

## Three Realms 2141

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### Chapter 2141: The Final Unresolved Concern

Jiang Chen's interest was piqued. Before he could say anything, the divine master continued, "And still the Great Veluriyam Torch can do more than that. Its radiance can expose all demons for what they are, no matter what disguise they've donned. With it, no outsiders will be able to slip through your notice."

Jiang Chen's heart pounded. That would be invaluable! He knew of some rare treasures in the heavenly planes that could also reveal a being's true nature, such as monster-revealing mirrors or demon-revealing mirrors. A casual reflection was sufficient to reveal their subjects in full.

"The torch has many other uses, but I leave them for your discovery. Work diligently to refine the item to make it yours as soon as possible."

The fact that the divine master had gifted the crowning treasure of Veluriyam made clear his generosity. Jiang Chen was excited, but also felt the weight of his responsibility even more keenly.

The torch might have been the reason why Xia Tianze had been able to detect all the minute changes in Jiang Chen's emotions.

All in all, the torch was a rare treasure and an invaluable asset to him.

Divine Veluriyam weakened considerably after the explanation. He narrowed his eyes, on the verge of collapsing.

The realization hit Jiang Chen hard. He knew the divine master had died back in the ancient demonic war. However, once this strand of consciousness fell apart as well, there would be nothing left of the divine master in this world.

Jiang Chen didn't have a history with Divine Veluriyam, but the short interaction was enough for him to become fond of the old master.

He didn't want Divine Veluriyam to disappear, if it at all possible.

Nonetheless, even the Celestial Emperor would have to pay a heavy price to go against the principles of life and death. Jiang Chen couldn't do anything despite his sorrow.

It dawned on him that Divine Veluriyam had brought up his personal gifts and the various heritage of the capital, including the vault, pill room, herb garden, armory, and libraries, but not the Eternal Amaranthine Tree.

Was the tree not as important in his eyes?

The curiosity niggled at Jiang Chen.

Although the divine master's consciousness was about to dissipate, he sensed the question in Jiang Chen's mind. He struggled to open his eyes. "What else do you wish to know, Jiang Chen?"

"I do have one question still, senior."

“Oh? What is it? Seek answers while I can still provide them.”

Jiang Chen set aside his hesitation. “Before entering the palace, I saw a tree at the entrance. Do you have anything you’d like to say about that tree?”

The divine master’s unfocused eyes opened wide, as if he’d gained a newfound strength. “A tree, you said?”

“That’s right.” Jiang Chen was befuddled. Wasn’t the divine master reacting a bit too strongly?

“Do you mean in the front yard of the palace?” The god’s breathing quickened, compounding Jiang Chen’s confusion.

Still, he nodded. “That’s the one.”

Divine Veluriyam glanced at the young man expectantly. “Quickly, tell me, what has happened to the tree? What is it like now?”

“What is it like? Does it change shape?” Jiang Chen explained, “It’s spread its branches and leaves and borne a number of fruit. From a distance, the tree top looks as elegant as a dancing fairy.”

“Really? Do you speak the truth?” The divine master’s eyes shone with yearning. It seemed like he’d like to run out of the palace to see for himself.

Unfortunately, his consciousness could no longer leave the palace.

He heaved a long sigh. In a remorseful tone, he lamented, “What a shame that I can never see it myself. The tree has finally grown and even borne fruit! I waited for a hundred thousand years and saw nothing. But after another hundred thousand years of slumber, it’s grown and matured. Is this the capriciousness of fate?”

“I don’t understand, senior,” Jiang Chen responded.

“It’s no regular tree, Jiang Chen. It’s said the seed comes from the primordial times. It took a hundred thousand years for it to sprout, and another hundred thousand years to grow its trunk. Before I took the final stand against the demons, it still hadn’t matured, let alone bear any fruit.” He continued in a regretful tone, “The tree must be a remarkable species. What a shame I won’t have the chance to see it again. It’s said that the tree is the linchpin of Veluriyam Capital’s fortunes. Nothing else can grow in the garden outside. All other plants end up wilting.”

His speech slowed and his words slurred and stumbled. His consciousness faded in and out of existence as he murmured to himself.

Jiang Chen fell silent. He knew the divine master would soon leave this world once and for all.

On an impulse, he exclaimed loudly, “The tree is a heavenly plane species called the Eternal Amaranthine Tree, Great Divine Veluriyam. It’s one of the treasures on the heavenly rankings. Its fruit can greatly benefit a divine cultivator. It should exist only a heavenly plane, yet here it is. That’s evidence for the capital’s bright future!”

Divine Veluriyam gargled some intelligible noises. It wasn't clear if he'd understood Jiang Chen's words, but his unfocused eyes were joyous.

Sadly, his consciousness turned vague and indistinct, slowly evaporating like water.

Sensing that filled Jiang Chen's heart with grief. They'd only met today, yet he felt as if he'd lost a close friend he'd known for hundreds of thousands of years.

Sadly, the divine master hadn't known what the tree was and hadn't been able to witness the tree reach maturity in his lifetime.

A question arose in Jiang Chen's heart. Just how long had the Divine Abyss Continent been around? Why would the tree appear in a mundane plane like Divine Abyss?

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#### **Chapter 2142: Foundations of Heritage**

With Divine Veluriyam's death, it'd be impossible to get an answer anytime soon. Perhaps not even the divine master himself had a clear answer.

Judging from his last words, he didn't know much about the Eternal Amaranthine Tree either. He knew only that the seed had been planted in the front yard of the Veluriyam Palace, and that the tree hadn't yet matured when he died.

The tree's existence was quite bizarre.

Jiang Chen didn't have the time to search for an answer. The tree was an unexpected find that imparted confidence about the future.

There really was something different about the Divine Abyss Continent. Compared to a mundane plane, it stood out in many ways, including the tree, the four divine beasts, and the abundance of divine cultivators in the ancient times.

It greatly exceeded what a mundane plane should be.

It made Jiang Chen wonder if the continent had something to do with his past life. Given how it stood out from the mundane plane, it didn't make sense for his father, the Celestial Emperor, to not be involved somehow.

"With heaven's blessing, I've finally ascended to ninth level empyrean. Godhood is but a step away. Perhaps the answer to this mystery will come to me soon."

The closer he was to divine realm, the calmer he became.

He crossed his legs and took in the atmosphere of the palace, silently mourning Divine Veluriyam's parting. Finally, he rose to his feet and made his way to the statue.

