

Unparalleled 511

Chapter 511: Overpowering A Boundary Emperor With Ease, Crawl For Me

“To hell with his Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart! The only outcome for offending our orthodoxies is death.”

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader grunted and released a torrent of Boundary Emperor’s Aura.

From his spiritual energy, the apparition of a white lion manifested and charged rampantly at Chu Kuangren.

“Beast Ruler Rage!”

It was an Emperor Technique practiced by the Snow Lion Tribe. However, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader’s display of the technique was far more powerful than Bai Shixin’s.

“Even as a Boundary Emperor, you’re still practicing another person’s Emperor Technique. Where’s your own Dao?”

Chu Kuangren was unfazed. Lifting his hands, he concentrated the surrounding natural spiritual energy into his hands before unleashing it towards the white lion with a finger technique.

It was the Emperor Technique, Heart Piercing Finger!

A merciless finger technique that would put one’s Daoist core to the test!

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader felt his spirit freezing over as the power of the enormous white lion apparition faded significantly.

When he eventually recovered, Chu Kuangren’s Heart Piercing Finger was just inches away from him.

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader roared furiously, heightening the strength of his physique as he unleashed a wave of terrifying ferocious qi.

The moment he struck out his first, it landed on the incoming finger qi.

However, the relentless finger qi had still managed to blast him dozens of meters away. The Snow Lion Tribe Leader felt his arm shaking as it bled profusely. His bones felt like they were broken.

“I didn’t think a measly finger technique would inflict such a level of damage to my body.”

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader possessed a rigid Boundary Emperor Physique that had been specifically refined before. This physique alone should be enough for him to go head-to-head against other Boundary Emperors.

“His combat strength is impeccable. We won’t stand a chance if we fight him alone. Let’s attack together.”

The Sima Clan Leader said. Before he came, the Sima Clan Leader was confident that this battle was in the bag. However, it seemed like Chu Kuangren had exceeded his expectations.

Who would have thought that a young sky-pride was capable of overpowering a Boundary Emperor with such ease?

“Attack!”

The Gu Clan Leader made his move.

The Gu Clan Leader launched his spear into the air like a shooting star, and its unforgiving spear ray locked onto Chu Kuangren.

On another side, the Snow Spider Tribe Leader leaped several meters backward and began spinning her silks rapidly into a large web.

Just as the spear ray was about to reach Chu Kuangren, he retaliated with the Self Descendant Sword.

As the sword and the spear interlocked with a deafening explosion, a boundless strength qi containing two distinct Daoist Rhymes exploded.

The icy surface of the Heavenly Pool ruptured into a blizzard of snowflakes that swiped violently across the region in a hundred kilometers radius.

The battle had caused avalanches on the Heavenly Pool Mountain, which had been amassing snow all year round.

“Is that all your spear can do?”

Chu Kuangren swung his Self Descendant Sword, unleashing an even domineering sword qi from his blade.

All the Gu Clan Leader could feel was the incredibly sharp surge of energy coming for him.

“This isn’t good. Get back!”

Petrified, the Gu Clan Leader hastily retreated.

He retreated just enough for the ray of sword qi to glide past his shoulder and landed on a ten thousand-kilometer tall mountain in the distance.

The snowy mountain was cleanly sliced into two parts!

The snowstorm seemed to have halted in the areas which the sword qi had passed by.

Momentarily, the sky seemed clear in Heavenly Pool Mountain, which was notorious for its incessant snowstorms.

“Boundless Snaring Web!”

At that moment, the Snow Spider Tribe Leader had finished spinning her web and cast it over Chu Kuangren.

The enormous web ensnared all of him on the spot.

“Break apart!”

Chu Kuangren lightly grunted and projected a streak of sword qi above him.

Once the sword qi landed on the web, it abruptly exploded into billions of sword qi that tore the entire enormous web apart.

“Didn’t you want to witness my Dao?”

“Then, I shall let you experience it for yourself!”

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader charged furiously at Chu Kuangren with a violent aura radiating from his body. The blood essence of his body boiled as he exhaled a breath of scorching air, instantly evaporating the snowflakes that fell around him.

Instead of resembling a snow lion, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader was now more like a raging fiery lion.

With each leap he took, the Heavenly Pool Mountain shook under his feet.

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader took precisely seven steps, and the mountain shook in seven successions. In seven steps, he covered several kilometers in distance and arrived before Chu Kuangren, greeting him with a sudden fist technique.

“Seven Steps Fatal Blow!”

The fist technique ruptured the air and caused the void to crack, revealing the white crevices within the fabric of space.

Yet, Chu Kuangren was unmoved. He stood his ground and retaliated with another fist technique!

Chu Kuangren did not mobilize even an ounce of spiritual energy in his technique. Instead, it was an attack that solely relied on the bodily strength of his Supreme Sage Physique.

Two fists of opposing sizes clashed and caused a terrifying typhoon to ensue, devastating everything in the vicinity. The Sages, who were observing from afar, sensed the incoming danger and quickly mobilized their spiritual energies to defend themselves. All of them gasped in shock.

Meanwhile, the region where Chu Kuangren clashed with the Snow Lion Tribe Leader crumbled into the ground, causing a gigantic fissure to form in the middle of the Heavenly Snow Mountain.

“How did that b*stard’s body get so...”

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader stared at Chu Kuangren in utmost disbelief.

He could sense that Chu Kuangren was solely relying on his bodily strength and had not used any spiritual energy at all.

However, how could a Sage Physique be so terrifying?!

“Was that your Dao?”

“It’s mediocre at most!”

Chu Kuangren muttered all of a sudden. Then, he unleashed an abundance of energy from his seemingly dainty figure.

“Destroy!”

This time, Chu Kuangren was no longer solely relying on his Supreme Sage Physique’s bodily strength. He had also infused his attack with a burst of Supreme Sage’s spiritual energy.

The terrifying energy unfurled like a gushing torrent. In an instant, it penetrated through the Snow Lion Tribe Leader and tore his arms apart.

The remaining attack struck directly on his chest.

With a loud explosion, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader was frothing blood around his lips. The attack had caused a deep dent in his chest and ruptured countless bones within. Like a cannonball, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader was propelled away before crashing onto the ground. Just one move was enough to heavily injure him.

“D*mn it!” The Snow Lion Tribe Leader was pressing his palms into the ground in an attempt to support his body. He still intended to continue the battle.

Unfortunately, a faint yellow rune appeared above him at that moment. The rune manifested into the apparition of an enormous mountain that crashed down onto the Snow Lion Tribe Leader.

It was a Mountain Rune!

The rune was forged out of the mountain’s natural earth qi. It bore a striking resemblance to a technique Chu Kuangren once used — the Human Mountain Stamp.

One was a technique, another was a rune.

“Curse you!” The Snow Lion Tribe Leader was incensed. If he was at his peak, he might still stand a chance in overcoming the attack.

However, Chu Kuangren’s heavy punch had left the Snow Lion Tribe Leader so weak that it was tremendously difficult for the latter to defeat the runic attack.

“Be a good kitty now, and stay down.”

Chu Kuangren taunted casually. The Snow Lion Tribe Leader was now compared to a harmless kitten.

Needless to say, it infuriated him.

The Snow Spider Tribe Leader and Gu Clan Leader were feeling uneasy now.

It was evident to them that Chu Kuangren’s combat strength had far surpassed their imagination.

“How did the outside world manage to birth such a remarkable sky-pride?!”

“Not even the outlawed sky-prides are as overpowered as him! This is terrifying!”

Just then, a surge of boundless Emperor’s Aura unfolded up in the sky!

Chapter 512: Taming An Emperor Weapon, Consecutively Defeating Boundary Emperors

Up in the air, the Sima Clan Leader suddenly drew a golden longsword.

The blade was embedded with lines of runic scriptures and emitted a magnificent oppressive presence.

"It's the Emperor's Aura. That's an Emperor Weapon." Chu Kuangren squinted his eyes.

"Little brat, it's about time I show you the power of the Sima clan's Emperor Weapon!" the Sima Clan Leader announced loudly. With the abrupt swing of his blade, he unleashed a streak of golden sword qi that shot downwards on Chu Kuangren like a golden dragon.

The sword qi shattered parts of the realms, leaving traces of white crevices in its path.

"You speak as if I don't own one myself," Chu Kuangren said indifferently before he lifted his hand and summoned a golden halberd.

It was none other than the Empyrean Neptune's Trident Halberd.

Chu Kuangren swung his halberd and unleashed the earth-shattering force of the ferocious ocean.

The golden sword ray and the majestic torrential force collided violently.

The clash of the Emperor Weapons' power created an impact as strong as one hundred thousand mountains colliding into one. Its frightening aftermath shattered almost half of Heavenly Pool Mountain.

Having been forced to retreat several dozens of kilometers due to the blast wave, the observing Sages stared at the Heavenly Pool Mountain in horror.

"Such energy can only be the result of the crossing of two Emperor Weapons. Oh dear, that b*stard has an Emperor Weapon of his own!"

"Neither the past ancient nor even archaic ancient orthodoxies possess many Emperor Weapons. Yet, that b*stard's carrying an Emperor Weapon of his own! How rich must his orthodoxy be for their sky-pride to be carrying an Emperor Weapon around?!"

"The clash of the Emperor Weapons is too powerful. Let's not get too near."

The collision was indeed devastating.

