

## The Gods 1951

### Chapter 1951 - To The Death

Cang Shuhe was no ordinary person. It only took her a moment to smooth out the wrinkles of her mind and regain control of her emotions once more. She responded in a calm and peaceful voice, "Brother, the master control of the Deep Sea Divine Pearl has always been in your hands. If you want it, you can just take it yourself, can't you?"

Although Cang Shuhe was the Deep Sea God Emperor and the current holder of the Deep Sea Divine Pearl, the "holding" part was more literal than most people would think.

In Cang Shuhe's opinion, she did not have the right to become the master of the Deep Sea Divine Pearl because her Deep Sea divine power was something Yun Che had forced upon her using the laws of nothingness.

Although Cang Shitian wasn't the Deep Sea God Emperor anymore, he was the man with the greatest Deep Sea divine power in his veins, the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm's greatest protector, and her most trusted brother.

Add to the fact that she was pretty much a half-puppet when she initially ascended to the throne, it made sense that entrusting the master control of the divine artifact to Cang Shitian would be a better choice than keeping it to herself.

From the start, Cang Shitian had always been the man holding the Deep Sea Realm's lifeline in his hands even though he had supposedly retired from his position and passed on everything to his successor, Cang Shuhe.

Cang Shitian smiled, the bloodstains and bluish black bruises on his face giving him a most frightening countenance. "You are my dearest sister. I can never subject you to my power unless I have... no other choice."

Cang Shuhe: "..."

He casually curled his fingers before continuing, "Shuhe, you've always been a kind and gentle sister. I'm sure you won't put me in a tight spot."

"You should know the Deep Sea Realm's situation right now very well. I am highly valued by the Venerable One right now, meaning that the best way to protect the Deep Sea Realm is to put everything back into my hands. You must understand this, right?"

At the back, the Sea Gods looked like they wanted to say something. In the end though, they chose to do nothing at all.

"Miss," it was at this moment Rui Yi whispered, "Just give it to him. It's not like turning him down... is going to help matters one bit."

One breath... Two breaths... three breaths...

Four whole breaths of silence later, a ray of pure blue and rippling water landed on Cang Shuhe's beautiful palm.

She made a pushing motion, and the Deep Sea Divine Pearl gently floated into Cang Shitian's outstretched hand.

The divine artifact immediately shone a deeper, richer blue the second he caught it in his grasp.

Cang Shitian lifted the Deep Sea Divine Pearl to eye level. The smooth, glowing surface of the pearl reflected his bloody face.

His face split into a wide smile, causing the reflection in the Deep Sea Divine Pearl to look uglier and more loathsome.

This is who I am...

This is Cang Shitian!

The pearl's light vanished as Cang Shitian put it away. Without saying another word to Cang Shuhe or glancing at his former subjects even once, he turned around and prepared to leave.

"Brother," Cang Shuhe suddenly called out to him.

"Hmm?" Cang Shitian paused in his tracks but didn't look back.

Cang Shuhe's gaze bore into her brother's back for a while before she closed her eyes. She then whispered, "There are many ways of survival in this world, and I do not believe there is such a thing as a wrong way to survive."

"That is why you must always take care of yourself and keep yourself safe, no matter what happens in the future."

Her voice was soft and gentle like a small ripple across still water. It traveled straight into the soul.

It was impossible to pin down the emotions behind those words, but... there was no anger, blame, or disappointment at the very least.

"..." Cang Shitian's neck twitched as if he wanted to look back at her.

In the end though, he merely responded with a seemingly careless "mm" before rising into the air and standing next to Qi Tianli once more.

The Deep Sea Barrier that kept Yun Wuxin locked up had also flown to his back.

Clearly, he didn't feel comfortable leaving such an important hostage in anyone else's hands.

It was at this moment Qi Tianli looked up.

"It is time."

His voice was as heavy as the morning gong. It caused countless nervous hearts to clench abruptly.

The ceremony that would decide the fate of countless star realms and lives was kicked off just like that.

The atmosphere was already oppressive to begin with, but now it was positively suffocating. Every inch of space in the God Realm of Absolute Beginning felt like it had been locked down by soul-piercing cold.

Qi Tianli took two steps to the front and exhaled soundlessly. He then began in a solemn voice, "You're already aware of this, but a new ruler is soon to descend upon our world. His sacred title is the Abyssal Monarch, and he hails from the powerful land known as the Abyss."

"It is our fate to be subsumed by them, but that is not a bad thing. It simply means that a higher plane and greater ruler will guide us toward a completely different destiny."

"The Venerable One is a pioneer who hails from the Abyss and receives orders from the Abyssal Monarch himself. As an Abyssal Knight, he wields a transcendent amount of power and a noble soul. The Abyssal Monarch himself is a merciful and compassionate ruler who is not unlike the Gods of the Nine Heavens. The Abyss has enjoyed ten thousand lifetimes of peace under his rule, and I have no doubt that he will lead us to a bright future we could never dream of as well."

Qi Tianli's deep, tired eyes swept across the ex-sovereigns of the God Realm as his voice grew heavier,

"To submit to the dominion of the Abyss, or to cling to your existing determination. That is the choice you will be making today."

"I do not believe it will be an overly difficult choice though. When met with a tidal wave that could crush everything, the only way to survive is to swim with it. Only then will you learn if you are headed toward a deadly whirlpool... or a whole new world down the line."

"I should not need to tell you that attempting to defy the wave is going to result in immediate, crushing death."

In his way, Qi Tianli was doing his best to persuade the masses from struggling futilely against the unstoppable. However, Mo Beichen let out a cold hmph that silenced Qi Tianli immediately.

"Enough. I will not listen to more pointless talking." The voice of judgment thundered through everyone's souls. "Those who submit to the Abyss will live, and those foolish enough to resist will die!"

Mo Beichen abruptly lowered his gaze and stomped on everyone's heart and soul with his terrifying aura. "I'm granting you all the chance to surrender to the Abyss and serve, and if you're too stupid to accept it, then feel free to resist all you want! Personally, I'm curious to know exactly how many fools exist in this lowly world!"

Qi Tianli waited until Mo Beichen was finished before bowing respectfully. "We are beyond words at the Venerable One's benevolence. In that case, let us kick off the ceremony immediately starting with the Western Divine Region."

He immediately descended in front of the Qilin Realm's formation. His plan was to become the first to declare his realm's surrender to the Abyss and eternal loyalty to the Abyssal Monarch. Once the ceremony was over, he would continue the efforts to unite the God Realm's will while preparing for the Abyssal Monarch's welcoming ceremony. However...

“No.” A single word stopped Qi Tianli dead in his tracks as Mo Beichen slowly shifted his gaze to the north. “We will start with the Northern Divine Region first. I’m sure it’ll be a lot more interesting this way.”

“...” Dead silence hung in the air for a time. Even Qi Tianli had frozen in indecision.

The Northern Divine Region was the smallest group of them all, but their presence was easily the chilliest.

On the rare occasion they met someone’s eyes, the glitter behind their pupils could only be described as spine-chilling.

This was despite the fact they were pressured by the Half-God’s aura.

It was clear what they were planning from the very beginning. Every single Northern Divine Region faction that had shown up today—the three king realms included—were brimming with barely restrained mania. They had come here not to surrender to the Abyss, but to die.

The other three divine regions could not understand their decision, and they never would. They had not been in the Northern Divine Region. They had not been trapped in darkness for seeming eternity, had not fought alongside the Devil Master as he returned them to the light. That was why they could never understand the Northern Divine Region’s loyalty toward Yun Che.

“Yes,” Qi Tianli finally broke the silence, “as you command, Venerable One.”

The old Qilin turned around to look the northern region profound practitioners in the eye and began in the most amicable voice he could muster, “Emperor Yun and the Devil Queen both fled after they were defeated by the Venerable One. They’re still alive, but I doubt they’ll ever see the light of day again. What this means is that a new option has opened up to you. This option concerns not just your own lives, but also the future of the Northern Divine Region. So please...”

“‘New option’?”

A frigid voice rudely interrupted Qi Tianli. Yan Wu looked up as her pitch black air slowly floated amidst gloomy darkness. “The Northern Divine Region has only one master, and he is the Devil Master, Yun Che! Our will and thought will last forever!”

“The Abyss? Mo Beichen? You think the likes of you deserve our loyalty!?”

Her words were overflowing with coldness, ruthlessness, and no fear.

The profound practitioners of the other three divine regions let out soundless sighs in that moment.

Those who surrender will live, and those who resist will die.

This meant that Yan Wu had just sentenced herself to death with that declaration.

In this world, there was nothing more foolish than pointless suicide.

If there was even the slightest hope that they could turn this around, they would’ve been moved by their decision to fight to the death. However...

Mo Beichen was a beast of endless night. There wasn't even a speck of a star to be found in the sky. To resist was to commit suicide, and there just wasn't any wisdom to be found in that decision whatsoever.

The devils of the Yama Realm moved into position before Yan Wu was even done speaking. Now that all pretenses had been dropped, there was no need to suppress the battle spirit anymore.

They knew that this would be the last time the pride of the Yama Devils would shine in this world.

Mo Beichen did not move a muscle, and his expression remained the same as ever. The only thing that changed was his eyes tinting slightly with pity and mockery.

It was like he was watching a bunch of pitiful larvae screaming their pathetic pride about.

It was exactly what Qi Tianli had expected to happen, but his chest still felt so constricted that he could barely breathe. As if afraid to meet Yan Wu's eyes, Qi Tianli shifted his gaze to the Soul Stealing Realm and Burning Moon Realm before asking with a sigh, "Soul Stealing and Burning Moon... what about you two?"

"Heh." Fen Daoqi barked out a laugh before speaking with a voice that sounded as calm as a soft wind, "I do not need to tell you what the Northern Divine Region has suffered for the past million years or so."

"It is the Devil Master who broke us out of our cage and gave us back our freedom. It is the Devil Master who turned us from caged animals who could do nothing more but lie in black mud into men who stood proudly beneath the heavens!"

"Our freedom may have lasted only for a scant few years," dark energy coursed through Fen Daoqi's veins as his eyes glowed like demonic moons, "but it is enough for us to repay the favor with ten thousand deaths!"

"Ten thousand deaths for the Devil Master!" The Moon Eaters roared behind him.

Back then, it was they who accompanied Yun Che when the young man had launched a massacre against the Eternal Heaven Realm. It was where the Northern Divine Region had begun their trampling of the Eastern Divine Region and later on, the entire God Realm, and it was a supreme honor they would remember with their body, heart and soul for eternity.

No one was allowed to tarnish their pride! No one!

Chiang!

Jie Xin and Jie Ling unsheathed their swords and pointed toward the sky. The Nine Witches' auras and wills became one in that moment.

"The Soul Stealing Realm would rather fight to the last man than kneel to another!"

Mo Beichen's eyes shifted, but he wasn't looking at the Northern Divine Region. His gaze became locked at a seemingly random spot to the east as a faint, mysterious smile passed through his lips.

"Ai." The Qilin Emperor let out a deep sigh. "As you say, it took a million years for the Northern Divine Region to be reborn. Are you really... okay with losing it all like this?"

“You made your choice, and we made ours,” Fen Daoqi replied coldly, “It’s clear you do not share our ways, so let’s not waste anymore breath on pointless talk, shall we?”

“If the Abyss wishes to lord over our Northern Divine Region, then they must step over our devilish blood first!”

Qi Tianli slowly closed his eyes. “In that case, this old one has nothing else to say.”

After he reopened his eyes, he shifted his gaze farther back and asked, “Realm kings of the Northern Divine Region, what about—”

“Cut the bullcrap already you spineless old Qilin!”

A Divine Master cut him off with a rude curse before continuing, “The three king realms’ will is our will. Our devilish blood may run dry, but we will never betray the Devil Master!”

Qi Tianli didn’t get angry despite the rude rebuke. He sighed again and tried to say something, but he was interrupted again by a devilish voice that seemed to come from the depths of his soul, “You will not abandon the Devil Master, but the Devil Master has already abandoned you.”

Her voice pierced the soul long before she made an appearance. There was only one person in the entire world who possessed such a voice.

Chi Wuyao!

The Devil Queen appeared before everyone’s eyes in the next moment.

“Devil... Queen!?”

Her appearance caused every northern region profound practitioner to blanch in horror.

She should be escaping with Yun Che right now. Why had she shown up in this place?

And what was that she said just now?

Chi Wuyao looked down on the Divine Masters, and most of them avoided looking her in the eye. Although Mo Beichen was right there, the Devil Queen had ruled the four divine regions for a number of years.

She also wasn’t alone. Mu Xuanyin, Qianye Ying’er and Caizhi were all present.

“God Emperor!” The Brahma Kings of the Brahma Monarch Realm exclaimed in horror when they saw Qianye Ying’er. However, the woman merely ignored their cries and glared at Mo Beichen like she could skewer him with her gaze alone.

“Hehehehe.” Mo Beichen let out an amused chuckle before asking curiously, “I assume you’ve come to a decision since you’ve chosen to show yourself to me. Have you learned the folly of your actions, or... have you decided to show off your stupidity even more?”

Anxiety and restlessness spread across the God Realm of Absolute Beginning like wildfire. The Devil Queen, Mu Xuanyin, Qianye Ying’er, Caizhi... it would not be an exaggeration to say that they were the

most important people in Yun Che's life. What on earth were they doing here when Yun Che himself was absent?

Chi Wuyao turned toward Mo Beichen. She was going to say something when Yan Wu interrupted her with a trembling voice, "What did you say just now... Devil Queen?"

Chi Wuyao looked back at her and attempted to repeat herself in the coldest, most indifferent tone she could muster, "The Devil Master has already abandoned you."

"But what... does that mean?" Yan Wu subconsciously shook her head and asked stupidly.

"It's exactly what it sounds like," Chi Wuyao replied. "The sky is falling, and his choice is to hide where the sky cannot reach him for now. This world no longer has anything to do with him, and that includes all of you."

"In other words, the Devil Master is no longer with you, so the belief you're clinging to is completely pointless."

