

Talisman 2001

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 2001: Fireshrine

Fuxi had a total of 14 disciples in Oracle Mountain, and they were called his personal disciples. The Second Founding Ancestor, Di Shun, was comparatively unique instead, and he still didn't have a single disciple.

Only the Third Founding Ancestor, Wen Daozhen, had spread and multiplied. At this point, he had around four generations of disciples, and his line had the most disciples in Oracle Mountain.

Tang Xian was the Eldest Disciple in Wen Daozhen's line. His status was extremely lofty, and it was around the same as Wu Xuechan.

Chen Xi had heard Tang Xian's name a long time ago when he'd just arrived at Oracle Mountain, and he was clearly aware that Tang Xian was almost a legendary figure at the Daolord Realm!

When he thought about how his Eldest Senior Brother, Wu Xuechan, was about to take him to visit such a figure, Chen Xi couldn't help but feel slight anticipation.

10 minutes later.

Om!

A wave of spatial fluctuation arose, and then Wu Xuechan and Chen Xi arrived within a Secret Realm that was filled with boundless flames.

The sky here seemed like it was burning while surging lava burned through the ground, causing tongues of flames to spray out while it seethed like an ocean of fire.

Numerous stars that seemed like scorching suns circulated high above in the sky while a rain of fire descended from them and whistled through the world here. This scene was extremely shocking and magnificent.

It was a kingdom of fire indeed. Everything here was covered in surging flames. As soon as they entered this world, Chen Xi felt like his entire body was burning, and it was oppressive to the point of being suffocation.

If it was any other ordinary cultivator, then person would have been melted to death in an instant upon stepping foot into this place!

However, such dangers were unable to harm both Wu Xuechan and Chen Xi.

"This is the Secret Realm of Fiery Refinement, and it's the place where Junior Brother Tang meditates. Junior Brother Tang Xian is a descendent of the Tang Clan which is one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans. He's innately capable of controlling the Laws of Fire, and his strength is so formidable that even I really admire him." Wu Xuechan explained swiftly, and it instantly caused Chen Xi to be shocked. He understood that this Senior Brother Tang Xian of his was actually an Innate God from the Divine Dao Protector Clans!

“Eldest Senior Brother, Little Junior Brother, you’re both here.” Right at this moment, a voice that was heavy like lightning suddenly resounded in this kingdom of fire. Along with this voice, an expanse of lava shot into the sky, and then it swiftly condensed into a crimson colored and mighty figure.

His crimson red hair fluttered, his appearance was cold and handsome, his skin was smooth like jade, and he wore a fiery red Daoist robe that was embroidered with pine trees while his bare feet stood on a divine lotus that flowed with a fiery glow.

He seemed like a supreme sun as he stood there casually, and he emanated brilliant radiance that was dazzling and resplendent as it illuminated the world. It even caused Chen Xi to feel a piercing pain in his eyes, and he didn’t dare look straight at this figure.

Especially this figure’s eyes. They were deep and radiant like fiery red gems, and they shined with a shocking fiery glow that simply seemed as if it could incinerate the sky.

It was naturally Tang Xian!

Wu Xuechan smiled as he nodded.

Chen Xi cupped his fists and said, “Senior Brother Tang Xian.”

“Little Junior Brother, there’s no need to adhere to formalities. Eldest Senior Brother has told me about it a long time, so I’ll naturally assist as best I can when we heard to Godrank Mountain this time.” Tang Xiao nodded and spoke in a heavy voice. Every single word he spoke rumbled like metal colliding and was extremely powerful.

He was clearly a decisive and straightforward person, and he didn’t waste his breath at all. As soon as he finished speaking, his figure flashed over to Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan, and then he said, “Eldest Senior Brother, let’s set out right now if everything is prepared.”

Wu Xuechan was clearly aware that Tang Xian’s character was like, so he didn’t waste his breath and said with a smile on his face, “I was waiting for you to lead the way.”

“Let’s go.” Tang Xian nodded, and then his figure immediately flashed. From the beginning until the end, he hadn’t spoken a single unnecessary word.

“Oh, Little Junior Brother, Tang Xian has always been like this. He’s extremely swift and decisive like fire. Once you’re familiar with each other, you’ll understand that your Senior Brother Tang Xiao is the most protective disciple in our Oracle Mountain.” Wu Xuechan smiled as he explained, and then he hurriedly brought Chen Xi along to chase after Tang Xiao.

At this point, Chen Xi finally understood that Wu Xuechan and Tang Xiao were actually going with him to Godrank Mountain, and their objective was naturally to get his parents back from the Chen Clan!

Chen Xi couldn’t help but feel extremely touched when he realized all of this. He’d never imagined that Wu Xuechan would have secretly made arrangements for everything.

At the same time, Chen Xi had a stronger feeling about how unusual this trip was.

After all, regardless of whether it was Wu Xuechan or Tang Xian, they were top-rate Daolords in the world, and the strengths they possessed was so formidable that it could absolutely be said to be extraordinary and beyond imagination.

Yet now, they'd actually set out together merely for the sake of heading to Godrank Mountain to get his parents from the Chen Clan. This clearly showed how extraordinary the Chen Clan was!

If it was any other power in the Ancient God Domain, then there would probably be no need for both of them to set out together.

Exactly how formidable is the Chen Clan... and the Divine Dao Protector Clans? Chen Xi couldn't help but arouse slightly complicated emotions in his heart. Even until now, he still found it slightly difficult to imagine that his father's origins were actually so shocking, and Chen Lingjun was actually related to the Divine Dao Protector Clans.

He even didn't dare imagine if he would have the ability to get his parents back if he relied solely on his current ability and didn't rely on the might of Oracle Mountain.

No wonder that they haven't contacted me until now. So they were actually confined in the Chen Clan.... But why would that have happened? Could it be that there's some sort of secret behind all of this? Chen Xi muttered in his heart.

On this day, Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan had set out under Tang Xian's lead, and they silently activated the sect's teleportation formation and left Oracle Mountain without alarming anyone.

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Swoosh! Swoosh!

Space fluctuated and swooshed like a gale.

Numerous universes flashed before their eyes. It was like walking into a boundlessly vast spatial tunnel, and it made Chen Xi entirely unaware of his whereabouts.

"Godrank Mountain is extremely unique. It stands towering at a secret place in the Imperial Region, and it's said to be the place closest to the Heaven Dao. It's impossible to head there by relying on ordinary methods." Wu Xuechan gave Chen Xi an explanation about Godrank Mountain while they were on the way there.

"Fortunately, your Senior Brother Tang Xian was born there, so we can arrive there smoothly with Tang Xiao leading the way. Otherwise, even with my ability, I would probably have to go through a lot of trouble to arrive there. In that way, we would probably be unable to arrive before the Chen Clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremony."

"Eldest Senior Brother, what exactly is the Ancestral Worship Ceremony?" Chen Xi seemed to be lost in thought as he spoke these words. Earlier, Wu Xuechan had said that he hadn't told Chen Xi about Chen Xi's parents' whereabouts because the time wasn't right.

Now, the time was right. So, as far as Chen Xi was concerned, this opportunity was probably related to the Chen Clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremony.

"It's very simple. It's just as its name implies. It's a grand event in the Chen Clan to worship their ancestors. A minor ceremony would be held every thousand years, and a major ceremony would be held every 10,000 years. The Ancestral Worship Ceremony this time just happens to be a major ceremony." Wu Xuechan spoke casually. "The biggest difference from the Chen Clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremonies of the past is that a successor for the position of Patriarch of the Chen Clan will be chosen from the direct line descendants of the Chen Clan!"

The selection of a successor? Chen Xi's eyes narrowed while he guessed in his heart. Could it be that it's related to our mission as well?

"Looks like even the Chen Clan has noticed that a huge and unpredictable event will occur in the Ancient God Domain soon, so it has started to make preparations beforehand." Suddenly Tang Xian who'd remained silent until now had spoken something that sounded incomprehensible.

"That's clearly the case. After all, the actual event is almost impossible to deduce, so it can be said that the future is unknown. So, it's absolutely normal for the Chen Clan to utilize the Ancestral Worship Ceremony to select a future successor as a means to deal with such an unpredictable event." Wu Xuechan's words allowed Chen Xi to faintly understand that the Chen Clan was actually doing all of this because of an unpredictable event that would occur in the future.

No wonder they intend to select a successor. Because if a mishap does occur, then they can avoid falling into chaos and have more methods to deal with the situation.... Chen Xi sighed with emotion in his heart.

"Little Junior Brother, you're the key to whether our trip will be successful or not. Tang Xian and I can only guarantee your safety." Wu Xuechan suddenly gazed at Chen Xi with a solemn expression. "It's an internal affair of the Chen Clan after all. So, it would become a completely different thing if Tang Xian and I were to forcefully interfere."

Even though Chen Xi didn't know the specifics of the plan, when he saw Wu Xuechan reveal a rare serious expression on his face, Chen Xi merely pondered briefly before he agreed.

"Eldest Senior Brother, do you think Little Junior Brother's cultivation at the Fourth Star of the Region Lord Realm is sufficient?" Tang Xian frowned.

"He has a 50% chance." Wu Xuechan pondered deeply for a moment before he spoke these words.

A 50% chance? Chen Xi's pupils constricted, and he had a stronger feeling about how unusual this trip was.

Clang!

Meanwhile, Tang Xian suddenly flipped his palm, and then a divine sword that was a little over a meter long, surging with flames, and branded with countless dense markings of the Dao had appeared in his palm.

As soon as it appeared, it let out a clear howl and emanated a horrifying aura. Surprisingly, it was a rare Natural Spirit Treasure!

“Little Junior Brother, this sword is called Fireshrine. It possesses extraordinary might. Take it.” Tang Xian gazed at Chen Xi as he spoke these words.

In an instant, it wasn't just Wu Xuechan but even Chen Xi who understood Tang Xian's intentions. Obviously, Tang Xian was worried about Chen Xi, so he intended to lend Chen Xi a hand by giving this treasure to Chen Xi.

Chen Xi instantly felt extremely touched by this. Because while his Senior Brother Tang Xian seemed extremely cold on the surface, he was warm on the inside, and he just had a different way of showing it.

Wu Xuechan glanced at Tang Xian with surprise, and then he spoke with a grin on his face. “Haha! This sword, Fireshrine, is extremely extraordinary. I'd once wanted to borrow it all those years ago, but Junior Brother Tang Xian refused. I never expected that he would actually take the initiative to lend it to you this time. Little Junior Brother, quickly take it!”

However, to both Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian's surprise, Chen Xi merely thought about it briefly before he shook his head and refused. “Senior Brothers, this sword's might is extraordinary indeed. However, I'm used to my Talisman Armament, and it's truly inadvisable for me to use a different treasure.”

This made Tang Xian frown, and he thought that Chen Xi was being stubborn.

Wu Xuechan chuckled and said, “Little Junior Brother, you don't have to be shy. Your Senior Brother Tang Xian is no outsider.”

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Chapter 2002: Her Origins

Chen Xi couldn't help but smile bitterly when he heard this because he knew that his senior brothers had misunderstood.

Chen Xi didn't speak further. He flipped his palm and withdrew the Talisman Armament, and then he passed it over to them and said, “Senior Brothers, please take a look.”

Tang Xian's brows knit together even more tightly when he muttered in his heart. Could it be that this kid's Talisman Armament can be more formidable than my Fireshrine?

He glanced over casually towards Chen Xi's Talisman Armament. In merely an instant, his eyes that were like fiery red gems had focused while he exclaimed with surprise.

After that, he took the Talisman Armament from Chen Xi, and then he stroked it lightly with his fingers while scanning it carefully in silence.

When he saw this, Wu Xuechan glanced at Chen Xi who seemed completely composed, and his gaze couldn't help but be drawn over to the sword.

In next to no time, his brows raised as he said, “Interesting!”

“No wonder you refused my Fireshrine.” Tang Xian passed the Talisman Armament to Wu Xuechan and said, “Eldest Senior Brother, take a close look as well. This treasure can be said to be rare to come by in a million generations. It's unprecedented. Since I've started cultivating until now, it's the first time that I've encountered such a unique Natural Spirit Treasure.”

"It's very miraculous." Wu Xuechan sized it up for a while before he returned it to Chen Xi and smiled. "You really don't need Fireshrine when you have this treasure in your possession."

Chen Xi smiled as he put the Talisman Armament away carefully.

Since he'd entered the Forgotten Grounds of Chaos to cultivate, he'd constantly stored the Talisman Armament within his body to devour, refine, and absorb the quintessence of other Natural Spirit Treasures throughout the time that he wasn't in battle.

This was why his Talisman Armament was formidable. It was merely a Talisman Armament comparable to an Artificial Spirit Treasure, but the refinement and nourishment from the Natural Spirit Foundation had transformed it into a true Natural Spirit Treasure.

It was common knowledge that Talisman Armaments had boundless possibilities of growth, and it had fully maintained this characteristic.

This made Chen Xi's Talisman Armament become unlike any other Natural Spirit Treasure.

At the bottom of it all, it was because the Talisman Armament possessed the might to devour, refine, and absorb other Natural Spirit Treasures. Such a miraculous ability could simply be considered as unprecedented and unique, and it was impossible for other Natural Spirit Treasures to compare to it.

As the years passed, the Talisman Armament had successively devoured 9 Natural Spirit Treasures, so its might had improved incessantly along with that.

