

Unparalleled 81

Chapter 81: Everyone's Reaction, This Item Is Fated To Be Mine

After the Grand Conferral Ceremony, Chu Kuangren departed White Lotus School and headed towards the next sage orthodoxy.

Meanwhile, news of him becoming a White Lotus Bachelor Sage had spread throughout the whole Azure Dragon Domain within two days after Chu Kuangren left. It had startled many cultivators and orthodoxies.

Everyone was dumbfounded.

'A few days ago Chu Kuangren had just become the Fiancé of the Royal Azure Dynasty's Eldest Princess. How many days has it been since then? Why is he now a White Lotus Bachelor Sage as well?'

'What the h*ll is going on?'

'What in the world happened?'

Due to the quick turn of events, they were all confused and puzzled.

"Can anyone tell me what in the world is happening? How did that Chu Kuangren become a White Lotus Bachelor Sage as well?"

“Among the eight great sage orthodoxies within the Azure Dragon Domain, almost half of them are now giving him protection. By the gods, this is unprecedented indeed.”

“What has been happening these few days?”

“D*mn it, what kind of charm does this Chu Kuangren have on him? Why are all of these sage orthodoxies getting involved with him one by one?”

“Having three great sage orthodoxies to assure the safety of a young junior on his path to cultivation is just too much. Hey hey hey, he doesn’t need to show off with such extravagance!”

“I’m impressed. This guy truly is a peerless sky-pride!”

Whether it be the average cultivators, sky-prides, or even the other great sage orthodoxies within the Azure Dragon Domain, all were shocked by the news.

Besides that, some of the orthodoxies had suddenly come to realize as well, that seeing as three great sage orthodoxies were now protecting Chu Kuangren, they had basically formed an alliance with each other!

‘He is so young yet he has such great influence on the forces in the Azure Dragon Domain; imagine how powerful Chu Kuangren will be when he matures.’

Many orthodoxies were in a dazzled state for a while.

...

Within the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom.

When the current Sect Master of the Serene Wisdom Sect, Master Daoist Ling Hai heard the news, a hint of anxiety flashed across his eyes.

“That kid’s talent is incredibly astonishing. Now he even has the protection of three great sage orthodoxies, there truly is no stopping his eventual rise to power. If this person is not kept in check, the cultivators of my Serene Wisdom Sect will not have any fate to attain Emperor Realm then!”

Thinking about this, Master Daoist Ling Hai felt a sense of unwillingness and reluctance to accept that fact.

He then glanced toward a mountain range that was deep within the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom. “Perhaps it’s time to awake that person. The sky-pride from tens of thousands of years before!”

An Emperor Realm cultivator had not appeared for the past hundred and fifty thousand years. Yet during these hundred and fifty thousand years, there was no lack of Supreme Daoist Physique wielders among the scores of sky-prides as well.

This was due to how inaccessible the path to Dharma was back then, many sky-prides were reluctant to accept that they were not fated to reach the Emperor Realm and hence they sealed themselves off. While in a state of hibernation, they patiently waited for the opportunity to become an Emperor during the Era of great battles!

That was how one of these slumbering sky-prides came to be within the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom.

However, this sky-pride had not been woken up all this while. So now that a peerless talent like Chu Kuangren existed, there was a need for someone who would be able to compete toe to toe with him.

The slumbering sky-pride would be the best choice for that!

...

Within the Zhiyang Valley.

The Zhiyang Valley's Lord stared at Lin Batian and sighed deeply. "Batian, are you sure you want to do this?"

A determined look could be seen in Lin Batian's eyes. "Chu Kuangren is horrifyingly strong. There won't be any hope for me to compete with him if I don't do this."

"Very well then. I wish you the very best!"

The Zhiyang Valley's Lord sighed softly before he waved his arm, opening a portal into the void, where surges of flames with the color of the rainbows were burning within.

A terrifying wave of heat filled the realm between the sky and the earth.

Lin Batian glanced at that portal and walked into it with determination.

...

When all the great orthodoxies heard the news that three sage orthodoxies were now protecting Chu Kuangren, they more or less had the same sort of reaction.

However, Chu Kuangren was not a bit informed regarding all that was happening behind the scenes.

As of that time, he was on the journey towards the Taixu Temple.

Something worth noting was that the protectors behind his back had now increased from two to three.

Needless to say, the additional protector was provided by the School of White Lotus.

He could not help but lament that if he were to give the word, the three of them could even fight against the guardian deity of the land.

Atop the Fairy boat.

With his eyes closed, Chu Kuangren was deep in his thoughts as great amounts of cultivation techniques emerged within his mind. Most of them were sword techniques, while a small part of them was the School of White Lotus's techniques.

One by one, he integrated all those methods with the Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique. It was clear that he had chosen the path to develop the Single Strike Technique.

Moreover, that choice he made was starting to take shape.

Now, all he needed was to further refine his understanding of the cultivation techniques and continue to incorporate those techniques into his Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique.

Perhaps one day in the future, that single technique of his could ascend into an Emperor Technique.

"Huh?" Chu Kuangren suddenly let out a reaction. He signaled Lan Yu to put the Fairy boat to a stop as he tried to sense a certain feeling within him.

The peculiar feeling he had during that time came from his Treasure Locating Skill, and because of this, he had a keen sense for valuable items and treasures around him.

Activating his Treasure Locating Skill, Chu Kuangren scanned through the area around him.

"Found it."

Chu Kuangren pointed in a certain direction and steered the Fairy boat towards it.

Within some mountain range.

Two horrifying surges of energy were clashing against each other, in which every single swirl had enough energy to tear apart mountains and rivers.

All of these came from two experienced cultivators who had extremely powerful Daoist Rhymes and spiritual power flowing through their bodies. Yet because of those two men, the surrounding area was sent into a massive shockwave.

While at the center of their fight stood a mountain that had a very extraordinary light swirling atop of it. It was a very rare treasure, a type of Supreme Elixir.

Although their battle was intense, they were deliberately avoiding spreading any shockwaves from their fight towards the Supreme Elixir.

“Listen here old man, this piece of Sage Grade Supreme Elixir is mine,” said one of the cultivators who had jolts lightning surging around him.

It may not be as potent as a True Sage Grade, but the Sage Grade Supreme Elixir was truly better than most of the Honorable Grade Supreme Elixirs.

With a Supreme Elixir like that, he could then break through to the later stage of his Honorable Realm cultivation!

“Hmph, you think I’m just going to let you have this? In your dreams! Although the others fear your Thunder Falcon Tribe, me and my fellow Taixu Temple cultivators aren’t!” The one facing the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator was an old man in Daoist robes who had a whisk in his hands.

“No point saying anything more, so let’s fight!”

The two of them collided again. Both of them were in the middle stage of Honorable Realm cultivation and were quite evenly matched in skills as the fight went on for quite some time.

“Blood Lightning!” The Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable roared as the jolts of lightning around his body turned bloody red, sending violent streams of Daoist Rhymes everywhere.

That was one of the strongest secret techniques from the Thunder Falcon Tribe, and although it was powerful enough to kill enemies in the thousands, it would also affect its allies due to its range. Yet despite this, that technique could also increase the user’s power tremendously.

The Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator was able to quickly dominate the whisk-holding old man with that Blood Lightning Technique. Just a single blow was enough to push his opponent back hundreds of feet away, and since the old man was struck by that attack, the menacing blood lightning started to corrode the old man’s body.

However, the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator knew that the technique was not enough to finish off his opponent, but he could not use the Blood Lightning Technique for long as well as the side effects would be too great for him to handle then.

In the end, taking advantage while the whisk-holding old man was injured, he dispersed the Blood Lightning and rushed towards the top of that mountain to grab the Sage Grade Supreme Elixir. His eyes were filled with delight.

“This Supreme Elixir is mine!”

At that moment, a purple sword ray suddenly struck from the skies and the expression of the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator changed as he quickly dodged that attack.

The sword ray then landed on the ground with a boom. Immediately, a hundred yard long crack on the ground and the remaining sword Qi in the crack spread everywhere.

That level of attack was no less powerful than that of an Honorable Realm cultivator.

“Who is it!” The Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator’s expression was extremely grim. ‘Just when I have the chance to grab it, another guy appears! Where did this disruptor come from?’

A white-robed figure could be seen descending from the skies with a silver-haired lady. Paired together, both of them had exceedingly remarkable looks.

The one who came was none other than Chu Kuangren, who came with the help of his Treasure Locating Skill, and Lan Yu.

“Greetings fellow Daoist, sorry to interrupt. I notice that this Supreme Elixir is very extraordinary and rare. Seeing that I’m fated to get this item, I ask that you please kindly allow me to have it.”

Chu Kuangren smiled casually.

Chapter 82: Solo Battling an Honorable, Might of the White Lotus Light of Purification

Upon hearing what Chu Kuangren said, the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator's face darkened.

'That Supreme Elixir with extraordinary quality is fated to be yours?'

'Then what about all the rare Supreme Elixirs in this world, are they all fated to be yours as well?'

"Nonsense. I don't care where you come from, but those who dare get in my way shall die!" Jolts of lightning began to spark around the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator's body before he let out an attack within a blink of an eye.

Chu Kuangren's gaze narrowed as his Eye of Revelation activated, enabling him to instantly see through his opponent's skill, cultivation, techniques, and more. "I see you're from the Thunder Falcon Tribe."

As the Descendant Self Sword appeared in his grasp, Chu Kuangren did not evade or dodge that attack but instead, he let out a strike with that blade. Immediately after, a horrifying sword ray pushed forth.

The sword ray and lightning then collided with each other, spreading terrifying waves of energies everywhere and as the surrounding void rumbled, the mountains around them were ruptured.

Chu Kuangren was pushed back several feet due to that impact.

“The battle strength of an Honorable Realm cultivator truly is extraordinary.” Chu Kuangren massaged his numb arm as he let out a determined gaze.

Based on his current strength, an average Battle Monarch cultivator was no match for him; only the Honorable Realm cultivators were a challenge to him.

“This b*st*rd’s cultivation...” The expression on the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator’s face suddenly changed, but it was not because Chu Kuangren’s cultivation level was too high.

On the contrary, it was because he was a mere Paradise Realm cultivator, which was leagues below the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator.

He was an Honorable Realm cultivator, which was a whole two realms beyond Chu Kuangren. However, the battle strength of that Paradise Realm cultivator before him seemed a little too terrifying!

‘Facing an Honorable head-on unscathed?’

‘Where did this monster of a sky-pride come from?’

“Wait a minute.” As if he had recalled something, the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator glared at Chu Kuangren and a glint of horror appeared in his eyes soon after.

“An incredibly remarkable appearance and temperament, coupled with that level of cultivation, you’re the Elder Senior Brother of the Black Heaven Sect, Chu Kuangren!” the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable said in astonishment.

Holding his blade, Chu Kuangren replied, "That's correct."

His characteristics were too obvious, so he was not surprised to be easily recognized.

