

## **Nine Star 3661**

### **Chapter 3661**

The Nine Underworld Island was located in the southwestern area of the Violet Flame Heaven. It bordered the devil sea. Furthermore, there was a devil eye located within this devil sea that caused countless cultivators to quiver with fear.

Legend had it that there was a terrifying devil beneath the devil eye, one that made even Divine Venerates detour around it.

Long Chen had once been offered as a sacrifice by the Soaring Dragon Company to a devil eye. He had almost died. Unexpectedly, the thing to save him was the mark of the Ghost Sovereign on him.

Thus, even Long Chen felt apprehensive about the devil eye. The Nine Underworld Island wasn't far from it, and yet they were still safe and sound.

Due to being so close to the devil eye and shrouded by mist, the Nine Underworld Island was a mysterious place. No one dared to approach it. It was the Nine Underworld Hall's second-largest stronghold, and countless elite assassins were raised there. Those people were like cheetahs of the night. With them standing guard over every movement within that area, anyone who dared to get close never left.

After so long, the sea of mist around the Nine Underworld Island became a forbidden area that no one dared to set foot in. That only caused the Nine Underworld Island to become even more mysterious.

Also, the Nine Underworld Island was actually composed of over three thousand and six hundred islands. They all possessed different magnetic fields that repulsed and attracted each other, resulting in space being very chaotic there. It was difficult for outsiders to get accustomed to that space.

Adding on the mist and the special formations set up by the Nine Underworld Hall, this area was very bewildering. Outsiders would basically be crippled if they entered, their senses thrown into disarray. They would then simply be slaughtered.

This information was given by the Huayun Trading Company. But even the Huayun Trading Company only had this much information and had no details on the inside. That was enough to show just how mysterious the Nine Underworld Island was.

“Boss, why is the path so weird? Making all these turns is using up quite a bit of time.” Xia Chen couldn’t help speaking up as he controlled the flying boat through the path that Long Chen had drawn on the map.

“It’s just to bewilder our opponents. They already know where we are. Even if they can’t find our tracks, they can tell the direction we’re going based on our plundering activities. Our target is the Nine Underworld Island, but we can’t go there directly. We’ll loop around. In the other direction, there’s the ruins of one of the branches of the High Firmament Academy. I’m throwing them off, making them think that we’re going to the ruins to activate the foundation stone. They’ll then set up a trap for us there. That should increase our odds of success in sneaking into the Nine Underworld Island,” said Long Chen.

“You really think our odds aren’t good, boss? Xia Chen now possesses enough wealth to rival a nation, and I have a Supreme Bone, while you, boss, are an undefeatable battle god. With us three brothers joining forces and considering that we’re launching a quick sneak attack, is there really any chance of failure?” asked Guo Ran.

After the past few days of looting, Xia Chen had gathered many materials. Furthermore, they had bought any materials that he was missing while passing by the Huayun Trading Company. He currently possessed even more materials than the Spirit Rune Pavilion had possessed.

After all, the Heavenly Talisman Star-Field's cultivators bought their materials from various major trading companies. Hence, looting the Soaring Dragon Company turned Xia Chen into a moneybags overnight.

After becoming a moneybags, Xia Chen added a few more runes to Guo Ran's body; they would let him merge with the Supreme Bone's power faster.

The two of them also researched how they should proceed with Guo Ran's Devil Dragon Battle Armor. By inscribing new runes onto it, its defensive and offensive powers would increase greatly. Xia Chen was also testing how he could merge the power of the battle armor with the Supreme Bone. Once he succeeded, Guo Ran would truly be unrivaled.

That was why the current Guo Ran felt immense confidence. Although he wouldn't dare to say that he could beat Long Chen right now, he did feel that at the very least, the distance between them was getting shorter. If all three of them were to join forces, well, to use his words, they could swagger wherever they wanted in this world.

Long Chen couldn't be bothered to dampen his inflated ego. Whatever he said wouldn't enter Guo Ran's head anyway. Only when he encountered a truly terrifying existence would he understand just how shallow he was.

Long Chen sternly said, "Our mission this time is of utmost importance. We must succeed. If we fail, we'll never get a second chance, so we cannot fail. Be wary of getting careless. Xia Chen, you have to prepare some extra life-saving measures. I have a premonition that this time, our success will depend on you."

"Boss, don't worry. Leave it to me," promised Xia Chen.

Long Chen nodded. At least, Xia Chen was more reliable. When it came to an unreliable fellow like Guo Ran, Long Chen couldn't even be bothered to explain things to him more than once.

However, Long Chen could understand where he was coming from. Guo Ran had a Supreme Bone, and Xia Che had powered up his battle armor. Now, he was already capable of using Long Chen's third form of Split the Heavens with those new runes.

Other than the first form of Split the Heavens being researched by him, the second and third forms were gained without the slightest effort. The runes that Long Chen had worked so hard to come up with were simply taken by him. Long Chen even started to have a feeling like he existed just to work for this little fellow.

Although Guo Ran's Split the Heavens didn't have the will of Split the Heavens and it was lacking in mental power as well, he did have a Supreme Bone. With its power merged into Split the Heavens, it was truly shocking.

Xia Chen had also set up some more runes on Guo Ran's saber to make sure that it could endure the force of his Supreme Bone. When it came to pure destructive power, Guo Ran was not inferior to Long Chen. Thus, it was normal for Guo Ran's confidence to be so overinflated. If that didn't happen, he wouldn't be Guo Ran.

As for Xia Chen, he was different from Guo Ran. He was someone who had worked hard as a solo cultivator without any backing. Even from a young age, he was already steady and reliable. After what happened in the Spirit Rune Pavilion, his heart only grew steadier.

Although Xia Chen wasn't showing off all of his trump cards like Guo Ran, just from his calm expression, Long Chen knew that his power was definitely not inferior to Guo Ran's. It was simply that he didn't like showing off.

Guo Ran had tried to make Xia Chen talk about his trump cards several times, but Xia Chen tactfully refused. Guo Ran called him petty, but Xia Chen only smiled and didn't explain himself.

Long Chen couldn't help sighing about it. As expected, mountains and rivers changed, but people didn't. Even after suffering for over a year in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, Guo Ran's sloppy nature hadn't changed.

The flying boat continued to weave across the land. Xia Chen and Guo Ran continued plundering their targets, and Long Chen focused on refining and consuming pills.

As he continued to consume pills, a vast amount of medicinal energy was finally absorbed by the Violet Tower Star. It was already the size of a bean.

Suddenly, the Violet Tower Star quivered and its light illuminated the entire star sea. Long Chen smiled with gratification.

"The first star transformation is done. Hehe, I can finally summon the seven-color divine ring."

## **Chapter 3662**

In a barren desert, a red, orange, yellow, green, azure, blue, and violet divine ring quivered, forming a circular rainbow behind Long Chen.

"This is too awe-inspiring, isn't it?!"

Seeing Long Chen standing there, appearing incredibly majestic and domineering with his divine ring behind him, Guo Ran was so envious that he almost wept.

That manifestation, this manifestation, who cared about them? Were any of them as beautiful as this seven-color divine ring? Even an ugly monster would look handsome and suave with this divine ring behind them.

Guo Ran's eyes shone enviously. "Xia Chen, can you make me such a manifestation as well? That would be amazing! Good brother, make me one, and once I attract the ladies, let's split them! How does that sound?"

Xia Chen rolled his eyes. Had Guo Ran gotten into the habit of looting? Could just anything be split in two?

"Every color of boss's divine ring corresponds to a Heavenly Dao energy. You can't control that anyway. Even if you had such a divine ring, it would have no use other than to show off. Why don't I just set you up with a giant tail? Then when you see a pretty girl, you can just raise your butt like a peacock and show your feathers. You can write: little sister, do you want to mate?"

"Fuck, we're brothers, are we not? It was just a joke! There's no need to wound me like this!" complained Guo Ran.

"The main thing is that you were thinking that exact thing!" Xia Chen was speechless.

"But I always protected my purity in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College!" raged Guo Ran.

"There's no need for you to protect it. You'll stay pure anyway." Xia Chen curled his lips.

He understood Guo Ran far too well. For someone like Guo Ran to have stayed in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College without finding a woman was not due to not having time; it was due to having no chance at all.

