as the corner of his lips rose. "But, it's a pity. You shouldn't have clashed with me."

"Divine Wind Halberd - Howling Winds!"

A deep roar thundered from Liu Qingyun as the runes on the tip of his Divine Wind Halberd flickered, creating a substantial gale as it swept out. The great power behind it forced Mu Chen to take a dozen steps back.

"Wind Thrust!"

As Mu Chen moved back, Liu Qingyun looked as if he was one with the wind as he pounced at rapid speed. The illusions of the halberd that filled the sky integrated into the wind and soundlessly aimed for all the vital points on Mu Chen.

Liu Qingyun's attacks were sharp and ferocious, without the slightest bit of sloppiness.

Mu Chen's gaze grew heavy as he rapidly vibrated his arm, causing the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear to sharply whistle as it turned into countless illusions of spears and shot forward, spreading throughout the space before him.

Ding ding dang dang!

Countless illusions of spears and halberds furiously clashed and each time they clashed, an ear-piercing noise rang out along with it as sparks blossomed. Although the sight of it was beautiful, the danger held in it was fatal.

Anyone could tell that neither Mu Chen nor Liu Qingyun held back in their attacks. Even if a Spirit Disaster expert were to be trapped in their attacks, that expert would probably be instantly pierced by them.

In that short instant, the illusions of spears and halberds had already undergone thousands of clashes, the speed of them simply made everyone else dumbfound.

However, those with exceptionally keen eyes had their brows furrowed together as they realized that with each clash, Mu Chen's attacks were progressively being suppressed.

Accurately speaking, it could be perhaps the Spiritual Aura that was emitting the Baleful Aura in Mu Chen's hand being suppressed by Liu Qingyun's halberd.

## Dang!

Radiant azure light burst forth from the halberd illusions that abruptly filled the sky and a thirty metersized storm shot forth. It was like a hurricane as it sped towards Mu Chen.

The gaze of Mu Chen flickered as the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear in his hands exploded in a scarlet blood-like luster. That surge of Baleful Aura was strengthened to the limits as a blood river swept out.

#### Boom!

The two attacks ferociously clashed, but at the moment of contact, the blood river collapsed as it was torn apart by the hurricane. Along with that, Mu Chen was also pushed back over a hundred meters.

# Rustle!

It was a scene of a complete uproar outside the stage. No one imagined that the Numero Uno of the rankings, Mu Chen, would be suppressed by Liu Qingyun in the first round of their confrontation.

"How is Liu Qingyun so powerful?" Countless students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy were exchanging looks, even the faces of Ye Qingling, Su Ling'er, and Yu Xi were filled with astonishment.

"Mu Chen's weapon was too weak." Ling Xi spoke with an indifferent voice.

With her keen eyes, she could naturally tell that the halberd in Liu Qingyun's hands that could beckon winds was a Quasi-Divine Artifact, whereas Mu Chen's Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear was only a Peerless Rank Spiritual Artifact.

In the confrontation of such a level, the perks from a Quasi-Divine Artifact weren't insignificant enough to neglect.

"What's there that can be done?" Sun'er spoke with a worried tone.

"What are you being anxious for? The show has just started." Ling Xi lightly smiled as she patted Sun'er's tiny head. Her gaze, however, was directed at the slender silhouette on the stage.

Standing on the Golden Battle Stage, Mu Chen gave a glance at the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear. It had been dulled and the Baleful Aura on it had also weakened. Evidently, it was damaged from their earlier confrontation.

Liu Qingyun lightly readjusted his halberd as he gave Mu Chen a smile. "Looks like I have the advantage this time."

Finishing his speech, he flew up into the air as boundless Spiritual Energy swept forth from his body as he poured an earth-shattering amount of Spiritual Energy into his Divine Wind Halberd.

Buzzzz buzzzzzzz.

Hundreds of storms were seen forming behind Liu Qingyun, it was like a wind dragon issuing its roar, displaying its desire to rip the heavens and earth apart.

"Divine Wind Halberd - Sky Devouring Wind Dragon!"

Liu Qingyun's gaze was cold as the halberd flew out of his hand, engulfed in azure light as it absorbed the storms and shaped them into a colossal wind dragon of about three hundred meters.

The wind dragon looked extremely realistic, with detailed scales that covered its colossal body and whirling hurricanes from its roar. Its savage appearance made the color of countless others change.

What was most shocking was the fact that there was a Dragon Aura being emitted from the Wind Dragon. Clearly, the reason behind it should be the Divine Wind Halberd, since the Blood Essence of the Dragon Clan must have been added during its forging.

"Go!"

Liu Qingyun stood midair as he pointed his finger down with a gaze covered in chill.

## ROAAAAAAAAAAAAR!

The azure Wind Dragon roared as its body flashed, the speed of it was unfathomable as a huge shadow had already descended upon Mu Chen.

A violent hurricane that looked as if it could tear apart the heavens and earth caused a distortion in the space around the stage.

Everyone's hearts trembled from the sight of Liu Qingyun's absolutely shocking attack. *Is this the Finals?* It is truly a tournament that only those extraordinary people could participate...

Would Mu Chen be able to hang on?

Every single gaze was looking at the tiny figure that was shrouded by the huge shadow of the Wind Dragon.

Under the countless gazes, Mu Chen raised his head as he looked at the incoming Wind Dragon. He deeply inhaled a mouthful of air as his gaze gradually turned cold.

"Quasi-Divine Artifact?"

He muttered as he formed seals with his hands in the next instant. A scarlet light swept out from the depths of his black pupils.

### Buzzzz!

A sound like a roar of a detestable demon from the primordial resounded between the heavens and earth, everyone could see a black ray of light soaring into the skies from Mu Chen's head.

In the black pillar of light, an enormous demonic pillar soared. Mu Chen took a step forth as he hugged the air, looking as if he was embracing the heavens and earth. Lightning flickered on his arms and his veins were wiggling like earthworms.

"Since the demonic spear doesn't work, let's try and see if my demonic pillar can suppress you!"

The demonic pillar, which was emitting an abyss amount of Baleful Aura, swept down at this instant. The Baleful Aura from the Devouring Dragon Demonic Spear paled in comparison to this pillar.

At this instant, everyone had widened their eyes bit by bit.

The black-colored demonic pillar fell as it heavily struck against the Wind Dragon that was whistling over in its direction!

## **The Great Ruler**

## **Chapter 605: Divine Wind Image**

The black demonic pillar brandished down, issuing a sound that sounded like a Demon Dragon's roar. Along with a terrifying power that even the heavens and earth could not withstand, it heavily struck against the body of the incoming Wind Dragon.

## Dong!

In that instant of collision, a deep ear-piercing sound rang across the horizon. Thereafter, it carried along a violent wind as it wreaked havoc. Fine cracks began to appear on the Golden Battle Stage that seemed to be forged from gold.

Clearly, the Battle Stage was forged with a special material that made it extremely firm. Even if a Spirit Disaster expert were to attack the stage with their full power, it would still be tough to damage it. But right now, the confrontation between Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun created cracks on that very same stage. Thus, one could infer how powerful the impact was.

### ROAAAAAAAAAAAAAR!

A dreadful gale wreaked havoc as the azure Wind Dragon issued a mournful roar, it's radiant azure eyes were being suppressed by the black light at this instant.

Faint changes occurred on Liu Qingyun's face as well.

### Bang!

Mu Chen maintained a calm expression with his gesture of embracing the air as if he was hugging the colossal Great Meru Demonic Pillar as it swung it down once again. As the demonic pillar was brandished down, it caused explosions in the space.

### Boom!

The azure Wind Dragon finally could not withstand the dreadful power of the demonic pillar as it was sent flying away, the azure light flickered as the dragon exploded. An azure light shot back as it fell into Liu Qingyun's hands, returning back to the form of a halberd.

Liu Qingyun firmly grasps onto the Divine Wind Halberd, but the power behind it had made him take several steps back before he could suppress the impact with his Spiritual Energy.