Now, the quality of the Talisman Armament was even slightly superior to the Overarching Heaven Net and Copper Coin of Treasurefall. Even if it was compared to the Fireshrine sword that Tang Xian had offered to lend to him, they each had their own advantages and weren't inferior to each other at all.

That was the reason why Chen Xi had refused Tang Xian's kind intentions, and it wasn't because he didn't think highly of Fireshrine.

On the other hand, Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were extremely experienced and discerning, so they were instantly filled with admiration upon noticing the might of Chen Xi's Talisman Armament, and they understood why Chen Xi had refused to accept Fireshrine.

"Possessing this treasure is sufficient for Little Junior Brother to gain quite an advantage in battle. However, this trip is rather unusual, so it's best for you to be careful." Wu Xuechan thought for a moment before he reminded Chen Xi. "After all, even though your cultivation is sufficient for you to look down on a huge amount of your peers, it isn't quite strong when compared to some formidable members of the Divine Dao Protector Clans."

Chen Xi nodded while he pondered in his mind. Are those members of the Divine Dao Protector Clans that formidable?"

Little Junior Brother, you don't have to be too careful as well. So long as it's a battle, then regardless of who your opponent is, it's enough so long as you do your best." Tang Xian seemed to have thought of something and grunted coldly, "Even though the Divine Dao Protector Clans are formidable, they just have an innate advantage, and you don't have to care too much about it."

Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan exchanged glances, and then they couldn't help but smile.

Tang Xian himself was a descendant of the Divine Dao Protector Clans but he'd actually spoken such words, and it was truly unexpected to them.

Hmm? Right at this moment, Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian seemed to have noticed something, and their gazes were like bolts of lightning that shot towards the same direction in unison.

Bang!

It was even to the extent that Tang Xian hadn't hesitated to wave his palm, and then a fiery blade tore through the sky and slashed open a 30km long rift in space.

Everywhere that rift passed, the stars exploded into pieces and nothing could stop it. It was filled with an unimaginably terrifying force of destruction.

Swoosh!

When Chen Xi had reacted and looked over to investigate, he saw a seemingly ethereal shadow standing on a furnace. The shadow flashed and actually avoided Tang Xian's attack!

That was a ferocious attack of a Daolord, and the force behind it was extremely terrifying. However, that shadow had actually been able to dodge it and vanish abruptly. It was quite a shocking scene.

Who was that shadow? Could it be that person possesses the strength of a Daolord? But why would that person make an appearance here? Chen Xi's eyes narrowed slightly while a trace of a familiar feeling arose faintly in his heart. It was like he'd seen that shadow somewhere.

This discovery caused his heart to thump, and he had a stronger feeling that this matter was slightly strange.

"It was that woman." Wu Xuechan spoke abruptly while he had his hands behind his back, and his eyes were filled with a pondering expression.

"Oh, no wonder." Tang Xian nodded, and then he frowned and said, "She actually dared to follow us. Could it be that she wants to go against us?"

These words carried a murderous aura.

"Perhaps she has some other motive. She has killed a few Region Lords during the past few years, and it caused the world to be shocked and filled with fear. Even Daolord Xuan Ming from the Divine Institute had made a move, but he was only able to heavily injure her and failed to capture her. That's very unusual." Wu Xuechan had pondered briefly before he spoke these words.

"Indeed. Her combat strength is clearly inferior to a Daolord, so she's presumably a Region Lord. However, she was able to avoid my attack earlier. She truly is very extraordinary." Tang Xian seemed to have realized something when he spoke up to this point and said, "Perhaps it's related to that ancient furnace that she possesses."

"That's exactly what I think as well. That ancient furnace is very mysterious. Abundant and irresistible Karmic Luck is gathered within it, but I've never heard that the Ancient God Domain had such a treasure." Wu Xuechan's eyes were deep, and he seemed to be very interested in that ancient furnace.

Chen Xi was still bewildered when he heard up to here, and he could help but speak with an astounded expression. "Senior Brothers, you know that person from before?"

If Tu Meng was here, he would definitely be able to discern that this woman Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were speaking about was that mysterious woman of unknown origin and background.

During the 20 years when Chen Xi was in closed door cultivation to refine and absorb the Seal of the Shaman, this mysterious woman had caused a storm of blood in the Ancient God Domain, and it shocked the entire world. She was so famous from this that she even surpassed Chen Xi and became a figure who was the center of attention for everyone.

However, up until this point in time, no one had been able to determine her origins.

Wu Xuechan immediately explained about those incidents that had occurred in the Ancient God Domain during the recent years.

Chen Xi finally came to an understanding as well, and he couldn't help but speak while seeming to be lost in thought. "She was actually able to escape Daolords. That was is very inconceivable indeed."

When he thought up to here, a thought suddenly appeared in Chen Xi's heart. Could it be that she isn't... from this era?

For no rhyme or reason, Chen Xi recalled the furnace that had been auctioned off as the final item during an auction in South Sea Region's Treasure Exhibition.

At that time, he'd merely taken a glance at it, and it caused his soul to tremble while a shocking scene had suddenly appeared in his mind —

He saw a boundlessly vast expanse of the starry sky. A graceful figure sat cross-legged within the stone furnace while it traveled endlessly through space. It traversed numerous barriers between universes, successively traversed numerous chaotic regions, and 10 million years passed in the blink of an eye.

She maintained the same posture without changing it at all, and her entire body was enveloped by grey mist, causing it to be blurry. However, the outline she revealed allowed one to faintly discern that she possessed a peerlessly beautiful appearance.

She seemed to be tracking something down, and she constantly travelled forward in the dark corridors of space.

Yet she also seemed like she was avoiding something and had no choice but to move forward constantly as if she would suffer a calamity if she was slightly slower.

Time flowed by endlessly....

In the end, the graceful figure become more and more blurry, more and more indistinct as if it was about to be obliterated.

"Is it really... impossible to escape?"

Chen Xi still remembered that a faint sigh had resounded when the shocking scene had come to an end, and it was filled with boundless loneliness and sorrow.

At that time, Chen Xi felt indescribable loneliness envelop him. It was like the heavens and the earth had abandoned him, he'd lost all hope, was utterly dejected....

If that shocking scene hadn't vanished abruptly, then he would have lost control of his mental state and suffered from qi deviation!

According to Senior White's analysis, that furnace was an Era Artifact that was born during the last era. It was a treasure that had gathered the Karmic Luck of an entire era and was irreplaceable. Anyone who possessed it would receive the protection of the Heaven Dao, and it would be impossible for that person to die!

However, it was a sign of calamity in this era!

At the same time, Senior White had analyzed that the woman who was controlling the furnace was definitely searching for a way to avoid the destruction of her era....

At that time, Chen Xi felt that all of that was inconceivable, and he felt that it wasn't related to him at all.

But now, when he heard the rumors about that mysterious woman, Chen Xi couldn't help but link these two incidents together.

The more he thought about it in detail, the stronger he felt that the mysterious woman was probably that figure who was incessantly traveling through space on that furnace!

If they really are the same person, then why has she made an appearance in the Ancient God Domain and even killed so many Region Lords? What objective does she have? Why did she make an appearance near us just now?

Chen Xi fell into deep thought, and his thoughts flashed swiftly through his mind while he remained silent for a long time.

Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian noticed Chen Xi's unusual behavior, but they didn't think too much about it because they thought he was pondering about the mysterious woman.

After that unexpected event from before, the three of them had quickly recovered their calm and continued their journey along the boundless spatial tunnel....

A graceful and beautiful figure stood on an ancient furnace extremely far away in the depths of the boundless starry sky, and she muttered in a low voice. "The Savior.... He really didn't die in the Land of Catastrophe.... Looks like the Ultimate Path might really appear in this era."

Her entire body was enveloped by strands of obscure mist that made it impossible for others to see her appearance clearly. However, just her slender and graceful figure made her reveal beauty that shook the hearts of others.

"After countless years of time, I've finally found hope of transcendence. Please don't disappoint me...." As she muttered, she controlled the ancient furnace to travel through space and gradually vanished. It was like she hadn't existed at all just now, and she didn't leave the slightest trace behind.

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Chapter 2003: The Primal Chaos Origin

Three years passed by swiftly.

Chen Xi had never imagined that the journey to Godrank Mountain would actually consume such a huge amount of time.

After all, two Daolords, Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian, were leading the way, and their speed of teleportation was extraordinarily terrifying. But even then, there seemed to still be no end to their journey after three years had passed.

According to Tang Xian, it was Godrank Mountain in the end. It was the area that was closest to the Heaven Dao throughout the entire Ancient God Domain, so how could it be so easy to get to?

Chen Xi couldn't help but sigh with emotion because of this. He felt that it was understandable for his parents to have never contacted him throughout this period. The Godrank Mountain was too far away and ordinary people would probably find it impossible to head to, let alone his parents who were confined in the Chen Clan. It made it even more impossible for them to get in contact with the outside world.

Chen Xi hadn't been wasting his time during these three years of time, and he'd started to attempt to comprehend the Seal of the Martial. He wasn't refining and absorbing it, and he was merely comprehending its true profundities. In that way, so long as he was able to completely comprehend its profundities, he could refine and absorb it in one go when he'd grasped the critical moment to advance.

The Seal of the Martial represented the 7th Era, the Martial Civilization. Just like the Seal of the Shaman, it contained extremely vast inheritances, and it was naturally not easy to completely comprehend its profundities.

However, with the experience he'd obtained from refining and absorbing the Seal of the Shaman, Chen Xi had saved a huge amount of effort when he comprehended the Seal of the Martial.

In a short period of 3 years, Chen Xi had already comprehended almost 50% of its profundities, and this such speed could simply be described as amazing when compared to how long it took for him to refine and absorb the Seal of the Shaman.

Of course, he was merely comprehending its profundities, and he would have to exhaust some time to refine and absorb it as well.

In the blink of an eye, five more years had passed.

On this day, Chen Xi's figure suddenly shook while he was comprehending the Seal of the Martial in a meditative state. He returned to his senses and stared blankly ahead while seeming to desire to continue his comprehension.

At practically the exact same time, Tang Xian's cold voice resounded by his ears. "We're here."

We're here? Chen Xi's mind cleared up completely, and he raised his eyes to look over. He saw that they were standing on an extremely empty, mysterious, and quiet expanse of the starry sky.

Numerous bright and dazzling stars were circulating here in a dense and vast expanse.

Shockingly, an immeasurably tall and extremely lofty divine mountain stood towering in the depths of the starry sky!

It was truly too tall and huge. It stood towering amidst the myriad of stars, and it was like the pillar that held this expanse of the starry sky up. It was mighty, lofty, and caused others to feel tiny from just looking at it from afar.

Its aura was unique as well. It felt like it was born amidst the supreme Heaven Dao, and it was covered by Divine Chains of Order that descended from the sky. They were like a dense expanse of waterfalls that covered the entire mountain while emanating a supremely dignified aura.

Moreover, it made the hearts of others tremble while they felt oppressive and suffocating pressure crush down into the depths of the heart. It made them simply wish for nothing more than to prostrate themselves in worship and not dare arouse any disrespectful thoughts.

That was Godrank Mountain!

A supreme mountain that had existed even before the Ancient God Domain was born, and it was a forbidden area that was closest to the Heaven Dao. Since the ancient times until now, only a small number of Daolords had been able to step foot on Godrank Mountain and comprehend the most quintessential profundities of the Heaven Dao!

According to legend, the extremely mysterious Godrank Chart was hidden at the peak of this mountain. Moreover, its force had fused with the Heaven Dao and enveloped the Ancient God Domain, causing it to be unfathomably miraculous and inviolable.

At the instant he laid eyes upon this mountain, Chen Xi had a feeling of being restrained, frozen, suffocated, and pressured to the point of kneeling. It caused even his soul to be unable to help but tremble incessantly with fear.

However, in merely an instant, the River Diagram fragments that were deathly silent within the depths of his sea of consciousness had silently emanated a ripple, and this ripple resolved the unusual state Chen Xi was in and allowed him to instantly recover.

Chen Xi was very clearly aware that if the River Diagram hadn't lent him a hand, then he would probably be forced to his knees, and he would have any room to resist at all!

This clearly showed how shocking the Godrank Mountain was, and it possessed supreme power that could compare with the Heaven Dao.

However, to his surprise, while the River Diagram's assistance was within his expectations, it hadn't revealed any emotions of rejection and detest this time. Moreover, it had fallen once more into deep sleep upon helping him deal with invisible pressure that he suffered from.

Before Chen Xi could try to figure it out, he was led along by Tang Xian and Wu Xuechan towards the starry sky in the distance.

In next to no time, Chen Xi saw an enormous chaotic object that was shaped like a hive floating below Godrank Mountain.

This object couldn't be considered to be huge when compared with Godrank Mountain, but it seemed extraordinarily huge when compared with the stars in the surroundings.

Chen Xi could clearly notice that the myriad of stars were flowing like rays of light around the chaotic object. They were like a host of stars that were circling the moon, and it seemed extremely inconceivable.

It made him feel as if he was looking at a chaotic region!

"That's the Primal Chaos Origin." Tang Xian pointed at the chaotic object in the distance and said, "All the Divine Dao Protector Clans live within it. Every single one of them occupy a different plane within the Primal Chaos Origin. The forces of the Chen Clan can only be considered as average amongst the Divine Dao Protector Clans, and they reside within the Nine Spirit World of the Primal Chaos Origin."

The Primal Chaos Origin! Chen Xi was extremely surprised when he heard these words. Because based on what its name implied, then wasn't it where the Chaos was born?

