

## Nine Star 3701

### Chapter 3701: Swindling

"Fifty million?!"

The seller almost fell when he heard Long Chen's words. How was that thing worth fifty million? He had been in this profession for over three hundred years and had yet to make that much in total!

It could be said that Long Chen's thirty-five thousand immortal king crystals were already a huge profit to him.

"Can you give me a cheaper price? You won't haggle even a bit? Don't you know how to do business?" urged Long Chen impatiently when he saw the seller just staring at him blankly.

"Ah... No, I can't go any cheaper! Let me put it to you this way, this was passed down from my grandfather's grandfather's grandfather. Don't look down on it just because it's small. It has third generation Jiuli characters on top of it! That's a seal, and no one knows what's within the seal. Generations of my ancestors were incapable of opening it. As for my own father... he... he tried to forcibly open it, only for the slightest bit of black light to fly out from it, instantly turning him to dust. I was only six at that time, and I personally witnessed his death. I..." That person began to sob and weep.

Long Chen was surprised by his acting skills, so he hastily pressed on. "When your father died, did a flower mark appear? Did the flower have six petals, with the mark of a fiend on every petal?"

"How... how did you know?!" exclaimed that person in shock. That acting was such that even Long Chen almost fell for it.

"Did you see anything else?" asked Long Chen.

"The six ghost heads opened their mouths and devoured the black mist that my father turned into. They then returned into the coffin. Yes, they all came from this mark right here that looks like a tortoise. I saw it clearly. It was this mark. But even after all my years of study, I was unable to break it. I hate it, but I am also fascinated by it. I want to know what it hides. But I know that I'll never be able to open it in this lifetime. If someone is willing to pay the right price, I'll sell. But not one bit lower. So I won't go any lower than my price of... that I just set!" The seller was so nervous that he actually forgot the number that Long Chen had just said. Was it fifty million or five million? Fortunately, his adaptability wasn't bad.

"What was your father's cultivation base?" asked Long Chen.

"My father was a World King--"

"Oh?!" Long Chen glared.

"Ah? A World King's no good?" That person looked at Long Chen questioningly.

Long Chen almost slapped him. Did this person not just expose him? Long Chen wanted him to raise his father's cultivation base a bit.

"What are you talking about? I was asking about your dad! Your dad's cultivation base!"

"Oh, my dad's cultivation base? I thought that you were talking about his status! Yes, he was the Qing Zhou Prefecture's World King Guild's master! His cultivation base had reached the half-step Divine Venerate realm before he died! He was just a half-step away from a Divine Venerate, and yet... yet he died too early. After that, our family declined and I became homeless, simply wandering the world trying to survive. Dad... dad, your child is unfilial! Dad, your spirit is in heaven. Watch over me as I rebuild our family..." The seller sobbed painfully.

Now, Long Chen was doubting this person's acting skills. Wasn't this too exaggerated? Only a fool would believe it.

However, the act had been played to this point, so he could only thicken his face. Long Chen then took out a spatial ring.

"Fine, don't cry. I'll take this broken coffin of yours. But you have to let me pick out another two items."

"Deal, deal!" The seller happily received Long Chen's spatial ring with both hands.

Long Chen bent down to pick up the coffin. Seeing that there was no reaction from the surroundings, he sighed in disappointment inside. As expected, he had wasted this effort. This idiot's acting skills were garbage.

However, just as his hand was about to touch the coffin, he ended up empty-handed. Long Chen 'furiously' looked around, instantly spotting the Nine Underworld Luocha not far from him. She was holding the little coffin in her hand.

"Courting death! You dare to take my things?! Put it down, or I'll make your head fall to the ground!" roared Long Chen.

The Nine Underworld Luocha eyed the coffin and smiled coldly. "You really are an idiot. The High Firmament Academy's youngest, most erudite dean? What an empty title. You don't even recognize the grand Thousand Mark Devil Seal. This coffin would be wasted in your hands. It can only reveal its worth in my hands. It's mine."

The Nine Underworld Luocha waved her hand, sending a spatial ring to that person. When he picked it up and saw fifty million immortal king crystals, he felt his heart stop beating.

Long Chen had given him an empty spatial ring, but the Nine Underworld Luocha actually gave him the full amount. In other words, they had succeeded. They really had succeeded just like that.

However, he began to tremble and looked at Long Chen in terror. "You're Long Chen? The High Firmament Academy's youngest dean? The one who plundered the Soaring Dragon Company?"

"That's my side business. I can make some quick money that way. Alright, our transaction is done. According to the agreement, hand over half." Long Chen extended his hand.

That person eyed Long Chen and then the Nine Underworld Luocha. He grew absolutely terrified. These were two monsters that could kill him with a single breath. He didn't want to get drawn into their fighting.

“Dean Long Chen, this little one was unable to see Mt. Tai. I won’t play this game. Here, you take it. Here is also the thirty-five thousand that you gave me before.” Pale as paper, he handed over two spatial rings. Money might be good, but there would be no point if he had no life.

“What are you talking about? I like money, but I earn it properly. I’ll only take my portion. The rest is yours.” Long Chen only took the twenty-five million immortal king crystals and gave the rest back.

BANG!

Just then, the Nine Underworld Luocha realized that she had been scammed and crushed the coffin in her hand to find that there was nothing inside.

“Long Chen!” She clenched her teeth furiously. Fifty million immortal king crystals was nothing to her, but being played for a fool infuriated her.

Seeing this scene, that person was absolutely terrified. He wanted to give the spatial ring in his hand back to her, but he also didn’t dare to. He was so afraid that he wept.

“That’s enough. With me here, she can’t touch you. Leave, you have no business here,” said Long Chen.

The seller was overjoyed by Long Chen’s promise. He then bravely took out a transportation formation and activated it, vanishing from the spot.

“Don’t look at me. These twenty-five million immortal king crystals were earned properly by my hard work! I won’t give them to you. If you want to fight, I’ll accompany you,” said Long Chen indifferently.

The surrounding stalls that were set up hastily pulled back, giving them a large space.

At this time, Yu Qingxuan gracefully walked over, appearing by Long Chen’s side.

“Dongfang Zichu’s disciple? Do you think being the Vermilion Bird Empire’s princess is so great?” The Nine Underworld Luocha looked at Yu Qingxuan with a hint of jealousy in her eyes. She then snorted and pointed at Long Chen. “Just wait! I’ll take your head in the three thousand worlds.”

When the Nine Underworld Luocha turned and left, Long Chen was a bit surprised. Was she afraid of Yu Qingxuan?

“You really are evil! How can you swindle people like this? Aren’t you afraid of the main High Firmament Academy’s dean scolding you?” rebuked Yu Qingxuan.

She had been hiding in the distance while Long Chen conducted his business with that person, so she had seen everything. This grand dean of the High Firmament Academy was actually constantly plundering and swindling people.

“Hehe, for you, I’m capable of doing even more shameless things. Let me tell you, I picked up a huge treasure.”

Long Chen was very pleased and took out the hairpin once more.

## **Chapter 3702: Nirvanic Bead**

"This is the treasure that you swindled? But I can't tell that it's a treasure at all." Yu Qingxuan examined the rusty hairpin for a long moment without seeing anything special about it.

"This hairpin has passed through several hands. In order to get a good price, those fools made it look older than it is several times." Long Chen then took out a jade board and lightly tapped the hairpin on it.

With a light sound, tiny cracks covered the hairpin. After a few raps, the rust on top of it began to fall.

However, even as the rust fell, there was no luster to be seen. It still looked very crude.

Long Chen continued rapping it, causing more cracks to appear and more rust to fall. After that, Yu Qingxuan finally saw a bird tail at the end of the hairpin.

"What bird do you think this is?" asked Long Chen.

"It does look a bit like the ancient phoenix. But its head is too big, and its tail is bloated. I've never seen such a bird before." Yu Qingxuan shook her head.

The others were also befuddled and none of them recognized it. One person then guessed, "The phoenix race has many large-headed branches. The ones with bigger heads are more intelligent."

"Impossible. Every branch of the phoenix race is recorded in history. None of them have this form," refuted another.

Long Chen smiled and rapped the hairpin once more. This time, another layer of rust fell. The head of the bird shrank, but its mouth didn't. It now looked even odder.

