

Three Realms 2201

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

Chapter 2201: Each With Their Own Schemes

Forefather Shadowless suddenly moved his palm. Peculiar currents of air appeared before him, hiding indistinct runes within. This was the shadow demons' unique method of communication.

A smile very quickly crept over his face.

"If all goes smoothly, my friends, we can leave and attack the ten sacred lands tonight." Shadowless's eyes sparkled with killing intent.

Bluefalcon was pleased. "What makes you say that?"

Silveredge sharply scrutinized Shadowless, intent on knowing the specifics as well.

"My agents have infiltrated the human domain and learned of what's going on there. Our fellow daoists who were sealed away in the ancient times have freed themselves. They're holding up the humans' divine forces as we speak. Truly, a blessing from heaven," chuckled Shadowless. "That Jiang Chen kid has no gods with him, though he is humanity's leader. He leads a few demigods and a number of empyrean cultivators in an attempt to reinforce Rejuvenation."

"Oh? Is that accurate?" Bluefalcon was moved.

"Do you not trust the shadow demons' ability, fellow daoist?" Shadowless retorted with displeasure.

Shadow demons were indeed talented in such things. No other kind of demon could compare in subterfuge.

"Fellow daoists in the human domain? Who exactly?" asked Silveredge.

"My subordinates didn't have much of a chance to gather too much information, but I can extrapolate from what he told me that there are at least two: Evilshadow of the shadow demons and Stonefiend of the yin demons."

Shadowless was evidently gratified upon hearing that another forefather of his tribe lived. That meant an improvement in their overall strength.

"Stonefiend?" Bluefalcon laughed drily. "Isn't he exceptionally stubborn? I doubt he's smart enough to outwit the humans."

"Isn't there at least another fellow daoist of us shadow demons?" Shadowless was disgruntled. "Daoist Evilshadow and his demigod subordinates are capable individuals. With their disruption, the human domain will have no rest."

This was no exaggeration. Silveredge begrudgingly admitted that shadow demons were incredibly adept at causing trouble from behind the scenes.

"So Jiang Chen's people are all stuck in the human domain then? He came here alone? Well, he's certainly brave."

“What else would he do? He doesn’t know there are more than one of us here.”

“Is this the so-called leader of humanity? He’s so brash and reckless.” Silveredge’s tone oozed disdain. “If that’s the case, he’s hardly someone to take seriously, is he?”

“He’s young,” sighed Bluefalcon, “and probably inexperienced. That’s probably the case here, no?”

Shadowless wasn’t about to underestimate Jiang Chen though. “It’s not recklessness.” He smiled. “He’s as confident as we demons are, and has the ability to back it up to boot. Just one of us alone might not be able to do much to him.”

“Is he really that strong?”

“He is... unique. Apparently, he has two divine sacred beasts under his command as well. Very capable beasts.”

“Oh? Very interesting.” Bluefalcon immediately gained in enthusiasm. “Sacred beasts? If we can capture them, then...”

A greedy look glinted from his eyes.

“Hmph. My information tells me that he didn’t bring them here,” snickered Shadowless. “Maybe he sent them to hunt down our fellow daoists in the human domain.”

“He’s coming to his death then! If this is the leader of humanity, these humans deserve to be exterminated,” sneered Silveredge.

“Again, don’t underestimate him. No matter what he plans to do by coming here, we must make use of the opportunity the best we can. A lion uses his full strength when he hunts even the smallest of prey. We can’t let him escape or return to the human domain. Our arrangements will be pointless then.”

Bluefalcon chuckled. “No worries, fellow daoist. As long as he actually comes here, there’s no way he’ll be able to escape. We have numbers on our side.”

Three renowned demon forefathers and a puppet forefather, all of them divine realm.

If four gods couldn’t deal with one uppity kid, they would bring shame upon their ancestors.

“Prepare yourselves for any tricks the kid might have up his sleeve. He might have brought the divine beasts after all as a failsafe,” reminded Shadowless.

“Well then, all the better!” Bluefalcon’s eyes glowed again.

“We must hunt like lions, as you said!” For once, Silveredge agreed without reservation. Killing intent flooded from his eyes.

“Do you have any information about the kid’s cultivation?” A different question came to Bluefalcon.

“When he was still on Myriad Abyss, he was advanced empyrean. There’s been a dozen years since then, and my men tell me he calls himself a god. That’s probably true.”

“A young god, eh? He does have talent. What a shame that he won’t have any more time to grow,” cackled Bluefalcon. “He’s destined to be game for us, as are his pets. I will mention this ahead of time:

you can have whatever treasures he's carrying with him, but you must help me tame at least one of his beasts."

Silveredge and Shadowless had no problem with this. The sacred beasts would be of no use to them, but Bluefalcon would be greatly advantaged.

Since the winged demon forefather waived his loot privileges, they didn't mind helping him catch a beast.

"It's time for us to get ready. That Jiang Chen has already departed. We must set a trap for him and lure him in." Shadowless cackled once more ominously, then disappeared on the spot.

"Come on!" The others followed suit.

Outside Winterdraw, Jiang Chen's airboat had already embarked. Mad Fiend and Xia Tianze hid themselves within the crowd, pretending to be demigods.

The four sacred beasts concealed themselves so well that no trace of them could be found anywhere.

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Chapter 2202: Encounter On a Narrow Path

The airboat flew at a leisurely pace. Within the vessel, Jiang Chen pretended to be excited.

Chief Warden Ding and his men were with him.

"We're almost there, Old Ding. When we near Rejuvenation, we must fly to it ourselves. An airboat too easily catches the demons' eye. We don't want them to be prepared."

Chief Warden Ding nodded. "No problem. We should definitely be careful."

Jiang Chen inclined his head, then glanced at the others. "Are you nervous?"

These men had managed to reach Winterdraw alongside the chief warden. They had gone with him to the Celestial Cicada Court. However, they hadn't had much chance to speak with him until now.

The young man's kindness startled them.

"No, sir," they hurriedly replied. "We're entirely reassured under your command."

"Don't worry," Jiang Chen chuckled. "We'll beat back the demons no matter what. As long as we have support from the inside, there's hope of defeating them."

The men nodded vigorously to affirm their loyalty to the young lord.

The distance from Winterdraw to Rejuvenation wasn't far.

When the airboat reached within three thousand miles of Rejuvenation, Jiang Chen stood up.

"This is as far as the airboat can go," he called out. "We may be discovered if we keep flying via airboat. We will proceed on foot, or with a treasure if you prefer. Regardless, keep yourselves well hidden. Being noticed will be a grave misdeed today!"

"Yes, we will be as careful as we can!"

“We embark.” Jiang Chen waved a hand, then shot toward Rejuvenation as a streak of light in the lead.