"I shall retreat for now!"

After finding out Chu Kuangren's identity, the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator had no more intentions to continue battling him as his only thought was to leave the area quickly.

He was not afraid of Chu Kuangren because after all, he was just a mere Paradise Realm cultivator.

However, he was just too afraid of the terrifying protector who stood guard behind him!

'That's an Honorable Supreme we're talking about here!'

Although a mere single-word difference in the words 'Honorable' and 'Supreme', their power levels was a world apart!

Not to mention an Honorable Supreme!

"Hold up, I didn't say you can leave." Daoist Rhymes circled around Chu Kuangren as vast amounts of sword Qi emerged from the void and materialized into multiple great pillars before him.

Daoist Physique Transformation, Nine Heaven Sword Prison, activate!

Once Chu Kuangren had merged with the spatial force, the sealing capabilities of the Sword Prison increased so much that even an Honorable Realm cultivator would not be able to escape so easily.

“Chu Kuangren, I have already given up on the Supreme Elixir, what else do you want?” the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable asked in an angry and frustrated tone.

Chu Kuangren shrugged. “Nothing much, I only want to either be the one who kills you or be one killed by you.”

At that, the Daoist Rhyme on his body circulated more aggressively before both the Sword of The Heavens and Green Lotus Sword Song materialized and deployed.

Like crashing water, immense amounts of Sword-based Daoist Rhyme surged forth!

He had improved at too fast a pace in this period of time that even a Young Emperor would not be able to withstand a few attacks by him. Among his younger peers, Chu Kuangren was seemingly undefeatable.

Due to that, he needed an opponent to gauge the limits of his true strength, and the Honorable Realm cultivator before him proved to be an obvious and suitable choice.

“You think I’m just going to let you do what you want?” Upon seeing that Chu Kuangren had no intention of backing down, the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator became so enraged that he let out another attack again.

Overbearing surges of Lightning-based Daoist Rhyme circulated his body as jolts of white lightning reverberated in the void. Then one by one, every jolt of white lightning was launched towards Chu Kuangren.

Every jolt contained an incomparable force of destruction. It was sad to say that the Young Emperor Lei Ao, who was recently killed by Chu Kuangren, would not be able to compare with that too.

That was the power of an Honorable!

“Very well, come.” Chu Kuangren did not retreat but charged forth instead. With his three great Transformations activated, the four supreme foundations within his body shone brightly.

One strike and the terrifying sword ray engorged the surrounding area. It was the most basic and pure offensive technique — the absolute Daoist Rhyme of his Single Strike Technique!

Wherever the sword ray went, it instantly shattered the jolts of lightning without fail.

Not far away, the old man in Daoist robes had just come back to his senses and when he witnessed the battle before him, his face revealed an expression of shock and fear. “What a horrifyingly strong young man.”

‘A mere Paradise Realm cultivator is going toe to toe with an Honorable?’

He had never come across such a thing before.

Boom, crackle, boom...

One after another, the purple sword rays collided with the silver-white jolts of lightning, creating dazzling and beautiful sparks as the extremely powerful surges of Daoist Rhymes clashed in the void.

The power behind the Daoist Rhymes was so immense that the surrounding mountain and river terrains were exploded to bits.

As the three protectors looked on at Chu Kuangren who was going all out for the very first time, even they could not help but feel shocked.

"It's too powerful. The Bachelor Sage is too strong, considering that he's only a Paradise Realm now. If he were to reach the level of a Battle Monarch or even an Honorable, who knows how strong his battle strength will be even then?"

Within the dark void, the white-robed middle-aged lady from the School of White Lotus exclaimed with shock.

"I agree, the battle strength of the Royal Princess's fiancé is truly remarkable. I believe that in this era, he will end up on top for the fight of the Emperor Realm!"

The old lady from the Royal Azure Dynasty said.

The Seventh Forefather looked very proud. "That's indeed true. Well don't you forget, the young lad is still the Black Heaven Sect's Elder Senior Brother. "

“He’s now the Fiancé of the Royal Azure Dynasty’s Eldest Princess too.”

“And also a Bachelor Sage from my School of White Lotus.”

Both the old lady and the middle-aged lady replied with dissatisfaction.

Outside the void.

The battle between Chu Kuangren and the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator was now coming to an end. Knowing well that he could not break through his opponent’s defense, the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable gritted his teeth and once again launched that Blood Lightning Technique that was equally harmful to his enemies and himself.

All of a sudden, a surge of terrifyingly violent blood-colored lightning exploded!

“Die! Chu Kuangren!” the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator roared. Then, the jolts of lightning began to intertwine and form into a horrifying blood-colored killing web.

As the terrifying Lightning-based Daoist Rhyme locked onto Chu Kuangren, making it hard for him to escape, the three protectors of his were prepared to step in at any time.

However, Chu Kuangren’s blade could be seen levitating in the air while he made a series of hand signs that activated a mysterious technique, and a vast amount of Daoist Rhymes surged forth.

A white light then gushed forth from Chu Kuangren's body and pieces of white lotus appeared in the void. That was the White Lotus's Light of Purification!

As jolts of blood-colored lightning landed on the white lotus that had now surrounded the void, the lightning immediately disintegrated and converted into spiritual Qi before it dispersed into the surroundings.

"That's impossible! What kind of technique is this!" The Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator squinted, his face shocked.

Meanwhile, in the void, the middle-aged lady's eyes were filled with delight. "This is the White Lotus's Light of Purification Technique used by the White Lotus Sage Ruler. Legends say that this technique can disintegrate spiritual powers and decompose Daoist Rhymes, purifying everything that touches it. It's an incomparable defense technique!"

"I cannot believe that in only a few days after gaining insights on this technique, he's able to use it so masterfully. It's truly remarkable, truly remarkable indeed! "

The old lady and the Seventh Forefather were astonished. The power of the White Lotus's Light of Purification Technique was amazing.

It was no wonder no one had been able to gain insights on it all these years; that technique was just too marvelous.

“Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique” Taking advantage as the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable was still in shock, Chu Kuangren immediately attacked with a single strike, and suddenly, a terrifyingly violent sword ray instantly surged forth.

Wherever the sword ray brushed past, the surrounding void rumbled. At that, the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator hurriedly sent out a jolt of blood lightning to block the attack but he was still heavily hit by that attack.

“D*mn it!” The Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator panicked.

However, Chu Kuangren’s attack did not cease. With the White Lotus’s Light of Purification as his defense and the Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique as his offense, his battle strength was powerful like none other.

So the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator had no choice but to steadily retreat after having suffered one injury after another.

Seeing that it was almost time, Chu Kuangren suddenly opened his palm and a dark black whirlpool appeared at the center of it like the mouth of a huge terrifying beast.

“Gluttonous Devouring Technique!”

With a soft roar, a huge suction immediately erupted from Chu Kuangren’s palm. Once he had locked onto the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator, he was sucked in.

Chapter 83: Refining an Honorable With the Gluttonous Devouring Technique, Taixu Temple’s Wuchen Zi

Gluttonous Devouring Technique!

That technique was a Sage Ruler Technique in which Chu Kuangren had obtained from the Black Light Sage. It was an incredibly strong technique that enabled the user to establish a refining dimension within their bodies. Cultivators who were sucked into that dimension would have their blood and flesh essence subsequently processed.

If the target were ordinary cultivators, Chu Kuangren could use the Gluttonous Devouring Technique on them without fail. However, facing an Honorable, Chu Kuangren would need to first weaken his opponent till the brink of death before using that technique. Otherwise, based on his current level of cultivation, Chu Kuangren would not succeed in using that technique.

The dimension that was created by the Gluttonous Devouring Technique was one of pitch-black darkness. After the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator was sucked into it, an immense fear started to well up deep inside him.

Following that, powerful refining energies erupted around the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator before his blood and flesh gradually eroded and broke down.

"What kind of weird technique is this!"

"No, please... No!"

If the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable was his peak state, he might have stood a chance in holding back the refining energy. However, because he was heavily injured and hence terribly weakened, he was like a sitting duck in the face of the refining energy.

Multiple bursts of blood and flesh essences were circulated throughout Chu Kuangren's body via the refining dimension from the Gluttonous Devouring Technique. In the end, these essences headed towards his internal spiritual mound and gathered there.

His Four Great Supreme Daoist Foundations, namely the Foundation Establishment, Golden Jade, Nascent Soul, and Purple Palace let out a dazzling divine ray that felt seemingly joyful.

The blood and flesh essences were absorbed by the Four Great Supreme Daoist Foundations and converted into pure spiritual power that expanded Chu Kuangren's spiritual mound while improving his cultivation.

The essence of an Honorable had much effect on Chu Kuangren, allowing him to raise his cultivation to the peak late stages of Paradise Realm.

However, it might also be due to how strong Chu Kuangren's Daoist Foundation was too. If an ordinary cultivator were to absorb the same amount of essences as he did, he would have experienced much more significant growth.

Then again, the important fact was there was an increase in one's combat power.

Chu Kuangren licked his lips. "What a splendid technique this is. With the Gluttonous Devouring Technique, all the world's cultivators are basically essence pills waiting to be eaten indeed."

Thinking of this, Chu Kuangren suddenly shuddered. He then quickly tossed that dangerous thought away and restabilized his Daoist heart.

Although the technique was strong, the user would end up reaping the bad fruit of their own karmic actions if it was not controlled properly. Not only would their reputation and luck be ruined, but they might even fall into the process of becoming a demon.

The user should be the one in control of the techniques they used and not the other way around!

After killing the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator, Chu Kuangren went to the mountain top, grabbed that Sage Grade Supreme Elixir, and kept it within his Yin and Yang ring.

Although the old Daoist man not far away was very unsatisfied, he still had to accept the facts. Not to mention how powerful that young man's strength was to even defeat the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator, the mere mention of his name 'Chu Kuangren' was already frightening enough.

'Because there are three f*cking sage orthodoxies looking over that young man's back!'

The old Daoist walked towards Chu Kuangren and greeted, "Greetings Brother Chu, my name is Ling Zheng, First Vein of the Purple Void from the Taixu Temple."

After witnessing that Chu Kuangren was able to kill the Thunder Falcon Tribe's Honorable cultivator, Ling Zheng had chosen to address him as a fellow Daoist brother. That meant that Chu Kuangren was held on the same level of existence as him.

At that point, Ling Zheng could not help but lament at Chu Kuangren's greatness. 'Having the protection of three sage orthodoxies, and even possessing such impressive talents, that person's future is truly going to be a bright and limitless one. Not to say he'll become an Emperor, but this man is certainly going to become a sage when the time comes.'

"Greetings Brother Ling." Chu Kuangren gently nodded.

Since that person had greeted him as a fellow Daoist, he might as well not refuse and go along with it. At the same time, Chu Kuangren was also surprised to find that Ling Zheng came from Taixu Temple.

'Well isn't this a coincidence?'