However, Chu Kuangren was clearly superior to that of the Sima Clan Leader as he was able to draw a stronger source of power from the Emperor Weapon.

The torrential force of the Empyrean Neptune's Trident Halberd effortlessly sliced through the golden sword ray and brutally crashed into the Sima Clan Leader's body.

Despite his Boundary Emperor Physique, the Sima Clan Leader could not withstand it and was blasted away by the overwhelming power of the Emperor Weapon.

The golden longsword slipped through his hand.

"That's not good!"

The Sima Clan Leader was horrified and immediately tried to recall his Emperor Weapon.

Unfortunately for him, a boundless mind power abruptly encased the Emperor Weapon, rendering his recall attempt futile.

Chu Kuangren vanished in his position and reappeared before the Emperor Weapon as he gripped onto the handle.

The Emperor Weapon flashed with a glorious sword ray and jerked violently as if it was resisting Chu Kuangren's ownership.

"Oh, still resisting, I see? Now yield before me!"

Chu Kuangren lightly grunted and unleashed his Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart's Aura and his Supreme Sage's spiritual energies!

Soon, the Emperor Weapon halted its movement and did not resist any further.

"How's that possible?!" The Sima Clan Leader was appalled, to say the least.

Just like that, the Sima Clan Leader felt the bond between him and his Emperor Weapon severed.

"It seems like you've never gotten the Emperor Weapon's acknowledgment. You merely did some simple refinement," Chu Kuangren said.

Indeed.

If the Sima Clan Leader had done a more thorough job in refining the weapon, even Chu Kuangren's Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart would not have earned the weapon's loyalty.

The only explanation was that the Sima Clan Leader had done a horrible job in refining the weapon.

Even so, it was difficult to blame the Sima Clan Leader. Emperor Weapons were typically rebellious entities that could not be refined easily. Without its acknowledgment, most cultivators could not become the rightful owners of the weapons.

At most, they could only acquire the weapon's permission to use them.

"D*mn it!" The Sima Clan Leader stared at Chu Kuangren in envy.

Chu Kuangren had unraveled the fullest potential of his physique, yet he had managed to tame the Emperor Weapon in such a short amount of time.

It seemed that the Sima Clan had really lost an Emperor Weapon now. What a great loss!

"Let's run!"

The Gu Clan Leader was determined to leave.

Chu Kuangren was so powerful that not even the four of them could harm him in any meaningful way. On the other hand, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader was heavily injured.

Now that their opponent had acquired an additional Emperor Weapon, there was no way they could even level the playing field.

If they hesitated any further, this might just become their burial ground.

Even the Snow Spider Tribe Leader panicked as she turned around and attempted to flee.

As for the Snow Lion Tribe Leader, he was still helplessly held down by Chu Kuangren's Mountain Rune. Hence, he could not move a single inch.

'F*ck my life!'

Those b*stards did not even think of taking him with them.

"Thinking about leaving now? How naive."

Chu Kuangren chuckled lightly.

He simply lifted his hand and unleashed a wave of mythical Sword-based Daoist Rhymes.

The Daoist Rhymes spread in all directions and formed a giant circle of twelve large sword qi pillars!

In an instant, the entire space was sealed by the presence of the terrifying sword qi.

"It's the Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart's Daoist Physique Transformation, the Nine Heaven Sword Prison!" the Sima Clan Leader said worryingly.

"D*mn it! Let's break it!"

The Gu Clan Leader launched his spear fiercely into the air.

The frightening spear ray darted across the realm like a fearsome dragon.

With a loud boom, the spear ray flew into the void and penetrated through the sword qi.

It ripped a large hole through the sword qi that once covered the sky.

"I did it!" The Gu Clan Leader was delighted.

Just then.

A line of silver runes fell from the sky.

A burst of forbidden sealing force ensued, sealing the entire region in position. The Gu Clan Leader's body immediately froze in the middle of the air.

Meanwhile, the gaping hole of the Nine Heaven Sword Prison had been patched.

"I've told you. It's too late to leave now."

Chu Kuangren whispered into the ears of the Gu Clan Leader.

Then, a single ray of purple sword ray abruptly shot out and devoured the Gu Clan Leader whole.

In split seconds, the observers witnessed the Gu Clan Leader's body reduced into pulps while he was still in mid-air.

A leader of a past-ancient orthodoxy had perished!

It was a frightening scene that shook all of the cultivators present.

"Run, run!"

The Snow Spider Tribe Leader managed to break free of the Spatial Cessation Rune's effect and dove recklessly into the distance.

However, just like the Gu Clan Leader, her attempt was fruitless.

Chu Kuangren expanded his mind power, forming countless runic swords in the air that blocked the Snow Spider Tribe Leader's escape route.

Chu Kuangren dashed forward and arrived directly behind the Snow Spider Tribe Leader.

"Stay away from me!"

Sensing the chilling presence behind her back, the Snow Lion Tribe Leader squealed in terror and revealed her true form.

Her light-toned skin ruptured, revealing an enormous, white-furred arachnid spider beneath.

The spider let out a deafening screech as it attempted to stab Chu Kuangren with its pedipalps.

"Die!"

Chu Kuangren drew the Self Descendant Sword and activated the Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique.

A ray of glamorous sword ray descended from above, slicing the Snow Spider Tribe Leader's pedipalps off before it fell onto the rest of her body.

The sword qi immediately sliced her enormous body into halves. Copious amounts of blood spurted out and dyed a large patch of snow into crimson red.

The Snow Lion Tribe Leader was dead!

"Two more left now!"

Chu Kuangren glanced at the Snow Lion Tribe Leader and mobilized his spiritual thought, forming an enormous runic sword above his target.

Like a falling comet, the runic sword mercilessly crashed through the Snow Lion Tribe Leader.

Having sustained heavy injuries, the defenseless Snow Lion Tribe Leader perished instantly.

Before the observers could process most of what was happening, three out of four orthodoxy leaders had fallen!

The cultivators that had gathered around Heavenly Pool Mountain stared at Chu Kuangren in disbelief. They had nothing but the utmost admiration and fear for Chu Kuangren.

Chapter 513 : The Sima Clan's Strategy, The Sword Tribe's Shadow Swordsmen

"All that's left is you now," Chu Kuangren said to the Sima Clan Leader.

"Hold on. The Sima clan has ties with the Sword Tribe. They'll come for you if you kill me."

The Sima Clan Leader said. He was trying to threaten Chu Kuangren with the Sword Tribe's influence.

To his surprise, Chu Kuangren sneered at his threat instead. "Sword Tribe! What do you think will happen when I meet the Sword Daoist?"

Upon hearing this, the Sima Clan Leader could not answer.

Chu Kuangren possessed the Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart, the same physique that resided within the Sword Daoist.

However, judging by the Sword Daoist's personality, he would not tolerate another person possessing the same physique as him. The duo was bound to have a battle when they would eventually meet.

Chu Kuangren was destined to become the Sword Daoist's nemesis.

If such was Chu Kuangren's fate, why would he even care about the Sima Clan Leader's threat?

The Sima Clan Leader was getting desperate now.

"Run!"

Since his threat had yielded nothing in return, the Sima Clan Leader immediately made his attempt at escaping.

Alas, if the Boundary Emperors before him had failed to escape, what were the odds for him?

A Spatial Cessation Rune descended from the sky and crashed onto the Sima Clan Leader.

The Sima Clan Leader's entire body froze in motion while he was still in mid-air.

Subsequently, a stream of magnificent purple sword rays unleashed towards him.

Utterly defenseless, the Sima Clan Leader was sliced into halves by the sword qi and perished immediately!

None of the four Boundary Emperors were spared!

There was only dead silence outside the Heavenly Pool Mountain.

The observers fixated their sight onto Chu Kuangren, all of them overwhelmed by a deep sense of fear and disbelief.

This battle was all it took for Chu Kuangren's reputation to soar within the Emperor Road!

"Why do I feel like Chu Kuangren's combat strengths are far stronger than the outlawed sky-pride?"

"Indeed. It seems like another monster has appeared in the Emperor Road. Only the heavens know who will eventually ascend into the Emperor Throne."

The Sages discussed outside the Heavenly Pool Mountain.

After slaying the Boundary Emperors, Chu Kuangren began looting their Yin and Yang Rings.

He activated his spiritual thoughts and noticed a chunk of decent items within them.

Other than the Emperor Weapon that the Sima Clan Leader contributed, the other orthodoxy leaders had left a decent amount of soul emblems behind that weighed several tonnes in total. It was equivalent

to a few billion top-tier soul stones in the outside world — a level of wealth that was deemed unfathomable by many orthodoxies.

“Just as I expected, these past ancient orthodoxies are filthy rich.”

Chu Kuangren smacked his lips as his eyes glimmered with excitement.

At the side, Shang Qingxue looked at Chu Kuangren strangely and asked, “Sect Leader, did you purposely let the orthodoxy members go to bait their leaders here? Just so you can obtain more treasures?”

“What did you say? Do I look that evil?” Chu Kuangren kept the items and said nonchalantly.

‘One hundred percent!’

Shang Qingxue thought to herself.

“We’re done here. Let’s go.”

Chu Kuangren collected his thoughts and left the Heavenly Pool Mountain.

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In an ancestral shrine of the Sima clan.

One of the altars in the ancestral shrine was arranged with dozens of wooden tablets, each tablet representing a member of the Sima clan.

On this day, the top-most tablet suddenly shattered into pieces!

A disciple, who was guarding the ancestral shrine, was mortified by the scattering splinters.