“Do you believe me when I say that I’ll use Gongsun Ziyi to attack you?” said Guo Ran wickedly.

“Tch, what I picked up, I put down. I’m not ashamed of anything. I’ve loved, I’ve hated. It’s all transient. Life is beautiful, but not perfect. I trust that I’ll definitely find a warm, caring, and considerate woman to share life together. But no matter what, at the very least, I can say that I have experience in this regard, unlike a certain someone... hehe!” Xia Chen’s smile was even more wicked than Guo Ran’s. He revealed his teeth.

Seeing that Xia Chen had walked out of the shadow of his first love, Guo Ran laughed. They were like real brothers, so he sincerely wished Xia Chen happiness.

“Then let’s not talk about love. That divine ring, make me one too!”

“Scram! I reject this work.” Seeing that they somehow managed to return to this topic, Xia Chen directly rejected him.

With Xia Chen’s current accomplishment, adding a divine ring to Guo Ran’s divine armor was no problem. Drawing in all kinds of energy was also no problem, but it would require a huge amount of time and energy.

The main point though was that if Guo Ran wanted to control all those kinds of energy, he would have to put in a great deal of work. To the lazy Guo Ran, that was definitely impossible. That was why Xia Chen rejected his plea.

Just as Xia Chen and Guo Ran were talking nonsense, Long Chen was standing in the air, sensing the power that the seven-colored divine ring gave him.

The violet color of the divine ring was clearly dimmer than the others. Its circulation was also not as smooth. It was going at a different tempo compared to the rest of the divine ring. That was because the Violet Tower Star had just undergone the first star transformation, so summoning the seven-color divine ring was pushing it.

At this moment, a strange sound came from Long Chen's divine ring. A current of lightning streaked through it, and then other energies appeared within the divine ring.

"Metal, wood, water, fire, earth, wind, and lightning. Seven kinds of energy. So the violet ring represents lightning. No wonder Huo Linger's recovery was faster despite both of them exhausting all of their power before this."

Long Chen sensed the world's thunderforce being summoned by a mysterious power when he circulated his divine ring.

At the same time, Lei Linger was also awoken. Thunderforce flowed through the divine ring and into Lei Linger's body. She then directly absorbed it.

Long Chen smiled. Huo Linger had advanced a great deal, to the point of throwing Lei Linger behind. But now, the violet divine ring was like a lightning gate for Lei Linger.

Even without meticulously circulating the divine ring, Lei Linger could absorb the outside world's thunderforce through Long Chen to slowly increase her own power and recovery rate.



From today onward, Lei Linger would have the same edge as Huo Linger. Lei Linger was rather emotional. After the battle with Alldevil Tianye, Huo Linger had only taken ten days to fully recover, while she had only recovered to ninety percent even now.

“Don’t rush. The Violet Tower Star has just condensed. As it grows stronger, you will also grow stronger,” comforted Long Chen.

Contrary to Huo Linger, Lei Linger’s growth was restricted. She only managed to eat her fill during Long Chen’s tribulations and then had to starve the rest of the time.

After all, when it came to Huo Linger, Long Chen could buy and give her all kinds of flame element ores and flame seeds. She had also eaten her fill in the Heavenly Dragon Domain last time.

Lei Linger was always starving even as she supported Long Chen. Hence, she would always get incredibly excited for just a trace of thunderforce. Thinking of this, Long Chen felt guilty. He felt like he had let her down.

But then, there was no way around it. Lightning attribute treasures were far too rare. Furthermore, thunderforce was different from flame energy. There were many kinds of ores that could contain flame energy for long-term storage, but no such ores for thunderforce. Any ores that did contain thunderforce would have that thunderforce quickly dissipate as soon as they were mined and brought away from their source.

Hence, whether it was lightning attribute ores or weapons, they were very rare. Likewise, lightning cultivators were as rare as a phoenix feather or qilin horn.

Fortunately, with this seven-color divine ring, Long Chen would at least be able to provide some nourishment to Lei Linger. This also drew Long Chen’s attention to this point. He would have to think of a way to increase Lei Linger’s power in the future.

All of a sudden, Long Chen's divine ring spun frantically, and a terrifying power burst out of it.

BOOM!

Just as that power was erupting, the violet divine ring exploded, returning the seven-color divine ring to a six-color divine ring.

"It's still no good. The violet divine ring's power has surpassed my expectations. The problem is in the foundation balancing the divine ring. If its power is lacking, it's impossible to concentrate seven kinds of energy." A solemn expression appeared on Long Chen's face.

The violet divine ring vanished, leaving behind the original six-color divine ring. With that, the metal, wood, water, fire, earth, and wind energies also vanished. It was like they had never appeared.

"It seems that I need to reach at least the third star transformation before I can truly control the divine ring's energy. But there's not quite enough time."

Long Chen felt a bit rushed because they would reach the Nine Underworld Island soon.

He was already exposed, and it was unknown how many people were hunting him. If he were to stop, he would lose his initiative.

"Fuck, I don't care! Let's take the risk!"

Long Chen clenched his teeth. He could not wait that long. Together with Xia Chen and Guo Ran, he flew to the Nine Underworld Island. Two days later, the mountains and plains vanished. The world became covered in mist, and an endless sea appeared in front of them. They were finally seeing the sea of mist.

### **Chapter 3663**

In the misty area, the water was as flat as a mirror, and the mist restricted their vision as well as dampened any sounds. It was so quiet that it was chilling.

Long Chen's group of three slowly entered the mist. When they did, Long Chen's spiritual perception was pushed as far as he could. He didn't dare to be careless.

"Wait. We'll enter the sensing range of their formation if we go any further." Xia Chen suddenly stopped. He was holding a formation disc. "Boss, Guo Ran, put these concealment talismans on your bodies. That way, the formation will not be able to sense us."

Xia Chen took out three talismans. He passed two of them to Long Chen and Guo Ran, while putting one on his own body.

"I can still see you. Is it not working?" Guo Ran saw that there was no change even once Xia Chen put on the talisman.

"This Body Concealing Talisman specifically blocks formations from sensing you. If you're talking about those concealing talismans that make you invisible to the naked eye, then you'll need to take off your clothes," said Xia Chen irritably.

"Really, there's such a talisman? Then give me a few!" said Guo Ran excitedly.

“What do you want those for?” asked Xia Chen questioningly.

“Cough, nothing, nothing. I’m just curious. Don’t look at me like that! Fine, I don’t want any then.” Guo Ran saw Xia Chen looking at him disdainfully and felt a bit guilty.

The three of them stuck on the talismans and continued forward. Xia Chen kept his formation disc out, constantly keeping an eye on it. It not only gave him information on the enemy formations, but it also made sure that they didn’t get lost.

It had to be known that this sea of mist’s space was chaotic, making it very easy to lose their direction. Ordinary experts would have great difficulty ever leaving once they entered the mist.

However, even after traveling for a couple of hours, everything was still calm. There was nothing other than the eerily quiet sea. The three of them weren’t moving quickly though. They continued onward slowly.

The deeper they went, the denser the mist grew. Their vision got increasingly limited. Now, they could only see a few dozen meters ahead of them. To a cultivator, that was almost like being blind. It made them feel stifled and uneasy.

Long Chen’s divine sense was originally spread as far as he could, but he then found that this mist was rapidly using up his energy, so he stopped spreading his divine sense. He just left it all to Xia Chen.

“There’s someone up ahead.”

Almost half a day later, Xia Chen suddenly whispered. Long Chen then spread his divine sense and instantly sensed some spiritual fluctuations.

“To the right, around six hundred miles ahead, there’s someone kneeling on the edge of an island. Their cultivation base is between the seventh and eighth Heavenstage of the Divine Lord realm,” said Xia Chen.

“Let’s take a look.”

The three of them stealthily crept forward. As expected, they saw an island, and a figure appeared on Xia Chen’s formation disc.

It was a masked and cloaked figure silently blending into a large tree. He was completely motionless, and his aura was merged with the environment. Without the formation disc, they might not have noticed his existence even if they walked right past him.

“Is it a sentry?”

Guo Ran was startled. Theoretically, they were still quite far from the actual important area.

