

Unparalleled 651

Chapter 651: Two Veteran Emperors, One Month Later, See You At Great Frost Dragon Mountain

An incredibly powerful Emperor's Aura erupted in the void before them.

A gray-robed man walked out of it and gazed at Chu Kuangren coldly. "Did I not ask you to stop?"

"Oh, am I supposed to obey whatever you say?"

Chu Kuangren glanced at the man with his Eye of Revelation activated.

This man was an Emperor as well.

He was not just an Emperor but a veteran Emperor. What alarmed Chu Kuangren the most was that this Emperor hailed from the archaic ancient orthodoxy, the Qin clan.

No wonder he was so agitated.

After all, Chu Kuangren had murdered a newly-ascended Emperor from their orthodoxy right before his eyes. It would be strange if that did not arouse his anger.

"Right, what's up with new Emperors of the modern era nowadays? So arrogant and disrespectful of those who came before you. Kiddo, do you have any idea how many hundred thousands of years of seniority I have over you in Emperorship?" the Qin Clan Emperor scoffed.

"So is that all you know? Suppressing the young folk with your seniority?"

"Seems that I am obliged to teach you a lesson or two."

The Qin Clan Emperor struck out immediately. He raised an arm and unleashed ripples of Emperor qi that had Dao patterns way more mystical than Qin Tianchen's were. Clearly, he was many grades above Qin Tianchen.

As a matter of fact, the Emperor Realm was subdivided into three — Initial Emperor, Heavenly Emperor, and Daoist Celestial.

Among those, the Initial Emperor Realm was split into nine ranks. The bottom three ranks were Novices, the middle three ranks were Experts, while the top three ranks were Perfected.

Chu Kuangren, Qin Tianchen, and the few other new Emperors had just only stepped over to Emperor Realm, so they were still at the first rank of the Initiate Emperor Realm. In other words, they were Novice Emperors.

In fact, Novice Emperors were situated at the very bottom of the food chain.

Even this Qin Clan Emperor in front of them now was a Novice Emperor. However, he was a Rank Three Novice Emperor, an elite amongst all Novice Emperors.

"Lashing out at a new Emperor like that, how are you setting an example as an elder?"

Chu Kuangren appeared unusually composed in the face of this Rank Three Novice Emperor's attack. The Emperor qi inside his body surged, and his Invincible Technique brewed.

Then, he threw out a punch, and the two Emperors' Auras clashed. As the Dao patterns clashed violently, Chu Kuangren did not flinch at all. Conversely, the Qin Clan Emperor was shocked that the punch forced him multiple steps back.

"How is this possible?!"

The Qin Clan Emperor's expression changed abruptly.

He was a Rank Three Novice Emperor, yet he fell to a disadvantageous position against this new Emperor. Was that guy really a new Emperor?

"What level is your Emperor's Core?"

Qin Clan Emperor realized that his opponent's Emperor's Core was just too strong. Such quality of Emperor qi was something that he had not seen before.

It was obvious at this point that his opponent's Emperor's Core quality was extremely high!

In fact, it was far superior to his.

High-grade? Superb-grade?

Otherwise, how did he harness such a powerful combat strength?!

"You're not entitled to know," Chu Kuangren commented plainly. The Prominent-grade Emperor's Core was his trump card, so he would never easily give up that information to anyone.

He may be a confident person, but he knew when not to say certain things.

Especially when facing an Emperor.

Revealing only seventy percent of his strength and concealing the other thirty was the true key to success!

"Hmph. How powerful can a new Emperor like you be?"

Qin Clan Emperor was about to follow up on his attack.

Just then, a figure swooped down from below. It was a lady with delicate makeup who wore a bright red long dress.

"Brother Qin Yu, we're not here today to make enemies with the new Emperors," that lady remarked calmly.

"Hmph, Sister Leng Xin, this guy has brutally murdered multiple new Emperors. Are you really just going to sit by and do nothing?"

"That's their personal matter. I've got nothing to do with it."

"The man that he murdered was an Emperor of my clan. How does that have nothing to do with me?" Qin Yu sneered in response, not willing to give up so easily.