“Something’s happened to our leader! His tablet is broken!”

The disciple’s face turned white and immediately hurried out of the shrine to announce the news.

Soon, the Sima clan was clouded with the presence of several distinct Boundary Emperors’ Auras. Each came from a strong cultivator of the Sima Clan.

“Who? Who has the guts to kill our leader?!”

“Our leader was killed at the Heavenly Pool Mountain. He’d gone there to deal with an outside world sky-pride, but how could he fall so suddenly? Is an outside world sky-pride capable of such a feat?”

“Hurry up and investigate the issue!”

The Boundary Emperors’ voices echoed throughout the clan.

The Sima Clan Leader’s intelligence division immediately got into motion and conducted a thorough investigation of the incident in Heavenly Pool Mountain.

“According to the fallen sky-pride, Wang Tianteng, the name of the outside world’s sky-pride is Chu Kuangren. He possesses an impeccable set of combat strengths.”

“He’s capable of slaying Boundary Emperors and is armed with Emperor Weapons. He has even taken the Sima Clan’s Emperor Weapon away.”

“Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart... I didn’t think there would be another one after the Sword Daoist.”

“What should we do now?”

The Boundary Emperors were in a meeting.

Judging from Chu Kuangren’s combat strengths, they determined that Chu Kuangren could not be defeated by the average Boundary Emperor. Besides, he was armed with an Emperor Weapon. The Sima Clan may be a past ancient orthodoxy, but they did not dare fathom the cost it would take to defeat their enemy.

Not only were the Sima clan’s disciples dead, but their clan leader was too. Now, even their Emperor Weapon is gone...

If they suffered further losses, their status would not be able to handle it.

However, it would be impossible for them to cancel the thought of avenging their fallen members.

After all, who could easily forgive such an atrocity committed against them?

“Send Chu Kuangren’s information to the Sword Tribe and inform them about his Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart. I’m sure the Sword Daoist will not just sit idly by.”

One of the Boundary Emperors proposed.

The rest was immediately in favor of the idea.

Letting the Sword Tribe deal with Chu Kuangren was not a bad choice.

“Alright. Let the Sword Tribe deal with Chu Kuangren. We’ll assist from our side.”

“We must find a chance to take back our Emperor Weapon.”

Once the Boundary Emperors concluded their meetings, they sent a message to the Sword Tribe.

A day later, millions of kilometers away.

In the Sword Tribe’s territory.

The Sword Tribe Leader was handling some internal affairs.

At that instance, a stream of golden sword rays arrived from afar and manifested into a golden dagger before him.

“Oh, it’s a message from the Sima clan.”

Although the Sima clan and the Sword Tribe were separated by millions of kilometers in distance, the orthodoxies were both powerhouses skilled in Sword Dao and had always kept close contact with one another.

As a matter of fact, the Sima Clan was considered the Sword Tribe’s affiliated force.

Due to the sheer distance between them, the communication compass was no longer practical. As a result, the orthodoxies had developed a specific method of communication.

The Sword Tribe Leader gripped onto the dagger, and an array of messages was displayed before him.

He was surprised by the information. “An Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart host who’s armed with Emperor Weapon and is capable of killing Boundary Emperors... Who would’ve thought an outside world sky-pride like that existed?”

He then proceeded to share the information with the Sword Daoist.

Soon, an ethereal figure swooped over.

It was the spiritual thought manifestation of a handsome-looking young man.

“This person’s my enemy. My Divine Emerald Lamp is in his possession. He must not be spared!”

The Sword Daoist spoke with a cold murder intent.

The Sword Tribe Leader grinned and replied, “Such a shame. The Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart would’ve been of great use to my tribe if he’s willing.”

“Only one Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart can exist in this world!”

“Only I can stand at the pinnacle of Sword Dao!”

The Sword Daoist uttered before he vanished on the spot.

The Sword Tribe Leader chuckled faintly and spoke into the empty space. “Are the Shadow Swordsmen here?”

Shuffles...

Dozens of shadows congregated from the corners and manifested into three peculiar swordsmen who were dressed in black robes.

The Shadow Swordsmen was one of the most mysterious divisions in the Sword Tribe.

Their main specialty was... assassination!

Chapter 514: Seven Chord City, Swordsman San, Here To Kill You

The Shadow Swordsmen was a classified division of the Sword Tribe.

Their only function was to assassinate cultivators who posed a threat to the Sword Tribe or sky-prides of other orthodoxies.

There were three Shadow Swordsmen summoned by the Sword Tribe Leader, and each of them possessed a set of remarkable skill sets.

“Your target in this mission is Chu Kuangren. His combat strengths are unordinary, and he’s capable of slaying Boundary Emperors. I don’t care what methods you use, just kill him and bring the Divine Emerald Lamp back to the Sword Daoist,” the Sword Tribe Leader instructed.

“Affirmative.”

The trio received their instructions and vanished into the shadows.

After they left, the Shadow Swordsmen arrived within a lofty forest.

“What are your plans for this mission?”

One of the swordsmen took off his hoodie and revealed a frail face beneath. His cheekbones were palpable off his skin while his eyes were sinking into his sockets. He looked very grim.

He was known as Swordsman Yan, one of the most highly skilled experts even within the ranks of Shadow Swordsmen.

His abilities were even comparable to the leader of several past ancient orthodoxies.

No matter where people like him went, they were always hailed as distinguished guests in all orthodoxies they visited. Yet, he was considered an ordinary member of the Shadow Swordsmen.

One could only imagine just how formidable the Sword Tribe was.

“The swordsmen have always fought their own battles, and this is no exception. Kill Chu Kuangren to each their own.”

Another swordsman said calmly.

His voice was deep and composed.

“Swordsman San, Chu Kuangren is capable of slaying Boundary Emperors. Are you confident about this strategy?”

“Even if I can’t defeat him, I’m sure I can protect myself.”

Swordsman San was rather confident of his own abilities.

Besides, he had his own reasons. Chu Kuangren possessed the Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart. If Swordsman San could kill him, he would earn the Sword Tribe’s approval and benefit from it. He did not wish to share such a reward with another person.

After all, the Sword Tribe Leader only wanted the Divine Emerald Lamp.

He had said nothing about other items.

This implied that the swordsman could hoard all of Chu Kuangren’s items for his own.

He could not imagine how much treasure Chu Kuangren had in his possession after killing multiple past ancient orthodoxies’ leaders!

Just the amount of soul emblems itself was enough to make him drool.

Similarly, Swordsman San wished to have all of that to himself.

“If that’s the case, each to their own then.” Swordsman Yan had a similar idea to Swordsman San.

Then, the swordsmen looked at the last remaining member.

“Swordsman Mei, what’s your plan?”

“Seniors, both of you have been in the Shadow Swordsmen’s ranks longer than I did. Your experiences are more impeccable. I shall follow whatever plans that have been set.”

It was the gentle voice of a lady.

One would wonder just what else the lady with the charming voice could offer.

“Heh, Swordsman Mei, you’re flattering us. With your talents, you’ll become stronger than us in no time. The Shadow Swordsmen’s operations are probably just a training ground for you. But since you’ve put it that way, then let us make the first strike. We’ll regroup if we fail the operation.”

“Alright,” Swordsman Mei nodded.

With that, Swordsman San and Swordsman Yan vanished into the shadows.

Swordsman Mei took off her hood, revealing her alluring features beneath.

Her cheeks were smooth as silk, her features delicate, and her vivacious eyes highlighting her coquettishness.

“Want to hog all the credits to themselves? Fine by me. It’s good that someone is willing to test the waters for me.”

Swordsman Mei’s eyes were cold. “Chu Kuangren, there can only be one Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart, and that’s my Master Daoist. Anyone who tries to stop Master Daoist from ascending to the pinnacle of Sword Dao must face death!”

Very few in the Sword Tribe knew that Swordsman Mei was a diehard fan of the Sword Daoist.

She was willing to do just anything for the Sword Daoist.

Her talent would have initially allowed her to become one of the most remarkable sky-prides in the Sword Tribe, second only to the Sword Daoist.

However, for the Sword Daoist, Swordsman Mei decided to forgo all hopes of becoming the best sky-pride and went into the shadows to become a Shadow Swordsman. She was willing to fight for the Sword Daoist in the dark and eliminate all forms of threat on his behalf.

“As the saying goes, the Shadow Swordsmen is one of the swords in the Sword Tribe’s possession, and I shall become the deadliest sword of my Master Daoist!”

“I will kill for him!”

Swordsman Mei muttered and proceeded to vanish into the shadows.

...

“Sect Leader, is there any news?”

Shang Qingxue asked Chu Kuangren in a teahouse.

Chu Kuangren shook his head and said, “Nope, I still can’t reach out to the others.”

"It looks like our only choice is to head to the Emperor Mountain, the final destination of Emperor Road. All of the sky-prides will be there eventually."

Shang Qingxue said.

"Hmm, that's right." Chu Kuangren nodded.

He looked into the teacup in his hand and yelled, "Waiter, refill please."

"Coming up."

A waiter arrived at the table and began to refill Chu Kuangren's tea. "Are both of you heading to the Seven Chord City?"

"Seven Chord City? What's there to visit?" Chu Kuangren asked curiously.

"Eh, didn't you know? A guqin Emperor Weapon has recently been discovered in the city, causing many orthodoxies to fight over it. However, none of them were able to tame the guqin, so they decided to throw an Infinity Guqin Banquet and invite every guqin master of this world to see who's fated to gain the guqin's acknowledgment."