Chief Warden Ding and the others quickly followed, not to be left behind.

One of the cultivators in the entourage – a man whose appearance was very ordinary by any description – made a few hand seals as he flew. A handful of indistinct currents of air, bearing misty messages, disappeared into the ether.

His actions went totally unnoticed.

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The three demonic tribes’ experts were arrayed on Rejuvenation’s outskirts, awaiting only Jiang Chen’s arrival to spring the ambush.

On the demons’ side, there were three forefathers as well as a non-demon god. Below that, a group of demonic demigods whose objective was to clear out Jiang Chen’s subordinates. In the demon forefathers’ opinion, they were more than capable of handling the enemy.

There was only one important person in the enemy troop: Jiang Chen himself.

Killing the others or not didn’t matter, but it was in demon nature to leave no survivors.

Some time passed as the group of humans neared the demons’ encirclement.

He feigned ignorance of the demons straight ahead, then slowed in mock astonishment, as if he had discovered something.

“Stop!” He waved at the men behind him.

The group obliged.

The young man looked positively dour. “There’s something wrong here,” he muttered to himself. “The landscape doesn’t look right. If the demons have set up an ambush here, we can’t defend ourselves properly. Let’s slow down so that we have more time to react.”

“Yes, sir.”

Jiang Chen cast out his consciousness to inspect his surroundings for a long while before setting off again. “Let’s go.”

As soon as he said this, a sinister laugh echoed from the air.

“Where do you think you’re going? This is as far as you’ll go.” The voice had come very abruptly. It was almost bone-chilling in tone.

All around them, countless doors opened from nothingness to reveal a throng of demonic cultivators.

The three demonic forefathers arranged themselves in a triangular formation, blocking every avenue of escape. A dozen demonic demigods and other assorted cultivators, as well as a group of puppets, reinforced the encirclement.

Jiang Chen frowned as he glanced at the three demons. “What devils dare stand in my way?”

Silveredge couldn't resist snickering. "Daoist Shadowless, is this the human leader you spoke of? Confused about his imminent demise, I see!"

Shadowless laughed. "He's too young and inexperienced. Still, make sure you stay serious. Don't forget what we talked about earlier."

A lion hunted the lowliest of rodents with his full strength

Bluefalcon flapped his wings, chortling. "Brat, are you really Jiang Chen?"

The human's expression darkened. "Are all of you demonic remnants?"

"Tsk tsk, what a fool. You don't even recognize demonic forefathers when you see them. I don't want to scare you, kid, but these three are some of the top forefathers among demonkind. You should feel honored that they're here to send you to hell," mocked one demigod.

Jiang Chen 'became aghast', turning to scrutinize the three demonic forefathers more closely.

"Three... divine forefathers?" He broadcasted fear through his eyes.

Chief Warden Ding felt the blood drain from his face. "Young lord Jiang Chen," he shouted, "hurry and run. These demons are very strong! Forget about us!"

The warden immediately understood that these demons had set up a trap here. It was his fault that young lord Jiang Chen was in this bind!

"You want to leave? Not without my permission." Bluefalcon spread his wings. "Jiang Chen, don't you have sacred beasts under your command? Why don't you summon them?" he pressed, snickering.

Jiang Chen shot back a vicious look. "If my friends were here, you wouldn't be running so rampant right now!"

"What, you didn't bring a single one of them?" Bluefalcon's heart sank. What about his plans?

"Don't waste your time talking to him. Just kill him, and let that be the end of it." Though Shadowless felt that everything was going smoothly, a note of discomfort nagged at the back of his mind.

He would only rest once this kid became a corpse.

"Get him!"

The three divine realm demons acted in unspoken unison. The god who was their puppet wasn't much slower; he had been under their thrall for many years.

Four shadows lunged toward Jiang Chen. He seemed to be in quite a lot of danger.

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Chapter 2203: Sudden Shifts in Battle Situation

Jiang Chen's vision caught four shadows pouncing upon him. He darted immediately upon a streak of light to the airspace's opposite side.

“Trying to run? Not so fast!” In a single wingbeat, Bluefalcon leapt in front of Jiang Chen. His hands swept toward the young man like twin claws.

Jiang Chen had no intention of fighting the winged demon directly. He attempted to evade once more.

“Dodge this!” Silveredge shouted as he cut in from the side. A huge double-edged blade scythed at Jiang Chen’s abdomen.

The young man evoked his Great Veluriyam Torch, scattering his form into millions of photic motes that flew in every direction.

The demonic forefathers were dazzled by the display, unsure of where to attack next.

The shadow demon forefather used his consciousness to perceive his surroundings before calling out, “Over there!”

“Come on!” Roaring, Bluefalcon shot at the indicated direction. Winged demons boasted unmatched speed, surpassing that of even the Kunpeng Meteoric Escape’s.

However, there were some disadvantages to going so fast as well. Bluefalcon had clearly moved with brash abruptness. A bright light appeared as soon as he finished his charge, following which a restrictive force suddenly weighed down his wings.

This peculiar change elicited an unnerved reaction from Bluefalcon. As a demon who was a veteran of many battles, he knew well what this meant.

“I’m being hoodwinked!”

Unfortunately, it was already a bit late for him. The Black Tortoise’s gravitational force was especially potent with this application; the reptile used every ounce of its strength to drag down Bluefalcon’s wings.

A draconic roar sounded in the air.

A giant claw erupted from nothingness, gripping Bluefalcon within its five talons.

Forefather Bluefalcon was frightened out of his wits. He hadn’t foreseen that he would ever be caught in the clutches of another – he was used to doing the grabbing.

He knew very well that the claw belonged to a true dragon.

Indeed, it was the manifestation of Long Xiaoxuan’s Crushing Claw of Mountains and Rivers. Bluefalcon was completely stuck.

In the next moment, the dragon reached out his other claw and gave Bluefalcon’s wings a vigorous rip. His fearsome strength immediately tore them asunder.

Bluefalcon instantly transformed into a figure of blood, like he’d been flayed alive. Despite his natural ferocity as a demon, he shrieked in severe pain.

All of this happened within a single instant.

At the same time, Jiang Chen threw his Great Veluriyam Torch into the air. The was directed at Forefather Shadowless, who was creeping in from a few hundred meters away in an attempt to land a sneaky, fatal blow.

Jiang Chen allowed him to approach a little more before tossing his golden bell aloft. It rang harshly as it pressed down upon the shadow demon with mountainous force.

Shadowless had thought his prowess in stealth more than enough to successfully ambush the human. As such, his confidence cracked when he was intentionally thwarted at the last second with a counterattack.

Bluefalcon's nearby shriek at the same time made his heart tremble uncontrollably.

When the golden bell pressed down upon him, he evaded it with utmost seriousness.