He was just going to visit the Taixu Temple as well.

Chu Kuangren then told Ling Zheng his intentions.

"We, the Taixu Temple will definitely welcome Brother Chu if he wishes to pay us a visit." With a smile, Ling Zheng then led Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu towards the Taixu Temple.

...

The Taoxu Temple was located somewhere off the beaten path within the mountains.

That day, the sound of bells ringing echoed and spread throughout the Taixu Temple. It was a sign that an esteemed guest was coming to visit the place.

A few of the disciples were impatiently looking out for their guests in front of the mountain gate.

Not long after, an old man leading a man and woman arrived. Seeing that, a few of the disciples hurriedly went to welcome them.

“Greetings Elder Ling, Brother Chu, and Sister Lan.” Those disciples had received the message earlier so they knew that Ling Zheng was bringing Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu for a visit.

“Greetings. Where are the Temple Lord and the others?”

“They’re already waiting at the grand pagoda.”

The disciples then led the three of them further up the mountain.

Along the way, a few of the disciples were secretly checking out Chu Kuangren, since there were just too many rumors and news surrounding that person.

The key point was that each of them was similarly shocking and astounding.

They were just too curious about that person.

‘Everyone here is around the same age, so why is Chu Kuangren so amazing?’

In the grand pagoda of the Taixu Temple, the current Taixu Temple’s Lord and a few other elders were already gathered there, waiting for Chu Kuangren’s arrival.

One thing to keep note of was that those people were Honorables themselves, with the Taixu Temple's Lord being an Honorable Supreme as well, but all of them had been waiting for a young junior to arrive. If word about this were to spread, the cultivators around the world would be dumbfounded.

However, they had no choice but to take Chu Kuangren, as he was now, seriously.

Seeing that a white-robed figure was walking into the grand pagoda, the Taixu Temple's Lord smiled. "Word says that the Black Heaven Sect's Elder Senior Brother is a remarkable person, and today it seems that the rumors are not false. The appearance of a dark fairy descending upon the world truly is a fitting description for you."

"You're too kind, Temple Lord." Chu Kuangren greeted and bowed.

"Ling Zheng has already informed me of Brother Chu's intention to visit. I shall arrange someone tomorrow to spar with you, Brother Chu."

"Many thanks, Temple Lord."

"Elder Wang, Brother Chu has traveled a long way to get here. Please bring him to our guest quarters to rest." The Taixu Temple's Lord said towards an elder beside him.

"Yes, of course."

After Chu Kuangren and the others were gone, the Taixu Temple's Lord's suddenly had a stern look on his face. "One Honorable Supreme and the other two are at least in the same existence as Honorables.

The rumors are true, the three great sage orthodoxies are protecting this man on his path of cultivation. This is really shocking indeed.”

“Chu Kuangren is just too talented and skilled.”

“That person has enough strength to kill an Honorable.” After that, Ling Zheng told the others in detail about how Chu Kuangren killed the Thunder Falcon Tribe’s Honorable cultivator.

Everyone in the grand pagoda gasped in shock at what they heard.

“Being able to fight a Battle Monarch while still in the Paradise Realm already qualifies as a Young Emperor, but what about killing an Honorable then? What kind of beast is this sky-pride? Isn’t this just too terrifying?”

“This person’s strength cannot be measured by ordinary common sense.”

“I’m afraid that even Wuchen will find it hard to fight against him then.”

The crowd discussed in the grand pagoda, lamenting about what they had learned.

...

Under Elder Wang’s guidance, Chu Kuangren was brought to a guest room.

“Brother Chu, there’s a small bell inside this room. If you require something, just ring the bell and someone will attend to you soon after,” Elder Wand politely said.

“Thank you for your trouble.”

“You’re welcome. We’re glad to have you as a guest here as well.”

Elder Wang left after that.

When Chu Kuangren entered the guest room, he noticed that there were a few rooms within it and there was also a bell hung on the main door. Curious, he went to shake it.

Then, a soothing ringing sound rang out. Not long after, a young Daoist with short hair came to him and asked Chu Kuangren what was the matter.

“Since this is my first time here, little Daoist, I don’t really know much about the fun places to visit around here. Mind if you tell me about them? ”

“Sure, of course.”

The little Daoist then started to tell Chu Kuangren about the places to visit.

Halfway through, the little Daoist noticed Chu Kuangren’s gaze was outside so he looked out curiously as well.

A young man wearing a green Daoist robe with a delicate face was slowly walking towards them. He had a calm temperament about him.

Upon seeing that person, the little Daoist was very shocked and he immediately went to greet him.
“Greetings, Brother Wuchen!”

The name ‘Wuchen Zi’ was a legendary one within Taixu Temple. He was the most remarkable sky-pride among the younger generation of cultivators. Besides that, he was the only cultivator who was acknowledged with a Taixu Seal for the past thousands of years.

“Mhm.” Wuchen Zi gently nodded. After that, he folded his hands and bowed at Chu Kuangren.
“Greetings, Brother Chu, my name is Wuchen Zi.”

“Greetings, Brother Wuchen.”

Chu Kuangren smiled gently as a few runes flashed across his eyes. He was already using the Eye of Revelation to observe and gather information about his opponent.

Chapter 84: Wuchen Zi’s Despair, The Taixu Temple Lord’s Invite

“Wuchen Zi, Lead Disciple of the Taixu Temple, cultivation level — late-stage Paradise Realm, cultivated Sage Technique — Ethereal Taixu Technique, cultivated Sage Technique — Sunlight Overdrive Destruction...”

“Taixu Temple’s genius, wielder of the Sage Ruler Weapon — Taixu Seal...”

Every bit of information that related to Wuchen Zi appeared before Chu Kuangren’s eyes one by one.

He had heard of the name ‘Wuchen Zi’ long before he came to the Taixu Temple. However, rumor said that the person had been in closed-door meditation all this time, so no matter be it the marriage by combat or the Secret Realm excursion, no one had seen this person.

Today was Chu Kuangren’s first time meeting him.

Some said that if not for Wuchen Zi’s closed-door meditation, Gu Changge’s Path of Invincibility would not have hit the Black Heaven Sect. He would have failed when he reached the Taixu Temple, seeing as it was obvious that Wuchen Zi was no small fry.

However, under the analysis provided by the Eye of Revelation, it seemed like Wuchen Zi’s overall prowess and strength did, in fact, exceed Gu Changge’s by a large percentage.

“Although I’ve been in Taixu Temple for quite a long while, I have also heard about Brother Chu’s fame. So I specially came to pay you a visit today.” Wuchen Zi smiled.

“I hope you’re pleased with what you see.”

“The aura of a Banished Immortal, it’s truly remarkable.”

“Yeah, I get that a lot.”

Chu Kuangren nodded in agreement without any hint of shame.

“I have heard about Brother Chu’s purpose for visiting Taixu Temple. Does Brother Chu intend to follow what Gu Changge did previously?”

At that time, to cultivate his Heart of Invincibility, Gu Changge single-handedly challenged the disciples of a few sage orthodoxies to battle. From his perspective, Wuchen Zi felt that Chu Kuangren’s purpose of visiting each of the great sage orthodoxies was similar to Gu Changge’s.

“Sheesh, Brother Wuchen. You really are harsh on words, aren’t you? That Gu Changge made such a big fuss last time, it’s like he’s afraid the world would never know what he did. On the other hand, I have been keeping a much lower profile unlike him. Besides, I’m merely seeking someone to mentally spar with. I won’t lay a single finger on anyone.”

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

Those words of his made Wuchen Zi look at him weirdly. “Didn’t Brother Chu visit the White Lotus School previously? Not long after, word started to spread about Brother Chu becoming a White Lotus Bachelor Sage. Isn’t that a world sensation as well?”

“So all of this is what Brother Chu means by... Keeping a low profile?”

/strong>

Upon hearing that, Chu Kuangren helplessly shrugged and replied, "That was something that happened out of the blue. Will you believe me, Brother Wuchen?"

Who knew that the White Lotus Light of Purification Technique held such significance to the School of the White Lotus, that it was directly related to the whole cultivation foundation of the orthodoxy as well.

"It doesn't matter whether I believe it or not. What's important is the reason that I've come to visit Brother Chu, as I intend to... mentally spar with you."

As Wuchen Zi said those words, the little Daoist attendant beside him jumped in shock.

'Senior Brother Wuchen wants to mentally spar with Chu Kuangren?'

"Sure, of course."

Chu Kuangren had no reason to object because after all, that was his purpose of visit.

"After you." Wuchen Zi waved his sleeves and two cushion pads appeared before them. He then went and sat on one of them while Daoist Rhymes began to emanate around his body.

Chu Kuangren took a seat directly opposite him.

As the sky-prides of the current generation mentally sparred before him, the little Daoist at the side was extremely excited but dared not make any noise for fear of disturbing both of them.

Within the room, two surges of Daoist Rhymes started to clash against each other within the room.

The Sword of The Heavens looked ever so sharp above Chu Kuangren's head, while Wuchen Zi was surrounded by a rolling sea of clouds that seemed unpredictable and ethereal.

As the Daoist Rhymes spread out of the room, it was picked up by some of the experienced cultivators nearby.

"Someone's mentally sparring now."

"It's coming from the direction of the guest room. It must be Chu Kuangren."

"What an immeasurably sharp Sword-based Daoist Rhyme. On the other hand, there's a surge of ethereal fluctuation, so that must be our Taixu Sect's Dao. That's Wuchen Zi!"

"These two were mentally sparring so soon?"

Curious, some of the Taixu Temple elders headed towards the mental sparring location of those two.

"Besides the Ethereal Taixu Technique, which is one of the most well-known cultivation techniques within my Taixu Sect, other famous ones are namely the thirty-two sets of Supreme Techniques and two sets of Sage Techniques. Among these techniques, I have only learned twelve of them, so please allow me to learn more from you, Brother Chu."

By the time the crowd of elders rushed to the location, they only heard Wuchen Zi's explanation of the Dao. After that, his Daoist Rhyme started to change its form and materialize into a type of technique.

The sea of clouds rolled, forming into clusters of clouds which surged forth towards Chu Kuangren from all directions.

"This is the Cloud Flipping Technique!" One of the elders recognized it.

Just when the cluster of clouds had managed to get near Chu Kuangren, a ray of light flashed across the room from the Sword of the Heavens above his head and the cloud clusters were instantly shattered.

Not surprised, Wuchen Zi continued to manipulate his Daoist Rhyme, forming them into multiple mysterious and interesting techniques.

"That's the Supreme Technique, Willow Whisking Technique!"

"And also the Chilling Spring Technique."

"Tsk, it's so rare to see someone who has mastered so many types of Supreme Techniques to such a level."

"No doubt about it. He truly is the only sky-pride who is acknowledged by the Taixu Seal, and that's truly remarkable."

“Hey, take a look at Chu Kuangren.”

Wuchen Zi did possess a marvelous assortment of techniques, but no matter how violent a storm he cooked up, Chu Kuangren remained unmoved.