The waiter had finished pouring his tea at that point.

Upon hearing that, Chu Kuangren's interest was aroused. "A guqin Emperor Weapon?"

"That's right. It's said that when the guqin was discovered, dark thunderclouds shadowed the world from the Sun, lightning flashed, and thunder rang for three straight days."

"That surely seems interesting."

Chu Kuangren said, "I certainly wouldn't mind checking this place out. Do you know the direction to the Seven Chord City?"

"Just walk South from here until you reach the fort, where you can complete the remaining distance by a Fairy boat. The customers I've served in the past few days were all heading there. I just assumed you were part of them." The waiter chuckled and left the table.

"Guqin... Sect Leader, I recall you can play the instrument, right?"

"Just a little." Chu Kuangren nodded.

Well, he was just fluent in the Emperor Technique, the Eight Celestial Demonic Chords, and was just one of the best guqin players in Firmament Star. Nothing impressive about that.

'Let's head to the Seven Chord City after this tea.'

Chu Kuangren thought.

Suddenly, Chu Kuangren frowned when he sensed a strange ripple in the air.

Not far away, a figure with a blurry face appeared. He was dressed in a set of black robes.

With each step he took, the air around became strangely dense.

By the time he was before Chu Kuangren, the surrounding air had turned unbearably oppressive.

Most of the customers in the tea house were already pressed into the ground as they stared at the figure in terror.

“Are you Chu Kuangren?”

The black-robed figure came before Chu Kuangren and asked.

“You already know the answer.” Unfazed, Chu Kuangren proceeded to sip from his teacup.

“It looks like I’ve come to the right person. I’m Swordsman San of the Sword Tribe, and I’m here to... kill you!”

Chapter 515: Mountainous Overgrowth, Reappearance Of The Emperor-grade Lightning Rune

“I’m Swordsman San of the Sword Tribe, and I’m here to... kill you!”

As Swordsman San uttered his threat, a surge of murderous intent spread out in a ten-kilometer radius.

Unable to tolerate the unbearable murderous intent, some of the cultivators in the teahouse had even fainted over.

Meanwhile, Chu Kuangren sat unfazed as he scanned the black-robed cultivator with his Eye of Revelation. By then, he had already gotten a clear picture of the man’s capability.

“I’ve heard the Sword Tribe has a division that’s known as the Shadow Swordsmen who are highly trained in the art of assassination. However, is it assassination if you just stomp in and scream? Are you stupid, or have you lost your mind?”

“Kill me? More like, you’re here to be killed.”

Chu Kuangren said faintly.

Without hesitating further, Swordsman San made his move.

A dark broadsword appeared in his hand. It was as big as half a door frame.

The broadsword swung, unleashing a boundless amount of sword qi that shattered the table before Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue.

Chu Kuangren transformed the surrounding sword qi into an invisible shield that soaked the damage from the incoming sword technique.

“It looks like you do have some decent skills after all.” Swordsman San appeared excited as he swung his sword again.

This time, his sword qi was unstoppable. Infused with an overpowering earth qi, the spiritual energy surged out toward Chu Kuangren.

Chu Kuangren was still indifferent in face of such a threatening attack.

“It’s hilarious how you thought you could kill me with that.”

He drew half of his Self-Descendant Sword from his hilt and summoned a striking purple sword ray.

The devastating sword ray obliterated the incoming earth qi into pieces.

As such, Swordsman San attempted to use his broadsword to shield the incoming attack.

However, the purple sword ray suddenly unleashed a terrifying amount of energy and blasted him dozens of kilometers away. Swordsman San crashed into one of the mountains.

Boom!

Dust and debris filled the air.

His overwhelming aura soon dissipated.

The cultivators at the teahouse took the opportunity to flee for their lives. None of them dared linger any longer.

“Oh heavens, that’s a Shadow Swordsman from the Sword Tribe!”

“Who’s that b*stard anyway? Why did the Sword Tribe send a Shadow Swordsman after him?”

The cultivators of the teahouse ran as they questioned Chu Kuangren’s identity.

The Shadow Swordsmen was a highly classified division of the Sword Tribe. Only a few cultivators knew how many members the division had or how powerful they were.

What everyone did know was that whoever became the Shadow Swordsmen’s target were enemies of the Sword Tribe, and almost none of them had a happy ending.

The Sword Tribe was one of the most terrifying entities in the Emperor Road.

“Haha, your abilities are indeed remarkable. I can recognize your sword qi. It’s the same as Master Daoist’s Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart.”

Swordsman San’s voice echoed from the mountains.

He was seen levitating upwards as he unleashed another blast of hefty aura, and his dark broadsword was now emitting surges of mythical Daoist Rhymes.

Everything within a ten thousand kilometer radius in the mountains shook.

Chu Kuangren could sense that a copious amount of earth qi was converging towards Swordsman San.

He was transforming earth qi into sword qi!

Such a Sword Dao that allowed one to convert earth qi into sword qi was pretty sophisticated.

Chu Kuangren squinted his eyes and said, “It seems like he’s no weaker than the Sima Clan Leader.”

Swordsman San’s ability had piqued Chu Kuangren’s interest in the Sword Tribe.

If this was a single swordsman’s ability, it was difficult to imagine just how strong the entire tribe would be.

“Mountainous Overgrowth, attack!”

With a low grunt, Swordsman San unleashed his sword technique.

The lofty sword qi interlocked in the void and formed a display of enormous yellow sword shadow.

Within the sword shadow was an ever-changing scenery of mountain ranges. In a second, its boundless aura had sealed everything within ten kilometers of Chu Kuangren.

“Qingxue, step behind me.”

Chu Kuangren said calmly.

Then, he swung his Self Descendant Sword and unleashed a fury of calamitous sword rays.

With a bang, the sword shadow shattered into pieces before Chu Kuangren’s sword ray.

The alluring scenery faded away like bubbles.

Chu Kuangren had countered his mountainous technique with a single sword technique!

“That’s powerful!”

Since the Swordsman San’s sword shadow was destroyed, the remaining shock wave sent him flying several hundred meters backward.

Shocked, he began to feel overwhelmed by a sense of anxiety that he had never felt.

Swordsman San swung his sword around, summoning multiple sword shadows this time.

The surrounding earth qi gravitated towards him as if he had awakened.

Swordsman San flung his sword around and unleashed nine consecutive strikes, with each strike more powerful than the last.

When he was at the ninth strike, it seemed like Swordsman San had accumulated the momentum of all previous movements into one.

Once he released the final technique, the void shook in his astonishing force of power.

The sky felt as if it was going to collapse under its weight.

It was Swordsman San’s strongest technique, a move that was birthed out of his thorough understanding of the Mountain Dao!

“Now, this is something.”

Chu Kuangren gently lifted his hand and activated all three Daoist Physique Transformations of his Exquisite Nine Orifices Sword Heart.

All of his Supreme Foundation Levels were radiated in their glories.

With a single sword technique, Chu Kuangren unleashed an unfathomable sword ray that eclipsed the sun.

The mountainous sword qi was once again ripped apart by Chu Kuangren's purple sword ray.

However, Swordsman San was clear this time that he was no match for Chu Kuangren.

With that, he mobilized his spiritual energy, transformed into a ray of light, and dove into the distance.

Just when Chu Kuangren was about to give chase, he felt an overwhelming gravitational force grasping onto his legs.

"Oh, it's the earth qi that came from the sword qi..."

Chu Kuangren realized that the Swordsman San's sword qi, which he had shattered, did not truly dissipate. Instead, it had burrowed itself into the ground and was reformed into the earth qi that was now trapping Chu Kuangren.

Chu Kuangren had to admit that such a method was indeed impressive, or at least it would be when dealing with some Boundary Emperors.

"Such a trick would probably be useful for other opponents, but alas, you're against me today."

Chu Kuangren lifted his feet out and stomped mercilessly on the sprouting sword qi into nothingness.

Then, he mobilized his spiritual thoughts and locked onto Swordsman San's position.

As a member of the Shadow Swordsmen, Swordsman San's combat strength was highly sophisticated, and every single Swordsman cultivated a specialized technique of their own. When he vanished into the shadows, many cultivators were clueless as to where he had gone.

However, Swordsman San could not escape from Chu Kuangren's spiritual thought sense.

"How convenient for you to run after realizing that you can't defeat me."

Using his invisible mind power, Chu Kuangren formed lines of runes in the air that sealed Swordsman San's escape route.

With a leap forward, he too vanished without a trace.

When Chu Kuangren eventually reappeared, he was right in front of Swordsman San.

"Die!"

His cold, brutal tone was reminiscent of that of the Grim Reaper.

Lines of runes formed into a wide sword net that ensnared Swordsman San.

The runic swords fell all over Swordsman San like a pouring rain!

Swordsman San attempted to defend himself with all his might by summoning even a defensive Boundary Emperor Weapon on his chest.

Even then, the injury he sustained was far from minor.

After enduring the falling runic swords, a light blue rune appeared above his head before Swordsman San had the time to heave a sigh of relief.

The rune was seething with tiny electrical discharges.

It was the Emperor-grade Lightning Rune!

Chapter 516: Killing Swordsman San, The War Has Begun Long Ago

Emperor-grade Lightning Rune, strike!

The azure blue Lightning Rune hovered atop Chu Kuangren's head.