Without the divine master's consciousness, the statue had lost its liveliness. It was still lifelike, but it was now nothing more than an inanimate object.

As per the divine master's instruction, Jiang Chen found a jade slip beneath the statue. Written on it was the manner of how the spirit veins had been sealed and how they could be unsealed, an overview of the

Veluriyam Capital's heritage, the heritage and locations of the ten leading ancient factions, and other speculations the divine master had made.

Then there were the three gifts the divine master left to Jiang Chen.

The three divine relics were laid out to the left of the statue, and the three Veluriyam Divine Talismans to the right.

The Great Veluriyam Torch stood atop the altar behind the statue. The light flickered like a regular lamp would. It was so static in its presence, it seemed as if time had come to a halt.

The torch's radiance had remained unwavering throughout the ages.

Jiang Chen put away the talismans, the relics, and the jade slip, then went up to the torch and considered it solemnly.

As if activated by his presence, the torch shot out of the altar in a flash of light and hovered before Jiang Chen.

The torch was unassuming as there was no prismatic or blinding light. And yet, when it hovered before Jiang Chen, he could feel a tremendous power emanating from it, threatening to destroy heaven and earth.

He gingerly communicated with the torch with his consciousness.

Fortunately, the torch seemed to have received the command to recognize Jiang Chen as its new master. It morphed into a ray of light and disappeared into the young genius' body.

He sensed it with his consciousness and was surprised to realize that the torch could take on different forms to hide itself. How remarkable!

Even he was impressed for a moment.

Although the Great Veluriyam Torch had recognized him as its master, he still had to refine it. Only after that would the torch become a personal treasure that was part of himself, able to be wielded in actual battles. Otherwise it'd be too clumsy to use.

It was fortunate that the method to refine the torch was written on the jade slip as well. Great Divine Veluriyam had plainly valued the torch a great deal.

Jiang Chen wasn't in a hurry. Without ascending to divinity, it'd be next to impossible for him to refine the torch.

He didn't want to senselessly waste time. Refinement could wait until he reached godhood. It'd take him much less time and effort then. There were many more important things to turn his mind to.

First, he had to at least explore the heritage of the capital.

At the center of the capital were the most fundamental and important facilities - the vault, pill room, armory, libraries, and herb garden. They encircled the palace and formed an integrated structure. Safeguarding the core structure was a powerful formation.

Even Jiang Chen shuddered when he set his eyes on the formation. If he hadn't entered through the Six Palaces of Heritage and received the acknowledgement of the capital's heritage beforehand, he would've been outright killed by it!

It was night and day compared to the mundane Veluriyam Capital he knew. This was what the heritage of an ancient leading faction should be like!

Jiang Chen marveled at the scene unfolding in front of him. This was the real legacy of Veluriyam Capital. The mundane city outside was nothing but a red herring. The same was true of the pagoda.

The empyrean decree rumored to have been hidden in the pagoda was a distraction as well. The real treasure were the Six Palaces of Heritage and the ancient Veluriyam Palace!

Jiang Chen toured all of the facilities around the main palace. Every one of them left him impressed with the past prosperity of the ancient faction.

The palace wasn't as well-established and well-stocked as the Celestial Palace from his past life, but it was more impressive than anything in a mundane plane had any right to be in many aspects.

He had to admit that the Veluriyam Palace did deserve to be a leading faction in the ancient time.

The abundance of resources and foundation gave Jiang Chen newfound confidence. He'd been pessimistic about the future of the human domain, but now there was hope. The human domain had a very real chance of seeing things through to the other side!

Veluriyam Capital had been but one of the ten leading factions. He would uncover the other respective heritage he'd yet to find.

Once he unsealed the spirit veins as well, the human domain could very well become what it had been in the ancient times!

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2143: Power of Creation, Assailing Divinity**

Jiang Chen made a few rounds of Veluriyam Palace, inspecting anything and everything. He knew this ancient palace was where he was meant to be. His base of operations would shift from the Sacred Peafowl Mountain to this palace.

The formation around the palace was several hundred times better than the one keeping the mountain safe.

Although Jiang Chen had reinforced the mountain's defensive formation, it'd started out as a great emperor legacy. Therefore, it had potential, but it wouldn't be of much help in the future.

The ancient Veluriyam Palace, on the other hand, had been a leading faction in the ancient times. Its strength was easy enough to imagine.

Jiang Chen spent a long time getting to know the layout of the palace and the other areas. Only when he knew the place like the back of his hand did he return to the front yard.

It was time to consume an Eternal Amaranthine Fruit.

The fruit he selected was crystal clear with a faint green glow. Its supreme heavenly energy calmed Jiang Chen as he considered it.

“I’m relying on you to ascend to divinity!” Jiang Chen closed his eyes and entered a meditative trance.

The Eternal Amaranthine Fruit was no regular fruit. Before consumption, he had to first inspect its properties and make the necessary preparations. After all, it was listed in the heavenly rankings.

After four hours, Jiang Chen finally emerged from his meditation. It was time.

In less than fifteen minutes, he finished refining the fruit, guiding the tremendous energy into his internal organs, his meridians, and every part of his body.

Even in the ancient times, divine cultivators had to be careful when they consumed an Eternal Amaranthine Fruit. They had to consider if the fruit’s energy would be too great for them to take and backlash instead.

That was why Jiang Chen was exercising such caution.

The energy started a cascade of reactions. He felt as if he’d been thrown into a cauldron, being refined by the fruit’s energy.

A myriad of thoughts entered his head. Vivid memories from his past life surfaced one after another, mixing with his memories of the present life. It became almost impossible for him to differentiate between the two.

His physical body continued to change and evolve.

His transformation had been stunning enough when he entered ninth level empyrean. Now, what the fruit’s energy was doing to him was even more wondrous.

Doors to new territories opened before him.

His empyrean decree gradually melted and metamorphosed as he was refined by the energy.

Jiang Chen perked up. It was time for him to refine his divine decree!

Once he succeeded in overcoming this challenge, he’d officially be a divine cultivator.

It was challenging and time-consuming, not unlike drilling through a stone with droplets of water. Nonetheless, Jiang Chen prepared so long for this precise moment.

He had to be patient and careful.

Irrelevant thoughts faded out of his mind as his consciousness guided the creation of his divine decree.

Without the fruit, the process would take at least three to five years. It might even take decades or centuries, and would certainly be a thorny threshold to cross.

Jiang Chen’s pursuit of martial dao had been too smooth. He’d encountered almost no bottlenecks. What others had trouble overcoming, he overcame with ease.

