#### **Great Ruler 731**

#### **The Great Ruler**

#### Chapter 731: Suppress the Demon

The huge formless python laid quietly in the dark. Its merciless eyes made one shiver. This was different from the other brutal lightning skills. The Netherworld Thunder Heart was eccentric and petrifying.

Mu Chen and Nine Nether looked gravely at the Formless Lightning Python in fear. Even Nine Nether smelled danger.

"Its strength was comparable to a Grade Five Sovereign. Fortunately, it had the same look, but not the spiritual intelligence. We still stand a chance to win," Nine Nether said softly.

Mu Chen nodded. Although the Formless Lightning Python looked terrifying, its eyes did not reflect any spiritual movement. It only showed its ruthless instinct. However, it was even more dangerous than Qin Tiangang, the Leader of Thunder Magic Sect.

Puff.

Mu Chen let out a breath to suppress the unsettled emotions that he had earlier. He had previously seen such miraculous things formed by lightning at the highest level of Northern Spiritual Academy. Its power was even more terrifying than the Formless Lightning Python. Back then, Northern Sea Dragon, who was at Grade Nine Sovereign level, had found it tough to handle as well.

Although the Formless Lightning Python was formed by the Netherworld Thunder Heart, it ranked above others in the Lightning Territory. However, due to a few reasons, it was not as powerful as it seemed. Otherwise, Mu Chen and Nine Nether would have run for their lives.

"We must break up its body to subdue it," Nine Nether slowly grasped her hand and said. "I will strike first. Take care of yourself!"

This level of fighting would require Nine Nether to step in. Mu Chen's power was only at Grade Two Sovereign level, which was next to nothing.

"Be careful." Mu Chen nodded. If he got himself involved in the fight, he might be a burden to Nine Nether.

Nine Nether simply nodded, not saying another word. She tapped her feet and dashed out. A powerful purple flame then surged out from her body. Then, the temperature in the sky instantly rose.

Swish.

A pair of huge and beautiful black wings spread out on Nine Nether's back. She held multiple wing shards in her hand, which then turned into a long wing shard spear. Purple flames also surged on the spear.

#### Swish!

As Nine Nether activated her spiritual energy, the Formless Lightning Python sensed danger. It started to hiss, as it stared at Nine Nether.

Nine Nether flapped the wings. Then, with a whoosh, she appeared on top of the Formless Lightning Python. As the spear shook, its ray was overwhelming, swirling downward. Every ray was deadly, and was accompanied by purple flames.

# Splat!

The Formless Lightning Python lifted up its head, then opened its ferocious mouth. The sound that it let out was not the hissing sound of a snake, but the sharp cry of thunder!

The thunder sound traveled outward. As the spear aurora crossed paths with the thunder sound, it disappeared.

Nine Nether's body shook. The thunder sound of the Nine Netherworld Thunder Heart had once again attacked her body. However, she had the protection of the unperishable flame, so she was able to withstand the attack.

# Boom!

A large tail suddenly appeared from above, then darted down like lightning toward Nine Nether. The huge wings behind Nine Nether speedily covered her body like a wing shield.

# Dong!

The tail of the snake flung on the wings. The thunder sound was extremely powerful. Nine Nether had been thrown back, but she managed to find her balance. She continued to flap the wings.

# Splat!

The Formless Lightning Python regarded Nine Nether as an offender. It attacked her ferociously. Sharp thunder sounds traveled out constantly from its terrifying mouth.

In the face of the endless attacks, Nine Nether could only remain on the defense. She seemed to be suppressed by the creature.

When Mu Chen, who was outside the battle range, saw this scene, he turned grave. The Formless Lightning Python was amazingly powerful. Even Nine Nether had been suppressed by it.

We must quickly finish it off. If this continues, Nine Nether will not be able to take it.

Mu Chen's eyes glittered. The Formless Lightning Python had been formed by the Netherworld Thunder Heart. Thus, it had endless power. Nine Nether would not be able to defeat it, if this continued as such.

However, he could not strike rashly, just in case the Formless Lightning Python would then turn to attack him. That would only make the situation worse!

Mu Chen frowned, then slowly moved toward the battlefield in order to sense the range of attack. After a while, he appeared somewhere in the sky and stepped forth.

# Splat!

As he stepped forth, a thunder sound resounded in his heart. Immediately, his body stiffened. The veins on his face moved and twitched, as if they were about to explode.

Purple flames surged in Mu Chen's eyes. The unperishable flame had been activated. It suppressed the thunder sound, and just as Mu Chen was about to relax a bit, the thunder sound began again.

He had entered into the Formless Lightning Python's range of attack, so he had been affected by its power. Mu Chen slowly closed his eyes, thinking hard about how he could deal with the Netherworld Thunder Heart. If he could not find some way, he would not be able to help Nine Nether!

Swish! Swish!

Thunder God Physique!

His body dazzled with lightning, but he instantly realized that the Thunder God Physique had no effect on the Netherworld Thunder Heart. He then activated the Lightning Controlling Technique, but it was of no use either.

The Netherworld Thunder Heart was unlike the Earthly Demonic Lightning. Thus, the force of this aggressive lightning could not be controlled by his Lightning Controlling Technique.

Mu Chen had used various means, but they were next to nothing in this fight. As the fight between Nine Nether and the Formless Lightning Python became more aggressive, Mu Chen was greatly affected by it.

He sat cross-legged in the vast space, and his face speedily turned pale. The thunder sound in his body became more frequent, to the point that he could barely take it.

No, I cannot give up! Mu Chen gritted his teeth. Nine Nether was fighting hard. If he gave up now, he would be letting Nine Nether down.

Mu Chen took a deep breath, channeling his spiritual energy. He activated the unperishable flame to fend off the assaulting power. His eyes were glittering crazily.

The Formless Lightning Python was extremely powerful. Judging from the situation, it would be difficult to break its form.

Since there was no way to break its form, there was only one way to deal with it...

Seal it.

Seal it?

The best option would be to use the Immortal Page in Mu Chen's body to seal it up. Even Mandela, who was extremely powerful, had to depend on the Immortal Page.

Mu Chen was very decisive. He put his palms together and speedily formed a strange seal.

Buzz.

A majestic spiritual energy shot forth from the Sovereign Sea. A space warp appeared in front of Mu Chen, which he immediately pointed at.

Dark mysterious lights spread out from the Immortal Page, rising to the sky. A beautiful mandala flower also slowly rose up.

Mu Chen took a deep breath. All of his spiritual energy surged out, then entered into the mandala flower.

Buzz. Buzz.

As Mu Chen injected the spiritual energy into the mandala flower, the petals started to bloom. Mysterious ancient runes then appeared on the petals.

Dong!

As Mu Chen was activating the mysterious mandala flower, shrieking thunder sounds were heard. They were coming from the fierce battle in the distance. The thunder sounds raged even more than before.

## Bang! Bang!

Space warps formed in the passing wake of the thunder sounds. The purple flame from Nine Nether's body had been pushed back, causing her to be thrown backward quite some distance.

"Crap!"

Nine Nether gritted her teeth and bawled. She had never expected the Formless Lightning Python to be so powerful. Add to that the topographical advantage, and it was even more powerful.

After exchanging blows with it, Nine Nether knew that she would not be able to suppress the Netherworld Thunder Heart, at least not based on her strength alone.

It seems like I have to retreat and get myself a powerful helper in the Daluo Territory.

This thought flashed across Nine Nether's mind. However, she was only on good terms with a handful of the top powers in the Daluo Territory. The Condor King was busy with the Battle of Conquest, so he would not be able to help her.

"Nine Nether, move back!"

As Nine Nether was getting anxious, she suddenly heard a shout from behind her. It was Mu Chen's voice.

Nine Nether was stunned. She did not know why Mu Chen had gotten himself involved in this level of fighting. But, as she trusted him, she immediately flapped the wings and retreated.

As she retreated, a huge mandala flower in a dark purple light flew past her. It then hung on top of the Formless Lightning Python.

The mandala flower slightly slanted itself. Its pistil was aimed directly at the Formless Lightning Python, which was beneath it.

Swish! Swish!

As the mandala flower slanted itself, the Formless Lightning Python that had been emotionless before, now suddenly shrieked out irritable thunder sounds. The roaring thunder sounds swirled toward the mandala flower.

Bang!

As the thunder sounds reached the dark purple light of the mandala flower, they suddenly died down.

## Swoosh!

The beautiful petals bloomed, while dark purple lights shot down in a beam. They covered the Formless Lightning Python, causing a strange power to burst forth. The Formless Lightning Python then began to drift toward the mandala flower.

# Boom! Boom!

The Formless Lightning Python, realizing that it was in danger, then began to struggle fiercely. A terrifying Netherworld Thunder Heart burst out and created a severe space warp.

Small cracks began to show on the dark purple lights that were covering the Formless Lightning Python. It struggled vigorously.

Seeing this scene, Mu Chen's face changed. This was his last resort. If the Immortal Page was unable to seal up the Netherworld Thunder Heart, he would have to give up. Given his current spiritual energy, he could only activate the mandala flower to this level.

## "Crap!"

Mu Chen gritted his teeth and bawled. However, just as he was at his wits end, a cold hand landed on the back of his hand. Nine Nether said, "Use my spiritual energy!"

## Boom!

Mu Chen's body shivered, as a powerful spiritual energy flooded into it. Then, as it spread, all of the limbs and bones in his body were filled with the spiritual energy!

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#### Chapter 732: Broken stone Tablet

Boom!

Vast majestic spiritual energy entered Mu Chen's body and filled every part of him. The spiritual energy that Nine Nether had passed on to him was obviously more powerful than his.

Generally speaking, people abstained from directly infusing spiritual energy into another person's body. No matter how tough a person's physique was, internally, the body was fragile. If one started to falter when the spiritual energy entered the body, the energy could snap the body's meridians.

However, there were no barriers between Mu Chen and Nine Nether. They were bonded by bloodline and were bound together for good or ill. They had complete trust in each other.

When Nine Nether's majestic spiritual energy entered Mu Chen's body, he formed a seal with his hands without hesitation. Spiritual energy surged out from his body and flooded into the mandala flower.

Buzz.

The help that the mandala flower received was like a divine help. The flower expanded, and the mysterious petals became more beautiful. Under the dark purple light, it quickly turned bright. The cracks created by the Formless Lightning Python disappeared completely.

# Dong! Dong!

The Formless Lightning Python struggled hard, but this time around, it was unable to have any impact on the dark purple beam that appeared seemingly weak. Its huge body slowly and steadily flew toward the mandala flower.

Mu Chen looked at the Formless Lightning Python moving closer to the mandala flower and heaved a sigh of relief. He changed the seal, and the Formless Lightning Python was completely engulfed in the pistil. The beautiful petals started to close up, and mysterious ancient runes shot forth and shone on the Formless Lightning Python.

## Swish. Swish.

The runes seemed seared onto the body of the Formless Lightning Python, and it let out a cry. The body started to melt and ultimately, it turned into a formless lightning egg and rested quietly on the pistil.

A broken stone tablet stood beside the lightning egg.

"This thing is powerful." When Nine Nether saw it, she was shocked. After exchanging blows with the Formless Lightning Python, she was well aware of its power. However, it had been put back to its original form by the mandala flower.

"The mandala flower has the power to seal things up. Things can go on so smoothly because the Netherworld Thunder Heart does not have a real form, and it is afraid of the power of the mandala flower." Mu Chen smiled. As he waved his hand, the mandala flower flew down and hung before him. He took a look at the Netherworld Thunder Heart that had turned into a lightning egg before shifting his gaze to the broken stone tablet.