Lowering his head, he saw the Divine Wind Halberd shrouded in traces of a Baleful Aura. The Baleful Aura was exceptionally violent as if it was eroding the halberd in his hands.

"Hmph."

Liu Qingyun made a cold snort as he poured the Spiritual Energy in his body into it in waves. The body of the halberd trembled as it dissipated the eroding Baleful Aura. Liu Qingyun raised his head and saw Mu Chen standing still on his original spot with the colossal demonic pillar hovering above his head as the Baleful Aura was endlessly emitting from the demonic pillar, almost like a pillar of the demonic gods.

"What a good Ominous Artifact." The Deans of various Spiritual Academies in midair were startled in their hearts. They could naturally sense the astonishing Baleful Aura coming from the Great Meru Demonic Pillar. Clearly, it had a history behind it. The ancient boundless feeling that it was giving off was definitely not something that an ordinary Divine Artifact could rival against.

However, the Great Meru Demonic Pillar seemed to be in a sealed state at the moment. Otherwise, the Quasi-Divine Artifact of Liu Qingyun, the Divine Wind Halberd would definitely be gravely corroded by it.

Outside the Battle Stage, countless students were filled with astonishment. No wonder Mu Chen could rise above others amongst the countless Spiritual Academies and stand in the Best 8, he truly was terrifying. Such a confrontation could already be considered as the peak amongst those in their age.

"No wonder even Ji Xuan has fears against you..."

On the Battle Stage, Liu Qingyun looked at Mu Chen with a cold piercing gaze. He tightened his grip on the Divine Wind Halberd as his expression turned grave, he knew that if he wanted to defeat Mu Chen, he could no longer hold back any of his strength.

Haaaaaah.

Liu Qingyun inhaled a deep mouthful of chilled air as his eyes gradually turned jade-green as an azure-colored Spiritual Energy swept out in waves, engulfing the heavens and earth in an instant.

Azure Spiritual Energy covered the skies, along with faint ripples that looked like steam that was quietly residing in midair. But, despite how quiet it was, those students with keen eyes had their faces changed.

They sensed a skin-chilling fluctuation spreading out in the sky.

Everyone felt the Spiritual Energy pressure as they lightly smacked their lips, the power of his Spiritual Energy had already gone through Third Grade Spirit Disaster. Liu Qingyun was indeed powerful.

"Mu Chen, you're truly not bad."

Liu Qingyun's figure slowly rose into the sky as he became shrouded within the boundless azure Spiritual Energy. His jade-green pupils looked as if there were tornadoes forming in them as he stared at Mu Chen.

"Thus, to show that I am taking you seriously, I will use the strength of our Wind Spirit Clan to defeat you."

Mu Chen's black pupils were staring at Liu Qingyun as well. He naturally sensed the piercing ripples fluctuating behind the latter as his Spiritual Energy felt as sharp as a blade, spreading to every corner of this space.

The Spiritual Energy that Liu Qingyun obtained from his cultivation was different, to some extent, when compared to ordinary Spiritual Energy. The power behind his Spiritual Energy was stronger, which showed that the Spiritual Art that he had cultivated it wasn't a simple one.

"This must be the Wind Spiritual Energy of the Wind Spirit Clan... rumor has it that only those who belong to the Wind Spirit Clan can cultivate it. The attacking power of it is extremely powerful and it isn't something ordinary Spiritual Energy can resist." A few Deans slightly nodded their heads in the air. Generally speaking, only after stepping into the Sovereign Realm, would one experience changes in Spiritual Energy. Prior to that, the majority of the Spiritual Energy was similar, unless they had cultivated a special cultivating technique, but those were secrets that belonged to those mighty clans that ordinary people wouldn't know about.

Thus, if ordinary people were to confront those belonging to those clans, they would definitely be at a disadvantage in terms of Spiritual Energy confrontation.

For ordinary Spiritual Energy, in order to hold the advantage, they would have to fork out Spiritual Energy that was several times more in order to achieve such an unusual Spiritual Energy suppression.

"The special Spiritual Energy of the Wind Spirit Clan..."

Mu Chen muttered to himself as he narrowed his eyes. His hands started to form peculiar seals, the seals of the Great Pagoda Art.

The Great Pagoda Art was a mysterious cultivating technique left behind by his mother. It was extremely profound to the point that Mu Chen still couldn't completely comprehend it. However, the Spiritual Energy produced from the Great Pagoda Art was remarkable.

Since Liu Qingyun intended to compete with Spiritual Energy, then Mu Chen wouldn't mind giving it a try and compare, the Wind Spirit Clan's Wind Spiritual Energy and his Great Pagoda Art, which was more superior.

### Boom!

A black and white mix of Spiritual Energy swept out from Mu Chen's body as he finished his hand seals. The black and white Spiritual Energy whistled through the heavens and earth as they mixed together, similar to the fusion of Yin and Yang.

Compared to Liu Qingyun's piercing Wind Spiritual Energy, the Great Pagoda Spiritual Energy didn't show too many offensive characteristics. However, as it whistled, a surge of profundity started to spread out.

"He's going to use the Great Pagoda Art?" When Ling Xi saw that scene, her eyes lit up. Ever since she passed the Yin Scroll of the Great Pagoda Art to Mu Chen, she had never seen him execute the completed Great Pagoda Art.

Although she knew that the Wind Spirit Clan was a considerable clan, even amongst those in the Great Thousand World, compared to the primordial clan behind Aunt Jing, it paled into insignificance in comparison.

In midair, when Liu Qingyun saw the majestic black and white Spiritual Energy behind Mu Chen, he slightly narrowed his eyes. Although the latter's Spiritual Energy didn't seem too special, he vaguely felt an abnormal fluctuation coming from it.

"The Spiritual Energy cultivated by Mu Chen doesn't seem like the ordinary ones?"

When that thought flashed through Liu Qingyun's mind, he quickly suppressed that thought. He couldn't afford to have his mind wandering around at this moment as he refused the believe that Mu Chen could resist the Wind Spiritual Energy of their Wind Spirit Clan!

"No matter what other means you have, I will definitely emerge victorious in this battle!"

Liu Qingyun spoke in a deep voice. In the battle between their two teams, his match here was the crucial one as Mu Chen's team still had Luo Li and she would definitely win her match. Perhaps the others might not be able to achieve results like her, there wasn't a high chance in their victory. The ones called Shen Cangsheng and Li Xuantong were very powerful as well. Thus, unless he was capable of defeating Mu Chen, it was basically impossible for their team to get into the Best 4.

He definitely had to win this battle!

Liu Qingyun's gaze grew heavy as he spat a mouthful of white mist from his mouth, and formed seals with both of his hands. He couldn't afford to hold himself back, even in the slightest!

"Mu Chen, if you are truly capable, then try to receive this attack of mine!"

Liu Qingyun rapidly formed his seals and at this instant, the torrential azure Spiritual Energy swept out, turning into countless rays of light as it turned into a colossi-complicated rune with the size of a few thousand meters up in the sky. From the looks of it, those runes appeared to be a Spiritual Array, but at the same time, there weren't any ripples of a Spiritual Array.

Hooooooof Phooooooof.

A mouthful of Blood Essence was spewed from Liu Qingyun's mouth as it went into the colossal light array.

"Divine Wind Art - Requesting Image of the Wind Ancestor!"

Liu Qingyun's expression was grave as he kowtowed towards the light array.

### Buzzzzz Buzzzzzzzz

As Liu Qingyun kowtowed, violent winds started to sweep between the heavens and earth as everyone was startled to see gigantic tornadoes forming, they were wreaking havoc between the heavens and earth, emitting fearsome destructive powers at the same time.

Mu Chen's gaze was fixed onto the colossal light array as an azure light suddenly soared into the skies. Within the azure light, a huge azure light image slowly took form.

The instant that azure light image appeared, an indescribable pressure started to spread throughout the heavens and earth.

Some Deans in midair had their faces uncontrollably changed as they nervously stared at the azure light figure as their gazes fluctuated, along with mutters from their mouths. "To actually be able to summon the Ancestor of the Wind Spirit Clan, the Wind Ancestor's Spiritual Image, out... that kid from the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy is in trouble."