She looked back at Mo Beichen after she was finished. Devilish light danced along the hems of her black skirt as she spoke in an equally devilish voice, "Those who surrender will live, and those who resist will die. That was your promise to this world."

"These northern region profound practitioners may have been very callous with their words, but they have not yet been able to put their disobedience into action. If they change their minds now and surrender to the Abyss, I'm sure you will accept them with open arms, right?"

"After all..." A charming half-smile crossed her lips to match her seductive voice. "You are a self-proclaimed noble knight of the Abyss and the only pioneer left to carry out your lord and master's will. I am sure you won't break your own promise and sully your noble title, right?"

Mo Beichen half-raised his hand and withdrew his fingers bit by bit. "Are you trying to tell me what to do?"

"Devil Queen!"

Yan Wu's voice cut through the air once more, but the tremor and disbelief had been replaced by ruthless determination once more. "I know what you're trying to do..."

In fact, everyone did the instant the Devil Queen had given her response.

She was trying to save the Northern Divine Region and stop them from committing suicide.

But...

"Not this time!" Yan Wu declared while staring the Devil Queen dead in the eye. This was the first time she had looked at the Devil Queen with such firm eyes. "We will not obey your orders this time!"

"We all understand your pain, Devil Queen." Fen Daoqi also spoke up in an amicable voice. "Burning Moon has always carried out the Devil Master and Devil Queen's orders like the mandate of heaven, but just this once... we stand together with the Yama Devils in our defiance."

“... Ai.” Chi Wuyao sighed. She did not seem overly surprised by their response. “If we live, we may yet have a future to look forward to. It has to be better than dying a pointless death.”

“But it won’t be pointless. Even if we are ground to dust, even if we are unable to harm a hair on the enemy, it won’t be a pointless death.”

Fen Daoqi’s smile was fearless and free of regret even though death was so close he could practically touch it. “The God Realm was struck by a foreign threat just three years after it came under the Devil Master’s rule.”

“The people he charged, trusted, forgave, ruled...” Fen Daoqi’s gaze slowly swept across Qi Tianli, Cang Shitian, and the God Emperors and Divine masters who were unconsciously avoiding his eyes. “They have all betrayed him and left for greener pastures one after another.”

“If even we bend our knees and bow our heads to the enemy, then the future will surely remember Emperor Yun’s reign as a ‘pitiful’ and ‘pathetic’ one.”

Hot, unshakeable determination melted into Fen Daoqi’s words as he uttered, “If the Devil Master’s era is destined to come to an end, then we shall drench the final curtains with our blood at the very least!”

“...” His voice wasn’t loud, but each and every word pounded against the soul like a hammer. There wasn’t a single profound practitioner present who wasn’t touched by this.

They weren’t choosing to die in vain. They were sacrificing their lives and power to defend Emperor Yun’s—the Devil Master’s final dignity.

It was not a belief they could understand, nor a loyalty they might ever receive for eternity.

Chiang!

Yan Wu pointed her Yama spear toward the sky, the savage image of a Yama Devil already floating behind her. “My late father perished in the Deep Sea to secure the rebirth of the Northern Divine Region, and my ancestors returned to eternal dust to protect the Devil Master. How could I ever face them beneath the nine springs if I, daughter of the Yama Devil, abandon the Devil Master at his most desperate!?”

There was a powerful blast of devilish light, and the next thing they knew, every Yama Devil had manifested their images. Their combined power immediately dyed a great portion of this eternally gray land in black.

Every single one of them wore fearless determination on their faces.

Countless people exchanged chaotic glances with each other. The Divine Masters of the three divine regions had never been so shocked and conflicted until now.

“Aiya.” Qianye Ying’er let out a quiet sigh. “I wish he could have seen this with his own eyes.”

The devilish aura behind Chi Wuyao’s back continued to sway slowly, but her lips had already curled into a smile that could faint worlds.

“Never have I been prouder to be born in the once darkest Northern Divine Region than this moment.”



A ribbon appeared out of nowhere and wrapped around her silky arm. Back against the wall, she finally unleashed her devilish powers in full.

“Children of darkness, let us fight side by side one last time.”

“We fight this battle not for the Northern Divine Region, not for our clans, but solely for the Devil Master!”

### **Chapter 1952 - Arrival of the Emperor**

A dark storm began sweeping through fearlessly. The will and the devilish blood of the dark profound practitioners were fully ignited.

From the beginning, Chi Wuyao knew that her chances of changing her people’s mind was less than ten percent.

She had come to this place with only one thought in mind, and that was to stand together with them no matter what their decision might be.

Dark energy flashed all around Chi Wuyao. The Nine Witches appeared around their master like nine black stars adorning the grayish skies of beginning above their heads.

“Mo Beichen, there isn’t nearly enough blood on your hands to claim total domination of the God Realm, and we are but one small fragment of the will to resist of this world.”

“When the time comes, there is a not insignificant chance your so-called benevolent and compassionate Abyssal Monarch won't find a tranquil, entirely subjugated cosmos, but one that's filled with blood and smoke. I wonder what kind of expression he will wear then?”

“Hehehe, hahahaha!”

Mo Beichen burst out in laughter for the first time of the day.

It was just a normal laugh, but it caused countless people to cover up their ears with their hands, and their hearts to clench and unclench like crazy.

“What a great monkey show!” Mo Beichen praised with his arms half-raised—he was a hair's breadth away from giving them a slow clap. “I have to say, this ceremony would’ve been most boring without you all.”

After he said that, he casually turned toward the northern region forces and unleashed his aura.

Unleashing one’s power was the simplest action a profound practitioner could learn in their journey to the top, but this universe was in no way ready to withstand even such a simple action from Mo Beichen.

Heaven and earth sank a few centimeters in an instant, and a slight tremor coursed through the oppressed space.

Then, the world itself began to groan ominously.

It was as if the very world was clinging to their bodies and shaking in abject fear. There was no one whose blood flow and breathing weren't cut short by the display of power.

It was a terrifying pressure that easily crushed the common sense of the denizens of this universe. They were Divine Masters, and yet every cell, every ounce of power in their bodies felt like they were being crushed by ten thousand mountains.

Some dropped to their knees and shivered on the spot.

The blazing, tumbling storm of darkness was easily overwhelmed by the aura, and every northern region profound practitioner stiffened to varying degrees. However, the devilish flame in their eyes hadn't weakened in the slightest.

Chi Wuyao continued to stand proud and tall despite the impossible weight bearing down on her. Not only did she refuse to give an inch, she shot Mo Beichen a smile of astonishment and ridicule before saying, "Mo Beichen, you're not... planning to take us out yourself, are you?"

Mo Beichen: "..."

"You're a self-proclaimed noble knight of the Abyss, and you've just recruited a bunch of loyal dogs. However, you're going to fight us yourself even though we're just a bunch of 'lowly' beings from a lower plane?"

"Who is the master here, you or your dogs?"

The Devil Queen's voice was somehow soft, pleading, and soul-piercing all at once. "You're not aiming to become the first pioneer of the Abyss and the biggest laughing stock among the Abyssal Knights, are you?"

As an Abyssal Knight, the words of this world were equivalent to the chirping of ants. There was nothing that a resident of the Primal Chaos could say that could affect his knightly soul even a little.

Even the show of loyalty that shook the three divine regions was nothing but a comedy to his eyes. However, his aura froze visibly after he heard Chi Wuyao's taunt.

To an Abyssal Knight, their honor was a weakness that could not be impugned no matter what.

Seven thousand people had chosen to submit, and less than a thousand had chosen rebellion.

This meant that his side—relatively speaking, since none of them truly deserved to stand with him except Huo Poyun—outnumbered the rebels seven to one, and here he was *deigning* to deal with a bunch of Divine Masters and Divine Sovereigns himself. When the Abyss officially took over this world, it was possible that his enemies might use this to sully his honor. He might even become a laughingstock exactly as that lowly woman said.

Even Abyssal Knights fought and schemed against one another after all.

Mo Beichen glared at Chi Wuyao for a moment. He knew exactly what she was planning, but he still withdrew his aura in spite of that.

"Well said," he responded indifferently, "your filthy, devilish blood does not deserve to stain my hands."

Yes, he was playing into the hands of a lowly being's scheme. Yes, the people who surrendered to him were going to suffer a significant amount of casualties... but so what? A billion people from this world could die, and they still wouldn't be worth even a fragment of his knight's honor.

For a second, Qi Tianli could not process what he was hearing. Then, his face stiffened like dried fish.

Every Eastern, Southern and Western Divine Region profound practitioner visibly blanched at his declaration as well.

The Devil Queen had obviously come here with the intention of dying for her cause. However, they never imagined that she was planning to take them to the grave with her!

All the terrifying memories they had unconsciously repressed after the Devil Queen became their ruler abruptly rose to the surface. It was like the demons shackled inside their souls had broken free from their seals. They suddenly remembered why they didn't want her as an enemy.

The Devil Queen wasn't even their only opponent.

The Snow Song God Emperor who stood at the pinnacle of the profound way and was second only to Emperor Yun in the entire universe, Mu Xuanyin.

The thirty-year-old Heavenly Wolf who killed six Eternal Heaven Guardians in a single sword strike, Caizhi.

The Brahma Monarch God Emperor whose veins ran with the devilish blood of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor and could easily convince the Brahma Kings to turn against them at any moment, Qianye Ying'er... And of course, the dark profound practitioners who were already looking at them like they were dead!

When the Northern Divine Region invaded, that these people had already fought like death was but a fleeting concept to them. To this day, they could not remember those days without feeling a profound sense of fear in their veins. Moreover, the commendation ceremony had not taken place yet. There was a chance—a very high chance, in fact—that the three divine regions weren't united in their cause.

The Brahma Monarch Realm and Glazed Light Realm of the Eastern Divine Region were obvious examples... The Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm of the Southern Divine Region was a potential threat as well...

Meanwhile, every northern region profound practitioner was suddenly brimming with bloodlust.

We can take these people to the grave with us? How wonderful!

This means we'll be able to adorn Emperor Yun's final curtains not just with our blood, but these betrayers' gore!

Qi Tianli turned around in panic, "Ve... Venerable One..."

The Qilin God Emperor could not even control the tremor in his voice. It showed just how panicked he was right now.

Before he could say anything though, a dark, heavy gaze shot down from above and killed his voice instantly.

“You’re not going to tell me that you’re all just a bunch of useless cowards, are you?”

Qi Tianli’s outward display of fear not only earned Mo Beichen’s scorn, but also wiped away whatever acknowledgement he had had toward the Old Qilin up until his point.

Qi Tianli’s back became drenched in sweat instantly. He blurted out in a hurry, “N-no! This old one isn’t planning to say that at all! It’s just... it’s just...”

In the end though, the Devil Queen just wasn’t as scary as Mo Beichen.

After gritting his teeth and doing his best to regain control of his senses, he declared swiftly, “Do not worry, Venerable One. We have chosen to submit to the Abyss, so of course we will do our best to serve it.”

“As you decreed, these rebels do not deserve your personal judgment. We shall seal our loyalty to the Abyss with the use of our lives and the blood of the rebels!”

After he said that, Qi Tianli moved to the back, blurred, and reappeared in front of Chi Wuyao.

There was no one in the God Realm besides Yun Che who truly dared to stare Chi Wuyao in the eye.

Qi Tianli didn’t have a choice though. His expression was severe, but his gaze was traveling everywhere but the woman’s eyes.

“Devil Queen,” Qi Tianli began. He was doing his best to control his voice, but it was still tinged with deep sorrow. “It was a matter of survival. We had no other choice. Know that there is no one in this world who would go against you if they had any other choice.”

Chi Wuyao looked up and stared at the stifled yet pure sky above her head for a moment.

It was because it would be dyed in sorrowful red until the end of its life in the next moment.

“There is nothing wrong with bending one’s knees to survive.”

Chi Wuyao raised her arm slightly, and her ribbon immediately danced all around her body. It left pitch black scars along the path it traveled. “But if you think you can get away with betrayal... then you’re sorely mistaken!”

The fury behind the Devil Queen’s voice was such that Qi Tianli felt as if the words were physically searing his soul.

At this point, the air of the God Realm of Absolute Beginning had gone completely crazy. No matter how saddened and reluctant the profound practitioners of the three divine regions were, they had no choice but to fight what would be a most terrible war.

While everyone was gearing up for battle, the source of this calamity, Mo Beichen, was watching from above like he was enjoying a most interesting drama.

This was what the ancients meant when they made the saying, “tigers toy with the mice.”

“Stay here, Poyun,” Mo Beichen said to Huo Poyun with his soul voice, “We shall enjoy this game of weaklings together.”

“Keep in mind to not spend an extended period of time in a weaklings' world if you do not want to suffer such a tragic fate.”

His instructions were simple, but it showed just how much he valued Huo Poyun.

“Yes,” Huo Poyun replied simply.

Chi Wuyao's fully unleashed Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul had transformed her eyes into a pair of infinite, devilish abysses that could devour everything. The devilish energy running along her ribbon had also become as thick as lightning bolts.

She alone posed an incredible amount of pressure to the Divine Masters of the three divine regions.

Her aura was tied to the auras of the other dark profound practitioners. The moment she brought down her ribbon was the moment the bloody war began.

Right before she could fling her ribbon at Qi Tianli though, her hand suddenly froze in mid-movement, and her pupils suddenly shook like wobbly vortices.

Mo Beichen narrowed his eyes a bit.

Mu Xuanyin, Qianye Ying'er and Caizhi's bursting auras came to a standstill as well.

Qi Tianli, Cang Shitian, Huo Poyun and more... everyone's expression was changing in varying ways. Everyone's gaze was attracted to a single point in the distant east as if it was pulled by an irresistible force.

Time itself seemed to have frozen unnaturally in that moment.

It was because the new presence they were sensing...

Belonged to none other than Emperor Yun himself!

“Devil... Master?”

Yan Wu, Fen Daoqi and every northern region profound practitioner turned slack-jawed as they stared toward the east.

Not only did his presence fail to excite or motivate them in the slightest, fear and panic were swelling inside their hearts like never before.