Nine Nether had mentioned before that the stone tablet had recorded the Supreme Heart Demon Chant. Although Mu Chen had not heard of this, if it could cause Nine Nether to be taken aback, it must be extraordinary.

Mu Chen waved his sleeve, and the broken stone tablet flew out and stood before him. The stone tablet looked run-down. Ancient text appeared indistinctly on the stone tablet and emitted a strange oppression.

Mu Chen looked at the top of the stone tablet that was covered with ancient text. It was the Supreme Heart Demon Chant... However, as the stone tablet was broken, it became incomplete.

"Is the Supreme Heart Demon Chant so powerful?" Mu Chen asked Nine Nether.

"Have you heard of Lightning God Palace?"

Mu Chen was shocked and nodded. He was no longer a greenhorn and had some knowledge about the Great Thousand World. Lightning God Palace was a well-known powerful force in the Great Thousand World.

"Lightning God Palace passed on from the Primordial Lightning Palace. In the Primordial Age, the Heart Demon Lightning Emperor was from the Primordial Lightning Palace. According to what I know, the Supreme Heart Demon Chant was Lightning God Palace's Super Power to quell the Palace," Nine Nether said.

"Quell the Palace? Super Power?" Mu Chen picked up the last two words. He was excited. If it was a Super Power, it was not a Divine Technique!

In the Great Thousand World, the mysterious Super Power was above Divine Technique. However, this level of skills was too powerful and way beyond the reach of an ordinary Sovereign.

Whenever a Super Power existed, many Sovereign masters would fight over it. The Supreme Demon Heart Chant was the Super Power to quell the Palace, thus it must be powerful and important.

"In the Lightning God Palace, only a handful of people are qualified to cultivate the Supreme Heart Demon Chant. It is a pity that it is incomplete. I think it can now only reach the level of Near Perfection Divine Art," Nine Nether said with disappointment.

"At the level of Near Perfection Divine Art?" Upon hearing this, Mu Chen smiled and said, "It is enough for me. This is what I need."

If the Supreme Heart Demon Chant was complete, he would not be able to cultivate it given his current strength. It was a good thing that it was incomplete.

Nine Nether stared at him, and found him annoying and amusing at the same time.

"The Supreme Heart Demon Chant is formidable because when one has successfully cultivated it, he can enter into the Heart Demon State." Nine Nether looked at the broken stone tablet and turned grave.

"Heart Demon State?" Mu Chen was stunned.

"This is a formidable state whereby one will not be disturbed by the outside world. The person will have total control, and every spiritual energy and power in his body will be activated to its optimum. To a certain extent, you can say that once one enters into the Heart Demon State, he becomes a fighting machine. His combat force increases tremendously as well," Nine Nether slowly said.

"The Prince of Lightning God Palace was halfway into the realm of Heavenly Sovereign. Once he enters completely into the Heart Demon State, he will be able to reach a powerful level comparable to the Heavenly Sovereign."

Mu Chen gasped upon hearing this. Although he was far from the realm, he could feel that there was a big gap in between. Since the Prince of Lightning God Palace was able to use it against a Heavenly Sovereign, it had proven its power. It was understandable why it could be the Super Power to quell the Palace.

"I am so lucky," Mu Chen said covetously. He had a good harvest. Not only had he gained the Netherworld Thunder Heart, he had gained an incomplete invincible Super Power.

"Before you cultivate the Supreme Heart Demon Chant, you must master the Netherworld Thunder Heart. It is better that you first merge with the Netherworld Thunder Heart."

Nine Nether threw a wet blanket on Mu Chen. "Don't think that it is easy to merge with the Netherworld Thunder Heart. When you merged with the Unperishable Flame previously, it did not show its power because we are bonded. However, the Netherworld Thunder Heart will not show you any mercy."

Mu Chen frowned and then said with a smile, "We have spent so much effort in obtaining the Netherworld Thunder Heart. No matter how tough it will be, I will definitely be able to tame it!"

Nine Nether held up her thumb and said, "You've got guts." Although she was smiling, she was looking forward more to seeing the terrible fix that Mu Chen would be in.

Mu Chen glanced at Nine Nether and became serious. He knew that it was not easy to refine the Netherworld Thunder Heart. However, that was not a good reason to give up.

Hoof.

Mu Chen took a deep breath and moved his body. He appeared in the pistil of the mandala flower and sat cross-legged in it. He waved his hand and the lightning egg, which was about the size of a head, fell into his hand.

The lightning egg remained formless. However, when Mu Chen held it in his hand, he could sense the sharp thunder sound roaring out from the seal. It caused the spiritual energy in his body to vibrate.

"It is still so violent after it has been sealed."

Mu Chen frowned and then nodded at Nine Nether with a smile.

Nine Nether moved back but she continued to fix her gaze on Mu Chen. She had planned to intervene should things get out of hand. She had no qualms about destroying the Netherworld Thunder Heart should there be a need.

"Be careful." Nine Nether warned him.

Mu Chen nodded and closed his eyes. He crossed his palms, with the formless lightning egg hanging quietly between them.

White smoke shot out of his mouth. He pressed his palms together and hit the lightning egg hard. A horrifying power raged out, and cracks appeared on the lightning egg.

Bang!

The lightning egg exploded, and formless lightning swirled out. It then turned into a thunderstorm and engulfed Mu Chen within. The formless lightning flooded into his body.

The Sovereign Sea.

In the vast Sovereign Sea, dreadful waves were surging, and the spiritual energy was raging. Clusters of purple fire appeared on the sea's surface.

Mu Chen's spirit also appeared on the sea's surface, and he stepped on the waves. When he lifted his head, he saw that in the space above the Sovereign Sea, severe space warps started to form. The space warps broke out, and formless lightning covered the heaven and the earth. The lightning tore the Sovereign Sea apart as it landed on the sea's surface.

### Crackle! Crackle!

The purple fire on the Sovereign Sea started to burn up as it sensed danger. Mu Chen's spirit was within the purple flame, and formless lightning reflected in his eyes.

He immediately held his palms closely together.

This is my territory. Whether you are a dragon or a tiger, you had better behave yourself!

The purple fire surged, and it seemed to go against the majestic lightning.

#### **The Great Ruler**

## Chapter 733: Unperishable Flame on the Right Hand and Heart Demon on the Left

The space above the Sovereign Sea tore apart, as formless lightning whizzed down. Thunder sounds roared and resounded in the Sovereign Sea, causing boisterous waves. It felt almost like it was the destruction of the entire world.

As Mu Chen looked at the scene before him, he turned grave. The formless lightning kept falling, like meteorites, into the Sovereign Sea.

#### Plop! Plop!

Vast spiritual energy surged like billowing waves. Wherever the Netherworld Thunder Heart fell, the purple spiritual energy would melt and become formless. The sparks of purple fire died out, fizzling under the attack of the formless lightning.

The Sovereign Sea, which had previously been filled with purple lights, suddenly filled with all different colors within a short span of time. All of these changes were direct results of the attack of the Netherworld Thunder Heart.

Judging from the looks of it, the Netherworld Thunder Heart and the unperishable flame obviously did not seem to get along well with each other. The friction made sense, as both of them were highly unusual and belonged to different classes. Hence, it was quite impossible for them to get along with each other and share the same space.

Mu Chen sighed helplessly. He could sense even more trouble coming his way...

#### Boom! Boom!

The Netherworld Thunder Heart landed with great force, and its attacks were fierce. Formless colors speedily spread throughout the vast Sovereign Sea. In the face of the sudden aggressive attacks from the Netherworld Thunder Heart, the unperishable flame kept retreating and subsiding.

As the two powers kept coming into contact with each other in the Sovereign Sea, the attacks continued incessantly. However, with each attack, the two powers gradually merged more and more into the spiritual energy.

This was Mu Chen's Sovereign Sea. If either power was to successfully triumph over the other, it would have to depend on the spiritual energy. The more they merged into the spiritual energy, the more powerful they would become, and thus, would then have the upper-hand.

This situation was exactly what Mu Chen had wanted. He had to wait for the Netherworld Thunder Heart to merge into the spiritual energy in order for him to balance the two powers' strengths. In this way, he would have control over them.

He waited for 10 days for this to happen. Within those 10 days, the Netherworld Thunder Heart continued to expand in the Sovereign Sea. On the last day, it had taken over half of the Sovereign Sea and settled its boundary dispute with the unperishable flame.

The expansion of the Netherworld Thunder Heart had come to a deadlock. After all, the unperishable flame was no weakling. After it had resisted the attack of the Netherworld Thunder Heart, it managed to hold its ground and prevent the Netherworld Thunder Heart from going beyond its boundary.

Mu Chen's spirit was now in the air. As he floated, he looked down at the Sovereign Sea. Half of the Sovereign Sea was purple and the other half had already become formless. The two different shades of color made a clear distinction between the two in the Sovereign Sea.

As the two colors came into contact with each other, brutal attacks took place. The purple flame and the formless lightning clashed together, releasing deafening sounds of battle. As the strong waves with two different colors fell upon each other, it seemed to cause the entire Sovereign Sea to quiver.

Mu Chen frowned upon seeing that the Sovereign Sea had been separated. The two powers had each conquered half of it. This meant that his spiritual energy would now be split. So, if he activated the spiritual energy that had been merged with the unperishable flame, the spiritual energy that had merged with the Netherworld Thunder Heart would not act according to his wish! And vice versa!

In this way, not only would his strength not be enhanced, his spiritual energy would actually be weakened. According to what he could see from the earlier attacks, if he did not control it now, he would all lose control over it, to the point to where it might even turn against him! In the end, no matter what, he would suffer.

Mu Chen was certain that the only way to let the two powers get together was to let the Sovereign Sea explode. However, given his current strength level, he was unable to accomplish this at the moment.

"Since I am unable to let the two come together, I can only control them separately for the time being."

Mu Chen was smart, however, quickly thinking of an alternate way. His eyes glittered after pondering for a while, then he muttered, "In this case, the unperishable flame and the Netherworld Thunder Heart will have to accept each other."

Mu Chen decided that he had to stop the two spiritual energies from being on the offensive. If not, he would have no peace. This was not an easy task, as the unperishable flame and the Netherworld Thunder Heart were not weaklings. And, if they did meet, they would keep fighting fiercely with each other, as there cannot be two tigers on one mountain!

"Two tigers on one mountain?"

Mu Chen's eyes glittered at the challenge of this idea. He had to believe that it was not impossible for these two "tigers" to live together. He had to stay put in the mountain and place something that could suppress the two tigers, so that there would be a balance between the two.

What could he use to suppress the two tigers? Although the Immortal Page was powerful, it was not suitable for this situation. So, what could he use?

Mu Chen stood in the air, deep in thought. He was definitely facing a dilemma. If he could solve this problem, he would be able to control the two different powerful spiritual energies. However, if he was unable to solve it, he would not dare fight with the others.

#### Boom! Boom!

As Mu Chen was pondering all of these things, the vast spiritual energy of the unperishable flame and the Netherworld Thunder Heart in the Sovereign Sea continued to attack each other. As the battle raged, the spiritual energy that Mu Chen had painstakingly cultivated was being used up at an alarming rate.

Sparks from both the purple fire and the formless lightning reflected in his eyes. After a while, Mu Chen suddenly squinted his eyes. He had remembered that there was something that he could use to suppress the two powers!

Mu Chen smiled and formed a seal. A humming noise resounded in the Sovereign Sea. Then, a huge Pagoda slowly appeared in the sky.

The huge Pagoda was the only item that Mu Chen's mother had given him. Mu Chen trusted in its power, but he was unable to bring its power into full play. However, it should still be able to suppress the two tigers in the Sovereign Sea.