Sure enough, in the next moment, Wu Xuechan explained in a light voice. "Little Junior Brother, you're probably unaware but the Primal Chaos Origin is the only remaining object after the Chaos of the three dimensions had been split open, and it's filled with the most quintessential Chaos Energy. The descendants of the Divine Dao Protector Clans are only able to become Innate Gods upon birth because they reside within it."

The meaning behind these words was that the reason those descendants of the Divine Protector Clans possessed the strength of a god on birth was closely linked to the Primal Chaos Origin.

After he found out about all of this, Chen Xi couldn't help but sigh with emotion. When compared to these Divine Dao Protector Clans, those so-called geniuses of the world are really nothing worth mentioning.

Because while others were working hard to prepare themselves to charge into the realm of gods, these descendants of the Divine Dao Protector Clans were gods on birth.

Moreover, they resided in the Primal Chaos Origin and were just beside Godrank Mountain. So, it allowed them to comprehend the most complete force of the Heaven Dao with greater ease. They were simply like the favorites of the heavens and were favored by the Heaven Dao!

When facing these Divine Dao Protector Clans who possessed an absolute advantage on birth, the other cultivators in the world were utterly unable to compare with them at all.

This was the resources and reserves possessed by the Divine Dao Protector Clans!

If it was in terms of birth, all of them were innate gods on birth!

If it was in terms of resources, then the Divine Dao Protector Clans resided in the Primal Chaos Origin which was the area closest to the Heaven Dao.

If it was in terms of cultivating, the Divine Dao Protector Clans had experienced the passage of countless years until now, so the vastness of the techniques they'd accumulated was obvious.

Under such circumstances, how could the cultivators of the outside world compare to them at all?

This indirectly displayed why the Divine Dao Protector Clans were formidable, and it wasn't without reason that Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian didn't dare underestimate them.

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The Primal Chaos Origin seemed to be just a short distance away, but an actually far distance actually remained in order to approach it. This was because it was truly too enormous.

Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan teleported an entire 7 days longer under Tang Xian's lead before they finally came close to the Primal Chaos Origin.

Meanwhile, Chen Xi finally saw it clearly. The Primal Chaos Origin was right below Godrank Mountain. It was shaped like a beehive and numerous enormous holes that were like spatial black holes resided on its surface. Moreover, thick Chaos Energy coiled around it, causing it to seem even more mysterious.

"The dense holes that cover it are passageways that lead to different planes. We have to notify them of our arrival before entering them, otherwise, we would suffer unpredictable attacks before we can even approach them." Tang Xian explained casually before he directly led Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan towards one of the passageways.

It was said to be a passageway, but it was extremely enormous and comparable to a black hole. Surging Chaos Energy enshrouded and surged through it, and it seemed mysterious and unfathomable.

Swoosh!

Tang Xian casually withdrew a simply bronze token before he tossed it ahead. The bronze token instantly transformed into a ray of light that shot into the passageway and vanished.

"This is the passageway that leads to the Chen Clan's Nine Spirit World. I've sent over my Identity Token as a member of the Tang Clan just now, and it won't be long before they come to welcome us." Tang Xian spoke casually. "If it was any other cultivator from the outside world, then it would probably difficult to enter the Nine Spirit World. Because these Divine Dao Protector Clans only recognize their own, and they look down upon the cultivators of the outside world."

"They really are as proud as the rumors said." Wu Xuechan smiled.

"Proud? I think they're thickheaded and self-satisfied." Tang Xian laughed in a carefree manner. Even though he was from the Divine Dao Protector Clans as well, he wasn't fond of them, and his tone was filled with disdain when he spoke of them.

At this moment, Chen Xi didn't think took much about it. His emotions couldn't help but fluctuate as he gazed at the passageway that led to the Nine Spirit World and thought of his parents who were trapped there, and he wished for nothing more than to immediately charge in and get his parents back.

"Little Junior Brother, you must maintain your calm and composure when the time comes." Wu Xuechan reminded.

"Don't worry Eldest Senior Brother, I understand." Chen Xi took a deep breath, and his eyes became extremely calm.

“So it’s a Fellow Daoist from the Tang Clan who had come to visit. Please come in quickly.” Right at this moment, a bright and clear voice resounded from the depths of the passageway. Moreover, the Chaos Energy that surrounded the passageway had suddenly split apart when this voice resounded, and it was like a door had been opened.

“Let’s go.” Tang Xian directly soared into the air with Chen Xi and Wu Xuechan, and he charged into the passageway and vanished in an instant.

“The Primal Chaos Origin? Why have they come here? This is slightly troublesome....” Not long after Chen Xi’s group had just left, a graceful figure floated over from extremely far away in the starry sky.

She stood on a large furnace while her entire body was enshrouded by obscure mist. She gazed for a long time at the direction that Chen Xi’s group had vanished towards, and then she sighed faintly in the end yet didn’t follow them.

Swoosh!

Her figure flashed towards the starry sky at the side, and then she vanished without a trace. She seemed to have hidden herself to wait for something, yet it also seemed like she’d really left....

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 2004: Glory Of The Pas

Shriek!

An extremely beautiful Bi Fang with gorgeous wings fluttered through the air, and it circled around in the clear blue sky above them before it tore through the sky and left.

Nine Winger Serpents that were over 30km long wriggled through the sky behind it and teleported forward.

On the ground, a water Qilin was lying lazily at the side of a river, and it had its eyes closed as it bathed beneath the sun in a carefree and leisurely manner.

A group of Dragon Butterflies that were shaped like ordinary butterflies yet had multicolored scales were holding numerous divine herbs that emanated rays of essence, and they ceaselessly delivered these divine herbs into the water Qilin’s mouth before it crunched it up and swallowed them.

In the distance, mountains rose and fell while a city could be faintly noticed in the distance, and it stretched on until the end of the sky.

...

After Chen Xi’s group passed through the passageway, these scenes were the first thing that entered their fields of vision. An azure blue sky, verdant mountains, gurgling rivers, fluttering birds, and divine beasts in the surroundings. A picturesque scene covered their field of vision, and it was like they were in a paradise that was isolated from the world.

The aura of the Heaven Dao here was extremely warm and pure. It existed everywhere like sunlight, and it caused the heavens and the earth to be filled with Innate Chaos Energy that was visible to the eye.

There was no doubt that this was definitely a paradise of cultivation, and the so-called paradises of the world were simply nothing before it.

According to Chen Xi's deduction, no matter how terrible a cultivator's natural endowment was, that cultivator wouldn't have to worry about advancing in his cultivation if he was able to cultivate here!

This was the Nine Spirit World, an independent plane established within the Primal Chaos Origin, and it was the residence of one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans, the Chen Clan.

Swoosh!

Right when Chen Xi and the others had just arrived here, a wave of fluctuation had suddenly appeared in space, and then an enormous divine beast Bi'an that looked like a dragon had appeared before them.

The Bi'an's bell sized eyes suddenly locked onto Tang Xian who was in the lead. However, it instantly revealed a wisp of respect upon noticing Tang Xian's extremely terrifying cultivation and asked in a low voice. "Fellow Daoist from the Tang Clan, may I know why you've come?"

"Go notify Chen Lingkong that Tang Xian has come to pay him a visit." Tang Xian instructed.

"You're actually a friend of Supreme Elder Lingkong. Please wait a moment. I'll be right back." The Bi'an seemed to be surprised, and then a divine glow flashed through its entire body before it swiftly vanished on the spot.

"Chen Lingkong?" Wu Xuechan glanced at Tang Xian with surprise. "I remember him, he seems to be...."

"Chen Lingjun's younger brother." Tang Xian gave the answer directly. "However, he's much more inferior to Chen Lingjun's from all those years ago."

"What?" Chen Xi was shocked in his heart. Father's younger brother?

Even if he was clearly aware that Chen Lingkong was his father's younger brother, Chen Lingkong was merely a relative of Chen Lingjun's before he'd reincarnated, so there wasn't any relationship between Chen Lingkong and him.

However, Chen Xi still couldn't avoid feeling shocked when he heard this piece of news. Because he'd heard that Bi'an address Chen Lingkong as Supreme Elder!

The Chen Clan was one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans, yet Chen Lingkong was actually able to possess such a lofty status, and this obviously showed how high Chen Lingjun's status in the Chen Clan was before he'd reincarnated!

Chen Xi couldn't help but ask. "Eldest Senior Brother, exactly what sort of status did my father possess in the Chen Clan before he reincarnated?"

"You'll have to ask your Senior Brother Tang Xian about that." Wu Xuechan looked over towards Tang Xian.

Tang Xian didn't conceal anything and spoke frankly. "All those years ago, Chen Lingjun could be considered a first-rate figure in the Chen Clan. Both his ability and strength were extraordinary, and he was extremely famous even throughout all the Divine Dao Protector Clans."

After that, Tang Xian described some things related to Chen Lingjun in a concise manner.

It turned out that Chen Lingjun possessed extraordinary natural talent and peerless ability all those years ago, and he was called the number one expert of the Chen Clan.

All those years ago, the Chen Clan was just an extremely ordinary low level clan amongst the Divine Dao Protector Clans, and it was even to the extent that it didn't possess a plane of its own. It could only share a plane in the Primal Chaos Origin with other low level clans.

However, along with Chen Lingjun's mighty rise, he'd overcome the situation in one go, and he'd led the entire clan to war and had forcefully gained a plane in the Primal Chaos Origin for the Chen Clan. He'd taken over the Nine Spirit World, and it became the place where the Chen Clan resided.

At that time, numerous other Divine Dao Protector Clans had sighed with emotion that the Chen Clan's rise couldn't be stopped with Chen Lingjun's presence. It was even to the extent that some felt that Chen Lingjun had a very good chance to lead the Chen Clan into the ranks of high level clans.

However, it was at exactly such a time that something unexpected had occurred to Chen Lingjun. For some unknown reason, he'd actually taken a precious treasure of the Chen Clan and chosen to reincarnate himself!

As soon as this incident occurred, it wasn't just the Chen Clan who was shocked by it, even all the other Divine Dao Protector Clans felt that it was inconceivable and unbelievable.

However, it had occurred. So, regardless of whether they believed it or not, it was impossible to undo any longer!

Since then, the Chen Clan had fallen to silence, and it didn't rise up like a ray of light anymore. It was even to the extent that the Chen Clan's forces gradually showed signs of decline along with the passage of time.

Now, the Chen Clan was only barely able to maintain its status as an intermediate level clan, and it could only be considered as a second-rate power amongst all the Divine Dao Protector Clans. It was stronger than the low level clans, but it was weaker than the other intermediate level clans.

...

After he heard all of this, Chen Xi fell into a long period of silence, and his emotions were extremely complicated.

Never had he imagined that his father actually possessed such peerless divine might all those years ago, and his father had actually helped the Chen Clan turn its situation around and soar into the sky by himself. He'd forcefully opened up a new world for the Chen Clan amongst the Divine Dao Protector Clans.

However, circumstances changed with the passage of time, and his father was imprisoned by the Chen Clan while his fate itself was unknown. Chen Xi found such a change to be quite difficult to accept.

Why? Why exactly did that happen? Why did father insist on leaving and reincarnating all those years ago? Since he reincarnated, then why did he choose to return to the Chen Clan in the end?

Chen Xi was unable to figure it out, but he was sure that some sort of reason was definitely hidden behind all of this!

Chen Xi couldn't help but ask. "Senior Brother Tang Xian, then do you know why they'd imprisoned my father?"

Tang Xian shook his head. "I don't know the answer to that. After all, it's an internal secret of the Chen Clan. Even if it's within the Chen Clan, there are probably only a few that know the answer. Perhaps you'll know the answer after you rescue your father."

Chen Xi couldn't help but feel slightly disappointed, and then he took a deep breath while his determination to rescue his parents grew even stronger.

Swish!

The space in the distance suddenly roiled, and then a ray of divine light shot through the sky and across the world like an arched bridge that descended towards them.

Over 10 figures stood on the divine ray of light. All of them possessed a natural divine aura, an extraordinary imposing aura, and seemed very extraordinary.

The person in the lead was a middle aged man who wore a loose coat with a large girdle. He had elegant hair and a beard, a dignified appearance, and an oppressive imposing aura.

At this moment, he had his hands behind his back as he arrived on the divine ray of light. Even though he was standing there silently without moving, he emanated a supreme aura that looked down upon all living beings and seemed to control the world.

Obviously, he was a Daolord!

"He's the Chen Clan's current Supreme Elder, Chen Lingkong, and he's in-charge of all matters within the Chen Clan. Since Chen Lingjun vanished all those years ago, he'd instantly leaped up in rank to become the person with the greatest authority in the Chen Clan." Tang Xian spoke quickly via voice transmission and provided an explanation on the middle aged man's identity. "Of course, he merely possesses monstrous authority, the Chen Clan still has a few extraordinary seniors that are like 'living fossils' by now. They are the true foundation of the Chen Clan."

The meaning behind his words was that while Chen Lingkong possessed monstrous authority, his strength wasn't the best in the Chen Clan.

"He's inferior to Chen Lingjun indeed. His aura is on par with the Sovereign Sect's Mo Lin at most." Wu Xuechan smiled as he judged Chen Lingkong via voice transmission.

As they spoke amongst themselves, Chen Lingkong had led the group over and moved over to welcome them.

"Haha! I never expected that Fellow Daoist Tang Xian would actually come in person. What a rare guest!" Chen Lingkong roared with laughter as he came forward to chat with Tang Xian.