Long Chen shook his head. “It doesn’t seem to be the case. If it was a sentry, his body wouldn’t be so stiff, and his Blood Qi circulation wouldn’t be so quick. He seems very nervous. Unless of course, he has already noticed us.”

“Impossible. I’ve shielded us from the spying of all formations and concealed our auras. At this distance, it is impossible that he noticed us first,” guaranteed Xia Chen.

“Let’s stop here and just watch for a while,” said Long Chen.

The three of them hid in the dark, silently observing that person. After several breaths, that person suddenly moved, shooting toward a rock like a bolt of lightning.

After that, blood splashed and a human head flew through the air. Another person in identical robes had his head cut off.

Long Chen and the others were startled. Were there others like them that had snuck into the sea of mist?

After slaying that person, the first person took something and then shot away, vanishing within the mist.

Once everything was calm, Long Chen and the others stealthily crept over to the side of that dead person. They found that it was another disciple of the Nine Underworld Hall that was slain by that other fellow.

Long Chen pressed a finger on that person’s head. His soul had just dissipated and Long Chen managed to grasp a few images.

“Tablet... trial... by fire...”

Long Chen came to a sudden understanding. They had arrived just in time for the Nine Underworld Hall’s trial by fire. The location of the trial was precisely this sea of mist.

There were currently millions of assassins undergoing trial within this sea region. Every single one of them held a tablet.

In order to pass this trial, they had to have nine tablets from others. In other words, of ten people, nine must be killed for one to advance.

Nine tablets was the minimum standard. Ninety tablets was outstanding, and if someone could obtain nine hundred tablets, they could directly enter the final trial region, skipping all the other trials.

Long Chen couldn't obtain much more information as that person's soul had dissipated. But just this much was very helpful.

"We came at a good time. Take this person's clothes and mask. We'll also join this trial. We'll see if fake assassins like us can also pass the trial." Long Chen smiled mischievously.

Guo Ran and Xia Chen instantly got excited. Guo Ran put on the clothes, while Xia Chen began inscribing talismans based on that person's Blood Qi. With those talismans, their Blood Qi fluctuations would be almost identical. Even the Nine Underworld Hall's experts wouldn't be able to sense any difference.

The three of them quickly found more corpses and took their clothes and masks for themselves. Then adding on Xia Chen's talismans onto their masks, their auras were perfectly covered. Even they couldn't recognize each other any longer.

With these disguises, the three of them brazenly swaggered deeper into the mist. In order to not draw attention, they split up but maintained a certain distance so that they could keep track of each other. The three of them moved in one direction.

BOOM!

A sneak attacker attacked Guo Ran, only to be blown apart by a single punch. However, the huge explosion made Xia Chen and Long Chen jump.

“You have to hit lighter. You’re an assassin now. Don’t make such a ruckus!” Xia Chen sent an exasperated message to Guo Ran.

This fellow still thought that they were outside and he could simply punch the Nine Underworld Hall’s assassins to death. His power pierced through the very earth, and it was far too conspicuous. Was that the work of an assassin?

Guo Ran hastily apologized. He had forgotten that he was now an assassin. The last attack had purely been instinct.

Long Chen and Xia Chen glared at this fool, wanting to beat him. Fortunately, they were still in the outer regions. If they were at the core, they would definitely be exposed. This fellow just didn’t think.

Most hateful of all, he had actually used his Supreme Bone’s power, destroying that person’s body, along with his tablet. They didn’t get anything from it.

In order to avoid a ruckus, the three of them stayed where they were for a long while. Seeing that no other experts had been disturbed and were rushing over, they continued entering deeper.

“Xia Chen, be careful!”



Guo Ran suddenly sent Xia Chen a message. At some unknown point, a strange figure had appeared behind Xia Chen.

#### **Chapter 3664**

A strange figure suddenly appeared behind Xia Chen. After that, a dagger stabbed toward the back of his head as quickly as a bolt of lightning, without any sound.

However, the dagger went straight through Xia Chen's body; the latter was nothing more than an illusion. A foot-long talisman two inches wide then spun through that person's neck. Without even being able to grunt, that person's head was cut off by the talisman.

Xia Chen waved his hand, and the talisman flew into his hand like a cyclone. It was clearly a piece of paper but was as sharp as a divine weapon. It came and went without a shadow, slashing through defenses.

The most shocking thing to Long Chen and Guo Ran was that the moment Xia Chen was attacked, even Long Chen didn't manage to see how he instantly moved himself. His movement art was bizarre. There was no premonition at all.

"Damn, this movement art, this attacking style, it's all badass!" Guo Ran finally had a chance to see Xia Chen fight. His movements were clean and sharp. Seeing it, Guo Ran was envious.

"This fellow was an expert. He already gathered six tablets. Let's split them, two each," said Xia Chen.

"I don't need them. I'll gather them myself," said Guo Ran proudly.

“Take them for now in order to not be exposed. Only a dead person wouldn’t have any tablets on them. It would be troublesome to be noticed,” said Long Chen.

Since Long Chen said that, Guo Ran took two tablets. They continued onward, growing increasingly familiar with the terrain here. The three of them were linked by formation discs. As they gradually grew more confident, they spread out a bit more and started the trial.

It had to be known that assassins didn’t fight in groups. Even if they had the same target, they would fight for themselves.

The number one rule for an assassin was that they could only trust themselves. The allies beside them might be even more dangerous than their enemies.

Long Chen, Guo Ran, and Xia Chen weren’t skilled in sneaking like assassins. They just randomly ran around the forest, intentionally drawing other assassins to them so that they could kill the assassins.

It was unknown if it was Guo Ran’s acting that was simply too good, but other than the first person to try to assassinate him, no one else targeted him even after an hour. Most likely, it was because his display was just too exaggerated. The assassins were no fools. The more he acted like he was trying to draw other people over, the more they felt that something was wrong.

On the other hand, Long Chen and Xia Chen had killed over ten people. After killing those people, Long Chen would directly soulsearch their soul fragments. He finally understood the rules of the trial.

This was the greatest trial for the Nine Underworld Hall and was only held once every ten years. It was the strongest and cruelest trial.

This trial region had a special magnetic field. If anyone dared to leave the region, without that magnetic field, the poison pill that they had consumed in advance would erupt, and they would die a miserable death.

Thus, no one dared to flee. What they had to do was obtain nine other tablets to protect their lives.

When it came to ordinary assassins, staying alive was their main priority. But to the experts, hunting down more people was their goal. Then they could directly advance to the final trial.

Other than this trial, there were three more coming up. Every trial was filled with dangers, all with one in ten chances of surviving.

If they could obtain one hundred tablets this time, they could directly skip the next few trials. That would save them quite a bit of effort and allow them to avoid some dangers.

However, all the true experts were at the core of the trial region. That was because they were experts with confidence in their power. They would hunt down their enemies as quickly as possible, as there were only a total of three hundred spots available for those who could skip to the final trial. If they were too late, they would not get that privilege.

As for the region that Long Chen was in, it was the outer region. Those that had come here were comparatively weak. Their goal was only to gather nine tablets and live.

Once they gathered nine tablets, they could leave the trial and obtain the reward for passing.

After that, they had two options. One was to continue participating in the trials and gaining further rewards, or they could simply give up. They would then be sent to branch halls to carry out their own missions, starting their assassination careers.

To these weaker people, gathering nine tablets was their ultimate goal. If they were lucky, they might only need to kill a single person. If that person had eight tablets, they would directly pass.

Of course, the opposite was also true. You might kill several people and gather eight tablets, only to be killed by your final target. You could only accept your bad luck in that case.

The Nine Underworld Hall's trial was bloody and cruel. However, those that were here didn't have much fear. They had long since grown numb to life. They weren't just indifferent to other people's lives but also their own.

It was this indifference to life that let them abandon any fear, maintaining a cool heart at all times. That would allow them to truly unleash the power of an assassin. To put it frankly, they were nothing more than killing machines with no emotions.

Contrary to the Bloodkill Hall's assassins, the Nine Underworld Hall's assassins focused purely on assassination arts and the techniques involved. The Bloodkill Hall's assassins also focused on assassination arts, but they were more specialized in scheming, traps, hidden weapons, poison, honey traps, tricking enemies, and other things.