### **The Great Ruler**

# **Chapter 606: Battle of the Captains**

The vast space was radiating with golden light as terrifying Spiritual Energy ripples swept out in waves from the colossal Golden Battle Stage.

Silhouettes flickered on the Golden Stage as fearsome impacts exploded from every confrontation.

The eight teams were undergoing intense battles.

Only by giving their all, would they rise above the Best 8.

Amongst the eight teams, the most attractive battles were the battles between the Captains as everyone knew that in the seven points battle, the victory of the match would be more or less decided with the results of the Captains' battle.

The results of their Captains was the crucial turning point for every team.

Thus, the one that attracted the most attention was the battle between the Captains, even the Deans of the various Spiritual Academies were nodding their heads as they watched the battles.

Violent Spiritual Energy impacts were constantly exploding from the battle between the Captains. Aside from the battle between Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun, Ji Xuan and Wen Busheng, as well as the battle between Wu Ling and Xue Tianhe, attracted the most attention.

As for the battle between Wen Qingxuan and Fang Yun, it was rather easy, generally speaking. Fang Yun could be considered the weakest amongst the eight Captains. After all, he relied on a Low-Rank Divine Artifact to boost his fighting power. But what a pity, the opponent he encountered wasn't any weaker than Luo Li.

Thus, despite Fang Yun utilizing his Dragon-Tiger Cauldron, he was still thoroughly suppressed by Wen Qingxuan. That figure, who was holding onto a golden long spear, was like a goddess, her attacks were like torrential waves as they came in layers upon layers. At the same time, the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron was constantly shifting backward from the impact.

According to this situation, it was just a matter of time before Fang Yun was defeated by Wen Qingxuan.

While it was evident who held the upper hand in Wen Qingxuan's battle, the other two Battle Stages was still a stalemate, especially the battle between Wu Ling and Xue Tianhe.

The both of them had fully exploded their strength without the slightest restraint. The Spiritual Energy fluctuation being emitted from them had clearly undergone the Third Grade Spiritual Disaster, having only the last step left to step into the Sovereign Realm.

Blood-red Spiritual Energy whistled out in every movement of Xue Tianhe, it was like a river of blood that pierced the heavens, rumbling in the skies as it made attacks towards Wu Ling.

Wu Ling held a black rod as the black light was being emitted from the surface of his body. His handsome looks now seemed like it was forged from metal. Clearly, he had also cultivated his physique to a considerable level.

Thus, when facing the rumbling blood river, he only made a sweep with his rod, which caused the space to distort and a surge with a dreadful power that shattered the blood river, causing blood light to rain down.

Their battle was the most erratic as they unleashed an attack upon an attack against one another without the slightest thought of defending. Cheers roared from their heart-racing battle.

But, generally speaking, their battle was locked in a stalemate.

The next most attracting battle would be the one between Ji Xuan and Wen Busheng.

It was a battle with unequal fame, since Ji Xuan's name rang throughout the various Spiritual Academies, whereas no one knew of Wen Busheng's name nor even the overbearing name of the academy behind him, the Undefeated Spiritual Academy. In fact, it was a nameless Spiritual Academy that many people had not heard of before.

Thus, they predicted that Wen Busheng would quickly lose to Ji Xuan. However, the truth made them a little dumbfounded as Wen Busheng was able to resist against Ji Xuan's attacks.

Furthermore, he relied on his palm to confront the piercing spear in Ji Xuan's hands.

This scene made many others startled as they now understood the reason why the Undefeated Academy's team was able to rise into the Best 8.

This youth that seemed ordinary was, in fact, not. Looks like it didn't matter how small the Spiritual Academy was, it was just a matter of time before a genius emerged.

However, although Wen Busheng didn't look to be falling behind from Ji Xuan's attacks, those Deans of the various Spiritual Academies could tell that Wen Busheng's attacks were gradually being suppressed by Ji Xuan.

#### Whoooosh!

A light spear pierced the space as a sun seemed to be appearing on the speartip. The Spiritual Energy was so violent, it looked like it could shatter space.

That ray of spear light shot forth against Wen Busheng.

Faced with the increasingly sharp attacks from Ji Xuan, the facial expression on Wen Busheng turned a little heavier. His right palm emitted a radiant white light, appearing to be made of a jade-stone as he pushed his palm forth.

## Ding!

The spear and palm clashed, creating a metallic collision sound that spread out. A massive visible shock wave exploded, destroying the ground beneath those two.

Ji Xuan's figure jolted, whereas Wen Busheng was sent back several steps, every single one of his steps left deep footprints on the ground.

### Rustle!

The long spear in Ji Xuan's hand trembled as he gazed at Wen Busheng and spoke in a faint voice, "If that's all you got, then this is the end."

As he spoke, his eyes turned increasingly sharp as the long spear in his hand thrust into the ground, both of his hands were placed together as a brilliant sacred light was emitted from his body. It was like a sun as it appeared behind him.

An astonishing Spiritual Energy exploded like a volcano from his body, the strength of his Spiritual Energy had nearly reached the pinnacle of Third Grade Spirit Disaster.

Compared to the time he fought with Mu Chen, he seemed to have grown stronger.

Wen Busheng sensed the dangerous aura coming from Ji Xuan and knew that the latter no longer intended to waste any more time, he inhaled a deep breath as he slowly extended his right hand forth.

His right hand was exceptionally slender and fair, and as it sparkled, it looked like it was crafted from jade-stone. At this instance, dark golden runes started to spread out from his palm.

The golden runes flowed into his palm, almost like blood. In that short moment, his right hand had already turned into a dark golden color as a peculiar pressure spread out.

That bizarre pressure made the eyes of Ji Xuan shrink, he fixed his eyes on Wen Busheng's right palm as a smear of doubt flashed across his eyes.

"These ripples..."

The Deans up in the sky were looking over in astonishment, their faces were soon replaced with shock as their eyes flickered.

"That lad from the Undefeated Spiritual Academy... he actually transplanted the hand bone of a Sovereign expert? No wonder his right hand is so powerful..."

•••

The colossal azure light array hovered in the sky as an extremely large azure light Spiritual Image appeared on the light array, it was like a divine being that had traveled here through space, looking down on the land from high above.

An indescribable pressure spread throughout the heavens and earth.

Countless gazes were filled with astonishment as they looked at the azure light figure. The appearance of the light silhouette wasn't clear, but the powerful pressure that was emitting from it gave others an understanding of how powerful it was.

"What is that?"

"After hearing Liu Qingyun's words, it should be the Wind Ancestor of his Wind Spirit Clan..."

"Wind Ancestor? The almighty being that founded the Wind Spirit Clan? Is he not dead yet?"

"That naturally can't be the real body of the Wind Ancestor, it should be a Secret Art that Liu Qingyun executed from his Wind Spirit Clan and paired with his bloodline, thus he could summon a Spiritual Image of it. But even so, the power coming from it is extremely frightening."

"Looks like Liu Qingyun is not going to waste any more time, he has even revealed such a trump card..."

""

Fine whispers circulated amongst the countless students. Many had shock contained in their voices as they were clearly startled by this move from Liu Qingyun. Not even an expert that had gone through the Third Grade Spirit Disaster could resist that large azure light Spiritual Image.

"To be able to walk this far and is not the slightest bit afraid of Mu Chen, who was the Numero Uno of the Elimination Round, he truly does have his trump card."

Many students in the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy region had worries in their eyes.

"This Liu Qingyun is indeed formidable." Ye Qingling sighed, not a single one of those Best 8 were easy to deal with. The Elimination Round was probably just a warm-up for them and right now was the time for them to truly unleash their trump cards and fight.

"Can Big Brother Mu Chen withstand it?" Yu Xi spoke in an anxious voice as she clenched her fist.

Ye Qingling bitterly smiled as it was impossible for her to give an opinion on a battle of this level. Right now, they could only see if Mu Chen possessed a similar trump card as well.