"That... that form, doesn't it look similar to our empire's symbol, the Vermilion Bird?!" exclaimed one of them.

"Don't spout nonsense. How does the Vermilion Bird have a mouth like that?" retorted another.

"Maybe it's a deformity?"

"Do you not want your life anymore? Don't randomly talk about our empire's symbol!"

It had to be known that the Vermilion Bird was a sacred symbol of the Vermilion Bird Empire. It was their faith, a holy emblem that could not be blasphemed. If that person's words were heard by the others of the Vermilion Bird Empire, that would be a grave sin.

That person hastily apologized. Yu Qingxuan eyed the bird more closely, and an expression of astonishment appeared in his eyes.

"This form truly is like the Vermilion Bird. But its mouth is odd."

"Hehe, keep watching." Long Chen once more rapped it against the jade board. When another layer of rust fell, everyone, including Yu Qingxuan and the people of the Vermilion Bird Empire, cried out in shock.

"Vermilion Bird Bead?"

When all the rust of the hairpin finally fell and the true form of the bird appeared, they were all shocked.

It truly was a Vermilion Bird. Its long tail hung low over the hairpin, and its wings were spread ever so slightly. There was a tiny bead in its mouth.

This Vermilion Bird Bead was something formed from the Vermilion Bird condensing all its body's essence before it underwent nirvanic rebirth. This bead contained its life essence. If the nirvanic rebirth succeeded, it would devour this bead as the foundation for its rebirth.

If the rebirth failed, this bead would become a priceless treasure. That was because the Vermilion Bird Flame was fifth on the Heavenly Flame Ranking.

The Vermilion Bird Flame and the Golden Crow Flame were the same in that they should have been considered beast flames, but due to their progression over time, they evolved. At the highest level of the Vermilion Bird Flame, it was called the Nirvanic Rebirth Flame.

As for the Golden Crow Flame, at its highest level, it was called the Sun Flame. However, the Nirvanic Rebirth Flame's ranking was even higher than the Sun Flame.

The Vermilion Bird Flame had to go through nine heavenly calamities, with every calamity being considered a nirvanic rebirth. Only after nine nirvanic rebirths would it be the true Nirvanic Rebirth Flame.

The Vermilion Bird Empire viewed the Vermilion Bird as a god and offered worship to the Vermilion Bird totem, so this Vermilion Bird Bead model was practically burned into their souls.

Previously, they had only viewed paintings of it. Hence, as this Vermilion Bird was depicted in a hairpin and was three dimensional, they didn't immediately recognize it.

But now that they did, they couldn't help being shocked. There were all kinds of hairpins depicting some kind of divine bird holding a bead in its mouth, but they had never seen someone dare to do such a thing with the Vermilion Bird.

Legend was that the phoenix race was a descendant of the Vermilion Bird and inherited a portion of the Vermilion Bird's bloodline. There were all kinds of phoenix decorations spread throughout the nine heavens and ten lands. But when it came to the original ancestor, the Vermilion Bird, no one dared to use it as a decoration, nor did they dare to put the images on their clothes or ornaments.

It was said that the Vermilion Bird was a spirit beast of heaven and earth, close to the Heavenly Daos and blessed with immense good fortune. Those close to it would also benefit from its fortune.

To blaspheme such a symbol would be inviting calamity. Thus, cultivators would never adorn themselves with images of the Vermilion Bird. That could very well be a mistake that cost them their lives.

Even in the Vermilion Bird Empire, the imperial family didn't wear ornaments of the Vermilion Bird. Even their status plates only had the name of the Vermilion Bird carved onto them in Jiuli characters.

It could be said that using the Vermilion Bird as a design was taboo. Thus, everyone was shocked by this hairpin.

"The bead in its mouth..." Yu Qingxuan looked more closely at the small bead that was only the size of a grain of rice. An expression of disbelief appeared in her eyes.

"It should be the nirvanic bead. Regretfully, too much time has passed. It was also damaged by the Yin Qi from underground, and its power was almost exhausted. But since the flame seed has not gone out, Qingxuan, try to nourish it with your flame energy. Perhaps it can be reignited," said Long Chen.

"Long Chen, this nirvanic bead is too precious. You were the one who found it, so you should ignite it." Yu Qingxuan shook her head. This treasure was something that countless flame cultivators would not even dare to dream of obtaining. If she ignited it, it would be forming a master relationship with the nirvanic bead. She felt that it should belong to Long Chen.

"Are you joking? You want me to wear a hairpin all day? Won't others laugh at me? Hurry up and try it. If it doesn't work, I'll think of something else," said Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan laughed at Long Chen's expression. Since he was determined, she no longer stood on courtesy. A rainbow flame then appeared on the tip of her finger, and she slowly sent it into the nirvanic bead. This flame was naturally the Heavenly Rainbow Flame.

When the Heavenly Rainbow Flame entered the nirvanic bead, many spots on it gradually faded. Those spots were the marks of the invasion of Yin Qi from underground, but the Heavenly Rainbow Flame burned them away without harming the actual hairpin in the slightest. It actually began to grow brighter.

Everyone was amazed. This hairpin's origin might really be extraordinary. It had to be known that any divine item would have difficulty resisting the invasion of Yin Qi from underground. Furthermore, once the Yin Qi did set its roots inside, it would be next to impossible to remove. Forcibly erasing it would destroy the divine item itself. But this hairpin was actually fine.

Suddenly, the nirvanic bead quivered ever so slightly. Long Chen then saw a vast world within this rice-sized bead. At the heart of this world was a giant figure; it was a Vermilion Bird.

For a moment, Yu Qingxuan and Long Chen were simply stunned, unable to believe what they were seeing.

### **Chapter 3703: Vermilion Bird Will**

"This is the Vermilion Bird's undying will!" exclaimed Yu Qingxuan.

"Perhaps this is considered another kind of rebirth." Long Chen also hadn't expected the Vermilion Bird's will to be so tough. It had been preserved after all this time.

"Long Chen, I really have to thank you. You're amazing! How did you find such a treasure?" Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen gratefully.

It had to be known that this was the will of the Vermilion Bird, and her Vermilion Bird Empire's faith was based on the Vermilion Bird. The meaning behind this Vermilion Bird Hairpin was profoundly deep.

Her flame also contained a kind of faith energy, and this kind of faith energy was the perfect nourishment for this will of the Vermilion Bird. Perhaps the Vermilion Bird's will could still be reborn as a spiritual body.

“Hahaha, it was nothing more than reaching out a single hand. After roaming the world for so many years, I naturally developed some sharper vision.” Long Chen laughed, very pleased with this result. He almost felt like he was floating when he saw Yu Qingxuan’s worshipful expression.

“Big brother, you’re so shameless. I was the one who found it,” transmitted Huo Linger a bit resentfully.

When Long Chen was passing by that scammer’s stall, Huo Linger told him that there was a treasure in his pile of trash. Only then did Long Chen squat down and start haggling with him.

Huo Linger’s spiritual perception was astonishing. She had also grown more sensitive to other flames after devouring the Yan Xu Flame. Without her, Long Chen would have never noticed the Vermilion Bird Hairpin.

“Give big brother some face! In the future, big brother will make it up to you!” Long Chen blushed and hastily consoled this little girl.

He knew that she originally wanted to devour the nirvanic bead. However, the nirvanic bead was essentially used up, and that bit of energy wasn’t that useful to her. To simply devour the Vermilion Bird Flame after obtaining it would be a waste of a treasure.

Only after Long Chen said this did Huo Linger stop saying anything. She then continued sleeping within the crown of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree. Ever since it appeared, she and Huo Linger refused to leave its branches.

To use their words, sleeping within the tree, they felt like they were growing with each passing day. Their minds were growing sharper as well.

“Huo Linger, help me out. Lend your flame energy to big brother,” said Long Chen.

“Big brother, now you’re using my energy as a favor to others? You’re evil.” Huo Linger pouted.

But even though she grumbled, she still passed her energy to Long Chen, who then pressed a finger on the Vermilion Bird Hairpin. Flame energy gushed into it.