Shadow demons were quite different from golden, titan, and winged demons. They weren't great at direct confrontations.

Alas, he was greeted by a nasty surprise of his own. Flames spontaneously erupted into being all around him, followed by an inexorable killing intent that chilled him to the bone.

Uttering a shrill cry to the heavens, the Vermilion Bird cast a roiling inferno of its innate fire toward Shadowless. The shadow demon whitened. Sensing the pyre's all-consuming nature and lethality, he turned and darted toward another direction.

The Astral White Tiger cut him off there.

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh!

Many astral tiger talismans, patterned like tiger-skins, appeared all around the demon. They represented crushing destruction, barring Shadowless's every path.

A tigrine roar heralded the explosion of one of the talismans. The Astral White Tiger pounced forth from it, enlarging to the size of a great summit. It turned a ravenous maw upon the shadow demon forefather.

Having no time or room to dodge, Shadowless was seized between the tiger's razor-sharp teeth. In the next moment, he was bitten cleanly in two.

These two unexpected developments critically shifted the tide of the battle. Bluefalcon was incapacitated, and Shadowless, dead.

However, the Mad Fiend wasn't having as great of a time. "Hey, come help if you've won already!" he cursed. "This freak isn't as easy as the others."

The fervent fighter had chosen Silveredge as his opponent, a forefather of the golden demons.

Silveredge was incredibly tough in a fight. Despite the Mad Fiend's propensity for brawling, he couldn't hold the field much longer by himself, hence the call for help.

Xia Tianze was pitched against the puppet god. Though he had the advantage, he couldn't take down his enemy just yet.

Jiang Chen threw his golden bell down upon the alien god – clearly a weaker cultivator than the demons were. Seeing the young man’s interference, the god moved to flee, but the Great Veluriyam Torch slowed him. Xia Tianze took the opportunity to catch up and cleave him in two.

Out of the four gods on the demons’ side, three were now defeated. Only Silveredge remained in stubborn resistance.

Noticing Silveredge’s incredible fighting ability, the four sacred beasts leaped to the Mad Fiend’s aid.

Surprisingly, Long Xiaoxuan’s Crushing Claw and the Astral White Tiger’s talismans couldn’t injure the golden demon.

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Chapter 2204: The Ferocious Golden Demons

The demigod demons were intensely engaged with Jiang Chen’s group and winning.

However, things changed as soon as Mad Fiend disengaged from Forefather Silveredge and joined the fray.

When Xia Tianze came over as well, the demigod demons began to waver.

They wanted to retreat, but their escape route was blocked off by the Vermilion Bird’s skyfire. They struggled in vain. Death at the hands of Mad Fiend and Xia Tianze was their only escape.

On the other side, Long Xiaoxuan, the Astral White Tiger, and the Black Tortoise were in a gridlock with Forefather Silveredge, the main reason of which was due to the forefather’s impenetrable defense.

Finished with its side, the Vermilion Bird joined in and attacked with its skyfire, yet the forefather was able to withstand the four divine beasts’ concerted assault.

“Demons never fail to surprise me. He’s able to stand against the four divine beasts with his physical body alone. Although the four of them are attacking regularly without tapping into the heavenly law, it’s still an impressive feat!”

Jiang Chen observed them closely. He’d refrained from making a move in order to identify the kind of battle characteristics the golden demons possessed.

The forefather was indeed mighty. He was able to easily slaughter the average human cultivators.

Xia Tianze and Mad Fiend were considered elites among human cultivators, yet the latter had called out for help after less than ten exchanges with the demon forefather.

Even Xia Tianze and Mad Fiend together didn’t stand much of a chance against the golden demon.

The four sacred beasts were able to hold their ground only because of unique techniques and bloodlines that could rival golden demons.

Warden Ding and the other humans emerged from the battlefield, bathed in blood. Their fight was about done.

It was clear from Warden Ding's pale face that he'd yet to recover. He was stunned by the sheer number of gods on their side.

"Young lord, what's... what's going on?" stammered the warden.

Jiang Chen smiled faintly. "What do you think is going on?"

Warden Ding started. "Did you foresee the ambush, young lord? Is that why you secretly brought so many divine beings with you?"

"Haha, I know they would ambush me. More precisely, I was trying to lure them in while they attempted to trap me. Nevertheless, their wit was somewhat lacking. That's how they fell into my clutches."

"Luring them in?" Warden Ding paused. "How?"

"One of you is a mole planted by demons. To be more precise, a demon has infiltrated your group without you noticing."

Warden Ding was stunned. "A demon?"

Jiang Chen smiled conspiratorily. "That's right. I have to thank him though. Without him, I wouldn't have been able to lure so many demons into my trap. He's been very helpful, hasn't he?"

"Who is it?" Warden Ding asked in surprise.

With a faint smile, Jiang Chen swept his gaze over the group before him. "Who is it, indeed? Are you not going to show yourself even now? Forefather Shadowless is dead. Do you think small fry like you will get lucky?"

A cultivator glared at Jiang Chen, his eyes unfocused. The expression on his face was grim and pained. "You... you've been using me, haven't you?"

Jiang Chen shrugged. "You shadow demons are too confident for your own good. Truth be told, your kin in the human domain tried the same trick already. They've been sent onto the underworld ahead of you. Oh, I exorcised Forefather Evilshadow as well. Add to that Forefather Shadowless... that means many shadow demons have died at my hands."

The man screamed and spat out a mouthful of blood, his eyes bulging. "I, I deserve to die! I thought I disguised myself well, yet you found me out. How did you do it? I don't understand it, I don't accept this!"

"You can think about that in your next life!"

Jiang Chen was hardly going to reveal the truth. With a wave of his hand, a ray of golden light hit the demon. Although the demon was a demigod, he was helpless against Jiang Chen's attack. There was nothing left of him but ashes after a single move.

Warden Ding and the others were frightened by the ease with which Jiang Chen killed the demon.

"Don't worry. Although you were fooled by a demon, you didn't defect to their side yourselves. You won't feel my wrath."

The group sighed in relief at Jiang Chen's words.

Meanwhile, tensions ran high between the four divine beasts and Forefather Silveredge. The divine beasts pulled out moves to deal death blows and attacked the demon forefather relentlessly.

Silveredge was forced to back away, but he managed to survive the wave of attacks without any fatal injury.

"That demon is a perverse beast, young master Chen! Golden demons are indeed the most troublesome tribe. Back in the ancient times, many human cultivators died at their hands." A chill ran down Xia Tianze's spine and his scalp prickled with numbness.

If it'd been him fighting the golden demon, he'd have no choice but to flee. Unless he could dominate the demon with brute force, there was no way he could win.

Jiang Chen chuckled. "Let's get this over with. We don't have time to waste."