One pushed assassination arts to the limit, while the other came up with all kinds of various stratagems. They were both assassins, but both looked upon the other with hostility. The Nine Underworld Hall looked down on the Bloodkill Hall's scheming, thinking that assassins should specialize only in assassination techniques.

On the other hand, the Bloodkill Hall also looked down on the Nine Underworld Hall for being unwilling to use any means necessary to assassinate their targets. They would rather use their smarts to save the effort.

Since that was the case, the Bloodkill Hall's assassins looked at the Nine Underworld Hall's assassins as if the latter were fools. In their minds, assassins pursued only results, so they had to be skilled at scheming and using any means necessary.

But because of the same reason, the Nine Underworld Hall's assassins viewed the Bloodkill Hall's assassins as the scum of the assassination world. Even an assassin had to have their own bottom lines. Dirty schemes and third-rate tricks were blasphemy to the profession of assassins. An assassin should focus on assassination arts, both in the open and in the dark. As long as they killed their target, they would be an assassin.

To sum it up, both halls, from the masters to the disciples, were like water and fire. If it weren't for Lord Brahma restricting them, both of those halls would have long since slaughtered each other.

However, when it came to pure combat power, the Nine Underworld Hall's fighting power was a level stronger than the Bloodkill Hall's. After all, their skills were the result of direct kills.

On the other hand, the Bloodkill Hall's assassins would be forced to flee as soon as they were exposed. If they couldn't run, they could only accept their defeat. When it came to a head-on clash, they weren't worth shit.

However, these particular assassins here were clearly disciples. Their assassination arts might be refined, but they were lacking experience. Their movements were clearly a bit tender.

Long Chen's group of three continued toward the core. Long Chen had already gathered over three hundred tablets, and Xia Chen was about the same. Only Guo Ran was stuck crying. He had killed six people and only gathered seven tablets from them.

It had to be known that the people that Long Chen killed always had a few tablets at the very least. Some even had dozens.

Just as the three of them entered the core region, a figure suddenly descended from the heavens and stabbed at Guo Ran's head. It was a surprisingly head-on sneak attack.

Guo Ran directly grabbed that person's sharp sword, shocking him. This was an extremely confident expert, otherwise, he wouldn't be attacking head-on like this. However, he hadn't expected his target to be able to grab his sword barehanded.

Just as he was shocked, an arrow cylinder appeared on Guo Ran's left hand, and an arrow flew out like a bolt of black lightning, piercing that person's head.

"Heavens, I've struck gold!"

Guo Ran was delighted to find eight hundred and ninety-seven tablets on that person. When he pulled them into his bag that was specifically used to hold tablets, his bag suddenly lit up, and Guo Ran's figure vanished.

"Not good. This little fellow's been transported away."

Long Chen and Xia Chen's expressions instantly changed. It had happened too suddenly. They didn't know whether or not Guo Ran was about to be exposed.

## **Chapter 3665**

Several spirit runes flashed endlessly. After that, a black figure spun through the air, dodging six times before one of the spirit runes pierced his head, killing him.

“Five hundred and seventeen. Boss, take them quick. We don’t want Guo Ran to be exposed.” Xia Chen handed the tablets to Long Chen. That way, Long Chen would have precisely nine hundred tablets.

Long Chen nodded. Although the assassins here were stronger, Xia Chen should be able to deal with them on his own. The real worry was Guo Ran.

At this moment, Long Chen’s bag lit up and a powerful spatial energy sucked his body away. He then appeared in front of a mountain gate.

When he arrived, he saw that there were over a hundred experts. Before he even had time to look for Guo Ran, he already heard Guo Ran’s voice.

“Don’t act like big shit in front of me! Do you believe me when I say that I’ll kill you with a single slap? It’s not like I ran into you on purpose, so if you can’t get over it, let’s just have a quick fight to the death!”

When Guo Ran was transported here, he was startled and instinctively struggled. Long Chen hadn’t even had time to tell him that he would automatically be transported away once he had enough tablets. After all, Guo Ran only had had so few tablets. No one had expected his luck to be so good as to get enough in one go.

Hence, Guo Ran thought that he had been discovered and tried to fight off the transportation, resulting in a slight deviation of the transportation and him crashing into someone else.

Every person here had their own space, around three hundred meters from each other. After all, considering that they were assassins, they had to maintain some safe distance from each other. If they were too close, they wouldn’t feel any sense of safety.

However, Guo Ran ended up crashing into an assassin, causing that assassin to jump and automatically slash his sword at him. Fortunately, Guo Ran recalled Long Chen's words and didn't use his Supreme Bone to block. He instead used the sword taken from another disciple of the Nine Underworld Hall to parry the attack.

Guo Ran wasn't skilled with the sword and was sent flying. But even then, that person didn't let him off and directly unleashed a killing blow at him.

In his panic, Guo Ran used the arrow mechanism in his sleeve, forcing that person back. That gave Guo Ran a chance to breathe, and he couldn't help cursing that fellow.

However, that person didn't reply to Guo Ran's cursing. The others were all seated in their own spots and looking at them coldly. They were also silent. The silence hanging in the air was rather frightening.

"What are you looking at?! Do you want to fight?!" shouted Guo Ran in front of those gazes.

That person continued eyeing Guo Ran for a little bit before returning to his own seat. Once he left, Guo Ran also found his own spot. Only then did he take note that Long Chen had also come. However, he didn't dare to say anything to him.

Long Chen was speechless. This little fellow was a master at causing trouble. As an assassin, he had to maintain an absolute cool at all times. With this temper, how could he possibly fool anyone into thinking that he was an assassin?

Clearly, that person had taken note that Guo Ran wasn't targeting him intentionally, and only then did he stop paying any attention to Guo Ran.



An assassin's nerves had to be stretched taut at all times. Hence, when Guo Ran suddenly appeared, that assassin attacked him instinctively.

After this ruckus, the vicinity became calm again. Right now, Long Chen and Guo Ran were three spaces apart. In other words, between the time when Guo Ran and Long Chen entered, three people had also finished the trial and entered.

Following that, space began to quiver ever so slightly as one person after another appeared. They were all assassins that had managed to gather a sufficient number of tablets to be brought here. In just a few breaths' time, over ten more people appeared.

Long Chen instantly started to worry. There were only three hundred places. As time passed, gathering a large number of tablets in one go would get easier. However, Long Chen didn't know if Xia Chen could make it.

Fortunately, Xia Chen quickly came. He was number two hundred and forty-seven. Seeing him, Long Chen and Guo Ran sighed with relief.

Even as more people continued to be brought in, everyone was silent. It seemed that from the start, the only one to ever speak was Guo Ran.

When the three hundred spots were full, the mountain gate ahead of them rumbled and slowly opened.

A masked expert then appeared. This was a World King whose aura was transient; it appeared real and illusory at the same time. Upon seeing this World King, Long Chen's heart shook. This was a formidable expert.

“Congratulations. You will be directly brought to the final Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial. However, before the trial, you will undergo a baptism of heavenly lightning. This heavenly lightning is the highest level reward of our Nine Underworld Hall from our sacred land, the Heavenly Lightning Divine Pool. It drives the Bloodkill Hall’s people crazy with jealousy. Through the baptism of the Heavenly Lightning Divine Pool, your essence, qi, and spirit will undergo a complete transformation. You all know the benefits, so I won’t go on and on about them.

“Once the Heavenly Lightning Divine Pool’s baptism is over, you will enter the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial. Perhaps you’ve never heard of the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror, so I’ll give an explanation today. The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror is our heavenly eye for hunting down nine star heirs. It was personally made by Fallen Daynight. In the past, the trails that we gave you were transmitted to us by the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror. It overlooks the nine heavens and ten lands, sensing and calculating the locations of nine star heirs. It is the reason why you can find your targets. Today, your ultimate trial is within the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror. The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror is a priceless treasure. It can not only find nine star heirs, but it can also capture some nine star heirs and turn them into fighting puppets.

“Maybe you can already guess it. Your next trial will be to have a one-against-one fight against nine star heirs. If you win, your trial will be complete. But if you lose, you will die. This trial is different from before. What you are facing are nine star heirs in the same realm. Although they aren’t the strongest nine star heirs, they are above average. They perfectly suit your current power. However, you also know that nine star heirs are called the number one warriors of the nine heavens and ten lands. They are fearless. Based on past experience, at least half of you will die inside. You might even be fully wiped out. Be prepared,” announced that World King.