Huo Linger’s energy was extremely mixed. She had all kinds of energy. It wasn’t like Yu Qingxuan who only had a single pure kind of energy.

At this moment, more marks appeared on the hairpin. They were actually made of tiny runes smaller than the point of a needle. The Vermilion Bird within the nirvanic bead also grew livelier.

“This is...!” Yu Qingxuan almost jumped when she saw those runes. Those were the ancestral runes of the Vermilion Bird, the Vermilion Bird’s core runes. Every single rune represented a kind of divine ability.

When Huo Linger’s energy entered, the entire hairpin seemed to become a divine weapon. It was like the Vermilion Bird had awoken. Its divine light seemed to contain an ancient Vermilion Bird spreading its wings toward the heavens, leaving behind a rainbow light. That light was like a dream, infatuating people.

The Vermilion Bird Hairpin seemed to have come to life. It actually began to automatically absorb the flame energy of heaven and earth. Seeing that this was about enough, Long Chen retracted his hand to avoid Huo Linger using up too much energy.

The hairpin was shining brightly and drew countless people's attention. Greed then appeared in people's eyes, but they didn't dare to even form a wicked thought. The Vermilion Bird Empire could not be provoked.

"How beautiful!" This divine radiance caused Yu Qingxuan to sigh in amazement. Furthermore, the Vermilion Bird seemed to come to life. Its divine light was beautiful and holy.

"This hairpin is a perfect match for you. It seems that it has always been waiting for you. Here, I'll help you put it on." Long Chen smiled and slowly inserted the hairpin into Yu Qingxuan's hair.

Yu Qingxuan blushed. This action was a bit too intimate. Furthermore, it was done in front of a huge crowd.

However, she felt Long Chen's warmth. Since she was happy inside, she let Long Chen put it on her. Eunuch Wei's reminder had long since left her head.

"Beautiful. The two of you clearly match each other," praised Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan was already a peerless beauty, but with this hairpin and its divine light, she seemed covered in a holy halo, like a heavenly fairy walking the mortal world. It gave people an urge to prostrate themselves toward her.

Long Chen was excited. While it was Yu Qingxuan who obtained the treasure, Long Chen was even happier than her. That sincere smile moved Yu Qingxuan immensely. It was as though even if the rest of the world abandoned her, this man would forever be by her side. There was no way to describe that warm feeling.

"Princess! You... you seem to have awakened the Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance!"

Suddenly, a female disciple of the Vermilion Bird Empire cried out in disbelief.

With that cry, everyone looked at Yu Qingxuan. If they looked closely, they could vaguely see a clump of light behind her head that contained a mysterious figure.

However, it was too dim and indistinct. It kept forming and disappearing. There was no way to see it clearly. But the Vermilion Bird Empire's people were delighted.

The Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance indicated that one had received the blessing of the ancient Vermilion Bird's heroic spirit. A cultivator who sincerely communed with it would find it grow stronger until eventually, they would be able to use it to attack. It could save their lives at a critical moment.

It was said that at the peak of the Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance, it was possible to summon the Vermilion Bird's heroic spirit. Of course, that was just a legend. There was no such record within history.

However, the Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance was so powerful that everyone within the Vermilion Bird Empire was aware of it. Furthermore, it was also a show of status. Once a person awakened the Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance, it meant that they were chosen by the Vermilion Bird. Their status would be completely different. Even if it was a commoner who awakened the Vermilion Bird Divine Radiance, they would be placed on equal footing with the lords of the empire.



Yu Qingxuan was also stunned. She hadn't expected this hairpin to bring her so many benefits. She felt like she was dreaming.

"Princess will definitely soar in the future. Remember to pull me up if I don't manage to do well for myself!" Long Chen cupped his fists to Yu Qingxuan.

Yu Qingxuan laughed and rebuked Long Chen with a light rap. This fellow was never serious, but she couldn't help laughing around him. She liked his voice. Around him, she never even thought about maintaining some decorum. Fortunately, eunuch Wei wasn't present, or she would have to listen to his nagging again.

"Qingxuan, let's go. I want to introduce you to my two brothers." Long Chen brought them all toward where Guo Ran and Xia Chen were.

### **Chapter 3704: Earth Evasion Talisman**

"How much for this bracelet?" One of the female disciples by Yu Qingxuan's side suddenly picked up a bracelet on a stall.

"You're really interested? Then I'll give you the real price. Five thousand immortal king crystals. No haggling." The seller eyed her for a moment before giving a firm price.

After a while, the bracelet entered Long Chen's hand, and he gave it to her.

"Senior apprentice-brother Long Chen, you're so amazing! You actually got it for fifteen hundred! You saved me thirty-five hundred immortal king crystals. That's half a year's earning for me," thanked the woman excitedly.

Originally, seeing how firm the seller was, she had thought that this was already the lowest price. She had been attracted to how beautiful the bracelet was, and since it was a top grade King item, she really had been about to buy it for five thousand immortal king crystals.

However, Long Chen immediately noticed that the seller was taking advantage of her lack of experience, so he helped her haggle. In the end, he got it for fifteen hundred. Everyone was stunned. His way of haggling was amazingly efficient.

"Senior apprentice-brother Long Chen, can you teach us how to haggle like you?" asked another female disciple worshipfully. They also wanted to buy some things, but this was their first time outside their empire. They didn't know how to haggle. After seeing how amazing Long Chen was, they wanted to learn as well.

Yu Qingxuan smiled. Long Chen had won over these disciples so quickly. Although Long Chen was surrounded by countless halos of light, it seemed that he didn't care about those statuses. He was never arrogant. Just this one point made their characters very similar.

Seeing so many disciples looking at Long Chen excitedly, not treating him like an outsider at all, it only proved his charisma.

Long Chen coughed and put on the air of an extremely experienced bargainer. "Actually, there are many elements to haggling. When it comes to weighing the other side's words and expressions to deduce the

real price, it would be too difficult to learn without a certain amount of effort. But that's alright. I have a very quick method to teach you. Although it won't make you haggling experts, at least you won't be slaughtered by scammers."

"Senior apprentice-brother, tell us! We want to know!" Everyone cried out excitedly.

Long Chen solemnly said, "In truth, the most important thing in haggling is to not care about face. If they dare to ask for five thousand, I dare to ask for five hundred! When I offer a price of five hundred, they curse me, but cursing me is fine. It's a good thing. What is there to be afraid of? The only thing to be afraid of is them suddenly saying deal! Then that means that I got scammed. Why didn't I only offer fifty?"

Long Chen gestured as he spoke, even putting on two different personas. Everyone then laughed, feeling like he was a comedian.

However, this explanation was also easy for them to understand. There was no lower limit when haggling. As long as they were shameless, they wouldn't lose out.

As a result, these disciples began to look at Yu Qingxuan urgently. She helplessly sighed, "Feel free to do as you please. But take care of yourselves. Don't run too far, and make sure to take out your tablets. If anything happens, immediately send out a signal."

"Many thanks, princess!" Everyone was delighted and ran off.

"Hey, don't go too crazy! If eunuch Wei suddenly returns and sees that I let you all off, we'll all be scolded!" warned Yu Qingxuan.

"Don't worry princess, we'll be back quickly! We won't make things hard on you." One of the female disciples giggled and then dispersed through the stalls with everyone else.

Yu Qingxuan looked at those people that were like horses that had thrown off their reins, and she shook her head. Looking at the smiling Long Chen, she couldn't help saying, "It's all your fault! I bet that they'll end up squandering all the money that they have."

These disciples were used to following the rules in the Vermilion Bird Empire. Now that they were free, seeing all the new things around them, they would definitely buy quite a few things. The main worry was that they would use up all their money without buying anything useful.

Long Chen smiled. "Who can say when it comes to luck? Who dares to say that they won't find some useful treasure? Furthermore, if a person doesn't lose a little in life, would that still be called life? An expert always has to pay a tuition fee to become an expert. Suffering and losing is the tuition fee."

"Well, I can't beat you in an argument." Yu Qingxuan helplessly smiled. Long Chen sometimes said things that were clearly fallacious, yet she found herself unable to retort.

When the two of them arrived where Guo Ran and Xia Chen were, they found that the two of them had almost sold off everything. Of thousands of talismans, only a few dozen remained. As for Guo Ran's wares, not one remained.