"After so many years, Fellow Daoist is imposing as always. It's truly worthy of congratulations." Tang Xian spoke flatly before he introduced Wu Xuechan. "This is my Oracle Mountain's Eldest Senior Brother, Wu Xuechan. I presume you've heard of him."

Chen Lingkong's brows raised, and he seemed to be slightly surprised. After that, he smiled and cupped his fists as he said, "So it's the Grand Lord of Oracle Mountain. It's our first meeting, so please forgive me for any carelessness."

"Fellow Daoist, don't mention it." Wu Xuechan smiled.

"He is?" This time, Chen Lingkong's gaze had shot over towards Chen Xi before Tang Xian could introduce Chen Xi. At this instant, his pupils constricted imperceptibly upon noticing Chen Xi's appearance, but he quickly recovered his calm, and it was definitely impossible to notice if one didn't watch him carefully.

However, Chen Xi had still acutely noticed this minute detail, and his heart instantly shook. Could he have recognized me?

"Eh!" However, Tang Xian was still unable to introduce Chen Xi this time because a young woman before Chen Lingkong had exclaimed with surprise. "His appearance is really familiar. It feels like I've seen him somewhere?"

"Right, I have the exact same feeling."

"Why do I feel like his appearance is slightly similar to those criminal, Chen Lingjun and his wife Zuoqiu Xue?"

Some unintentional words of the young woman had made all the other clansmen of the Chen Clan to speak in succession, and their gazes towards Chen Xi carried a wisp of a strange expression.

However, Chen Xi couldn't be bothered to pay attention to all of that. He felt like he was struck by lightning when he heard them call his parents criminals, and then a strand of indescribably rage suddenly surged into his heart, causing him to almost lose control!

Right at this moment, a large palm pressed down upon his shoulder, and then a strand of warm energy swept out from within it and instantly calmed Chen Xi.

Chen Xi glanced over and saw Wu Xuechan smiling at him.

At this point, Chen Xi had calmed down completely.

"Silence! What would others think of our Chen Clan when all of you act so noisily in front of distinguished guests?" Chen Lingkong frowned and berated them, and then he turned around and smiled at both Tang Xian and Wu Xuechan. "The Juniors aren't well-versed in etiquette, please don't take it to heart. Please follow me to the clan's Guest Hall."

No one knew if he'd done it intentionally or not, but he'd actually not asked for Chen Xi's name again.

Tang Xian and Wu Xuechan exchanged glances imperceptibly when they heard this, and then they nodded and said, "Of course."

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 2005: Descendants of the Chen Clan

The Nine Spirit World was established within the Primal Chaos Origin, so it was extraordinary, divine, gorgeous, and unlike anything the outside world could compare to. It was like something that even surpassed a miracle of nature.

The Chen Clan resided here, and after the passage of countless years, the resources and reserves were unimaginable as well.

Their group moved forward under Chen Lingkong's lead, and Chen Xi saw continuous mountains, numerous vast lakes, beasts on both the land and sky, divine herbs, picturesque landscapes, and all sorts of grand scenes all along the way.

Row upon row of ancient buildings were situated throughout the boundlessly vast landscape, and they seemed to extend endlessly into the distance. It was an extremely magnificent scene.

However, Chen Xi didn't have the mood to admire all of this right now. He'd been constantly pondering on a single thing.

The criminal Chen Lingjun? Exactly what crime had father committed all those years ago?

Chen Xi couldn't figure it out. However, the conversation from before had allowed him to confirm that both his father and mother were really being imprisoned within the Chen Clan right now!

On the other hand, based on Chen Lingkong's attitude, he'd clearly roughly guessed Chen Xi's identity, but he just happened to act as if he was unaware. This was quite thought provoking.

No matter what, I have to get them back! Chen Xi muttered in his heart while his determination became firm to the extreme.

Since he'd started cultivating, his greatest wish had been to find his parents, and he'd travelled through the cultivation world for countless years in order to accomplish this wish. From a tiny place like Pine Mist City, he'd overcome all the obstacles before him and killed his way through the southern territory and risen in the Darchu Dynasty. He surmounted the Primeval Battlefield to step into the grand and magnificent Dark Reverie. After that, he ascended into the Immortal Dimension from the Dark Reverie before entering the Ancient God Domain from there....

All along the way, he'd experienced countless bloody battles and frustrations, and he'd even encountered innumerable tribulations of life and death. Wasn't all the hard work he'd put in just so that he could be reunited with his parents?

Now, this wish was right within reach, so Chen Xi would naturally not miss this opportunity that he'd been seeking for so long!

...

10 minutes later, Chen Lingkong who was leading the way ahead had suddenly stopped, and then he smiled as he pointed towards the distance. "Fellow Daoists, please take a look. My clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremony that's held every 10,000 years will be held there 15 days from now."

Chen Xi instantly awoke from his deep thought, and then he raised his eyes to look over. He saw five towering peaks standing extremely far away in the distance.

Those five peaks stood together to form a pentagon of the five elements, and they were enshrouded with divine radiance. If one looked down from the sky, it just happened to form a seemingly complete circle, and it was like the circle of Taichi.

At this moment, these five peaks were jointly protecting an ancient and lofty altar at their center. It covered an area of 30km, towered into the sky, and emanated an aura of ancientness.

Besides that, an extremely brilliant white colored Natural Spirit Flame was burning at the center of the altar. The radiance of the flame shot into the sky, and it seemed extremely divine as it illuminated the world in an expanse of dazzling brilliance.

Even from very afar away, one could hear vast rumbling of the Dao that sounded like the tune of nature spreading out from the altar. It was an enlightening tune that reverberated through the heavens and the earth.

It was the Chen Clan's altar for worship. It was created by the ancestors of the Chen Clan, and it was filled with mighty energy of totems. It represented the dignity and history of the Chen Clan.

Normally, the altar was like a forbidden area, and even the clansmen of the Chen Clan were absolutely prohibited from approaching it.

"So, we came at just the right time. It just happens that we can seize this opportunity to watch and admire the unparalleled splendor of the Chen Clan." Wu Xuechan smiled as he spoke indifferently.

Tang Xian neither agreed nor disagreed to this, and his expression was cold as before.

Chen Lingkong laughed lightheartedly and said, "My Chen Clan is honored to have the Grand Lord and Fellow Daoist Tang Xian watching the ceremony."

He paused for a moment, and then he glanced imperceptibly at Chen Xi before he said to Wu Xuechan while he smiled, "Right, perhaps Grand Lord is unaware of it but my Chen Clan will be selecting a successor for the position of Patriarch during the Ancestral Worship Ceremony. At that time, Grand Lord can help examine those little fellows during the selection. It would be even better if the next successor was able to obtain Grand Lord's favor."

Wu Xuechan smiled, and he waved his hand. "You're too kind, Fellow Daoist."

However, Chen Lingkong sighed with emotion and said, "Alas, actually, since my older brother left without saying a word, the clan has undergone unexpected events in succession. It caused the position of Patriarch to be empty, and we've still been unable to choose a true leading figure for the clan. If it wasn't for that, then my Chen Clan wouldn't have fallen into a gradual decline...."

Wu Xuechan nodded and said, "That's quite bad indeed."

Chen Lingkong roared with laughter and didn't speak further. He led the group and flew forward.

...

It wasn't long before they arrived at a grand hall that was ancient, imposing, and elegantly decorated.

After all of them took their seats, beautiful female attendants had served a superb collection of fine wine and delicacies, and they poured tea for Wu Xuechan, Tang Xian, and Chen Xi as well. They were extremely courteous.

This clearly showed that Chen Lingkong took Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian's visit extremely seriously, and he didn't dare act disrespectfully at all.

It was quite normal. Wu Xuechan was the Eldest Disciple amongst the personal disciples of Oracle Mountain, and he was even an extraordinary Daolord as well. Moreover, if it was in terms of status, then even a great figure from amongst the Divine Dao Protector Clans like Chen Lingkong had to be courteous to Wu Xuechan.

On the other hand, Tang Xian's status was very special as well. He wasn't just a disciple of Oracle Mountain, he was even a descendent of the Tang Clan which was one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans as well, so Chen Lingkong didn't dare treat Tang Xian shabbily as well.

After all, the Tang Clan was a high level clan amongst the Divine Dao Protector Clans, and the Chen Clan was inferior to it in both resources and reserves.

So, under such circumstances, a Supreme Elder of the Chen Clan like Chen Lingkong didn't dare act disrespectfully or be lacking in his treatment towards them.

Besides Chen Lingkong, Chen Xi, Wu Xuechan, and Tang Xian, there were also some other clansmen of the Chen Clan here.

There were both men and woman amongst them. All of them possessed extraordinary imposing auras and natural divine auras. Even though they weren't Daolords, every single one of them was a Region Lord, and there was quite a few of them!

After some time of small talk, Chen Lingkong pointed at those clansmen of the Chen Clan and said with a smile on his face, "Please take a look, these are some descendants of my clan. They'll be participating in the competition to become the successor of the clan during the Ancestral Worship Ceremony as well."

His voice was filled with pride.

Wu Xuechan glanced at them and said, "Not bad, not bad. All of them are extraordinary geniuses indeed."

"Hahaha! Even I feel honored that they were able to obtain such praise from the Grand Lord." Chen Lingkong roared with laughter.

All of those clansmen of the Chen Clan had smiles on their faces, and they were in high spirits.

However, right at this moment, Tang Xian who'd been silent with a cold expression on his face had suddenly spoken. He said, "Even though they are not bad, they haven't matured fully. Perhaps they'll be able to take on heavy responsibility if they're tempered more for some time."

Just these words alone caused the atmosphere in the hall to freeze.

Even though Tang Xian was a disciple of Oracle Mountain, he was a descendent of the Tang Clan. Now that he'd spoken such words, the meaning behind it was slightly different.

If one wasn't aware of the current situation, they would think that Tang Xian was ridiculing and mocking the Chen Clan.

However, even if Tang Xian didn't have such an intention, these words still made Chen Lingkong and the others feel slightly uncomfortable.

"Haha! Fellow Daoist Tang Xian is right. However, as far as I'm concerned, even if they haven't matured fully, it doesn't represent that they won't be able to gain great power in the future. As for tempering, the path of cultivation is filled with constant tempering. So, the Ancestral Worship Ceremony that's being held 15 days from now can be considered as a form of tempering for them as well." Chen Lingkong pondered deeply for a moment, and then he suddenly smiled and said, "Not to mention that this is only a portion of the best descendants of my Chen Clan, and there are some even more formidable descendants who're in closed door cultivation right now. Fellow Daoist Tang Xian would be able to see them once the Ancestral Worship Ceremony begins. Haha! At that time, perhaps they'll be able to pleasantly surprise Fellow Daoist Tang Xian."

His words were neither arrogant nor humble, and it was filled with the style of a great figure.

Tang Xian shook his head instead, and he said, "That's far from being a pleasant surprise. However, I would really be pleasantly surprised if one person was participating in it."

Chen Lingkong said with surprise, "Oh, may I know which clansmen of my Chen Clan that Fellow Daoist Tang Xian looks favorably upon?"

The other clansmen of the Chen Clan felt extremely curious as well.

Right amidst the gazes of everyone, Tang Xian pointed at Chen Xi and said, "Him."

Him?

Chen Lingkong and all the other clansmen of the Chen Clan were astounded when they saw that it was Chen Xi, and they almost doubted their hearing.

But right after that, the corners of Chen Lingkong's mouth twitched imperceptibly, and he seemed to have come to an understanding, causing his countenance to turn slightly gloomy.

At the moment, Chen Xi finally had a faint understanding of his senior brothers' intentions. They seemed to intend for him to participate in the Chen Clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremony!

If it was like that, then it was really possible. After all, if he won the qualifications to become the successor of the Chen Clan, then his hopes of rescuing his parents would definitely be much greater!

The only problem was that he wasn't a true descendant of the Chen Clan, and he was a child of Chen Lingjun's after Chen Lingjun had reincarnated. If the matter of his identity wasn't resolved, then it would be impossible for him to participate in the competition.

Right when Chen Xi's thoughts were flashing through his mind, Chen Lingkong had revealed an emotionless expression as he spoke indifferently. "Fellow Daoist Tang Xian, are you joking?"

Tang Xian frowned and said, "I never joke."

These words alone made Chen Lingkong's face turn gloomy, and he fell into silence. He'd vaguely guessed the objective behind Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian's arrival.

"Senior, the Ancestral Worship Ceremony is an internal matter of my Chen Clan, and all its participants are clansmen of my Chen Clan. Outsiders aren't allowed to participate in it." While Chen Lingkong remained silent, a clansman of the Chen Clan couldn't refrain from speaking first. He was extremely handsome, radiating strength and vitality, and his voice was powerful and resolute. It seemed like he was blaming Tang Xian for Tang Xian's intentions to interfere in the matters of the Chen Clan.

"Yes, Senior's actions are quite inappropriate."

The others spoke in succession, and there were some that even gazed at Chen Xi with a trace of hostility.

"An outsider?" A wisp of a thought provoking arc arose on the corners of Tang Xian's mouth, and he said, "All of you're probably unaware of it but my Little Junior Brother is Chen Lingjun's descendant. So, could it be that it's really inappropriate to allow him to participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony that's being held this time?"

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 2006: A Subtle Dispute

A descendant of Chen Lingjun?

The atmosphere in the hall instantly became deathly silent. All the descendants of the Chen Clan opened their eyes wide and seemed to be filled with disbelief.