As Mu Chen looked at the huge black mysterious Pagoda, he flicked his fingers. The Pagoda whizzed down, and a huge shadow landed heavily on the dividing line between the two spiritual energies.

Swish. Swish.

When the huge Pagoda pressed down, dark lights shot out along the dividing line. Within seconds, the two spiritual energies had separated themselves.

The dark lights isolated the two spiritual energies, and instantly, the contact points calmed down. The huge Pagoda had suppressed the aggressive attacks!

Mu Chen was elated! He had never expected the huge Pagoda to suppress the two powers to such an extent! It had settled the problem like it was a piece of cake!

The huge Pagoda stood quietly on the surface of the Sovereign Sea. The dark lights from it now separated the two spiritual energies.

In the future, Mu Chen would only need to infuse his spiritual energy into the huge Pagoda, which would then automatically spread out the spiritual energy into the two powers, thus maintaining a balance.

Mu Chen heaved a sigh of relief. It had been unexpectedly smooth sailing to merge the Netherworld Thunder Heart. However, he knew that, without the huge Pagoda, he would not have been able to accomplish this within such a short span of time.

Mu Chen's spirit looked at the now calm Sovereign Sea with satisfaction. Then, his spirit gradually disappeared. The Sovereign Sea had become even more splendid and powerful.

Nine Nether sat cross-legged near Mu Chen amid the depths of the dark lightning sea. She kept looking at Mu Chen with anxiety and worry.

Mu Chen had been in his present state for more than 10 days, and he still was showing no signs of snapping out of it. The Netherworld Thunder Heart that had engulfed Mu Chen had disappeared upon entering his body.

Although he looked calm, Nine Nether knew that the Sovereign Sea in his body must be in significant turmoil. However, she could not be of any help to Mu Chen. He would have to handle this himself.

Nine Nether grasped her fists and gritted her teeth. She reminded herself not to get too tense. However, even after half a day of meditation, she found that she could not take it anymore and suddenly stood up.

As she was standing up, she saw Mu Chen's eyeballs moving. Then, very slowly, he opened his eyes.

Nine Nether was elated. She hurried to his side and asked, "How are you?"

She could not tell from Mu Chen's expression whether or not he had succeeded. Mu Chen lifted up his head and smiled calmly at Nine Nether with confidence. He stood up and placed both of his hands together.

#### Swish!

...

As he did this, his right hand surged with spiritual energy that was burning with a purple flame. On his left land, a transparent spiritual energy appeared. A thunder sound seemed to transmit from the transparent spiritual energy.

She now could see clearly....The unperishable flame was in his right hand and the Heart Demon was in his left! The two different spiritual energies surged in Mu Chen's hands. Although Nine Nether had been very composed before, she could no longer hide her excitement.

He is truly amazing!

# The Great Ruler

# Chapter 734: Molding the Nine Nether Troop

Purple flame and formless lightning rose from Mu Chen's hands. There were two different colors reflected in his eyes. He was filled with joy.

He had successfully merged the Netherworld Thunder Heart!

Nine Nether looked at it with joy as well. She smiled at Mu Chen and said, "Congratulations! You have succeeded."

She had thought that there was no harm in trying. She knew that it was tough to make the two different spiritual energies exist together in the Sovereign Sea. However, this was a pleasant surprise. From the time she knew Mu Chen, he had continuously done things to surprise others.

"I am lucky," Mu Chen said with a smile. If he had not possessed the huge Pagoda, he did not know when he could have possibly suppressed the two aggressive spiritual energies.

"However, you have not completely merged the two together." Nine Nether noticed immediately that the two spiritual energies were out of tune with each other. They had not merged completely.

Mu Chen nodded helplessly. He knew that once the two spiritual energies were in tune with each other, the power would move up one level. However, given his current strength, he was unable to merge them.

"It is all right. This is sufficient for you for the time being," Nine Nether said with a smile.

Mu Chen had merged the Netherworld Thunder Heart with the intention to perfect the Nine Dragon Nine Elephant Art. He had the power of the two, thus he would be able to bring out the Near Perfection Divine Art to the best of his ability.

Mu Chen nodded in agreement. It was already a great gain for him to be able to merge the Netherworld Thunder Heart. He must not be too greedy. He believed that as his strength increased, one day he would be able to merge the two spiritual energies.

"You have the prerequisites to cultivate it now." Nine Nether pointed at the broken stone tablet and looked at it with envy.

She had long heard of the Supreme Heart Demon Chant. She was tempted now that she had seen it, but she was fully aware that it was not compatible with her. She was different from Mu Chen. The Unperishable Flame was in her bloodline. If she tried to merge the Netherworld Thunder Heart just like Mu Chen had, she might explode.

She was envious, but she did not covet it. She knew that as long as she could cultivate the Unperishable Flame to its optimum, it would be as powerful as the Supreme Heart Demon.

Mu Chen turned to look at the broken stone tablet. His eyes radiated interest. However, he was not in a hurry to study it. He asked Nine Nether, "How long have I been cultivating?"

Nine Nether counted and said, "We have been here for about two weeks."

Mu Chen pondered and asked, "We have disappeared for two weeks. Will there be any problem with the Battle of Conquest?"

"Don't worry. Don't underestimate Daluo Territory. Although the Hundred Battle Territory is powerful, it is not as powerful as us. Moreover, we have captured the Thunder Magic Sect, and this is a great accomplishment. It is reasonable for us to take a rest," Nine Nether said with a smile.

Upon hearing this, Mu Chen nodded. He waved his sleeve and put the broken stone tablet away. He said, "Let's go. We need to find out how Nine Nether Troop is doing."

Two weeks ago, he had passed the Thunder God Physique to the Nine Nether Troop. He wondered how many of them had successfully cultivated it with the help of the topographical advantage.

He darted out. He turned into a shadow and tore the dark lightning apart.

Nine Nether looked at him and smiled. As she was about to make a move, she looked curiously at the dark lightning sea. She had indistinctly sensed a strange fluctuation deep in it.

However, the fluctuation was extremely weak, and Nine Nether had indistinctly noticed it. When she tried to feel it again, there was dead silence. She was puzzled and shook her head. She then quickly caught up with Mu Chen.

After the two had left, deep down in the lightning sea, it was gloomy. Something seemed to be rippling.

•••

Mu Chen and Nine Nether traveled in great speed. After half a day, the lightning sea in the Thunder Magic Abyss tore apart. Two shadows shot up from the Thunder Magic Abyss like streamers.

## Boom! Boom!

Not long after they shot up out of the lightning sea, a violent thunder sound was heard somewhere from above. Earthly Demonic Lightning sprang out of the abyss like pythons.

About 1,000 people were sitting cross-legged on the places where the Earthly Demonic Lightning struck. They were like rocks and simply allowed the Earthly Demonic Lightning to attack them. Although some of them had turned dark, they gritted their teeth and bore the Earthly Demonic Lightning's attack.

These were the soldiers from the Nine Nether Troop who were cultivating the Thunder God Physique.

Mu Chen and Nine Nether stood in the air and watched the spectacular scene. They were pleased to see that almost half of the Nine Nether Troop had successfully cultivated the Thunder God Physique.

Some of them had cultivated it to the Mono Rune Lightning Physique. A few masters like Qiu Shan, who were at the Sovereign-level, had made rapid progress. They had triple lightning runes on their chest.

When Nine Nether and Mu Chen appeared, Qiu Shan and those who were more powerful sensed them and opened their eyes. As they were about to stand up to salute them, Nine Nether stopped them.

"How is the progress?" Mu Chen asked.

"Commander, 513 of us have reached the Mono Rune level. Ninety-eight have reached the Diplo Rune level, and the three of us have reached the Triple Rune level."

Mu Chen nodded slightly. He was pleased with the progress. The Nine Nether Troop's strength was more powerful than Mu Chen's had been when he was cultivating the Thunder God Physique. With the help of the Thunder Magic Abyss, it was within his expectations to have such progress.

If they continued at this speed, within a year, everyone in the Nine Nether Troop would be able to reach the Ennea Rune Lightning Physique. Their combat force would take everyone by surprise.

However, the Battle of Conquest had not yet ended. Mu Chen had a premonition that there would be more intense battles coming up. He needed all the soldiers in Nine Nether Troop to cultivate the Thunder God Physique to the Mono Rune level.

Seeing Mu Chen's look, Nine Nether knew what he was thinking and said, "We have two weeks to rest and reorganize the Troop."

"I will stay here for two weeks," Mu Chen said decisively.

"All right. I will hold the fort at the Thunder Magic Sect in case there is unrest due to my absence," Nine Nether said with a smile. The Thunder Magic Sect was rich in resources, and many people were eyeing it. Tang Bing would not be able to handle it alone, so Nine Nether could not go missing for too long.

Mu Chen nodded, and Nine Nether immediately set out. She turned into a streamer and darted out of the Thunder Magic Abyss.

After Nine Nether left, Mu Chen turned around and sat cross-legged in the air. He looked around and said to all the soldiers in a deep voice, "If you wish to cultivate your physique, there is no shortcut to it. If you want to have more power, you need to put in more effort. I will activate all the Earthly Demonic Lightning to attack you. Will you be able to take it?"

"Yes!" all the soldiers in Nine Nether Troop shouted with determination.

Mu Chen was pleased when he saw it. He looked serious and clenched his fist. The spiritual energy that was merged with the Netherworld Thunder Heart surged out. As he waved his sleeve, the spiritual energy burst out and covered the area.

## Boom! Boom!

Formless spiritual energy raged out, and the Earthly Demonic Lightning that was hidden in the cliff also rushed out. It had been violent, but at this moment, it was shivering. It dared not come into contact with Mu Chen's spiritual energy.

The Netherworld Thunder Heart was more powerful than the Earthly Demonic Lightning, thus the Earthly Demonic Lightning was fearful of it.

# Boom! Boom!

The Nine Nether Troop looked at the scene in shock. The ferocious Earthly Demonic Lightning had turned mild in Mu Chen's hands and allowed him to direct it wherever he wanted.

The expressions of the Nine Nether Troop soon changed. Dark lightning surged from all directions, causing invisibility. It then poured down mercilessly onto the Nine Nether Troop, engulfing them.

When Mu Chen saw it, he smiled flatly. There was no shortcut to cultivating one's physique. The only way was to go through hardship, which he had gone through. He would use the same method on the Nine Nether Troop.

In the next two weeks, he wanted the entire Nine Nether Troop to have successfully cultivated the Thunder God Physique. In this way, they could then bring their fighting spirit to another level!

Mu Chen let out a breath. He looked at the violent lightning and pondered for a while. As he waved his sleeve, the broken stone tablet appeared before him. As the Nine Nether Troop was cultivating the Thunder God Physique, he could study the Supreme Heart Demon Chant to see how powerful it was...

# The Great Ruler

#### Chapter 735: Seed of the Heart Demon

The violent thunder continually reverberated out from the Thunder Magic Abyss.

### Boom! Boom!

It had not even stopped for a moment. About a thousand people sat cross-legged in the sky, while dark lightning prowled around like a python. These people sat quietly, like rocks, and allowed the Earthly Demonic Lightning to attack them.

They formed the same seals with their hands. Then, dark lightning entered into their bodies through their pores, refining their bodies and bones.

Mu Chen sat cross-legged in the air a few hundred meters away from them. He did not close his eyes, but stretched forth one of his palms, which held the broken stone tablet that had been reduced to a smaller size.

He blinked and then shut his eyes. After a few moments, he then slowly opened his eyes, in a daze. He stared at the stone tablet in shock.

Other than helping the Nine Nether Troop to train and build their physiques, Mu Chen had spent the rest of his time focusing on the Supreme Heart Demon Chant that was recorded in the broken stone tablet. After studying for a few days, he had gained a basic understanding of it. It was just as Nine Nether had said, the Supreme Heart Demon Chant that was recorded in the stone tablet was incomplete.