He flew toward the battling group in a flash of light.

"What are you doing, young master Chen?" Xia Tianze started. He thought the young lord was going to join the fight himself, which would be unwise.

Jiang Chen smiled and manifested one of the items sealed in his consciousness - the True Dragon Rope of Water and Fire.

It possessed the power of water and fire, and its restraining power was formidable. There was nothing of the five elements the rope couldn't restrain within the three realms.

Jiang Chen soared to the sky and made seals to activate the rope, which consisted of a fiery red end and a deep blue end, making for a strange curvy line.

Whoosh! The rope shot through the sky like a pair of dragons.

It reached Forefather Silveredge in a flash. The demon had been backing away from the four sacred beasts. He didn't think too much when he saw the strange glow and struck out with his sword. "Piss off!"

What made the True Dragon Rope of Water and Fire unique was its form. It separated into a thread of fire and one of water before flying in opposite directions.

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Chapter 2205: True Dragon Rope of Water and Fire

Forefather Silveredge didn't know the real strength of the True Dragon Rope of Water and Fire. He scoffed and ignored the rope when it came at him with water and fire attacks. The sacred beasts had already attacked him with the two elements to no avail. The rope's pathetic efforts wouldn't amount to much.

He couldn't be bothered with it.

That would turn into the most foolish decision of his life. When he noticed something wrong, the True Dragon Rope had already wound around him eight times.

Even he couldn't force his way out of the constraints. He struggled as hard as he could, trying to cut the rope with sharp energy radiating from his body.

It all proved futile.

The golden demon's body might be impenetrable, but the True Dragon Rope of Water and Fire was equally resilient. It wouldn't be destroyed by regular blades.

Of course, an average demon forefather wouldn't be able to destroy an item forged by a Celestial Emperor.

The more he struggled, the faster and harder the rope wound around him. His legs were trapped first, then his waist and his two arms. In the end, Silveredge was trussed up like an animal. He couldn't move at all.

Silveredge widened his eyes. Finally, a trace of fear tinged his fierce expression. He might be unkillable in battles, but as a captive, he could be killed just like anyone.

A single talisman would be enough to suppress physical resistance. Then there was nothing he could do other than be a lamb to the slaughter.

Jiang Chen walked up to him, beaming widely. "Golden demons are indeed the best melee fighters among the demons. Other than the celestial demons, golden demons should be considered the strongest tribe."

Silveredge scoffed; his eyes blazed with hatred. He'd lost. Even if his gaze was piercing enough to kill, it wouldn't change anything.

Jiang Chen glanced indifferent at his quarry. "Glaring at me won't help. Golden demons are strong, but I never considered you that much of a threat. I know you refuse to accept your defeat, but your fate is set in stone. You're my captive. We've killed your companions."

"Old Shadowless was to blame for his 'clever plan'," Silveredge spat out. "If we took the initiative to attack you head on, I'd never have to suffer such humiliation."

Jiang Chen laughed. "You can't win by ambushing me, and you'd be marching to your deaths if you launched a frontal assault. Don't try to talk yourself up."

Silveredge wasn't convinced. "You despicable humans always rely on schemes. There's no telling who would win if we fight fairly and directly!"

Jiang Chen shrugged. "Heaven is fair. You're given great physical strength and powerful bloodlines. Naturally, you aren't going to be that intelligent."

Demons weren't fools, and they were cunning in their own way.

Compared to humans however, they weren't as strategic or wise. As Jiang Chen had said, heaven was fair. If demons were as intelligent as they were strong, it'd be impossible to stop them.

Silveredge had been caught, and the other demons slaughtered.

Jiang Chen gathered everyone and declared, "We've won this fight, people, but the demonic army is still outside Rejuvenation. Only a few demon figureheads separated from the main force and attacked us. We'll ride this momentum and strike at the army, eliminating them all!"

"Kill, kill, kill!"

The battle had riled everyone up. Demons weren't as unbeatable as they were made out to be. The humans were eager to fight, and morale reached an all-time high.

"Old Ding, spare no effort to contact Rejuvenation and tell them to work with us from within in order to kill the demons. Don't allow any of them to escape!"

"Understood!" Warden Ding responded delightedly.

He'd felt hopeless when he pleading for Jiang Chen's help, and hadn't thought they'd be able to save Rejuvenation.

To his surprise, the young lord had not only turned the tide, but did so with aplomb. He'd killed two demon forefathers, captured one, and taken out a divine realm puppet.

Numerous demigod demons had also been dealt with.

Demon cultivators were notoriously difficult to defeat. Two humans might not be able to win a fight against one demon of the same level. Yet the young lord had held his ground against demons. In fact, he'd been able to gain the upper hand and kill the figureheads.

This wrenched around the ingrained beliefs in Warden Ding's mind. Demons could be defeated and killed. One simply had to be stronger and fiercer.

The sacred beasts were good examples. Jiang Chen's plan allowed them to catch the demons by surprise, and they won through superior might.

Rejuvenation was thrilled when they received the secret message that Jiang Chen had arrived and killed the demonic forefathers.

They kicked up turmoil from within while Jiang Chen's group charged in and surrounded the remaining demons.

Even without their leaders, the demons were formidable foes. If not for the advantage granted by the number of divine cultivators on Jiang Chen's side, there would've been horrendous casualties.

As it was, Rejuvenation and Tritalent still paid a heavy price.

Jiang Chen exposed every demon with the Great Veluriyam Torch. No matter how quick they were to flee, they couldn't escape the light and Jiang Chen's consciousness. None of them survived.

Some tried to blend in with the human cultivators and were exposed by the torch. They were dragged out and killed by proximity mobs.

It was a lie that demons were unkillable. No beings were truly immortal.

The battle showed everyone how powerful demons were as a race. They were able to seize Rejuvenation and destroy it several times over with such a small group.

With enough power however, humans could defeat demons by a landslide and eliminate them all.

This would go down in history as the most crucial and cathartic battle against demons in Myriad Abyss. Everyone in Rejuvenation exulted with high spirits.

A few surviving demons had been captured alive. Jiang Chen would interrogate them personally to find out demons' plan in Myriad Abyss.

A group of demons had been dealt with, but the loss might not be significant for the race as a whole.

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Chapter 2206: Pooling Intelligence Reports Together

Not every demonic pawn was as fearless of death as their higher-ups. After a bit of interrogation, Jiang Chen was able to gather some tangential information.

Naturally, peons weren't privy to more important secrets.

He found only a vague version of the truth: that some important celestial demon had issued an order for the demons to work together, with no infighting allowed whatsoever.

"My name is known to a celestial demon forefather, then?" Jiang Chen had slain a number of demonic forefathers in the human domain, but the celestial demons couldn't know about that.