"Although the Wind Ancestor's Spiritual Image that Liu Qingyun summoned isn't weak, Mu Chen is not someone to be easily messed with." Ling Xi lightly smiled as she appeased their worries. The Wind Spirit Clan might be powerful, but Ling Xi didn't think that they could be stronger than the mysterious clan behind Aunt Jing, a clan that even Aunt Jing feared would definitely not be an existence that the Wind Spirit Clan could compete against.

Seeing the smile on Ling Xi's face, Ye Qingling and the rest slightly felt relieved, but their eyes were still fixed on the Golden Battle Stage.

Mu Chen's black pupils were also fixed on the huge azure light Spiritual Image on the stage.

"Mu Chen, if you can withstand this attack, I'll admit my defeat!" Liu Qingyun coldly looked at Mu Chen as his hand seals changed. The azure light Spiritual Image strode forth as it sent a palm down, pressing towards Mu Chen.

Under that palm, the Spiritual Energy residing between the heavens and earth was being dissipated, before that palm even land, a huge shadow already engulfed the Battle Stage.

Mu Chen's clothes stuck close to his body from the pressure as he looked at the terrifying azure light Spiritual Image, he inhaled a deep breath as his expression became solemn, and started to form seals with both of his hands.

#### Rumble.

As he formed the seals, the black and white Spiritual Energy behind him abruptly whistled as it started to converge together at a rapid speed.

As the black and white Spiritual Energy started to converge, everyone could see a three hundred meter black pagoda slowly taking form.

The colossal black pagoda stood towering in the sky as the surface of the primordial pagoda looked as if there were golden dragon Spiritual Images coiling around it. Vaguely, vast and ancient dragon roars rang out.

When the colossal black pagoda appeared, the corner of Dean Tai Cang's lips uncontrollably twitched, since he still clearly remembered how Mu Chen's mother used a black pagoda to refine the Yellow Dragon Sovereign...

And, right now, Mu Chen could also execute such a terrifying means?

However, can that black pagoda of his withstand the Wind Ancestor's Spiritual Image summoned by Liu Qingyun?

## **The Great Ruler**

# **Chapter 607: Black Pagoda Refines Spiritual Image**

The black pagoda that formed behind Mu Chen attracted countless attention with the eyes of many filled with shock. Judging from the might itself, the black pagoda didn't seem to be inferior to the Spiritual Image summoned by Liu Qingyun. Thus, they were wondering if Mu Chen's trump card could defeat Liu Qingyun's.

Only certain Deans that were more powerful compared to others could vaguely sense the peculiar fluctuations coming from the black pagoda as astonishment flashed across their eyes as they inwardly nodded their heads. Looks like the confrontation this time will be interesting.

Those two youths aren't so simple.

When Liu Qingyun saw the black pagoda behind Mu Chen, he slightly narrowed his eyes as he issued a cold snort. He believed that even Ji Xuan would have a hard time dealing with this Spiritual Image that he had summoned, he refused to believe that Mu Chen could withstand it!

"Let me see just how capable you are!"

Liu Qingyun coldly sneered as he changed his seals once again, the palm that was approaching Mu Chen grew even more radiant as the terrifying Spiritual Energy ripples created huge cracks on the firm Golden Battle Stage.

When Mu Chen raised his head and pierced through the space to the pressing energy, although it was extremely violent, it was still unable to cause any harm to him with his current physique.

What he needed to pay attention to was the azure light figure that was incoming.

#### Haaaaah.

A white mist slowly exited from Mu Chen's mouth as his black pupils turned exceptionally cold, like blades, and the seals that he was forming with his hands also changed.

### Buzzzzz!

The black pagoda behind him started to tremble as it issued buzzing noises, the golden dragon patterns on the surface of the pagoda also shone more brilliantly. Dragon roars resounded as a Golden Dragon separated from the pagoda. Sunlight shone onto its body, reflecting the radiant luster off the golden scales.

The Golden Dragon faced the sky and issued a roar that trembled the skies and turned into a ray of golden light that charged forth as it whipped its tail. A realistic dragon pressure spread out, compared to the Wind Dragon what was created by Liu Qingyun earlier, it was even more intense.

A bundle of golden light charged forth as it clashed against the azure light palm that was pressing downwards under the countless viewers.

## Boom!

The instant the two colossi clashed, golden and azure light turned into two brilliant light rays as they swept out.

Beneath the brilliant color, it was an extremely ferocious clash between Spiritual Energies.

At the point of the impact of the two attacks, space was drastically distorted.

"Liu Qingyun's attack is being blocked!" someone exclaimed since the azure palm was unable to land under the sweep of the golden light.

"Mu Chen truly does have some capability, no wonder he was the Numero Uno of the Elimination Round."

Up in the sky, seeing as his attack was being blocked, Liu Qingyun frowned his brows as his hand seals changed again. In an instant, the brilliant azure light exploded with a deep thunderous roar. The azure palm was like a meteorite as it pushed downwards.

## Boom! Boom!

The terrifying impacts wreaked havoc in the sky. What made everyone startled was that no matter how ferocious the azure palm was, it could not break through the golden light.

Liu Qingyun's facial expression finally turned a little ugly.

"Since you've finished attacking, it's my turn next." Mu Chen faintly laughed as he strode forth, his feet were heavily stomping on the ground as the black pagoda behind him soared into the skies.

### Whoooosh!

Under the countless gazes, the black pagoda descended from the horizon as the size rapidly increased. In just a few breath's time, the size was already a few hundred feet in size as it enveloped the azure light image.

## "Hmph!"

Liu Qingyun's eyes grew gold at the sight of it as the azure light figure opened its mouth. It was letting out a substantial sound wave, like a tornado, as it charged towards the black pagoda.

There wasn't the slightest trace of the black pagoda dodging the sound wave; however, the bottom of the black pagoda was like a bottomless pit as it sucked the sound waves in, it only created a burst of ripples before it perished.

## "Get in!"

Mu Chen coldly barked as the black pagoda brought along a massive shadow, enveloping the azure light image and sucked it into the pagoda under the countless dumbfounded gazes.

"Sucking everything in, aren't you afraid of overloading?!" Frost covered Liu Qingyun's face as his seals changed. Violent Spiritual Energy ripples burst out of the light image as dreadful palm winds were rapidly smacking against the wall of the pagoda.

## Boom! Boom!

A heavy voice constantly resounded as fine trembles were displayed from the black pagoda.

"Its appetite is too huge and your capability is too puny. Do you want to overload it? Fat chance." Mu Chen smiled, but there wasn't much of a smiling expression in his eyes. He sat down on mid-air and started to form hand seals.

"Great Pagoda Art - Flames of Pagoda Refines the Heavens and Earth!"

Along with Mu Chen's hand seals constantly changing, he slowly closed his eyes and a solemn bark rang out from his heart.

# Roar!

When Mu Chen barked in his heart, an earth-shattering dragon roar resounded from the pagoda, everyone witnessed three Golden Dragons from the first to the third layer of the black pagoda that looked to have been resurrected. The dragons flew into the body of the pagoda and transformed, they started to blaze with golden flames.

The golden flames whistled in the pagoda. These golden flames were similar to the ones his mother had used to refine the Yellow Dragon Sovereign, the only difference was the size.

After all, when Mu Chen's mother had executed it back then, there were hundreds of Golden Dragons transforming into pagoda flames. It was still far from possible for Mu Chen to achieve what she did.

However, it was more than sufficient to deal with Liu Qingyun.

As the golden flames appeared, the azure Spiritual Image in the pagoda turned stiff for a moment, as if it had sensed a fatal danger and the colossal body condensed a little more.

Outside, Liu Qingyun had a heavy expression on his face as he had clearly felt that threat as well.

"Go."

Mu Chen paid no attention and pointed with his finger when the golden flames rushed in, they had instantly engulfed the azure light image.

The brilliant azure light was like a tidal wave as it swept out of the azure figure, forming a defense as it withstood the terrifying refinery process of the golden flames.