The Sword of the Heavens levitated above his head, with sword rays flashing from time to time. None of the techniques were able to land onto his body.

The Single Strike Technique was demonstrated vividly in perfection.

At this time.

The sea of clouds surrounding Wuchen Zi transformed into an artificial sun and as the sun rose, its light covered tens of thousands of feet. It was an extremely dazzling sight.

Then, the great golden ray of light shot out from the artificial sun, passed through the sea of clouds and headed towards Chu Kuangren like an arrow.

“That’s the Sage Technique, Sunlight Overdrive Destruction!”

“I can’t believe Wuchen Zi resorted to using such a technique that quickly as it’s meant to be a last resort move. It seems like Chu Kuangren is pushing him to the limit and giving him tremendous amounts of pressure.”

The crowd of elders each exclaimed in marvel.

Meanwhile, Chu Kuangren was still ever so calm despite facing the Sage Technique. Above his head, the Sword of the Heavens shot out a purple sword ray.

When the purple sword ray clashed together with the great golden sun ray, the golden sun rays were instantly torn apart like it was a piece of thin paper!

The sword ray was such an overwhelming force that as soon as it landed on Wuchen Zi's body, he was seen trembling slightly as the Daoist Rhyme surrounding him dispersed.

With that, the mental sparring bout reached its end with a clear outcome.

"Your Dao is still lacking and your techniques are still not strong enough," Chu Kuangren said casually. There was no aggression, no arrogance, nor contempt in the tone of his voice. It was as if he was merely explaining a fact.

However, that was indeed the most shocking part of the sentence. This meant that Chu Kuangren was already on a whole new level of existence compared to Wuchen Zi.

It was like comparing humans to ants.

Would a person be glad of being stronger than an ant? Would they despise the ants because of that fact?

Of course not, merely because they were on a different level.

Wuchen Zi truly understood what that meant and he could not help but let out a bitter smile. The difference was just too great.

He was the most outstanding sky-pride in Taixu Temple. However, when compared to Chu Kuangren, he felt that he was too insignificant, too weak.

“It’s an honor to have the opportunity to mentally spar with you, Brother Chu. I have gained a lot of lessons and experience from this session.” Wuchen Zi stood up and bowed.

He did indeed gain something, but most of it was feelings of despair and sorrow.

Chu Kuangren nodded slightly. “You’re welcome.”

He did not intend to console Wuchen Zi because it was pointless to do so. The fact that he still was stronger than Wuchen Zi still stood as established.

Wuchen Zi would have to overcome this by himself.

“Sigh, the difference is just too great.”

“I agree.”

A few Taixu Temple's elders could not help but sigh.

At that time, the Taixu Temple's Lord was walking towards them slowly. Upon seeing him, Wuchen Zi immediately bowed and greeted him, "Greeting, teacher."

Wuchen Zi was the personal disciple of the current Taixu Temple's Lord.

"A moment of victory or defeat does not mean it'll stay that way forever. Wuchen, this is just a lesson for you. Do not get too saddened over it." Upon seeing the sorrow in Wuchen Zi's eyes, the Taixu Temple's Lord could not help but feel distressed at his disciple's defeat.

"I understand, teacher." Wuchen Zi nodded.

After that, the Taixu Temple's Lord looked at Chu Kuangren and said, "Junior Daoist Chu, I see that your understanding of the Dao is quite refined and profound. I'm afraid that there's no one among your peers that can compare with you, which is why I wonder, would an old man like me have the honor to mentally spar with you?"

Those words immediately caused an uproar.

Chapter 85: My Daoist Heart Is As Solid As Rock, It's Just But A Slight Breeze

'The Taixu Temple Lord wants to mentally spar with Chu Kuangren?'

The moment those words came out, it immediately caused an uproar among everyone present.

What was the Taixu Temple Lord's full identity?

Being the leader of the sage orthodoxy and an Honorable Supreme, the Taixu Temple Lord's fame was known throughout the Azure Dragon Domain. Everywhere he went, he was revered.

Yet such a well-distinguished person wanted to mentally spar with a young junior?

'When word spreads about this, it will shock everyone to death.'

Even Chu Kuangren froze for a while when he heard the Taixu Temple Lord's words. No matter how he thought about it, Chu Kuangren still felt that the Taixu Temple Lord wanted to vent his anger on him.

'Not bad, he knows how to fight back for the weak.'

Chu Kuangren chuckled and a glimmer of light flashed across his eyes.

The Taixu Temple Lord was not mistaken. Chu Kuangren had gone through multiple sessions of Daoist enlightenment, and on top of the Meditational Clarity Trait that he had gained, he had become ever more deeply in tune with his understanding of Daoism. Compared to his peers, Chu Kuangren had long surpassed all of them in leagues.

No, even the experienced senior cultivators could not hope to compete with him too.

Chu Kuangren knew that he would not be able to gain much understanding and insight into Daoism if he continued to mentally spar with the cultivators of his generation. So only by mentally sparring with top-notch cultivators would he be able to gain tremendous insights.

The Taixu Temple Lord was undoubtedly someone like that.

“A junior like me will not dare to refuse the Temple Lord’s invite.”

Chu Kuangren smiled gently.

“Very well. Then I shall wait for you in the Distant Day Palace Hall tomorrow.” With a simple smile, the Taixu Temple Lord bowed and left.

As he turned around to leave, a hint of regret flashed past the Taixu Temple Lord’s eyes.

‘Sigh, I was too impulsive, just too impulsive.’

A high and mighty Honorable Supreme like him actually proposed a mental sparring match with a young junior cultivator. If word were to spread about this, he would be embarrassed to death.

However, since those words had been spoken, he had no way of turning back.

After the Taixu Temple Lord and others left, the Seventh Forefather frowned. “Hey kid, do you truly intend to mentally spar with the Taixu Temple Lord?”

“Naturally yes, of course. This is a great opportunity for me to properly witness and learn about the Taixu Temple’s Fully Realized Daoist techniques.”

“The Taixu Temple Lord is still an Honorable Supreme, kid. There aren’t many who can match his level of understanding in the Dao. Although your life won’t be in danger during the mental sparring match, I’m afraid it’d cause damage to your Daoist core if the difference is too great.”

“My Daoist core is as solid and unshaken as a rock!”

Chu Kuangren chuckled with confidence.

His level of understanding in the Dao was more or less on par with an Honorable, so even if the Taixu Temple Lord’s level of understanding in the Dao was much higher than him, it would not affect his Daoist heart.

“Very well.” The Seventh Forefather nodded.

...

Within half a day, everyone knew of Chu Kuangren’s mental sparring match with the Taixu Temple Lord, and countless people were very shocked upon hearing it.

For a moment, everyone in Taixu Temple was talking and discussing it.

“An Honorable Supreme will be mentally sparring with a junior Paradise Realm cultivator? Is the world mad? Or am I mad instead?”

“Bloody hell! This Chu Kuangren is b*d*ss!”

“I heard that Brother Wuchen also went to mentally spar with Chu Kuangren, but he failed miserably in the end. Do you suppose the Temple Lord is venting out his anger for Brother Wuchen?”

“It could be possible, based on the Temple Lord’s character.”

“You’re right. I heard somewhere that a few decades ago, Brother Wuchen was injured by an Honorable while he was traveling down the mountain to gain experience in cultivation. The Temple Lord was so enraged that he immediately went to that Honorable Orthodoxy and brutally killed him on the spot.”

“Tsk tsk, no matter what, the fact that Chu Kuangren is going to mentally spar with the Temple Lord is just too shocking. I have to go witness that match tomorrow.”

“I’ll be going as well.”

“Me too.”

In the grand pagoda.

The Taixu Temple Lord and a few elders were gathered there in the discussion.

“My lord, are you insane? Do you remember your identity? How can you seek out a young junior to mentally spar with?” One of the elders bluntly remarked. Since he was the only one who had a good relationship with the Taixu Temple Lord, only he dared to speak in that manner.

The other elders did not express their opinions directly like that, but their gazes spoke of dissatisfaction. They all felt that the Taixu Temple Lord had gone a little overboard.

The Taixu Temple Lord said calmly, “Chu Kuangren is an amazingly talented person. Don’t all of you want to find out where his limit is?”

“My lord, do you mean... This is just to test him?”

“Yes. It may only be a mental sparring match unlike actual combat, but if I were the one doing it, I can at least get a proper grasp of that kid’s true strength.”

“But it’s not necessary for you to do it yourself though.”

“Ling Zheng has told us before that this kid is able to kill an Honorable. This means that his understanding of the Dao is comparable to an Honorable. Only I can be assured to complete this task,” the Taixu Temple Lord replied indifferently.

“So that’s how it is.”

Only then did the elders' dissatisfaction disappear.

Upon seeing that, the Taixu Temple Lord was relieved.

'I guess I finally explained my way out of that one.'

In actuality, he never thought much about it when he proposed the mental sparring match to Chu Kuangren. All he wanted was to vent out his anger for his disciple.

However, now that he thought of it, even if Wuchen Zi was not the underlying factor for him to do so, he should still take action himself to test Chu Kuangren's limits instead.

"Chu Kuangren..."

"I shall look forward to your performance tomorrow."

The Taixu Temple Lord murmured.

...

The second day.

The Distant Day Palace Hall was filled with cultivators from the Taixu Temple. Everyone was eagerly waiting for the mental sparring match that had the greatest power disparity difference in the world.

An Honorable Supreme, and a junior Paradise Realm cultivator.

“It’s about to start. This really is exciting.”

“Where’s Chu Kuangren, has he arrived yet?”

“Look, he’s here.”

At that moment, at the end of the crowd, the white-robed, fairy-like Chu Kuangren was slowly walking towards the hall with Lan Yu beside him.

The way he walked in slowly had a calmness to it.

Behind him, Lan Yu followed suit when she noticed her Master doing that.

The man and woman pair instantly attracted the gazes of everyone present in the hall. Even the great cultivators who had thousands of years of cultivation could not help but exclaim with shock at the sight of them.

His poised posture dazzled everyone around him.

Step by step, Chu Kuangren walked towards the Distant Day Palace Hall and saw that the Taixu Temple Lord was already waiting inside. He was sitting on a futon mattress with his back facing Chu Kuangren.

A glint of excitement was revealed in Chu Kuangren's eyes.

How much would they differ in their Daoist techniques?

At that time, a figure suddenly walked out from the crowd. It was a young cultivator who wore a headband and had an eager look in his eyes.

"My name is Qingyun, a disciple of the Taixu Temple. Pardon me, Brother Chu, but I have a Daoist technique that I would like your guidance!" Following that, Daoist Rhymes appeared around that young cultivator's body and formed into a sea of clouds. Then, a sun rose and a sudden golden light ray shot out towards Chu Kuangren.

That was the Daoist Rhyme from the Sunlight Overdrive Destruction Sage Technique!