Immediately after, a vicious Thunder Dragon swooped out, and Tremendous Heavenly Might surged, enveloping Swordsman San in full.

"What... What is this?! Heavenly tribulation??"

Swordsman San was incredibly terrified.

Just as he wanted to run, that Thunder Dragon was already charging down at him.

The ferocious lightning energy nearly corroded every part of Swordsman San's body in an instant.

However, the numbing effect of the lightning was so strong that he could not even wail in pain.

After a few moments, the rays of lightning subsided, leaving only a charred body on the scene.

Chu Kuangren reached out and took away his adversary's Yin and Yang Ring to do a brief search through it. It was then he found a communication compass within.

Before he could utter a single word, the communication compass vibrated on its own.

He injected his spiritual power into it, linking the communication compass to its receiver.

"Swordsman San, how did your mission go?"

A middle-aged man's voice was heard from the other side of the communication compass.

"Judging from your tone and the fact that you could contact Swordsman San, I'm guessing that you're one of Sword Tribe's higher executives?"

Chu Kuangren held onto the communication compass and smiled gently.

That voice on the other side of the communication compass fell silent.

Then, that person started speaking again. "You are... Chu Kuangren?"

Although it ended with a question mark, that person's tone sounded quite certain.

"That's right. It's me."

"I'm the Sword Tribe Leader." That voice on the other end of the communication compass delivered another exciting news.

Chu Kuangren replied cheekily when he heard that. "Hey, what a coincidence this is. If you really are the Sword Tribe Leader, I happen to have something I want to discuss with you."

“What is it? Are you pleading for mercy?” The Sword Tribe Leader said nonchalantly.

From his perspective, no one would feel unafraid when facing such a large-scaled organization like them.

Adding to the fact that Chu Kuangren was an outside world sky-pride and that Black Heaven Sect was lesser-known here, he really did not have anyone to rely upon in the Emperor Road.

“Nah. I just wanted to let you know that if you intend on assassinating me again in the future, please at least send someone who is more competent. These laughing stock of yours have done nothing but embarrass your tribe. I’m fine too if you want to come over personally to kill me, but I hope you have prepared your will and coffin beforehand. I only kill, and I don’t do burials.”

After Chu Kuangren finished his sentence, silence took over once again.

“You’re waging war against the Sword Tribe?!”

It was clear from the Sword Tribe Leader’s tone of voice that he was starting to get agitated.

Throughout the many years, this was the first time someone was daring enough to speak to him like that.

“Waging a war? You idiot. The war has already begun long ago!”

Once Chu Kuangren finished speaking, sword qi swirled within his palm, and he disintegrated the communication compass right there and then.

Some communication compasses had a tracking function.

If he were to bring it with him, it would undoubtedly reveal his location to his enemies.

“Let’s leave.”

Chu Kuangren said to Shang Qingxue. When the two of them passed by a teahouse, they tossed out a couple of dozen soul emblems.

“Here. Take this as compensation for your teahouse.”

“Many thanks, Master. Many thanks.”

The teahouse owner was moved to tears. With that, he packed up his stuff and quickly went back on the road.

Meanwhile, about ten kilometers out, a gaze was locked onto the place where Chu Kuangren battled Swordsman San.

It was an old man donned in long black robes.

“This guy’s combat strength is truly not one to look down on. I can’t believe he didn’t need to wield his Emperor Weapon to kill off Swordsman San.”

“It seems like brute force is not a good way to deal with this fella. I must make some necessary preparations before going for him.”

This old man was one of the three swordsmen who were sent here to assassinate Chu Kuangren.

After witnessing Chu Kuangren's combat strength, he realized that it was impossible to beat Chu Kuangren with his raw strength alone.

Nevertheless, that did not mean that he had no other way.

...

Back at the other side, in the Sword Tribe.

Sword Tribe Leader was so infuriated after he received Chu Kuangren's message.

"War! Very well, then. It has been so long since somebody has openly challenged us, Sword Tribe to a war! I'd like to see just how you're going to deal with my Sword Tribe!"

A stone-cold glint gleamed in Sword Tribe Leader's eyes.

His Sword Tribe was a hugely successful empire, and their scale of resources was not something the other past ancient orthodoxies could compare with.

Their true wealth is simply unfathomable, for the massive resources they owned had been passed down for generations since archaic ancient times!

Hence, how was it possible for an outside world sky-pride to reign terror upon them?!

...

Seven Chord City.

This place was a huge fortress on Emperor Road. There was a lot of traffic here, so the place was buzzing.

Especially in recent days, there has been almost an endless stream of cultivators going in and out.

The most special part about Seven Chord City was that the finest guqin cultivators on Emperor Road were gathered here.

Seven Chord points to the seven strings on a guqin.

On this day.

There are two new visitors to Seven Chord City, one man and one woman.

These two people's faces were shrouded with faint spiritual light, hence their appearances were blurry.

The only thing people could tell was their extraordinary demeanors, especially the young man who was in front. He had an almost otherworldly demeanor, as though he would ascend to immortality at any moment.

These two were Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue, who had come to Seven Chord City because they heard that a grand event would take place here soon.

There were a lot of cultivators on Seven Chord City's streets.

Among them were quite a number of elites, too.

Moreover, a large portion of the cultivators held various musical instruments in their hands.

Melodious tunes would be heard from the inns on both sides of the street from time to time, which was very pleasant to the ears.

Compared to the other cities where cultivators gather, Seven Chords City had a slightly more elegant presence. Many cultivators who pass by here carry a certain carefree temperament to them.

“Sect Leader, this Seven Chord City looks like a really unique place.” Shang Qingxue exclaimed admirably. She had never seen a cultivator city quite like this one.

“It’s definitely quite fascinating.”

After that, they looked for an inn for their temporary stay before utilizing their free time to scout for more info about this place.

Very soon, Chu Kuangren had gotten all he needed to fully understand the forces in Seven Chord City.

There were indeed many cultivation forces in Seven Chord City, but for Chu Kuangren, most of them were not worth mentioning at all. The only organization worth his attention was the Seven Chord Guqin Association.

The Seven Chord Guqin Association was an organization formed together by the musical forces in Seven Chord City. They had three presidents, each one representing a past ancient orthodoxy that was masterful at music. These were the Ji clan, Phantasmic Melodious Sect, and Melodious Void Sect respectively.

These three forces all had roots tracing back to the past ancient era, so they were all incredibly powerful.

The Emperor Weapon that was rumored to have surfaced recently was also guarded by these three forces in turn. They intended to wait until the Infinity Guqin Banquet before presenting it to the public.

By then, all musical cultivators could showcase their respective prowess and see whom the Emperor Weapon would acknowledge as its owner.

“When this Emperor Weapon first revealed itself to the world, dark ominous clouds shadowed the sky for three days, accompanied with incessant rumbling thunder. Since I’m lacking a good guqin now, I might fancy my chances at competing for this one.”

Chu Kuangren muttered under his breath.

Nevertheless, competing for an Emperor Weapon was never as easy as it sounded because its success still depended on whether the Emperor Weapon would acknowledge you.

Hence, the great Sect Leader Chu, who had been slacking off on his guqin Dao, decided to freshen up on his knowledge and skills.

In the meantime, he would find out how many guqin cultivators in this city had the ability to compete with him for that Emperor-grade guqin.

Chapter 517: Seven Chord City’s Forces, Guqin Festival, Meeting Feng Yaorao Again

Two days later, Chu Kuangren had already gone through the Eight Celestial Demonic Chords once.

After progressing to a Sage and the huge amounts of purple haze had altered his soul, his cognizance had improved by leaps and bounds. Coupling that with his Meditational Clarity Trait, he now had a whole new understanding of this Emperor Technique after going through it once. As such, his level in guqin Dao had improved by another tier.

“It’s about time I go check out if there are any impressive guqin cultivators in Seven Chord City.”

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

He had already tasked this job to Shang Qingxue, requesting her to collect some intel.

Hence, she should have some conclusive evidence by now.

When he summoned Shang Qingxue back, she had indeed gathered quite a lot of information.

“Li Changyin, a sky-pride amongst the younger generation of Phantasmic Melodious Sect. He is skilled at playing the guqin, the flute, and various other musical instruments. He was once regarded as a peerless genius that is only seen every once in a million years...”

“Ji Xiaoyao, Ji clan’s finest sky-pride. He is most skilled in guqin Dao, especially in the Ji clan’s famous song, the Limitless Song...”

“Yang Xiyun, Melodious Void Sect’s dame. She is skilled in guqin Dao as well. She has already attained the Seven-Step Great Sage Realm in her cultivation. She is powerful enough to cross realms and challenge Sage Rulers...”

Chu Kuangren’s lips curled up as he read the various information that Shang Qingxue had collected.
“You’ve done well.”

“Oh, right. Sect Leader, I’ve just received news that Melodious Void Sect’s Yang Xiyun is planning to organize a guqin festival at Cloudveil Pavilion before the Infinite Guqin Banquet commences. There will be a huge amount of guqin cultivators gathering there. Why don’t we attend it?” Shang Qingxue said excitedly.

“Sounds like a good idea.” Chu Kuangren gently nodded.

...

Cloudveil Pavilion.

It was the biggest, and most high-class inn in the entire Seven Chord City. This place was often the venue for a guqin master who intended to hold guqin festivals.

On this night, many cultivators skilled in musical Dao were gathered in Cloudveil Pavilion.

Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue, too, were amongst the visitors.

However, they were stopped just as they wanted to enter the place.