“Proceed with this little fight of yours then. If you manage to kill him, I’d like to see how you’ll explain yourself to Great Emperor Hua Xing. And if he kills you, you best be prepared to feel remorseful over your actions in the afterlife.”

Qin Yu did not look too delighted upon hearing that.

Firstly, they were here for a mission. If they did not complete it as requested, there would be consequences awaiting them when they return.

Secondly, if Leng Xin did not help him, he knew it would be difficult for him to bring down Chu Kuangren alone.

“Hmph, fine then.”

Qin Yu scoffed and slowly retracted his domineering aura.

Only then could Leng Xin finally relax. She looked at the few Emperor corpses around her, expressing her sympathy at their demise. “These were all new Emperors... They would’ve been better off dying on the Extraterritorial Battlefield than here.”

At the side, Chu Kuangren was startled.

Extraterritorial Battlefield?

Another term that he had unheard of.

“Are you by any chance Great Emperor Leng Xin?”

Just then, Leng Ningyu walked up to the front and asked in Great Emperor Leng Xin’s direction.

“Yes, that’s me.”

Great Emperor Leng Xin nodded gently.

“It’s an honor to meet you, Senior. I’m Leng Ningyu, your junior from Seven Emotions Sect.”

Leng Ningyu bowed as a sign of respect. She had seen Leng Xin’s portrait previously. The latter was a Great Emperor of the Seven Emotions Sect and her senior.

“Now that you’re an Emperor, you can feel free to regard me as your equal from now on.”

Leng Xin glanced at Leng Ningyu with a knowing smile.

Then, she turned to Chu Kuangren and the rest of the group and said, “We’ve come to Emperor Mountain this time mainly to inform you, new Emperors, of a matter. In a month’s time, we invite you all to the Firmament Star’s Great Frost Dragon Mountain for a meeting.”

“At that time, we will answer all of your burning questions and tell you everything you need to know about being an Emperor.”

Murong Xuan and Lan Yu glanced at Chu Kuangren after they heard that.

Clearly, they all listen to Chu Kuangren.

Even Zhi Wuji was waiting for his response.

“Alright, we’ll be there in one month’s time.”

Chu Kuangren nodded.

“Since we’ve already passed the message on, we shall excuse ourselves then.”

Leng Xin did not look like she wanted to linger around Emperor Mountain.

She smiled at Leng Ningyu and said, “If the opportunity presents itself in the future, I’ll make a trip back to Seven Emotions Sect. In the meantime, I’ll see you at Great Frost Dragon Mountain.”

After that, Leng Xin and Qin Yu left the place.

The people remaining stared blankly at each other.

Murong Xuan, Lan Yu, and Leng Ningyu stared at Chu Kuangren. They were clearly waiting for Chu Kuangren to explain to them what happened.

“This is not the place. We’ll talk after getting out of here.”

Chu Kuangren flashed them a warm smile.

With that, the few of them departed Emperor Mountain. However, the remaining cultivators who were left around Emperor Mountain still had not recovered from the rapid chain of events earlier.

“Bloodshed has already occurred on the day the new Emperors are born. Veteran Emperors emerged but still ended up getting defeated by Chu Kuangren in one hit. I have a feeling that a massive revolution is about to take place in this realm.”

“Yeah. I felt like the spiritual qi in this realm has become more vibrant after the birth of these new Emperors. The Dao has become more easily apprehensible too. These signs bear a kind of resemblance to the Great Dharma Prosperity back during immemorial times.”

“Seems like it’ll become easier for us to cultivate now.”

A discussion broke out within the crowd.

As for the Bai clan, the Wang clan, and a few other orthodoxies who had just witnessed Chu Kuangren slaying their respective new Emperors, they were overwhelmed with grief.

They had waited so long to see a Bai clan sky-pride ascend into Emperorhood.

Yet, all that effort just for Chu Kuangren to murder him in cold blood.

What the hell?!

They could not help but feel hopeless.

However, the orthodoxies seemed to have received some news very soon, as they quickly left Emperor Mountain, returning to their respective orthodoxies.

At that sight, the smarter cultivators immediately knew what was going on.

“Tremendous transformations have befallen upon the realm, and the Great Dharma Emergence has begun. The Emperors can’t wait to carry on with their next phase of plans, huh?”