Reaching divinity was the most important turning point in his martial dao.

Time flew by quietly.

Three days, five days, ten days, a month, three months...

Refining a divine decree was a prolonged process. That was something every divine cultivator had to face. The longer the process took, the higher the chance of success.

A short refining time meant a premature failure. Jiang Chen wasn't going to allow that to happen.

Six months, a year...

Finally, Jiang Chen could sense the mist in his consciousness dissipating. After his empyrean decree had melted, it'd slowly taken shape as a new divine decree in his mind.

Finally!

He was ecstatic. He'd finally ascended to divinity! He was a true, blue, bonafide god!

He wanted to crow his glee to the world. All sorts of emotions and thoughts flooded his mind. The various ties of fate, destiny, and karma from past and current lives crystallized in sentiment.

"Success, success!!" The first thing he thought of was his father in his past life, the Celestial Emperor. He would've been so greatly thrilled and gratified.

Jiang Chen's greatest regret from his past life was the fact that he couldn't cultivate. Not only could he not shoulder his father's burden, he'd been a burden instead.

If his father hadn't refined the Sun Moon Pill to alter his son's destiny, perhaps there wouldn't have been a catastrophe in the heavenly planes.

That had always weighed on Jiang Chen's conscience.

Now that he'd finally ascended to divinity, he was capable of helping his father to some degree, but how was he going to find his father?

Did the Taiyuan Plane still stand?

Did his father still live?

He suddenly recalled the chain seal in his consciousness. He'd always suspected that the seal had something to do with his past life. Perhaps he'd be able to gain some insights after ascending to divinity.

He wanted to give it a try.

The seal yet remained in his consciousness; the only change being that it'd become even more material. Nine droplets of light encircled it like a bracelet, creating a chain link. They too seemed to have become more pronounced.

Feeling out the terrifying might of the seal once more with his consciousness, it felt like there was an ancient demon or beast trapped within it. Once freed, it could destroy the entirety of Divine Abyss Continent.

"I wonder what's behind it?" Jiang Chen carefully approached the seal with his consciousness, trying to understand it.

His caution turned out to be warranted.

As soon as his strand of consciousness got close to the seal, a tremendous force shot out in reaction, blasting him away. If he hadn't been careful, that wouldn't have ended well for him!

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2144: A Ferule**

Jiang Chen was exceedingly upset. He was a god now, so why did the chain seal's mysteries remain firmly raveled? What exactly did it contain?

He desperately wanted to know the answer to that question, but the seal was unreachably distant. It showed him absolutely no face and repelled his mind's attempts to communicate.

This was exceedingly frustrating.

Jiang Chen wasn't in the mood to give up though. He tested the waters more carefully the second time around, using a different approach to find an opening.

Perhaps each luminous dot was a key node upon the chain seal. All he needed to do was find the most yielding one.

Alas, reality disappointed him once more. Every point on the chain seal radiated stubborn refusal.

Still, he wasn't discouraged just yet. He stubbornly kept pursuing every clue he could. He had a feeling that though the chain seal ignored him and bounced him off, it wasn't repulsing him. In fact, it seemed to be accepting of him in some way.

He wouldn't be nearly so persistent otherwise.

Jiang Chen kept at it for most of the day. Just when he had lost almost all hope, the chain seal suddenly underwent a strange change.

A starry expanse filled the space all around it, following which one of the luminous points fell away like a ripe fruit.

The remaining eight quickly whirred to repair the hole. In an instant, the gap vanished as fast as it had appeared.

The light stormed out of Jiang Chen's mind in a flash, landing like a descending meteor in front of him. It was no bigger than a rice grain, but an aura of majestic power enveloped it.

Jiang Chen was astonished. This new development was positively startling, as was the miraculous reformation of the chain seal afterward.

What on earth was going on here?

Despite his curiosity, he knew that at least a fragment of truth was right in front of him.



He trained both eyes unblinkingly upon the light, which spun round and round before him until it exploded in a burst of radiance. Something emerged from it that shocked the young man a great deal.

It was a gold-plated ferule with a classical, noble design.

Not a particularly extraordinary item, to be sure, but it caused Jiang Chen's eyes to redden. He was on the verge of tears.

Father!

He nearly blurted this out as he saw it. He hadn't expected to see this ruler again in his life at all.

Yes, he remembered the ferule's design and measure well. When he was very young, he had studied within the celestial imperial library as an impotent child. Because he couldn't cultivate, learning was the only thing he could do – not that he had liked it much at the time.

His father had often accompanied him, striking the palms of his hands whenever he entertained thoughts of giving up.

Much like any father eager for his son to succeed, he had made a strong impression upon the young Jiang Chen.

His father had always been so strict, hiding a deep adoration within his solemnity. Jiang Chen hadn't been able to understand his father when he was younger, especially since he'd known he couldn't cultivate to help his father in any meaningful way.

Now though, it seemed that there had been a point to all that studying after all.

If not for his father's discipline back then, would he have managed to thrive on Divine Abyss to nearly the same degree?

His scholarship had done precious little for him in his other past, but it was the primary reason he had been able to come so far in this life.

The sight of the ferule profoundly touched him.

Though there were no explanatory words inscribed upon it, the mystery was all but laid bare. It was indeed his father's decree that had brought him to Divine Abyss Continent.

Why would this apparently useless tool be here otherwise? Why would it have been in his consciousness?

Jiang Chen firmly believed that his father's hand was firmly involved in all this. The old instrument couldn't tell him anything specific, but it did serve to strengthen his resolution and judgment.

He grabbed the ferule and caressed its surface. It had disciplined him many a time in his previous life, but was now nearly his dearest treasure. He couldn't bear to let go of it.

Holding the ruler brought to mind his father's looks, voice, and smile.

Reminiscent nostalgia filled Jiang Chen's heart.

"I finally understand your good intentions, father. Maybe you divined the catastrophe in the heavenly planes long ago and planned my fate around it. Did you build me up back then so I might change my fate now?"

Murmuring, Jiang Chen scanned the ferule with his consciousness over and over.

Suddenly, his eyes lit up in wonder. The gold around the ferule faded away to reveal intricate formation lines.

"Measure of Heaven!"

Jiang Chen saw three ancient words upon the ferule, carved with incredible artifice. Various exquisite formations surrounded them, boasting to the world of their carrier's extraordinary nature.

This...

This ruler was actually a weapon? A treasure?