"Greetings, miss Qingxuan!"

When they arrived, Guo Ran and Xia Chen hastily rose and bowed to Yu Qingxuan. Long Chen had already told them not to mention what had happened on the Martial Heaven Continent and to act like it was their first time meeting.

Yu Qingxuan returned their greeting. Long Chen then said, "Let me introduce you. This is Guo Ran, a prodigy Forging Master, and this is Xia Chen, a truly talented Talisman Master. Both of them are my life-and-death brothers."

After a few polite words from both sides, Guo Ran said, "Boss, can you help us look after our stall? We want to look around."

"You want me to look after this?" Long Chen almost didn't dare to believe his ears.

"Yes. We've already sold our things. Xia Chen and I made quite a bit of money and are going to look for things that we need. We'll also be looking to see if we can take advantage of people's inventories to buy low and sell high." Guo Ran shrugged.

There was no way around it. Both of them had good things in their hands, and any professional could tell. Although the price was a bit high, those were life-saving treasures, so they were quickly snatched up.

As this was their first time doing such business, they hadn't expected their business to be so prosperous. Now they wanted to spend their new wealth.

Long Chen helplessly sent them off, looking after their stall. Both of them then ran off happily, vanishing without a trace.

"Long Chen, why do I feel a bit odd when those two brothers of yours looked at me?" Yu Qingxuan couldn't help asking when it was just the two of them alone.

Of course, it was odd. Seeing that Yu Qingxuan didn't recognize them, Xia Chen and Guo Ran both felt strange. Afraid of exposing themselves, they then slipped away.

"They don't have much experience. They've never seen such beauty, so they didn't dare to look at you," said Long Chen with a smile.

Yu Qingxuan rolled her eyes, knowing that this was nonsense. But she didn't pursue the topic.

"How much for this Earth Evasion Talisman?" Suddenly, a girl walked over and pointed at a talisman.

"A thousand immortal king crystals," said Long Chen. In truth, the Earth Evasion Talisman normally sold for around seven hundred on the marketplace. But prices were definitely a bit higher here.

"Five hundred," said the girl.

"Damn, what a ruthless haggler!" Long Chen couldn't help laughing. This girl was just randomly putting out a price. She had no idea of the market price of this talisman.

Seeing her bargain, Yu Qingxuan smiled. "Your way of haggling is even more ruthless. It's not bad for her to not ask for a hundred."

"My mom said that she wanted it for half price," said the girl uneasily. It seemed that she really didn't have any experience.

"Is that so? Alright, let's start over. Ask me again," said Long Chen.

The girl obediently pointed at the talisman and asked, "How much for this Earth Evasion Talisman?"

"Two thousand! Go ahead and haggle," urged Long Chen.

The girl was dumbfounded. "Then... one thousand?"

"Deal!"

Long Chen handed the girl the Earth Evasion Talisman.

### **Chapter 3705: Yu Qingxuan's History**

This girl had an odd expression. She felt like something was off, but she couldn't say anything. Seeing Long Chen handing over the talisman, she then handed a thousand immortal king crystals to Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan was smiling behind Long Chen. She knew that she couldn't laugh at this time, or it would expose Long Chen, but she really couldn't endure it anymore.

Long Chen took the thousand immortal king crystals. But just as the girl was about to leave, Long Chen called out to her and offered her another talisman from the stall.

"We're having a special offer right now. Buy one get one free. For buying the Earth Evasion Talisman, you get a Body Substitute Talisman. Congratulations."

"Wow, is my luck that good? Thank you!" The girl was incredibly excited. She thanked Long Chen and received the talisman before going.

"You're losing out. Such a fine Body Substitute Talisman, it probably would go for no less than five thousand immortal king crystals," said Yu Qingxuan with a smile. She had some knowledge of talismans.

Once the girl was gone, Long Chen shook his head. "There's no way around it. There are always some people in this world that are so foolish that I feel sorry for them."

Long Chen didn't view himself as a good person, but when it came to such an innocent fool, he felt bad taking her money. Fortunately, he didn't encounter such nice fools every day, or he'd be broke.

"Why are you looking at me like that?"

Long Chen suddenly found that Yu Qingxuan was staring at him oddly.

"You really are a good person, a very good person," said Yu Qingxuan softly.

"Hehe, I like hearing that, especially from you. Why don't you say it a few more times?" laughed Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan also laughed, her eyes not leaving his. "Why would a kind person like you become a devil for me?"

Long Chen knew that the devil she was referring to was him when his heart-devil erupted last time outside the Heavenly Flame World.

Long Chen shook his head. "I don't know. But I will not permit anyone to hurt you. Whether I have to be a good person or a devil, as long as I can protect you, I don't mind."

Yu Qingxuan suddenly smiled, revealing her perfect teeth. "Long Chen, do you know? I just recently learned that I have a father. I thought that my parents died a long time ago, and my master raised me on their behalf. But it was only after the matter of the Heavenly Flame World ended that my master told me my origins. He then brought me to see my father. Turns out that I am the princess of the Vermilion Bird Empire. Only a select few people within the entire Vermilion Bird Empire knew of my existence. But I don't know why they would send me away immediately after birthing me. My master raised me, and I'm very grateful for him. But for some reason, I don't feel that close warmth from him. My master is a sect leader, while my father is the monarch of an empire. Both of them have high and mighty airs. I am respectful toward them, but that also makes me want to distance myself from them. Likewise, I'm always nice to people, but I don't have a single true friend. They respect me, they worship me, they get close to me, they want to hear me discuss the Dao, they want to obtain my medicinal pills, but they aren't really my friends. Only with you do I feel completely unconstrained. Do you know? In this world, you are my only friend."

Long Chen looked at the tender gaze from Yu Qingxuan's eyes. That gaze moved the weakest part of Long Chen's heart.

On the Martial Heaven Continent, when he held her as she died, her gaze was almost identical.

Without realizing it, Long Chen's tears slowly flowed down. She was her; there was no mistake. Although the timing was off with her reincarnation, he was sure that the two were the same.

The person who had loved him for a thousand lifetimes, the person who had used her own life to try to awaken him, he finally found her.

Before this, Long Chen had told himself that she was Yu Qingxuan and that Yu Qingxuan was her. But even then, he still had doubts. It was only today when he saw this gaze that his heart was fully sure.

"I've finally found you..."

"You... you're crying?" Yu Qingxuan was flustered. She took out a handkerchief and dabbed at Long Chen's tears.

"I... I'm happy. To be your only friend... I'm really happy," said Long Chen.

He still didn't want to tell Yu Qingxuan about their past. He owed Yu Qingxuan far too much, so he didn't want her to be burdened by their past. He would use his own power to make her fall in love with him again. He wouldn't use the shackles of the past.

"Wipe away your tears. Otherwise, if others see, they'll think that I'm bullying you. The great High Firmament Academy's youngest dean is actually a crybaby." Yu Qingxuan smiled, and even though she told Long Chen to wipe away his tears, she was the one doing it for him.

Long Chen also smiled. "I normally only shed blood against enemies. But against the people closest to me, I end up shedding tears. In front of you, I don't need to put up any pretenses."

"Hey, little fellow, how much for this?"

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan were in the midst of talking when a large man swaggered over and pointed at a talisman.

"Scram!"

The intimate atmosphere was shattered. For this man to be so blind, Long Chen directly shouted at him.

The large man was enraged, but the moment he locked eyes with Long Chen, his hair stood on end. He was so terrified that he didn't even dare to make a sound.

"You're so fierce. How are you going to sell things like this?" laughed Yu Qingxuan.

"I'm not a seller anyway. Looting others is my main profession. That irritating fellow? I can't be bothered about his money," explained Long Chen. In truth, Long Chen wasn't lacking money at all. He only wanted to accompany Yu Qingxuan.

"Little brother, how much do you want for this talisman?" A young maiden with a ponytail came over, her eyes brightening upon seeing one particular talisman.

"Take it. It's free." Long Chen waved his hand.

At first, she thought that he was just joking. It was only when Long Chen put the talisman in her hand and shooed her off that she understood that it was not a joke.

"What? Do you think that she's pretty, so you gave it to her for free?" laughed Yu Qingxuan.