They didn't fear death, but that didn't mean they didn't fear anything. To them, there was no greater surprise—or more accurately, nightmare—than this.

“...” Chi Wuyao let out a quiet sigh.

Shred~~

There was a crimson flash, a faint noise.

And the next thing she knew, two people were standing right next to her.

Yun Che, Shui Meiyin.

Yun Che was dressed in plain clothes today. His long hair was draped carelessly across his shoulders, and his body seemed completely free of injuries. His eyes were pits of utter calmness, and floating above his palm was a pearl that emanated many divine powers. Eighteen Southern Sea divine origins swam quietly inside the divine artifact.

Shui Meiyin was clinging to his arm like an accessory. The World Piercer's light was weaker than ever before, but the young woman refused to let it fade just in case a situation where its power was needed arose.

"Devil Master..."

"Devil Master!"

"Yun... Che?"

"Emperor... Yun..."

Cries filled with all kinds of emotions cut through the sky. There was no one who wasn't affected by his appearance.

It had only been sixteen days since Mo Beichen had set foot in this world, and yet the profound practitioners of the God Realm felt as if they hadn't seen Yun Che in a lifetime.

"..." Qi Tianli's gaze flickered, and his mouth twitched uncontrollably at the sight of the young man. Forget speaking, he could barely keep his former liege within his sight.

Further back, something in Cang Shitian's pupils crumbled and gave way to the madness within. It was like a sun beam cutting through an entire realm, like a hot knife through butter.

He was also the first person to give Yun Che a proper greeting. Relatively speaking.

"Hehehe, hahahaha... WELCOME TO THE COMMENDATION CEREMONY, EMPEROR YUN!"

He laughed and laughed like a complete madman. "I WAS THIS CLOSE TO THINKING THAT THE MIGHTY EMPEROR WHO FLATTENED THE GOD REALM BENEATH HIS BOOTS HAD BECOME A COWARDLY TURTLE!"

His voice was epileptic and piercing. He roared and taunted his former liege without any fear or shame whatsoever.

Yun Che didn't spare the seemingly crazed man even a single glance. From the start, his gaze had been centered on Mo Beichen and Mo Beichen alone. His perception swept across the imprisoned Yun Wuxin, swept across the Devil Queen, Yan Wu, everyone.

The Southern Sea Divine Pearl started flashing erratically in his palm. It looked like it was close to exceeding a certain threshold.

"Why did you come here?"

Qianye Ying'er was the first person to reach Yun Che and gripped his arm with a cold hand. Her fingers tightened unconsciously despite her best efforts to control herself.

Yun Che smiled a little. "Did you really think I was going to abandon you all and survive by myself for some false hope?"

"I don't mind visiting big sis with you." Caizhi was a lot calmer than Qianye Ying'er. She simply shot him a gentle smile and said, "This way, none of us will be left alone..."

Mu Xuanyin looked down in disappointment. "If only you hadn't woken up so quickly..."

If all was already lost when he woke up, then Yun Che would most likely have followed the script they had laid out for him. He would've concealed himself and survived to take revenge in the future.

Unfortunately...

"You've done enough for me."

He said not just to them, but the entire Northern Divine Region.

"So leave the rest to me."

"Devil Queen," Yun Che's voice abruptly darkened, "Take everyone as far away from here as possible."

"Yes."

She did not hesitate or waste her breath on pointless words. She immediately unleashed her gathered energy, grabbed the Nine Witches, and shot toward the distance at high speed. "All units, pull back!"

"But..." Yan Wu was still staring at Yun Che with infinite worry and fear.

"The Devil Master's order is law!" The voice of the Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul crushed all hesitation in their souls to dust.

"... yes!"

The northern region profound practitioners departed the scene a moment later.

Shui Meiyin had been pulled away from Yun Che as well.

Mo Beichen did not try to stop them. It was because their lives' worth could be multiplied a hundred times, and they still wouldn't be worth a single hair on Yun Che's body.

The Heretic God, the Devil Emperor, the World Piercer, the Sky Poison Pearl...

Since the young man had so kindly delivered himself to his doorstep, the least he could do was to be a good, unrelenting host.

As for the profound practitioners of the other three divine regions, they weren't planning to fight anyone to begin with. Of course they weren't going to stand in the way of this duel.

Yun Che grasped the Southern Sea Divine Pearl as it landed in his palm. The divine origins inside the artifact immediately darted left and right like startled fish.

Yun Che looked Mo Beichen in the eye for the second time, but there was neither wariness nor shock in his eyes anymore.

“My name is Yun Che, and I am the emperor of this world.”

He declared slowly and imposingly, “Mo Beichen, for the crime of transgressing my rule, your sentence is death!”

Emperor Yun’s heavenly might was supreme. There was no one in the Primal Chaos who dared to defy it. However, his opponent was an Abyssal Knight. To their ears, his declaration sounded powerless at best.

“Heh.” Mo Beichen snorted through his nose. During this time, he had already sealed off all possible avenues of retreat with his divine perception. “You think you have the power to do anything against me?”

The golden light grew stronger right as he finished his sentence. The next second, all eighteen Southern Sea divine origins broke out of the Southern Sea Divine Pearl and entered Yun Che’s body.

### **Chapter 1953 - Maximum God Ash**

The eighteen Southern Sea divine origins—each one a priceless treasure that could’ve been used to nurture powerful Sea Gods and Sea Kings—shone like eighteen supernovas before entering Yun Che’s body.

Chi Wuyao and the others had evacuated the battlefield at top speed, but they weren’t so far away that they couldn’t see the battle.

Her pupils contracted into the points of needles as eighteen golden stars became reflected in her eyes.

“Eighteen...” She whispered to herself. Even for a mind like hers, she couldn’t help but fall into a daze.

Just sixteen days ago, he could only control four Southern Sea divine origins at most. How in the...?

Shui Meiyin helpfully supplied the answer, “He spent a month training in the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm with the hopes of controlling at least ten divine origins by the end of the month. However, he himself had underestimated the latent changes in his body the past few years.”

“By the time we left the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm, he was able to control all eighteen Southern Sea divine origins simultaneously.”

“According to him, he should be able to maintain his power for over thirty breaths now.”

“Thirty breaths...” The revelation did not soothe Chi Wuyao in the slightest, however. “So what? Even if he could maintain that form for ten times longer, there’s still...”

Chi Wuyao’s worry was spot on. Even if Yun Che could sustain God Ash for a hundred times longer than the expected thirty breaths, he still wouldn’t be able to finish off a Half-God in that time.

“Big brother Yun Che knows what he’s doing.” Shui Meiyin’s voice flowed through everyone’s minds like the purest spring as she stared at that distant back. “I’m sure he will create a miracle just like all the other times.”



“And on the off chance he doesn’t... then it is our duty to witness his final light.”

Sixteen days ago, Mo Beichen had perceived Yun Che’s Half-God aura from a distance.

If he hadn’t figured out what the divine origins did for Yun Che before, he was definitely going to find out now.

That was why Yun Che gave Mo Beichen no chance to react and activated all available Heretic God gates at the same time.

Evil Soul—Burning Heart—Purgatory—Rumbling Heaven—Hell Monarch—

God Ash!!

RUMBLE—

When God Ash came online, the power rampaging throughout Yun Che’s body was, without exaggeration, a power that the universe itself could not withstand.

The expansion of aura was so explosive that all space within five thousand kilometers of him cracked like broken glass. The space closest to him was literally splintered layer by layer.

“UWAH!!”

The bloodcurdling scream came from Qi Tianli.

He was the closest Divine Master to Yun Che, so the terrifying blast had slammed into the front part of his body with the full force of a meteor. It contorted his face, his torso and his limbs in an instant and sent him flying far, far away into the distant sky.

On the ground, the profound practitioners who failed to get out of the way in time also suffered the same treatment.

Countless screams filled the air as these powerful Divine Sovereigns and Divine Masters were sent ten, a hundred, a thousand kilometers away from ground zero...

They were as powerless as yellow leaves against a tornado.

In just the blink of an eye, Yun Che and Mo Beichen were the only ones left in the area.

The energy blast had left a fine mist of blood in the air, but even that was annihilated in the next moment.

“...” Mo Beichen slowly looked up. His eyes were now shining with a light unlike anything he had ever displayed up until this point.

“Uu... ublurgh...”

“Cough cough cough cough...”

Countless bodies were still rolling unceremoniously across ground or air. Painful groans resounded from every direction.

Cang Shitian rolled for a long time before he was able to catch himself and climb back to his feet. He spat out a wad of rock, soil and blood before setting his eyes on the distant Yun Che once more. He paid no attention to anyone else.

The terrifying aura emanating from Yun Che neither shocked nor frightened him, but for some reason, his facial features were contorting as if a dozen of invisible hands were pulling violently at the muscles.

As for his eyes, they were shining a manic gleam that was even scarier than a berserk, mindless beast.

“Is... Is...”

“Is that... Emperor Yun?”

Nearly everyone had sustained varying degrees of injuries. The Divine Sovereigns especially had suffered broken limbs, crushed bones, and even ruptured internal organs. However, not one person bothered to look after their own injuries. Half-kneeling or lying on the ground, they all stared blankly at the sky while their eyeballs, hearts, hands, and even their souls shook like a drum.

Without exaggeration, the shock they felt was powerful enough to crush minds and shatter souls.

Emperor Yun was the man who conquered all four Divine Regions and ruled the entire cosmos. There wasn't a single person who doubted that he was powerful beyond their imagination.

During the war against the Western Divine Region, Emperor Yun had showcased exactly how unimaginable he was to the entire world. He was so powerful that he had crushed the Dragon Monarch, the former champion whose power had gone unchallenged for hundreds of thousands of years, like he was nothing.

But this? They could dream a thousand dreams, and they still wouldn't believe that Yun Che was capable of this level of power.

“Ugh...” Qi Tianli groaned as he sat limply on the ground. The aura hit him the hardest of all the people, but he was the Qilin Emperor. Naturally, his injuries weren't too severe.

He looked like he had dropped his soul somewhere during the tumble though. For a long, long time, he just stared blankly at the distance in this undignified posture.

Meanwhile, Huo Poyun hurried toward Yan Wancang, Yan Juehai, and Huo Rulie and drew them to himself. Then, he aided them in suppressing their injuries and quelling the turmoil within their bodies.

“Are you... okay, Poyun?” Huo Rulie groaned out the question while clutching his chest. His eyes were fully focused on the sky.

“Mm. Don't worry, master. I'm completely fine,” Huo Poyun answered.

He was perfectly unharmed.

When Yun Che had activated God Ash, Mo Beichen had conjured a protective shield around him and pushed him away.

After confirming that the sect masters were okay, Huo Poyun looked up and stared at Yun Che as well. But unlike the others, his expression could only be described as unnaturally calm.

Zzt~~

Zzzzt~~

Sshred!

Twisted spatial rifts littered the sky like unending, pitch black lightning bolts.

The earth looked like it had been sliced clean through by a sharp blade.

The gray sky was falling. From time to time, it would emit dull grumblings that sounded like furious roars or terrified groans.

Mo Beichen's long hair was whipped up by the wind. His eyes had narrowed into two long, narrow slits, and his lips had curled into a smile of astonishment and amusement. The one emotion missing from his expression... was fear.

So this is the power derived from the dual inheritance of the Creation God of Elements and the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor...

Splendid! Truly splendid!

This has to be His Majesty's greatest opportunity to achieve grandness, and... the gift and compensation for everything I have suffered until now.

The Abyssal Knight extended an arm and made a grabbing motion toward Yun Che's neck. He was reminding Yun Che of the time he had held him by the neck. "You are the bearer of many ancient inheritances, but clearly that isn't enough to change your humble roots. You will never understand just how ignorant and foolish you truly are."

"You don't actually think that you can defeat me just because you—"

Devilish energy filled the sky before he could finish.

The next moment, a blade wreathed in the darkest black, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword obliterated all light and descended toward Mo Beichen's head.

Assuming the best case scenario, Yun Che could only maintain this form for thirty or so breaths. Moreover, he would not be able to reproduce this power after the Southern Sea divine origins had disintegrated.

Of course he wasn't going to waste even a second on it.

There was zero chance he could defeat Mo Beichen. A stalemate was the last thing he had in mind. His goal was to plunge the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword into his body before he ran out of power!

One time was enough!

No cost was unacceptable!

The only reason Mo Beichen even got in one and a half sentences before was because Yun Che needed some time to adjust and concentrate the raging power within him.

As for his opening move... he went all out from the get go!

The two times he had activated God Ash—the first time was to obliterate Fen Daojun at the Northern Divine Region, and the second time was to slaughter Nan Zhaoguang and Nan Zhaoming half a month ago—he had not gone all out. It was because the amount of power he used was proportional to the load and rebound he suffered. The duration of the divine origins would shorten as well.

This meant that this was the first time he went all out while in God Ash form. Even as the Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity blazed the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword, he could feel hundreds of cracks splitting across his body with sickening clarity.

He did not scream or convulse in pain, however. There was only the promise of boiling, and exploding brutality.

Mo Beichen leisurely raised a hand as Yun Che surged toward him. He was clearly planning to stop the attack in the most casual way he knew. However, his slightly slanted eyebrows twitched when the flame-wreathed blade got close to him.

When Yun Che activated God Ash half a month ago, Mo Beichen had picked up his aura all the way from the Western Divine Region. He continued to sense it up until the point he had the young man by the throat.

He would not deny that he was beyond surprised when he sensed Yun Che's power. But that was it.

It was the power of a Half-God, but it wasn't on par with his. Ergo, it was of no threat to him whatsoever. However, Yun Che's power had never once conformed to common sense or natural laws.

It was the same even in a completely different world such as the Abyss.

Although Yun Che possessed both the strength and domain of a Half-God, it wasn't because he was in the Divine Extinction Realm, not even close. Somehow, the young man had achieved the impossible with just a cultivation level of the Divine Sovereign Realm; a realm that was ten thousand heavenly chasms away from Divine Extinction Realm!

Sometimes, Yun Che himself did not know where his true limits lay.