Besides Chen Xi's group of three, there was only a single person that had maintained his composure, and it was Chen Lingkong. However, he still couldn't avoid frowning when he heard Tang Xian expose Chen Xi's identity. He was slightly displeased, but he restrained himself in the end.

At this point, Tang Xian stopped speaking nor did he strive for anything. He seemed to be confident that Chen Lingkong wouldn't dare to refuse.

After a short while, Wu Xuechan was the first to break the silence, and he said, "Fellow Daoist, what do you think of my Junior Brother Tang Xian's suggestion?"

"No! Even if he's a descendant of that criminal, Chen Lingjun, he doesn't have any qualification to participate in the competition to become the successor of the clan!" That extremely handsome youth from before was unable to restrain himself before Chen Lingkong could even speak, and he stood up and spoke furiously.

His name was Chen Ziyu. He was a rather formidable figure within the Chen Clan, and he was a Fifth Star Region Lord himself.

An existence like him could already be considered as a middle level figure in the Chen Clan. Moreover, because of the extraordinary natural talent that he possessed; his true status was even more important than some high level figures.

“Brother Ziyu is right, what qualifications does the son of a criminal have to participate in the competition?”

“I remember that criminal, Chen Lingjun, reincarnated a long time ago, so this descendant of his was naturally obtained after he reincarnated. So, it’s utterly impossible for the bloodline of our Chen Clan to be flowing through his veins. But a fellow like this covets the position of successor in our Chen Clan? How truly absurd!”

“We won’t accept this!”

“Let him participate? That’s simply like an insult to us Divine Dao Protector Clans!”

When they saw Chen Ziyu speak out in anger, the other clansmen of the Chen Clan couldn’t sit still as well and spoke successively.

Even though they didn’t dare to directly criticize Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian, they didn’t hold back as they spoke about Chen Xi, and their words were filled with rejection and insult.

Chen Xi watched all of this and couldn’t help but laugh coldly in his heart. These fellows who call themselves Innate Gods really think that I would covet that position of successor?

Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian instantly frowned when they saw the situation in the hall become messy, and they gazed at Chen Lingkong.

With their identities, they naturally couldn’t be bothered to make a fuss about it with those descendants of the Chen Clan who were making noise.

Chen Lingkong didn’t dare maintain his silence when he noticed Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian’s gazes, and his face instantly fell as he shouted loudly. “All of you shut your mouths! What would others think of you for causing such a clamor in front of distinguished guests?”

In an instant, Chen Ziyu and the others immediately shut their mouths and took their seats. However, they still had a disgruntled expression on their faces, and their gazes towards Chen Xi were filled with hostility.

It was like an outsider had suddenly charged into their territory with the intention of seizing control of it. It caused them to be bound by common hatred and try to oppose this outsider.

Chen Xi directly disregarded all of that. He couldn’t be bothered to make a fuss about it with these fellows. If it wasn’t for the sake of rescuing his parents, he wouldn’t even take a step in here.

“Alas, Fellow Daoists. Actually, you ought to be aware that he’s a son my older brother, Chen Lingjun, obtained after he was reincarnated, so Chen Xi isn’t related by blood to my Chen Clan at all. So, it would clearly not make sense to allow him to participate. I’m afraid my entire clan would find it difficult to agree to.” Chen Lingkong sighed and spoke as if he was troubled.

Wu Xuechan grinned and said, “I understand. However, if it’s according to what Fellow Daoist just said, then Chen Lingjun isn’t that Chen Lingjun from the Chen Clan. Since it’s like that, then why have you taken him to be a criminal and imprisoned him for no reason?”

These words struck directly at the heart of the matter, and it was exactly what Chen Xi wanted to say the most. Exactly, since there's no relation by blood, then on what basis have you captured by parents?

However, Chen Lingkong seemed to have guessed that Wu Xuechan would say this, and he revealed a slightly helpless expression and sighed. "Grand Lord, it isn't the same. My older brother has recovered his memories from his previous lifetime, and this means that he possesses knowledge of all the inheritances and secrets of my Chen Clan. So, we have no choice but to do all of that. If it wasn't for that, how could I, his younger brother, bear to imprison him?"

Such an answer was clearly unable to satisfy Chen Xi. However, Wu Xuechan had suddenly stood up before Chen Xi could speak.

Wu Xuechan had an extremely cold and indifferent expression as he said, "If it's based on these facts, then Chen Lingjun is the father of my Little Junior Brother, but your Chen Clan has imprisoned him because of some Karma from the past. Aren't you going a little too far!?"

These words caused Chen Lingkong's expression to change slightly, and he hesitated to speak.

The atmosphere in the hall had suddenly become tense because of the change in Wu Xuechan's attitude, and it was filled with a confrontational aura.

Right at this moment, Tang Xian stood up as well, and his originally cold expression was covered in indifference. He said coldly, "Fellow Daoist, you've probably discerned that we didn't come here this time to seize the position of successor of your Chen Clan. So long as you agree to hand Chen Lingjun and his wife over to us, then we'll be extremely grateful. Otherwise, it won't just be the Oracle Mountain that won't allow this, I believe that even my Tang Clan will be the same!"

His voice was flat and calm, yet it faintly carried a threatening tone.

Only figures like Tang Xian and Wu Xuechan dared to speak such words in the territory of one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans, the Chen Clan. If it was anyone else, it would absolutely be no different than courting death.

The atmosphere in the hall grew even tenser, and Chen Lingkong's expression grew even gloomier.

He remained silent for a long time before he took a deep breath and said, "Fellow Daoists, please take a seat for now. We can slowly discuss everything."

If it was merely Oracle Mountain, then Chen Lingkong would take a risk and summon the courage to go against Oracle Mountain. However, Chen Lingkong had no choice but to tread carefully when the Tang Clan was included.

"Alright." Wu Xuechan smiled and indicated that Tang Xian should sit down with him.

"I thought for a moment just now, and I'm afraid it's impossible to let my older brother go right now." Chen Lingkong pondered deeply for a moment before he spoke cautiously. However, I can temporarily agree to allow Chen Xi to participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony."

As soon as he finished speaking, Chen Ziyu and the others had instantly frowned and felt resentful. They felt that Chen Lingkong was submitting to others, and it was a humiliation.

Wu Xuechan seemed to be slightly surprised as well. He exchanged a glance with Tang Xian before he nodded and said, "That's not bad."

Chen Lingkong heaved a sigh of relief in his heart upon hearing this. As far as he was concerned, Chen Xi was merely a Fourth Star Region Lord, so Chen Xi would be incapable of doing anything even if he was allowed to participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony. In the end, Chen Xi would have no choice but to return empty handed.

Wu Xuechan glanced at Chen Lingkong, and he grinned as he said, "However, there are things that I must say clearly. If my Little Junior Brother is able to obtain the final victory in the competition, then you can't go back on your word."

When they heard this, all the clansmen of the Chen Clan including Chen Lingkong himself were stunned.

Because obtaining the final victory meant that Chen Xi would become the successor of the Chen Clan. Was that even possible?

Obviously, it wasn't!

Chen Xi was merely a Fourth Star Region Lord. So, even if he was a disciple of Oracle Mountain, how great could his strength be?

Perhaps they don't even know exactly how terrifying the participants of the Ancestral Worship Ceremony are?

At this moment, Chen Ziyu and the others had more or less revealed some ridicule. How laughable! How truly laughable!"

Haha! Looks like Grand Lord is very confident in your little junior brother." Chen Lingkong laughed as he spoke.

"Of course. It's best not to speak about some things before they occur, and the final outcome is decided." Wu Xuechan nodded seriously.

Chen Lingkong eyelids couldn't help but twitch when he heard this, and then he frowned and pondered deeply for a long time before he said, "Grand Lord, while Chen Xi can participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony, if that really does happen, then I'm afraid that the position of successor...."

He hadn't finished speaking when he was interrupted by Tang Xian. "Fellow Daoist, what exactly are you trying to say?"

His tone carried a wisp of impatience.

When had Chen Lingkong ever been interrupted? He couldn't help but feel slightly infuriated in his heart, but he still laughed bitterly and said, "Fellow Daoist...."

Tang Xian interrupted him again and said, "Too many excuses will make you seem very insincere. Fellow Daoist wouldn't be thinking of brushing us off, right?"

Chen Lingkong hurriedly waved his hand and said, "How could I dare to do that."

Meanwhile, Wu Xuechan suddenly suggested. “How about we do this? If my Little Junior Brother seizes the position of successor in the end, then I’ll ask him to give it up. However, Fellow Daoist must agree to let Chen Lingjun and his wife go.”

Chen Lingkong’s eyes suddenly narrowed. At this moment, he finally came to an understanding. It turned out that Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian’s true motives were still to rescue Chen Lingjun and Chen Lingjun’s wife!

At this moment, Chen Xi and even the other descendants of the Chen Clan had shot their gazes towards Chen Lingkong.

After a long time, Chen Lingkong sighed in the end and said, “Alright. I’ll give face to Fellow Daoists and agree to it!”

When they heard this, regardless of whether it was Wu Xuechan, Tang Xian, or Chen Xi, all of them heaved a sigh of relief in their hearts because their operation was already partially successful, and this start to the mission wasn’t bad at all.

After all, they were facing the Chen Clan that possessed extraordinary resources and reserves. If they were to really force the Chen Clan into a corner, then it would easily give rise to conflict and resistance instead.

“However, I have to remind all of you that if Chen Xi is unable to accomplish that, then don’t mention anything about my older brother in the future.” Chen Lingkong took a deep breath and spoke solemnly. This could be considered as a warning.

Wu Xuechan nodded with a smile on his face. “Of course.”

At this point, the matter could be considered to have been finally settled.

At this moment, Chen Ziyu couldn’t restrain himself any longer. He stood up, glanced at Chen Xi with a cold gaze that shot over like bolt of lightning, and then said in loud and clear voice. “The confidence seniors show towards Fellow Daoist Chen Xi truly arouses the curiosity within our hearts. How about we seize this opportunity and allow me to spar with him? If he can’t even defeat me, then I think that there’s no need for him to participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony!”

His voice reverberated through the hall, and it was filled with a provoking tone.

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 2007: A Lesson!

Chen Ziyu stood up with fury as he challenged Chen Xi. This instantly surprised many of the others within the hall, and the atmosphere here became quite strange.

Those clansmen of the Chen Clan gazed at Chen Xi with a wisp of a mocking expression in their hearts. They seemed to take pleasure in Chen Xi’s misfortune and were waiting to watch the show.

After being slightly stunned, a slight arc couldn’t help but curl onto the corners of Chen Lingkong’s mouth.

As far as he was concerned, if Chen Ziyu was able to defeat Chen Xi and crush Chen Xi's spirit right now, then it was equivalent to announcing that Chen Xi had completely lost his qualifications to participate in the Ancestral Worship Ceremony.

Chen Lingkong was naturally happy to see that happen.

Only Tang Xian and Wu Xuechan exchanged glances and frowned because they weren't willing to allow Chen Xi to expose his strength right now.

However, they'd already helped Chen Xi enough, so Chen Xi should deal with the rest.

"Little Junior Brother, what do you think?" asked Wu Xuechan.

"I just feel that since Elder Chen has agreed to let me participate in that competition, then what's the point of this unnecessary battle?" Chen Xi thought for a moment before he frowned and spoke. "Not to mention that defeating him now would be of no benefit to me at all. So, there no point in fighting him."

Yes, Chen Xi couldn't be bothered to make a fuss about it with Chen Ziyu. This wasn't a true battle for the position of successor, so why should he fight in this unnecessary spare? He felt that it was a waste of time.

Wu Xuechan couldn't help but smile and nod when he heard this.

However, when these words entered into Chen Ziyu's ears, he felt that Chen Xi was being cowardly and didn't dare to fight him. He couldn't help but speak with disdain. "What? Even a disciple of Oracle Mountain merely dares to flaunt his strength while hiding behind the protection of a senior yet doesn't dare to fight alone? How disappointing."

His words were extremely venomous, and they only stopped short of mocking Chen Xi as someone who relied on the might of his sect to put on airs and someone who bullied the weak yet feared the strong.

The other clansmen of the Chen Clan roared with laughter as well.

"Fellow Daoist Chen Xi, do you dare or not?"

"If you don't, then quickly admit your inferiority and leave obediently. Our Chen Clan isn't a place that just anyone can behave rudely at!"

"Alas, what a disappointment. I thought that only Oracle Mountain and a few other great powers in the world can compare with Divine Dao Protector Clans like ours. But who would have imagined that they wouldn't be worthy of their reputation?"

Many had even started to mock and ridicule Chen Xi.

Chen Lingkong acted indifferently towards all of this, and he seemed to have no intention to stop all of this at all.

On the other hand, Chen Ziyu and the others seems to be certain that Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian wouldn't make a fuss about it with them, so they grew even more fearless and targeted Chen Xi.

"Chen Xi, we're not forcing you to fight. It's fine if you really don't have the courage. Even though I, Chen Ziyu, am a descendant of the Chen Clan, I will absolutely not rely on the strength of my clan to

bully you!” Chen Ziyu had his hands behind his back. He seemed extremely arrogant manner as he glanced at Chen Xi with disdain. Moreover, he’d placed emphasis on his words when he spoke about relying on the strength of his clan to bully Chen Xi!

Obviously, he was rather displeased by how Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian had ‘forced’ Chen Lingkong to agree to Chen Xi’s participation in the competition, so he’d seized this opportunity to vent it.

It was an indirect insult. He was insulting Chen Xi as someone who relied on his backing to bully others, and since the backing Chen Xi had was naturally Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian, so both Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were insulted indirectly.