"She's from the Spirit race. I don't know what exact branch, but I really like the Spirit race's people. The Spirit race has helped me while I was in crisis many times, so how could I accept her money?" Long Chen looked around stealthily after saying that before whispering, "Well, the main thing is that I'm not the one who made the talismans, so giving them away for free doesn't hurt me at all."

Long Chen's wink made Yu Qingxuan laugh. Suddenly, the tablet on her waist flashed and her expression instantly changed.

"Not good. Our people have run into trouble."

## **Chapter 3706: Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire**

Long Chen decided to just put away the rest of the wares and go with Yu Qingxuan. He wanted to call over Guo Ran and Xia Chen, but he had no idea where they had run off to.

Pushing through the crowd, Long Chen quickly saw several female disciples of the Vermilion Bird Empire surrounded by a group of people.

"It's the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire's people." Yu Qingxuan's expression changed slightly.

"What kind of people are they?" asked Long Chen.

"An empire that's not very powerful, and while our relationship with them isn't good, we don't have much enmity. However, for some reason, they've started targeting us in the last few years. I just returned to the Vermilion Bird Empire, so I'm not too clear on many of the empire's matters. I can recognize what empire they're from due to their robes and tablets," said Yu Qingxuan.

"Then what do you want to do? Do you want to fight?" asked Long Chen.

"I don't know. I have never dealt with something like this. Sorry, it would be better if Eunuch Wei was here," said Yu Qingxuan. Eunuch Wei wasn't completely useless.

"I don't mind how you deal with it. But as long as anyone dares to be the slightest bit rude to you, I won't be courteous either," said Long Chen, saying the ugly words first to avoid being blamed when a fight occurred.

Long Chen would only have one way to deal with such a matter, and that was to fight, fight until the other side was searching the ground for their teeth, fight until the other side was on the ground begging for mercy.

"Haha, the girls of the Vermilion Bird Empire are up to par. What? Are you not going to give us any face after inviting you to some wine?" A fair-faced man with a folded fan in his hand and a crown on his head smiled at the disciples that they had surrounded. His gaze was completely lecherous.

He wore extravagant robes and had a golden tablet on his waist. It seemed that his status was extraordinary. He had dozens of experts by his side, all of them peak Divine Lords with powerful auras.

Having surrounded a few female disciples of the Vermilion Bird Empire, these perverts were examining them in a completely unrestrained fashion. Their gazes were extremely provoking.

Because of the commotion, quite a few people had come to see what was happening. As for others, they put away their wares and hid in the distance. The people from these empires couldn't be provoked.

"With this kind of morality, how will you represent the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire? For you to be so overbearing, are you not placing our Vermilion Bird Empire in your eyes?" One of the women from the Vermilion Bird Empire coldly replied.

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan had arrived and spotted them in the distance. The speaking woman was Yin Ting. She was also the one to ask him to teach them how to haggle.

Yin Ting was naturally lively, and her eloquence wasn't bad. She instantly accused these people of provoking the Vermilion bird Empire.

"No, no. The Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire has a good relationship with the Vermilion Bird Empire. With such a close relationship, why would we not place the Vermilion Bird Empire in our eyes? Since our empires are so friendly, we should forge a stronger bond, don't you think? We can drink and talk. Don't you think that's suitable?" The crowned man laughed, the very picture of a hedonistic young master.

Although he said that the relationship between both empires was good, his eyes were full of disdain for them. He had clearly come to cause trouble.

Yin Ting sneered, "Drinking wine naturally doesn't count for anything. However, people should know themselves. Are you not aware that your appearance is such that not even your grandmother would kiss

you? I'm disgusted just looking at you. If we were to drink wine, I wouldn't even have time to spit it out before vomiting. If you don't want trouble, then get away from us. Our princess is right nearby."

"Your princess? That wild princess of unclear origins? What a joke. Even if she personally came, I wouldn't place her in my eyes," sneered the crowned man disdainfully.

"Impudent!"

"So what? What can you do? Are you going to personally try to kill me?" asked the crowned man as if taunting her.

The other experts of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire also laughed and tightened their enclosure. They didn't take out weapons, nor did they leak any killing intent, but they were intentionally getting closer to the girls, leaving them nowhere to escape.

If they didn't attack, Yin Ting and the other girls also couldn't attack. If they did, it would become a diplomatic issue between both empires, and they were unable to take responsibility for such a matter.

Despite that, as they were women, having these men get so close to them was naturally making them uncomfortable. Yin Ting was enraged. She had the urge to slaughter all of them, but she didn't dare to. She was simply waiting for Yu Qingxuan to arrive.

"Killing you would be up to my mood. But if you ask for a beating so badly, we'll see if I settle for just a beating." Just then, an arrogant and domineering voice rang out.

Hearing this, Yin Ting and the others were delighted. They instantly recognized Long Chen's voice. As expected, just as they heard him, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan walked in shoulder to shoulder.

"Oh? Is this the princess that the Vermilion Bird Empire suddenly produced? I heard that no one knows where you came from. It caused quite the ruckus in the Vermilion Bird Empire!" The crowned man's eyes brightened when he saw Yu Qingxuan, and he laughed delightedly. He completely ignored Long Chen.

"My Vermilion Bird Empire doesn't want trouble, but we're not afraid of trouble. Have your people leave, otherwise..." demanded Yu Qingxuan.

"Otherwise what?" sneered the crowned man. His gaze brazenly roved around Yu Qingxuan's body.

Pow!

Suddenly, Long Chen's palm slapped his face, unleashing an explosive sound. That crowned man was directly blown apart into blood mist. Even his Yuan Spirit was blasted apart, let alone his body.

Everyone was shocked. The other experts of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire were completely dumbfounded. They couldn't believe what they were seeing.

"Long Chen, you...!"

Even Yu Qingxuan jumped in shock. Long Chen had said that if they continued to cause trouble, he would give them a beating. But they couldn't be killed because this matter related to the diplomatic relationship between the two empires. Hence, no rash moves could be made.



However, Long Chen had directly slain their leader, stunning Yu Qingxuan.

“Sorry... It seems that I went a bit too hard.” Long Chen looked at his own hand as well as the scattered blood mist. He was embarrassed.

In truth, the moment the crowned man’s gaze roved around Yu Qingxuan’s body like that, Long Chen’s fury exploded. How could he possibly restrain his power like that?

“You... you... you dared to kill our young master Peng Ao!? Are you trying to start a war between our empires?!” shouted one of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire’s people.

Long Chen waved his hand. This time, his hand didn’t strike anything, and an arrow already pierced through that person’s head.

“You dare to wave your claws in front of my boss? Are you tired of living?”

Just then, Guo Ran and Xia Chen came over. Guo Ran fearlessly looked over the crowd, appearing as if he thought himself completely unrivaled.

### **Chapter 3707: Heavenly Ruler Seal’s Prince He Changtian**

“Who... who are you?!” The Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire’s experts were all bewildered and terrified.

“I swept through-” Guo Ran cleared his throat and began to chant his opening line.

Suddenly, countless auras soared as thousands of experts surrounded this place. These people were all wearing robes of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire. Their leader was an expert wreathed in flames.

His figure was large, and as the flames raged around him, his Blood Qi also burned strongly. It was as if his essence blood was a slumbering volcano that could erupt at any moment.

Most shocking of all were his eyes. They actually had a flame mark burning within them. When they opened and closed, it felt like people were seeing two suns. He gave off an intense sense of pressure.

This was a Supreme expert. As soon as he arrived, his aura made others feel like they couldn’t breathe.

“You dare to kill my Heavenly Ruler Seal’s people. Do you know how the character for death is written?” demanded the flame Supreme expert.

His voice was like rolling thunder, shaking the void. At this moment, the surrounding air flickered. People could see endless flame energy circulating within this world. He was like a flame god, an existence that people didn’t even dare to look at.

“Who cares about the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire? In front of me, Guo Ran, even tigers and dragons must kneel. You don’t like it? Then I’ll beat you until you submit.” Guo Ran was displeased because his opening act was interrupted, so he sneered at this Supreme expert.