The Heart Demon State that Nine Nether had mentioned existed as well. However, the Heart Demon State was separated into three realms: Small Heart Demon State, Big Heart Demon State, and Perfect Heart Demon State.

Nine Nether had mentioned that the Prince of Lightning God Palace had cultivated the Supreme Heart Demon to its Perfect realm. If he had not done so, it would be impossible for him to be an even match against a Heavenly Sovereign, given that he was only halfway into the Heavenly Sovereign-level.

For the incomplete Supreme Heart Demon Chant, even if one cultivated it all the way, he could only reach the Big Heart Demon State. One would need the complete Supreme Heart Demon Chant to reach the Perfect realm.

Given Mu Chen's current strength, even if he had the complete version, he would not be able to cultivate it. Thus, he did not this to be any great loss. Plus, he was already having enough problems with the two realms.

This is crazy...

Mu Chen thought of the ancient information that was in his mind. He let out a long sigh and looked a bit strange. He had figured that, in order to cultivate the Heart Demon State, it would require the honing of many abnormal skills.

He would first need to cultivate the Seed of the Heart Demon. For this, he would have to use the Netherworld Heart Thunder to attack his heart, letting its power flow into his heart. It would then gather slowly in his heart, until it turned into the Seed of the Heart Demon!

To many people, this method of cultivation was similar to a person getting himself killed. This made sense, as the heart was man's weakest area. Even the slightest damage done to it would be a great damage done, and it could kill a person. Hence, no one would dare allow such an overbearing force like the Netherworld Thunder Heart to attack his heart!

Any slight mistake, including the sound of thunder, could cause the heart to explode. Therefore, any ordinary person would not even try to cultivate the Supreme Heart Demon Chant, even if they had the opportunity.

But Mu Chen was no ordinary person. Mu Chen held the stone tablet and licked his lips. He was understandably a bit hesitant. After a while, he made up his mind.

He had promised the girl that he would become a matchless master. There were many geniuses in this world, and he knew that he would not be able to reach that level based on talent alone.

A true master was fearless. Hence, he would not be afraid of anything!

Mu Chen smiled broadly, and his looks were sharp. He then shut his eyes and activated his mind. The spiritual energy that had merged with the Netherworld Thunder Heart flowed along his meridians. It then rushed out like a current toward his heart.

## Splat!

The shrieking thunder sound spread out and echoed in Mu Chen's heart. It caused his internal organs to vibrate. Even the circulation of his blood had been hindered.

#### Pooh.

Mu Chen threw out a mouthful of blood and looked pale. The veins in his face wriggled and made him look weird. He was breathless. He placed his hand on his chest and bore the sharp pain bravely. However, the thunder sound seemed to be tearing his heart apart.

"Crap." The pain was so unbearable that Mu Chen started to rage. The Supreme Heart Demon Chant was indeed demonic. In fact, it was pure evil. This was the first time that he had encountered such a self-sacrificial cultivation method.

#### Hoof.

Mu Chen gasped for breath. His body gradually began to calm down. He gritted his teeth, then activated the Netherworld Thunder Heart again.

#### Pooh...

In the dark Thunder Magic Abyss, a youth kept spewing out fresh blood, but he seemed to be enjoying it. This scene looked so strange, that some of the soldiers of Nine Nether Troop were shocked to see it. However, they dared not say anything. Instead, they quickly shut their eyes and continued their cultivations.

Mu Chen spent almost two weeks cultivating the Supreme Heart Demon Chant, spewing blood and allowing himself to be struck by the Netherworld Thunder Heart. During this same time, Mu Chen and Nine Nether Troop had been cultivating in the Thunder Magic Abyss for a month. In this one month, the

Battle of Conquest, which had been instigated by the Daluo Territory, had become more and more vigorous.

The Daluo Territory was, after all, the top force in the North Territory of the Tianluo Continent. Its strength was much stronger than that of the Hundred Battle Territory. After the war had started, the Hundred Battle Territory had unsurprisingly been on the losing end. Although they had been brave and attempted to fight back, they were ultimately unable to change the overall situation.

However, the Hundred Battle Territory would not be pushed around. As their line of defense continued to retreat, they gathered together, becoming more powerful. Thus, the attack by the Daluo Territory had at least been slowed down. Thus, they were not able to completely crush the Hundred Battle Territory like before.

In the face of such a situation, the Daluo Territory started to conserve its power, no longer using it loosely. The top levels in the Daluo Territory were well aware that the core of the Hundred Battle Territory was the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, the Demonic Corpse Sect, and the Sorrowful Sky.

Ever since the battle started, these three forces had not acted. Only if the three forces were defeated, would the Hundred Battle Territory be completely annihilated.

The Daluo Territory started to conserve its power and was getting ready to beat the three forces down. Once they were finished with this war, the Daluo Territory would be famous!

As the Daluo Territory was attacking the Hundred Battle Territory, the three forces were gathering their power as well. They were fully prepared to fight the Daluo Territory.

As all of this was happening, many people in the North Territory were watching, as the Daluo Territory and the Hundred Battle Territory were reputable there. Hence, the outcome of their final battle would have a great impact upon the North Territory.

And the audience wasn't just limited to the North Territory. In fact, before the final war started, people from all over were watching with intensity.

Ignoring the outside world's commotion over the final war, Mu Chen continued to sit quietly in the Thunder Magic Abyss. His body would shiver now and then, and his face would twitch. These were two direct results of the attack on his heart by the Netherworld Thunder Heart.

However, he was feeling much better now. He seemed to have adapted himself to the attacks and the spewing of blood whenever the Netherworld Thunder Heart struck his heart.

Mu Chen's body shivered for a while, before he opened his eyes and let out a breath. He felt a little tired, and rubbed his forehead.

He had been badly tortured during this period of time. Obviously, the crappy Supreme Heart Demon Chant was not meant for humans!

After having suffered so much, Mu Chen had at least seen some results. Although he was unable to condense the Seed of the Heart Demon, he could feel the power of the Netherworld Thunder Heart gathering in his heart. As long as he continued to cultivate it, he would be able to condense the Seed of the Heart Demon.

Mu Chen patted his chest lightly, then lifted up his head to look at the Nine Nether Troop. He raised his brows, for he saw that lightning runes were looming on the chest of all the soldiers of the Nine Nether Troop.

Some had more runes and some had less. Qiu Shan and the others, who were more powerful, had Quadra Runes on them. This revealed that they were progressing extremely fast.

However, Mu Chen knew that their cultivation of the Thunder God Physique would start to slow down. They still had a long way to go, before they could reach the Ennea Rune Lightning Physique. For the moment, what they had cultivated was good enough.

Mu Chen stood up and waved his sleeve. The Earthly Demonic Lightning that had attacked the Nine Nether Troop immediately disappeared, fleeing to hide in the cliff.

The soldiers of Nine Nether Troop opened their eyes. Dark lightning filled the areas around their pupils.

"Congratulations," Mu Chen said with a smile. "You have successfully cultivated the Lightning God Physique."

Swoosh!

Nine Nether Troop stood up and knelt down on one knee. Their voices were in unison, which caused the thunder sound in the Thunder Magic Abyss to pause.

"Thank you, Commander!"

Mu Chen waved his hand. He could feel the vigor of the Nine Nether Troop. He was happy to see that his efforts had not gone down the drain.

It is about time to leave this place. Mu Chen thought to himself.

The next moment, Nine Nether's voice rung in his ears. "Get ready to leave. The Daluo Territory and the Hundred Battle Territory are about to have their final battle."

#### The Great Ruler

#### Chapter 736: Three Thousand Swordsmen

In the main hall of the Thunder Magic Sect.

"So far, we have captured almost half of the territory."

A Spiritual Energy Screen was spread out in the main hall. Nine Nether pointed at the map of the battling territory. Almost half of it had been taken over by Daluo Territory. One could imagine that within one month, both parties must have had multiple wars.

As Mu Chen looked at the screen, he could indistinctly smell the scent of blood. For every city that had been captured, there was bloodshed and killing. War was brutal and without mercy.

This was not the Northern Heaven Spiritual Academy.

"The real war starts now," Nine Nether said calmly.

Mu Chen, Tang Bing, and the other top powers of Nine Nether Palace nodded and looked grave. The three top forces in the Hundred Battle Territory had not acted during this period. If they had, Daluo Territory would not have been able to capture part of the territory so quickly.

"In the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, are there any movements from the Demonic Corpse Sect and Sorrowful Sky?" Mu Chen asked. Since the line of defense had shrunk tremendously, the three top forces would not possibly continue to forbear it. Otherwise, the other forces in the Hundred Battle Territory would be unhappy with them.

"According to the latest information, all the people of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, Demonic Corpse Sect, and Sorrowful Sky are gathering at this place." Nine Nether squinted and pointed at the map. It was the most sophisticated line of defense in the Hundred Battle Territory.

#### "Battle City."

Mu Chen stared at the city on the map. He had heard that it was an important strategic city, and the scale was grand. It had been controlled by three forces. At this moment, it was the best line of defense in the Hundred Battle Territory.

Even Daluo Territory found it knotty in the face of such an important strategic city.

Nine Nether turned grave and said, "The masters and other powerful people of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, Demonic Corpse Sect, and Sorrowful Sky will gather here. It will be very powerful.

"The Hundred Battle Territory has challenged us to the final war. The entire North Territory is watching us. Any retreat or sign of weakness will tarnish our reputation."

"Challenged us to the final war?" Mu Chen turned pale. The Hundred Battle Territory had the audacity to challenge them to the final war!

"With Tian Xuan Hall secretly helping them, the Hundred Battle Territory has become bold," Nine Nether said with a sneer.

Mu Chen nodded. When the Battle of Conquest had started, the Dominator of Daluo Territory had mentioned that Liu Tiandao of Tian Xuan Hall had been eyeing them, so he could not get himself involved. If Daluo Territory lost such a top power like the Dominator, they would lose their dominant position.

The Hundred Battle Territory had the audacity to challenge Daluo Territory because if they managed to win the war, they could step on Daluo Territory to assume their position. Their reputation would skyrocket.

This would not be an easy battle for Daluo Territory.

"What did the Three Kings say?" Mu Chen asked. The Battle of Conquest was controlled by the Three Kings. Since the Hundred Battle Territory had issued the challenge, the Three Kings would have reacted.

"The Three Kings have commanded all the top powers in Daluo Territory to gather outside the Hundred Battle Territory. War is going on within a thousand miles in the region," Nine Nether said. Mu Chen nodded. Given Daluo Territory's position, they had to accept the challenge. The upcoming battle would be extremely intense and horrifying.

It would be a fight between the two great powers. The earlier fights would be nothing compared to it.

Mu Chen looked at Nine Nether and asked, "What about us?" Since Daluo Territory had mobilized all the top powers, Nine Nether Palace would not stay out of it.

"Let's go to Battle City!"

Nine Nether stood up without hesitation and waved her hand. Her cold voice resounded in the main hall. As a citizen of Daluo Territory, they would not back down from such a crucial war.

The top powers in Nine Nether Palace cupped their fists and shouted, "Yes!"

Mu Chen lifted his head and looked out of the main hall. In the northwest, the sky was gloomy and filled with warfare.

He could feel his blood pulsing through his veins. He needed such combat, as this would help to sharpen his skills toward the path of being a matchless master.

One day, everyone in Tianluo Continent would know him. By then, he would have fulfilled the promise that he had made to the girl.

Luo Li, wait for me.

•••

Battle City.