That wasn't all. The Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity was created from the Eternal Calamity of Darkness and the Crimson Flame. It was a power that was unique to Yun Che and completely beyond the recognition of the world!

Mo Beichen's frown deepened when he realized that the pressure flying toward him far exceeded his initial expectation. When the devilish flame closed in, a burning sensation worse than anything he ever felt in his life pierced through flesh and blood and sank into his marrow.

It even caused his nerves to convulse uncontrollably.

So, the Abyssal Knight withdrew his arm at the last instant and pushed out with both hands. His power immediately transformed the space in front of him into a massive, terrifying void.

RUMBLE—

A million years since the godless era began, the world finally witnessed the clash between two Half-Gods.

Thousands of pupils contracted into the points of needles as the world was compressed far beyond its ability to withstand. The next moment, an explosion big enough to crush any star realm to smithereens consumed everyone's senses.

At the center of the destructive explosion, Yun Che and Mo Beichen were inches away from each other.

Mo Beichen had paid for his arrogance. Not only did his hasty defense fail to knock Yun Che's slash out of the way, his own domain was swiftly devoured by the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword. As a result, his arm made direct contact with the burning blade.

Mo Beichen's arms shook, and he was forced to bend backward to absorb the force pressing down on him. This was not a problem for him—it was a little unsightly, but that was all—or at least that would have been the case, if not for the excruciating pain that instantly plunged him into the depths of purgatory.

His face warped into an unspeakable visage, and he managed to stop himself from screaming out in pain only because his willpower was that strong. Even so, there was no reason to endure the pain for any longer than was absolutely necessary, so he abruptly pulled back and dashed away from Yun Che, leaving a trail of shattered space in his wake.

Once he was a suitable distance away, he looked down at his arm and stared at the inch-long sear mark on it.

He could hardly believe that it was such a tiny wound that had inflicted so much pain that he nearly lost his mind.

A pair of cold flames lit up in Mo Beichen's eyes as his gaze turned murderous. However, he didn't even get the time to convey his knightly rage through his gaze before Yun Che's blood-stained pupils were reflected in his soul.

The emperor gave Mo Beichen and himself no time to catch even a fraction of a breath as he brought down his sword a second time. The Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity seared Mo Beichen's soul before it even got close to his body.

Sometimes an instant was all it took to inflict trauma upon someone, even if that someone was an Abyssal Knight.

Instead of facing the Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity head on, Mo Beichen plunged downward at the same time he unleashed a blast of energy at the incoming blade. The clash resulted in a twisting domain of destruction that greatly distorted the trajectory of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword.

That wasn't all. His palms turned a shade of bronze as he gathered his profound energy. He then thrust his hands straight at Yun Che's chest.

Yun Che did not pause for even an instant. He did not attempt to evade or block the blast that warped the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword's trajectory for an instant. He ignored the Half-God attack that was flying toward his chest. He didn't even bother to encase his body with any protective energy.

The only thing he wanted was to kill Mo Beichen at any cost!

This time, his blade wasn't just wreathed in black flames. A pitch black wolf with a pair of abysses for eyes had appeared behind it.

Mo Beichen's heart convulsed at the sight of it. It was because the second strike was somehow far stronger than the first strike.

In fact, it was a tad greater than his maximum output!

This was definitely going to hurt if he took it head on!

He was a proud and strong Abyssal Knight who was bestowed the title "Guardian".

The people of this world do not deserve to wound him!

Once again, he canceled his attack midway and crossed his arms before his own chest. A strange, dark yellow barrier appeared in front of him.

BOOM—

The devilish flame that could devour heaven itself and the wolf howl loud enough to reach the edge of the cosmos dyed every man and woman's eyes a stunning dark red.

For a moment, it felt as if the world had ended. Then, Mo Beichen plunged from the sky and hit a slope at impossible speed, digging a gorge five hundred kilometers long before he bounced back into the sky. He didn't stop until he had flown at least dozens of kilometers.

His hair was messy, his silver armor was covered in dust, an indescribable rage burned within his eyes.

A trail of blood trickled down his lips.

The Abyssal Knight... was hurt!

Chiang!

A Southern Sea divine origin ceased shining forever and ever.

The blowback from the strike was so powerful that Yun Che himself temporarily lost his balance and spat out a mouthful of blood.

Before the blood in his throat was even dry though, he sped toward Mo Beichen again and executed a Destroying Sky Decimating Earth that encompassed everything within fifty kilometers.

RUMBLE!

The impact sounded like ten thousand thunders, and the sky became completely covered in dust. Once again, Mo Beichen was sent flying backward.

Far, far away, the profound practitioners of the entire God Realm felt as if they had plunged into the most ridiculous dream.

It was a level of power they could neither understand nor grasp...

But everyone with eyes could see...

That Mo Beichen, the Abyssal Knight who had plunged them into absolute despair, was being completely suppressed by Emperor Yun right now!

### **Chapter 1954 - Crushed Hope**

RUMBLE!

RUMCRACK!!

BUZZ—

Every explosion caused the spectators' blood to stir like tidal waves. Every clash of power was a mini cataclysm of their own right to their ears.

Space collapsed and collapsed again and dyed parts of the eternally gray sky of the God Realm of Absolute Beginning in black. From a distance, it looked as if dozens of giant caves had been drilled through the sky. It was as if the distortion and destruction would never end.

The ground was in even worse condition. It was littered with countless bottomless and pitch black abysses.

Chiang!

A second golden light extinguished.

Chiang!

The third Southern Sea divine origin fell dead.

.....

.....

Chiang!

The seventh star vanished forever from this world.

Rumble!!

A slash from Yun Che rocketed him toward the ground and drilled a new hole in the God Realm of Absolute Beginning. It had been over a dozen breaths since the battle began, but Mo Beichen was still the one being pushed. He had not gained the upper hand a single time despite having clashed tens of times against Yun Che.

His countenance started warping uncontrollably. The flame in his eyes became more and more restless as well.

They were not in the Abyss! He was fighting a denizen of a lowly, godless world! It should not be possible for him to be suppressed to this extent, if at all!

This had to be one of the worst humiliations he had ever experienced in his life!

This Yun Che... how is his power so...

SHRED—

The sound of space being violently torn reverberated in his ears as the next attack approached. Mo Beichen spun around as a tinge of madness shot out of his eyes.

This time, he did not try to evade or defend against Yun Che's attack. After yellowish brown profound energy burst out of his body and took the form of a massive, thirty thousand meter long rock spear, he threw it straight at Yun Che.

The rock spear compressed and severed every space unfortunate enough to lie along its path as it shot into the sky. From a distance, it looked as if the realm itself was being split in two.

Yun Che wasn't planning to avoid it, of course. He met the rock spear head on and struck it with the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword.

BOOM—

An exceptionally dull and heavy sonic boom swept across the world.

The destructive strength of the rock spear was still weaker than Yun Che's. It disintegrated rapidly beneath the power of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword.

However, the rock spear was much tougher than imagined. A three thousand meter deep crack appeared where the two attacks had met, but it did not explode into smithereens like all the previous attacks.

Yun Che wasn't going to waste anymore time on it. He teleported away using Star God's Broken Shadow before following up with a Heavenly Star Lamentation.

RUMBUZZ—

The crack on the rock spear deepened, but still it didn't shatter to pieces. However, its trajectory had been changed enough that it was no longer bearing down on Yun Che anymore. The emperor allowed it to shoot past him toward the northern sky before dashing toward Mo Beichen again.

The Abyssal Knight's pupils contracted into needle points. Yun Che had just executed a powerful move a moment ago, so it should take him some time to wind up his next attack. In reality, new energy had erupted from the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword and slammed into Mo Beichen's crossed arms the next instant.

Mo Beichen had just fired off a thirty thousand meter long rock spear, so he had no time to redirect his energy to defense at all. The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword easily knocked apart his guard before unleashing both its sword might and devilish flame point blank.

BOOM—

"AH!!!"

This was the first time Mo Beichen screamed out in pain not just in this battle, but also since he came to this world.



The space severing sword might and sky devouring devilish flames launched Mo Beichen into the distance like a piece of burning charcoal. A long, long trail of pitch black flames was left in his wake.

Chiang!

The eighth Southern Sea divine origin faded away.

A terrifying gleam shot out of Yun Che's eyes at that moment.

A golden opportunity!

Countless wounds erupted throughout his body yet again, but his face still showed no signs of pain.

The continuous usage of power with zero rest in between was putting an insane amount of load on his body, and he had no doubt that it was absolutely going to result in a killer rebound later. But so what?

Eyes gleaming, he channeled as much power as he could into his sword before shooting toward the airborne Mo Beichen like a black meteor.

This attack was different from all previous attacks because it was a stab, not a slash. His aim was to pierce Mo Beichen's solar plexus in one go.

To that end, he had gathered all of his power at the tip of his sword.

Both his strength and his resolve at their highest, he narrowed the gap between himself and Mo Beichen in no time at all.

If he could sink just the tip of his sword into Mo Beichen's chest—or ideally, skewer him completely—then He Ling would be able to kill him with the Sky Poison for sure!

It was their one and only chance to defy the absolute darkness that was the Abyss!

Unfortunately, a Half-God's perception was beyond natural. When Yun Che was about three hundred meters away from him, the alarm bells in Mo Beichen's head abruptly rang at full force.

There was no time to catch himself. Mo Beichen raised his right arm with difficulty, and suddenly, the silver vambrace covering his whole arm swelled and unleashed a yellowish brown profound light so thick that it almost seemed tangible. The next moment, a strange profound formation that was shaped like a boulder expanded in front of himself.

Ding~~~~~

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword stabbed into the profound formation that had appeared at the last minute, but it failed to pierce through in one go. Not only that, instead of the explosive clash of power Yun Che had grown accustomed to since their battle began, the two clashing powers generated a screech so shrill that even he was convulsing in pain.

A couple of cracks appeared on the boulder-like formation...

But that was it!

Forget making physical contact with Mo Beichen's body, it could not even penetrate the formation!

“...” The black gleam residing in Yun Che’s eyes condensed violently.

BOOM!

There was a massive explosion, and Mo Beichen let out another scream of pain. Patches of Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity still burning on several parts of his body, he hit the ground like a meteor and sank to god-knows-where.

The resulting shockwave turned out to be far greater than he expected. He was knocked back uncontrollably from ground zero.

He immediately caught himself and attempted to pounce on Mo Beichen once more, but his vision abruptly blurred harder than ever before. Several mouthfuls of blood forced themselves out of his lips as he swayed on his feet, and he nearly fell from the sky there and then.

He was using God Ash, and yet he had launched attack after attack without a single pause. The damage he accumulated finally exceeded his limits and caused him to lose control over both his body and his aura.

Yun Che had no choice but to take a moment to adjust his breathing. While panting, he shot a chilling glare at the spot Mo Beichen had disappeared.

That barrier...

Meanwhile, the other profound practitioners were already standing at the absolute edge of the battlefield, but the shockwaves still managed to push them to god-knows-where.

There was no question that the battle between Half-Gods had completely exceeded their recognition, no, their imagination. They were so stunned that they were beyond numb.

The environment where the battle took place was destroyed so thoroughly that not even cataclysmic was a good enough word to describe it.

If this battle had taken place in the God Realm instead of the God Realm of Absolute Beginning, it was unimaginable how many lives and star realms would’ve perished from this fight.

The most unthinkable thing of all was Emperor Yun’s power! His true power!

The man who stepped out of the Northern Divine Region and conquered them all wasn’t a Devil Master after all. No, he was a true Devil God!

If Long Bai could somehow witness this from his grave, he would be thankful that his death wasn’t a completely undignified one. After all, he at least got to exchange a couple hundred blows with Yun Che before the latter had decided to up the ante.

Extreme shock and non-stop revelations assaulted their senses so frequently it almost felt like it was normal to be slack-jawed all the time.

“The Venerable One... is no match for Emperor Yun!” One higher realm king muttered.

Yun Che had held the upper hand the whole fight. Mo Beichen had barely been able to get in a hit or two.

Yun Che was standing proudly in the sky. Mo Beichen was sleeping in an abyss of his own making.

They could never have imagined this scene until today.

Was Emperor Yun actually going to repel this hopeless calamity?

“Is... is this actually happening? Is Emperor Yun actually going to save us all?” An higher realm king said in an uncertain tone.

“Hmph. Stop being so naive.”

The Xuanyuan Emperor let out a quiet hmph. “If this was true, Emperor Yun would not have run with his tail between his legs and hidden like a turtle for an entire half a month. The Devil Queen would not have shown up today to commit suicide.”

“Moreover, the three Yama Ancestors haven’t shown their faces even now. If we weren’t sure before, we now know that the rumors that they died to facilitate Emperor Yun’s escape are definitely true.”

“That’s right.” Not far away, the Purple Micro God Emperor echoed in agreement. “When Emperor Yun appeared, he held the Southern Sea Divine Pearl in his hands. He then infused his body with eighteen Southern Sea divine origins.”

They were both god emperors of the Southern Divine Region. Of course they recognized the Southern Sea Divine Pearl.

“It is clear that Emperor Yun’s power stems from the Southern Sea divine origins, and... did you notice that they have been disappearing one by one this whole time?”

It was the remnant of the old gods. They shone as bright as the stars in the night sky, and no one here was blind to their brilliance.

“In other words, Emperor Yun’s power should disappear when all eighteen Southern Sea divine origins are exhausted.”

In fact, eight of them had already been extinguished forever.

“At this rate, the remaining ten divine origins should last another twenty breaths at most.”

“So... while it might seem that Emperor Yun held all the advantage, not even he can kill the Venerable One in twenty breaths!”

Yun Che’s power was just too unusual, and the light of the Southern Sea divine origins too bright.

After their initial shock and disbelief had passed, everyone started to realize that the extinguishing stars were really the countdown for his power... and their fates.

“And even if a miracle happened, and Emperor Yun managed to kill the Venerable One,” the Purple Micro God Emperor continued pessimistically, “that man... is just one pioneer of the Abyss.”

The cold yet undeniable reality of his words extinguished the ember of hope almost as soon as it was ignited.