Perhaps his exploits in Myriad Abyss had been too conspicuous. Even the forefathers of the celestial demons had taken notice.

Or it might have been his battle against Old Lightford.

"I'm not sure whether to congratulate or commiserate with you. If you're being targeted by a celestial demon forefather... that's very bad news indeed." Xia Tianze looked rather dejected.

It had cost Great Divine Veluriyam and a number of his ancient fellows their lives to seal away the ancient forefather of the celestial demons.

Jiang Chen could slay forefathers of other demonic tribes with strategy, but no amount of plotting would work against a celestial demon one.

They were far too strong. Even Great Divine Veluriyam hadn't been able to win one on one.

Schemes were of little use in the face of absolute strength.

Jiang Chen remained fearless, however. Yes, the celestial demon forefather was very strong, but it was a very safe assumption that he had been worn down by Great Divine Veluriyam's seal. Why would he have sent the others otherwise?

Time and speed was of the essence.

The celestial demon forefather needed time to recover, and Jiang Chen wasn't going to wait around for that to happen.

The young lord was confident in the speed of his own cultivation. Moreover, he knew that the protection of his father, the Celestial Emperor, was with him.

Was a celestial demon forefather stronger than a celestial emperor?

The latter could crush the former in the palm of his hand!

“Old Brother Xia, the celestial demon forefather is strong, but you’ve no need to be scared. He definitely hasn’t recovered to peak strength yet. We’re not going to sit around and wait for him to come find us. We need only to cut down his lackeys to render him a sitting duck.”

“Killing his lackeys isn’t going to be easy,” sighed Xia Tianze.

“Sure, but we’re already on the right path, eh? We’ve killed quite a few demonic forefathers so far.”

Including Lightford, Jiang Chen had slain five demonic forefathers already. One more was in his captivity. That was an impressive record, to say the least.

If he could continue at this pace, the demon forefathers’ numbers would be greatly diminished.

The ancient war had no doubt taken care of a considerable portion of them already. There wouldn’t be too many around right now in the first place.

The reduction in the demons’ strength was permanent with each kill.

“We did kill a few forefathers,” sighed Xia Tianze, “but the two we got rid of in the human domain hadn’t broken free of their seals yet. Today, we got the drop on two more. Luck was absolutely a factor.”

“What of the golden demons’ forefather?” Jiang Chen disagreed.

“We won against him, but we needed to send out many experts in order to do so,” Xia Tianze continued to dampen the young man’s enthusiasm.

“You have a point, but the demons will be weakened with each kill regardless.”

“If the demons realize how difficult you are to deal with, you’ll have a much harder time killing any more of them. It’s safe to assume that the celestial demon forefather will order the other demon tribes to move against you – and potentially experts from his own, as well.”

This was Xia Tianze’s concern.

Jiang Chen shrugged. “Let them come. Others may be afraid of demons, but not I.”

Xia Tianze blinked. “I’m not sure why, but I feel that you’ve a deep understanding of them. You seem to know all their qualities and traits. You didn’t participate in the ancient demon-sealing war, nor have you really made the acquaintance of many. How can you know so much? Did the knowledge spring into your mind fully-formed?”

“Indeed,” Jiang Chen chuckled.

Momentarily taken aback, Xia Tianze remembered something. “That’s right, you’re a reincarnated god, are you not? You were no ordinary existence in your past life, then. Not many gods would be so knowledgeable about the demons. You must have been someone really important.”

Jiang Chen didn't know whether to laugh or cry. He knew perfectly well who he was in his past life, but could hardly tell Xia Tianze that.

"I've come across celestial, blood, monster, yin, shadow, winged, and golden demons so far. Perhaps wood demons should be tangentially added to the list as well. Only titan and fire demons remain. Titan demons are similar to Primordial Stone Golems in many ways, though they possess the same battlelust fervor as golden demons. Furthermore, they are absolutely loyal to the celestial demons – an exceptional quality among the tribes."

That was what Jiang Chen remembered about them.

As for fire demons, he didn't have much of an impression of those from his past life. Still, their name was revealing enough; they were demonic cultivators who naturally had an affinity for fire.

Their expertise in the field couldn't possibly compare to the Vermilion Bird's.

"Have you fought a blood demon too?" Xia Tianze inquired curiously.

Jiang Chen remembered his battle against Blood Emperor Bloodmalva. He hadn't come out well out of it at all. Even now, the demon emperor's strength seemed terrifying.

Blood demons were closer to yin demons in tactics, but they thirsted for blood in a way that yin demons didn't.

He related his yesteryear encounter to Xia Tianze.

"Blood demons are as adept at trickery as yin demons, but can taint blood as effectively as wood demons. A tainted cultivator is immediately converted to their side," remarked Xia Tianze.

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

Chapter 2207: A Difficult Situation

Jiang Chen was well aware of this. Bloodmalva had attracted a number of crazed worshippers to his side, among them the master of the Resplendent Emerald Veranda.

Blood demons were probably the most invasive of the demon tribes. A mere wisp of blood was enough to convert anyone into one of their thralls.

More fearsome still was the difficulty of detecting their subterfuge. Blood demons liked to turn themselves into vast clouds of crimson mist, infecting unwitting cultivators without a sound. They were the most headache-inducing of their brethren.

Anyone who was assimilated instantly cast aside his past associations for his blood demon master.

Each of the ten demon tribes was unique and troublesome in its own way.

Jiang Chen did manage to extract some more information from the demon underlings. One piece of information, relating to the wood demons, mildly troubled him.

He had encountered their parasites way back in Veluriyam Capital, and had refined several varieties of pills to counter them as a result at the time. According to his sources, the wood demons were now taking aim at the ten sacred lands.

This was terrible!

His antidotes had spread far and wide throughout the human domain, but Myriad Abyss Island was a different story. Even the Eternal Sacred Land didn't possess these cures.

For a time, he became rather worried.

The Fire of Firstdawn and Dragonwhisker Water were the two treasures most effective at warding off the wood demons.

Jiang Chen had plenty of the latter.

Long Xiaoxuan's blood was exceedingly pure, which meant that his spittle naturally spited the wood demons. However, since the dragon was on Winterdraw right now, he wouldn't be able to solve the Eternal Sacred Land's problem.

More importantly, demons were everywhere in Myriad Abyss. Even Jiang Chen wouldn't be able to travel unimpeded to his destination.

"Why are you so unhappy, young master Chen?" inquired Xia Tianze. "You should be pleased with our recent victory."

The young man sighed softly, then communicated his concerns to Xia Tianze.

The old advisor chuckled when his young liege finished. "Myriad Abyss has never been reliable. Its survival won't matter too much in the grand scheme. Why should its condition bother you?"