"I'm Fengxuan of the Taixu Temple. Please allow me to demonstrate my Daoist Technique and learn from you!"

"I'm Qingxin from the Taixu Temple, please allow me to learn from you!"

Following that, multiple young cultivators walked out. Not using their spiritual power but only their Daoist Rhymes, all sorts of mysterious transformations were sent towards Chu Kuangren in one go.

Those people were among the younger generation of sky-prides.

They all respected Chu Kuangren, but they were also unsatisfied as well. Hence, they could not resist but launch out their attacks simultaneously towards him, with the intention to give him a feeling of defeat.

However, it was a shame that Chu Kuangren had no care for them as his gaze was set on the Taixu Temple Lord who was sitting in the center of the Distant Day Palace Hall.

As those multiple surges of Daoist Rhymes headed his way, the Sword of the Heavens appeared above Chu Kuangren's head. The sword ray merely flashed once before the multiple surges of Daoist Rhymes were all blown away and shattered like smoke in a wind.

None of those attacks was able to land on Chu Kuangren's body.

That gap in strength made the onlooking sky-prides uncontrollably shocked.

Their gap in strength compared to Chu Kuangren was just too great!

How could a firefly ever hope to compare with the brightness of a full moon night?

Once he had passed by a crowd of sky-prides, Chu Kuangren was at the entrance of the Distant Day Palace Hall. Lan Yu then waited at the entrance while Chu Kuangren walked into the palace hall without hesitation.

"I apologize for the behavior of my disciples. I'm truly embarrassed knowing that Junior Chu had seen this."

The Taixu Temple Lord turned around and let out an apologetic smile.

Chu Kuangren was not bothered by it at all. Instead, he immediately sat on the futon mat opposite the Taixu Temple Lord. "It's just a small thing, nothing to worry about."

Chapter 86: A Mental Spar With The Taixu Temple Lord, Please Take My Attack

"It's just a small thing, nothing to worry about."

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

Those words of his were spoken with a tone that was neither loud nor soft, but it was straight to the point.

The crowd of disciples outside the Distant Day Palace Hall had wanted to rebut at that statement but could not find the words to do so.

In fact, they were rather speechless so to speak.

A few of the sky-prides even had a look of despair on their faces. They all felt begrudged and frustrated.

“With Junior Chu around, all of the sky-prides in this world have been reduced to mediocrity.” The Taixu Temple Lord looked at Chu Kuangren and said.

“I ... dare not deny the Temple Lord’s words.”

1

Chu Kuangren did not look humble at all.

It was because, from his perspective, that was truly an established fact. Even a Young Emperor would not be able to fight back if they were to face him.

If that was already the case with a Young Emperor, then what about the other so-called sky-prides?

It seemed as though no one could be qualified as sky-prides before Chu Kuangren.

The corners of the Taixu Temple Lord’s mouth twitched. This was the first time he came across such an arrogant person, who lacked any sense of humbleness at all.

The name ‘Chu Kuangren’ truly was given correctly.

“After you, Temple Lord,” Chu Kuangren gently said. He could not wait to mentally spar with the Honorable Supreme who sat before him.

“No. You’re a junior cultivator and also our esteemed guest. After you.”

“Then I shall take up your offer then.”

Daoist Rhyme surrounded Chu Kuangren as the Sword of the Heavens materialized above his head and then, multiple sword rays shot out towards the Taixu Temple Lord.

“What a deadly and sharp Sword-based Daoist Rhyme, not bad.” The Taixu Temple Lord chuckled as a gust of ethereal looking Daoist Rhymes gathered around him and turned into a rolling sea of clouds which enveloped around the sword rays.

In an instant, the countless sword rays disappeared without a trace.

Chu Kuangren was not surprised. It would be surprising if the Taixu Temple Lord’s Daoist technique was not strong enough to block a few of his sword rays instead.

“Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique!”

Without hesitation, Chu Kuangren immediately deployed his Sage Ruler Technique’s Daoist Rhyme.

A surge of immeasurably lethal Daoist Rhyme rose up. Following that, the Sword of Heaven shook slightly and a domineering purple sword ray instantly shot out.

Although it was not imbued with spiritual power, the mere Daoist Rhyme in that attack alone was sufficient to scare most people to their deaths. Numerous sky-prides outside the Distant Day Palace Hall went pale with fear and their lips turned purple upon seeing that sword ray. They could only feel how insignificant they were.

“If he were to deploy such a Daoist technique against me yesterday during the mental spar, I’m afraid my Daoist core would have been greatly affected,” Wuchen Zi uttered in fright.

Not only him, but a few of the Taixu Temple’s elders were also shocked by that display of power. They had realized that even they themselves could not hope to conjure up such a strong technique like that. Chu Kuangren’s understanding of Daoism was already at such a deeply refined level!

“Ha, what an interesting Sage Ruler Technique. What a splendid Single Strike Technique indeed!” the Taixu Temple Lord exclaimed. Even he had to stay cautious before Chu Kuangren’s Daoist techniques.

As Daoist Rhyme started to swirl and the sea of clouds started to roll again, the Taixu Temple Lord’s Daoist Rhyme surged forth to shroud the domineering purple sword ray within itself.

Purple flashes of light flickered within the layer of clouds before they burst open and as if a strong wind had blown, the two surges of Daoist Rhymes were instantly swept through the Distant Day Palace Hall.

The candle lights around the area flickered while the doors and windows creaked...

“Young junior, try this technique of mine.” The Taixu Temple Lord smiled as used his Daoist technique to form a few clusters of clouds which then headed towards Chu Kuangren.

How could an Honorable Supreme's Daoist techniques be that simple?

Even if those were Supreme Techniques, Chu Kuangren still gave it his one hundred and twenty percent effort as he continuously deployed his Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique.

One after another, the sword rays shuttled back and forth around Chu Kuangren, shattering the incoming cluster of clouds that were headed towards him.

No matter what technique the Taixu Temple Lord used or what mysterious Transformations were formed, Chu Kuangren merely used that one sword, as if that sword was all he had.

However, that one sword alone was enough to stun everyone.

"By the gods, Chu Kuangren is truly capable of mentally sparring with the Taixu Temple Lord. And look at how young he is now, this is just too unbelievable."

"That's right, how can someone like this exist in this world?"

"No wonder the three great sage orthodoxies are willing to give him protection. A sky-pride like him will possess limitless possibilities in the future!"

Every onlooker was dumbfounded by that match. Some of them even took the opportunity to review their knowledge of Daoism as they watched on with a dazed look.

Even the Honorables felt that they had learned something.

As time went by, nearly half an hour had passed. The Taixu Temple Lord's Daoist techniques became increasingly stronger as he kept testing the bounds of Chu Kuangren's limit.

"Brother Chu, I'm afraid your sword won't be able to stop this attack now." Feeling that time was right, the Taixu Temple Lord chuckled.

Daoist Rhyme started to circulate as a large sun rose through the sea of clouds and shot out a golden ray of sunlight. It was the Taixu Temple Lord's Sage Ruler Technique, Sunlight Overdrive Destruction!

The golden ray of sunlight immediately shattered the sword ray and headed directly towards Chu Kuangren. When everyone saw that scene, they secretly knew that the match was ending!

Being able to mentally spar with the Taixu Temple Lord was already an amazing and rare feat that Chu Kuangren had achieved in this world.

However, at that moment, there was a sudden change to the Daoist Rhymes around Chu Kuangren as white lotuses began to gather together and hold down that golden ray.

It was the White Lotus Light of Purification!

The Taixu Temple Lord was shocked. "What a marvelous technique. It's very similar to the School of White Lotus's Light of Purification, but is even more delicate and refined."

“Is this why the School of White Lotus conferred you as their Bachelor Sage?”

Chu Kuangren did not answer. The Sword of the Heavens above his head shook as the Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique’s Daoist Rhyme appeared once again and a sword ray was shot out once again.

However, a golden ray of sunlight then shot out from the great sun amongst the sea of clouds once again and shattered the sword ray. The Taixu Temple Lord’s Daoist techniques were too powerful.

Although Chu Kuangren had the White Lotus Light of Purification, his Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique still could not breach through the Taixu Temple’s defenses.

“Good effort, young lad.” The Taixu Temple Lord uttered before he engaged the full strength of his Daoist Technique, and a domineering Daoist Rhyme pushed forth.

The white lotuses around Chu Kuangren began to tremble like flowers in a violent storm, as if they would immediately shatter within the next instant.

“As expected of the Honorable Supreme. Your Daoist techniques are truly remarkable.”

“That’s the furthest point I can reach?”

Chu Kuangren held on and withstood the attack with his White Lotus Light of Purification.

“No, it’s still not enough.”

“My Daoist techniques can still be better!”

Just when the Taixu Temple Lord thought that the match was going to end, Chu Kuangren did something unpredictable — he slowly closed his eyes.

“What is he doing?”

Everyone was extremely confused.

The Taixu Temple Lord frowned but he maintained his attack.

At that moment, every single technique and experience that Chu Kuangren had learned in the past flashed through the depths of his mind.

Gradually, the Daoist Rhyme within his body became increasingly stronger, which caused the originally near-shattering white lotus to restabilize.

“How is this possible?” The Taixu Temple Lord’s expression suddenly changed.

Then, Chu Kuangren suddenly opened his eyes and a frightening flash of light flickered in his gaze.
“Temple Lord, please take this technique of mine!”

Hum!

The Sword of the Heavens began to tremble before a domineering and terrifying Sword-based Daoist Rhyme swept out like a crashing tide on a stormy sea.

That Sword-based Daoist Rhyme enveloped the whole Taixu Temple, causing numerous swordsmen's blades to let out an uncontrollable shriek.

A single sword ray emerged from the Sword of the Heavens. Its pure Daoist Rhyme attack made the Taixu Temple Lord's pupils shrink.

"Sunlight Overdrive Destruction!"

As the great sun radiated with light, a beam of sun ray shot out.

However, the sun ray was brutally shattered the moment it collided with the sword ray. Like an arrow hitting its target, the sword ray shot through the sea of clouds and landed on the great sun, shattering the Daoist Rhyme Transformation.

The Taixu Temple Lord's body trembled as his face was filled with shock.

Chu Kuangren glanced at him calmly and asked, "How's that for a sword attack?"

“I... I lost.”

Chapter 87: A Role Model's Influence, An Incredibly Amazing Disciple

“I lost...”

The moment those words came out from the Taixu Temple Lord's mouth, the countless disciples outside the Distant Day Palace Hall immediately fell silent. At that moment, not a single sound was heard in the vast Taixu Temple.

Everyone was so in shock that they became speechless.

What had they just heard?

The Taixu Temple Lord said that he ... Lost?

The Taixu Temple Lord lost in a mental sparring match with Chu Kuangren!

‘He is an Honorable Supreme! How can he lose to a mere junior? This is just too unbelievable. No one will even believe it if word spreads of this.’

“The Temple Lord, he... Lost!”