Back to the battle. While Yun Che was trying to adjust his breath, He Ling was beyond worried inside the Sky Poison Pearl.

It was because she knew better than anyone how hurt Yun Che was right now.

Strength wise, Yun Che at maximum God Ash was stronger than Mo Beichen. However, the injuries he suffered from the cruel rebounds were far worse than the ones he had dealt to Mo Beichen.

Moreover, Mo Beichen's defense was clearly superior to his offense. When the man had summoned his yellowish brown profound energy for the first time, deep anxiety had immediately grabbed her soul in a death grip.

Earth profound energy was the least cultivated element type not just in the lower realm, but also the God Realm. It was because earth profound energy possessed the strongest defense, but also the weakest destructive power of all element types.

(Only light profound energy, an element type that could only be borne by special beings, was weaker than earth profound energy in terms of destructive power.)

It was why the vast majority of profound practitioners looked down on profound practitioners who cultivated earth profound energy.

In a world where the strong devoured the weak, and everyone sought to dominate one another, to cultivate a power that was only good for defense and protection was the same as practicing cowardice.

Yun Che had fought countless experts since he set foot in the God Realm, but the amount of earth profound practitioners he encountered could probably be counted on two hands.

That was how rare earth profound practitioners were in this universe.

Even the Heretic God had chosen to discard the Earth Seed when he made the decision to throw one of the Heretic God Seeds into the Abyss.

However, the earth profound energy surrounding Mo Beichen's body was the last thing He Ling wished to see right now.

There were two main branches of earth cultivation. The first one was sand, and the second one was stone. The former gave control, while the latter gave defense.

Mo Beichen was without a doubt a stone-branch earth profound practitioner!

When He Ling saw Mo Beichen deflecting Yun Che's full-powered stab despite having expended his strength, her heart had immediately plunged into the depths of despair.

How could this be...

Of all the things he could've specialized in... why stone? Why!?

RUMBLE!

The earth split apart, and Mo Beichen shot up into the air and reentered everyone's view.

His earlier arrogance and dignified appearance were nowhere to be seen.

The Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity had burned the man's face, neck, arms... there was almost no part on his body that wasn't covered in burns. Over seventy percent of his hair was burned to nothing, and his exposed scalp was scorched black.

Besides that, he had suffered varying degrees of superficial wounds all over his body. That was the problem though. They were all superficial. The longest wound on the man's body was only one-sixth of a meter long, and not a single wound was deep enough to expose bone.

"..." Yun Che's hands tightened around the hilt of his sword.

He shared the same worry as He Ling as a matter of course.

He would rather face a Mo Beichen who was twice as destructive as he was than this.

Right now, Mo Beichen felt like his soul was a million raging devils.

It never occurred to him that the first time he lost control of his emotions after becoming an Abyssal Knight would take place in this lowly world!

He raised his right arm again. The silver vambrace had transformed into a long and narrow shield.

It was an arm shield, and yellowish brown profound energy that looked like flowing sand was circulating around it.

"You... you dare..."

When he spoke, there was enough fury in his words to tear a soul apart. "You dare dirty the shield His Holiness bestowed me with your filthy hands!?"

Every man and woman who survived the stringent training and tests to become an Abyssal Knight was given an abyssal profound artifact by the Pope.

Mo Beichen was no exception. He had received his vambrace on the day he became an Abyssal Knight.

Although the vambrace was a defensive profound artifact with zero destructive power, it complemented well with his earth profound energy. It made his defense even more disgusting than it already was.

Besides that, the vambrace was a gift from the Pope and the symbol of acknowledgement from the Abyssal Monarch himself. It was the symbol of his identity and his honor!

This was why Mo Beichen was truly furious. He wasn't angry that he looked horrible and unsightly, he was angry that Yun Che had forced him to use his abyssal profound artifact.

Yun Che did not say a word in response. He gathered all of his willpower, retook control of his dying body, and raised the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword once more.

Thump!

Thump!!

THUMP!!!

In He Ling's world, Yun Che's heartbeat suddenly beat many times louder than it had before.

Fear and panic filled her emerald eyes instantly.

She had become one with Yun Che in the most literal sense for many years. There was no one who knew him better than her. That was why she knew exactly what Yun Che was thinking right now.

When they walked out of the Eternal Heaven Divine Realm with the knowledge that he could control eighteen Southern Sea divine origins at the same time, they were actually quite confident that they would be able to strike down Mo Beichen.

Now, after Mo Beichen had demonstrated his terrifying level of defense, Yun Che realized that his chance of skewering him in the time he had left... was so small it might as well be zero.

Not all was lost, however. He still had one last trump card in his pocket.

A trump card that he planned to use only if all hope was lost. A trump card that could only be used by sacrificing his own life.

Its name is...

Other Shore Asura!

“No! Master! No!”

He Ling screamed as she desperately tried to stop Yun Che from succumbing to the impulse. “It’s not that time yet! There has to be another way! Please! Please!”

Suddenly, the Devil Queen’s figure flashed across her mind.

Out of everyone present, she was the only one who could interfere with Yun Che and Mo Beichen’s fight! It was because she possessed the Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul!

Blinded by panic, she hurriedly located Chi Wuyao’s aura and sent her a soul transmission:

“Sister Devil Queen, please help master with your Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul! As long as master can stab that man with his sword, I’ll be able to kill him with the Sky Poison! Please! You’re the only one who can help master now!”

It was at this moment Mo Beichen’s eyes narrowed.

“You think you can stab me with your sword and poison me to death? You must be—” He was about to ridicule He Ling’s foolishness when suddenly, he remembered something and narrowed his eyes further. “Sky Poison...”

“The Sky Poison Pearl!?”

He hadn’t bothered to hide his voice. Everyone could hear him as clear as day.

Yun Che’s sword froze in mid-air.

He Ling’s complexion and eyes turned deathly white in an instant.

There was no one who could listen in on He Ling and Yun Che's soul conversation. But a soul transmission to Chi Wuyao, who was far, far away from the center of the battlefield? Who did she think Mo Beichen is? He was a Half-God. It took him barely any effort to intercept the soul transmission.

### **Chapter 1955 - The End of Deep Sea (1)**

For a moment, an unexpected yet terrible silence loomed over the calamitous world.

Shui Meiyin jerked violently as all the blood drained away from her face.

"Oh no..." A powerless murmur also slipped out of Chi Wuyao's lips.

Shui Meiyin had already told her about Yun Che's plan using her Stainless Divine Soul. She had been looking for an opportunity to unleash her Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul the entire time.

In this world, there was no one who had a better sense of opportunity than Chi Wuyao. When she struck, it was always when her enemy was at their weakest and most vulnerable. She was one of the main reasons Yun Che was able to conquer God Realm as quickly and as dominantly as he did.

While Yun Che was staking his life to create that opportunity, Chi Wuyao too was seeking that opportunity with all her might.

Unfortunately for them, their plan had just been exposed to Mo Beichen. He was going to be on his guard from now on.

In other words...

They'd never get the chance they were hoping for.

"That is a good plan. You gave me chills for a second there," Mo Beichen said in a low voice. He did not think that their plan was laughable, nor did he ridicule it as just another lowly being's pipedream.

He might look down on everything in this world, but he would never, ever look down on the Sky Poison Pearl. After all, it was one of the seven Heavenly Profound Treasures, a profound artifact that was considered to be on the same level as a Creation God.

Qi Tianli had already told him that Yun Che possessed the Sky Poison Pearl, but he had no idea how powerful or terrifying its poison might be.

This meant that the Sky Poison was a complete unknown to him, and there was nothing more terrifying than the unknown. Ergo, if he hadn't lowered his guard before, he absolutely wasn't going to start now.

"HAH!!!"

Yun Che shouted as a devilish pattern erupted within Yun Che's pupils. After the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword had returned to peak strength, he brought it down on Mo Beichen's head once more.

Mo Beichen threw out both arms to guard against the attack, but something was different this time. Yellowish brown profound energy actually shone from his left arm before taking the form of an arm shield just like the one on his right arm. At the same time, a boulder-like profound formation expanded across its surface.

The two profound formations joined together to form a defensive barrier that could plunge anyone into despair.

BANG—

Yun Che's devilish flame and sword might exploded across the boulder formation.

Both men's arms shook violently as a mighty explosion launched them away from each other.

The wind howling beside his ears felt cold and miserable. Even though he caught himself by severing the space behind him with the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword, blood gushed out between his lips once more.

This time, the recoil and rebound were causing cracks to appear on his internal organs as well.

Chiang!

The ninth Southern Sea divine origin winked out.

Yun Che was running out of time.

Moreover, his physical condition would only worsen as the terrible rebound consumed him, which meant that his strength and control would only grow weaker as time passed.

Some distance away, Mo Beichen had also skidded to a halt. Yun Che's attack had left a couple of long, thin cracks across the yellowish brown barrier, but they were healing at a visible rate.

By the time he fully righted himself, all of the cracks had disappeared into nothing, leaving behind only a flawless, practically untouched wall.

Previously, Mo Beichen had raged at the fact that he was forced to use just a single vambrace. But now, he was holding both of them in front of himself.

Yun Che did not deserve them. No one in this world deserved his profound abyssal artifact!

But the Sky Poison Pearl? Yes! Yes it does!

No matter how poor his opinion of this world was, only an utter fool would act high and mighty before the Sky Poison Pearl.

"..." This time, even Chi Wuyao had closed her eyes helplessly.

The situation wouldn't be so hopeless if Mo Beichen was even the slightest bit more arrogant than he was.

With his twin shields in front of himself and his profound energy surrounding his entire body, Mo Beichen's expression suddenly turned grave and solemn.

"I am His Majesty's loyal subject and 779th Abyssal Knight, the 'Dust-sealing Guardian' Mo Beichen."

"Today, I use my shield of protection against a lowly being not to trample over my own honor, but to defend my body and secure priceless artifacts and inheritances for my eternal liege!"

He was justifying his actions both to himself and the Abyss.



He must treat the Sky Poison Pearl with the highest level of caution, but his opponent was ultimately just a lowly mortal.

In the end, there was no denying that he had violated his knightly honor by using his profound abyssal artifact against a lowly mortal from this world.

They could hardly believe it, but Mo Beichen's solemn declaration had plunged them into deeper despair.

Even worse than the despair was the shock assaulting their senses. They had thought there was nothing else that could shock them after everything they had been through up to this moment, but they were proven wrong yet again.

The 779th Abyssal Knight...

Mo Beichen was the most powerful profound practitioner they had ever seen... and he was only ranked 779th among the Abyssal Knights!?

Just how many terrifying Abyssal Knights were there in that place known as the Abyss!?

As if that wasn't bad enough, the priests and Pope stood above the knights...

The Abyssal Emperor was above all of them!

What could they possibly do against such power?

"I'm sorry... master... I'm sorry..."

Inside the Sky Poison Pearl's space, He Ling was curled up into a ball and shivering like a leaf. She could not stop sobbing as she apologized to Yun Che again and again.

Their final hope... and she had destroyed it with her own hands.

No one had ever managed to intercept her sound transmission before, but... she never understood or touched the power of a Half-God either.

"It's not your fault. You're not allowed to blame yourself."

Yun Che consoled He Ling in a gentle yet domineering voice before dashing toward Mo Beichen once more.

Mo Beichen crossed his arms in front of himself and simply waited for Yun Che to reach him. Clearly, he wasn't even going to bother with a counter attack anymore. He was going to protect himself with all his might!

The Abyssal Knight with the title "Guardian" had gone into full defense mode with his defensive artifact turned on.

There was nothing more despairing than this situation.

This time, Mo Beichen did not move a muscle. In fact, his eyes didn't so much as twitch as Yun Che bore down on him with another slash.

Right before Yun Che's sword would make contact with his barrier though, the young man's figure suddenly blurred in front of him.

It looked as if the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword was slashing toward him, but the expected impact didn't happen at all. It was an afterimage.

Executing Star God's Broken Shadow and Moon Splitting Cascade in quick succession, Yun Che was able to appear behind Mo Beichen in an instant before thrusting his burning sword at the man's heart.

The yellowish brown-colored profound formation appeared when the blade was a-third of a meter away from Mo Beichen's back.

As it turned out, Mo Beichen's boulder formation did not just cover one side.

It was a globe that protected every angle of his body.

In other words, there wasn't even a gap that he could exploit!

THANG!

The metallic clang was followed by an explosion of power.

Yun Che and Mo Beichen were pushed fifty kilometers away from each other once more.

The Abyssal Knight's face turned red, but he returned to normal just a few seconds later.

Thin cracks appeared on his profound formation again, but they healed just half a breath later.

Mo Beichen had to admit that Yun Che's destructive power was terrifying even to him. There wasn't a single attack that hadn't left some cracks on his boulder formation.

If he had continued to act with the same arrogance and carelessness as at the onset, there was definitely a chance Yun Che could've caught him by surprise and impaled him with his sword.

Now, his dream was just that, a dream.

"The name of this arm shield is 'Eternal Boulder'," he declared. Right here and now, his figure felt as tall as tall as a mountain that propped up the sky. "It will fill your remaining time with endless despair!"

By now, everyone was aware that the dying light in Yun Che's body signified the time remaining before his Half-God powers expired. Naturally, Mo Beichen was no exception.

There was a cold and short silence. Then, the corners of Yun Che's lips turned up.

The light in his eyes deepened as it became mixed with an unspeakable weight and darkness. He pointed his sword at Mo Beichen and said slowly, "If it is my fate to die here today, then I will make certain..."

"That you will come to the grave with me!"

"Hehe!" Mo Beichen chuckled. "Keep dreaming, fool!"

"Ah..." He Ling abruptly looked up from her position and screamed piteously, "No... No!!"

RUMBLE!!

Profound energy, flesh and blood exploded from Yun Che's body once more as he attacked Mo Beichen.

The situation was completely hopeless, but he still had nine divine origins. He could still struggle for a while.

So he would linger. He had too many things in life he couldn't let go. He would linger until the last possible moment before he did the inevitable.

When there were three stars left in the sky, the Asura would return to this world!