This was a lofty city that had been passed down from the Primordial Age. It had withstood many fierce battles and continued to stand tall on this piece of land.

The ancient city had once again gone to war.

A great light array in the sky covered the entire city. It looked like a huge bowl that had been turned over. Many shadows darted across it, and powerful spiritual energy fluctuations shot up into the sky.

Outside the city far away, many figures were standing in the air. The powerful spiritual energy caused distortion in the sky.

Battle City was the battlefront, and it slowly spread out to as far as the eye could see.

Southwest of Battle City.

Although this place was far from Battle City, the war had never stopped for a moment. The two troops had been trying to wipe each other out.

The fight was extremely fierce, and the people involved were no ordinary men. Both troops had strong fighting spirit!

The men on the left had yellow armor that looked like golden armor. They held heavy halberds in their hands. The majestic fighting spirit raged like a tornado in the heavens and the earth.

Gilt patterns were on the golden armor. They were the Kingo Troop that was under the command of Lord Gilt. He was one of the nine Lords in Daluo Territory.

Although the Kingo Troop was not as famous as the Asura Troop, Cracking Mountain Army, Blood Hawk Troop, or other powerful troops, it was quite powerful. It had established splendid records in battles.

However, their current situation did not look too good.

Their opponent was an army in green, holding long swords. A terrifying sword aura raged between the heaven and earth, and caused the sky to be in a devastating state.

They were the Three Thousand Swordsmen from the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords!

They had identified themselves as the Three Thousand Swordsmen through their unique style. The Three Thousand Swordsmen troop was the most powerful troop in the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords. Its combat force was one of the best among those in the Hundred Battle Territory.

The Three Thousand Swordsmen troop was more famous than the Kingo Troop.

#### Swoosh! Swoosh!

Sword aura covered the sky and weakened the fighting spirit of the Kingo Troop. In the face of the attack by the Three Thousand Swordsmen, the Kingo Troop could only be on the defensive.

Other forces from the two sides were fighting as well, but as the Three Thousand Swordsmen had suppressed the Kingo Troop, the morale of the army from the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords was boosted. On the other hand, the army from Daluo Territory kept retreating.

A figure in green stood in the air above the Three Thousand Swordsmen and said, "Hohoho, Commander Qian Long, your Kingo Troop does not seem to be able to hang on anymore. Why don't you just give up and prevent the unnecessary loss of lives?" He was carrying a long green sword on his back. He looked at the Kingo Troop, who was trying to resist the Three Thousand Swordsmen, and smiled.

He was the commander of the Three Thousand Swordsmen, Lin Qingfeng.

His position was comparable to Xu Qing and Zhou Yue's in Daluo Territory.

A burly man from the Kingo Troop stood in the air and looked at Lin Qingfeng. He gritted his teeth and thought of how unlucky he was. He was just clearing out the remnants, but the Three Thousand Swordsmen suddenly appeared. He knew the power of the Three Thousand Swordsmen. In Daluo Territory, only the Asura Troop led by Xu Qing and the Cracking Mountain Army led by Zhou Yue could defend against it.

It was fortunate that not all of the Three Thousand Swordsmen were present. Otherwise, the Kingo Troop would have already been defeated. Even at this moment, they could only resist the attack.

Qian Long gritted his teeth and shouted, "Lin Qingfeng, don't be too cocky. Our top powers are on their way here. When they arrive, you will see what will become of you!"

"Hohoho, you have reminded me to quickly finish you off," Lin Qingfeng said with a smile. He bent his fingers and pointed in the air. A strong sword aura swirled out and covered the region. It turned into an extremely huge sword, and its spiritual energy tore the space apart.

When Qian Long saw it, he turned pale. He could sense grave danger. He shouted, "Gilt Divine Shield!"

Boom!

A gilt fighting spirit shot up and turned into a huge golden shield. The golden shield was thick and solid like a mountain.

## Swoosh!

The huge sword did not pause for a single moment. It slashed down hard on the golden shield, and a horrifying sword aura burst out.

## Crack.

The sword aura raged, and Qian Long's expression changed abruptly. He saw that the golden shield had been cracked by the huge sword.

## "Oh no!"

Qian Long turned even more pale. The Kingo Troop would suffer severe losses.

Lin Qingfeng looked calm. As he was about to destroy the Kingo Troop with his huge sword, he suddenly looked stunned. A violent thunder sound resounded in the sky from afar.

Boom!

Dark lightning like a raging dragon shot toward Lin Qingfeng.

Lin Qingfeng frowned. He changed the direction of the huge sword to strike the dark lightning dragon.

Dong!

A spiritual energy windstorm raged out. The top powers were shocked, and they lifted their heads to look at the sky.

"Who is stopping me?" Lin Qingfeng asked. The sharp sword aura spread out and cut the clouds apart. He looked sharply at the sky and saw that it had gradually turned dark.

The thunder sound continued to be heard.

As the thunder sound traveled across the sky, the sound of laughter accompanied it.

"Daluo Territory, Nine Nether Troop from Nine Nether Palace!"

#### **The Great Ruler**

#### **Chapter 737: The Final Battle**

Sounds of laughter accompanied the thunder sound, as both echoed throughout the heavens and the earth. The top powers, who were battling in this region, looked at the sky in the distance. The top

powers of the Daluo Territory, who had felt dejected after the defeat of the Kingo Troop, suddenly felt hopeful.

"It is the Nine Nether Troop!"

"The men of Nine Nether Palace have finally arrived. I heard that they defeated the Thunder Magic Sect..."

"Great. The sound seems to be coming from Commander Mu Chen. With him around, we need not be afraid of Lin Qingfeng!"

The people were whispering everywhere. The spirits of the Daluo Territory's top powers had all been uplifted. In less than six months, almost all of the top powers knew about the the Nine Nether Troop, which had sprung up in an astounding speed, along with their new commander, Mu Chen.

Lin Qingfeng squinted his eyes to look at the direction where the dark clouds were coming from. The atmosphere was dreadful.

A troop in black armor whizzed toward them with a dark fighting spirit. Indistinctly, violent thunder sounds were heard. The army stood quietly in the sky. The austerity of the entire scene was not to be underestimated.

"Hohoho, is it the Nine Nether Troop from Nine Nether Palace? I have been hearing of you all for a long time now," Lin Qingfeng said with a smile. He squinted his eyes and looked at the black army.

"I have heard how impressive the Three Thousand Swordsmen of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords is. I can see that you have lived up to your reputation," Mu Chen said with a smile. He appeared above the Nine Nether Troop, looking at Lin Qingfeng.

"You must be the new commander, Mu Chen." Lin Qingfeng stared at Mu Chen, then slowly said, "I have heard that you have not only defeated the Blood Hawk Troop, but that even the Thunder Magic Congregation has been defeated by you."

Mu Chen smiled. He looked at the unsettled Kingo Troop and said, "Commander Lin, this situation is a mess. Why not leave with your men?"

"Hohoho. Are you planning to save them?" Lin Qingfeng smiled mockingly. He gently tapped on the sword on his back and said, "You can. However, you will be getting yourself into trouble."

Although Lin Qingfeng had heard of the accomplishments of the Nine Nether Troop, he was not afraid of them. After all, he was the Chief Commander of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords. Only a handful of commanders were on par with him in the entire Hundred Battle Territory. And, although not all of the soldiers of the Three Thousand Swordsmen were present, he was confident and he despised the other commanders.

"Commander Lin is right."

Upon hearing this, Mu Chen nodded with a smile. He knew that, given Lin Qingfeng's reputation in the Hundred Battle Territory, it was impossible to save anyone from his clutches by merely talking. So, since it was useless to talk, he would have to use his fists.

Cold ray gathered in Mu Chen's dark eyes. Without hesitation, he stomped his feet. The Nine Nether Troop, which was now below him, shouted out in unison. A dark fighting spirit shot up to the sky, followed by the sounds of thunder. Nine Nether Troop's fighting spirit was clearly much stronger than it had been a month ago!

# Buzz.

When Nine Nether's Fighting Spirit burst out, Lin Qingfeng waved his sleeve. The clashing sounds of swords resounded, and the fighting spirit of the sword aura whizzed out. It was like a windstorm, encircling Lin Qingfeng entirely.

"Commander Mu Chen, if you want to save your men, take a blow from me!" Lin Qingfeng sneered, then formed a seal with his palms.

"Sword sense, Lotus Spirit Sword!"

# Swoosh!

Majestic sword aura swept out, then turned into a Sword Lotus. The Sword Lotus blossomed and churned around. Even the space surrounding it had been cut by it.

Although the Sword Lotus did not make a sound, everyone could feel its razor edge. Lin Qingfeng was merciless. The moment he struck, it was obvious that he had used the death blow.

Lin Qingfeng looked flatly at Mu Chen and flicked his fingers. The Sword Lotus shot forth, leaving afterimages in the sky. Its speed was like lightning!

The Sword Lotus speedily magnified in Mu Chen's eyes. However, there was no reaction on his face. He changed the seal, causing the majestic Nine Nether's Fighting Spirit to surge out. It turned into a black fist print, and dark lightning could be seen glittering crazily on it.

"Nine Nether's Fighting Spirit, Nine Nether Lightning Punch!"

Mu Chen threw out a punch, and the black fist print shot forth. It hit hard against the Sword Lotus.

# Boom!

The sword aura and the dark fighting spirit that was dazzling with lightning swept out. Space warps were formed and shockwaves raged out. However, the two armies remained immovable.

Many people looked at the battle in the sky. They were shocked. It was obvious that the attacks from the Three Thousand Swordsmen were no match for the Nine Nether Troop.

"The Nine Nether Troop is more powerful than they were before, when they fought with the Blood Hawk Troop." Some of the top powers were sharp. At one glance, they could tell that the Nine Nether Troop had become much more powerful.

"They have a good commander. When they were under Cao Feng, they did not have such vigor."

Commander Qian Long of the Kingo Troop looked at Mu Chen with a complex stare. He had secretly mocked Mu Chen after Mu Chen had become the commander. He did not think that a youth could have adequate ability for such a role.

However, a series of events had happened to cause him to realize his short-sightedness. The Nine Nether Troop, which had been unknown in the Daluo Territory, had started to catch the eyes of many people. The troop was now able to fend off the Three Thousand Swordsmen of Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, which was a highly reputable foe.

"Commander, shall we help?" someone from behind Qian Long asked.

Qian Long shook his head and said, "Lin Qingfeng is no match for Mu Chen. They will not fight."

He could tell that, although Lin Qingfeng was powerful, it would be tough for him to defeat Mu Chen. Unless the Three Thousand Swordsmen came in full force, they would not have a chance to win against Mu Chen.

As Qian Long had expected, Lin Qingfeng looked at the Nine Nether Troop, which had easily countered their attacks, and frowned. He finally smiled, then said, "It seems like what I have heard is true. Commander Mu Chen is amazing."

"Thank you," Mu Chen said with a smile.

"Since Commander Mu Chen has stepped in, I have to show you some respect. I will let the Kingo Troop off today. I hope that when we start our war, Commander Mu Chen can still remain so calm." Lin Qingfeng cupped his fist and smiled. He then waved his sleeve and left with his men.

Mu Chen frowned as he watched the people leave. Lin Qingfeng had lived up to his reputation of being the Chief Commander of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords. In the short exchange of blows, he could tell that Lin Qingfeng would be a hard nut to crack.

"No wonder the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords had become one of the top forces in the Hundred Battle Territory. They are indeed capable," Mu Chen muttered. He knew that the upcoming final battle would be earth-shattering.

"Commander Mu Chen, thank you." As Mu Chen was pondering, Qian Long had brought the Kingo Troop along with him to thank Mu Chen.