Jiang Chen stared at the Measure of Heaven with disbelief. His father hadn't left any message in it with his consciousness, but two lines were carved among the byzantine letters of power.

"As remote heaven and earth may extent span,

So too, life and death in samara for man."

Twenty two sparse, meaningful syllables.

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2145: Jiang Chen Exits Closed Door Cultivation**

Jiang Chen stared at the ferule and the two sentences, overcome with conflicting emotions.

Now he fully understood.

His father had been brief, but he was able to piece together the message.

"As remote heaven and earth may extent span,

So too, life and death in samara for man."

He recited the words, reading between the lines. Tears streamed down his face.

Father!

He could see clearly now what his father had done for him. The cataclysm from his past life had been inevitable. Father and son were destined to part.

Perhaps his father had foreseen that. Perhaps all this was part of his father's grand plan.

Remote heaven and earth referred to the heavenly planes and the Divine Abyss Continent that Jiang Chen now called home, the distance between which was great. However, if fate allowed it and he wished for it strongly enough, they were but a step away.

The implications were clear: Father and son would meet again.

The second sentence reiterated the same message.

Though life and death were an eternal parting, someone like the Celestial Emperor would still be able to transcend death after entering the cycle of reincarnation. That meant even the cataclysm was within his father's control.

"I understand now, father!"

After a long while, Jiang Chen finally emerged from reflecting on his past life. He'd never been more excited since his reincarnation. His resolve was reaffirmed after a period of great emotional turmoil.

His father surely still lived. Jiang Chen didn't know in what way, but that was the only possible truth. The heavenly planes had shattered in his past life and his father would've lost his position as the Celestial Emperor. Taiyuan Sky Palace might have been taken over as well.

However, his father wouldn't have died. A way would've been found.

Perhaps his father had sent him to the Divine Abyss Continent through the cycle of reincarnation so that he could later help turn the tide, rebuilding the heavenly planes.

That was mere speculation, but he had a newfound confidence in his theory.

There had to be a connection between Divine Abyss Continent and the Taiyuan Realm. They both shared the 'yuan' character in their name. And what purpose did the ferule serve?

Jiang Chen wasn't in a hurry to find out. His father seemed to be testing him by not giving him any clues.

He put the ruler away and inspected the chain seal consisting of the eight remaining droplets.

This time however, his consciousness aroused no reaction from the seal.

After some deliberation, he huffed. "I've only just ascended to divinity, making me a first level divine cultivator. Perhaps the nine light droplets represent the nine levels in the divine realm. Will I unlock one of them every time I break through?"

That was his speculation. He'd know if it was true when he ascended to second level divine realm.

After consuming an Amaranthine Clouddew Fruit, progressing through the divine realm wouldn't be that difficult a challenge to him, not until the later stages, at least.

He felt lighter and more confident once he knew what the chain seal was. It'd been one of those unresolved worries poking at him before.

Jiang Chen shot to his feet.

A year had passed since he entered closed door cultivation in the Six Palaces of Heritage. Things could only have grown more challenging in the outside world.

The situation could change after a day, let alone a year. He couldn't help but worry.

He stopped by the Amaranthine Clouddew Tree when he left and picked four fruit. There were now seventy-six fruit on the tree.

Taking the stairs back to the Six Palaces of Heritage, Jiang Chen turned to look at Veluriyam Palace and witnessed a screen of multicolor light, painting a picture of a celestial realm. If anyone dared trespass, they would be decimated by countless attacks.

Since he'd acquired the heritage of Veluriyam Palace, the Six Palaces of Heritage were thus liberated. The six guardians sighed in relief when Jiang Chen lifted their geas. Finally, they were free.

They made their way to the sixth palace. They knew that Jiang Chen had inherited the faction, and it was only right for them to thank him for liberating them.

The six cultivators landed at the entrance to the sixth palace with Xia Tianze taking point, awaiting the new young lord's arrival.

As soon as Jiang Chen appeared, Xia Tianze went up to him and dropped to one knee. "Subordinate Xia Tianze welcomes the young lord's return."

Dressed like a wandering cultivator, there was a fierceness to Xia Tianze's features. He was brave, but not reckless. Intelligence glinted sharply in his eyes amidst roughness.

The others went up to Jiang Chen and raised cupped fist salutes. "Young friend Jiang Chen."

Xia Tianze scoffed. "Young? Do you think you're above me?"

Awkwardness flashed across the other five faces. They weren't a member of Veluriyam Palace. They had been defending the six palaces for a variety of reasons.

It didn't feel right for them to just pledge loyalty to Veluriyam Palace and Jiang Chen. Although some of them had recognized the reality of their situation, it was uncomfortable for them to call the young genius their master.

Jiang Chen laughed. "According to the deal, you're free once the geas on the six palaces is lifted."

"According to the deal, they must serve you as their young lord after regaining their freedom," argued Xia Tianze.

Jiang Chen smiled easily and looked at the five cultivators expectantly. They were all from the ancient times. It seemed that endless waiting had softened their edges, but they still nursed their pride.

"Great Divine Veluriyam chose you not only for your might, but also for your character. Otherwise he wouldn't have done what he did. He admired you for your integrity." Jiang Chen showered them with compliments.

The five men remained silent. They weren't going to talk back since the young man was the one who had set them free, but they still held a grudge against Divine Veluriyam.

They had wanted to fight in the ancient demonic war, yet the divine master lured them to the Six Palaces of Heritage and tricked them into becoming guardians. That wasn't what they had wanted.

However, Divine Veluriyam had indeed meant well. In some way, the man had saved their lives.

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**Chapter 2146: Jiang Chen's Strategy**

Xia Tianze was none too pleased about the attitude the others were giving him.

“Do you really think the great divine had a bone to pick with all of you? Don’t you understand that it would have been a waste for you to throw away your lives in the demon-sealing war?”

“That past struggle didn’t require your contribution. You have an opportunity to join a new campaign just as important as the one back then, one designed to eradicate demons from Divine Abyss entirely. The menace that was once sealed away will emerge into the world a second time, and you may serve a much more instrumental role in our present era than you would have back then. What is the reason for your affectations here?”

“Even if you’re right, Daoist Xia, the great divine was hardly forthright in keeping us from our wills,” sighed Master P’eng.

“Hmph, you cling too tightly to your principles. Why should everything be done in an orderly fashion before the greater good? If virtue was given precedence at every turn, the human domain would have been destroyed ten times over. Only those with great fortune and vision can bend for the sake of the bigger picture.”