His life for a temporary reprieve for all life in the Primal Chaos... Hah, it would be worth it!

RUMBLE!

RUMBLE!!

The clash between sword and shield continued to destroy the God Realm of Absolute Beginning with unbridled savagery. The dim lighting twisted their figures into indistinct, warped shadows.

Explosive black flames, a howling wolf, and a yellowish brown light that could not be destroyed no matter what pierced everyone's eyes again and again.

Now that his mind was finally made up, his power was flowing smoother than ever before.

He was no longer restricting his mind either. Like an invisible hand, his divine perception brushed past Chi Wuyao, Mu Xuanyin, Qianye Ying'er... and of course, Yun Wuxin inside the barrier.

Out of everyone present, Chi Wuyao was the only one who sensed his touch and figured out his intentions.

"Idiot," The darkness in her eyes melting away into gentle water, she whispered in a voice only she could hear, "Do you really think we would let you go alone..."

Chiang!

The tenth Southern Sea divine origin died.

Chiang!

The eleventh Southern Sea divine origin turned into dust.

The Half-God power he unleashed was powerful enough to destroy the world, and yet it just couldn't destroy the Eternal Boulder no matter what. And all this time, the stars kept winking out one after another.

Powerless, hopeless... the words appeared in nearly everyone's mind at least once.

Hope wasn't what kept the final seven stars going. It was the reluctance to let go even though they knew that their efforts would be for naught.

Down on the ground, Cang Shuhe abruptly looked to one side.

There, her brother, Cang Shitian was less than three hundred meters away from her.

“Brother?”

Everyone was paying attention to the battlefield and watching as the starlights extinguished one after another. As a result, almost no one had noticed Cang Shitian’s movements.

He casually pushed the Deep Sea Barrier containing Yun Wuxin to Cang Shuhe.

“This is yours.”

He leaped into the sky after saying that.

Cang Shuhe quickly caught the Deep Sea Barrier.

Excluding Yun Wuxin, even the weakest profound practitioner present was a high rank Divine Sovereign. There was no chance Yun Wuxin could’ve survived the shockwaves if she was exposed to them even a little.

Cang Shitian had created the Deep Sea Barrier with almost all of his power. It did its job perfectly, and not a hair on her person was harmed in the slightest.

Cang Shitian had not returned to her previous location, however. Instead, he flew straight toward Yun Che and Mo Beichen...

There lay the battlefield of Half-Gods. It was a forbidden domain not even a powerful Divine Master could go near.

“Brother, what... what are you doing?”

As Cang Shuhe stared at her brother’s back, a deep sense of unease suddenly welled up inside her heart.

Cang Shuhe came to a stop upon hearing her question.

He was too close to the battlefield, so deadly energy blades left wound after wound on his face and his body. However, he remained where he was as if he couldn’t feel them at all.

There was a flash of deep blue, and he raised his hand to reveal the Deep Sea Divine Pearl he had taken from Cang Shuhe earlier.

The divine artifact was the origin of the Deep Sea lineage, and the heart of the Ten Directions Deep Sea Realm.

“Hehehe!”

He chuckled, The sheer madness and brutality he had buried in his eyes this whole time finally unleashed.

Then, he uttered the words that could only have come from a madman:

“I’m going to kill Mo Beichen, of course!”

## **Chapter 1956 - The End of Deep Sea (2)**

Cang Shuhe froze. Everyone froze.

“What... what are you saying, God Emperor?” A Sea God exclaimed in bewilderment. Although Cang Shitian was retired, he still called him “God Emperor” out of habit.

The flashes of the Deep Sea Divine Pearl grew unnaturally violent. It was like a wild animal who’d just been woken up from her slumber.

Cang Shitian gripped the Deep Sea Divine Pearl tightly while slowly moving it toward his solar plexus. His snarl grew more and more inhuman by the second.

“Yu Che isn’t the only one who could use a divine origin to generate power beyond the world’s limits.”

This time, no one could say anything in response to his words.

Cang Shuhe’s trembling eyes slowly lost their focus.

I knew it... I knew it...

She already had a vague premonition when he abruptly demanded the Deep Sea Divine Pearl from her.

It was because she knew her “only” relative too well.

Behind her, the Sea Gods blanched after their initial astonishment had passed.

They all recalled a certain page on the Deep Sea God Canon at the same time...

The most taboo page of them all!

They still couldn’t understand what was going on here though. The forbidden power could never be realized because it required certain critical prerequisites to be fulfilled, and Cang Shitian was literally the last person who would ever fulfill those prerequisites.

Or so they thought.

The Sea Gods were just about to express their bewilderment when Cang Shitian did something that stunned them all to speechlessness.

He had thrust his left fist... into his own chest.

Bang!!

His entire left fist sank completely into his solar plexus.

Pssssh!

He proceeded to pull out his hand and caused a mad gush of blood.

His gaze pierced through the shattered flesh and bone and landed on his very own profound veins.

The former Deep Sea God Emperor had just inflicted an unbelievably cruel act onto himself, and yet the expression on his face wasn’t pain, but a wraith-like, spine-chilling grin.

The next moment, he slammed the Deep Sea Divine Pearl through the hole in his chest and into his profound veins.

If Cang Shitian's act of self-harm only drained all the blood on the Sea Gods' face earlier, now their eyes were shaking like a million dying stars.

It was a kind of fear that was a thousand times greater than even their fear toward Mo Beichen's power.

"God... God Emperor..."

"Stop! Stop!!"

"Ahhhhhhhh!"

It was like the four Sea Gods had suddenly been pierced by ten thousand blades, and they were about to launch one final attack against their sworn enemy. They all rushed toward Cang Shitian while roaring the most fearful and desperate howls of their lives.

Cang Shuhe was the only one who stayed where she was. She didn't even attempt to voice any discouragement.

It was because she knew how proud her brother was beneath that shameless exterior he intimidated the entire world with.

She knew even better that no one could stop him once he had made up his mind. No one.

A translucent tear slowly slid down her cheek.

Brother...

I leave... everything to you...

"Get lost!"

Cang Shitian responded to the Sea Gods' maddened howls with a low growl of his own.

The divine light of Deep Sea radiated out of his person, and—

BOOM—

Bloodcurdling screams escaped the Sea Gods' throats as they were thrown back like helpless bundles of wheat.

No matter how powerful the Sea Gods were, they were no match for their former God Emperor, Cang Shitian. However, it was equally impossible for Cang Shitian to have repelled them as easily as he did.

The sudden, unexpected commotion drew everyone's gazes. Their souls quaked in shock when they realized what they were seeing.

The Deep Sea Divine Pearl was deeply embedded in Cang Shitian's solar plexus. It clung tightly to his profound veins and bathed in his Deep Sea blood.

Suddenly, a halo of deep blue light so powerful that it enveloped everything within hundreds of kilometers shone out of Cang Shitian.

Originating from the center of his chest, the rays of light pierced through his skin, flesh, veins, blood, bones, and more. It slowly spread until his entire body—internal organs, fingernails, eyes and even his hair—were dyed completely blue.

In just the blink of an eye, Cang Shitian had transformed into a pure blue figure with bluish cracks all over his body, and eyes as deep as the sea itself.

What really paralyzed the spectators in speechless terror was the insane amount of energy gushing out of his body.

Cang Shitian was the former god emperor and the current Chief Enforcer. No one doubted that he was incredibly powerful. However, the power currently circulating throughout his body was way stronger than his absolute limit. In fact, it was slowly but surely tearing through the insurmountable power ceiling that was imposed on all Divine Masters of this world!

Not only that, the trembling deep blue profound light was still expanding non-stop.

“What... what... what is that!?”

Many people cried out involuntarily even as the battle between Yun Che and Mo Beichen was still going on.

To the outsiders, Cang Shitian’s sudden display of power was shocking beyond imagination. But to the four Sea Gods who knew the Deep Sea God Canon, they only felt absolute despair.

“Stop... stop!” A Sea God screamed hoarsely as he practically crawled his way toward Cang Shitian. He was trying to stop his former liege with all his might.

However, the aura gushing out of Cang Shitian now was such that he couldn’t even approach him.

In any world or plane, the price one must pay to obtain power beyond their absolute limit was usually quite terrible.

Right now, Cang Shitian was wielding such power, and the price he paid to obtain it was his life...

And the future of the Deep Sea bloodline!

“Have you gone insane, Cang Shitian!” A Sea God screamed his former liege’s name with bloodshot eyes. “Are you trying to become the eternal sinner of the Deep Sea lineage? The former god emperor and all your ancestors will murder you in the afterlife for this!”

“God Emperor, stop... stop! There’s still time to stop this madness!”

The most longest-lived and experienced Sea God of the four was literally crying at this point. He begged, “Why are you doing this, God Emperor... Yun Che is destined to be destroyed, and you’ve already secured yourself and the Deep Sea Realm by submitting to the Abyss... so why are you destroying our present and future with your own two hands!?”

By now, there wasn’t a hair on Cang Shitian’s body that wasn’t deep blue in color. His aura had become a raging sea storm.

He slowly looked back at his retinue before cracking a disdainful snarl on his literally cracked face:

“Me, submitting to the Abyss? Did you seriously just say that?”

“Hehehe...” He let out a nasty chuckle before continuing, “The God Realm is a million years old, and it took the Deep Sea Realm seven hundred thousand years to finally become what it is today.”

“And yet, Yun Che scaled the heavens and conquered the four divine regions when he was practically an infant in terms of cultivation age... not to mention he is the messiah who saved the Primal Chaos from a dark future!”

“He may be a lower realm denizen, but he is undeniably one of us and a living miracle of this world!”

“If I have to become someone’s dog, then I would rather it be him than anyone else! I wouldn’t even complain about it!”

“But...” His voice grew guttural and animalistic. “Who the fuck does that Mo Beichen think he is?”

“He’s a hyena who jumped out of the ass end of nowhere, and he thinks he can order the God Realm to surrender everything without a fight? He thinks he can order me to become his dog!?”

“Hahahaha! What a fucking joke... what a fucking joke!!”

His screams and mad laughter filled countless profound practitioners’ eardrums with blood.

But it was nothing compared to the shock in their souls.

Yun Che was a member of the Primal Chaos. He had subdued the Northern Divine Region via his own strength and flattened the three divine regions afterward. He had walked from the lowest low to the highest high, saved the world, and even been betrayed by it.

As Cang Shitian said, Yun Che was the indisputable emperor of the God Realm and living miracle of Primal Chaos.

That was why he did not mind becoming his dog.

Mo Beichen though? Not only was he an outsider, he literally came from a completely different universe.

He was, in the most literal sense of the word, an invader.

The Deep Sea Divine Pearl was shaking. Every inch of Cang Shitian’s body including his blood had turned deep blue in color.

By now, his aura had become so extraordinary that he caused even Yun Che and Mo Beichen to look away temporarily from their battle.

The four Sea Gods stretched their eyes to breaking point as they stared at Cang Shitian, their throats unable to make a single sound for a long, long time.

“If I must surrender the Deep Sea... to the Abyss...”

“Then I would rather end it once and for all...”

“By my own two hands!”



“UGH—AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!”

BANG—

The Deep Sea Divine Pearl abruptly shattered into countless pieces. Its divine light winked out just like that.

Every divine origin within the artifact had been transferred into Cang Shitian’s profound veins, body and life. They shone with a powerful yet sorrowful light.

The result was a power and aura that were almost as strong as Mo Beichen’s.

The four Sea Gods shut their eyes in pain. It felt as if their hearts and souls had shattered alongside the container of the divine origins, the Deep Sea Divine Pearl.

The grayish sky of the God Realm of Absolute Beginning grew even more restless. The wind and sand stirred more violently than ever before.

It was because a third Half-God had emerged in this godless world.

The price, though...

The Deep Sea Realm that had stood strong in the Southern Divine Region for hundreds of thousands of years, the Deep Sea bloodline that had given birth to countless Sea Gods and legends...

... had finally come to an end.

“MO—BEI—CHEN—” Cang Shitian’s proud and maddened roar filled every inch of the collapsing world. “IN THE NAME OF ME... DIEEEEEEEEEEEEE!”

A literal sea of churning, deep blue energy that was huge enough to blot out the heaven and earth itself crashed down on Mo Beichen.

RUMBLE!

A thirty thousand meter long divide erupted across the gray sky as sword and shield clashed against one another. At the same time, Yun Che and Mo Beichen shot away from each other as fast as meteors.

Another golden light disappeared forever from this world, and six starlights were left in Yun Che’s body.

Mo Beichen was just spitting out a mouthful of smelly blood and getting ready to reform his boulder formation when suddenly, he felt the unnatural Half-God aura approaching him from behind.

The roar especially shook his eardrums so much that it resulted in an incessant, high-pitched ringing.

As Yun Che had just sent him flying away with his sword, his strength was spent, and he wasn’t able to gather himself in time before Cang Shitian could reach him.

More accurately, it was he who slammed back first into the former Deep Sea God Emperor.

BANG!

The impact caused a bit of deep blue blood—or rather, fragments of Deep Sea divine power—to scatter away from Cang Shitian’s body.

In fact, his physical body had been thoroughly disintegrated during the transformation.

Right now, he was just an energy body that was hosting a lingering consciousness.

The two men didn't split up after the terrific impact because Cang Shitian had locked his deep blue arms around Mo Beichen's neck, and his deep blue legs around his lower body the second they made contact with each other.

"Foolish cur!"

Mo Beichen detonated his aura without even looking back at Cang Shitian.

BOOM—

CRACK!

A dull-sounding explosion ripped Cang Shitian's left arm away from Mo Beichen's neck and snapped it like a twig... but it zipped right back to its original position just an instant later.

At the same time, the Deep Sea divine light poured out in earnest and filled the sky with endless rays of blue light. They wrapped around Mo Beichen's body and locked him completely in place.

Not only that, the power soundlessly ate away at his boulder formation like mercury dissolving gold.

BANG!!

Another blast of energy struck Cang Shitian point blank, causing another splatter of blue fragments and dozens of cracks to erupt across his four limbs. However, not only did the blast fail to budge him in the slightest, the limbs dug deeper as if Cang Shitian was trying to crush him with his bare hands.