His voice was icy as hell, like he was truly a killing machine with no emotion. These assassins were the same, not giving off the slightest emotional ripple.

“According to the order of your tablets, enter the Heavenly Lightning Divine Pool!” said an expert that came to personally distribute new tablets.

Long Chen found that his tablet actually had an explanation about the Heavenly Lightning Divine Pool. After reading the introduction, Lei Linger was growing excited inside his body. Long Chen smiled slightly. It was finally time for Lei Linger to eat her meat.

There was a path beyond the mountain gate. As they followed the path, they began to hear the sound of thunder. They then saw a sea of lightning up ahead. At this moment, a giant heavenly pillar entered Long Chen's gaze.

## **Chapter 3666**

"They're actually innate lightning runes!" Xia Chen was shocked to see that heavenly pillar.

Those so-called innate runes were runes born of heaven and earth. There was no way for cultivators to replicate them.

The heavenly pillar soared far into the clouds and beyond. No one could see the end of it. They could only see the runes forming draconic patterns across the pillar and an unending stream of lightning slowly flowing down from it, emitting a violent power.

At the bottom of the pillar was an enormous lightning sea. The lightning on the edge of the sea was rather calm, but the further it went, the more violent it raged. As for the area beside the heavenly pillar, the lightning was roaring in the form of countless monsters.

However, the Nine Underworld Hall's assassins didn't hesitate. As soon as they reached the lightning sea, they directly jumped in. They were like killing machines that had no emotions. They simply did whatever they were told to.

When Guo Ran jumped in, the lightning stabbed into his body like needles, and he couldn't help crying out.

Long Chen and Xia Chen had the urge to beat him. Others were entering without a sound, so this little shout of his was far too conspicuous.

Fortunately, the others completely ignored him. Everyone maintained a certain distance from the others and began swimming slowly toward the center of the lightning sea.

Although everyone was wearing a mask, Guo Ran could clearly sense Xia Chen and Long Chen's murderous gazes. Hence, he hastily shut his mouth.

When Long Chen entered the lightning sea, he found that the energy in the outer region wasn't very violent. Its energy entered the flesh and soul, tempering their essence, qi, and spirit.

This was the lightning of the nine heavens, something similar to heavenly tribulation lightning. However, this lightning didn't have that destructive will. It was no wonder that the World King would say that this was a place that drove the Bloodkill Hall wild with envy. It truly was a priceless treasure.

Xia Chen's body quivered slightly when he entered the lightning pool. His physical body wasn't strong. In fact, it was weaker than Guo Ran's. But he knew that this was a rare opportunity and also his best chance to increase his essence, qi, and spirit. Hence, he clenched his teeth and swam deeper into the lightning with everyone else.

"Aren't assassins not supposed to have that powerful physical bodies? Why are they so strong?" Xia Chen was shocked to see these assassins continuing onward. He already felt like he was pushing his limit, but they were going even further.

"The Nine Underworld Hall's assassins are different from the Bloodkill Hall's assassins. They specialize in assassination arts and have high requirements for the strength and flexibility of the body. Thus, their

physical bodies are actually stronger than average cultivators. Do your best to endure. Once you reach your limit, I'll have Lei Linger protect you. This lightning doesn't contain a destructive will, so you two can use this chance to temper your bodies and souls. It's a huge opportunity for you both. Xia Chen, didn't you say that your soul energy still has some impurities? You can use this lightning to make your soul energy flawless," transmitted Long Chen.

Guo Ran and Xia Chen nodded. Guo Ran's physical body was strong, but his Spiritual Strength wasn't. Especially in terms of his will, he was even inferior to an ordinary cultivator.

As for Xia Chen, his will was stronger than Guo Ran's, but his physical body was far weaker. Thus, the strength of the lightning pool's tempering was about the same for them. The question was, which of them would be unable to endure first?

In order to not show any clues, they continued to creep toward the core at the same speed as the others.

As they got closer, their bodies were in even greater pain. At the same time, a terrifying rumbling sound started to come from the depths of their soul. Even strange sights began to enter their minds.

The two of them knew that what they were seeing was nothing more than illusions. As the lightning tempered their souls, it drew out some dredges of their memories.

The nightmares of their youth as well as the terrifying sights that they had seen after growing up appeared. There was sorrow, there was joy, there was terror. All kinds of sights appeared in their minds right now.

The two of them were forced to resist the disturbance of these sights while they continued keeping an eye on the surroundings. They also had to take the initiative to draw in the lightning. Due to this, even breathing was difficult for them and their speed dropped.

However, as the two of them reached their limit, the others were showing signs of not being able to endure as well. Their speeds began to drop, but they still did their best to get closer to the core.

The lightning pool was enormous. Even though all of them were doing their best to swim to the center, they were still in the outer region. In fact, there was still quite some distance from the middle zone, let alone the actual core.

Long Chen didn't feel anything at all. This lightning was nothing more than an itch to him. On the other hand, Lei Linger had transformed into millions of lightning dragons that were stealthily swimming to the core region.

Long Chen spread his divine sense, keeping an eye on the surroundings. Xia Chen had checked and found that there was no grand formation spying on them. That was why Long Chen dared to let Lei Linger so brazenly absorb the lightning here.

"Boss, I can't endure any longer." In just two hours, Guo Ran admitted his defeat.

"Even Xia Chen hasn't said that he's done. Can you have some backbone? Furthermore, with so many people here, are you going to be the first to give up? Don't you think that you'll expose yourself?" replied Long Chen.

"Didn't you say that you had a method?" cried Guo Ran.

"That method is for me to protect you once you reach your limit. After that, I'll have Lei Linger help you absorb the lightning to temper your body. You haven't reached your limit yet, so how can I help you?" Long Chen was rather speechless. This little fellow truly knew how to be lazy. He was entirely hoping for Long Chen's aid.

Long Chen ignored Guo Ran. For this kind of tempering, a person usually had to endure at least three days. Once a person reached their limit, they would faint.

Once they lost consciousness, the lightning would continue tempering the body. That unconscious absorption was the most important part.

“Lei Linger, slow down. We have plenty of time. Don’t go too far, or we’ll be exposed,” transmitted Long Chen.

It had only been six hours, but Lei Linger already drew the attention of the lightning beasts at the core. That made Long Chen warn her.

The main thing was that he still hadn’t figured out the true essence of this lightning pool. If Lei Linger started devouring the lightning beasts, resulting in some problem, it would spell trouble for him. He didn’t want to disturb the old fellows here.

It had to be known that his main target was the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror, also known as the Devil Peering Mirror. If something happened here, he would be unable to enter the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial.

Long Chen’s luck was good this time. He had actually arrived just in time for this trial and could directly come into contact with the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror. However, if he was noticed now and the other side was on guard, it would be impossibly difficult to break the mirror.

The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror was related to the deaths of countless nine star heirs. So, Long Chen had no choice but to be careful and had Lei Linger slow down.

Long Chen had Lei Linger first assimilate the lightning runes in the pool. Once the lightning runes in the sea had her brand on them, it would become a part of her body. After that, they could study the lightning beasts.

A day later, everyone was unconscious. Long Chen also pretended to be unconscious and quietly floated on top of the lightning pool.

Suddenly, two figures appeared in the air above the lightning pool. When Long Chen saw one of those figures, he almost cried out.

#### **Chapter 3667**

This person was precisely the master of the Nine Underworld Hall, Liao Bencang. He actually appeared here.

Long Chen's heart sank. Didn't Liao Bencang always stay in the headquarters of the Nine Underworld Hall? How could he appear here?

According to the memories he had gained from the Nine Underworld Luocha's soul, Liao Bencang had to stay in the Nine Underworld Palace of the Heaven Gathering Mountain. That was the headquarters of the Nine Underworld Hall.

The faith energy of the Nine Underworld Hall's countless believers was concentrated there. It was his cultivation land for gathering faith energy, so he wouldn't leave it for nothing.



For this fellow to come to the Nine Underworld Island filled Long Chen with worry. Although he had once slain Liao Bencang's avatar, that was an avatar that had descended across heavens. Its power was greatly reduced. There was no way to describe just how much weaker an avatar was compared to the true body.