Xia Tianze wasn’t done chastising. “The great divine didn’t expect you to understand him back then,” he continued, “but I can’t believe that you’re the same way two hundred thousand years later. What does that say about you? That you’re slower than him by more than that much?”

Jiang Chen smiled. “Good seniors, where would you go upon departing from here? Would you cast your lives away in a mad heroic stand against the demons? Valiant, I grant you, but what’s the point?”

The five guardians glanced at each other.

They had hemmed and hawed earlier not out of any dislike for Jiang Chen, but rather a lingering frustration from ancient events.

They really didn’t have a better place to be in this modern world. The realm they were familiar with was no more. There was no way they could integrate into current society.

Jiang Chen laughed with understanding. “Seniors...”

“You shouldn’t call us that anymore, young friend,” Venerated Skysoarer interrupted hurriedly. “You are the new lord of the Veluriyam Palace. Your station is higher than ours. Moreover, you are the head of the Ancient Crimson Heavens Sect as well. Why should you exalt me beyond my due?”

The others nodded as well. They weren’t quite comfortable to hear that appellation anymore. Moreover, Xia Tianze was positively bristling with anger.

If Jiang Chen called them senior, and Xia Tianze called him young lord, wouldn’t Xia Tianze have to call them senior as well?

They were a hair inferior to the servant of Great Divine Veluriyam in terms of ancient prominence, so they couldn’t aggrandize themselves before their old acquaintance.

Jiang Chen grinned smoothly. “If that’s the case, let me venture to call you my old brothers. Old brothers, all of you are ancient experts, but the world nowadays is topsy-turvy. Your time shut up in the

Six Palaces of Heritage has been a long one, so I'm sure you'd appreciate some fresh air. I certainly won't stop you! Veluriyam Palace's doors are always open to you. Feel free to celebrate your freedom for as long as you like."

The five were somewhat embarrassed by Jiang Chen's politeness.

"Young lord Jiang Chen," Venerated Skysoarer cupped a fist. "You are the new leader of the Ancient Crimson Heavens Sect, so I have no reason not to defer to you. Give me some time to relax and recover. I will surely return here."

"I have only the highest opinion of young lord Jiang Chen," Master P'eng sighed as well. "Nevertheless, I need to wash off my accumulated bad luck for a bit. When I feel at ease once more, I will return to assist you."

"The Grand Marquis never breaks his promises."

The Mad Fiend nodded as well. "Gotta take a look out there while I still can, eh? I'd like to see how the human domain is doing nowadays. Visit some old haunts to see how they've changed."

Old Pill Rune exhaled. "Come on, then. We will not scorn your kindness, young lord Jiang."

All five guardians stepped forward to bow to the young man, who returned the courtesy in kind with a smile before watching them file out.

Xia Tianze couldn't understand it.

"Young lord, these people promised Great Divine Veluriyam that they would aid his new successor for a very long time. There's no need to be so carefully polite. Ancient experts treat their own promises with the greatest of importance."

Jiang Chen smiled. "If I used their promises to weigh them down, their grievances would linger without recourse. By setting them free into the world, I have received assurance of their return in three or five years. Don't worry, they won't get far or have too much fun."

"Not necessarily. What if they intentionally abandon you in favor of their own pleasures?" Xia Tianze seemed to disagree.

"Senior..."

"Don't call me that," Xia Tianze hurriedly waved a hand. "Call me Old Xia, or Tianze. I am your deputy, young lord, not your senior."

The man's solemnity showed he was the opposite of joking. Jiang Chen sighed softly. "Alright, then. I will call you Old Brother Xia."

"I suppose that's fine. Your excessive kindness isn't a good thing, young lord," Xia Tianze remarked.

"Haha, I wouldn't expect the same out of me as the Great Divine, if I were you. Our personalities are vastly different from one another in many ways. Nothing wrong with a little consideration! It depends on the individual.

“The five guardians have been locked up in the Six Palaces of Heritage for so long that they’re sure to be depressed. Forcing them to stay would’ve only further dishearten them. I wouldn’t win their sincere loyalty, even if I was to receive their begrudging aid. Let them grow bored and uncomfortable with the outside world, and they’ll come back of their own volition. When they discover what meaning I can give their lives in turn, they will give me their allegiances.”

“Bored and uncomfortable?” Xia Tianze looked quite perplexed.

“You’ve been here for too long, Old Brother Xia, so you don’t know how much the outside has changed. I can guarantee that they will feel like strangers in a strange land. The human domain of today is a different world from the human domain of old. They will not find solace in seeing what remains of their past.”

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2147: The Situation Outside**

Jiang Chen was absolutely sure that their sects, friends, and all they knew had disappeared entirely. They were orphaned by heaven and earth, without goals or anywhere they could call home.

Even if they were veritable gods, they would be consumed by a terrifying loneliness that would intensify with time.

When it grew too much for them to bear, they would remember Jiang Chen – remember that there was still a place for them here. They would come back without hesitation.

Jiang Chen laughed when he noted Xia Tianze’s unrelenting suspicion. “Shall I send you out for a bit yourself, Old Brother Xia? So you can feel how the world is yourself?”

“Should you?” Xia Tianze blinked with some confusion.

Jiang Chen shrugged. “Why not? I have grasped all there is to grasp about the Veluriyam Palace, and learned all there is to learn. I await now only manpower to rebuild it.”

Xia Tianze was overjoyed. “Have you truly been so successful?”

Jiang Chen knew that he likely didn’t know too much in depth about the Veluriyam Palace’s heritage.

After all, Xia Tianze had only been Great Divine Veluriyam’s subordinate, not his true second-in-command. The great divine wouldn’t have divulged every secret to him.

There was no reason to entrust one’s heritage to a single follower.

Not that Xia Tianze was at risk of letting the great divine down. He worshiped Great Divine Veluriyam in a heartfelt way, and lacked the ambition that would drive him to steal his master’s things for his own.

“Don’t worry. Everything is under control. If you like, Old Brother Xia, why not go take a look yourself in the outside world? Perhaps the critical eye of an ancient expert can pick up a few geniuses for the Veluriyam Palace, hmm?”

Xia Tianze chuckled, evidently excited by the prospect.

No one under the sun could wholeheartedly embrace loneliness. The endless years had worn away at Xia Tianze's will, too, allowing despair to seep into his heart.

If not for his firm belief in the great divine's judgment – the prediction that there would be a successor – he sometimes wondered whether anyone after them would come to the six palaces at all.

Thanks to all that lay in the heavens, Jiang Chen had appeared.