"You are welcome, Commander Qian Long. We are from the Daluo Territory. We should help one another." Mu Chen cupped his fist and replied. Lord Gilt had been keeping a low profile in the Daluo Territory. Although they would not be grateful to him for having helped them, at the very least, the relationship between Gilt Palace and Nine Nether Palace would improve.

Qian Long, who looked stern, smiled. He was a bit grateful to Mu Chen. He had seen many young talents who were prideful. However, Mu Chen was not proud at all. It was no wonder that Lord Nine Nether thought so highly of him.

"Since Commander Mu Chen is here, should Lord Nine Nether not be here as well? Hohoho, we will need Lord Nine Nether to be here for the final battle," Qian Long said with a smile.

"Yes. She has gone to meet the three kings," Mu Chen nodded and said. Nine Nether was one of the nine Lords, making her among the top powers in the Daluo Territory. Thus, she would naturally be involved in the final battle.

Qian Long nodded. And, as he was about to say something, a deep drumming sound was heard from the distant horizon. The drumming sound was filled with fighting spirit.

"It is the battle drum of the Hundred Battle Territory!" Qian Long said, turning grave.

"What is the matter?" Mu Chen asked.

"The Hundred Battle Territory is about to start the war!" Qian Long exclaimed, then said in a low voice, "Commander Mu Chen, we have to get back to our military base, quickly!"

Mu Chen was a bit shocked. Why is Hundred Battle City so eager to start the war? Anyway, he had no time to think of this further. He waved his hand and dashed out with Qian Long, the two armies following closely behind.

Two streaks of streamers darted across the horizon like lightning. The ancient deep drumming sound became clearer.

After traveling at full speed for about half an hour, Mu Chen and Qian Long started to slow down. In the distance, they could see that the light barrier that was covering Hundred Battle City had been torn apart. A large number of people swirled out, covering the area like locusts. Even the light from the sky was being blocked by the people.

Facing such a terrifying array, one could only see endless shadows of people. Powerful spiritual energy fluctuations shot up to the sky, the violent nature of which caused the spiritual energy in the heavens and the earth to be heated up.

Two horrifying arrays were in a head-to-head battle. The sky was about to collapse.

As Mu Chen watched the scene, he let out a deep breath. The final battle was indeed astounding...

# The Great Ruler

#### Chapter 738: Big Shots

In the outer vicinity of the Hundred Battle Territory, the sky looked gloomy. Both armies congregated there. The formidable array of troops marched forward in a mighty formation, as if they were going to blanket the sky and the earth with an impenetrable barricade. Numerous beams of spiritual energy soared up into the sky, stifling the movement of the air around them.

This was a face off between two leviathans.

The moment the war broke out, it would definitely be earth-shaking. Numerous powerhouses would perish in the war, and freshly-spilled blood would bathe the universe in crimson red. Such a horrifying scene would be sufficient to make one's blood run cold.

Mu Chen led the Nine Nether Troop to join the rest of the troops of the Daluo Territory. He peered at the sea of souls in the sky of the Hundred Battle Territory. His expression turned solemn. At this very moment, he finally knew how powerful the Hundred Battle Territory was.

"If this battle were to break out, I'm afraid that we would enter into a state of chaos and darkness," murmured Mu Chen to himself. In order to conquer the Hundred Battle Territory, a price must still be paid, even if they were the almighty Daluo Territory.

"I'm afraid that it won't be that easy to start the war," Tang Bin said softly as she stood beside Mu Chen.

"Hmm?" Mu Chen seized in terror.

"Although the Hundred Battle Territory has made sufficient military preparations for the war, they do not have the courage to die in the name of honor. Had Tian Xuan Hall not incited them surreptitiously, they wouldn't have had the guts to provoke us."

A ray of light glimmered in her beautiful eyes as she smiled. "If this happened during ordinary times, Daluo Territory would still be willing to pay a small price to conquer the Hundred Battle Territory. In fact, we would quickly recover and become even stronger. However, it is currently not the right time to start the conquest. The Great Hunting Battle is around the corner. If we choose to go to war now, it will not bring us any good news.

"Both parties have no intentions to go all out in this battle. Hence, it is rather difficult to start the war."

Mu Chen looked at the confident Tang Bing and could not help but to pinch the bridge of his nose. "So, the whole invitation for a battle was merely a facade? The Hundred Battle Territory seems to have nothing better to do. Why would they provoke the Daluo Territory?"

"They have probably made a pact with the Tian Xuan Hall," muttered Tang Bing. A smile was immediately plastered on her face again as she said, "However, although we don't have to go all out in this battle, today's fiasco will not end with a breeze as we are under the watchful eyes of one too many people."

Mu Chen nodded. Before he could say anything, three beams of shadow figures emerged from the very front of the Hundred Battle Territory's troops. Numerous powerhouses from the Hundred Battle Territory looked on in awe.

Among the three figures, one of them was an elderly person who was clad in a green robe. He carried a scabbard on his back. He had a cold, stern gaze. It was as if his spiritual energy and sword aura were circulating in his eyes. One could only sweep their eyes over him, but no one dared to look straight into his eyes.

Meanwhile, a scrawny old man clad in a black robe stood beside him. He looked like a bag of bones. At first glance, he even looked like a dried corpse. His whole body was shrouded by cold, gloomy air. It was rather unsettling.

A bald, middle-aged man stood on the right. He looked frail. His placed his hand right in front of him. Although his appearance was rather ordinary, it was if the galaxy were contained in his eyes; they looked extremely mysterious.

As the three of them showed themselves, the spirits of the Hundred Battle Territory were suddenly lifted. Deafening cheers thundered in the air to the point that the sky and ground quaked a little.

"These are the current big shots of the Hundred Battle Territory. The old man in the green robe is the valley owner of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords. He is known as the Sword-Hiding Elder. He has already achieved Grade Seven Sovereign. Meanwhile, the scrawny old man is the clan leader of the Demonic Corpse Sect, the Old Corpse Ghost... The last person there is the founder of the Giant Sky of Sorrows, the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign. Although he came from the Lower Planes, his abilities are

unpredictable. I'm afraid that he might be the most difficult one to read among the three of them," said Tang Bing as her beautiful eyes were fixated on the three figures.

After hearing Tang Bing's final statement, Mu Chen also could not help but to take another glance at the bald, middle-aged man. Although the Lower Planes was a considerably lower tier in comparison to the Great Thousand World, this was precisely why those Lower Planes powerhouses, who were able to break through the social system shackles and come forth to the Great Thousand World, were definitely the cream of the crop. In the present Great Thousand World, the most famous person from the Lower Planes was the Flame Emperor, Martial Ancestor... No one could surpass their success.

The so-called Demonic Sorrow Sovereign who stood before him was actually from the Lower Planes. Plus, he had actually created such an impressive legacy. Such a figure definitely possessed mystical abilities.

Mu Chen nodded slightly. The three big shots were comparable to the three kings of Daluo Territory. Such abilities were considered to be rather powerful already. This explained why they were able to control the Hundred Battle Territory.

"Hehe, my old friends, the three kings. Are you still planning to hide in the dark?" After the three big shots of the Hundred Battle Territory appeared, the scabbard-carrying old man in green chuckled. His laughter pierced everyone's ears in heaven and on earth.

"Hehe, we will meet on the battlefield soon. We might not be able to be friends again."

As the three kings appeared, the spirits of Daluo Territory were equally lifted.

"Hehe, I think the Daluo Territory is making a big fuss over nothing. All we did was snatch some of the cities at the border. I can't believe that the almighty Daluo Territory had to involve so many people to settle such a minor issue." The scrawny corpse-like old man in black cackled hoarsely. His cackles sounded jarring.

"As long as this concerns the reputation of Daluo Territory, it will not be considered a small issue. Since the Hundred Battle Territory had the intention of provoking us, you will all have to pay for the consequences," the Spiritual Pupil King muttered nonchalantly.

As the big shots from both sides were having a conversation, the whole place fell into complete silence, allowing the high and mighty to compete with one another.

"Although Daluo Territory has an impressive reputation, the people of the Hundred Battle Territory are not weaklings who can be stepped on as you like." The Sword-Hiding Elder of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords smiled. "Plus, if your Dominator chooses to stay on the sidelines, you will never be able to conquer us if you just rely on the powers of your three kings. Hence, I'm thinking that the three of you should just invite your Dominator out onto the battlefield."

The Condor King furrowed his brows slightly. A cold gaze lingered in his eyes.

"It seems like you are desperate to see me." Before the Condor King could say anything, a husky voice suddenly echoed in the air. Following the echoes of the voice, everyone felt an overbearing sense of power descending from the sky. At that very moment, its presence blanketed around 10,000 miles of the area.

Everyone was astounded as they looked at the presence for the first time. Suddenly, blinding bright rays came together right before the three kings. The rays of light directly transformed into a golden throne. A figure shrouded in brilliant rays sat quietly on it. Although the figure did not look tall or built, numerous powerhouses all over the world were awestruck by its overwhelming presence. No one dared to say a word.

"Greetings, Territory Lord!"

The three kings were also taken aback by the presence of the Dominator. They immediately made their salutations as a sign of respect. Meanwhile, at the back, numerous powerhouses of the Daluo Territory saluted with great respect, creating a staggering, earth-shattering force around them.

In contrast to the intimidating momentum of Daluo Territory, the Hundred Battle Territory fell into immediate silence. The eyes of the powerhouses were filled with fear. They understood that as they stood before the mysterious Dominator of Daluo Territory, even if the Hundred Battle Territory had the support of the three big shots, they did not dare act recklessly.

At that very moment, the Sword-Hiding Elder stiffened in fear, especially when he felt a heartless gaze watching him from the throne. Even with his current abilities, he could still feel chills crawling up his spine.

Although he possessed the abilities of a Grade Seven Sovereign, it was still a far cry from the Dominator of Daluo Territory who already possessed the level of an Earth Sovereign.

"Hehe. The Dominator of Daluo Territory. It has been so long since we have met. How are you?"

However, while the Sword-Hiding Elder's heart was enveloped by an intimidating sense of terror, laughter suddenly rang from the skies.

The space in the skies of the Hundred Battle Territory suddenly ripped apart, and a figure stepped out. The middle-aged man dressed in green carried himself with great elegance. His eyes dazzled like galaxies; everyone could not help but be mesmerized by those dazzling eyes.

He stood there with a gentle smile on his face. However, anyone who was present could clearly sense the fact that his presence could rival the overwhelming authority of the Dominator from Daluo Territory.

The Sword-Hiding Elder let out a breath of relief when he saw the man in green.

"He is the hall master of Tian Xuan Hall, Liu Tiandao!" said Tang Bing solemnly as she stared at the descending figure whose presence could easily suppress the powerhouses from both parties.

"Is he Liu Tiandao from Tian Xuan Hall?" Mu Chen's heart skipped a beat. His eyes lit up. Liu Ming is his son, right? Would the fellow rage if he knew that I was the culprit who quashed Liu Ming?

"Liu Tiandao, you finally appear." The voice of the Dominator of Daluo Territory, who was still seated on the throne, remained calm. It was evident that the appearance of Liu Tian Dao was in accordance with his predictions.

Liu Tiandao smiled. His galaxy-like eyes were locked on the figure but there was a slight furrow in his brows. Based on the information that he had gotten, the Dominator of Daluo Territory had probably

suffered from extremely severe injuries, which explained why he was living the ascetic life for such a long time. Logically speaking, he should be in his weakest state now. Why did he still have the courage to show up?

Or... Could it be that the Dominator of Daluo Territory was actually frail on the inside despite his strong appearance?