“My two guests, apologies. The Cloudveil Pavilion has already been booked by Lady Yang. If you want to go inside, you must present your invitation card.”

One of the inn's workers, who was stationed outside to welcome the cultivators, told them apologetically.

Upon hearing this, Chu Kuangren could not help but fix a stare at Shang Qingxue, as if saying, "You didn't say we needed an invitation."

Shang Qingxue put her palms together in a prayer sign and quickly apologized, "I'm really sorry, Sect Leader. It's my mistake."

"What do we do now?"

Chu Kuangren stroked his chin, then stared toward the brightly lit Cloudveil Pavilion with a mischievous look.

Were they going to break in?

This did not seem appropriate.

Just when Chu Kuangren was trying to figure things out, two figures slowly walked toward them from a near distance.

It was a male and a female.

Among those two, the female cultivator was especially shocked when she saw the outline of Chu Kuangren's figure from the back.

"This figure and this energy... Could it be..."

The female cultivator looked stunned. It was as if she had recalled something.

That handsome young man beside her noticed Chu Kuangren's figure too, and his eyebrow raised slightly.

"Yaorao, do you know that guy?"

The young man inquired.

That female cultivator was the sky-pride who had made quite a name for herself on Firmament Star lately and wanted to challenge Chu Kuangren, Feng Yaorao.

"I'm not sure if he's who I think he is..." Feng Yaorao walked up to him with anticipation.

At this moment, Chu Kuangren was still figuring out how best to get themselves into Cloudveil Pavilion. When looking at the cultivators who passed by him, a menacing look glinted in his eyes.

Why not steal two invitation cards?

"Brother Chu?"

Just then, Feng Yaorao's voice rang out from behind him.

Chu Kuangren turned around, only to see Feng Yaorao. A look of surprise flashed in his eyes. "Are you that F-Feng... Sister Feng?"

He did have a little impression of Feng Yaorao.

However, he had forgotten her exact name. He had thought for a while but still failed to recall her name, so he could only greet her as 'Sister'.

Feng Yaorao pouted when she heard that. She stared at him, upset. "You really are Brother Chu. I've been constantly thinking of you, Brother Chu, but I didn't think you'd forget my name. I'm really saddened by this."

Beside her, the handsome young man's face stiffened for a moment.

A man that Feng Yaorao had been constantly thinking of?!

The young man stared at Chu Kuangren with hostility, but he retracted it after a short while.

Nonetheless, Shang Qingxue had managed to catch sight of it, and she looked at that young man sympathetically.

Sigh, I hope this guy would be wise not to provoke the Sect Leader.

Otherwise, it was going to be every man for himself.

"Heh, I didn't expect to see you here, Sister Feng. It's fate, isn't it?" Chu Kuangren coughed twice, trying to mask his awkwardness.

"My name is Feng Yaorao. I hope Brother Chu will remember it this time. Right, are you both here to attend Lady Yang's banquet too?"

Feng Yaorao said.

"Yes, but unfortunately, we don't have an invitation card," Chu Kuangren said helplessly.

"I see. I have one here that I don't mind giving it to Brother Chu," Feng Yaorao said as she took out her invitation card.

Beside her, that handsome young man suddenly spoke, "Yaorao, no need for that trouble. I'm good friends with Sister Yang. Your two friends can just come in with us."

"If they are your guests, Daoist Li, I wouldn't have any problem with letting them in."

The inn's worker immediately responded with a flattering smile.

He clearly knew who this young man was and recognized the latter's higher status.

Chu Kuangren activated his Eye of Revelation and glanced at that young man.

"Li Changyin, Phantasmic Melody Sect's Daoist..."

"So, it's him." Reality dawned on Chu Kuangren.

Li Changyin was crowned as the once-in-a-lifetime genius in Phantasmic Melody Sect. Hence, he was very reputable in Seven Chord City.

With Li Changyin's aid, Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue got into Cloudveil Pavilion.

...

"Lady Yang holding a guqin festival is a truly rare occasion."

"That's right. I can't possibly miss this grand event."

"I'm sure the people here today have not only come to listen to Lady Yang's melodious tune, but also to admire her good looks."

"Ha! In all honesty, that is my intention."

The crowd was buzzing inside Cloudveil Pavilion as many musical cultivators had gathered here.

When Chu Kuangren's group entered the scene, quite a number of cultivators glanced over. However, since no one could see Chu Kuangren's face clearly because of the spiritual veil, everyone diverted their attention to Li Changyin beside him.

"Hey, Daoist Li is here."

"Daoist Li, long time no see."

"Daoist Li's presence has really made the guqin banquet today more interesting. Come, please have a seat."

Everyone was very respectful and admirable towards the handsome Li Changyin, and many of them flattered him with compliments.

Some female guqin masters even threw wistful glances at Li Changyin.

For once, Chu Kuangren was a foil to someone else's grace.

This was a whole new experience for him, and he found it fascinating.

He used to be the center of attraction wherever he went. Hence, now that he was cast aside, he felt a little weird.

It even made him a little sentimental.

So this was how it felt to be left out.

Beside him, Li Changyin appeared to be enjoying the limelight. He smiled gently and said, "Come, everyone, let me introduce you to my friend, Feng Yaorao. Sister Feng, as for these two beside you... Right, why don't you both take down your spiritual veils and let everybody get to know you?"

Along with Li Changyin's words, the crowd then turned to look at Chu Kuangren and his companion.

It came off quite disrespectful to the crowd that they were concealing their looks in a public event.

"Apologies. I should have known better."

Chu Kuangren smiled faintly before removing the spiritual veil on his face.

Chapter 518: Way To Go Murong Xuan, Public Display Of Affection

"Apologies, I should've known better."

Chu Kuangren smiled gently, then took off the spiritual veil on his face.

The moment his spiritual veil dissipated, silence befell the scene. Everybody stared at Chu Kuangren in awe, momentarily stunned.

Those female guqin masters' eyes even lit up.

"Such a handsome gentleman... He must have descended from the heavens!"

"I've been composing a song recently, a song that sings praise about the gods and goddesses in the heavens. My progress is stumped because I'm lacking inspiration, but now it seems that I've found one!"

"I can't believe there can be such a peerless person in this world!"

Li Changyin himself was shocked too.

It was him who ordered Chu Kuangren to take down his spiritual veil, but he never expected that he would look so astounding.

Chu Kuangren had stolen his limelight the instant the spiritual veil disappeared.

Now, he finally understood why Feng Yaorao was constantly thinking about him.

If he were a woman, he would have done the same too!

"May I ask for your name, my Lord?"

"Which orthodoxy are you from, my Lord? Which genre of music do you usually play?"

Those female cultivators who were staring wistfully at Li Changyin earlier could not hold back any longer. All of them stood up and started crowding around Chu Kuangren.

Just now, they could still maintain their ladylike demeanor in front of Li Changyin.

However, when they saw someone of Chu Kuangren's qualities, they could not care less about their reputation anymore. If they did not make the first move, somebody else might snatch him away.

Despite facing such a large crowd of female cultivators fangirling over him, Chu Kuangren appeared unusually composed. He had already gotten used to this.

The fact that he handled this situation with such grace made the female cultivators even more attracted to him.

As for the remaining cultivators, a sense of bitterness pervaded their hearts. They really wished they could kick Chu Kuangren aside so that they could be at his spot.

Right at this moment.

Cloudveil Pavillion's ceiling suddenly opened, and a ray of moonlight shone down from above.

Basking within the moonlight was a white-dressed woman, who was holding a guqin while slowly descending down.

This woman had a graceful figure, exquisite facial features, and a cold temperament, just like a bright moon. She gave everyone an elusive persona.

Every cultivator's eyes lit up when they saw this person.

"Lady Yang is here."

"The guqin that she's holding must be one of Melodious Void Sect's Seven Great Guqins, the Aqueous Moon."

"Yup. Lady Yang has finally arrived."

Yang Xiyun landed on one of Cloudveil Pavillion's daisies and glanced at her surroundings. She bowed at the crowd. "Greetings, my fellow Brothers and Sisters. I've invited all of you here today mainly because I've composed a song about all the things I've been feeling lately. I wish all of you would give me a couple of reviews."

"Haha. It's Lady Yang's new song. I'm looking forward to it."

"Yeah."

"Sect Leader. Sect Leader..."

Right when Chu Kuangren was about to find a place to sit and enjoy the song, Shang Qingxue suddenly tucked on his sleeves from beside him. She was pointing to somewhere in the crowd.

Chu Kuangren glanced toward that direction, and he was shocked. "It's Murong Xuan."

Their sights landed on a man at a seat not far away from Chu Kuangren.

It was, in fact, Murong Xuan!

He must have just entered the hall not long ago. Otherwise, he would have noticed Chu Kuangren.

"Bloody hell, this fella is here too."

Chu Kuangren was just about to walk over and ask how he has been doing lately.

However, Shang Qingxue held him back.

"Sect Leader, something is not right."

"Why?"

"Look at Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun. I think there's... some spark between them."

Chu Kuangren took a closer look at them upon hearing that.

He, too, had noticed that there was something fishy going on between those two.

Yang Xiyun was on stage, while Murong Xuan was below the stage among the audience. They were separated by dozens of people, yet their eyes were fixed on each other, and there was an intimacy in their eyes.

"Wow, wow, Murong Xuan. Somebody's getting freed from the single life, huh?"