“Courting death!” One of the people beside the Supreme expert shouted angrily. He suddenly moved as quick as lightning, his spear piercing toward Guo Ran’s throat.

He directly attacked just due to some words. Furthermore, his killing intent was completely unleashed. He didn't hold back in the slightest. It seemed that he really was intent on killing Guo Ran.

Seeing that, Long Chen narrowed his eyes. Without him being aware of it, his killing intent began to swell within his chest. These people were quite arrogant.

"Kill him," ordered Long Chen coldly.

Just as he said this, that flame-wrapped spear stopped in front of Guo Ran. A hand easily caught the speartip.

Seeing this, the Supreme expert of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire twitched. It was only now that Guo Ran defended that he realized Guo Ran was also a Supreme expert.

Guo Ran's arm wasn't his own, so when he wasn't using the power of his Supreme Bone, others didn't sense his aura.

In truth, Guo Ran had done this on purpose. Only like this could he disguise himself as a pig to eat the tiger. He first lulled his opponents into carelessness.

"Get back!" shouted the Supreme expert.

Regretfully, Guo Ran didn't give him that chance. The power of his Supreme Bone erupted. With a single shove, an overwhelming power flowed through the spear, causing it to ram into that person's body. He didn't even make a grunt before exploding.

"An insignificant ant also dares to embarrass himself in front of me? How laughable," sneered Guo Ran. He tossed the spear casually.

Just like that, the burning spear shot toward the Supreme expert.

BOOM!

That Supreme expert reached out to grab the spear. As he did, the ground beneath his feet let out an explosive sound. Clearly, Guo Ran's casual toss contained the power of his Supreme Bone. An ordinary person would be directly blown apart if they tried to catch it. Guo Ran was testing this person with this blow.

"Who are you?! Are you trying to become enemies with my Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire?!" The flame Supreme expert shouted. Clearly, he hadn't expected to stumble across a Supreme expert here.

It had to be known that Supreme experts all had major powers behind them. He had to know what status the other side had.

"I am Long Chen's subordinate, the Dragonblood Legion's general, Guo Ran!" announced Guo Ran arrogantly, his hands clasped behind him.

"The Dragonblood Legion? What nonsense are you spouting? Why haven't I heard of them?" demanded someone from the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire.

"It's fine that you haven't heard of us. You'll know in the future. The name of the Dragonblood Legion will quickly spread throughout the nine heavens and ten lands. The entire world will shake due to this name," claimed Guo Ran confidently.

"Brat, I don't care where you're from. Tell me, do you want to get drawn into muddy water today?" demanded the Supreme expert.

Naturally, this muddy water referred to the matter between the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire and the Vermilion Bird Empire. He was probing, wanting to see if Guo Ran really was part of the Vermilion Bird Empire.

"Muddy water? I don't give a damn about it. I only listen to my boss. Are you deaf? Did you not hear? I already said that I am the general of Long Chen's Dragonblood Legion. Boss Long Chen is right there. Can you not see?" sneered Guo Ran.

Glib talk wasn't his specialty. Now that he had a Supreme Bone, he felt like it was always better to directly fight than argue.

"Long Chen?"

The Supreme expert suddenly reacted. He looked at Yu Qingxuan and Long Chen.

"You are Long Chen? Your guts aren't small, alright. Do you want to stick your hands into the matters of our two empires?" asked the Supreme expert.

"Cut the crap. No need to probe me. The matters of the Vermilion Bird Empire are Qingxuan's matters, and Qingxuan's matters are my matters. I always do things simply. It's simply a fight to the death. As for these little ploys of yours, I already stopped playing with them when I was a little child. So, let us keep it simple. Either scram or die. You pick!" said Long Chen coldly.

The crowned expert from before had called Yu Qingxuan a wild princess, enraging Long Chen. Then this person had attacked Guo Ran with the intent to kill. They clearly didn't care about their lives. Thus, Long Chen also didn't stand on courtesy. They were arrogant, right? Long Chen would show them what true arrogance looked like.

"Hahaha!" The Supreme expert suddenly raised his head and laughed. That laughter was full of killing intent. "Good! I, He Changtian, have never heard someone say such arrogant words to me before. Good, very good! Since you want to die, I'll kill you right now! Everyone unrelated, get out of the way. I'm going to start a slaughter."

"He Changtian, the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire's third prince? He's someone who awakened a Supreme bloodline and possesses a Heavenly Flame. He spent a lifetime in combat without ever losing. So it's him."

The people surrounding Yin Ting and the others retreated. Yin Ting and the others came behind Yu Qingxuan. Furthermore, other disciples of the Vermilion Bird Empire also arrived at this time, all of them with their weapons out. They were ready for a fight.

“Long Chen...” Yu Qingxuan tensed slightly. She wasn’t afraid of battle, but she felt that since this matter related to the relationship between both empires, it could cause a calamity if it wasn’t dealt with properly.

Long Chen smiled and comforted her. “Don’t worry, this matter has nothing to do with the Vermilion Bird Empire. It is a matter between my Dragonblood Legion and the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire.”

After saying that, Long Chen turned back to He Changtian. He indifferently announced, “Don’t say that I didn’t give you a chance. Our Dragonblood Legion currently only has three members. Pick out any one of them. In front of all the heroes beneath the heavens right now, we will decide who is stronger and who dies.”

Long Chen, Guo Ran, and Xia Chen stood together just like that. At this moment, countless people stared in disbelief at them.

### **Chapter 3708: Too Many Wolves, Not Enough Meat**

A life-and-death battle?

Countless people were absolutely shocked. There were endless heavenly geniuses here, and that meant there were countless conflicts as well. Big and small fights were a constant presence here.

However, no true life-and-death battles had been fought because all the major powers had experts protecting them. Their disciples might scuffle, but if their lives were truly in danger, their seniors would appear.

Although the heavenly geniuses all had their own tempers and were extremely conceited, none of them were willing to expose their trump cards in front of everyone. Hence, even if they encountered someone whom they had terrible enmity with, they would maintain their cool. They would settle things once they entered the three thousand worlds.

Thus, despite the constant conflicts, everyone restrained themselves. If they really were unable to do so, their seniors would appear and put a stop to their battle. That way, neither side would lose face.

As for something like what Long Chen was doing, directly declaring a life-and-death battle, it was very rare. So, everyone went quiet, staring at Long Chen in disbelief.

All the people with the stalls set up around them put away their wares, and they came over to watch. Countless experts guessed whether or not they really would fight.

“Interesting. That He Changtian is one of the seven Heavenly Ruler Seal Princes. The Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire has seven Supreme princes this generation; it is an unprecedented era for them. They’ve grown a great deal. Before this, they were basically a subordinate, a pitiful dog wagging its tail. Now though? The dog has a strong backer and is going to bite its master,” said someone with a mocking expression.

When it came to the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire, many people actually knew some information. This empire originally wasn’t powerful and had done their best to maintain a decent relationship with the Vermilion Bird Empire. In truth, they only survived thanks to the Vermilion Bird Empire’s protection.

Considering that they bordered each other, the Vermilion Bird Empire had no choice but to protect them. If their enemies occupied the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire, that would be like having a tiger outside their door at all times, and they would have difficulty ever relaxing.

When it came to matters between empires, it was always profit that decided things. If two empires had a good relationship, that was simply because they were both sharing the profit. It was a matter of whether it was still mutually beneficial or not.

Currently, the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire was soaring in power. In the last few years, they had started to target the Vermilion Bird Empire, making moves that the Vermilion Bird Empire could not accept. That resulted in the relationship between both nations turning frosty.

When the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire's people surrounded the Vermilion Bird Empire's people, everyone knew what was going on. But what people were unable to understand was why the Vermilion Bird Empire, with all of its power, would simply accept this provocation without retaliation. Were the rumors true? Were there inner conflicts between the Vermilion Bird Empire's royals?

As things had grown to this extent, more and more people came to watch in anticipation of a good show.

"But Long Chen isn't from the Vermilion Bird Empire. Does it count if he wins?" asked one person curiously.