"Please, if it strikes your fancy, go right ahead. As the new lord of the Veluriyam Palace, I'm putting you on vacation. Oh, yes, I have a few gods and promising upstarts around already, take a look at them for me if you have time. If you're interested, why not teach them for me?"

As the guardian of the sixth palace, Xia Tianze had been the strongest among his fellows. He was probably mid divine realm in cultivation, considerably stronger than any other god he knew so far. Even An Kasyapa was likely far inferior.

After all, Xia Tianze was an ancient cultivator. His unique aura alone was enough to awe An Kasyapa.

The great divine's old servant chuckled politely, not taking the young lord's words very seriously. If the human domain's spirit veins had been sealed away, how many geniuses could it possibly have?

Still, it was rude to refuse Jiang Chen's suggestion. "I'll do as you recommend," Xia Tianze laughed. "Maybe I'll spot some real finds."

"I wouldn't get my hopes unrealistically high," Jiang Chen replied seriously, "but I think there are many geniuses all around us who need only a little time and opportunity to match those in the ancient times – and the restoration of the spirit veins, of course."

Xia Tianze shrugged with doubtful nonchalance.

"You don't believe me, hmm?" Jiang Chen laughed.

Xia Tianze chuckled. "Young lord, you haven't seen the countless splendid geniuses competing against each other among the ancient factions. If you had, you wouldn't think that later geniuses would ever measure up to the same."

"What about me, then?" the young lord poked back with a smile.

His divine servant blinked, unable to come up with a response. Yes, wasn't young lord Jiang Chen an exception himself?

"Alright, I'll give you that," Xia Tianze agreed readily. No ancient genius came to memory that could outshine the young lord.

Considering his current age, he would tower among his peers even as an ancient contemporary.

"You know, Old Brother Xia, the current human domain has its own advantage. The geniuses here have had a worse environment, sparser knowledge, and fewer resources. However, it's precisely because of these handicaps that they're more determined and resolute than ever. If they're put into an environment that allows them to thrive, then thrive they will! Please, think on that. The young people nowadays... they really aren't missing much."



Xia Tianze hadn't given the topic so much thought. "I suppose I've misspoken, young lord," his face reddened. "I shall come and survey the outside world with you."

The duo left the Veluriyam Pagoda and set out for Sacred Peafowl Mountain.

A year later, the mountain was considerably stronger yet again. Oddly though, the atmosphere seemed tenser than usual.

Sacred Peafowl Mountain immediately regained its vigor when its young lord returned.

"Young lord, Lord Coiling Dragon was gravely injured on patrol a few days back. He is in critical condition right now. Immediately after, many of our other factions were attacked, as well as other places in the Upper Eight Regions. We've tightened security and sent out investigators, but we haven't been able to find anything."

Lan Tianhao and Yu Gong presided over Sacred Peafowl Mountain as of late. They and their divine peers had become the mountain's backbone in Jiang Chen's absence.

In particular, they had the responsibility and duty of issuing orders on the young lord's behalf.

The older members of Sacred Peafowl Mountain were quite content with this arrangement. The young lord's new divine followers were both stronger and more qualified than they to represent the faction. It was a good thing overall for them to be in charge.

"Whom have you sent out to investigate?" asked Jiang Chen.

"Some of us gods have gone out ourselves, and various demigods and empyrean experts have been sent out as well. Unfortunately, none of our efforts have yielded much result."

Jiang Chen nodded slightly. "The waters in the human domain are getting murkier. Unfortunately, we won't be able to keep ourselves completely safe anymore. It may be a demonic remnant, or alien invaders who've stepped across a boundary stele. Regardless, it is time to reactivate the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement!"

Time waits for no man.

The demonic invasion proper wasn't going to begin just yet, but it really wasn't far off.

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2148: Convening the Horde**

Jiang Chen didn't hesitate to give the order.

"Pass my words on. All factions in Veluriyam Capital are to convene at Sacred Peafowl Mountain tomorrow morning with their geniuses."

Given his status in the human domain, no one would ignore his order.

Early next morning, all of the factions around the capital answered his summons.

Veluriyam Capital had great influence, and many of Jiang Chen's old subordinates lived in Sacred Peafowl Mountain.

The great emperor factions in the capital had made great progress under his guidance. The reclusive empyrean hermits also laid down their pride and answered Jiang Chen's summons as well.

The young man had gifted them with a cultivation method that had benefited them greatly. They'd also caught wind that there were many gods from Myriad Abyss Island with him. That shocked and intimidated the prideful empyrean cultivators.

Thus, they voluntarily responded to Jiang Chen's call without hesitation.

Forefather Embittered Bamboo of the Embittered Savage Tribe came at short notice as well.

The forefather had made substantial progress and ascended to advanced empyrean realm, making him one of the strongest in the human domain.

The stronger empyrean cultivators in the Veluriyam Capital, including Mo Wushuang, Jingzhong Hui, and Sabledeep, were a step away from reaching advanced empyrean realm, while some of their peers had fallen behind after breaking through to empyrean realm.

Among the youths, there were a few who stood out.

Ji San and Jiang Chen's personal guard had made great progress with the additional help they'd received.

The same was true of Xu Qingxuan, Jiang Chen's sister. With his help, she'd become a young genius who could rival Ji San. She'd ascended to empyrean realm and was close to reaching mid empyrean.

Jiang Chen was proud to sense everyone's improved cultivation as he watched them arrive. This was his legacy in the human domain. Their fates had been changed because of him and the resources he'd brought to the domain.

He cast his gaze at the Coiling Dragon Clan and noticed that Ji San was now its leader. Emperor Coiling Dragon must have suffered a great injury.

He exchanged a glance with Ji San, silently showing the young man his appreciation and encouragement. Ji San's eyes reddened and he almost shed a tear.

He remembered the time when he and Jiang Chen had run rampant through Veluriyam Capital. Jiang Chen had always taken great care of him and the bonds of their friendship ran deep. Seeing his old friend commanding the domain as its leader filled Ji San's heart with admiration, appreciation, and warmth.

Jiang Chen hadn't forgotten about him despite his current status. They were still brothers!

Meeting Jiang Chen had been the best thing to happen to him in his lifetime.

It was also because of Jiang Chen that House Wei had grown so much stronger and gained the status they now enjoyed in the capital.

Wei Jie had grown from an immature young man to the heir of House Wei, making a dramatic leap and ascending to empyrean. Although his breakthrough was recent, it was obvious from his confident aura that he was in high spirits.