Everyone present here wasn’t an stupid, so they were naturally able to discern the meaning behind these words. For a time, Wu Xuechan’s brows knit together slightly.

“Little Junior Brother, should I....”

Chen Xi smiled and spoke before Wu Xuechan could finish speaking. “Eldest Senior Brother, you don’t have to interfere in what happens next. Just leave it to me. Otherwise, I would really be stuck with a bad reputation of relying on my backing to bully others.”

As he spoke, Chen Xi stood up and gazed indifferently at Chen Ziyu who stood there with an arrogant expression. Chen Xi said, “I didn’t want to fight you just now because I couldn’t be bothered to make a fuss about it with you. However, you don’t know your own limits and you speak without any restraint. Looks like I can only teach you a lesson.”

At this moment, Chen Xi had really agreed to the battle, and he’s discarded that silent attitude from before. Conversely, merely these words made him see extremely domineering and utterly blunt.

As far as Chen Xi was concerned, since these fellows dared to act so arrogantly, then he should make an even more arrogant display! Otherwise, these fellows would really think he was a weakling that they could bully as they pleased.

Chen Xi’s voice that resounded through the hall caused the expressions of those clansmen from the Chen Clan to turn gloomy. This fellow actually dared to say that Chen Ziyu doesn’t know his own limits and speaks without restrain? He’s truly too arrogant!

Even Chen Lingkong couldn’t help but frown. A lesson? What high sounding sentiments! Do the clansmen of my Chen Clan even need a little fellow from Oracle Mountain to teach them a lesson?

At this moment, even Chen Lingkong was slightly unable to suppress the anger in his heart, and he wished for nothing more than to see Chen Ziyu humiliate and trample upon Chen Xi.

“You... want to teach me a lesson?” Chen Ziyu was originally rather excited when he heard Chen Xi agree to the battle. However, his face immediately fell when he heard what Chen Xi said, and his gaze was sharp like a blade as it swept over towards Chen Xi.

“Yes, you didn’t hear me wrong.” Chen Xi’s expression remained composed and calm as before.

“Haha.... HAHAHAHA!” Chen Ziyu suddenly started laughing while his face had a disdainful and ghastly expression. “Good! Just because of this bravery of yours, I’ll show mercy later, and I won’t make you suffer a defeat that’s too embarrassing.”

“Brother Ziyu, don’t waste your breath on him and quickly fight him. I can’t wait to witness your supreme ability.”

“Right, I heard that Brother Ziyu just attained perfection in the Grand Void Dao. We’d like to witness its might as well.”

“Brother Ziyu, your decision is right because he’s a guest, and you can’t allow our guest to suffer a defeat that’s too embarrassing. Otherwise, wouldn’t it make our Chen Clan seem to lack poise?”

Those clansmen of the Chen Clan shouted in succession. Some cheered for Chen Ziyu while others mocked Chen Xi sarcastically.

Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were really unable to make a fuss about all of this. Because how could existences of their status make a fuss about it with some juniors?

It was precisely because they were certain about this that those clansmen of the Chen Clan dared to act so fearlessly and speak so bluntly.

As for Chen Lingkong, he would definitely not obstruct all of this because he wished for nothing more than to see Chen Ziyu give Chen Xi a beating.

...

This hall was grand and vast, yet it was slightly limiting for a battle between Region Lords.

However, Chen Ziyu didn’t care. As far as he was concerned, since he was an Innate God and was a Fifth Star Region Lord, it would only take a moment for him to easily crush Chen Xi. So, there was no need to choose a different venue for their fight.

On the other hand, Chen Xi was naturally even more indifferent. His thoughts were almost the same, and he didn’t care too much about Chen Ziyu.

If I can’t even deal with this fellow, then there’s no need for me to participate in that competition.

“Chen Xi, come at me! Let me see exactly what sort of ability you possess to actually speak of teaching me a lesson.” Chen Ziyu made a provocative gesture at Chen Xi with his finger, and a wisp of a ghastly and terrifying arc had arisen on the corners of his mouth.

Chen Xi strode forward when he witnessed this.

Bang!

At this instant, Chen Xi had changed completely. His speed was inconceivably swift, and he even crushed space to the point explosions resounded. Moreover, his figure had vanished on the spot and only left an afterimage behind on the spot.

Hmm? Chen Ziyu’s pupils constricted. He noticed to his horror that his consciousness was actually unable to lock onto Chen Xi’s figure.

However, as a Fifth Star Region Lord that was well experienced in battle, Chen Ziyu’s reaction was extremely skillful and sharp. He practically instinctively raised his arms while a completely round and extremely brilliant golden circle appeared in front of him before he pushed it forward forcefully.

When looked at from afar, it was like he was pushing a scorching sun forward. Its impetus was vast and all-powerful, and it seemed to possess the might to obliterate the world.

Bang!

However, in merely an instant, the center of this completely round circle had been stabbed open by a fair and slender finger, and a hole was blasted open on it.

After that, the circle cracked apart before it exploded into pieces, causing specks of light to spray towards the surroundings and whistled through the hall like a gale.

Bang!

After that, Chen Ziyu felt as if he'd been struck by lightning. A wave of sharp pain suddenly swept through his body before his body was blasted backward uncontrollably. He crashed to the ground and smashed tables and chairs into piece. Moreover, numerous horrifying rifts had even been cracked open on the ground.

On the other hand, Chen Ziyu himself was coughing up blood, had disheveled hair, and was in an extremely sorry state.

All of this took some time to describe yet actually occurred in an instant. Since the moment Chen Xi attacked ferociously to the point the golden circle exploded into pieces, and then Chen Ziyu was blasted flying.... Everything had practically occurred in an instant, and it was an inconceivably swift string of events.

It was even to the extent that some clansmen of the Chen Clan merely felt something flash before their eyes, and then Chen Ziyu had actually been blasted flying. They didn't even have the chance to see how Chen Xi had attacked!

When they looked once more at Chen Xi, he was standing upright on the spot with an indifferent expression, and it was like everything that had occurred just now wasn't related to him at all.

In an instant, everyone was shocked.

No one had expected that Chen Ziyu would actually not be a match for a single strike of Chen Xi's as soon as the battle began!

After all, even though Chen Ziyu wasn't the strongest Region Lord in the Chen Clan, he was an outstanding and formidable figure. Moreover, he was an Innate God who had attained the Fifth Star Region Lord Realm. No matter if it was in terms of resources or cultivation, it was utterly not something that Chen Xi could compare to.

Yet now... he'd actually lost! And he'd even lost to a single strike! How could this not be shocking? How could it not be unbelievable?

As a Daolord, Chen Lingkong had naturally witnessed everything clearly. However, never had he ever imagined that Chen Xi who was only a Fourth Star Region Lord would actually possess such formidable strength in battle.

For a time, even he couldn't avoid feeling surprised and bewildered.

“Bastard! You actually dared to launch a surprise attack!” Chen Ziyu pulled himself off the ground amidst a furious shout. He was unable to accept being defeated by a single strike, and his countenance couldn’t help but turn livid while he felt humiliated to the extreme in his heart.

He refused to believe that Chen Xi was really that strong, and he felt that he’d been careless and allowed that despicable fellow, Chen Xi, to launch a surprise attack against him!

A surprise attack? Chen Xi couldn’t help but shake his head. He couldn’t be bothered to pay attention to this fellow, and he turned around with the intention of returning to his seat.

However, right at this moment, Chen Ziyu suddenly roared with fury. “Stop right there you despicable bastard! You’re really just like your criminal father, and the despicable and disgraceful blood of a criminal flows within you! How dare you leave when the battle hasn’t come to an end?”

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 2008: Kneel!

Just like my criminal father?The despicable and disgraceful blood of a criminal flows within me?

Chen Xi’s entire body stiffened when he heard this furious howl, and his indifferent expression was instantly replaced with a layer of icy coldness.

A strand of blazing flames of rage couldn’t help but surge from his heart, and it caused a wisp of killing intent to suddenly arise in his eyes that were black like abysses.

Since a very long time ago, Chen Xi felt a form of aversion towards his father, Chen Lingjun, and it was even to the extent that he felt hatred. However, it didn’t represent that others could insult his father in front of him!

Especially when it was within the Chen Clan and in public! He actually dared to insult me and my father without restraint!Chen Xi turned around, and his indifferent gaze locked onto Chen Ziyu as he said, “Kneel down and I’ll forgive you this time.”

His voice was calm and didn’t carry even a trace of emotion. Coupled with Chen Xi’s extremely indifferent and icy cold expression, it caused the hearts of everyone in the hall to suddenly feel cold.

Chen Lingkong frowned, and then he pondered deeply without end.

Tang Xian seemed to be slightly unable to restrain himself, but he was restrained by a glance from Wu Xuechan that indicated that he should calm down.

On the other hand, Chen Ziyu was originally furious to the extreme. However, when he came into contact with Chen Xi’s gaze, it was like he’d come into contact with the eyes of the reaper, and his entire body couldn’t help but tremble while indescribable terror arose in his heart.

However, Chen Ziyu instantly recovered from that state when he heard Chen Xi’s words, and it was simply like he’d been struck by lightning. He couldn’t help but feel extremely humiliated, causing surging flames of rage to almost burn a hole in his chest while his face grew even more livid.

Not only did this damnable bastard launch a surprise attack against me, he actually wants me to... kneel!?He deserves death!“You’re... courting death!” Chen Ziyu roared furiously while his figure blasted

off the ground. He made a clawing motion in his hand, and then an extremely violent ball of golden lightning suddenly converged there and transformed into a golden spear of lightning.

Lightning flowed through that spear, and it was covered in Divine Dao Laws. Moreover, it was suffused with a terrifying aura that was simply on the verge of obliterating the world and crushing it into powder.

As soon as it appeared, the hall started to tremble violently and faintly show signs of collapse.

Chen Lingkong realized that the situation was bad, and he flickered his sleeve and executed a supreme technique to instantly stabilize this area.

If it wasn't for that, then it wouldn't just be the hall that was affected by the battle, even the surroundings outside the hall was be affected and destroyed.

This clearly showed how terrifying Chen Ziyu's attack was. He'd obviously utilized a lethal technique, and it contained his bellyful of rage as he struck with the intention of crushing Chen Xi.

"Die!" Along with a loud roar, Chen Ziyu held the golden lightning spear in his hand as he forcefully stabbed it through space. The tip of the spear carried peerless sharpness and shot forward like a bolt of lightning that was aimed at the center of Chen Xi's forehead.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Everywhere it passed, a completely straight and empty right was torn apart in space while all airflow, light, and dust were transformed into nothingness.

Obviously, as a descendant of the Divine Dao Protector Clans, Chen Ziyu who was an Innate God at the Fifth Star Region Lord Realm did indeed possess the qualifications to be arrogant. His combat strength was so formidable that his peers in the outside world would dim in comparison with him. He was absolutely not an existence that an ordinary cultivator could compare to.

At this instant, a wisp of praise couldn't help but arise on the corners of Chen Lingkong's mouth.

As for the other clansmen of the Chen Clan, they'd been completely astounded a long time ago while the excitement on their faces was impossible to restrain. How could that Chen Xi possibly survive this attack?

Chen Xi remained indifferent as before when facing this attack. His figure was like a pine tree that had rooted itself on the spot, and he was tall, aloof, and immovable.

In the eyes of the outsiders, it seemed like Chen Xi had been terrified by the might possessed by this attack, and he was completely stunned on the spot.

Even Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian who were originally calm and composed couldn't help but be slightly stunned, and they seemed to be surprised by Chen Xi's reaction.

Bang!

It took a long time to describe yet actually occurred in an instant. The golden lightning spear tore forcefully through the sky, and the force on its tip caused Chen Xi's dense jet black hair to be blasted backward while his clothes fluttered along with the gale created by this attack.

However, he still remained motionless!

The golden lightning spear was right about to arrive at the center of his forehead, and it was less than 30cm away from him.

However, at this critical moment, a slender hand had suddenly appeared out of thin air. It grabbed ahold of the golden lightning spear, and it made the latter unable to move forward at all!

How could this be possible?

All the spectators were horrified, and their pupils dilated with disbelief. This attack was sufficient to destroy stellar bodies or crush the world into pieces. However, it had actually been grabbed with just physical strength?!

Who would dare to believe such a shocking scene?

The wisp of praise on the corners of Chen Lingkong's mouth had suddenly frozen while the excitement in the hearts of those clansmen from the Chen Clan had instantly vanished, and it was replaced by astonishment.

Om!

The golden lightning spear trembled violently while boundless Laws that flicked with the glow of lightning surged out from within it. It was monstrously terrifying, and it seemed to intend to struggle free from Chen Xi's restraint.

Chen Ziyu's face was covered in shock and rage, and his eyes had almost split apart from anger. He was practically madly releasing all his strength.

How could he dare to believe that a trump card he took pride in would actually be unable to even break through the strength of Chen Xi's hand?

Chen Xi's hand was like an extremely hard rock, and it caused the golden lightning spear to be unable to move at all no matter how violently it trembled!

"NO!!" Chen Ziyu roared furiously, and he was filled with extreme rage and resentment.

Crack! Crack!

However, he didn't even have the chance to continue struggling because the golden lightning spear was crushed inch by inch, and it transformed into a rain of light that dispersed into the surroundings.

Rumble!

In merely an instant, it was completely crushed into powder, causing dazzling light to sweep towards the surroundings. Moreover, it made many clansmen of the Chen Clan stagger backward and evade without end.