"You don't even know about this? Long Chen is a vicious character. In the Heavenly Flame World, he slaughtered enemies from all sides, and the majority of the lifeforms that entered the Heavenly Flame World were killed by him. In the end, he even slew Yan Xu's son. The reason why he did so is because of Yu Qingxuan. At that time, no one even knew that she was the Vermilion Bird Empire's princess. Also, didn't he just say that Yu Qingxuan's matters are his matters? Let me tell you, this Long Chen is a supremely terrifying figure. There will definitely be a good show to watch today."

Everyone was privately discussing things amongst themselves. Many people didn't recognize Long Chen at first, but others quickly informed them. Of course, there were also people who didn't recognize He Changtian and were asking about him as well.

Long Chen's group of three stood together, gazing at He Changtian coldly. Guo Ran stealthily stepped back half a step before being dragged forward by Xia Chen.

"A person can't be too shameless. How much have you shown off already? Do you not know what boss is planning?"

Clearly, Guo Ran was trying to act like the pig to devour the tiger again. He wanted He Changtian to challenge him. He had greatly improved during this time and was thirsting for a powerful opponent to prove his power.

Xia Chen might be low-key, but he had also been the greatest genius within the Heavenly Talisman Star-Field. He had his own pride. However, on the Nine Underworld Island, he had suffered immensely. That was a blow to his confidence.

Later on, with the help of the Seven Treasure Colored Glass Tree, he started researching ancient talismans, restarting and rebuilding his arsenal. Because of that, he had entirely new formation discs and trump cards and also wanted to test them on a peak expert.

During normal times, he wouldn't fight over the spotlight with Guo Ran. But he urgently needed a battle to test his new products, to show his results.

Seeing Guo Ran and Xia Chen bickering over who was to fight, people were shocked. Some people mocked them, thinking that they were too foolish to not know just how powerful He Changtian was. They seemed to be frogs at the bottom of a well.

As for He Changtian, he was still blazing with killing intent. Long Chen's group of three clearly didn't place him in their eyes. That was a huge insult to him.

"Since you all want to die, fine. All three of you can come at me together! We won't rest until one side is annihilated!" He Changtian coldly pulled his robes off, revealing a set of fiery-red battle armor.

"One of the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire's four national treasures, the Heavenly Ruler Seal Battle Armor!" Yin Ting cried out in shock. She recognized this famous World Domain divine item.

The Heavenly Ruler Seal Battle Armor was a scaled fire-attribute set of divine armor. Every one of its scales had a flame rune carved into it.

Moreover, every flame rune was made with the life flame of one flame attribute divine beast. Hence, when this armor was revealed, flames exploded out along with the roaring of ten thousand beasts. People's hearts quivered.

An uproar then exploded amongst the people. He Changtian was actually challenging all three of them. Just how confident was he?

When this armor appeared, Huo Linger awoke. After transforming into a small flame dragon, she stealthily wrapped herself around Long Chen's neck beneath his collar and stuck her head out.

"Big brother Long Chen, his armor is good. It has many runes that I don't have. I want it. Let me out and I'll devour him," transmitted Huo Linger. She had set her sights on this armor.

Long Chen was speechless. Now even Huo Linger wanted to fight. But seeing Guo Ran and Xia Chen's itchy appearances, how could he fight over this chance with them?

Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen, and a sweet smile gradually appeared on her face. As long as Long Chen was present, there was nothing in this world that she needed to worry about.

It was that way when she encountered Yan Hong last time, and it was the same this time. With Long Chen present, her heart was steady. As for the problem between both empires, she no longer even thought about it. She chose to fully trust Long Chen. As a result, she ended up feeling incomparably relaxed. It felt good to have someone to rely on.

Long Chen, Guo Ran, and Xia Chen looked at each other. All of a sudden, they stuck out their hands, causing everyone to jump. However, when people saw what they were doing, they almost collapsed.

"Rock, paper, scissors!"

## Chapter 3709: Xia Chen vs. He Changtian

“Xia Chen, you little cheater!”

Guo Ran cried out miserably. Xia Chen had actually done rock, while Guo Ran and Long Chen had scissors. So, Xia Chen won in one round.

He had agreed with Guo Ran for their moves beforehand. But he actually lied. In that situation, Xia Chen naturally won.

Xia Chen instantly radiated a lively vigor after winning. His battle will soared. Although he looked like a weak scholar, once he entered his combat state, he was like a tiger coming out of its den. His killing intent instantly covered the world, and the air around him completely changed.

“I, Xia Chen, challenge He Changtian to a battle today. All heroes beneath the heavens will bear witness. Today’s battle will decide who is stronger and who dies. No one may interfere in our battle. He Changtian, if you’re afraid of death, you can still run away at this time. But once we start fighting, there will be no end until one of us is dead. Don’t say that I didn’t warn you.”

Xia Chen stood in the air, looking at He Changtian coldly. Even without a weapon, even without battle armor, just standing there, he gave off the air of a powerful expert. His powerful confidence in particular moved the other experts present.

After all, Long Chen had some reputation, but when it came to Guo Ran and Xia Chen, outside of their respective star-fields, their fame had yet to spread. Thus, people didn’t recognize them. They hadn’t even heard of their names.

Xia Chen and Guo Ran didn’t seem to possess any air of an expert while standing beside Long Chen. That made it easy for others to neglect their existence.

It was only when Xia Chen stepped forward that his powerful aura was revealed, shaking people’s hearts. Only then did they understand that this seemingly weak man was a true expert who had killed his way out of the battlefield.

He Changtian sneered in response to Xia Chen’s challenge. “A nameless soldier is all you are. You dare to challenge this prince? I challenged all three of you together, but you just have to send yourselves to your deaths one by one. Fine, then today I’ll show you what true power is. I’ll show you that the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire can’t be provoked by the likes of you. As for the matters between the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire and the Vermilion Bird Empire, they aren’t things that the likes of you can stick your hands into.”

He Changtian’s words were clearly for everyone to hear. He was saying that the current Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire was no longer the old Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire.

Upon hearing his statement, everyone’s heart shook. The Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire was fully set on establishing their might. Could it be that they really had grown to the point of being able to challenge the Vermilion Bird Empire? Perhaps the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire’s challenge to the Vermilion Bird Empire wasn’t as simple as it appeared on the surface.

"Alright, since you've agreed, let's not waste any more words. All the heavenly geniuses present, give us some face and retreat a bit. I'm not afraid of wounding you. But you might get splattered with some blood," said Xia Chen.

The spectators laughed. Some of them gave him face and retreated. But some extremely conceited people completely ignored him and continued to stand where they were.

Long Chen brought Yu Qingxuan, Guo Ran, and the others back. Yin Ting secretly said, "Senior apprentice-brother Long Chen, this junior brother won't be in danger, right? That hateful He Changtian is a Supreme expert."

"Don't worry about it. No one from my Dragonblood Legion is a weakling," said Guo Ran, taking the initiative before Long Chen even said anything. His eyes suddenly brightened when he looked at Yin Ting. "Oh, miss, you're very beautiful. Do you have a Dao-companion- Aiya!"

"Have some shame!" Long Chen clapped Guo Ran on the back of his head angrily. This fellow didn't have any propriety with his words.

"What are you talking about? Seeing how much she cares about Xia Chen, I was thinking about helping the two of them bond. What's wrong with that?" exclaimed Guo Ran, feeling aggrieved.

"Hehe, I already have someone in my heart," laughed Yin Ting.

"Alright, then you won't have that blessing. What a pity." Guo Ran shrugged helplessly.

Just then, He Changtian waved his hand, and a flame spear appeared in it. In an instant, the temperature of the air shot up. The intense flames caused the world to twist.

"Take out your weapon. Don't say that I didn't give you a chance." He Changtian pointed his spear at Xia Chen.

More and more people appeared in the surroundings. Long Chen saw Ji Wuming and the Nine Underworld Luocho among them, along with many experts with Supreme auras. All of them had powerful auras and gave off immense pressure.

"I have no weapon, nor do I need one. Go ahead and attack. I'd advise you not to waste time with probing blows or hold back your trump cards. Otherwise, your death would be very tragic," said Xia Chen indifferently, clasping his hands behind his back.

These words startled countless people. They were unable to sense any Supreme aura or a powerful Blood Qi from his body. In fact, they couldn't even sense a powerful Spiritual Strength. They had no idea where his confidence came from.