Chu Kuangren exclaimed admirably and decided to leave him alone for the time being.

Shang Qingxue, who was at the side, was very surprised too. "These few days, while I was gathering intel about Yang Xiyun, my sources described her as a very cold and indifferent person. Anything not related to guqin will not have a place in her eyes. I can't believe Murong Xuan has managed to break down her walls and win her over. Way to go, Murong Xuan!"

"Qingxue, if Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun do end up becoming Daoist companions, what gifts do you think we Black Heaven Sect should bestow upon them?"

"Ugh, Sect Leader, aren't you counting the chickens before they hatch? They're not even halfway there yet."

Shang Qingxue rolled her eyes as she said.

Apart from Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue, the rest of the people had also noticed the way Yang Xiyun and Murong Xuan were looking at each other.

Some of the male cultivators could not help but frown.

"Who is this guy? Why does Lady Yang keep looking at him?"

"D*mn it. Don't tell me Lady Yang's heart already belongs to someone??"

All the male cultivators looked annoyed at what they were seeing.

To them, Yang Xiyun was the goddess of Seven Chord City.

Now, their goddess' heart had been stolen away by some unknown outsider. How were they supposed to bear with this??

At this moment, up at the dais, Yang Xiyun started performing her new song.

A beautiful melody began to fill the entire room. Guqin music reverberated the room, giving off joyous vibes and more so, a sense of everlasting love.

In that instant, everybody's hearts were filled with a sweet and enamored feeling.

The fact that Yang Xiyun could tug at people's heartstrings with guqin music alone went to show that her guqin Dao was already at a very high level.

It would even be fair to regard her as a guqin virtuoso.

"This song is wonderful. It is hands down the best song that I've ever heard."

"Lady Yang's guqin skills have certainly scaled another level."

After Yang Xiyun finished performing the song, the audience looked at her with amazement.

However, their eyes were met with the image of her looking down at Murong Xuan amongst the audience. There was an inexplicable fondness in their eyes.

Adding that to that intimate song about love earlier...

Every male cultivator could feel their hearts breaking.

“Well played. Her intention was never to hold this guqin festival. This is clearly just a large-scale event for her to publicly display her affections and then brutally shatter her admirers’ hearts.”

Chu Kuangren shook his head in disapproval as he watched from the side.

“Lady Yang, this song differs greatly from your previous style. I wonder why?”

Li Changyin could no longer hold it as he stood up suddenly and asked.

His question was exactly what everyone in the audience wanted to know.

At that, a rare smile etched on Yang Xiyun’s face as if she had thought of something. “I met someone not long ago, and ever since then, much joy and blessing have been brought to my life. Hence, I made this song. Perhaps this is the unspoken resonance between people and music. It’s how I’ve been inspired to do this.”

Upon hearing this, the crowd could almost hammer reality home.

This Yang Xiyun had most certainly fallen in love. Otherwise, she would not have composed a song with such sentiments.

“Lady Yang, I wonder if that person you mentioned is this brother right here.”

Just then, another young man stood up. He pointed at Murong Xuan and said.

Yang Xiyun’s face blushed. Then, she explained with a smile, “This is my savior, Murong Xuan, Brother Murong.”

She did not enclose the full details. Nevertheless, everyone could guess from her expression whether their speculation was true.

Adding to the fact that she had used the word ‘savior’, several dozen scenes of a hero saving a damsel in distress immediately emerged in the crowd’s minds.

“Everyone, we’re having a guqin festival today. Now that I’m done performing, is there anybody here who would like to take the stage?”

Yang Xiyun smiled gently and walked down from the stage before proceeding to sit down beside Murong Xuan.

This scene made the crowd even more jealous.

Despite that, this was Yang Xiyun’s private life. They were nobody to her, so it was best not to comment on anything.

Chapter 519: Pretty Good I Guess, Aren’t You Too Puny

Yang Xiyun sat beside Murong Xuan and kept exchanging whispers with him. The pair looked like a lovely couple.

The remaining people felt envious upon seeing that.

One after the other, they got up to the stage to showcase their respective guqin skills, hoping to draw Yang Xiyun's attention and win her heart.

"Well, this song named Mountain Heights has a really profound artistic conception."

"Guqin Master Lin's skills have improved to another level."

A guqin master walked down from the stage and threw a glance at Yang Xiyun.

However, she merely responded with a modest smile before turning over to continue her conversation with Murong Xuan.

That guqin master felt really annoyed, but there was nothing he could do.

Not far away, Chu Kuangren, Shang Qingxue, and Feng Yaorao were seated at the same table.

"Brother Chu, what are your thoughts on Guqin Master Lin's performance?" Feng Yaorao broke the ice and asked. She just wanted to create an opening to chat with Chu Kuangren.

Chu Kuangren, on the other hand, fell silent for a while after hearing her question. He then said, "I don't know. Pretty good, I guess."

Shang Qingxue, who was beside Chu Kuangren, was staring at his reaction when he said that. Noting how he fell silent for a while before responding, she could immediately tell that her Sect Leader did not even listen to the song earlier.

In fact, the truth was not far away from that.

From his perspective, except for Yang Xiyun's opener at the beginning, the other people's guqin skills were not even worth paying attention to.

Theirs were too crude.

He did not understand why these audiences were cheering and clapping for them. Were those kinds of guqin music even pleasant to the ears??

Nevertheless, he understood that his skills were on a whole other level than these people, so he should not be judging them by his own standards. Thus, he did not lash out at his criticism but responded with a mere 'pretty good' remark. This was already the biggest tolerance that he could give.

Yet, the tolerance that he perceived was just perfunctory in the eyes of others.

Everyone at the table frowned, but they did not add on any comments.

After that, another person went up the stage to perform.

Once the song ended, the entire hall gave a round of applause.

"Brother Chu, what about this one?" Feng Yaorao inquired again.

"Pretty good, too."

'Pretty good again??'

'D*mn, this guy is quite arrogant.'

That was what everybody secretly thought, and they glared at Chu Kuangren with hostility.

"Right, Daoist Li, why don't you go up and perform a song too, as an eye-opener for everyone. What do you think?"

Just then, one of the guqin masters suggested.

The crowd then turned their glances onto Li Changyin.

Even Yang Xiyun did the same.

Murong Xuan followed suit too. As he looked toward Li Changyin, he immediately noticed Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue, whom he stared at wide-eyed.

"Sect Leader!!"

Murong Xuan exclaimed in shock.

Chu Kuangren threw him a knowing glance. "You've finally noticed your Sect Leader."

Everybody looked toward both of them.

Yang Xiyun's eyes lit up also when she saw Chu Kuangren, and she turned to ask Murong Xuan. "Brother Murong, is this the Sect Leader you've always talked about?"

"Yes."

Yang Xiyun nodded slightly, then stood up and bowed toward Chu Kuangren. "Pleasure to meet you, Sect Leader Chu. My name's Yang Xiyun."

She did not refer to him as Brother but Sect Leader. This show of respect felt a tad bit like she was meeting a parent.

Chu Kuangren returned her a gentle smile. "My pleasure, Lady Yang."

"Sect Leader, why are you here?" Murong Xuan asked curiously.

"Well, long story."

"If that's the case, please wait till the end of the banquet. We are here to enjoy the guqin festival, not to hear your stories."

A guqin master said discontentedly.

Chu Kuangren and Murong Xuan stared at that person, but they did not say anything.

"I shall go up and ridicule myself then." Li Changyin smiled as he went up the stage and took out a guqin.

The information said that this guy was adept at multiple musical instruments.

Nonetheless, no matter how skilled he was, there could only be one that he was best at. In this case, that was the guqin.

Li Changyin flashed a warm smile at the audience, and with a gentle demeanor, he started plucking at the guqin strings with his fingers. With that, his performance began.

In a moment, guqin music poured out and reverberated in the hall.

Upon hearing this guqin music, the crowd could not help but feel mesmerized by it.

Even a guqin virtuoso like Yang Xiyun watched on in awe.

Once the song had concluded, everybody was still deeply immersed in that melodious tune.

“Amazing. Absolutely amazing!”

“Daoist Li is truly remarkable. This song alone is enough to induct him into the musical world’s hall of fame.”

“This song is much better than Lady Yang’s. It is even more profound in terms of artistic conception.”

The people showered him with compliments as usual, and some gave more exaggerated responses than previously.

Li Changyin was praised to the top of the world with this one song alone.

At the side, Chu Kuangren was dumbfounded by the scene. Was it really that remarkable?

“Brother Chu, what do you think of the song?” Feng Yaorao asked.

“It’s pretty good.”

Chu Kuangren admitted that Li Changyin’s guqin music was definitely far better than the others. Yet, from his point of view, it was just barely up to standard.

Like the others, his guqin music had not achieved a transcendent stage.

“Pfft, and I thought he was some kind of elite guqin master. Turns out he’s just a music idiot who doesn’t know anything about rhythm.”

A guqin master said with contempt in his eyes.

The rest of the people agreed and felt that Chu Kuangren was someone who knew nothing about guqin Dao.

Otherwise, why would his comment be the same for every song?

“Daoist Li’s guqin skills are clearly more superb than the others, but he still gave the same comment. It is obvious by now that this guy has no musical sense at all, let alone guqin Dao.”

“Exactly. I bet he doesn’t even know how many strings there are on a guqin.”

“Forget it. He’s just a layman who doesn’t know any better. There’s no need to argue with him.”

The audience laughed out loud and dropped the topic.