### Tsssssssss ssssssssiiii!

When the two opposing forces came into contact, the azure light image was being dissolved at a rapid speed. The destructive power of the golden flames was simply frightening beyond expectations.

Through the pagoda, everyone could witness the scene as they felt a chill in their hearts in that instant. How could those golden flames be so dreadful? Even the Spiritual Image summoned by Liu Qingyun cannot withstand it?

In midair, Liu Qingyun's face was ashen. However, he managed to calm his agitated heart in the next moment as he glanced at Mu Chen with a cold gaze, he sucked in a mouthful of air as he pointed his finger. Then, some dark-red blood appeared on his finger.

## Rustle! Rustle!

His fingertips were dancing in the air as the blood formed into a blood-red ancient rune before him.

### Shhhhhhiii!

The moment the rune appeared, it assimilated into the space and at the same time, the body of the azure light image inside the pagoda jolted. The azure light started to turn denser and denser, the facial features of it also became clearer.

Faintly, there was an astonishing might spreading out.

"Liu Qingyun does have some means, to be able to summon his Spiritual Image to such a level." Several Deans praised as they nodded their heads at that scene.

Clearly, the clearer the appearance, the Spiritual Image that was summoned by Liu Qingyun would be even more powerful. Once it was cultivated to the limits, the power of the Spiritual Image summoned by it could be comparable to the genuine Spiritual Image of the Wind Ancestor.

The azure light around the light image grew deeper and, at the same time, more refined. As the azure light surged, it was able to withstand those golden flames.

Tssssssssssssssii.

Two terrifying powers were eroding one another. Although the golden flames had the initiative, it was certainly not as violent as before. If this went on, Mu Chen's Spiritual Energy might not be able to hold out for much longer; after all, he was in a disadvantage in terms of Spiritual Energy, compared to Liu Qingyun, who had gone through the Third Grade Spirit Disaster.

Countless gazes were nervously staring in their direction since they knew that the battle between Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun had reached the climax. The moment one of them fell to the disadvantage, the results would be determined.

Under the countless gazes, Mu Chen slowly opened his eyes as he stared at the pagoda. His expression was exceptionally calm as he formed seals with both of his hands again.

Buzzzzz.

As Mu Chen's hand seals changed, everyone witnessed that there was actually a golden rune appearing on the fourth layer of the pagoda's walls, the golden rune was spreading out at a rapid speed and quickly transformed into a Golden Dragon Rune.

When the fourth Golden Dragon Rune appeared, Liu Qingyun's face drastically changed.

Roar!

Dragon roars resounded as the Golden Dragon Rune separated itself from the pagoda's wall and turned into golden flames, joining the sea of flames that engulfed the azure Spiritual Image.

Fhoooooooo!

As the fourth Golden Dragon joined the array of flames, the golden flames became more radiant as its power increased.

"Flames of Pagoda, Refine!"

Mu Chen slowly extended his hand out towards the black pagoda and clenched his fist as a cold voice resounded from his heart.

Fhooooo!

When his voice stopped, the raging golden flames rolled in the pagoda and engulfed the entire azure Spiritual Image.

## **The Great Ruler**

**Chapter 608: Untitled** 

On the Battle Stage that belonged to Ji Xuan and Wen Busheng.

Ji Xuan stood on midair as boundless Spiritual Energy swept out from his body. Behind him, the vast Spiritual Energy seemed to have formed into a huge sacred sun.

The sacred sun floated in midair while emitting terrifying power. Looking at it, the students outside the stage felt their scalps tingling, the level of that attack was something that not even Third Grade Spirit

Disaster experts could withstand. To be able to emerge into the Best 8 and possess the most prominent fame, Ji Xuan did have his own capabilities.

While many people were sighing, Ji Xuan focused his gaze on Wen Busheng; and in that direction, Wen Busheng maintained a calm expression as the dark golden color in his hand grew darker. From the outer appearance, it seemed to be made of gold, but an ineffable pressure was being emitted.

"The hand bone of a Sovereign..."

Ji Xuan fixed his eyes on Wen Busheng as he slowly said, "What good luck you have there."

Only now did Ji Xuan realise why Wen Busheng was able to lead his team of decent strength to surmount all difficulties and make it to the Best 8. It turns out that this ordinary-looking fellow had such a powerful trump card.

"The hand bone of a Sovereign?"

The surrounding students felt their hearts jolt upon hearing their conversation as they looked at Wen Busheng's golden right hand in overwhelming shock. A Sovereign's hand bone is in that fellow's hand?

Similarly, Wen Busheng was also looking at Ji Xuan and smiled, "It was just good fortune. Fortunately, I was able to obtain a Senior's hand bone that he had managed to leave behind by using his Blood Essence in an ancient ruin. I was able to succeed because I was compatible with his hand bone and there's the fact that I know a little about the transplant technique."

"What good fortune he has." Someone involuntarily voiced out. Rumor had it that when a Sovereign expert dies, their body could last for a millennium, without being destroyed. Those that were fortunate to obtain the bones of a Sovereign could not transplant it directly into their body, since it wasn't something that belonged to them, if they were to transplant it carelessly, they could be devoured by it instead, unless that person was really fortunate to have a high compatibility with the Sovereign's bone...

Even with such a small chance, Wen Busheng actually encountered it. That fellow's luck was really envious.

"But, looking from the might of your Sovereign's hand bone, the owner of it wouldn't exceed Fifth Grade Sovereign Realm. So I'm afraid that it will not be that easy if you want to defeat me by just relying on it." Ji Xuan spoke in a faint tone.

"If I don't risk it, how would I know the results?" Wen Busheng showed an indifferent smile. Even when facing the powerful Ji Xuan, he still showed no trace of fear.

"Then, let me take a look at how much strength the Sovereign expert has left behind after his death." Ji Xuan deeply looked at Wen Busheng as his gaze gradually turned cold. His body slowly rose up and the sacred sun formed from his boundless Spiritual Energy was becoming clearer and larger in size behind him.

Everyone could feel the violent movements of Spiritual Energy between the heavens and earth, the light shone from the sacred sun was actually causing the natural Spiritual Energy in the heavens and earth to boil.

Everyone could tell that Ji Xuan was intending to end this battle with his finishing move.

Haaaaaah.

Wen Busheng deeply inhaled a mouthful of air as he suddenly clenched his golden hand, the clothes on his entire arm were instantly torn to shreds. With blue veins that were like earthworms wiggling on his arm, the blood in his body started to flow, endlessly pouring into his hand.

As the blood flowed, the dark color of his palm grew darker, the power being emitted from it also grew stronger.

Many people held their breaths as the two of them were preparing to have a decisive clash.

Rumble! Rumble!

Violent Spiritual Energy fluctuated in the heavens and the earth in ripples. The silence before the calm made the atmosphere between the heavens and earth a little frozen.

Up in the sky, the sacred sun behind Ji Xuan grew in size to a few hundred meters. Before the sacred sun, his figure, which was floating before it, looked extremely tiny. The sacred sun was like a blazing sun that had descended; it was extremely stunning.

When the sacred sun reached a limit, a radiant light shot out of Ji Xuan's cold gaze. He looked down at Wen Busheng as he formed hand seals and his chilled voice resonated throughout the heavens and earth.

"Great Divine Sun Art - Sacred Sun Cleanse!"

Buzz! Buzz!

The colossal sun emitted a buzzing noise and as Ji Xuan formed his seals, everyone witnessed the sun abruptly shoot up to the horizon.

Whoosh!

The sun rose towards the nine heavens and after a few breath's time, it dived down, a descending sun from the sky, along with unimaginable destructive power. Under the countless gazes that were overwhelmed with shock, it descended towards the Battle Stage.

Under the terrifying attack, the firm stage caved in as cracks started to spread.

Wen Busheng's face turned even more solemn as he looked at the dreadful power falling from the sky. He raised his head as the sun that was reflected in his pupils grew bigger and bigger.

In that instant, he slowly raised his right hand, a dark golden liquid seemed to be circulating in his golden hand, his face turned pale as he waved his hand down in the air.