However, that chilling killing intent and the sense of danger he gave off were real. They were unable to understand this.

"Then you can just die!"

He Changtian roared furiously. After that, his manifestation burst into appearance behind him, and endless flames erupted. There was an ancient beast within his manifestation.



This beast roared, shaking the void and turning the sky red. This one roar actually summoned all the flame energy of heaven and earth out. It then rushed toward He Changtian.

“The Heavenly Ruler Seal Wild Lion. So that’s the case! The Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire’s faith symbol is the Heavenly Ruler Seal Wild Lion!” Long Chen came to a sudden understanding.

The Heavenly Ruler Seal Wild Lion was a flame divine beast from ancient times. It had square feet which left footprints that were like a king’s seal. Those footprints could burn for hundreds of years without extinguishing.

However, despite being a flame divine beast, its own flame wasn’t very powerful. This beast relied on devouring other flames to cultivate and strengthen itself. Thus, the Heavenly Ruler Seal Flame was merely ranked sixty-third on the Heavenly Flame Ranking.

Its strong point was its devouring power and the power to merge other flames. Of course, when it came to devouring power, it was a far cry from being able to compare to the Yan Xu Flame.

No matter how the Heavenly Ruler Seal Flame was strengthened, it would never be able to devour the flames in the top ten of the Heavenly Flame Ranking. It was fated that it would never be able to squeeze into the top ten in its entire lifetime.

Despite that, others would not dare to underestimate this flame. When He Changtian’s manifestation appeared, his armor also blazed with light, and countless runes lit up. As every scale let out a bestial roar, violent power erupted.

After that, He Changtian raised his spear and shook the flames of the world, which converged into his spear and then pierced toward Xia Chen. This spear exuded the breathtaking roars of ten thousand beasts!

### **Chapter 3710: Talisman Cultivator’s Divine Might**

He Changtian immediately started off with a full-power attack, not holding back. The violent flame energy caused the world to change color.

Even other Supreme experts were moved. To be able to instantly unleash such power with no warm-up was very difficult.

It had to be known that in any battle between experts, their Blood Qi would need a few circulations to enter a combat-ready state.

Without a warm-up, instantly unleashing their full power would damage their meridians. They would end up injuring themselves without even hurting their enemies.

However, He Changtian instantly entered his peak condition, and his aura was astonishing. This shocked everyone.

Even so, people quickly realized that the reason why He Changtian was capable of doing this was due to his Heavenly Ruler Seal Battle Armor. This battle armor helped him resist any backlash.

His spear pierced out like a dragon, causing huge ripples to appear in the void.

In front of this powerful attack, Xia Chen simply raised his right hand. A golden talisman then appeared in it.

“Ignite.”

Xia Chen’s golden talisman suddenly exploded, forming a golden light that seemed to be liquid. It covered his hand, making it look like it was made out of liquid gold.

BOOM!

In front of everyone’s stunned gazes, Xia Chen’s palm met the spear just like that. A huge explosion then shook the land.

Xia Chen’s left hand was still behind him. Millions of tiny cracks appeared in the space behind him, stretching into the distance like a web.

People then saw flames burst out of Xia Chen’s left hand and follow those cracks. The web instantly became a web of flames.

“He shifted He Changtian’s flame energy?!”

Everyone was shocked. The full-power attack from He Changtian had actually been dealt with like this? Xia Chen wasn’t the slightest bit injured. Burning cracks appeared behind him like blazing divine light.

“A talisman cultivator! He’s a talisman cultivator!”

A startled cry rang out. People finally recognized Xia Chen’s status. When he extended his hand, he was holding a talisman in his left and right hands. Just like that, he easily blocked He Changtian’s attack.

Long Chen smiled. Talisman cultivators were truly mysterious. A tiny talisman actually had the power to twist the laws of heaven and earth to its advantage. Even now, he did not understand the true profundities of this.

BOOM!

At this moment, He Changtian suddenly took advantage of their close range to smash a fist toward Xia Chen’s face. His reaction was very fast. He was actually a close-range fighting expert.

BOOM!

Xia Chen slammed his hands together, and a talisman appeared between his hands. After that, He Changtian’s fist smashed into Xia Chen. Luckily, a shield already manifested on top of Xia Chen’s hands, perfectly blocking He Changtian’s attack.

With another explosive sound, both of them retreated three steps. He Changtian sneered, “You’re just relying on external items. Let’s see just how many talismans you have.”

Xia Chen had lost three talismans just like that. These talismans were all single uses. After they were used, they were simply gone. Although they were powerful enough to block two of the attacks, in the end, they were quickly used up.

“As I am a talisman cultivator, you don’t need to worry about that. You should worry about yourself,” sneered Xia Chen.

Suddenly, he spread his hands and crossed them in front of his chest. Eight talismans appeared between his fingers.

“Eight Ghost Devil Exorcism!”

Those eight talismans exploded at the same time, and a translucent lifeform shot out of every single one of them. They were like human skulls with long tails charging toward He Changtian with a peal of strange laughter.

That strange laughter gave everyone chills. That was like the sound of devils demanding lives. It instinctively terrified people.

Most terrifying of all was that this sound directly pierced their souls. There was no defending it. Everyone’s expression changed.

“A soul energy attack?!”

A startled cry rang out. This was a specific kind of energy, soul energy, a mix between Spiritual Strength and mental energy. Others couldn’t defend against it.

“You dare to bring out such an insignificant trick?”

He Changtian sneered in the face of those eight bizarre lifeforms. The Heavenly Ruler Seal Wild Lion then roared within his manifestation.

After that, a ring of fire spread out of his manifestation, instantly devouring those eight lifeforms.

When the ring of fire touched those lifeforms, those lifeforms instantly exploded. However, just as they exploded, He Changtian coughed up blood.

The space between his eyebrows split apart, and blood poured out of it. It was as if something had exploded in his head, almost blowing it up.

When those lifeforms exploded, countless experts screamed and clutched their heads in pain.

“A Ghost Dao art?! Detonating the soul?!”

Shocked cries rang out. Legend had it that only the Ghost Dao had the ability to affect a person’s soul without a god or ghost being the wiser. The Ghost Dao was capable of taking control of people without them being aware of it. This situation was a bit similar to a so-called ‘being possessed by a ghost’ in the mortal world.

Even in the immortal world, the Ghost Dao was unfathomable. It was full of unknowns that terrified people.

The reason why people were able to link this technique to the Ghost Dao was because of what Xia Chen had just shouted, Eight Ghosts Devil Exorcism. On top of that, only the Ghost Dao would have such a bizarrely terrifying attack method.

This attack didn't just affect He Changtian. The experts with weaker Spiritual Strength also felt like their heads would split apart. It was like their souls were trying to escape the coils of their physical bodies.

Even Long Chen jumped in shock. Was this a technique that Xia Chen had just developed? Or was it something that he had long since had up his sleeve but never exposed?

"All you know are sinister tricks! Despicable fellow, don't think these little tricks can harm me!" He Changtian raised his head and roared. After that, a wave of flame energy exploded out of him, and the world became a sea of flames.

"He Changtian has activated his flame domain!"

Summoning this domain showed that he was truly going all-out. It could not be dealt with easily. In this domain, He Changtian was the ruler.

BOOM!

Flame wings appeared on He Changtian's back. He then appeared in front of Xia Chen in an instant as if he had just teleported. His spear stabbed toward Xia Chen.

However, what shocked everyone was that this incredibly fast spear missed. Frightened cries then came from the Heavenly Ruler Seal Empire's people. Xia Chen had appeared behind He Changtian at some point.

When his spear missed, He Changtian also felt something wrong. He suddenly stepped back and swung his spear above his head, arching his back. His spear then shot toward Xia Chen in a shocking arc. The tip reached Xia Chen's face in an instant.

This was not a profound technique, but his quick reaction, the angle of his attack, and his accurate judgment all showed that He Changtian had immense combat experience. Furthermore, he had unleashed such a strange attack easily and gracefully. He truly was an expert.

However, his spear once more missed as Xia Chen's figure had vanished.

All of a sudden, Xia Chen reappeared above He Changtian's head and stamped his foot down.