"Cang Shitian... you!!"

Mo Beichen was both shocked and furious, but both Cang Shitian's limbs and the blue light clung to him like gangrene on his bones. He wasn't able to move no matter how he struggled.

"YUN CHE!!"

His ears rang again as Cang Shitian howled on top of his lungs.

It was at this moment a black comet carrying six golden starlights in its body fell down from above... Mo Beichen's pupils dilated as the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword flew straight toward his solar plexus.

THANG—!

The boulder formation flashed, and hundreds of tiny cracks appeared all around the point of impact.

This was the worst damage it suffered since it had shown itself in this world.

Cang Shitian wasn't just locking Mo Beichen in place. He was also spending a significant amount of damage to devour his protective energy.

Yun Che was bounced away from the boulder formation yet again, but he caught himself as soon as he could with God Ash, twisted around in mid-air, and sailed toward Mo Beichen once more. The tip of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword made contact with the boulder formation one more time.

CHI~~~~~

This time, the boulder formation let out a shrill screech.

This time, the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword stabbed into the boulder formation instead of being repelled!

New cracks immediately overlapped the old cracks that weren't given the chance to heal.

The sight caused Mo Beichen's pupils to contract into needle points.

A bright light had reignited in Yun Che's grayish dark eyes. His body was on the verge of collapse, but somehow he found the strength to manifest a three-hundred meter tall pillar of devilish flames and poured them all to the tip of his sword.

CHICHICHICHICHICHICHI!!!

The miraculous eruption of power immediately pushed both Mo Beichen and Cang Shitian to the ground with unrelenting force.

Not only that, the Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity ate away layer after layer of stone energy until a thousand more cracks appeared on the boulder formation.

"Heh... hehe!"

Somehow, Cang Shitian found it in himself to laugh even as the three of them crashed toward the ground. He stared at Yun Che and spoke in a voice that no longer sounded anything like his human self. "Do you know why... I kidnapped your daughter... Yun Che?"

"..." Yun Che didn't answer him. He was too busy concentrating all of his strength and willpower into the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword and watching the tip inching ever closer toward Mo Beichen's solar plexus.

"It was to force you out into the open, of course!"

Cang Shitian roared, "You are... the man I acknowledge... you can die in battle..."

"But you are not allowed... to be a craven turtle!!"

His eyes suddenly exploded with blue energy.

Somehow finding a new, impossible surge of strength within himself, Cang Shitian pushed Mo Beichen and himself toward Yun Che with everything he had.

Chapter 1957 - Dead Crow Shattered Jade

Mo Beichen's descent abruptly came to a dead halt. It was because Cang Shitian was unleashing a sea of bluish divine light and pushing him toward Yun Che. The boulder formation stopping the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword immediately let out a series of high-pitched shrills that tore at everyone's soul sea.

CHICHICHI~~~~~

Crack after crack appeared on the yellowish brown profound light. The boulder formation that represented infinite despair just a few breaths ago now looked as cracked as a spider's web.

CRACK!!

The snap sounded as if it resonated in everyone's heart.

The noise became even shriller as the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword finally pierced through the boulder formation. When it stopped again, it was only two inches away from Mo Beichen's solar plexus.

"UGH~~!"

A hoarse growl escaped Mo Beichen's throat, and his eyes stretched so wide it looked like they might tear themselves apart. Realizing it was already too late to break free from Cang Shitian's hold, he instead focused on releasing all of his stone profound energy and pushing his abyssal profound artifact beyond its maximum capacity. Thanks to his decisive action, he was just barely able to maintain the cracked, nearly penetrated boulder formation.

Most of the flesh and blood on Yun Che's arms had been stripped away. His exposed bones were covered in thin cracks as well.

His willpower was fully centered within his eyes. They shone with a deeper gleam than even the Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity.

Cang Shitian had sacrificed his very own existence and the future of the Deep Sea Realm to buy him one final hope.

No matter what, he would not lose control of his body and his power a second time.

"Cang Shitian..." Mo Beichen uttered in a voice that sounded just as distorted as his facial features. "You foolish... mad... dog!"

Mo Beichen wasn't holding back any longer. He was investing every ounce of power into the boulder formation to keep the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword from advancing. He succeeded, but he wasn't able to repel the sword one bit.

Mo Beichen could not understand Cang Shitian.

The man had chosen to submit, and he had accepted his surrender.

An Abyssal Knight's promise was heavier than ten thousand mountains. The former Deep Sea God Emperor and his lineage would have enjoyed eternal peace and greater status in this side of the world.

So why did he suddenly betray him and sacrifice not just himself, but the lifeline of the Deep Sea Realm for just a chance to kill him!?

"Heh... heh... that's right... I am a mad dog!"

Cang Shitian's crazed screams stabbed into his ears once more.

By now, Mo Beichen fully understood that this guy was a mad dog who would not loosen his hold until they had gone to hell together. He was a man who carried enough madness and ruthlessness to ruin himself and his clan's future just to achieve his objective. He might cling to his throat even after they had descended to hell.

“Yun... Che! I swear, if you fail... to impale this fucker...”

“I will fucking murder you... in the afterlife myself!”

Every time Cang Shitian spoke, his voice sounded more and more distorted than before. His deep blue body was falling apart every second as well. However, the power locking Mo Beichen in place never wavered for even an instant.

“Bro... ther...” Cang Shuhe's cheeks were completely drenched in tears long ago.

As if responding to Cang Shitian's scream, Yun Che's eyes suddenly flashed purple. Behind the light was the image of an ancient dragon.

Screeeeeeee—!

A mighty cry resounded across the sky, and the Golden Crow's Manifest God descended upon this world!

At the same time, the proud image of the Dragon God soared into the sky!

It taxed him greatly to use Profound Handle: God Manifestation in his current state as a matter of course.

Chiang! Chiang!

Two Southern Sea divine origins crumbled at the same time.

The dragon let out a roar that stunned all who lived.

ROAR—!

The roar of a dragon and the screech of a golden crow reverberated throughout the God Realm of Absolute Beginning.

God Ash amplified Yun Che's profound energy beyond anything the current universe had ever witnessed, but its effects on his soul energy were paltry at best.

He was close to the brink of collapse, and Mo Beichen was a Half-God. There was no chance the Dragon God Domain could shatter the Abyssal Knight's soul sea, much less stun him for long.

That said, it was still the soul of the Dragon God!

Even if their levels were worlds apart, it would never be completely ineffective!

Meanwhile, Chi Wuyao had finally found her opportunity. When the Dragon God's roar resonated across the world, she immediately unleashed her Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul.

The draconic roar had blurred Mo Beichen's vision and caused him to lose focus for an instant. A pair of azure blue dots were clearly reflected in his eyes.

There would be no better opportunity than this. The Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul pierced all the way into Mo Beichen's soul sea during the instant his guard was lowered, and went on a rampage like the ancient devil it was.

"SHAAAAAAAAAAAAAH—!!"

Not even the Abyssal Knight could withhold a bloodcurdling scream when his soul was brutally rent.

His consciousness was scattered, and pieces of his soul were torn away from him. Naturally, he was unable to maintain his output of stone profound energy or his control over his profound abyssal artifact.

In fact, nearly sixty percent of his strength fell apart just like that.

It was at this moment the Golden Crow Manifested God his profound handle had transformed into unleashed its flames of annihilation and buried both Mo Beichen and Cang Shitian in a sea of golden flames.

Not only that, the black flames burning from Yun Che's body grew another three hundred meters, and he let out a throat-breaking shout that caused the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword to break through its limits yet again.

CHICHICHIZZT...

BOOMCRACK!!!!

There was a noise that sounded like the world itself had been sundered in two halves, and the boulder formation that brought them infinite despair finally crumbled into pieces and scattered a shower of yellowish brown light.

Everyone's heart came to a stop when the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword finally made contact with Mo Beichen's solar plexus.

DANG!!!

Blood and flesh scattered all over the place, but the sound that reached everyone's ears was wrong. They should've heard the sound of Mo Beichen's flesh being sundered apart like ripping cloth, not that accursed sound of metal clashing against metal!

They looked... and discovered in horror that a third boulder formation had stopped Yun Che's attack! It was part of the chest armor Mo Beichen was wearing!

A fully intact boulder formation!

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword was literally millimeters away from Mo Beichen's chest, but it couldn't move any further no matter what.

"... !!" Yun Che gritted his teeth so hard that blood literally jetted out of his gums.

"Ugh... ughhh... heh... hehahahahaha!"

Mo Beichen slowly raised his head. His soul was still convulsing in pain, but his eyes had already regained their clarity. The corners of his lips were tugged into a painful but malicious smile.

“How’s that... for despair?!” He yelled hoarsely before slowly circulating his scattered profound energy once more.

He was a guardian knight among the Abyssal Knights. To protect was his sworn duty.

A guardian could not protect others without protecting themselves first.

The “Eternal Boulder” was, in fact, a full-bodied soft armor. The arm shields covering his arms were just a part of it.

If the arm shields were meant to protect others, then the silver armor was meant to protect himself. Of course, they both possessed an insane amount of resistance.

Not only that, a boulder formation that would trigger automatically when its wearer was in danger was sealed within the soft armor.

This was the first time that boulder formation came active since he put on the Eternal Boulder though.

He never imagined that his first time triggering it would happen in this lowly world instead of the Abyss or the Misty Sea.[1]

To say that it was shameful would be the understatement of the century!

Yun Che’s pupils dilated more and more. His teeth were literally shattering from the sheer amount of pressure he was putting on them. However, no matter how much the Golden Crow flames burned and the Devil Flame of Eternal Calamity devoured, the tip of his sword refused to progress even a millimeter forward.

The new boulder formation was starting to crack bit by bit... but with only four Southern Sea divine origins left in his body, the chances he would tear it apart before they all disintegrated was next to none.

“You lowly reptiles... do not... deserve... this!!”

“HAAAAAAAAAAAAH!”

With a roar of rage, shame, and release, he dispelled the Dragon God Soul’s intimidation effect and Chi Wuyao’s Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul at the same time.

As his eyes finally regained their normal focus, his profound energy began circulating in earnest once more. The final boulder formation glowed even brighter, and the rate at which the cracks were growing slowed to a crawl.

At the distance, Chi Wuyao swayed violently on her feet as her soul sea fell into a state of uproar. Thankfully, Jie Xin and Jie Ling were there to catch her immediately.

In the end, nine inches of refined steel wasn’t enough to penetrate thirty thousand meters of dead wood. Chi Wuyao’s devil soul had suffered an unprecedented amount of damage after Mo Beichen had expelled it with his own soul.

“AHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!”

Cang Shitian was screaming at the top of his lungs. He only wished he could transform every inch of his crumbling body into energy that could devour Mo Beichen right here and now. However, no matter how hard he pushed, he could not feel with his remaining spiritual perception the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword and Mo Beichen’s heart getting any closer.

Chiang!

The fifteenth Southern Sea divine origin crumbled.

The last three Southern Sea divine origins began flashing desperately.

“It’s over... it’s all over.”

Murmurs as powerless as the autumn wind escaped many a mouth.

Despite having chosen to submit to fate and surrender to the Abyss a while ago, they could not help the deep sorrow welling inside their souls.

Cang Shitian’s howl had pierced through their bent knees and cowering souls like infinite blades. The man himself had lit a blue star of hope in everyone’s eyes.

Suddenly, they didn’t want to submit to fate anymore. They desperately wished that Emperor Yun and Cang Shitian could exterminate the abyssal invader.

Even if they knew it would only earn them a temporary peace. Even if they knew they were destined to be devoured by the Abyss.

At least someone from their world would have resisted and even defied the odds.

At least it would prove that they hadn’t surrendered to the inevitable without any pride whatsoever.

Unfortunately, it seemed like even that brilliant star of the Deep Sea... still wasn’t enough to earn them a victory.

.....

At the edge of the battlefield, a corner where no one had any attention to spare right now.

“I guess it’s not enough.”

A man muttered to himself while looking at the sky.

He was clad in a robe of fiery red and golden lines.

Golden flames that looked like two suns shone behind his eyes, and he looked so young an ignorant person would not recognize him as the realm king of the Flame God Realm.

Huo Poyun.

He turned around and faced Yan Wancang, Yan Juehai, and Huo Rulie. All three sect masters sensed something and looked at him as well.



“It appears that there is something in this world even he cannot do after all.”

“In that case... it’s my turn now,” Huo Poyun declared with a smile. He might be the only one who knew how complicated the emotions that lay behind his own smile were.

And here I thought I was going to miss this “opportunity”.

“Poyun, you...” Huo Rulie stuttered while raising a hand.

Huo Poyun slowly swept his gaze across the three sect masters before turning back toward the front. He said slowly, “Master and sect masters, I’m going. I entrust the Flame God Realm into your hands.”

“The gift of education and the sin of betraying my responsibilities... I am sorry, but I will have to repay my debt during my next life.”

“Poyun!”

“Poyun!!”

Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai cried out and grabbed Huo Poyun’s shoulders at the same time.

“You’re different from them, Poyun. You’re different from all of us!” Yan Wancang shook his head repeatedly while tightening his grip. “The world may be consigned to eternal damnation, but you... he will take you to the Abyss and transform you into a powerful Abyssal Knight! You may even reach a higher realm and future that no one could even dream of!”

“This may be a calamity for us, but it is a chance of a lifetime for you!”

“Anyone can sacrifice their lives to protect this world, but not you! You have absolutely no reason to do such a thing!”

Chiang!

Another Southern Sea divine origin vanished from Yun Che’s body.

The last two Southern Sea divine lights flashed dimmer and dimmer, but still it wasn’t able to shatter that yellowish brown boulder formation.

“...” Huo Poyun did not move or look back at them. His gaze was fully affixed to that man in black flames. “Many times I have experienced confusion, uncertainty, disorientation, loss, impulsiveness, regret, apprehension, fear, trepidation, reluctance, resentment, and more in this life...”

His voice was so gentle and peaceful that you could almost miss the emotion behind it.