"Sovereign's Hand!"

A faint voice resounded from Wen Busheng's heart.

Buzzz!

The space violently trembled when Wen Busheng waved his hand down, so much so that the ripples were visibly seen spreading out like waves.

Golden light burst forth and everyone could clearly see a golden palm print flying from Wen Busheng's palm. The palm grew in size and in a short amount of time, it had already grown to a few hundred meters.

The massive golden palm soared, it was as if a giant was waving his palm and, under the countless startled gazes, it heavily clashed with the descending sun without fear.

#### Boom!

The heavens and earth became silent from the moment of contact. However, the silence only lasted for an instant before an eye-piercing radiant light exploded.

That scene was similar to two meteorites clashing together.

Dreadful Spiritual Energy impacts violently swept out as everyone raised their heads, looking at the clash between the sun and the golden palm in astonishment. The two constantly eroded one another, trying to destroy the other party.

However, due to the fact that the two abilities were extremely powerful, the two attacks fell into a stalemate.

On the stage, Wen Busheng was watching the clash as he waved his hand down in the empty space again and at this same time, his face turned even paler.

### Buzzzz!

The golden palm was abruptly strengthened and everyone saw that the golden palm had suddenly clenched, crushing the sun.

### Hisssssss

Innumerable people sucked in cold air because no one expected Wen Busheng to be so powerful, even such a powerful attack unleashed by Ji Xuan was crushed by him.

The hand bone of a Sovereign was, indeed, formidable.

## Whoosh!

After the golden palm crushed the sun, taking advantage of the extremely violent Spiritual Energy explosion, it charged towards the direction of Ji Xuan in the sky.

Space was distorted by the impact of the Spiritual Energy, rendering others incapable of seeing Ji Xuan's expression. But facing Wen Busheng's attack, he didn't seem to have any signs of dodging.

### Swissssh!

The golden palm appeared before Ji Xuan in almost an instant as it waved down.

There wasn't any fluctuation in Ji Xuan's expression. On the contrary, a cold chill flashed across his pupils.

### Liiiiiiii!

A primordial hawk cry resonated in the sky. When many people raised their heads, they saw an illusory hawk's wings tearing the space apart as it skimmed past the golden palm and disappeared.

The illusory hawk's wings only appeared for an instant and it only took a skim for the golden palm to disappear. Many people rubbed their eyes at the sight of it as the previous scene felt like an illusion.

When the golden palm was half a foot away from Ji Xuan, it suddenly froze and wasn't able to budge an inch.

Ji Xuan indifferently extended his palm as he lightly slapped the golden palm.

Crack.

Along with Ji Xuan's light slap, many people were filled with astonishment as they saw the indestructible golden palm crumbling and turning into golden flickers that filled the sky.

Pffffff.

Below on the stage, Wen Busheng spat a mouthful of blood as the Spiritual Energy ripples around him dropped. He felt the weakness in his body as he kneeled on the ground with one leg as fresh blood dripped from the corner of his mouth.

He slowly wiped the bloodstain off the corner of his lips as he raised his head. At this time, Ji Xuan slowly descended as he looked at him with an apathetic gaze.

"I lost."

Wen Busheng bitterly smiled and issued a soft sigh.

As Wen Busheng declared, cheers that filled the skies and covered the earth rang out. No one imagined that Wen Busheng, whose attack was at a slight advantage, would suddenly lose.

That Ji Xuan was simply too powerful.

Hearing the cheers, Wen Busheng turned his head around as he looked at a Battle Stage far away, which was similarly emitting astonishing Spiritual Energy ripples.

Ji Xuan's name truly is not for nothing, it's all up to you to defeat him...

# **The Great Ruler**

# Chapter 609: Emergence of the Best 3

When Wen Busheng was defeated, the battle between Mu Chen and Liu Qingyun had also reached the climax.

The black pagoda hovered in the horizon as the golden flames in the pagoda raged. The flames felt as if they could burn anything in the world. The flames were surging as they engulfed the azure light image.

Tssssssshhiiiiiii

A piercing noise constantly resounded, as if the Spiritual Energy was being burnt.

The might of the four golden dragons that turned into the pagoda's flames was unbelievable. Under the raging flames, the azure spiritual image was rapidly being distorted. There was a suffering expression on the spiritual image's indistinct face.

On the Battle Stage, Liu Qingyun's face also drastically changed.

"Shatter!"

However, before he could react, Mu Chen's cold voice rang throughout the heavens and earth.

### Fhooooooo!

Along with Mu Chen's cold voice, the ferocity of the golden flames in the pagoda reached the limits and swept out. The azure spiritual image was incapable of holding out any longer as cracks started to appear and spread on the colossal body, a heavy sound came and it exploded.

Azure light dispersed but was quickly devoured by the golden flames.

As the golden flames spread, the place was soon empty as the azure spiritual image no longer existed.

That azure spiritual image was refined.

#### Pooooofff!

A mouthful of fresh blood spewed from Liu Qingyun's mouth as paleness rapidly ran across his face. The Spiritual Energy ripples in his surroundings were also weakened. The spiritual image contained his blood essence, which was linked together with him, thus he suffered heavy injuries when it was refined.

## Swish!

When Liu Qingyun spewed blood from his mouth, a commotion roared around the battle stage. Many people widened their eyes, with shock covering their faces from the fact that Liu Qingyun actually lost...

"Liu Qingyun has already executed such a move and still lost to Mu Chen..."

"Truly well-deserving of being the Numero Uno of the Elimination Round."

"..."

Many people couldn't help gasping in surprise as Mu Chen's strength was only at First Grade Spirit Disaster, whereas Liu Qingyun was at Third Grade Spirit Disaster. But despite the difference between them, Mu Chen was able to emerge victorious. His fighting strength was truly admirable.

"Big Brother Mu Chen won!" Yu Xi's face and eyes were filled with excitement.

Ye Qingling, Su Ling'er, and Sun'er couldn't hide the joy on their faces. As for the students of the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, a tsunami of cheers had already broken out amongst them as every single one of them had their faces filled with excitement. It had been too long since their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy had achieved such outstanding results in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament.

In the past, when their academy participated in the Great Spiritual Academy Tournament, those students from the other Five Great Academies were always staring at them with mockery. But today, the gazes coming from them were stupefied, which made them feel great.

"The Nine-layered Pagoda does have a little maturity." Ling Xi focused her gaze on the silhouette of the youth as she revealed a smile. She had also cultivated the Nine-layered Pagoda in the past and, thus, she had a considerable amount of knowledge for it. It was known as a powerful technique in Aunt Jing's clan and when cultivated to the end, it could even refine Sovereign Realm experts that had been sucked into it, it was extremely fearsome.

However, it hadn't been long since Mu Chen obtained the complete Great Pagoda Art; but with his talent, it's not too difficult for him to have great accomplishments in the future.

At the location gathered by the students of the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy was a scene of myriad flowers blossoming, the beautiful scenery was pleasing to the eye.

At this instant, all of them were looking at the Battle Stage which Mu Chen was at. After all, their confrontation was extremely dazzling.

"This Mu Chen is so formidable that even Liu Qingyun is not his opponent."

"It is said that Liu Qingyun was a genius in the Wind Spirit Clan, anyone that comes out from that clan isn't weak. I never imagined that even he could not win against Mu Chen."

"But... hehe, that Mu Chen is quite handsome."

"Haha, go and hook him over, you little fox. Our Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy won't mind having such an outstanding male student..."

"..."

As those girls were boldly chattering and laughing, an aroma spread out, which made the students of the other schools drool.

"Qian'er, this childhood sweetheart of yours is really from the Northern Spiritual Realm? Isn't he a little too formidable? That Liu Qingyun is a genius of the Wind Spirit Clan." Next Tang Qian'er, a girl with gorgeous looks praised.

"Yeah, even in the Northern Spiritual Realm, he was also very outstanding." Tang Qing'er smiled as her gaze focused on that youth's silhouette as well. Complicated lights flashed across her eyes and without her knowing, he was already so dazzling and the distance between them was getting further and further away.