“How can this be? How is it possible for Chu Kuangren to win against the Temple Lord!”

“What kind of beast is he? He’s only a Paradise Realm cultivator, yet you’re telling me he won against an Honorable Supreme in a mental sparring match? This is defying logic!”

“Too terrifying, he’s just too terrifying.”

“Although I’m unwilling to accept it, what he said was true. No one could deem themselves as sky-prides before Chu Kuangren! They are all just mediocre peers.”

What followed after the silence was a wave of heated discussions.

Many people were shocked yet amazed. Some were even traumatized as if they had seen a peak that was hard for them to reach in their lifetimes.

In the Distant Day Palace Hall, the shocked Taixu Temple Lord looked back at Chu Kuangren after he had regained his composure and lamented. “I did not expect Junior Chu to have been able to gain enlightenment at the final moment and break through the Daoist technique realms. It is truly amazing and impressive.”

“I’m afraid I won’t be able to have a breakthrough at the final moment if it weren’t for the Temple Lord putting such a big pressure on me.” Chu Kuangren simply smiled.

From his perspective, was this not how things should be naturally?

After all, who went and made him into a protagonist?

2

Upon hearing that, the Taixu Temple Lord's mouth twitched. It meant that not only his plans were foiled, but he had inadvertently helped the enemy instead.

"I have gained a lot of experiences from this mental sparring match. I thank you greatly, Temple Lord."

"You're welcome, Junior Chu. I hope you do stay a few days in Taixu Temple and I hope we can have a better chat when there's time."

From that moment onwards, it seemed like the Taixu Temple Lord had started to view Chu Kuangren as on the same level of existence as he was, or at least it was quite so on the subject of Daoist techniques.

"Yeah, that'd be nice."

Chu Kuangren did not refuse as well.

With that, he stayed three more days at the Taixu Temple, and during that time, besides the Taixu Temple Lord, even the other elders went to have a mental sparring match with him.

In those three days, Chu Kuangren went through at least ten mental sparring matches which deeply refined his understanding of Daoist techniques as of then, and his Single Strike Technique had also improved as well.

“Temple Lord, I thank you for having me here for the past few days.”

At the Taixu Temple’s mountain gate, Chu Kuangren was preparing to leave.

The Taixu Temple Lord and a crowd of elders were also there to see him off.

“Feel free to visit again, young junior.”

The Taixu Temple Lord chuckled. Although he lost to Chu Kuangren in the mental sparring match, he did not feel any resentment at all. Instead, he was just amazed.

Besides, building good relations with a sky-pride of that level would only benefit the Taixu Temple without causing any harm. Only a fool would seek to make enemies with him.

“Just as the mountain fields are lush and the river flows everlastingly, Temple Lord, we are bound to meet again someday in the future. Goodbye.”

With that, Chu Kuangren turned and went down the mountain.

Seeing his receding silhouette, the Taixu Temple Lord lamented. “This person’s talents are limitless and impressive, he’ll surely leave a name for himself in the annals of history.”

“He can even be compared with the Emperors of Old!”

...

Chu Kuangren had left the Taixu Temple since then, but in the past few days, news of him winning the Taixu Temple Lord in a mental sparring match had long spread far and wide.

Every orthodoxy and their respective sky-prides all felt that the news was too unbelievable.

A Paradise Realm cultivator had a mental spar with an Honorable Supreme and won?

It would be too much for that to be an exaggeration.

“That monster. This Chu Kuangren’s not even human at all, that guy’s a monster! Why don’t you tell me which other sky-pride can win an Honorable Supreme in a mental sparring match?”

“I think that this person is just too terrifyingly strong.”

“I agree. Will Chu Kuangren not stop until he finally scares or shocks us to death? Why does every news about him seem bigger and sound crazier than the last?”

“Sheesh, so what? That guy also killed a sage before, just so you know.”

/strong>

“Yeah, that’s true.”

Although most people were shocked by the news, some of them were already numb to anything that concerned Chu Kuangren. In fact, they started to feel that such a thing was normal for someone like him.

‘So what if he wins an Honorable Supreme in a mental sparring match?’

‘The guy has also killed an Honorable Supreme and even a sage in the past. Compared to all of this, winning the Taixu Temple Lord doesn’t seem like a big deal to me.’

...

Within the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom.

A young black-haired man was holding a news report in his hands, which contained a sorted list of the top-tiered sky-prides in Firmament Star.

In that list, Chu Kuangren’s name was highlighted in red.

“I can’t believe so many years have passed by. Now that the Great Dharma Emergence is happening and the Road to the Emperor’s Realm has opened, there’s only a mere handful of sky-prides around?”

“Young Emperor? So any Paradise Realm cultivators who can defeat those in the Battle Monarch Realm are known as Young Emperors now? What a joke. These so-called Young Emperors are basically people with unworthy titles.”

The young black-haired man said casually.

Beside him, Master Daoist Ling Hai had a surprised look in his eyes. He could not believe what this tens of thousands of years old sky-pride was saying.

However, his surprise faded away when he thought of that man’s strength.

“Only this Chu Kuangren person seems interesting.”

“He’s only at the Paradise Realm cultivation level, but his Daoist techniques and cultivation already surpass those of an Honorable Supreme. If this is true, then this person would also be one of the top geniuses during my time. Hehe, perhaps he might even be a fitting match for me as well.”

1

The young black-haired man put aside the news, looked at Master Daoist Ling Hai, and said, “I have slumbered for thirty thousand years. The orthodoxy that I once belonged to had since long been wiped out. I’m willing to join the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom.”

“However, I want the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom to fully assist me in my path to cultivation. When I become an Emperor in the future, I can guarantee that the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom will be undefeated for ten thousand years!”

“Very well!” Master Daoist Ling Hai nodded delightfully.

“Then I, Ao Chang, shall be a disciple of the Sacred Lands of Serene Wisdom!”

The young black-haired man, Ao Chang said that as a fiery passion burned deep within his gaze. He had finally arrived in the Era of Great Battles!

In this era, he should dominate every single opponent without fail!

...

Within the Zhiyang Valley.

A certain area within the void suddenly twisted and opened. After that, a young purple-haired man was seen walking out from it and as he did so, colorful flames swirled around him.

The flames were at an extremely horrifying temperature. In a short second, it had burned down a whole nearby forest into ashes, turning everything within a hundred-mile radius into scorched earth!

The young purple-haired man then slowly opened his palms, where colorful flames that were filled with an extremely horrifying Daoist Rhyme emerged.

"I did it!"

"I finally managed to tame the sacred fires left by my forefathers!"

"Chu Kuangren, I, Lin Batian will not be weaker than you!"

...

Within the Black Heaven Sect.

Numerous disciples received the news of Chu Kuangren winning the Taixu Temple Lord in the mental sparring match. Hence they were all proud, elated, and mad with joy.

"All hail our mighty Elder Senior Brother!"

"That's nothing. Not to mention an Honorable Supreme, I won't be surprised if our Elder Senior Brother wins against a sage for our Elder Senior Brother is just too strong."

"Elder Senior Brother is just too powerful. We all have to work hard to be like him too."

"You're right, I shall increase my cultivation hours tomorrow."

“Same goes for me too.”

“Come everyone, let’s all form into groups during our cultivation session. It’ll be more efficient that way.”

The influence of a role model was endless.

Chu Kuangren had become the definite role model for the crowd of disciples in the Black Heaven Sect. Everyone worked hard and further increased their cultivation hours to catch up to Chu Kuangren, as they intended to close the distance between them and their Elder Senior Brother. This phenomenon greatly impressed the higher-ups of the Black Heaven Sect.

However, only the Honorable Xuan Qi felt a bit sad.

“Sigh, if that boy Kuangren has managed to win against the Taixu Temple in a mental sparring match, does that mean that he’s above me in terms of Daoist cultivation and techniques?”

“Then I shall have nothing more to teach him.”

The Honorable Xuan Qi sighed again in sorrow.

‘Having such an excellent disciple is truly a troubling thing.’

The other elders looked at his expression and could not help but roll their eyes.

‘Yeah sure, just continue with that act, just carry on.’

1

‘How can anyone not be happy and delighted to have a disciple like that? You should be so impressed and happy.’

Chapter 88: A Natural Cultivator, The Dharma Sect’s Stone Test Pillar

A Fairy boat was traveling through a sea of clouds.

Chu Kuangren was sitting with his legs crossed on deck with three of his protectors sitting around him. Daoist Rhymes were circulating around the four of them.

The four of them were mentally sparring together!

An Honorable Supreme and two Honorables were mentally sparring with Chu Kuangren!

Not long after, the Daoist Rhyme was retracted along with the countless Transformations which filled up the skies around them.

“I have a feeling that my Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique is at the final step before it can break through to another level. However, I feel that this last step is too hard to breakthrough.”

Chu Kuangren said.

The Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique was already a Sage Ruler Technique.

Another step of progress further and it would be a legendary Emperor Technique. That was an indomitable technique that could only be developed by those in the Emperor Realm.

“The Emperor Technique has actually existed for a long time. However, as the Emperors faded away one by one, the inheritance of their techniques have also broken off as well. As of now, an Emperor Technique hasn’t been seen throughout tens of thousands of years.” the Seventh Forefather said frustratingly.

Although this was an Era of Great Battles and the Great Dharma Emergence, where the Road to Emperor’s Realm has reopened, techniques like the Emperor Technique were long gone due to a break in their line of inheritance.

The cultivators of this era would have to rediscover everything from the start.

“It’s alright. Emperor Techniques are developed by men after all. If the Emperors of Old could do it, then there’s no reason that we can’t.”

The three protectors gazed at each other with impressed looks.

Possessing superb poise, deeply refined Daoist understanding, a Daoist core that was as solid as a rock, as well as an indomitable and unyielding spirit...

From their perspectives, Chu Kuangren was a natural cultivator indeed.

He was born to stand on top of the precipice among everyone.

“Bachelor Sage, which orthodoxy shall we head to next?”

The School of White Lotus’s Protector, Honorable Qing Lan asked curiously.

“Let’s head to the Dharma Sect then,” Chu Kuangren replied.

The Dharma Sect was daring enough to pride itself on its possession of ten thousand¹ techniques. Naturally, the cultivation techniques within that sect were countless and none of the other orthodoxies in the Azure Dragon Domain could ever hope to compete with that.

Some even compared that if all the cultivation techniques under the skies were to be written into a series of books with ten volumes, then the Dharma Sect alone would take up eight out of the ten volumes of books for its techniques. It was obvious that the Dharma Sect had vast amounts of techniques.

Since Chu Kuangren wanted to perfect his Daoist techniques, a visit to the Dharma Sect was definitely a must.

...

In a city located at the foothills of the Dharma Sect's mountain.

Since the city was backed by a sage orthodoxy like the Dharma Sect, it became very prosperous. Countless cultivators who came from different parts of the world gathered there.

Both Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu had arrived at that city but decided to take a day's rest. They only planned to visit the Dharma Sect tomorrow personally.