"Reporting to the palace master, this is our first batch of disciples to pass the killing trial in this generation," said an elder reverently.

Liao Bencang's gaze swept over everyone. When his divine sense swept over Long Chen, he paused slightly.

Just as he was about to speak, the gate beside the lightning pool opened and thousands of disciples walked in, led by a World King. He then bowed to Liao Bencang.

"Palace master, the disciples that passed the trial are all here. Of the thirty million disciples, a total of eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-two passed. Please look over them."

Only eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-two passed from thirty million disciples. Long Chen gasped inside. The Nine Underworld Hall's trials were too bloody.

This was nothing more than one branch of the Nine Underworld Hall, but it already had so many people. The Nine Underworld Hall truly had an immense foundation and power.

These eight thousand nine hundred and seventy-two people had only gained the privilege of the lightning pool tempering. After that, they had to go through the rest of the trials. It was unknown just how many of them would survive.

It could be said that the selection of the Nine Underworld Hall was incomparably cruel. But Liao Bencang actually had so many followers. If it was someone else who did this, they would have long since run out of believers.

“Greetings, palace master!”

Those disciples all knelt on the ground. The person before them was their god, so these disciples that were normally numb to everything finally showed some emotion. Their gazes were full of fanatical worship.

In their hearts, Liao Bencang was an incomparable existence. He was their faith; he was what they entrusted their very souls to. They were fearless toward death because they knew that they would return to the embrace of their god after dying. That was their final home.

Liao Bencang nodded and smiled at those disciples with gratification. “Not bad. This generation’s essence, qi, and spirit are excellent. There have been great advancements in terms of the physical body in particular. It seems that you, Chen Ming, have put in a great deal of effort. There are two people in the pool with exceptionally powerful Blood Qi. One of them even has the aura of a Supreme Bone on him, so it is very likely that he is on the verge of awakening the Supreme Bone. When the trial is over, bring the two of them over to see me. If they meet my standards, I’ll take them as personal disciples.”

Liao Bencang pointed to Guo Ran and Long Chen’s bodies that were floating in the pool. Clearly, he had sensed that the two of them were different as soon as he arrived.

Long Chen continued to float there motionlessly. But inside, his heart was shaking. He already had Lei Linger cover up his, Guo Ran, and Xia Chen’s aura. They were fully merged into the lightning sea just to prevent anyone from seeing any clues.

But unexpectedly, this was unable to fool Liao Bencang. He instantly sensed that Guo Ran’s aura was different. Perhaps if it weren’t for Lei Linger’s protection, Guo Ran’s identity would have been exposed.

Hearing that Liao Bencang might take them as personal disciples, the other disciples were all envious. As for that World King named Chen Ming, he hastily said, "If these two can enter your eyes, that would truly be a blessing for them. Don't worry, I will definitely look after them well."

At this moment, the second group of disciples also entered the lightning pool, receiving its tempering. Watching as everything went as expected, Chen Ming asked, "Palace master, why did you come here personally?"

Clearly, even this World King was unable to comprehend why Liao Bencang had shown up here.

Liao Bencang said, "The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror has given off some strange ripples, and the Star Peering Space suddenly produced a great deal of death qi. That's why I came to take a look."

"Death qi?! Impossible! I just checked it half a month ago! It must have been my mistake. Palace master, please forgive me!" Chen Ming quivered.

It had to be known that the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror was one of the Nine Underworld Hall's greatest treasures. Any careless mistake and he would definitely lose his life.

"It has nothing to do with you. The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror's problem has just occurred and I've already erased the death qi." Liao Bencang waved his hand dismissively.

Chen Ming sighed with relief since Liao Bencang wasn't blaming him. But he was still confused. "How can death qi appear within the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror? Is it due to the puppets sealed inside?"

"I've checked the puppets as well, and there is no problem with them. That death qi... it's as if it comes from the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror itself," said Liao Bencang solemnly.

"It comes from the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror? Wouldn't that mean... its longevity has come to an end? But how can that be?" Chen Ming was shocked.

The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror was a divine item personally forged by Fallen Daynight. It was used to spy on the nine star heirs within the nine heavens and ten lands. However, it did not possess an item-spirit. Due to that, it should have unlimited longevity.

Normally, only a divine item with an item-spirit would have any sort of longevity. If the item-spirit was damaged, or if it failed in an attempt to break through, or if there was some change in the Heavenly Daos, there were all kinds of risks that could cause the item-spirit to die.

Before the item-spirit died, the divine item would produce death qi just like the spots that appeared on an old person as they grew old. It was a premonition of death.

However, the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror didn't possess an item-spirit, so how could it suddenly produce death qi? This was something that Chen Ming was unable to figure out.

"I am unable to determine the reason either. But don't worry, it has just produced the death qi. There shouldn't be any change within the next few thousand years. When the trial ends, I will ask Fallen Daynight's disciple to come take a look. You deal with the trial for now," said Liao Bencang.

"Yes."

"Speaking of which, has there been any movement from that damn fatty's side?" asked Liao Bencang. That damn fatty he was referring to was naturally Enpuda.

"We just received some information about it. Ji Wuming has awakened dual Supreme Bones in both hands," said Chen Ming.

"Hmph, I knew that Ji Wuming's idiot little brother would be schemed to death by that damn fatty sooner or later," sneered Liao Bencang.

"There's also another piece of news. Ji Wuming's brother died in the hands of Long Chen's subordinate," reported Chen Ming.

"What?! Long Chen has also come to the Violet Flame Heaven?!" Liao Bencang instantly jumped.

## **Chapter 3668**

Long Chen sneered inside when he heard this. He hadn't just come to the Violet Flame Heaven; he was actually right in front of him!

"Why didn't you inform me sooner?!" demanded Liao Bencang. He was no longer calm.

Chen Ming was so frightened that he directly knelt on the ground. "Palace master, please quell your anger. Haven't you been in seclusion all this time? I passed the information up long before this. Did you not see disciple's letter once you left seclusion?"

Only then did Liao Bencang's expression soften. "Rise. I wrongly blamed you. I have been busy helping Luocha awaken her Supreme Bone. Only once she awakens the Supreme Bone can her body endure the Luocha Possession. Then she'll be able to unleash the Luocha race's terrifying abilities. But because of

this, I didn't have time to deal with other things. I didn't expect that little brat Long Chen to actually come to the Violet Flame Heaven."

Seeing that Liao Bencang wasn't blaming him, Chen Ming sighed with relief. He stood up. "It seems that I have to congratulate fairy Luochoa on awakening her Supreme Bone. The Luochoa secret arts from ten million years ago will finally reappear within the nine heavens and ten lands."

"The current Luochoa is no longer the old Luochoa. However, she is still in seclusion. Once she comes out, a storm of blood will follow. By then, who cares about Long Chen or Ji Wuming? They can only quiver beneath Luochoa's foot." Liao Bencang smiled proudly. He had full confidence in the Nine Underworld Luochoa.

"I'll make a trip and see if I can find out where that brat Long Chen is. You help me look after those two that I picked out. If they can easily pass the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial, then once they recover, directly send them to the Nine Underworld Trials," ordered Liao Bencang.

"The Nine Underworld Trials?! But..." Chen Ming was shocked.

The Nine Underworld Trials were the Nine Underworld Hall's most difficult trials. Countless geniuses had entered, but the only one to pass in the last three million years was the Nine Underworld Luochoa. That was why she was given that title.

"I don't require them to pass all the trials. As long as they can pass the first five, it's enough. The last four can be omitted. I want them to be Luochoa's attendants in the future. But it's up to them if they have that power. Do as I say." After saying that, Liao Bencang suddenly vanished.

"Yes."

Chen Ming still bowed respectfully even though Liao Bencang was gone. After a while, he also vanished.

“This idiot, you’re going to look for me when I’m right here? Let me just watch your show,” sneered Long Chen.

Liao Bencang wanted Long Chen to be his disciple? How shameless. Was he worthy of that honor? Just wait, this hive of his would quickly be torn apart!

The only thing that Long Chen was unable to comprehend was why the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror would suddenly produce death qi. Furthermore, according to Liao Bencang, this death qi first appeared when he entered the lightning pool. For the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror to react so oddly, was it because it also knew that it wouldn’t be surviving for long?