A light seemed to flicker in Liu Tiandao's eyes. He immediately raised his palms, and the spiritual auras from within the world started coming together in a frenetic manner. Everyone lifted their heads. A multicolored hill made up solely of the congregated spiritual auras directly appeared out of thin air.

Although the hill looked ordinary, it actually had the weight of millions of tall mountains. Thus, even a Grade Nine Sovereign might not be able to withstand such force as it was made up of extremely pure spiritual aura from heaven and the earth.

Two worlds merged into one.

Only an ultimate powerhouse who had achieved the status of an Earth Sovereign could use such a tactic — to be able to effortlessly maximize the use of the spiritual aura from within the world.

"Dominator of Daluo Territory, here's a gift for you!"

Liu Tiandao ruffled his sleeves, and the hill cast an enormous shadow as it started to shroud the powerhouses of Daluo Territory. It was extremely simple to find out if the strong appearance of the Dominator of Daluo Territory was merely a facade to hide his frail health. All he had to do was to test it out himself.

If his predictions were right, the former would definitely be at his weakest state at this point in time. Thus, today might be a great day to completely exterminate the Daluo Territory. He coerced the Hundred Battle Territory to provoke the Daluo Territory with an ultimate motive in mind. He wanted to pressure the Dominator of Daluo Territory to reveal his true identity...

#### Bam!

As the shadow began to shroud the crowd, all the faces of the powerhouses of Daluo Territory were white with fear. As they were faced with such violent attacks, they knew that they did not even have the leeway to escape. Their abilities were evidently a far cry from the powers of an Earth Sovereign.

Thus, everyone turned their sight toward the figure that remained stationary on the throne.

Mu Chen also looked at the throne in panic. His palms were sweaty. It would be absolutely horrific to just die in this manner.

Under the fixated gazes of millions of people, the figure on the throne just lifted his head a little, and immediately looked as if he were inhaling air into his lungs. Suddenly, the world started to tremble, and the hill that was compacted with spiritual auras swirled into a beam of rainbow-colored rays. The figure seated on the throne then sucked it into his mouth and swallowed it while.

Hiss!

Everyone's eyes nearly popped out of their heads.

# The Great Ruler Chapter 739: A Battle

Everyone in the world was dumbstruck as they gaped at the figure who was seated on the throne. Evidently, no one had ever expected that the terrifying attack from Liu Tiandao would be sucked into his mouth with such ease.

Mu Chen was completely blown away. There was an astonishingly large difference between the abilities of an Earth Sovereign and an ordinary sovereign. Looking at the offensive move just performed by Liu Tiandao, if the dominator of Daluo Territory had not blocked it, the attack would have caused thousands of casualties in the Daluo Territory in the blink of an eye. His abilities had reached such a level that, it would be almost impossible to even rely on quantitative advantage to mitigate the failures, unless they had a war troop dispatcher with an extremely formidable troop...

As Liu Tiandao witnessed this scene, his sunken eyes squinted a little. His micro-expressions also seemed a bit solemn. Although he had not unleashed his full powers in the previous attack, he had already achieved his main goal.

He was able to conduct his offensive attack with such ease! There was not even a slight fluctuation in his internal spiritual energy! Evidently, the dominator of Daluo Territory was not as weak as he had expected him to be.

"How could this have happened..." Liu Tiandao's gaze turned slightly cold. It is impossible that the information that he had received could have been wrong. The dominator of Daluo Territory's internal injuries should be flaring up at this point in time, which would leave him extremely vulnerable and frail. However, looking at the current state of affairs, his abilities were still as powerful as ever.

"It seems like Clan Leader Liu intends to have a friendly battle with me?" As Liu Tiandao's gaze shifted a little, the husky voice of the dominator of Daluo Territory, who was seated on the throne, also thundered across the place. The strident sound wave caused by it had actually distorted the entire space around it!

"Hehe, I was just testing to see if the dominator of Daluo Territory had actually perfected his skills over the years."

Liu Tiandao swayed the sleeves of his robe and smiled faintly. His gaze immediately shifted toward the grandiose battlefield, as he said, "But, it will be rather unfair if you were to join this battle, considering that you are, after all, the almighty dominator of Daluo Territory. Tian Xuan Hall has close bonds with the Hundred Battle Territory. Thus, if you intend to oppress the people with your powers and authority, I'm afraid that Tian Xuan Hall will not be able to just sit back and watch."

"Well then, I'm intrigued to see Tian Xuan Hall's level of endurance," the dominator of Daluo Territory sneered, remaining seated on his throne. There was no hint of fear in his tone, despite the interference from Tian Xuan Hall.

Liu Tiandao smiled and glared at the dominator of Daluo Territory, "Why would the dominator of Daluo Territory say such a thing? We are both well aware of the situation at hand. If you were to make a move, I would have no choice but to stop you from doing so, as only then would I be able to prevent you from

meddling with this battle. Besides... I would still wish you the best, even if all of you still intend to instigate a life-and-death battle with the Hundred Battle Territory."

The rays that shrouded the body of the dominator of Daluo Territory flickered a little. He then smiled faintly and said, "Well then, you should stop spouting nonsense. What do you want? Cut to the chase and lay all of your cards on the table."

Liu Tiandao smiled. "No doubt, the dominator of Daluo Territory is truly pleasant to deal with. However, I'm not the host. You should direct that question to the three leaders of the Hundred Battle Territory instead."

As Liu Tiandao finished speaking, the Sword-hiding Elder of the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords smiled cheekily at the dominator of Daluo Territory. He then said, "Looking at today's situation, both parties are clearly unwilling to fight a life-and-death battle, but we cannot allow the Daluo Territory to go home empty-handed. Thus, the Hundred Battle Territory is willing to set up a prizefight instead. As such, we will be able to avoid hurting each other, but a concise decision can still be made. When the time comes, the losing party will have to compensate the winner with a million Sovereign Spiritual Liquid and a thousand cities. What do you think?" He turned to address his question directly to the dominator of Daluo Territory.

"One million Sovereign Spiritual Liquid? A thousand cities?"

As news of the exact sum of the compensation spread, the crowd was thrown into an uproar. Even the eyes of the three kings lit up. Although the Daluo Territory was able to provide a million Sovereign Spiritual Liquid, it was still a rather hefty price.

The price of one thousand cities was also astonishingly high. Even if they were to divide out some parts of the Daluo Territory, it would still be a pain in the neck.

Mu Chen was stunned. Even when they had turned the Thunder Magic Sect upside down, the value of the loot that they had obtained was not even equal to the price of two hundred thousand Sovereign Spiritual Liquid. And to think, the Hundred Battle Territory demanded a million Sovereign Spiritual Liquid as the prize of the fight!

The three kings stared at the dominator of the Daluo Territory. They were obviously waiting for him to make the final decision.

With all eyes upon him, the dominator of Daluo Territory paused for a short while before he spoke. Then, his voice firm and stern, he said, "What would be the fight's criteria and rules?"

"Simple..." the Sword-hiding Elder began to explain. "The fight will be divided into three battles — the battle of the kings, the battle of the Lords, and the battle of the commanders. This means that the Daluo Territory will have to send out three representatives — a king, a lord, and a commander. Likewise, the Hundred Battle Territory will also have to do the same. Whoever wins the most out of the three battles will be the final victor."

"Why go to all of that trouble? The three big shots from the Hundred Battle Territory should just make a move on us. We, the three kings, will just directly take you all down. Isn't this easier? Don't you guys have confidence in yourselves?" the Condor King snickered.

"Hehe, that would be such a meaningless fight. In such an event, we should give our younger members a chance to shine," said the Sword-hiding Elder with a smile plastered on his face.

The Condor King's eyebrows furrowed. He then looked at the dominator of Daluo Territory on the throne. The fact that the opponent had made such a move had evidently created some uncertainties regarding the fight.

The rays around the Daluo Territory flickered a little, almost as if they were directly related to the flickering gaze now emanating from the dominator of Daluo Territory himself. After he scanned through the various powerhouses for a short moment, his stern, husky voice thundered, "Alright, we will take part in this fight."

"The dominator of Daluo Territory sure is a bold person!" the Sword-hiding Elder smiled, bowing in respect.

"Send out your three representatives of the Hundred Battle Territory. I'm truly curious of the abilities that your people have," said the dominator of Daluo Territory nonchalantly.

The Sword-hiding Elder smiled upon hearing the words of the dominator. Before he could utter a response, the silent Demonic Sorrow Sovereign of the Giant Sky of Sorrows suddenly stepped forward. His galaxy-like deep eyes looked toward the dominator of Daluo Territory. His voice remained monotone, "Allow me to compete with the king-level powerhouse of the Daluo Territory."

Witnessing how he had volunteered himself, the Sword-Hiding Elder and the Old Corpse Ghost just smiled and expressed no objections. It seemed like they had expected such a development.

"The Demonic Sorrow Sovereign will be making the move as expected," Tang Bing's expression turned grave as she stared at the bald man. Among the three big shots of the Hundred Battle Territory, although the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign was the one with the most low profile, he was evidently also the least predictable of the three.

Mu Chen nodded his head lightly. The Demonic Sorrow Sovereign was evidently a tough nut to crack.

As the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign stepped forward, the Sword-hiding Elder waved his hand again. Suddenly, a crack crept open, and a black figure slowly walked out of it.

A rotten smell filled the air as the black figure appeared. Everyone looked over, their sights greeted by a thinly clad humanoid figure. His body was wrapped in black bandages, just like a mummy. There seemed to be some strange symbols on the black bandages as well. The appearance of the peculiar figure stirred up the crowd once again.

"That person is... The Spiritual Corpse King from the Demonic Corpse Sect. I thought he had disappeared! It's shocking that he has suddenly reappeared..." said Tang Bing, astonished.

"The Spiritual Corpse King?" Mu Chen was seized with terror.

"He is the highest-positioned Elder in the Demonic Corpse Sect. His abilities are apparently inferior only to the Old Corpse Ghost. However, he disappeared several years ago. Some even thought that he had died, but I guess not," said Tang Bing.

Mu Chen's brows furrowed upon hearing this. The Spiritual Corpse King gave off a rather unnerving vibe.

"I wonder which powerhouse the Hundred Battle Territory will send out for the battle between the commanders..." said Mu Chen quietly. In comparison to the other two battles, he was clearly more interested in this category, since it was the one that involved his own scope of abilities.

"The Hundred Battle Territory will evidently select their most powerful commanders. Clearly, their most powerful leaders are none other than the dynamic three: Lin Qingfeng from the Valley of Ten Thousand Swords, Mo Mo from the Demonic Corpse Sect, and Qin Bei from the Giant Sky of Sorrows. Among these three, Lin Qingfeng is the most reputable, Mo Chen is the most cunning, and Qin Bei is the most low profile," said Tang Bing.

Mu Chen grumbled, then nodded his head.

"However, you shouldn't get your hopes up too high. In this battle between the commanders, I doubt that the Daluo Territory will send you out as a representative." Tang Bing smiled as she glanced at Mu Chen. She continued, "I'm not trying to rain on your parade. It's just that Xu Qing and Zhou Yue have better backgrounds than you do. Although you have risen up in the ranks in an impressively short span of time, they still seem more reliable in the eyes of the other members. Thus, it is likely that the dominator will pick one of them to be the representative."

Mu Chen rubbed his nose and smiled. "Xu Qing and Zhou Yue are really strong, too. I'd have no complaints if they were to be selected as the representative. At least then I wouldn't have to risk my life in the battle!"

"I'm glad that you are keeping an open mind. However, we do all know that you're just as strong as them!" Tang Bing consoled him with an encouraging smile.

Mu Chen shook his shoulders and lifted his head up. The Sword-hiding Elder waved his hands once again. This time, a commander-level powerhouse would be selected to represent the Hundred Battle Territory.