"Hey, the disciples from the Dharma Sect are recruiting people in public."

"I'll go take a look then."

"Since the sage orthodoxy is recruiting, I better go and take a look too."

All of a sudden, the cultivators on the street were headed towards a certain direction, turning the originally hustling street to a quieter one instead.

Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu exchanged gazes as they too were curious.

"Hey, Lan Yu, let's go and see for ourselves."

Chu Kuangren was very interested, so he brought Lan Yu to the central square of the city and that place was already jam-packed with people by the time they arrived.

There were a few stone pillars in the central square. Each of them was engraved with numerous mysterious runes and inlaid with nine pieces of gemstones.

While a long queue was formed in front of the stone pillars, dozens of disciples from the Dharma Sect could be seen managing the crowd and order there.

“Alright, next,” one of the Dharma Sect’s disciples announced.

A cultivator was seen walking towards the stone pillar before he placed his hand on it and the gemstones on the stone pillars gradually lit up one by one. One... Two...

A total of four gemstones turned bright.

The cultivator had a disappointed look on his face when he saw that.

“Four Stars, you’re unqualified. Please leave.”

The Dharma Sect’s disciple said with an indifferent tone.

Chu Kuangren then stood behind the crowd and took a few observations. He noticed that most of the cultivators could only light up three or four gemstones.

Only those who could light up five or more gemstones were qualified to be recruited.

However, that was just the first trial of their recruitment process.

“This pillar, what kind of item is this?” Chu Kuangren asked curiously.

“This is a type of treasure item which has been specifically developed by the Dharma Sect to test a cultivator’s qualification.” That time, a voice suddenly came from beside Chu Kuangren.

A young man in a white robe walked to Chu Kuangren and chuckled. “This item separates the qualifications of all the sky-prides in the world into nine categories. Only the top-tiered cultivators can light up seven or even eight gemstones upon that pillar.”

“Those with a weak qualification can most probably only light up one gemstone.”

The young man in white robe explained passionately.

“If that’s the case, aren’t four stars considered not bad then?”

Chu Kuangren said.

“You’re right. People with four-star qualifications can be deemed a young genius within some Honorable Orthodoxies. But too bad that joining the Dharma Sect isn’t so easy. The disciples who are recruited into the Dharma Sect must at least be able to light up five gemstones.”

“Besides, qualifications are only the first trial in the recruitment process. The later trials focus on different aspects like Daoist understanding, Daoist core, and more. The requirements in this process are very strict.”

The young man in white robe seemed to be very well versed in the trials that were conducted by the Dharma Sect. It was as if he was explaining the items he had at home. Even Chu Kuangren could not help but look at him attentively.

He then used the Eye of Revelation.

“Su Tianyi, a disciple of the Dharma Sect, cultivation level – Paradise Realm, cultivated Sage Technique – Sixfold Order Eightfold Chaos Technique, cultivated Sage Technique – Transcendent Coalescence...”

A look of surprise was revealed in Chu Kuangren’s eyes.

That guy was a disciple of the Dharma Sect and with the Eye of Revelation’s analysis, his combat strength could be said to be on par or if not stronger than Yuanhong as well.

“Fellow Daoist, you must be here for recruitment right? Come, there’s no need to trouble yourself waiting in that line of the queue. I’ll take you to the test immediately.”

Su Tianyi dragged Chu Kuangren towards the front of the crowd.

Even Chu Kuangren was dazed.

When did he ever say he wanted to take the test?

“Fellow Daoist, I...”

“It’s fine, I know you don’t want to cut queues, but I’m the one in charge of this station. There’ll be no problem if it’s fine with me.” Su Tianyi immediately interrupted Chu Kuangren’s sentence with a ‘don’t worry, let me handle it’ look.

Not waiting for Chu Kuangren to say anything more, he dragged both of them in front of the stone pillar. He said as he looked towards another fellow disciple, “Let them have a try first.”

“Yes, of course.”

The other disciple nodded and was instantly marveled when he saw both Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu. ‘What the heck, these two are just too attractive.’

Some people in the crowd were unsatisfied upon seeing that someone was cutting the queue. However, once they took a look at Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu, that dissatisfaction immediately disappeared and turned to marvel.

“Where did these two come from? They do seem very extraordinary to me.”

“Tsk, having special treatment because of their good looks huh.”

“Damn this world that prioritizes one’s appearance...”

...

“Go ahead, fellow Daoist,” the Dharma Sect’s disciple said.

Chu Kuangren looked at the stone pillar and hesitated for a while before he put out his hand. He was also curious as to how many gemstones he could light up.

Yet the moment he placed his hand on the stone pillar, he felt a surge of energy release from the stone pillar and swept through his whole body.

Following that, the gemstones on the pillars lit up one by one.

One, two, three, four, five...

“I see, it is as I expected. My fellow Daoist brother, you already have an amazingly gorgeous appearance, so I bet your qualifications wouldn’t be too bad either.”

Su Tianyi looked like he had expected it.

However, his expression immediately turned into astonishment.

That was because all nine gemstones had lit up on the stone pillar just as he was done speaking. ‘A nine-star qualification?’

The nine pieces of gemstones radiated brightly, attracting the gazes of everyone in the crowd. Shocked exclamations were soon heard, one after another.

“Bloody hell, a nine-star qualification! Qualifications like this have not existed within the Dharma Sect for far too many years! This is just too shocking and amazing!”

“This is not a matter of how many years, but instead, it dates back to the time where this stone test pillar was invented by the Dharma Sect long ago. Ever since then, no one has been able to light up all nine gemstones!”

“My God, who the hell is this person?”

“I can’t believe it’s nine pieces of gemstones. What a terrifyingly strong qualification this is!”

Chapter 89: Don’t You Come Over Here! The Majestic Stele Forest

At the same time, all the nine pieces of gemstones lit up brightly on the stone pillar.

The never-before-seen nine-star qualification had shocked everyone greatly.

Su Tianyi was so shocked that he just stared with his mouth wide open.

He had only noticed how extraordinary Chu Kuangren seemed, so he allowed him to cut queues to take the test. However, he never once thought that Chu Kuangren was such a powerhouse.

‘A nine-star qualification!’

One should know that Su Tianyi himself had an eight-star qualification, and he was already regarded as one of the most impressive people in the Dharma Sect’s history.

To what extent could Chu Kuangren’s nine-star qualification achieve?

‘The Dharma Sect has found a valuable treasure today!’

“Nine-star qualification?”

Chu Kuangren was not surprised at the results as he whispered to himself.

If top-tiered sky-prides had seven- or even eight-star qualification, then it was not surprising for a peerless sky-pride like him, who had beaten up Young Emperors, to get a nine-star qualification.

Just when he thought that was his qualification level, something strange happened.

The light on the stone pillar started to get even brighter while the runes engraved on it started to flash. Then, a few cracks started to appear on the pillar.

With a crash, the stone test pillar was instantly shattered!

“What’s going on?” Chu Kuangren was a bit dazed.

Did that mean his qualifications exceeded nine stars?

Did the stone test pillar rupture because it could not take proper measurements?

Meanwhile, Su Tianyi and the others were stunned.

“What the hell is this?”

“I have never seen such a thing happen before.”

“Can it be that this stone pillar has fallen into disrepair after many years of negligence, which is why it went out of order?”

“It’s possible.”

Everyone at the scene breathed a sigh of relief.

‘So it turns out to be a malfunction.’

They had really thought that a monster with nine-star qualifications had appeared.

“Fellow Daoist, let’s use another stone pillar for the test,” the Dharma Sect’s disciple said.

Chu Kuangren nodded and placed his hand on the other stone pillar.

Similar to earlier, nine pieces of gemstones lit up brightly before the light became increasingly brighter and the stone pillar cracked open and shattered before the crowd’s horrified gaze.

Everyone was dumbfounded.

“Is there a problem with this one as well? Why don’t I use another stone pillar?”

Chu Kuangren then headed towards the next stone pillar.

“Stop!”

“Fellow Daoist, please stop!”

“Don’t you come over here!” The other disciple who was overseeing the other pillar hurriedly stopped Chu Kuangren’s way and yelled.

‘Are you kidding me?’

They had finally understood that the problem was not with the stone test pillar but that person, Chu Kuangren!

Everyone was absolutely dumbfounded.

‘What kind of monster is this?’

‘I can’t believe his qualifications are so high that it exceeds the limits of endurance for the stone testing pillar. This person is much stronger than the disciples from the other great orthodoxies.’

“Fellow Daoist, please, there’s no need for you to test anymore, you have passed the first trial.”

Su Tianyi gulped and said.

Speaking to the disciple next to him, he said, "All of you stay here and oversee the first trial of recruitment. In the meantime, I shall bring the ones who had passed over to the second trial."

"Alright, Senior Brother."

"By the way, how should I address you, fellow Daoist?"

"My first name is Chu."

"So you're Brother Chu then. Alright, allow me to explain the second trial now. It's a trial that assesses your understanding of techniques. Within the Dharma Sect there lies a stele forest. Inside that forest, thousands of techniques were recorded there..."

Su Tianyi went on explaining about that trial.

Chu Kuangren was just about to explain himself when he heard that and something then flicked within his heart.

'A stele forest that holds the records of thousands of techniques?'

'Now that is interesting indeed.'

Hence, Chu Kuangren decided to go there first to take a look.

“By the way, fellow Daoist, why don’t you test your qualifications as well?”

Su Tianyi then looked at Lan Yu who was beside Chu Kuangren.

Lan Yu nodded slightly, walked over to a stone pillar, and placed her hand on it. Within a moment, all nine pieces of gemstones lit up brightly.

That scene once again shocked everyone.

‘Bloody Hell!’

‘Another monster!’

Everyone fixed their eyes on the stone pillar, fearing that it would shatter and crumble as well.

Fortunately, the stone pillar remained intact despite its nine gemstones shining ever so brightly. With that, everyone sighed in relief.

Only then did they return to their senses. ‘This person is a nine-star qualification monster as well!’

‘And that Brother Chu too...’

‘My God, where do these people come from?’

“My fellow Daoist, your qualifications are very impressive indeed. It’s truly worth admiring.” Su Tianyi gulped. He felt like today was a bit too surreal.

He had encountered two monsters that possessed abnormally strong qualifications!

Su Tianyi then brought Chu Kuangren, Lan Yu, and the other cultivators who had passed the first trial to the Dharma Sect.

Within a peculiar stele forest in the Dharma Sect.

Countless stone tablets stood firm atop the ground with a great number of runes carved onto them. Every piece of stone tablet represented a type of cultivation technique inside the stele forest.

“What a majestic looking stele forest!”

“Every stone tablet here represents a type of cultivation technique. By the gods, only the Dharma Sect can find and possess so many of them.”

1

“It’s very wonderful and powerful indeed.”

“Truly worthy of a sage orthodoxy. Their foundations are too strong.”

“I agree. Is this the second trial then?”