Chen Ziyu suffered backlash from this, and he couldn't help but cough up a large mouthful of blood. He was just about to evade when he saw something flash before his eyes, and then a wave of sharp pain came from his neck as a hand had grabbed forcefully grabbed it.

At this moment, everyone saw Chen Xi holding Chen Ziyu up like a 'helpless chick'. He was being lifted up by the neck, and it suffocated him to the point his veins had bulged, and blood almost seeped out from his face. However, it was useless no matter how he struggled.

This caused everyone to be astounded and gasp incessantly.

If that attack of Chen Xi's from before that instantly defeated Chen Ziyu was said to be a surprise attack and was just luck, then would anyone dare to continue believing such things after they witnessed this scene?

However, they were unable to imagine how Chen Xi who was merely a Fourth Star Region Lord would actually be so strong and heaven defying. Chen Ziyu who was a Fifth Star Region Lord was actually unable to struggle or counterattack before him at all. Chen Ziyu simply seemed useless and unable to withstand a single attack!

"You... you.... You...." Chen Ziyu had a belly full of humiliation and rage. But at this moment, all of that had transformed into shock. His eyes balls had almost blasted out from his eyes, and he was utterly unable to accept this scene.

Bang!

In the next moment, his entire body was forcefully smashed to the ground by Chen Xi. His knees exploded into pieces, and his body knelt down uncontrollably in front of Chen Xi!

This scene was too sudden, so the others didn't have the time to stop it at all before they saw Chen Ziyu's knees destroyed while he knelt on the ground.

"NO!!!" An unprecedented feeling of humiliation tore through Chen Ziyu's heart like a blade, and it caused his handsome face to warp and become savage while he raised his head and let out an extremely resentful roar.

He was a dignified descendant of the Divine Dao Protector Clans that possessed the peerless body of an Innate God. Moreover, he possessed resources and reserves that were unparalleled in the world, and both authority and status that the myriad of living beings in the outside world respected and revered. Yet now, he was forced to kneel on the ground!

He was kneeling before a young man who he felt was a descendant of a criminal!

It was a humiliation!

An extreme humiliation!

At this moment, Chen Ziyu was on the verge of going mad, and he even had the intent to kill Chen Xi.

"Stop!" Chen Lingkong finally recovered from his shock, and he stood up and berated loudly.

At practically the exact same moment, Wu Xuechan stood up with a smile on his face, and he spoke slowly. "Those that insult the parents of others will be insulted by others. It's within reason that my Little Junior Brother had become so angry. So, please calm your anger, Fellow Daoist. Don't spoil our relationship because of a moment of anger."

His tone was warm, yet his words were extremely domineering, and it caused Chen Lingkong's expression to change indeterminately.

Chen Xi acted as if he hadn't heard all of that. His icy cold and indifferent gaze looked down at Chen Ziyu who was kneeling in front of him, and then he spoke word by word. "This is a lesson. You won't just have to kneel and atone for it if you speak without restraint again!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Chen Xi turned around and returned to his seat.

Pu!

At this moment, Chen Ziyu was actually overwhelmed by his rage, and he suddenly spat out a mouthful of blood before his figure crashed to the ground and fell unconscious.

Those clansmen of the Chen Clan roared with sorrow as they charged forward to rescue Chen Ziyu. Moreover, the gazes they shot at Chen Xi carried a wisp of resentment and a faint trace of terror that couldn't be eliminated.

Chen Xi still remained indifferent towards all of this. Because he didn't have to pay any attention to it when Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were here.

Was he relying on his backing to bully them?

How laughable! If this wasn't the Chen Clan's territory, then would Chen Ziyu dare to act so arrogantly? If it wasn't for that, Chen Ziyu would have been dead by now! How Chen Xi have possibly spared Chen Ziyu's life?

...

After this incident occurred, the atmosphere in the hall was extremely stiff. In the end, Chen Lingkong forcefully restrained the bellyful of rage he had and dispatched some clansmen to lead Wu Xuechan, Tang Xian, and Chen Xi from the hall and made arrangements for them to rest in an abode established especially for guests.

"Dammit! How truly damnable!" As soon as Chen Xi's group left, Chen Lingkong was unable to restrain the rage in his heart anymore, and he suddenly slapped the table in front of him into pieces and seemed extremely furious.

The other clansmen of the Chen Clan remained silent like cicadas in the winter. They were extremely furious and sad when they recalled the scenes from before, and they felt extremely humiliated.

"Supreme Elder, could it be that we're just going to allow those fellows to continue acting arrogantly?" One of the clansmen spoke in a disgruntled voice.

"Yeah! Those three disciples of Oracle Mountain are too arrogant. They simply disregard our Chen Clan. They're simply going too far!"

The others spoke successively as well.

Chen Lingkong's rage calmed down instead when he heard this. He took a few deep breaths and remained silent for a short while before he said in a low voice. "What else is there to say when we are weaker to them?"

Those clansmen of the Chen Clan were stunned, and then they felt even more aggrieved and resentful in their hearts.

"However, they really went too far. I'll naturally give that little bastard a huge pleasant surprise when the Ancestral Worship Ceremony begins!" Chen Lingkong's face remained expressionless while his voice was ice cold and bone piercing. "All of you notify the other participating clansmen about that fellow, Chen Xi. They'll naturally understand what they have to do!"

Talisman Emperor

Chapter 2009: A Visi

The abode the Chen Clan arranged for them was covered in beautiful mountains and clear water. It was filled with Natural Divine Energy, and it was extraordinary.

There was even an completely clear stream running through it. At this moment, the three of them were seated casually on the jade green grass at the side of the stream.

"Little Junior Brother, why didn't you kill him just now?" Wu Xuechan smiled as he asked this question.

Chen Xi was stunned, and then he said, "After all, I came here to get my parents back, so I should exercise forbearance when it's necessary."

Tang Xian's spoke with a cold expression. "It wouldn't affect our objective even if you killed him. The Chen Clan isn't that bold to make enemies of us."

His tone seemed extremely domineering, and Chen Xi couldn't help but be visibly moved.

Wu Xuechan said, "Alright, let's stop speaking about that. We jointly pressured Chen Lingkong earlier to the point he had no choice but to make a concession and coupled with the strength Little Junior Brother revealed just now, I presume that they'll definitely not be willing to accept this."

Tang Xian remained silent for a moment before he said, "I'm not worried about anything else. The only thing I'm worried about is that if Little Junior Brother suffers a setback during the competition, then it would be slightly difficult to deal with."

Wu Xuechan strongly agreed and nodded. "Yes, the Chen Clan is one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans in the end. There are numerous experts within the Chen Clan. So, there are definitely some extraordinarily outstanding existences in the Region Lord Realm, and they absolutely can't be compared to the ordinary Region Lords in the outside world."

Wu Xuechan paused for a moment before he continued. "Little Junior Brother is merely a Fourth Star Region Lord. If he's unlucky and encounters some seventh star, eighth star, or even Ninth Star Region Lords, then it would be quite difficult to deal with."

All the clansmen of the Chen Clan who could participate in the selection of the next successor of the clan would definitely possess cultivations at the Region Lord Realm.

Even if it was in the Imperial Region, just being a Region Lord was sufficient for one to become the master of a top-rate power.

However, in the Chen Clan that was one of the Divine Dao Protector Clans, the minimum required obtain a spot in the competition to become the successor of the clan was to be a Region Lord. This clearly showed how intense and grand this competition was.

Chen Xi was participating while at the Fourth Star of the Region Lord Realm. If it was merely in terms of cultivation, then he could only be considered to be around the intermediate level. So, once he encountered Region Lords at the seventh, eighth, or Ninth Star, then it would be extremely worrying indeed.

However, it was merely worrying, and it wasn't to the extent of being able to arouse despair.

Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian were very clearly aware that while their Little Junior Brother's realm of cultivation wasn't great, the true combat strength he possessed could be described as heaven defying. It couldn't be judged by convention at all.

So, they were still very hopeful towards Chen Xi's participation in the competition.

Chen Xi remained silent for a short while before he said seriously, "Don't worry Senior Brothers, I'll definitely do my best when the time comes!"

...

The Nine Spirit World was home to the Chen Clan, and all its descendants resided there as well. So, as soon as the news of Chen Xi's victory against Chen Ziyu spread, it quickly drew the attention of the entire Chen Clan.

Besides that, Chen Lingkong had added fuel to the fire in secret. So, Chen Xi's identity and the reason he came to the Chen Clan was known to the entire Chen Clan as well, causing great waves to surge through the Chen Clan.

"The descendant of that criminal, Chen Lingjun? He's really quite arrogant to actually dare to come and seize a spot in the competition! He's simply courting death!"

"He's just a bastard that isn't even an Innate God. He's nothing worth mentioning."

"We can't be careless. He was actually able to defeat Chen Ziyu, so his strength can't be underestimated. Perhaps he came prepared."

"He came prepared? Hmph! He's only a Forth Star Region Lord! Don't forget that Chen Daoyuan, Chen Xiaoyun, and Chen Qiushui are overlords in the younger generation of our clan, and every single one of them is capable of crushing that fellow, Chen Xi!"

"Just wait and see. That fellow is definitely asking for insult by daring to lust for the position of successor in our clan! The outcome will be clearly revealed when the Ancestral Worship Ceremony begins!"

These discussions were mostly carried out amongst the younger generation of the Chen Clan, whereas, the higher-ups of the Chen Clan paid more attention to the true reason for Chen Xi's arrival!

“He has the backing of the Oracle Mountain and Tang Clan. No wonder he dared to act so arrogantly and actually intends to seize this opportunity to rescue that criminal Chen Lingjun and his wife. He’s truly audacious.”

“No matter what, we absolutely can’t allow them to succeed!”

“Yes! The criminal, Chen Lingjun, must remain. It’s a matter of the clan’s honor and safety! We can’t let him go no matter who comes for him!”

...

While these things were being discussed animatedly, Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian had left their abode and gone to pay a visit to some true great figures of the Chen Clan.

Just as Tang Xian had said just now. Even though Chen Lingkong was a Daolord and even held the position of Supreme Elder in the Chen Clan, he could merely be said to possess monstrous authority, yet his strength wasn’t the strongest in the Chen Clan.

Because the Chen Clan still had numerous seniors who could be described as living fossils! They... were the true foundation of the Chen Clan.

Wu Xuechan and Tang Xian had left, but Chen Xi had stayed behind to cultivate and meditate alone.

Merely a little over 10 days were left until the Chen Clan’s Ancestral Worship Ceremony began, and such a short period of time was utterly insufficient for a Region Lord’s cultivation to undergo a transformation.

However, Chen Xi didn’t care about all of that. He wasn’t trying to make last-minute preparations or trying to improve at the last moment. Cultivating was like breathing to him, and it had become a part of his life a very long time ago. So, he naturally refused to waste any spare time he had.

I’ve fully comprehended all the profundities within the Seal of the Martial’s inheritance. Now, I just have to refine and absorb it before I’ll be able to take full control of its strength.... Chen Xi awoke from his meditation and muttered.

Since they’d set out from Oracle Mountain on their journey to the Primal Chaos Origin, an entire 8 years had passed. Chen Xi had been free during that time, so he comprehended almost 50% of the profundities within the Seal of the Martial in the first three years of their journey.

Moreover, he even comprehended 99% of its profundities in the following five years of time. Now, he’d fully comprehended all the profundities within the inheritances of the Seal of the Martial which represented the 7th era.

He only lacked the process of refinement and absorption before he could grasp the Seal of the Martial’s entire strength.

When compared with the time he exhausted to comprehend the Seal of the Shaman, comprehending the Seal of the Martial was clearly much shorter.

However, Chen Xi had confirmed that this speed was his limit, and unless his understanding of the Talisman Dao underwent another huge breakthrough, then it was impossible for him to further shorten the time needed to comprehend the profundities of an Era Brand.

“May I know if Fellow Daoist Chen Xi is here?” Right when Chen Xi was in deep thought, a deep voice had suddenly entered from outside the abode.

“Who is it?” Chen Xi stood up and frowned as he spoke.

“I’m Chen Hongxiu, and I’ve come to pay a visit to Fellow Daoist.” That voice from before had resounded again.

Chen Hongxiu? Chen Xi didn’t know this person. So, he thought for a moment before he decided to meet this person in the end.

...

A grey clothes man stood outside the abode. He had a firm face, a composed bearing, and his entire body was suffused by a brave and capable aura.

As soon as Chen Xi laid eyes upon this person, Chen Xi determined that he was only at the Universe Enlightened Ancestral God Realm and was no threat to him.

“Fellow Daoist Chen Xi, please forgive me for disturbing you.” Chen Hongxiu spoke in a neither humble nor arrogant manner as he cupped his hands.

“Don’t mention it, Fellow Daoist.” Chen Xi smiled and welcomed him into the abode. After that, Chen Xi poured him a cup of tea and said, “May I know why Fellow Daoist has come to look for me?”

Chen Hongxiu said, “To tell you the truth, my grandfather, Chen Kunwu, had followed Ancestral Uncle Chen Lingjun to battle all those years ago, and they are cousin brothers that were extremely close. All those years ago when Ancestral Uncle Chen Lingjun suddenly left, my grandfather became depressed, and he perished because his Inner Demons grew too strong.”

Chen Xi instantly revealed a solemn expression, yet he didn’t know what to say. After all, Chen Lingjun still hadn’t undergone reincarnation then.