At the back, three figures descended from the sky. One of them was Lin Qing Feng, who Mu Chen had previously met. Another, named Mo Mo, was dressed in black from top to toe. On the far left, the third figure, was scrawny man who was wearing a dark green robe. Mu Chen figured this was most likely Qin Bei, the most low-profile commander among the three of them.

As the Sword-Hiding Elder waved his hand, Lin Qingfeng and Mo Mo glanced at each other. Their faces looked as if they were frowning. They then took a step back together, making way for Qin Bei, whose eyes were slightly closed. Evidently, they had selected Qin Bei to represent them as the commander-tier powerhouse.

"They have actually selected him." As Tang Bing witnessed this moment, her arched brows twitched a little. Although members of the Giant Sky of Sorrows had always kept a low profile, they were evidently the most difficult to deal with.

"Hehe, dominator of Daluo Territory, we have already selected our representatives for the Hundred Battle Territory. I wonder, which three participants are you going to send out for the battles?" asked the Sword-hiding old man smilingly.

All eyes were fixated on the dominator of Daluo Territory once again. The rays around him started to flicker a little more. He lounged on the throne and said calmly, "The Sleeping King."

Among the three kings, the groggy-looking Sleeping King opened his eyes and stared at the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign, who was standing at a distance. He smiled only briefly, then nodded his head. Evidently, the Daluo Territory needed the equally mysterious Sleeping King to deal with the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign.

"Lord Asura," the dominator of Daluo Territory spoke up again.

The choice of candidate was still within everyone's expectations, as Lord Asura was still considered to be the most powerful among the nine lords. After selecting Lord Asura, the dominator of Daluo Territory paused for a while, as everyone's gazes shifted to Xu Qing and Zhou Yue. The two of them were unperturbed, their expressions remaining calm and seemingly unaffected by the happenings surrounding them at the moment.

The dominator of Daluo Territory tapped his fingers lightly on the throne. His piercing eyes swept pass Xu Qing and Zhou Yue. Finally, he suddenly turned away from them to stare directly at Mu Chen, who was presently getting some shut-eye.

"Mu Chen."

Everyone was shocked at the decision! Even Nine Nether, who was standing nearby, was extremely stunned! Evidently, nobody had expected that the dominator of Daluo Territory would actually pick the most inexperienced one among his ranks!

# The Great Ruler

#### Chapter 740: Grade Eight Sovereign

"Mu Chen..."

As the Dominator of Daluo's voice resonated, the massive crowd momentarily fell silent before an unsuppressed commotion of whispers broke out.

Everyone was stupefied and looked at Mu Chen, who was equally stunned.

Xu Qing and Zhou Yue were startled for a moment, and then they looked at each other. Their lips moved, but they could not utter a word, as they dared not go against the choice of the Dominator of Daluo.

Though they spoke not, their eyes revealed their suspicions. They had witnessed clashes between Mu Chen and Wu Tian before, therefore, they knew that there was more to the young man than met the eye.

However, Mu Chen did depend on the Nine Nether Troop's fighting spirit during his battle with Wu Tian. But in the upcoming fight, he could only rely on his own strength. The crowd couldn't help but doubt him. As the furor spread, not only was the crowd dumbfounded, but even Mu Chen could not stop himself from leaving his mouth open. He looked at Tang Bing beside him, whose lovely face was equally startled.

Evidently, she could never have imagined Mu Chen being selected by the Dominator of Daluo.

Although many expressed their disbelief, the Dominator of Daluo's commanding authority was absolute, and no one dared disapprove. The silence after an agitated uproar created an uncanny contrast.

Nine Nether gave Mu Chen a strange look. After a short hesitation, she finally cupped her right fist with her left palm and said, "My Lord, Mu Chen is still inexperienced. Would it not be too risky to send him?"

The three upcoming battles were of extreme importance, and any selected candidate would be put under enormous pressure. If they won, all would be well, but if they lost, the stress they would have to bear would not be light. Although Nine Nether also hoped that Mu Chen could shine in this fight, she could not allow herself to put Mu Chen in such danger.

Upon hearing this, the Dominator of Daluo waved his palm and said with a relaxed smile, "Worry not. He will do."

At Dominator of Daluo's insistence, Nine Nether resisted no more. However, she still had a curious look in her elegant eyes. She still could not fathom why the Dominator of Daluo was so keen on Mu Chen. Logically, with his power level at this point, Mu Chen shouldn't even have the right to be noticed by the Dominator of Daluo.

The crowd kept quiet when they saw this. The word of the Dominator of Daluo was absolute. Since he was determined in his choice, not a soul dared to go against him.

And so, the candidacy in the battle of commanders fell upon Mu Chen's shoulders just like that.

The countless powerful masters in Daluo Territory looked at each other, every one of them sighing in their hearts. Now they could only hope that they won the first two matches, as Mu Chen's result would not matter then.

Facing the countless sighs and odd looks, Mu Chen could only curl his lips. He was equally ignorant about which nerve in the Dominator of Daluo went haywire, causing him to insist on sending Mu Chen.

"Hehe, it seems like the Dominator of Daluo has picked his candidate!" The Sword-Hiding Elder laughed. He took a glance at the drowsy Sleeping King, and dread rose in his eyes. He clearly understood that the Sleeping King was the most unpredictable among the Three Kings.

Then he looked at Lord Asura. He was clad in armor and was expressionless. But underneath his seemingly peaceful eyes, a terrifying massacre was surging, and those who saw it quivered in fear.

Among the Nine Lords of Daluo Territory, Lord Asura was no doubt the strongest. It was said that if a top power were to be promoted to king, it would most certainly be Lord Asura.

Finally, the old man set his sights upon Mu Chen, and he was shocked at once. Grade Two Sovereign? When had the commanders of Daluo Territory gotten so weak?

A sliver of doubt flashed in the eyes of the Sword-Hiding Elder, but he did not show it. He merely let out a laugh. "Since the candidates have been chosen, let the Dominator of Daluo decide on the order of the battles."

The Dominator of Daluo shone with a bright light, and then he took a look at the Sleeping King. The latter walked out unhurriedly and said with a smile, "Let's start with the strongest, then."

With a leap, his figure appeared high up in the air, and he looked at the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign saying, "It was rumored that you broke through the shackles of the world and are an exceptional genius. I am honored to be able to witness that today."

The Demonic Sorrow Sovereign laughed, and his figure rippled and disappeared eerily. Then, like a wave of water, he materialized before the Sleeping King.

"I have also heard of Brother Meng's Great Dream Nerve that enables meditation in a half-asleep state. Such a fascinating technique. Hopefully, I will learn a lot from you today," the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign spoke slowly while staring at the Sleeping King with his eyes that looked like two galaxies.

"Your words are too kind."

With a laugh, the usual drowsiness and grogginess dissipated from the Sleeping King's eyes and was replaced by a sharp glint.

With a wave of his sleeves, the blue skies were seemingly twisted. Then, a horrifying spiritual energy pressure great enough to crush the skies covered the heavens and the earth.

#### Bang! Bang!

Above the heavens, all layers of clouds exploded and shattered, and space itself seemed to have twisted. Violent cracks spread throughout space. As the Sleeping King grasped the air, blackish spatial cracks appeared on his palm like tiny, slithering snakes. Only those with a wise eye could tell how dangerous the power of those tiny snakes formed from spatial cracks was.

That was the power of space.

"Grade Eight Sovereign, spatial control!"

Between the heavens and the earth, innumerable powerful individuals inhaled sharply. To bend space to one's will was a feat only Grade Eight Sovereigns could achieve. Obviously, the Sleeping King had attained Grade Eight!

At the back, while the Condor King and the Spiritual Pupil King were watching this scene, they could only smile. It seemed like the Sleeping King had taken the lead. While they both had met the requirements to be a Grade Eight Sovereign, they were still a distance away from actually entering its gates.

"As expected from Master Sleeping King." Tang Bing unknowingly let out the words of praise. According to her knowledge, the last time the Three Kings displayed their prowess, their strength was around that of Grade Seven Sovereign. Now, it was obvious that her knowledge was outdated.

Mu Chen nodded slightly in response. He looked at the silhouette standing erect in the sky. The power emanating from his body was truly capable of obliterating the heavens and the earth.

Focused on by countless gazes of shock and awe, the Sleeping King gave the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign a mischievous smile, and with a flick of his finger, the tiny black snakes in his hand disappeared in a peculiar fashion.

### BOOOOM!

It was at this moment that the space around the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign suddenly convulsed, immediately followed by a tear in space. Spatial cracks, black and ferocious, started to materialize, like scissors cutting through space, flying toward the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign without hesitation.

While that type of attack wasn't one that packed an earth-shattering spiritual energy, it was far more vicious than the collision of spiritual energies. The power embedded within the spatial cracks could instantly dice a Grade Five Sovereign into pieces. Most importantly, normal individuals could never evade that attack. As fast as one could be, no one could outrun the shredding of space.

The spatial cracks tore space apart, but the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign's expression was stoic. He only put an arm out in front of himself and smiled faintly. The space around him was twisted at once, and spatial cracks that were equally ferocious spread out from him and clashed with cracks that were surrounding him.

# Crrrrrk! Crrk!

Thin noises echoed through the air. As the spatial cracks collided with each other, they merely canceled each other out and dissipated in puffs of smoke. They did not cause any devastating shockwaves.

### "Spatial control?!"

"Even the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign has entered Grade Eight!"

Several exclamations emerged from the crowd. Anyone who saw the event would see that the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign used the same technique to defuse the attack of spatial cracks.

Obviously, the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign had attained the capability of a Grade Eight Sovereign!

"This fella, he truly is a powerful individual who has broken the shackles of the world," Tang Bing said while she knitted her brows.

"It seems like to determine a victor, a difficult battle will have to take place." Mu Chen's face was grave. It was no wonder that the Demonic Sorrow Sovereign was selected as the opponent of a King-level, powerful individual. It seemed like they hid many of their capabilities as well. This Grade Eight Sovereign should be considered the strongest among the Big Three of Hundred Battle Territory.

"Interesting. After a long hiatus, I hope I am not rusty." The Sleeping King could not stop himself from smiling when he saw the incident. The look in his eyes had started to sharpen. This opponent was worthy of his full attention.

"I'm looking forward to your lesson, Brother Meng," Demonic Sorrow uttered with a smile, but his eyes were emotionless.

The Sleeping King smiled in return and gently shut his eyes. As his eyelids closed, the wide space behind him started to twist and turn. It was as if that area had turned into a black hole, frantically devouring the spiritual energies in the heavens and the earth.

As the spiritual energies turned into rays of rainbows and converged in that area, a gargantuan figure of a few tens of thousands of feet gradually took shape.

That figure was sitting cross-legged in the void, its whole body covered in dazzling light. But it wasn't a mere projection. As the light flowed in between, the figure became an actual body, a real giant!

Furthermore, a gigantic golden dragon seemed to be circling above the figure. The humongous dragon remained on top of the figure with its head raised high, as if it wanted to devour the heavens and the earth.

When the monstrous figure appeared, the whole sky shuddered and shook, as if it could not bear the pressure of the figure.

## ROAR!

The gigantic golden dragon roared at the sky, and its voice resonated in the heavens. A golden tide of sound swept out. At that very instant, the heavens and the earth shattered!

Below, Mu Chen gazed at the enormous figure and the gigantic golden dragon around it. He could not help squinting, and he mumbled to himself, "Is this... the Sky Dragon Celestial Body?"

The Sky Dragon Celestial Body, ranked 70th among the 99 Sovereign Celestial Bodies!