The young man was thrilled when he noticed Jiang Chen's gaze. He felt the urge to wave at the young lord. Jiang Chen smiled encouragingly, filling the young man's heart with glee.

More and more cultivators from a variety of factions arrived. The biggest and the most impressive group of all was the Sacred Peafowl faction.

Back when the mountain had been under Emperor Peafowl's rule, some of its members had still harbored the thoughts of challenging the emperor's faction. Emperor Shura, for example.

The rebellion now seemed like a complete farce. Even if Emperor Shura were to come back to life and gather ten thousand of his clones, he wouldn't be able to topple the current order.

It was time. Countless cultivators had gathered together, forming a massive crowd.

Jiang Chen rose from his throne and cast his eyes downward, releasing some of his aura as a god.

His divine followers were shocked, and Yu Gong was especially so. He stuttered, "Young yord, you... you've ascended to divinity?"

Jiang Chen hadn't announced his breakthrough when he exited closed door cultivation, and he'd been obscuring his aura. That was why his followers had failed to notice his ascension.

Yu Gong's remarks sent a ripple through the crowd.

Divine realm?

All eyes were on Jiang Chen's face, their gazes expectant, curious, surprised, or shocked.

He didn't keep it from them. With an easy smile, he affirmed, "I seem to have made some progress in the past year."

Yu Gong and Lan Tianhao exchanged a glance before falling down to their knees in front of Jiang Chen. "Congratulations on your ascension, young lord. From now on, the world is yours to gain!"

Once a cultivator ascended to divinity, that flung open the doors to the peak of martial dao.

Jiang Chen's followers wouldn't have been so surprised if it hadn't been Jiang Chen who'd made the breakthrough.

Their young lord, on the other hand, was so very young. Perhaps he was the youngest cultivator to ever ascend to divinity!

He'd rivaled them and even defeated them in battles before his ascension. Now that he'd become a god, how powerful must he be?

The thought immensely excited them.

Jiang Chen's other followers followed suit, falling to their knees to congratulate him.

The Veluriyam ruler smiled slightly. "No need for such formalities, everyone. I've summoned you today for two things. The first to announce my breakthrough, the second to inform you of my plans to activate the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement. I need a number of formation experts to help me."

Reactivating the formation wouldn't be as challenging as setting it up, but it'd take a lot of effort. He could use some help.

More importantly, he wanted to pass down the method of activating the formation, giving more in the human domain the knowledge.

It was better to teach one how to fish than to gift them with fish.

Jiang Chen had a feeling that he'd be leaving the continent after defeating the demonic army. He must pass the heritage on. Therefore, he had to recruit some formation experts.

### Sovereign of the Three Realms (WN)

#### **Chapter 2149: Sharing Secrets**

There weren't that many masterful formation experts in the human domain. That, Jiang Chen was aware of.

He wasn't asking for great formation masters. He wanted to select a group of experts with good character to cultivate their talent.

There were endless possibilities in formations. It was understandable that there weren't any particularly great experts in the human domain given its limited foundations.

"I need a group of formation experts, but I'm not looking for people with a certain level of cultivation," Jiang Chen added. "I value your potential and integrity more. Those I've picked will not only help me reactivate the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement, but they'll also train under me in the long term. The human domain needs such talents. These formation experts will play a crucial role in the domain's future."

Formation experts had always been important throughout history. Human cultivators were at a disadvantage when fighting demons and other races, but they had a couple of advantages - a superior capability in procreation, and the ability to leverage outside forces.

The human race was much better at the latter than many other races, using external resources such as pills, talismans, and formations. Even in the heavenly planes, humans were most adept in that regard.

Human intelligence filled in the holes left by innate disadvantages.

Everyone perked up when they heard Jiang Chen. All members of the human domain knew how important the great formation was strategically.

Once activated, the formation would provide the human domain with a natural barrier, enabling it to avoid demons' first wave of attacks. That would be wonderful news.

Mo Wushuang, an old friend of Jiang Chen, immediately voiced his eagerness, "Although the formation isn't going to protect the human domain from all dangers, it'll at least give us some breathing room. We won't be demons' first target, and we'll have time to grow stronger."

He was more influential in Veluriyam Capital than many of the great emperors in the past. He was also one of Jiang Chen's earlier followers. His loyalty to the Sacred Peafowl Mountain as its resident expert had earned him a great deal of Jiang Chen's help.

The young lord had given Mo Wushuang fantastic resources many times, enabling him to keep improving. Therefore, Mo Wushuang was one of Jiang Chen's most devoted supporters.

Jingzhong Hui chuckled. "I may not be a traditional formation expert, young lord, but I know a thing or two about formations. Might I offer my help?"

Jiang Chen smiled. "Naturally you're welcome to the team, Old Brother Jingzhong. Any cultivator in the human domain from a spotless background, with good character, is allowed to volunteer."

It'd be unwise to limit the call for talent within the capital. Widening the scope to the entire human domain would give him many more options.

His subordinates in Veluriyam Capital naturally wouldn't object.

They too knew the great formation would affect the entire human domain. Veluriyam Capital mustn't consider only their benefits. Besides, Jiang Chen was the entire domain's leader at this point.

The original political order had been toppled. Other than Veluriyam Capital, not even the Upper Eight Regions combined could rival one of Jiang Chen's divine realm followers.

The harsh truth was that the young lord could destroy all of the other factions in the human domain with a wave of his hand.

Originally, he'd wanted to tell everyone about the seal on the spirit veins and the heritage of the ancient Veluriyam Capital, but now he thought better of it.

After all, it was clear from the recent news that the situation in the domain had begun to deteriorate. Perhaps the demons were already making their moves.

It'd be less than ideal if the secrets were leaked. Although the demonic army hadn't invaded in droves, a small group would pose a great enough threat.

They could stir up considerable trouble.

Therefore, Jiang Chen decided to keep the information from the public at the moment.

After the meeting, he asked for some of his confidantes to stay.

Those he'd selected were all empyrean cultivators. They were the backbone of Veluriyam Capital due to their loyalty and strength.

It excited them to be handpicked by Jiang Chen. The young man's easy grace filled them with deference and admiration.

Many of them had witnessed his rise to power. It was surreal to think about how far the young lord had come.

"You're my trusted allies and the pillars of the human domain," Jiang Chen began with a smile. "There are things you have a right to know."

Touched, Mo Wushuang and the others looked at Jiang Chen expectantly. They knew the young lord must have some good news to share.