Jiang Chen's expression darkened. "You're very much wrong if that's what you think, Old Brother Xia. Most in Myriad Abyss are descendants of ancient deserters, but the ten sacred lands have an undeniable historical connection to the ten leaders of old. They've contributed a great deal to the stability of Divine Abyss. If not for their efforts on the offworld battlefield all these years, our continent would have been invaded a long time ago."

"What do you suggest, then?" Xia Tianze sighed and didn't deny the veracity of what he heard. "The human domain has just gotten its own act in order. Should we go reinforce the sacred lands en masse? You won't be facing just Old Lightford this time, but all ten tribes!"

"...Aha!" Jiang Chen slapped his thigh. "Yes, Rejuvenation has a transportation formation. I can make use of it!"

He headed toward it as soon as he said this.

Rejuvenation obeyed Jiang Chen's every command, of course. Nowadays, they could only look up to his incredible strength, and the young man had saved their lives besides.

The transportation formation was activated immediately, connecting with the Eternal Sacred Land's.

Eternal was embroiled in its own troubles. It had profited a fair bit from the last battle with Old Lightford, having been given three of the old man's subordinate gods.

It was a very strong faction nowadays. Elder Ziju Min's astonishing ascent to divinity a few years back had further contributed to that; he was now a peer of Eternal's forefather.

Nevertheless, Eternal couldn't afford to be optimistic about its own position. The ten years that Jiang Chen had spent behind closed doors had seen a serious demonic crisis in Myriad Abyss.

The Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement had barred the demons from the human domain, which had forced them to heavily recruit from the surrounding domains and find another route in. That led their movement into Myriad Abyss through a number of connected transportation formations.

The demonic menace quickly applied a tremendous amount of pressure upon Myriad Abyss in a few short years.

Though Eternal wasn't at the front line of the demonic attack, the demons knew that it was the de facto leader of the island. Thus, their hordes assailed the sacred land endlessly.

The Eternal Sacred Land was burdened by responsibility.

The forefather remained on the offworld battlefield still, while Ziju Min defended the sacred land proper. Another god, one of the captives from Lightford, remained under Ziju Min's command in Eternal as well.

The first prime was also present.

These days, the situation in Myriad Abyss was getting worse and worse. There were only two kinds of news: bad and worse.

Eternal's close ally, Abyssal Sacred Land, had suffered a large-scale demon attack in an almost incredible fashion.

Many of its executives had fallen prey to demonic subversion of the toxic variety. The symptoms were outlandishly peculiar, and conventional pills and spirit herbs failed.

Abyssal crumbled over the span of only a few months.

Eternal felt the sting despite the distance. The great Abyssal Sacred Land was done for, without a single chance to call for help.

It was the first time Ziju Min felt so troubled after breaking through to divinity.

"Forefather Ziju, the healthy survivors from Abyssal have succeeded in breaking through their blockade. They're planning to come join Eternal. Should we accept them or not?"

The first prime was restless over the gravity of recent affairs.

Abyssal was one of Eternal's closest allies. There was no reason for them not to allow the survivors asylum. But what if the source of the poison was hidden among the refugees?

If that was the case, wouldn't Eternal be infected as well?

Naturally, Martial was under a considerable amount of stress as well. The demonic menace was on their doorstep.

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

Chapter 2208: The Crisis of the Sacred Land

Eternal, Martial, and Abyssal: these three sacred lands formed a triangle that enabled any two of the points to assist the third. However, Abyssal had now fallen.

If Martial fell too, Eternal would no longer have any nearby outside help. It would be a stranded city behind enemy lines, and the pressure upon it would instantly multiply.

With the triangle intact, the three sacred lands that formed it could at least support each other.

Thinking about all these things made Ziju Min's head spin. His forefather status had been the result of a swift promotion, and he didn't yet possess the authority to match.

Times like these tested his abilities.

He very much missed Jiang Chen right now. If the young man was here, things wouldn't be nearly so bad. Preventative measures against the demons would've been taken already too, no doubt.

As he deliberated without much clue, an urgent message arrived from the sacred land's appropriate formation. Communication from the faraway Rejuvenation Isles – reportedly related to young lord Jiang Chen.

Ziju Min dashed to the communication formation with as much haste as he could muster.

An image appeared within that slowly clarified over time, gaining definition as Jiang Chen injected spirit energy.

"Young lord Chen?" Ziju Min was positively elated.

"Elder Ziju... ah, wait. Forefather Ziju." A smile hung upon Jiang Chen's face. His confident visage seemed never to lose its optimism, regardless of the difficulties he faced.

"Please don't call me that, young lord Chen," sighed Ziju Min. "My position as forefather is owed entirely to you. The adversity of our present circumstances has made me wish for you. I didn't expect you to call in right when I did so! It's been more than a decade since we last met. I presume the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement is active once more in the human domain, correct?"

"Yes. Alas, the demonic invasion has begun as well. Forefather Ziju, the fact you're still here means that Eternal is safe for now, yes?"

"For now," Ziju Min smiled wryly. "I'm not sure how long we can last here."

He related the whole situation to Jiang Chen, especially what had happened to the Abyssal Sacred Land.

The young man paled upon hearing it. As expected, the wood demons were wreaking havoc.

"Young lord Chen, are the demons really so fearsome? They've conquered half of Myriad Abyss in no time at all."

"Sure, they're a force to be reckoned with. They wouldn't be so famous and terrifying in the heavenly planes otherwise." Jiang Chen gave the race a lofty review. "However, history has shown that they're far from invincible."

"We've fought them many times over the dozen or so years since our departure. More than five demon forefathers have fallen under our blades. A veritable harvest, or so I understand it."

Ziju Min was grossly taken aback.

Demonic forefathers were all divine realm cultivators. More than five? That was positively shocking to hear. Myriad Abyss's strength alone wouldn't be sufficient to kill even one.

After all, the sacred lands' main force was tied up in the offworld battlefield still.

"Young lord Chen, now that the human domain is secure... Myriad Abyss is in terrible shape. If you have the time and inclination..." Ziju Min hesitated.

"Now is not the time to retake Myriad Abyss as a whole. I strongly believe that this place will be the main battlefield for exterminating the demons. The human domain, on the other hand, will remain as a safe base of operations that must be defended at all costs.

"My opinion is that the sacred lands won't last much longer. You should prepare to retreat at any time. Of course, I doubt the demons will attack your experts on the offworld battlefield. They don't want alien invaders and pirates to steal a piece of their pie."

Jiang Chen accurately predicted prevailing demonic opinion.

"Retreat?" Ziju Min blanked. "I know Myriad Abyss is a big place, but where are we supposed to retreat to?"

"Where did the ten sacred lands come from?" Jiang Chen smiled serenely. "It's time for you to return home. The sacred lands' mission may very well be reaching a conclusion very soon."