Similar to the others, Chu Kuangren was baffled as well.

Using his spiritual thoughts to do a rough scan of the area around him, he found out that there were at least eight thousand stone tablets in the forest, which meant that there were at least eight thousand techniques around them!

Even the Black Heaven Sect could not hope to come up with so many techniques.

Although all the techniques here were below the level of a Supreme Technique, the fact that there were so many was shocking enough. The Dharma Sect truly deserved that name.

“The second trial requires you to gain insights on one of the techniques inscribed on any stone tablet of your choosing. You must complete this task within three days!”

“If you fail to do so, you shall be disqualified.”

Su Tianyi said.

Everyone looked at each other, some dumbfounded by what they heard.

“Are you kidding me? Even if it’s the most general technique, being able to see results within three days is just crazy. How is this possible?”

“Where can anyone with such levels of understanding ever exist in this world?”

“You’re right, this is impossible.”

“This trial is just too hard.”

“I agree...”

Facing the crowd’s questions, Su Tianyi sneered. “The Dharma Sect has a hundred thousand disciples and every single one of them has managed to pass this trial.”

“While the more outstanding among them even managed to gain insights on ten techniques within three days, so don’t use your own weakness as an excuse. If you want to take the trial, just stay. If not, then leave. No one’s forcing you to do this.”

No one was willing to leave.

Even the cultivators who felt that the trial was hard only murmured. Since they were already here, why not give it a go then?

“If that’s the case, then let the trial begin.”

When Su Tianyi was done speaking, he smiled at Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu. "Based on your qualifications, I suppose it will not be a problem for you both. I shall await the good news from you two."

Although qualifications were not the same thing as understanding or gaining insights, generally speaking, a cultivator with good qualifications would not be that bad in terms of gaining insights as well.

After Su Tianyi left, Chu Kuangren looked at the countless stone tablets before him and smiled. "This stele forest is an interesting place."

As his spiritual thoughts did a sweep and scanned through each of the stone tablets, Chu Kuangren started to gain insights.

All those techniques may not be useful to Chu Kuangren, but they were countless in quantity and that was the advantage.

Besides, the techniques were various in kind and different in forms. It would be beneficial to Chu Kuangren in helping him with his Single Strike Technique.

Just when Chu Kuangren was starting to gain insights on the techniques, Lan Yu immediately entered a state of alert and stood guard around him. She wanted to prevent him from being disturbed by anyone.

"Young lady, there are plenty of techniques around this forest. Why don't you let us stand guard over the kid while you go and gain insights from some of them if you want."

Within the void, Honorable Qing Lan's voice was heard.

"There's no need."

Lan Yu shook her head because after all, she already had her Daoist techniques. Besides, gaining insights on a few more techniques would not bring many benefits to her at all.

Moreover, from her perspective, even if one has thousands of techniques, how could they compare to Chu Kuangren's single strand of hair?

Chapter 90: Gaining Insights into Eight Thousand Techniques Within The Stele Forest, Are You Kidding Me

"There are so many cultivation techniques here. Which one of them should we choose?"

"I agree, this is just too troublesome."

"Sighs, this is too hard."

"If we have to show results within three days, then it's not advisable to go for the harder and more advanced cultivation techniques. We can only choose the easier ones."

"Then let's go with the low-tier techniques then."

“Will the complexity of the technique we choose affect the results of this trial? Does that mean the more advanced the technique, the higher our grades will be, and it’ll be the opposite for weaker techniques too?”

“We’d need to choose properly if that’s the case.”

“No matter what, we should make a plan while taking our capabilities into consideration. Remember, we only have three days to do this.”

Inside the stele forest, the cultivators were stressing out on which technique they should gain insights into.

The number of cultivation techniques before them was just too plenty. Besides, there were all sorts of techniques that could be commonly found in the other schools of cultivation as well.

Some of them looked at Chu Kuangren and Lan Yu. Due to how crazy and horrifying their qualifications were, it had created lasting impressions within their minds.

They were curious to find out which cultivation techniques those two would choose.

However, everyone was stunned when they looked over.

Chu Kuangren was standing still with his eyes closed, while Lan Yu was standing beside him unmoved as well. She did not have the slightest intent to gain insights into any of the techniques on the stone tablets at all.

“What’s going on with them?”

“Did both of them decide not to do the trial?”

Everyone was puzzled, but they stopped bothering about them after a while. Now that they were busy with passing the trial, they had no time to care about Chu Kuangren.

Eventually, everyone chose a technique to gain insights on.

Only a few of them were left deliberating as they struggled to make a choice.

While everyone was busy choosing, Chu Kuangren had already wandered off into the sea of Daoist techniques. As his spiritual thoughts spread far and wide, the various techniques inscribed on the stone tablets appeared within the depths of his mind, and one by one, Chu Kuangren proceeded to gain insights into them at a rapid pace.

His Meditational Clarity Trait was utilized to its full extent!

Ten, twenty, thirty, fifty ...

A hundred, three hundred, five hundred...

It seemed like all Chu Kuangren had to do was glance upon the techniques once before he would gain insights into them. The whole process took no more than ten seconds.

As he gained insights on more and more techniques, his level of understanding started to deepen, and in turn, the speed at which he gained insights began to increase as well.

Various types of Daoist Rhymes soon started to form and swirl around Chu Kuangren's body. They include the Five Way Daoist Rhymes namely gold, wood, water, fire, earth, and also the Four Mystic Daoist Rhymes of ground, air, water, and flame.

There was also an extremely sharp Sword-based Daoist Rhyme among the techniques.

Moreover, the majestic palm technique which contained the Daoist Rhyme of rivers and mountains was also one of the techniques there.

There was even the all-changing finger technique and a long-range sword technique which...

Multiple types of Daoist Rhymes and techniques were all swirling around Chu Kuangren's body. It was so majestic, beautiful, and brilliant like a feast of Daoist techniques.

As the Daoist Rhymes became stronger and denser, multiple Transformations also materialized.

In the void, there were imaginary mountains and rivers, sword Qi everywhere, a massacre, violent winds, raging storms, icicle hails...

The Daoist Rhymes which took form startled the other cultivators who were gaining insights from the stone tablet techniques. They all looked towards Chu Kuangren with shock in their eyes.

“Holy sh*t, what the hell is this?”

“What’s he doing!”

“Why are there so many Daoist Rhymes and Transformations?”

Everyone was astonished yet dumbfounded at the same time.

On the other hand, a brilliant white light radiated from Lan Yu’s body. With a shiny and gorgeous silver-white armor on, her chilling gaze swept through the area as she firmly stood guard.

At that moment, no matter who they were, anyone who dared approach Chu Kuangren would be met with Lan Yu’s most powerful attack.

Not only did the Daoist Rhyme and Transformations that Chu Kuangren emitted, having gained insights into the thousands of techniques, alarm the cultivators inside the stele forest, but it too affected more than half of the area surrounding the Dharma Sect.

“What’s going on, why is a Daoist Rhyme like this here?”

“An assortment of Daoist Rhymes?”

“It’s coming from the stele forest. Did something happen?”

The higher-ups and elders of the Dharma Sect were all concerned and unsure, so they quickly headed to the stele forest to find out what was happening.

At that time outside the stele forest, Su Tianyi and a few other disciples were discussing the current trial. They were wondering how fast it would take this time.

“From what I can see, it’ll take at least one day I guess.”

“I agree. During the previous trials, which include the one that Senior Brother Su took part in, even the fastest one took three hours to complete.”

“Although they were generally common techniques, most cultivators will require a few or even up to ten years to study them if they don’t have a certain level of understanding.”

Su Tianyi and the others continued their discussion.

When it came to cultivation, not only was a person’s mere foundation key, but their understanding played an important part as well.

If there was no understanding, one would require ten days or more to produce results, while a normal person only required one day to achieve the same thing. It meant that those without proper understanding would be limited in what they could achieve in the end.

“Huh? Something’s happening inside.”

Su Tianyi’s expression suddenly changed into a frown.

Just when the few of them were surprised, a heavy surge of Daoist Rhyme erupted from within the stele forest and multiple Transformations started to form in the surrounding void.

“My... My god, what in the world is happening?”

“What’s happening inside there?”

Su Tianyi and the others rushed into the stele forest.

Just when they were about to set foot in it, the higher-ups and elders from the Dharma Sect had arrived too.

Everyone looked at each other when they saw Chu Kuangren who was under the Transformation.

“Brother Su, what is going on here?” One of the elders looked at Su Tianyi and asked curiously.

Su Tianyi shook his head. “Elder, I’m not sure as well. This person is one of the disciples who’s taking the recruitment trial. His qualification was so outstanding that even the stone test pillar could not measure it.”

At that, a few of the elders became bewildered.

“You mention that he’s one of the disciples taking the trial?” That time, an old man who was walking forward from the crowd asked with a very weird tone.

“Yes.”

“That’s impossible.” That old man laughed as he shook his head.

“Do you know who he is, elder?”

“Yes, I do. Even if you haven’t met him before, I’m sure you’ve all heard his name before. His name... is Chu Kuangren!” said that old man.

He had met Chu Kuangren before during the exploration to the Luminous Moon Secret Realm. He had also heard the news about Chu Kuangren visiting the various great orthodoxies. So regarding his sudden appearance here, the elder was a little shocked but he was not completely surprised.

‘Chu Kuangren...’

The moment those words came out, everyone at the scene gasped.

“So he’s Chu Kuangren!”

“My god, I’ve finally met Chu Kuangren.”

“Possessing such a fairy-like appearance, the rumors about Chu Kuangren are true. I can’t believe that’s really him.”

If one were to ask who was the most renowned person in the Azure Dragon Domain, who could it be?

Undoubtedly, that person would be the Black Heaven Sect’s Elder Senior Brother, Chu Kuangren!

‘Declaring war on the world, killing an Honorable Supreme, slaying a sage, becoming the Azure Dynasty’s Royal Princess’s fiancé, becoming the new White Lotus Bachelor Sage, and even winning against the Taixu Temple Lord in a mental sparring match...’

Any of those accomplishments were already shocking enough for everyone, not to mention every single accomplishment was achieved by a single person.

Su Tianyi was full of shock. “That guy is Chu Kuangren?”

“Yes, that’s him.” Sure of himself, the elder nodded.

“Then what’s he doing now?”

The old man then cautiously observed Chu Kuangren for a while. Immediately after, the old man was so astonished that his body trembled. “He’s trying to gain insights into the techniques inscribed in the stele forest! Not just one or two of them, but all of the techniques in here!”

“How’s this possible?”

The moment he said that, everyone present thought it was unbelievable.

‘How many techniques are there in the stele forest?’

‘At least eight thousand!’

‘Even the Dharma Sect’s Master himself may not know half of the techniques in this stele forest, yet you’re telling me that Chu Kuangren is trying to gain insights into every single one of them here?’

‘Such a thing is simply preposterous!’

‘No one will even believe this if we tell them!’

“Elder, are you messing with us?”