The thought of it made Tang Qian'er's spiritual eyes dim, but, she quickly firmly clenched her fist. The matters of the future were still far from them, no one knew what would happen in the future. Just like how the brat Mu Chen who had mucus dangling on his nose followed behind her, wobbling as he walked. Perhaps even he would not expect himself to be so dazzling in the future, right?

On the Golden Battle Stage.

Mu Chen looked at the emptied Nine-layered Pagoda as he made a summoning gesture with his hand. Following it, the Nine-layered Pagoda turned into a black light and flew back into his body. He then shifted his gaze and looked at Liu Qingyun and said, "Are we going to continue?"

At the current moment, the Spiritual Energy ripples around Liu Qingyun was extremely weak. Evidently, he had suffered a huge injury and he wouldn't have any chance of success, even if he carried on fighting.

Liu Qingyun wiped the traces of blood off the corner of his lips as he deeply glanced at Mu Chen. "I always keep my promises, you are the victor of this round."

He had already revealed his strongest attack, which was still defeated by Mu Chen. If they were to continue, he would only be embarrassing himself, so he decided to admit defeat while showing elegance at the same time.

"Thanks for letting me win."

Mu Chen cupped his hands as he smiled, there weren't any deep grudges between him and Liu Qingyun, so there's no point in forcing his opponent to a dead end.

Liu Qingyun stood up as he glanced at Mu Chen and spoke with indifference, "Although you have defeated me, don't get too proud of yourself. Your greatest opponent is Ji Xuan, and he isn't so easy to deal with."

"I know he's not easy, but I think that I'm not easy to deal with, as well." The unerasable self-confidence held in Mu Chen's calm tone raised the eyebrows of others.

Liu Qingyun went silent. Indeed, although Ji Xuan was powerful, this youth before him also wasn't a simple figure. If the two of them were to clash, it would probably be an earth-shattering battle between those two.

Up in midair, the Five Great Deans were looking down as they each had different expressions on their faces.

A smile hung on Dean Tai Cang's face because Mu Chen's performance had surpassed his expectations. He never expected Liu Qingyun to be defeated by Mu Chen's hands. With that, their Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy would be able to enter into the Best 4, such results were already pretty good.

"Haha, Dean Tai Cang, my congratulations to the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, a formidable Freshman has emerged." The Azure Sky Spiritual Academy's Dean Tian Song sighed with an elegant smile.

"Dean Tian Song is flattering me. Mu Chen was just lucky. That Liu Qingyun of your academy is a dragon amongst men as well." Dean Tai Cang smiled as he replied.

"Right now, basically the Best 3 have already emerged in the battle of the Best 8." Dean Tiansheng of the Saint Spiritual Academy lightly laughed.

Amongst the four Battle Stages, Mu Chen defeated Liu Qingyun and Luo Li had also easily defeated her opponent. Shen Cangsheng and Li Xuantong also obtained victory, while Su Xuan maintained a tie. However, their results no longer mattered since their team had already obtained the advantage.

Whereas Ji Xuan defeated Wen Busheng and his team obtained a result of total victory, defeating all of their opponents.

As for the other two, the team led by Wen Qingxuan had expectedly won. Compared to Mu Chen and Ji Xuan's battle, Wen Qingxuan's victory was pretty easy. After all, Fang Yun's strength was the weakest amongst the eight Captains. If it wasn't for the Dragon-Tiger Cauldron, he might not even be able to last so long in the hands of Wen Qingxuan.

As for the Wen Qingxuan's teammates, all of them had their own victories and losses, but according to points, they had already surpassed the Nine Cauldron Spiritual Academy. Thus, this battle ended in their victory.

Therefore, there were already three teams that emerged into the Best 4.

Mu Chen stood on the Battle Stage as Luo Li, Shen Cangsheng, Li Xuantong and Su Xuan, who had ended their battles, flew over towards his direction.

"You guys had it tough." Mu Chen smiled at them.

"How can it be compared to yours?" Shen Cangsheng and Li Xuantong said helplessly. Although their battles were intense as well, compared to the battle Mu Chen had with Liu Qingxuan, it was beyond comparison.

"I didn't manage to obtain a victory." Su Xuan was a little embarrassed as she spoke. In the entire team, only she had ended her battle in a tie.

"It's enough if we can get into the Best 4." Mu Chen casually spoke. The other members of the Azure Sky Spiritual Academy's team weren't easy opponents and it was already a good result that Su Xuan could obtain a tie with her strength being the weakest in their team.

"Only Luo Li ended her battle the fastest." Shen Cangsheng smiled, in the battle between the eight teams, Luo Li was the first to have ended the battle. Her efficiency attracted countless gasps of surprise.

Mu Chen nodded his head as he smiled as well. Even placed amongst the eight Captains, Luo Li's strength could be considered amongst the highest and now, putting her against a team member was naturally an easy task.

"Right now, there is still one ongoing battle." Luo Li said softly as she shifted her gaze towards a Battle Stage faraway as a chill flowed in her clear eyes.

It was the stage that Xue Tianhe and Wu Ling was fighting.

### The Great Ruler

## Chapter 610 – Demonic Blood Beast VS Divine War Ape

Three out of the four Battle Stages had concluded their battles as the Spiritual Energies calmed down. Only the one on the most right still had ripples of dreadful Spiritual Energy fluctuations, causing signs of faint distortion in the space.

It was the Battle Stage between Xue Tianhe and Wu Ling.

The team members of those two teams had their own victories and losses as according to the calculation of points, the two teams only had two points each. Which meant that two of their teammates in each team obtained a victory while having one tied; both of the teams had the same amount of points. Thus, the battle between their Captains would determine if they could get into the Best 4.

"This Xue Tianhe is truly formidable, to be capable of fighting with Wu Ling to such a degree." Shen Cangsheng and the rest had astonishment revealed on their expressions. Wu Ling was the most prominent genius in the Martial Spiritual Academy. Due to the fact that he had been hiding his strength in the Elimination Round, he had yet to show his true strength. But even so, he still couldn't defeat Xue Tianhe so easily.

"Xue Tianhe is a Prince in the Blood God Clan, his background would only be stronger compared to Wu Ling, not weaker." Luo Li spoke in a soft tone. She naturally had a good understanding of the Blood God Clan. Although Wu Ling was the grandson of the Martial Spiritual Academy's Dean, the foundation of an academy was still inferior to the Blood God Clan.

"I can't tell who will win, as well." Mu Chen nodded his head in agreement. In terms of relationship, he still wished for Wu Ling to emerge victorious. After all, he didn't have the slightest favourable opinion of Xue Tianhe, since he hopes to personally slaughter this fellow who had ill intentions for Luo Li.

"This battle will be extremely intense."

When everyone heard that statement, they nodded their heads in agreement as they looked at the colossal Battle Stage without batting an eye.

In this vast region, every single person had their attention gathered upon that Battle Stage at this moment, especially students of the Martial Spiritual Academy; all of them had nervous expressions on their faces. Right now, the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy, Saint Spiritual Academy and the Myriad Phoenix Spiritual Academy had entered the Best 4, if their Martial Spiritual Academy were to fail here, it would definitely be a considerable impact to their morale.

Under the innumerable gazes, two surges of boundless Spiritual Energy were frantically clashing in the colossal Battle Stage, separated by the colours of blood-red and deep yellow, splitting the stage into two regions.

Xue Tianhe and Wu Ling's figures were practically engulfed by the boundless Spiritual Energies with only thunderous explosions sounding off every time the two surges of dreadful Spiritual Energy clashed. Judging from the Spiritual Energy impacts, the battle between the two had already reached the climax.

## Roar!

As the two surges of Spiritual Energies clashed, a violence-filled roar resounded from the Battle Stage. That roar didn't seem to be something that could be produced by humans, it sounded like an ape's roar. The roar was filled with endless ferocity as the sound waves spread out, pushing the blood-red Spiritual Energy back.

That scene instantly caused an endless uproar.