"Home? Back to the human domain?" Ziju Min gasped. "But what about the thin spirit energy there? Will the sacred lands be able to survive?"

"The human domain is completely different from what it once was," laughed Jiang Chen. "What you know about it is firmly rooted in the past. Now that the spirit veins have recovered, we are well on our way to our ancient prosperity. Let that not be an obstacle to your thoughts, Forefather Ziju."

"Truly?" Ziju Min was overjoyed. "That's wonderful news."

"Oh, absolutely," replied Jiang Chen seriously. "The human domain is number one on the demons' priority list. They have attacked Myriad Abyss merely out of desire for a launching pad. Therefore, I've no reason to abandon this place on a tactical level."

"Well, Martial is in a precarious situation as is. If you could save..."

"Listen to me. Abyssal has likely suffered from the wood demons' poisonous parasites. My special pills are superb at repulsing them, but the Fire of Firstdawn or Dragonwhisker Water will suffice as well."

"Wood demons?" Ziju Min looked a bit lost. He didn't know much about demons.

"Yes. Wood demons are average fighters, but masters of parasitic insects. Just like every other kind of demon, they're tough to deal with in their own way. You must be careful when facing them."

"Eternal has neither of those things, but I do believe that Sunrise Divine Nation has a wealth of the fire you mentioned." The mention of it had jogged Ziju Min's memory.

"Then contact Sunrise immediately. We must hold the locale in which Fire of Firstdawn is produced, then collect the fire in preparation for facing the wood demons.

"With that in hand, taking care of them will be trivial," instructed Jiang Chen. "I will begin refining a large batch of pills immediately. When the time comes, I will deliver it to Abyssal."

"I do beseech your help, young lord Chen, in helping the Abyssal Sacred Land. For my sake, if nothing else." There was a pleading note in Ziju Min's tone.

"Don't worry. When the time comes, I will ride into battle and land a grievous blow against the demons. My friend, please be patient while I tell you about the ten demon tribes' strengths and weaknesses..."

Many of Myriad Abyss's factions lacked a basic understanding of what the demons could do. This was an important reason for their successive failures.

The air of mystery around the demons and their peculiarity were important components of their strength.

If humanity could understand the demons in every conceivable way, coming up with countering strategies in the process, they wouldn't be at too much of a disadvantage.

Jiang Chen was one of the most knowledgeable people there was.

Ziju Min shivered as the young man went over each tribe's special qualities.

No tribe made for an easy opponent. Only Jiang Chen's breadth and depth of abilities had allowed him to handle these demons with ease.

He was probably the only man in the world who could hold an advantage against the demons!

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

Chapter 2209: Gathering of the Gods

Jiang Chen patiently described the ten demonic tribes to Ziju Min, ceasing only when he was sure his old acquaintance fully grasped what he had said.

"Demons are strong," he advised, "but they have a fatal weakness: they are vastly undermanned and very poor at reproduction. The strategy they use to invade the various planes is one of bloodline assimilation, which requires them to constantly fight wars to increase their numbers.

"Most of the time, it's their puppets who do the dirty work. The actual demons are elites and rarely take to the field. When they do, it's for a hard battle ahead. Thus, each pureblooded demon we kill is one fewer for them. The same goes for their forefathers. This is especially true if they don't have any fresh forces to replenish their numbers with."

This was the demons' greatest detriment.

The two hundred thousand years of being sealed away had naturally precluded any procreation. The demons that lived in the present were remnants from the ancient era.

In fact, some had died as a result of the passage of time.

Therefore, the number of demons in human lands was grossly insufficient for them to launch an all-out invasion. That was the reason for their current precision.

Myriad Abyss Island was a great example of this.

Despite their endemic intrusion, they couldn't afford to fight on too many fronts, much less attack all ten sacred lands at once.

Moreover, Jiang Chen was the one whom they were wariest about. His name was known to even celestial demon forefathers.

The young lord's words of encouragement alleviated the burden upon Ziju Min's heart.

"Relax, Forefather Ziju. I can't ignore Myriad Abyss at the end of the day. Plus, I promised the venerated forefather that I would change the situation of the offworld battlefield. I must do all these things one step at a time, because it's rather difficult to accomplish all of them overnight."

Jiang Chen wasn't really scared of fighting. The human domain simply hadn't stabilized enough for him to rampage through Myriad Abyss. Losing his home base would render all his work here meaningless.

The talk with the young lord fortified Ziju Min. He activated the communication formation and contacted the Sunrise Sacred Land immediately.

Sunrise and Radiance possessed warm sentiments toward Eternal and Jiang Chen after the battles near Sandplain and against Lightford. The sacred lands were thus on very good terms.

The two were harassed by the demons as well, but their lands remained currently secure. Sunrise firmly guaranteed that a large amount of Fire of Firstdawn would be delivered to Eternal in secret for the war effort against the wood demons.

At the end of the day, the ten sacred lands were connected to each other through the alliance. The suffering of any one would be reflected upon all of them. As such, there was no reason for Sunrise to refuse the request.

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Within Divine Kasyapa's secret realm, An Kasyapa was currently treating a number of other escapee gods from the Boundless Prison to dinner. He had visited and spoken with many of them over the past while; recent happenings in the outside world made him especially anxious.

He had agreed to help Jiang Chen persuade the other wandering gods to join the human side. Two or three gods had expressed agreement with his views so far, but the remainder were still unsure.

New developments, however, might ease his persuasive efforts. Therefore, An Kasyapa specifically invited nine gods to a banquet at his abode.

Two or three of them were nearly equal to him in strength.

"Daoist Kasyapa, you certainly take good care of yourself. This place is so remote that you can enjoy as much peace and quiet as you like. It's a wonderful refuge from the world."

“Indeed. I’d very much like a place like this myself.”

“If my fellow daoists enjoy this place, why not I make a gift of it to you?” An Kasyapa smiled faintly.

“When war strikes the realm, what locale is truly safe for us to take refuge in? The iron boot of demonkind stepped upon Myriad Abyss a long time ago. Any perceived peace and quiet we might enjoy is only a delusion!”

His dinner guests’ expressions froze. Some nodded to themselves in secret, while others remained unimpressed.

“Fellow daoist, the demons are causing a bit of a ruckus, but I doubt they’d be able to find secret realms like these... Furthermore, we’ve no interest in fighting them right now. Why would they attempt to exterminate us? They wouldn’t want to make enemies of us, would they now?”

An Kasyapa snickered immediately. “Your perception of the world is laughable. Is there be peace between men when they lack a parity of strength, to say nothing of demons? Demons are exceptionally ambitious. They conquer all that they see. Why should they give us any peace?”