Chen Hongxiu seemed to be clearly aware of that, and he quickly changed the topic. “However, my grandfather once said before his death that there was a huge secret behind the reason why Ancestral Uncle Chen Lingjun left all those years ago, and it’s extremely likely that he was framed. But up until now, the truth still hasn’t been exposed.”

He paused for a moment and continued. “It’s even to the extent that Ancestral Uncle Chen Lingjun is still being taken to be a criminal and imprisoned even after he reincarnated. It’s truly painful.”

Chen Xi’s eyes narrowed as he said, “Fellow Daoist, you came here to tell me all of that?”

Chen Hongxiu shook his head and said, “No, I merely heard that Fellow Daoist came to rescue Ancestral Uncle Chen Lingjun, and it filled my heart with excitement and anticipation. So, I came here specially to meet you.”

Chen Xi cupped his fists and said, "Thank you for your kind intentions, Fellow Daoist."

Chen Hongxiu sighed and spoke with self-ridicule. "If it was really like that, then I wouldn't be in a state where I have no choice but to watch helplessly as Ancestral Uncle is imprisoned."

When he spoke up to here, his expression suddenly became solemn before he said, "Fellow Daoist, I've heard of your victory against Chen Ziyu. However, please be extremely careful. The discussions about you have caused a great clamor in the Chen Clan recently, and many are preparing in secret with the intention of teaching you a lesson during the Ancestral Worship Ceremony, so that you'll be utterly humiliated and leave in failure."

Chen Xi remained silent for a moment before he said, "Thank you for the warning, Fellow Daoist."

Chen Hongxiu couldn't help but become slightly anxious when he saw Chen Xi have such an indifferent reaction towards all of it. He hesitated for a moment before he said, "Fellow Daoist, I'm not exaggerating to scare you. Before I came here, I heard that the 3 strongest Region Lords in the clan have taken you to be a thorn in their eye, and they intend to eliminate you and avenge Chen Ziyu."

"Oh?" Chen Xi's brows raised. "Looks like I've stirred up public wrath and have become a public enemy."

Chen Hongxiu nodded. "Yes. I came here to remind Fellow Daoist that you must be careful and absolutely can't be careless."

At this point in the conversation, Chen Hongxiu hurriedly bid his farewells and left as if he had worries weighing down on his mind.

After Chen Hongxiu left, Chen Xi pondered deeply for a long time by himself. In the end, he shook his head and stopped thinking about it. Because when it came to some things, thinking too much was utterly useless as well.

At the same time, Chen Lingkong arrived at a pitch black and ancient hall by himself.

The hall was called Conscience.

It was a striking name, but it was a forbidden area for the entire Chen Clan. It was like a prison, and the clansmen of the Chen Clan who'd committed crimes were imprisoned here!

[Talisman Emperor](#)

Chapter 2010: Brothers Turning Against Each Other

The interior of Conscience Hall seemed ordinary, but numerous pockets of space had actually been established here by a supreme technique.

Every single pocket of space was like a small world that was isolated from the outside world, and one would be unable to notice anything that occurred in the outside world upon being confined within them.

Within one of the pockets of space.

Clang! Clang!

Wind and snow suffused the surroundings while a wave of clear and soft music from a zither drifted up into the air.

Zuoqiu Xue sat beneath an ancient and magnificent tree with a zither laid out in front of her. Her fair hands were lightly plucking the zither's strings while she maintains a calm and composed appearance, and her movements were smooth like flowing water.

Chen Lingjun sat on the ground at the side while listening to the tune of the zither, and he stared blankly at her in silence.

Snow fluttered through the air while the pair of husband and wife enjoyed the tune of the zither beneath an ancient tree, and a rhythmic tune that carried otherworldly and distant emotion curled up into the air and resounded through the surroundings.

But in next to no time, this scene was destroyed by a wave of clamorous clapping.

"Enjoying the zither beneath the snow, how carefree and unrestrained! Big Brother, Sister-in-law, what refined interests you have!" A figure strode through the snow from afar while clapping and praising. Surprisingly, it was Chen Lingkong.

Clang!

Zuoqiu Xue pressed down upon the zither strings, and its tune instantly vanished.

Chen Lingjun who was staring blankly at her shook his head with a helpless expression on his face, and then he said to her, "I have no further mood to enjoy it. Let's do it again later."

Zuoqiu Xue nodded and said, "Alright."

From the beginning until the end, the both of them hadn't paid any attention to Chen Lingkong.

However, Chen Lingkong didn't care at all. He just walked over to the ancient tree and sat in front of Chen Lingjun before he said, "I'm sorry for disturbing the two of you."

Chen Lingjun glanced indifferently at him and said, "If you're sorry, then you shouldn't have come and made us unhappy."

Chen Lingkong roared with laughter and said, "Looks like Big Brother still harbors ill feelings towards me."

After that, he sighed and said, "Unfortunately, I had no choice but to come here this time."

"Oh?" Zuoqiu Xue and Chen Lingjun exchanged a glance, and they seemed to be in deep thought.

The atmosphere here actually became slightly silent, and only the snow that filled the sky was still fluttering about while the chilly whistles of the wind resounded.

Chen Lingkong was still the first to break the silence, and he said, "Elder Brother was right, someone really does intend to rescue both of you from our clan."

Zuoqiu Xue and Chen Lingjun couldn't help but exchange a glance upon hearing this, and a wisp of bright light flashed in their hearts.

Merely this scene alone clearly showed that the two of them didn't need to speak at all before they could understand each other and guess what each other was thinking.

However, they still didn't speak a single word.

Chen Lingkong couldn't help but frown because of this. After a short while, he actually suddenly started laughing before he said, "I know that imprisoning the two of you here for these years hasn't just made you hate me to the bone, but haven't the two of you thought about the reason why I imprisoned you here?"

"You're my older brother and sister-in-law. How could I have possibly turned against my own brother unless I had no other choice?"

"The crux of the matter is that you were too presumptuous all those years ago. Big Brother! You actually didn't hesitate to take a precious treasure of the clan away in order to attain the Ultimate Path towards the Dao. Could it be that you haven't realized your errors at all after so many years have passed?"

As he finished speaking, Chen Lingkong's voice carried a wisp of indignation and emotion. It was like he was deeply distressed and was unable to let go of the grief and anger he felt.

On the other hand, Chen Lingjun and Zuoqiu Xue's expressions remained unchanged since the beginning, and their faces were extremely calm as if they hadn't heard him at all.

After a long time, Chen Lingjun raised his eyes to gaze at Chen Lingkong as he said, "You've mistaken many things. Firstly, the precious treasure I took with me all those years ago was something I obtained myself, and it wasn't inherited from the sect. Secondly, there's no relationship between me and the Chen Clan anymore. So, don't call me big brother anymore. I, Chen Lingjun, don't have a younger brother like you!"

Chen Lingkong couldn't help but laugh coldly when he heard this. "Big Brother, do you still intend to draw a line between us? It's impossible! Your memories carry the brands of your past life, and it possesses all the inheritances of the Chen Clan. So on what basis do you say that there's no relationship between you and the Chen Clan?"

Chen Lingjun frowned. In the end, he didn't say anything because they'd been arguing about this for many years, so it was pointless to continue on the topic.

"Go on, tell us exactly why you came here." Zuoqiu Xue who'd been watching coldly from the side until now had suddenly spoken, and her voice was cold and indifferent. "Please leave if you intend to continue beating around the bush. We don't have the time to listen to your nonsense."

She spoke without holding back at all.

Chen Lingkong's eyelids twitched imperceptibly. After a short while, he said, "It's very simple, I want to make a trade with the two of you."

"Go on." Zuoqiu Xue just lightly spat out two words.

Chen Lingkong grinned instead when he heard this, and he seemed calm and composed in this situation as he spoke in a neither fast nor slow manner. "To tell you the truth, your son, Chen Xi, has come to the clan. That little fellow's cultivation isn't bad, and he's very much stronger than the two of you."

Xi'er! It really is him!

When they heard that someone had come to rescue them, both Chen Lingjun and Zuoqiu Xue had vaguely guessed that it was Chen Xi. However, when they obtained confirmation of it, they still couldn't help but be shocked and filled with complicated emotions. They felt gratified but even stronger emotions of guilt.

As parents, they were unable to take care of their children since their children were young. Now, they even needed their son to come and rescue them, so how could they not feel guilty?

"It isn't just that, that little fellow isn't someone that's bold but foolish. He relied on the might of Oracle Mountain and the Tang Clan when he came here this time, and he made me have no choice but to make concessions and allow him to participate in the competition for the next successor of the clan that's being held soon." At this moment, Chen Lingkong seemed very frank and didn't conceal anything.

Both Chen Lingjun and Zuoqiu Xue couldn't help but feel surprised when they heard this, and they seemed to be in deep thought and didn't reveal any happiness.

Because they were very clearly aware that Chen Lingkong would definitely not accept defeat just like that.

Sure enough, Chen Lingkong continued in the next moment. "However, unfortunately, no matter how prepared he is this time, it will still end in failure for sure."

"Why do you say so?" said Chen Lingjun with a frown on his face.

"Big Brother, don't forget that our Chen Clan is a Divine Dao Protector Clan that possesses countless experts. Even though that son of yours is extraordinary, but do you think he can seize the position of succession with a cultivation at the Fourth Star of the Region Lord Realm?" When he spoke up to here, Chen Lingkong had a wisp of disdain on the corners of his mouth. "He doesn't have the ability of an Innate God nor does he have the bloodline of my Chen Clan. Such a little fellow isn't worthy of mentioning at all!"

"Since it's like that, then why have you come here?" Zuoqiu Xue spoke coldly because anyone would probably be infuriated upon hearing others speak badly about their child.

"I told you, I've come to make a trade." Chen Lingkong sighed and said, "This matter has already been delayed for too long. So, isn't it about time that we resolve it?"

Zuoqiu Xue pursued an answer. "What sort of trade?"

Chen Lingkong suddenly straightened his figure, and his imposing aura was oppressive and haughty as he said in a low voice, "It's very simple. Hand that precious treasure over and I'll let the two of you go. I'll allow your family to be reunited. Alright?"

"What if we don't agree?" said Chen Lingjun.

Chen Lingkong seemed to have not expected that Chen Lingjun would still reveal such an attitude after he'd provided such sincere conditions, so he couldn't help but frown as he said, "If you don't agree? If it's really like that, then it'll probably be impossible to save the two of you even if Oracle Mountain and the Tang Clan pressure our Chen Clan!"

He paused for a moment, and then a wisp of coldness appeared in his eyes. "Don't forget that your fate is still in my hands. This is something that no one can change!"

"I understand now." Chen Lingjun had a composed expression. "You can leave. I won't agree to these conditions."

Chen Lingkong's face sank. "Aren't you worried that your son would suffer an accident?"

"Don't you dare!" Zuoqiu Xue's clear eyes turned icy cold, and she was completely infuriated by these words. Perhaps she could ignore the fate of any other person, but how could she ignore the fate of her own flesh and blood?

"Hahaha! Why wouldn't I?" Chen Lingkong roared with laughter, and his voice was icy cold and ghastly to the extreme. "The Chen Clan will sooner or later fall into a complete decline without that precious treasure, and it's even to the extent that it might be swallowed by other clans. Since it's like that, then what else do I have to care about?"

His expression even carried a wisp of madness.

Chen Lingkong was a Daolord that possessed extraordinary ability and monstrous authority. Yet now, he'd actually spoken such words, so it was absolutely not an exaggeration.

"Just leave." Chen Lingjun didn't reveal any emotions towards this, and he said indifferently, "Come talk with me when you really dare to act in that way. Perhaps... I would consider it seriously then."

"Hmph! Then we'll wait and see!" Chen Lingkong stood up and left in anger, and his figure gradually vanished amidst the snow that covered the surroundings.

"Lingjun, what if...." As soon as Chen Lingkong had left, a wisp of worry couldn't help but creep onto Zuoqiu Xue's face.

"Don't worry. I know Chen Lingkong. He finally gained authority over the entire Chen Clan with great difficulty, so how could he possibly do something that might destroy the entire Chen Clan as well. Don't forget that Xi'er didn't come here alone." Chen Lingjun's eyes were deep as he said in a light voice. "No matter if it's the Oracle Mountain or the Tang Clan, they both aren't existences that the current Chen Clan dares to offend...."

Zuoqiu Xue thought for a moment, and then her tightly knit brows eased up while she nodded.

"Everything else is inconsequential as long as Xi'er is fine."

When she mentioned Chen Xi, a wisp of a smile couldn't help but arise on the corners of Chen Lingjun's mouth, and he sighed with emotion. "In my past life, my greatest pride was leading the entire Chen Clan to occupy the Ninth Spirit World. But in this lifetime, my greatest pride is possessing you and two intelligent and obedient children."

Zuoqiu Xue's expression became gently as well, and she muttered. "Aren't I the same as well?"

Chen Lingjun stood up and embraced Zuoqiu Xue before he said, "A'Xue, you should be clearly aware that Xi'er possesses the River Diagram, so Oracle Mountain would absolutely not watch as something happens to him. So, you don't have to worry. I have a feeling that it won't be long before our family will truly be reunited, and we won't have to be separated again...."

Zuoqiu Xue laid in his embrace while her face was covered in longing.

...

Time passed by without noticing, and only 3 days were left before the Chen Clan's Ancestral Worship Ceremony began.

It was also on this day that Chen Xi who was cultivating in meditation had been suddenly jolted awake by clamorous noise.

He stood up swiftly and walked out of the abode, and his face instantly turned cold and indifferent when he witnessed the scene occurring in the distance.