Mu Chen and Luo Li's gazes also narrowed in an instant, shifting their gazes over, they saw the sudden appearance of a large silhouette in the boundlessly deep yellow-coloured Spiritual Energy. It was an image of about a few hundred meters, it seemed to be a deep yellow-coloured ape. The ape was holding onto a huge black pole with a savage expression, its eyes were also filled with ferocity and thirst for battle.

As the gigantic ape made its appearance, the Spiritual Energy between the heavens and earth started to boil.

### "That's..."

Mu Chen could not help having his expression changed as he exclaimed in surprise, "Rank 15 of the Myriad Beast Record's Earth Rank, the Divine War Ape?"

By his side, Luo Li also revealed an astonished expression as she clearly never expected Wu Ling to have previously refined the Soul Essence of a Divine War Ape. It looked like the Martial Spiritual Academy was related to this as well; otherwise, how could Wu Ling refine such a powerful Spiritual Beast's Soul Essence with his own strength?

"How dreadful, so Wu Ling had concealed such a trump card under his sleeve." Shen Cangsheng and the rest also exclaimed in surprise, which was shortly replaced by envy. Such a powerful Spiritual Beast's Soul Essence wasn't something an ordinary people could enjoy. Not only did one require great opportunity, it also required the aid of powerful experts. Otherwise, that person would only be counterdevoured by the Soul Essence instead.

Although all of them had refined Soul Essences back when they were in the Spirit Stage, their Spiritual Beast's Soul Essences weren't powerful. Thus, as they got stronger, the power of the Soul Essence would also slowly fade and would no longer be usable, unless they refined the Soul Essence of a powerful Spiritual Beast of the Myriad Beast Record back when they were in the Spirit Stage.

"Xue Tianhe is not going to last." Li Xuantong looked at the stage. When Wu Ling revealed his trump card, the stalemate between them was instantly shattered. The torrential blood-red Spiritual Energy was being pushed back and, clearly, according to this situation, Wu Ling would probably win the battle.

"It's not that simple." Luo Li, however, shook her head in disagreement as her eyes fixed onto that silhouette covered in blood-red Spiritual Energy as a chill flashed.

Mu Chen was also closely watching the Battle Stage since he also wished to know what else Xue Tianhe had hidden under his sleeve. Facing the currently powerful Wu Ling, can he win?

# Boom!

Under the countless gazes, the large ape that Wu Ling had taken the form of waved its large pole, sweeping away an earth-shatteringly large amount of blood-red Spiritual Energy. Thereafter, Wu Ling drove his pole forth along with a windstorm towards the silhouette hidden in the blood-red Spiritual Energy.

## Creak! Creak!

Wu Ling did not hold himself back in that move as the windstorm of the pole left behind faint marks in the space as it moved and dense blood red Spiritual Energy exploded.

The boundless oceanic blood-red Spiritual Energy was suppressed until it was only to tens of meters. Furthermore, that Spiritual Energy was also shattered under the whirlwind of the pole.

Suddenly, just when the pole was about to completely shatter the blood-red Spiritual Energy, an unforeseen event occurred.

#### Boom!

Suddenly, a mighty fist, covered in blood-red scales, charged out of the blood-red Spiritual Energy and clashed against the gigantic pole. Under the impact of the two terrifying powers, cracks started to spread on the ground below.

As the whirlwind from the impact wreaked havoc, everyone was shocked as they witnessed Wu Ling, who was currently in the form of a colossal ape, being pushed back, leaving deep footprint grooves on the ground.

"What?!"

Many people screamed out in astonishment as their gazes became filled with horror when they saw the blood-red Spiritual Energy. What did Xue Tianhe do, how is he able to push back the Divine War Ape?

The faces of Shen Cangsheng and the rest changed as well.

Mu Chen's gaze was fixed onto the blood-red Spiritual Energy. Earlier, when that huge fist covered in blood-red scales appeared, he could sense the movement coming from the black egg, which was the current form of the Nine Netherbird.

"This Xue Tianhe has also refined a powerful Spiritual Beast's Soul Essence?"

Mu Chen's gaze flickered as his expression was a little solemn. That fellow had truly deeply hidden that.

The blood-red Spiritual Energy slowly dissipates and, in the process, everyone could see a colossal figure gradually appearing in their eyes, getting clearer in their view.

Hissssss.

When the colossal figure had cleared up, many people sucked in a mouthful of chilled air.

It was a colossal humanoid beast in blood-red scales, the colossal beast was also covered in a thick layer of blood armour, with blood-red bone spikes at its back. The appearance was very ferocious as a surge of savage aura was being emitted as it spread throughout the heavens and the earth.

"What is that?"

"Rank 13 of the Myriad Beast Record's Earth Rank, the Demonic Blood Beast!" Luo Li said softly as her eyes were filled with chill.

"The Demonic Blood Beast of Rank 13?" Mu Chen's heart jolted at her words. It was said that the Demonic Blood Beast was a species of extreme savagery, ranking in 13 and was only two ranks beneath

the Nine Netherbird. From that point alone, one could deduct how powerful the Demonic Blood Beast was, but due to the fact of the beast possessing an extremely savage nature, it would affect the one that refined it, planting a savage nature into that person.

"In the Blood God Clan, there is a Blood Sea. The Blood Sea was made by the Blood God Clan from sacrificing the Blood Essence of countless people. Through it, they reached an agreement to beneficially strengthen both their clans." At this moment, Luo Li's clear pupils were filled with extreme hatred.

"All these years, the Blood God Clan has been boldly attacking the region of our Luo God Clan, taking our people to refine the Blood Sea and nurture the Demonic Blood Beasts!"

Mu Chen was slightly startled, despite being aware that the battles between clans were extremely violent, he never thought that the Blood God Clan would be so vicious. No wonder the Luo God Clan was filled with hatred for the Blood God Clan.

Mu Chen looked at the girl who was biting her rosy lips and couldn't control the pity that was rising in his heart. The responsibilities on her shoulders had far surpassed his expectations. She had hundreds of millions of people to protect and she could only leave the Luo God Clan for two years to be at the Northern Heavens Spiritual Academy. Her sacrifices made Mu Chen feel his heart being plugged.

She had been silently sacrificing so much for him.

He inhaled a mouthful of air as he extended his hand and held onto Luo Li's. He did not speak as he knew that right now, he didn't have any qualification to confront such a colossal figure like the Blood God Clan. But one day, he would overturn the entire Blood God Clan for her sake.

Luo Li also felt Mu Chen's thoughts as her small cold hands were also gripping onto Mu Chen's, she felt secured as she spoke in a soft voice, "Wu Ling is losing."

Mu Chen raised his head as he looked. Indeed, the battle in the Battle Stage was overturned, along with Xue Tianhe activating the power of the Demonic Blood Beast, his strength had surpassed Wu Ling at this point. The colossal ape was constantly being pushed back from the fist of the Demonic Blood Beast.

From this scene, everyone understood that there was only one outcome to this confrontation.

### Boom!

Another collision occurred, the Demonic Blood Beast was pushed back as a portion of blood-red scales on its arm shattered, while the huge ape was sent flying. Its colossal body rapidly shrank in midair, returning to a human form as it drew long marks on the Battle Stage in a miserable manner.

Wu Ling spat a mouthful of fresh blood, every single part of his clothes was tattered as he fixed his eyes on the Demonic Blood Beast, filled with unwillingness and sadness. He never expected Xue Tianhe to be at this level of power.

Up in the sky, the Demonic Blood Beast rapidly shrank as well and returned to the figure of Xue Tianhe. He gave a mocking glance at Wu Ling, he tugged his arms to his chest as he swept his gaze out and in the end, fixed his gaze onto Mu Chen and Luo Li. A savage smile rose up from the corner of his lips.

Seeing his provoking smile, Mu Chen narrowed both of his eyes as he slowly extended his hand out with his thump facing up and turning it down in the end.

Under the sunlight, the youth had a slender figure with a calm expression. However, his gesture was filled with heart-trembling arrogance and overbearingness.	