It was naïve to imagine that demons could coexist with anyone else. Realizing that he was only fooling himself, the previous speaker shut up.

“Daoist Kasyapa, what should we do in this situation?”

“Yes, you are our older brother. We would like to hear your wisdom.”

“What wisdom do I have?” An Kasyapa smiled serenely. “Man and demon have always been at odds with each other. Either kneel in debased slavery, or stand and fight to the last.”

He was firm and clear-cut.

The demons were wreaking havoc in Myriad Abyss right now. This was no time for reticence. He needed to make things as distinctly understandable as he could.

No self-respecting human god would kneel as a slave.

All of An Kasyapa’s guests were veterans of countless fights in the Boundless Prison. Divine Kasyapa’s words evoked their internal heroism.

“What the hell can those demons do that we can’t? We’ll give it all we’ve got!” someone shouted.

“We survived situation after dire situation in the Boundless Prison. We’re lucky to be alive right now. If that prison couldn’t bend our knee, why should we bend it to the demons?”

“Demons are strong, but Divine Abyss won against them in ancient times, didn’t it? If we can beat them once, we can beat them twice!”

“Old Brother Kasyapa, we’re right behind you!”

An Kasyapa’s eyes thoughtfully swept around the table before him. His all-knowing eyes drew across his guests’ faces, as if he wanted to see into their hearts as well.

He opened his mouth after a long while. "Friends, I've no interest in forcing your hand. If you're interested in fighting off the demons, feel free to stay and brave the war with me. If not, you are under no obligation to stay. I will begrudge neither choice!"

Sovereign of the Three Realms (WN)

Chapter 2210: Rebuilding the Three Islands

Three declined the proposal after a moment's hesitation, but the other six divine realm cultivators all agreed to join An Kasyapa.

The latter had earned public approval with his conduct in Boundless Prison. His staunch refusal to bow down to Lightford for these many years was worthy of admiration, for one.

Discerning cultivators knew that the increasing number of demon sightings signaled the end of peaceful days on the continent. Everyone would be swept into the coming turmoil, willing or not.

A possible way forward in such circumstances wasn't a bad idea. At the very least, An Kasyapa was a pillar they could rely on.

They had refused to join Lightford's camp, unwilling to become his dogs and do his dirty labor. As it turned out, the spark of self-respect and integrity still burned deep in their hearts.

But an alliance centered around An Kaspaya was a different story. They would all be in the same boat with someone just like them. Everyone was keenly aware they couldn't face the coming era of chaos alone.

No one would escape the demons' wanton rampage. They would either be eliminated or taken as slaves. Why should they refuse to act as Lightford's dogs, only to become demon puppets?

All in all, the alliance was a means of survival.

"Daoist Kasyapa, we're all in this together. Are we going to wage war on the demons?" asked a man with bald eyebrows.

All eyes fell on An Kasyapa, eagerly waiting for his plans.

The latter shook his head lightly. "That would be unwise given our strength. We might successfully kill one or two of their divine forefathers if we act together, but against the demons' strange and sinister ways, I have no full assurance we can slaughter them all."

"Does that mean we're helpless despite our numbers?"

"Not necessarily. Let's visit someone first before we declare war." An Kasyapa smiled leisurely.

"Who?"

"Jiang Chen." Divine Kasyapa uttered the name resolutely.

Jiang Chen?

The crowd froze for a second, before someone finally asked, conflicted, "Do you mean the one who felled Lightford, the Eternal Sacred Land's young lord?"

"The very same. Out of the myriad of people I've met in my long life, he stands out as one of a kind in Myriad Abyss Island, perhaps even the entire continent. He might very well be the key figure in the oncoming war. Let's depart for the human domain and seek his wise counsel."

"But, he's nothing but a young man. Lightford was taken down thanks to luck and the effort of many, not his alone. Fellow daoist, given his age, what will he know about the demons?"

Some weren't especially convinced of Jiang Chen's value.

An Kasyapa laughed out loud. "Haha, you clearly don't know him all that well. As a reincarnated god, he understands them better than anyone on the continent. Take Lightford, for example. Who else knew of his identity but Jiang Chen? How fast the child's grown speaks volumes about him."

"Fellow daoist, it's rare to see you speak so highly of anyone! This Jiang Chen must be someone special. You've made us all curious now."

"True enough, but I for one am not that keen to deal with the ten great sacred lands."

An Kasyapa smiled. "Just how dated is your knowledge? He left the Eternal Sacred Land more than ten years ago and has gone back to the human domain. That's where he was born, after all."

"Ah? Why that benighted place? Doesn't he know Myriad Abyss Island is ten times better for cultivation?"

An Kasyapa shrugged. "You might not be aware that there's a large formation over there called the Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement. It's pivotal against the demons. He's gone back precisely to repair it. Successfully, it seems, since the human domain's stayed safe so far, compared to all the demons raiding Myriad Abyss Island."

"The Great Formation of Heavenly Soul Confinement? Is it that formidable?"

"It is. It could've quelled the entire demon race in ancient times if not for the demons' craftiness. It can both protect and attack. When under siege, it becomes an impregnable rampart against the demons' onslaught and keeps them outside the domain's frontier." Thick fascination coated An Kasyapa's words.

"Fellow daoist, what are we waiting for then? Let's depart at once!"

"Let's go, we're leaving!"

"I'm eager to see just what kind of genius the human domain can foster."

Jiang Chen stayed on Rejuvenation Isles for many days, overseeing the restoration of both Rejuvenation Isles and Tritalent Isles. These two factions were no longer as hostile toward him.

Of course, most of the reconstruction effort was centered on Winterdraw Island.

Its defenses were far superior to the other two territories. A creation of the great formation master Pei Xing, its power increased by the day thanks to the young lord's undertaking, inching ever closer to its ancient might.

Undoubtedly, it would become crucial in the war to come, perhaps even a place to safeguard at all costs.

For that reason, its fortifications had to be continuously rebuilt. If they could be upgraded back to their ancient standards, Winterdraw would become a safe haven able to withstand the combined offensive from several demonic forefathers.

It hadn't exhibited all its possibilities when governed by Rejuvenation Isles, and its development had been greatly stunted.

But now, with the young lord was at the helm, his ever deeper understanding and mastery of Pei Xing's legacy provided a better insight into Winterdraw's formations, allowing him to draw ever more power from them.

The restoration project was declared completed about three months later. Two secret, temporary channels to the other two isles had also been constructed.

Thanks to the marvels of spatial formations, these channels were akin to transport formations. However, they were one-time use only and would vanish once their purpose was fulfilled. No power, no matter how great, would be able to pry them back open.

It allowed for a quick retreat to Winterdraw if the other two isles were ever to be overwhelmed by demon attacks. Jiang Chen once again demonstrated the thoroughness of his planning.