They regarded themselves as professionals, so to discuss guqin skills with a layman would be insulting.

“Brother Chu, are you not going up there to show them what you got?”

Feng Yaorao, who was beside Chu Kuangren, prompted. She felt a little distasteful after seeing how the crowd was belittling Chu Kuangren.

The others might not know, but as someone who had personally fought with him before, she knew.

Chu Kuangren knew guqin Dao.

Not only that, but he was an elite of guqin Dao. She could still vividly recall those Eight Celestial Demonic Chords.

“Heh, forget it. Besides, I don’t have a guqin with me now.” Chu Kuangren shook his head and said.

He looked incredibly calm, not heeding to whatever the others were saying.

These people looked at him like a layman, while he looked back at them like ignorant fools.

He would not be showcasing his guqin skills so cheaply.

Not many in this world were worthy enough to listen to his guqin music.

He would never go upstage to perform just because of some baseless criticism. He had better things to do than that.

“Alright, then.” Feng Yaorao conceded.

However, at this time, the crowd redirected their glances to Murong Xuan.

“It seems to me that you have a close relationship with Lady Yang, Brother Murong. I reckon you must have a certain degree of mastery in guqin Dao as well. Why don’t you show us some of that?”

A white-robed guqin cultivator said.

Compared with Chu Kuangren, Murong Xuan, the guy who stole Yang Xiyun’s heart, was more likely targeted by these people.

“I’m afraid I’m not good at music.” Murong Xuan straight up told them the truth.

“Brother Murong, you’ve got to be kidding, right? Are you looking down on us, thinking that we don’t deserve to listen to your guqin music?”

That white-robed guqin cultivator tweaked his tone at the end of his sentence. He sounded more aggressive.

“If you take offense in even that, I think you’re just too puny.”

Just then, a cold voice was heard.

Chapter 520: Murong Xuan’s Encounters, The Infinity Guqin Banquet Begins

Once Chu Kuangren had spoken, that white-robed guqin master immediately felt intimidated.

Li Changyin looked toward Chu Kuangren and said calmly, “Brother Chu, I think your comment is too unjust. We just wanted to admire Brother Murong’s guqin skills.”

“Oh, even when he said he can’t, he must still oblige to your demands?”

“We’re here at the guqin festival to share our guqin skills. If he doesn’t know how to, what is he even doing here?” the white-robed guqin master said.

“We can eat or sleep wherever we want. What’s in it for you to control what we do? Even the host, Lady Yang, has not said a single word. What makes you think you’ve earned the right to call the shots here?”

Chu Kuangren stared at the white-robed guqin master.

In that instant, the white-robed guqin master felt as if he was glared at by an archaic wild beast. An inexplicable coldness shot through his bones.

“Alright, alright. These fellows are my friends. On my behalf, I wish everyone can bury the hatchet, shall we?”

Yang Xiyun interfered.

With that, all of them stopped arguing, and this conflict finally came to a rest.

Very soon, the festival was approaching its end too.

Chu Kuangren’s visit here this time could only be described with one word — disappointment.

Out of so many guqin cultivators here, besides Yang Xiyun and Li Changyin, the rest of them were mere lowly, incapable people.

Even both Yang Xiyun and Li Changyin did not come close to matching his level.

Nevertheless, Murong Xuan’s appearance was a pleasant surprise for him. The few of them gathered in a lounge and began to share their recent encounters.

“Quick, spill the tea. How the hell did you get on with someone like Yang Xiyun?” Chu Kuangren’s eyes gleamed brightly. The gossip trait in him was ignited.

Murong Xuan’s face blushed slightly when he heard that. “Sect Leader, Lady Yang and I are innocent.”

“Innocent? Both of you kept stealing glances at each other in front of the public. How am I supposed to buy what you just said?”

“Ahem. Is it really that obvious?”

“Are you for real, kid? I can’t believe you have the audacity to ask that. Both of you almost had the words ‘in love’ written on top of your foreheads. You’re telling me that it’s not obvious?”

“Actually, what happened was...”

Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue listened intently.

As it turned out, when Murong Xuan first entered the Emperor Road, he was teleported by the spatial energy into a forest.

There were a lot of beasts inside the forest, and Murong Xuan could not find his way out even after several days. That was when he met Yang Xiyun, who happened to be there for her cultivation journey.

When she was attacked by the beasts, Murong Xuan was the one who helped save her, after which they spent a significant amount of time together inside the forest...

A flame sparked between the two of them during that period, and since Murong Xuan was still new to this place, he followed Yang Xiyun back to Melodious Void Sect.

Their story continued until today when they met Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue.

After he finished the story, Chu Kuangren was rather disappointed. "That's all??"

"Um, yes. What else were you expecting, Sect Leader?" Murong Xuan replied in annoyance.

"D*mn you, kid. Fortune has really smiled upon you, for you to have met such an innocent girl. You've managed to win her heart with such a cliché act of a hero saving a damsel in distress."

Murong Xuan blushed.

Chu Kuangren was just poking fun at him.

Just then, some knocks were heard from the front door.

Yang Xiyun walked in and smiled at them gently. "Brother Murong, why don't we invite Sect Leader Chu and Sister Shang back to Melodious Void Sect?"

Murong Xuan glanced at Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue.

"If you don't mind, we'll tag along." Chu Kuangren smiled back.

"No worries."

Under Yang Xiyun's invitation, Chu Kuangren and Shang Qingxue arrived at Melodious Void Sect.

Melodious Void Sect Master welcomed Chu Kuangren and his companion in.

The Melodious Void Sect Master was a middle-aged woman. She had a few faint crow's feet at the edge of her eyebrows, giving her a somewhat mature charm.

After being told that Chu Kuangren was Murong Xuan's Sect Leader, her attitude seemed a little cold. She merely arranged for her people to allocate two empty rooms for them.

"Sect Leader, the Melodious Void Sect Master may not have said it explicitly, but it feels like she doesn't enjoy our company here." Shang Qingxue remarked.

"I think her problem is not with us, but with Murong Xuan. Just think about it. She has painstakingly brought up a disciple like Yang Xiyun, only for her to be drawn away by some random outsider. Do you think she would be fine with that?" Chu Kuangren smiled in response.

"Is that really the case?"

"I do hope that I'm right. Otherwise, Murong Xuan could really be in deep trouble."

Time passed by in a flash. Soon, it was already time for the Infinity Guqin Banquet to begin.

The Infinity Guqin Banquet was held at a spacious square in the middle of Seven Chord City.

On this day, the scene at the square was buzzing, with countless guqin cultivators looking forward to the event.

Everybody was waiting for the Emperor Weapon to show itself.

These people were mostly guqin cultivators.

Among the crowd were Li Changyin, Yang Xiyun, Ji Xiaoyao, and a few young outstanding talents of Seven Chord City.

Suddenly, three figures dashed in from a distance away, landing at the very middle of the square.

"It's the three presidents of the Seven Chord Guqin Association."

"Melodious Void Sect Master, Phantasmic Melody Sect Master, and Ji Clan Leader. These three are not only the household names of the musical world but also renowned top-notch elites on Emperor Road. I think only they are qualified to host this Infinity Guqin Banquet."

"After all, the Emperor Weapon will select its owner today. Surely there must be a few powerhouses as hosts here."

All the guqin cultivators were engaged in their own discussions.

Meanwhile, the three presidents swept their gazes over every single person in the crowd.

They wanted to see if there were any guqin elites there that were worth noting.

"Guqin Sage Beihai is here too."

"Not just him, but Master Daoist Liuli, who has been living in isolation in the Lapis Lazuli Mountain for so many years is also here."

Just then, a sword ray swooped down from the sky above.

The sword ray landed at the square, and a gush of sword qi swept across the whole area like a hurricane. A handsome young man was seen slowly stepping through the air, toward the square.

This man arrived in front of the sword ray and pulled out his longsword. Strapped behind his back was a black guqin.

"Such appearance, this must be Sword Tribe's sky pride, Jian Changfeng, who is regarded as a master of both sword and guqin."

"I didn't expect even the Sword Tribe people would join in the Infinity Guqin Banquet."

"I think almost all cultivators who are skilled in guqin Dao are here."

Jian Changfeng was one of the top sky-prides among Emperor Road's younger generation, and his power was weaker than only outlawed sky-prides.

Rumor had it he was so strong that he could hold a steady ground even when battling a Boundary Emperor.

After Jian Changfeng arrived, many other sky-prides who were experts at guqin Dao appeared as well.

Each one of them was a big name themselves. Seeing these people, the normal guqin cultivators begin to feel double the pressure.

With their skill level, hoping to gain the Emperor Weapon from these people would be like building castles in the air.

“Forget it. I don’t have any high hopes of succeeding here anyway. I’ll just take it as an experience.”

Some of the guqin cultivators started consoling themselves.

When Ji Clan Leader, one of the three honorable presidents, saw that the crowd was complete, he stroked his goatee and announced, “Lo and behold, the Emperor Weapon!”

After that, dark ominous clouds of grotesque shapes amassed atop the sky.

Amongst the clouds, a flash of azure blue lightning dazzled frenziedly, emitting an incredibly powerful domineering aura.

Immediately following that, a bolt of lightning struck down!

After the lightning rays dissipated, what met the crowd’s eyes was an entirely azure, almost crystal-like, resplendent guqin!

This guqin was the Emperor Weapon that so many cultivators yearned for!

“This guqin is called... Springtime Lightning!!”