Another day quickly passed. Xia Chen, Guo Ran, and the others were still unconscious, and the second batch of people were also all unconscious now.

“Big brother Long Chen, I’ve devoured those lightning beasts!” Lei Linger sent word. Hearing this, Long Chen was startled. He saw that the lightning beasts at the core were still roaring and making a fuss.

However, when he sensed them more carefully, he found that they were no longer the old lightning beasts. They were now Lei Linger’s split bodies.

“Damn, that was fast!” Long Chen was speechless.

He had told Lei Linger to go slowly to not reveal anything that would expose them. It would be troublesome to be noticed.

However, Lei Linger was excited, and when she reached the point of being able to control half of the lightning pool's energy, her attention turned to those lightning beasts.

She was very smart. She placed her own spiritual mark on those lightning beasts bit by bit. Just like slowly boiling a frog, she gained control of them bit by bit before devouring their energy. She then used her own split bodies to replace them.

In the end, she came to control all the lightning here, which meant that this entire lightning pool was at her disposal. When she returned to Long Chen's body, this entire lightning pool would vanish.

"Big brother Long Chen, do you want to kill these people? I can kill them with the snap of my finger right now," said Lei Linger.

There naturally was no chance that they could resist. They were all unconscious, so their life and death was entirely up to Lei Linger.

"Don't kill them yet. Otherwise, the following act won't be played. But you can place some time bombs in their bodies for now. Perhaps once their Blood Qi reaches a certain level, it will automatically detonate thunderforce. At that time, they won't even have a corpse left," said Long Chen.

"Hehe, that's a good idea. I'll place lightning seeds in their bodies right now." Lei Linger giggled. She was in an excellent mood right now. After devouring so much lightning, her spirituality seemed to have increased. She had gained more of an extroverted personality.

Just as Lei Linger was placing lightning seeds in these people's bodies, Long Chen snuck his way into the core. He then came to the giant heavenly pillar.



This was a stone pillar that was covered in natural Dao runes. When Long Chen arrived, Lei Linger appeared beside him as well.

“Big brother Long Chen, I’ve checked this pillar. It contains natural lightning runes and can convey lightning. The lightning clouds in the nine heavens are up above, and there are magnetic ores down below. The ores are drawing the lightning from the clouds up above through the stone pillar to form this lightning sea. The lightning clouds, the lightning pillar, and the magnetic ores are all necessary to form this special location. We can’t take them. As for the runes on the lightning pillar, they aren’t useful to me.” Lei Linger told Long Chen everything she knew about this place.

“So that’s the case.” Long Chen was a bit disappointed. He had thought about taking this stone pillar and making another lightning pool for Lei Linger.

However, if Lei Linger was saying this, then he could only scrap that idea. This lightning pool was a natural treasured land that no man could create.

“Alright, then when we’re leaving, destroy those natural runes on the pillar. That way, the lightning clouds and the magnetic ores down below will be useless.”

If they couldn’t be taken, then they could be broken. Otherwise, if they were left, they would only help raise more killing machines.

“Hehe, a minor matter. I can handle it.” Lei Linger giggled and got to work.

On the third day, Xia Chen, Guo Ran, and the assassins began to wake up.

Once they awoke, they felt invigorated. Their Blood Qi was flowing vigorously, and their minds were refreshed. It felt like they had transformed.

Guo Ran was also given a pleasant surprise. His physical body was originally very powerful, but now it was strengthened once more. As a result, his Blood Qi was stronger. Also, the stronger he was, the better he would be at controlling his Supreme Bone.

Xia Chen also made huge gains. With Lei Linger looking after him, his soul energy had gone through repeated tempering through the lightning. It was now completely pure. When he used talismans in the future, there would no longer be the slightest delay. Everything would go according to his will.

“The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial is open!”

Just then, an icy voice rang out and a spatial gate opened on the side of the lightning sea. When it opened, a torrential battle will crashed down on all of them.

### **Chapter 3669**

When the spatial gate opened, Long Chen’s group of three along with the other assassins from the first batch of the trial silently walked over to it.

Once they were all through, the spatial gate shut behind them. All of them vanished.

“Eh? Something seems off with the lightning pool?”

The elder in charge of activating the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial suddenly found that the aura of the lightning pool was a bit different from before.

When he got close, his expression suddenly changed. The lightning pool was already dry. The sight on the surface was actually a kind of illusion.

But then, the disciples were still unconscious, just floating in the air. They had no idea what was happening.

“Wake up!” shouted the elder.

Following this roar, those assassins were startled awake.

Just as they woke up, their bodies instantly exploded. Over eight thousand disciples bizarrely self-detonated.

“What is going on?!” The elder cried out, horrified.

Just then, the towering pillar that stood at the core of the lightning sea shattered. Countless cracks covered it. In front of that elder’s appalled gaze, it crumbled and collapsed.

“Quick, inform island master Chen Ming! Something major has happened!”

...

Long Chen didn't even have time to look at his surroundings before he felt a gust of wind. A fist smashed toward him, and the immense power was so oppressive that he couldn't breathe.

BOOM!

Long Chen also unleashed a punch. A large man then appeared in front of Long Chen.

This man was tall and muscular with arms thicker than a normal person's leg. He had long hair and a square face, and his eyebrows were thick and sharp. However, his gaze was lightless.

His qi was like a wild lion. At this moment, battle intent overflowed out of him, and his Blood Qi was like an erupting volcano. With a roar, another fist smashed toward Long Chen.

BOOM!

Long Chen sighed inside. This was also a nine star heir. Regretfully, he had long since died, and his physical body was turned into a puppet. Even though he was dead, his battle intent had not extinguished yet.

They had another fierce clash. However, this attack was clearly several times stronger than the first. After this blow, that nine star heir roared and six stars appeared behind him, forming a hexagon. His aura then grew explosively by dozens of times.

Clearly, everything was under the control of the Nine Underworld Hall. The first two attacks restricted the power of the nine star heirs, giving the Nine Underworld Hall's assassins time to get used to their power.

Otherwise, if this nine star heir instantly summoned the Six Star Battle Armor, these assassins would mostly be killed right at the start.

Long Chen raised a hand to block the incoming fist. After that, a seven-colored divine ring appeared behind him.

This time, there was no heaven-shaking explosion. That nine star heir's power simply flowed into Long Chen's body, and a bridge formed between them. They were capable of sharing their power.

At this moment, that nine star heir's body quivered. His listless eyes lit up ever so slightly.

"You are also a nine star heir?"

His voice was rough and almost unintelligible. However, as a fellow nine star heir, Long Chen was able to understand him.

Long Chen nodded. That nine star heir's face then twitched a few times. It seemed that he wanted to smile, but his face was too stiff to do so.

"Good, very good! Avenge us."

Although he had been turned into a puppet, his battle will had not extinguished. The Nine Underworld Hall had intentionally preserved this battle intent in order to perpetuate a flexible fighting force.

To do this, they must preserve at least the slightest consciousness of the puppet. Because of this, the nine star heir also knew that he was already dead. He couldn't control his body. All he could do was slay the Nine Underworld Hall's disciples that came to this trial.

This was a huge humiliation to the proud nine star heirs, but he was powerless to change things. This pain was something that perhaps only Long Chen, a fellow nine star heir, could understand.

"Brother, go in peace. Leave everything to me!" Long Chen nodded solemnly.

A hint of gratification then appeared in that nine star heir's eyes. The next moment, his battle will extinguished and his body slowly fell. This man that had been enslaved for countless years finally rested.

When his body fell, it gradually turned into dust, eventually vanishing without a trace.

...

Chen Ming arrived in front of the lightning sea. When he saw that it was dry and the pillar was destroyed, he was dumbfounded. He had lived for countless years but had never seen such a thing before.

"Look at the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror!"

Chen Ming hastily took out a formation disc, and images appeared on it. It was the image of Long Chen and the others entering the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror.

However, following that, a scene that he didn't dare to believe appeared. The two disciples that Liao Bencang had told him to keep an eye on, Long Chen and Guo Ran, suddenly vanished from the sight of his formation disc. He was unable to see the situation inside the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror.

A bad feeling suddenly rose within Chen Ming. He then saw a sight that gave him chills. All the disciples that entered the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror had just encountered the nine star heir puppets when their bodies suddenly exploded. They were wiped out.