“First, the human domain has practically reached rock bottom since its descent from the ancient times, but our humiliation ends here. From now on, the human domain will only become better, and you will be its hope!”

No one was going to argue with that. It might sound hyperbolic from anyone else, but it made sense coming from Jiang Chen.

He had indeed led the domain to a better future. The overall strength of the domain had grown several times stronger due to his appearance.

“It’s been two hundred thousand years since the ancient war. The human domain has been through many changes and encountered many challenges before getting to this point. It’s time for the domain to rise again. There’s a secret that all of you should know, but you have to keep it confidential. I’ll need you all to take an oath.”

Jiang Chen’s gaze swept through everyone assembled.

Mo Wushuang laughed. “Of course we’ll keep the classified information a secret. If I utter a word about it outside this room, may the heavens take my life.”

The others eagerly followed suit and swore as well.

Jiang Chen nodded in approval. “Good, since you’ve all made an oath, you’re entitled to the good news. You all believe the reason behind the domain’s decline is the damage the spirit veins suffered in the ancient times, don’t you?”

Everyone nodded with hesitation. That was common sense in the human domain. No one questioned it.

Jiang Chen had expected the reaction. He smiled. “That’s what everyone believes, but in actuality, that’s not the truth.”

Shock rippled through those assembled.

### [Sovereign of the Three Realms \(WN\)](#)

#### **Chapter 2150: The First Mission**

The reactions from those present had been within Jiang Chen’s realm of expectations. When he first heard, he’d been much the same.

“Young lord, the destroyed spirit veins mean that the environment for cultivation in the human domain has been worsening all the while. The spirit herbs here are lower quality than ever before, with the better specimens disappearing entirely. This is public knowledge, isn’t it? What’s wrong with what we currently know?”

More than astonishment was a communal perplexity. Everyone found the logic behind these statements completely and unquestionably sound. Why had young lord Jiang Chen said that it was false?

“There’s nothing wrong with your logic, my friends, save your assumptions. Though the spirit veins were damaged in the ancient demon-sealing war, the severity of the harm was grossly overestimated. Yes, the war ruined many sects and locales, but the spirit veins remained largely intact. The reason they

disappeared was because several ancient cultivators used their abilities to seal them away, to preserve them as a treasure for posterity.”

This astounded the audience; faces contorted with emotion. The news was too sudden to digest. The cultivators glanced at each other in confusion, as if they’d just awakened from a dream.

Someone snapped back to reality after a while. “Young lord... you’re not joking, are you?”

Indeed, this sounded a bit too good to be true.

“I’m stating the absolute truth,” Jiang Chen replied seriously. “I have more than sufficient proof for it. Moreover, I know the method of sealing and unsealing the veins. I was planning to attempt their unsealing during the reactivation of the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement. It seems to me now though, that the time has not yet come!”

Mo Wushuang was incredulous. “If the spirit veins are unsealed, wouldn’t the human domain return to the same way it once was in ancient times?”

“The environment, yes, but everything else needs time,” sighed Jiang Chen.

This was easy to understand. Not everything would recover immediately even given a favorable environment. Spirit herbs, for example, needed seeds and time to grow. It would take several centuries at least.

Nevertheless, all present laughed with genuine pleasure.

“If that’s the case, won’t we cultivate under the same sky as the ancients?”

“That something so miraculous would be real... it is truly difficult to comprehend the acts of our ancient seniors.”

“Young lord, why did the great cultivators back then make this choice? Were they worried about demons returning to destroy the veins?”

“That’s right, why did they?”

Jiang Chen laughed and shook his head. “No, not that. The great cultivators foresaw that the demons wouldn’t be able to make further mischief for a good amount of time after being sealed. They were worried about something else.”

“What?” Everyone was puzzled.

“Humans have always been afflicted by internal trouble, rather than external,” Jiang Chen sighed.

The others were smart enough to glean what he meant. ‘Internal trouble’ meant petty squabbling between human factions, of course.

“We humans love to fight among ourselves. Perhaps the great cultivators were worried about the possibility of endless civil wars, which have the potential to wreak significant havoc. Is that why they sealed away the spirit veins? To limit the extent of destruction?”

“That must be so. The ancient greats were truly wise beyond understanding.”

"It's good for future generations to benefit from the past," Jiang Chen stated coolly. "The issue comes when each man intends to steal all the benefit for himself."

Everyone else nodded in agreement.

"Not every faction behaved selflessly during the demon-sealing war. The leading factions were the ones mainly engaged in warfare against the demons, and thus bore the brunt of sacrifice.

"My friends, consider this: if the human domain faced some calamity that required the Upper Eight Regions' strongest factions to face it head on, but the middle and lower regions threatened to plunder what they had afterward. If you led the former factions, would you be happy to see that?" His explanation clarified things even more.

"Yes, I hear that many cowards existed in the ancient demon-sealing war. There were plenty of deserters and selfish cowards. The great cultivators were wise to do what they did."

Everyone was selfish to some degree, the great cultivators included. However, their selfishness ultimately ended up benefiting the rest of the human domain.

If the strongest factions were all so hurt in the demon-sealing war that the non-contributing second and third-rate factions could overthrow them, that wouldn't be remotely satisfactory or fair.

More importantly, the human domain risked falling into the wrong hands. If those with authority lacked the equanimity and responsibility to lead, what would mankind do against a new enemy?

"We must make use of what the great cultivators left to us, young lord. Why do you say that now isn't the time yet, though?" Mo Wushuang asked curiously.

"First, the information you've given me shows that the demons are beginning to resurface. I'm worried that the truth of the spirit veins may get out and lead to further trouble in the dark. We must keep all this under wraps. Second, the absence of the Great Formation of Heavenly Confinement can't prevent a demonic invasion en masse, so unsealing the spirit veins is unsafe. Third, the unsealing process is hardly a simple one. It demands many people and resources. The human domain is incapable of multitasking on such a scale just yet."

Jiang Chen's three reasons were all quite sound.

"Our priority at the moment is to reactivate the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement. At the same time, we must tighten security and remain on high alert to watch for factions that try to muddy the waters. Neither concealed demons nor human traitors will be tolerated."

Jiang Chen supposed that in his year behind closed doors, the various attacks weren't entirely caused by demons. It was likely that other factions laid in waiting as well.

The human domain was a huge place, after all. Xiahou Jing and the others of yesteryear were the prime example of that.

Myriad Abyss Island had always kept the human domain on its mind. There was no doubt that some faction or other from there had a presence here as well.