“But just this once, I can declare with certainty that I feel not a shred of fear or regret in my body.”

“In fact, I can almost hear a voice telling me that I had lived all my life... for this very moment.”

“...” Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai froze, unable to say another word in response.

It was at this moment a pair of hands grabbed the sect masters’ wrists and, tremblingly but firmly, removed them from Huo Poyun’s shoulders.

“Go, Poyun.” Huo Rulie said with a voice like sand, “I have watched your growth since you were a child. There were countless times I was pleased, and several times I was furious and disappointed in you.”

“There is one thing that has never changed since the beginning, however.”

Huo Rulie’s eternally burning eyes somehow became misted. “You are, and will always be... my greatest pride.”

“...” Huo Poyun thrust his palm behind himself.

Boom—

A heat wave pushed the three sect masters and all nearby profound practitioners far, far away from him.

Flames beneath his feet, he rose to the sky and dashed straight toward Yun Che.

Golden flames came alive on his body. It wasn’t big, but it was incredibly rich and dazzling.

The golden light dispelled the darkness, pierced through the battlefield of Half Gods, and illuminated both heaven and earth. Soon, there wasn’t an inch of the world that wasn’t golden bright.

Everyone turned to look toward the east. They were Divine Sovereigns and Divine Masters, and yet they almost couldn’t withstand the golden light shining against their eyes.

“What... is that?”

The golden flames continued to burn brightly.

It wasn’t Huo Poyun’s profound energy that was fueling it however.

It was his body, his bloodline, his soul, his faith... everything.

He looked down at his hands. His fingers had already transformed into pure flames.

The rest of his body was growing blurrier and blurrier as well.

Remember this... Yun Che!

In the end, you still owe me one.

And this time...

You will never...

Ever...

Be able to repay this debt!!

The origin blood and origin soul the Golden Crow’s Soul had gifted him and his lifetime of pride... were all burning to their fullest.

His final soul might have wrapped itself around Mo Beichen.

But his gaze... never left Yun Che’s back.

What sounded like the final judgment of the ancient True God, the Golden Crow resounded in everyone's ears:

“Nine... Heavens... Cry... of... Dead... Crow... and... Shattered... Jade—”

Chapter 1958 - The End of Mo Beichen

The last two Southern Sea divine origins could last him for another four breaths at best.

Even if the duration was ten or even a hundred times longer, his body would not last that long.

Already, there wasn't a single part in his body that was in good condition. If he was anyone else, he would be dead already.

The final boulder formation was being devoured little by little, but to shatter it in four breaths... it was just impossible.

His clenched teeth relaxed, and the rampaging emotions behind his black eyes gradually melted into a deep pool of darkness.

Qingyue, I want so badly to cherish everything you've left behind for me.

But in the end, I...

His Heretic God Profound Veins began shaking violently. Crimson patterns began emerging one after another.

With my flesh and blood... Other Shore Asura!

A long time ago at the Star God Realm, he had willingly transformed into the Asura in order to save Jasmine from certain death. In the end, he was able to revive in an incomplete state thanks to the phoenix's Flame of Nirvana.

This time though, there would be no coming back. The moment he transformed into the Asura was the moment he died.

Right before he was about to activate the Heretic God's forbidden power, a ray of pure gold pierced through his eyes and traveled straight into his soul. It dyed not just the world, but his soul sea in crimson gold.

A crow's cry rang true beside his ears.

He was most familiar with the Golden Crow's cry, of course. However, the power, aura, and sharpness behind it... surpassed every cry he had ever heard in his life.

Even the Golden Crow blood in his body had boiled up in an instant.

He didn't look back, but the all-encompassing image of a Golden Crow had appeared in Yun Che's soul sea.

At the God Realm of Absolute Beginning, all that was living raised their heads...

And stared at the one and only image of the Golden Crow.

Its golden wings burned space and drew long, golden cracks as they spread wide open. It let out a shrill, mournful cry before crashing toward Mo Beichen.

.....

In ancient times, the Vermillion Bird, the Phoenix, and the Golden Crow were the three supreme masters of fire.

Each of them possessed an ultimate flame that could only be burned once in their lives.

They are:

Vermillion Redemption,

Phoenix Nirvana,

And Golden Crow Shattered Jade!

The Flame of Redemption and Flame of Nirvana were flames that burned after the Vermillion Bird and the Phoenix had died. But that wasn't the case for the Golden Crow.

The Golden Crow's flame was only matched by its temper. Its ultimate flame was the same. It was a flame of destruction where the Golden Crow sacrificed itself to kill its enemy.

Death was preferable to dishonor.

The Vermillion Bird's Flame of Redemption was forever gone from this world. It would never appear again.

The Phoenix's Flame of Nirvana had once burned for Yun Che, but it was a gift from the Phoenix Spirit and not a product of his own phoenix bloodline and soul. As a result, it was incredibly weak and incomplete. Although it was still able to achieve a rebirth, it only saved Yun Che's life but not his cultivation.

Feng Xue'er could have ignited the true Flame of Nirvana, but the flame had already been used up by Yun Che.

Therefore, she would not be able to come back to life even though she possessed the complete Phoenix inheritance.

In other words, the Flame of Nirvana was gone forever from this world as well.

To date, the only ultimate flame still remaining in this world was the one engraved in Huo Poyun's Golden Crow bloodline.

And just now, it had been ignited for the first and last time.

.....

The entire world was encompassed by the Golden Crow's final cry and light.

Even Yun Che's Golden Crow Manifested God was completely overwhelmed.

The divine power that descended from above was greater than the Half-God Mo Beichen, greater than the unstable form Cang Shitian achieved with the ultimate sacrifice, and greater than Yun Che in God Ash.

Huo Poyun was nowhere to be seen in the world of golden flames. However, they all knew with absolute certainty that the presence and divine cry belonged to none other than the ancient True God, the Golden Crow!

Mo Beichen could only stare blankly as the divine beast that seemingly appeared from an ancient illusionary realm grew closer and closer. His pupils were fully dilated, and his mouth was opened wide.

He could not make a sound even after the Golden Crow's image had completely dominated his vision.

It was because the bright, golden flames were accompanied by a terrible soul pressure that utterly crushed his soul.

RUMBUZZ—

The crow let out one last cry of boundless might and mournful determination before landing on Mo Beichen's torso. The next instant, the Flame of Jade Shatter engulfed everything.

All of the world was golden flames.

Outside the battlefield, the spectators stared at the sky like mindless zombies.

It was because what they were seeing could only be described as the descent of the true sun!

However, only a handful of them knew that the falling sun was the final miracle of the Golden Crow True God, and... the end of one of the greatest geniuses in the world. A genius who, in spite of the limitless future ahead of him, chose death.

"UAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

"Hahaha... HAHAAHAHA!"

Mo Beichen's bloodcurdling screams and Cang Shitian's mad laughter mingled together amidst the sea of golden flames.

The Flame of Shattered Jade burned everything equally—or it should have, but not a hair on Yun Che's body was harmed.

Like solid ice basking in the midday sun, Mo Beichen's boulder formation melted at a visible rate beneath the sea of flames.

The cracks surrounding the tip of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword also spread faster than ever before.

Chiang!

Another Southern Sea divine origin crumbled to dust.

He only had one divine origin left to support him now.

Mind and strength reforming and hitting their peak in an instant, Yun Che ignored the blood jetting out of his eyeballs like many mini fountains, crushed all the teeth in his mouth in an instant, and howled like the most brutal wraith in the pits of hell.

As it turned out, miracle begets miracle.

Somehow, he was able to tap into a surge of power greater than nearly everything he had mustered until this point despite his depleted and near collapsed body.

"DIE!"

"DIE!!"

"DIEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!"

There was a corner in his soul that was cold and dead for the longest time, and Huo Poyun had brought it back to life with the Flame of Shattered Jade that he fueled with his life.

He roared at Mo Beichen with everything he had.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword responded to his absolute rage by digging even harder toward Mo Beichen's solar plexus.

Cang Shitian's crumbling body was being swiftly consumed by the flames, but he never stopped locking Mo Beichen in place so that the Half-God would not be able to escape Yun Che's attack or the sea of flames.

Yun Che's God Ash, Cang Shitian's body lock, and Huo Poyun's Flame of Shattered Jade. Finally...

Bang—

There was a crisp noise that sounded like breaking glass pierced through the air, and the third boulder formation... finally shattered beneath Yun Che's sword.

The world in Yun Che's eyes suddenly slowed down infinitesimally. He could see every strand of profound energy scattering and dispersing from the broken boulder formation.

For the longest time, the yellowish brown light was nothing but the light of despair that Mo Beichen had shone on them, but now... it was the light of miracle.

Mo Beichen had been putting all of his profound energy into the boulder formations. He did not spare even an ounce of strength to coat his physical body in a sheen of protective aura.

In other words, he was completely defenseless after his last boulder formation was destroyed.

Mo Beichen's world had become just as slow as Yun Che's as well. He reflexively sucked in his abdomen in a futile attempt to avoid Yun Che's blade, but he could only watch as the burning blade pierced through the shattered boulder formation, touched the skin on his solar plexus...

And went in without resistance.

The tip, the blade... the sword didn't stop until it was completely through his body.

Finally, he came eye to eye with Yun Che's boiling, black eyes.

The Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword had impaled Mo Beichen completely. Naturally, Cang Shitian was impaled with it.

"HE LING!!"

Yun Che roared within his depleted soul sea.

It was unnecessary, really.

The Sky Poison Spirit had been preparing and waiting for this very moment since the beginning.

The instant the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword had impaled Mo Beichen, the image of a young woman appeared seemingly out of nowhere.

She was as beautiful as an elf. She had long, emerald green hair and emerald-like eyes. She looked perfectly distinct even though the world around her was completely covered in flames.

Her countenance looked serene and sacred. Arms crossed before her chest, she slowly closed her eyes before spreading them apart. An impossibly thick surge of ghastly green flowed into the blade of the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword...

And exploded within Mo Beichen's internal organs.

His soul was stunned, his strength was dispersed, and the poison had been detonated inside his body... he might be a Half-God, but there was nothing even he could do to stop this.

It was as if the ghastly green had transformed into countless vipers that desired nothing more than to devour everything. It swiftly spread to his internal organs, flesh, blood, bones, profound veins...

By the time Mo Beichen regained his ability to think and channel his strength, the ghastly green had already spread to every corner, every hair of his body.

Even his golden eyes had become dyed in terrifying green.

"Ah... ahhhh..."

He felt as if millions, no, billions of vipers were cruelly tearing his body into pieces. Every limb, every organ was spasming uncontrollably from the sudden outburst of abject pain, fear, and despair. His very skin was turning greener and greener by the second. [1]

"Ah... ahh... ahhhh... no... no..."

His cries weren't loud, but there was no mistaking the absolute pain and panic behind them. It felt like he would've screamed louder if his throat wasn't constricted by billions of figurative vipers.

The pain was also accompanied by bone-deep fear.

It was because his twitching, painful soul could sense the impending march of death clearer than ever before.

He had never felt it so close even when he was cornered in the depths of the Endless Fog, or facing the deadly trials of the Pure Land.

“Ha... haha...”

Mo Beichen wasn't the only one who was hearing death's footsteps. Cang Shitian was rapidly dying as well.

However, his laughter, weak as it might be, was anything but regretful.

As his mind relaxed, the Deep Sea divine power that had been residing in his existence until this point finally faded away.

As a result, he was unable to maintain his hold on Mo Beichen any longer and fell backward in a scattering mist of blue light.

Chi Wuyao's devil soul was seriously injured during the previous attack, but her spiritual perception was still encompassing the entire battlefield. In fact, she had been sensing everything with her Nirvana Devil Emperor Soul since the start of the battle. She was the only one who could due to the level of her soul.

The golden flames were preventing her from getting a clear look at the combatants, but she could feel Cang Shitian's final consciousness slipping away into nothingness, and Mo Beichen's soul screaming in pain and despair with her perception.

That was how she knew that Yun Che had done it.

The battle wasn't over yet though. A hyena's craziest and deadliest moment was when it was at the brink of death.

“Teleport Yun Che back now, Meiyin!”

She urged Shui Meiyin with her soul voice. At the same time, the World Piercer came alight in full force.

However, Shui Meiyin did not unleash its crimson divine energy even though she had been preparing to do so since the beginning. She was unable to act even after Chi Wuyao had yelled within her soul to take action.

The problem was that the battlefield was overflowing with the power of Half-Gods. It was a level of distortion unlike anything this godless world had ever witnessed, much less withstood. They warped space, energy fields, vision and even perception like crazy, not to mention that she was super far away from Yun Che right now.

She was simply unable to determine Yun Che's spatial position on short notice.

“Ah... ahhhh... ah...”

Mo Beichen's groans grew more and more painful. As a guardian knight, he was incredibly resistant to many deadly poisons and corruption, and yet his protective energy was unable to expel the terrifying poison rampaging inside his body at all.

It was because it was the Sky Poison of the Sky Poison Pearl.



Mo Beichen felt as if he was falling toward a bottomless abyss. His despair grew deeper and deeper until finally, it all transformed into madness.

“Ah... arghhh... AHHHHH!!”

A full-throated, lung-bursting howl abruptly escaped Mo Beichen’s throat. Instead of channeling his remaining energy to expel the Sky Poison, he instead conjured a mighty explosion...

BOOM—

A gigantic void instantly appeared within the weakening flames.

In that void, Cang Shitian’s crumbling body broke into several pieces before further disintegrating to countless specks of blue dust...

Underneath the light of dawn, it looked like the remains of a blue star on the verge of death.

Barely clinging to consciousness, Yun Che concentrated the last of his powers in front of himself.

There was a mighty boom, and he was sent flying at space-shredding speed. It was like he was struck by the hammer of the heavens.

It was at this moment Cang Shitian’s voice rang in his soul:

“Please... treat... Shuhe... well...”

The soul voice vanished, and the blue star finally passed away from this world.

His final words were no joyous laughter, no venting roar, no famous quote that would last for a thousand autumns. It was just a simple request... that was filled with infinite love and yearning.