"Quick! Inform the palace master! Lock down the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror Trial!" shouted Chen Ming in horror. The entire Nine Underworld Island was thrown into chaos. An ear-piercing alarm screeched throughout every corner of the island.

...

BOOM!

A talisman in Long Chen's hand exploded. The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror tried to transport him out, but this talisman stopped it. Long Chen then appeared in front of a giant mirror.

This giant mirror was floating within space. The stars appeared incredibly miniscule in front of it.

Standing before it, Long Chen saw nine giant star clusters and seas of stars below the clusters.

The nine star clusters were the nine heavens, and at the core of the nine star clusters was a black area. He could vaguely see something, but he was unable to see it clearly.

Below the nine heavens were the star seas. He could see a mysterious layer of mist separating them. That mist was the wall of ascension, the wall which separated the immortal world and the mortal world.

Through the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror, Long Chen saw the mortal world's stars had chains binding them.

Those chains were spread everywhere. Only a very small portion of star-fields didn't have those chains. At the end of those chains was the dark area at the heart of the nine heavens.

When he looked at the edges, Long Chen's heart suddenly pounded wildly. At the edge of the universe were four giant figures. They seemed to be slumbering beasts.

Moreover, behind them was endless darkness. That darkness seemed to also be concealing something.

In that instant, the fearless Long Chen felt terror wash over him. His hair stood on end, and sweat soaked his clothes. Long Chen felt like he was seeing something taboo about the world. It was as if something terrifying within that darkness was looking back at him.

His heart had never pounded so hard. His soul ached with pain. It felt like needles were stabbing his eyes, and fresh blood poured out of them. He knew that he was looking at something he shouldn't see. But he continued to look. He wanted to know what was at the core of the nine heavens.

Suddenly, the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror quivered. An immense force of rejection tried to send Long Chen out. As a result, his expression changed. He was out of time.

Long Chen clenched his teeth and stabbed the black dagger into the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror.

**Chapter 3670**



Long Chen had originally thought that with the illusion formation that Xia Chen set up right before they left, the enemies would be deceived for at least a while. After all, no one else would be entering the trial while they were there.

He hadn't expected someone to specifically take a look at the lightning pool. As a result, as soon as he looked closer, the illusion formation was broken. Everything was exposed. This power of expulsion was clearly trying to bring him out. At this moment, a black dagger appeared in his hand, and he stabbed it into the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror with all his might.

BANG!

What shocked Long Chen was that this mysterious dagger that had never failed to break any defense actually failed to pierce the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror. A powerful backlash then shook Long Chen's Blood Qi. He almost lost hold of the black dagger.

"Not good!"

Long Chen had never expected this. He had absolute confidence in the black dagger, but it disappointed him today.

However, this strike from the black dagger did cause a thumb-sized nick on the flat surface of the mirror.

Seeing that nick, Long Chen put away the dagger and pulled out the Minghong Saber, preparing to attack the broken part.

However, before he even attacked, cracks formed from that nick, instantly spreading through the entire Star Peering Heavenly Mirror. This mirror that reached even the stars in the heavens shattered with a final boom.

A mirror that had stood for countless years, overlooking the nine heavens and ten lands, was finally broken. Despite instinctively using its full power to resist Long Chen's full-power attack, it was unable to defend against that dagger in the end.

The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror shattered, transforming into astral motes that dissipated into the cracks of space. The power from its explosion made Long Chen crash into a spatial wall and cough up blood. After that, he was forced out of the space of the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror.

When Long Chen reappeared on the Nine Underworld Island, a vast power unfurled and a ripple caused the world to flip. Waves from the sea soared so high that they swallowed up the river of stars.

Wherever the ripple spread, devastation followed. Mountains were turned into flat land, and the mist covering this land was instantly blown apart.

Enduring this ripple, Long Chen's body was almost torn apart. Even as violet qi circulated throughout his body, he was unable to stop cracks from spreading across his body. The power of the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror's shattering almost crushed him.

Fortunately, being blown back reduced a portion of the power. As he was blown further back, the pressure decreased.

Long Chen then coughed up blood as he resisted with all of his power. At the same time, the primal chaos space's life energy poured into his body, helping him recover.

As he was blown back, Long Chen saw countless Nine Underworld Hall experts fleeing for their lives. But it was useless. They were quickly caught up by the ripple and blasted into nothingness.

Long Chen could sense Xia Chen and Guo Ran's positions. However, he wasn't worried about them. They were already forced out of the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror before the explosion occurred. They were also fleeing, but Guo Ran had his Supreme Bone, and Xia Chen had countless life-protecting talismans. At most, they would only be slightly injured.

Long Chen was flying for several breaths' time before the pressure finally lightened enough for him to breathe. He then checked his body and was shocked to find that the majority of his bones were broken. His meridians were also damaged.

The Star Peering Heavenly Mirror's explosion was too terrifying. It had almost blasted him apart. But no matter what, the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror was destroyed. He had accomplished his mission.

"DIE!"

Suddenly, the void quivered and a sword pierced through the void with icy killing intent. Even before the sword arrived, a terrifying killing intent completely locked Long Chen down.

"Chen Ming!"

Long Chen's heart shook as he recognized his attacker. It was the island master of the Nine Underworld Island, the strongest person here.

"You weren't killed by the explosion?" Long Chen snorted and swung the Minghong Saber at him.

BOOM!

Long Chen grunted. A burst of pain struck his arm, and the Minghong Saber almost flew away. He was too heavily injured.

“Long Chen?! It’s you?!” After that exchange, the furious Chen Ming was even further incensed.

The explosion of the Star Peering Heavenly Mirror had blown apart Long Chen’s mask, revealing his true appearance. Hence, Long Chen was instantly recognized.

“If it wasn’t me, who else would it be?” Long Chen might be injured, but he was still calm.

“You’re quite brave! But you won’t be escaping today!” Chen Ming roared. Suddenly, rays of white divine light shot out of the sea, covering this land in a giant heavenly net.

“Faith energy?”

Long Chen was a bit surprised. The island was already destroyed, and yet the faith energy remained. It seemed that their divine pool was beneath the sea.

“Nine Underworld Heaven Merger, Divine Descent!”

Chen Ming formed hand seals, and a giant divine platform appeared behind him. A divine statue then showed up on that platform. It was Liao Bencang.

When Long Chen saw that statue, his expression finally changed. Chen Ming was planning on using the statue to summon Liao Bencang. If Liao Bencang was brought back, then considering that this was his domain, the three of them would really be doomed.

“Old fellow, taste my fist!”

Just then, the void quivered and Guo Ran came charging over, his Supreme Bone quivering as he unleashed a punch.

BOOM!

Chen Ming blocked with his sword. As a result, milky white light erupted and both of them were forced back.

“What?!” Guo Ran was shocked. The full-power attack of his Supreme Bone was something that not even half-step Divine Venerates could block. But the late stage World King Chen Ming had blocked it.

“He is Liao Bencang’s follower and can use Liao Bencang’s faith energy. He can bring out more power from a World Domain divine item. Don’t waste time on him! Destroy that statue!” shouted Long Chen.

Xia Chen was already moving before Long Chen finished speaking. Seven talismans shot out at the same time, landing on the statue. Their runes rapidly lit up.

“Explode!”

Xia Chen shouted, and the seven talismans detonated at the same time. The void collapsed. However, Long Chen was shocked to find that the statue wasn’t damaged in the slightest.

“Fools! This faith energy is condensed from countless generations of believers of the Nine Underworld Island. It can only be destroyed with other faith energy. All your efforts are meaningless! Just wait for the palace master to execute you!” shouted Chen Ming furiously.

Just now, Guo Ran’s punch had almost made him cough up blood. All three of them were absolutely terrifying.

“Kill him first then! Maybe when he dies, this statue will disappear!” shouted Long Chen.

Xia Chen and Guo Ran shot after Chen Ming together. Chen Ming’s expression twitched. He suddenly shot straight toward Long Chen. It seemed that he felt that the easier target right now was Long Chen.

“Die!”

As a result, he had just arrived in front of Long Chen when a pretty maiden in a violet dress stabbed a lightning spear toward his head.