“Perhaps the birth of these new Emperors is only the start of a certain era. I personally feel that a more glorious era is about to arrive.”

A few of the cultivators rubbed their palms together, feeling rather excited about the things that were yet to come.

Chapter 652: Returning to the Black Heaven Sect, True Lovers Were Together, The Homecoming

Inside Seven Emotions Sect.

Chu Kuangren, Lan Yu, and the others waited for everyone to gather.

Chu Kuangren then entailed what happened to him inside the Slumbering Emperor Coffin to everyone. However, he concealed certain parts of the information. All he told them was that he obtained an Opportunity of Fortune in there, absorbed the Chaotic qi, and affirmed his Dao and became an Emperor in the end.

“Affirming Dao inside the coffin. Brother Chu— no, I mean, Emperor Chu, you’ve been on quite a marvelous misadventure, haven’t you?” Lady Leng Yue could not help but remark.

At this point in time, Chu Kuangren had already become an Emperor.

Emperors were not to be questioned nor disrespected.

Although Chu Kuangren would not mind any of that, Lady Leng Yue felt that she should still be more courteous in her speeches.

“Quite so.”

Chu Kuangren returned her with a gentle smile. After that, he looked at Murong Xuan, Nangong Huang, and a few others. He smiled and said to them, “It’s great to see you guys alive.”

“Haha, likewise.”

“Now that Lan Yu, Murong Xuan, and Sect Leader have become Emperors, I reckon we can command a rule over the entire Firmament Star once we return to the Black Heaven Sect.”

Nangong Huang laughed out loud.

Indeed.

It had been more than a hundred thousand years since Emperors emerged in Firmament Star. Now, three Emperors had suddenly emerged from the Black Heaven Sect alone, propelling them straight into an Emperor orthodoxy and leaving the other orthodoxies far behind them.

They could easily claim the ruling seat over the Firmament Star now.

“These things shall wait until we meet the rest of the Emperors.”

Chu Kuangren said.

He did not have a good feeling about this.

Those Emperors must be up to something.

“Master, when should we head back to the Black Heaven Sect?”

Lan Yu inquired.

Their main aim of entering Emperor Road was to ascend to the very top of Emperor Mountain and become Emperors. Now, this target has already been reached.

It was about time they returned to the Black Heaven Sect.

“We shall rest in Seven Emotions Sect for a day before heading back. Sister Leng Yue, I hope you don’t mind us staying here for the night.”

“I don’t see why not.”

Lady Leng Yue gave them a warm smile.

Those people were now Emperors. She would jump at any opportunity to make them feel at home.

That night.

Chu Kuangren sat on the ground cross-legged, absorbing heavenly and earthly spiritual qi and then refining them into Emperor qi. Moments after, he slowly opened his eyes.

“These heavenly and earthly spiritual qis are much stronger than before, and I sense that they’re still increasing in intensity. Has the Heavenly Dao become stronger?”

Chu Kuangren made a swiping gesture with his palm.

At the very heart of his palms, a layer of mysterious Dao patterns emerged.

Those were the Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns.

One could consider these the upgraded version of the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Rhymes.

This was something he mastered right after he became an Emperor. Through these Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns, he was now more receptive toward the changes happening in this realm.

Not only that, but with the strengthening of the Heavenly Dao, Chu Kuangren could feel his Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns increasing in power as well.

This meant that Chu Kuangren did not need to cultivate to elevate his own powers. Since the Heavenly Dao was strong, his powers would increase with it too.

This, for him, was unbelievable.

Never in history has anything like this happened before.

“I seem to have obtained a portion of the Heavenly Dao’s power after breaking free of the Heavenly Punishment Seal. I wonder if there’s a deeper meaning to this.”

“Besides, what is the meaning of the Heavenly Tormenter that the God of Light and the God of Darkness mentioned previously? Does it have any connection to Heavenly Punishment energy?”

Chu Kuangren shook his head.

The shame was that he forgot to ask Chaos Daoist Celestial about Heavenly Punishment while he was inside the Slumbering Emperor Coffin. Otherwise, his companion might have had the answers he was looking for.

However, he stopped dwelling on it.

One day, he would eventually understand everything.

“I should prepare myself for the meeting with the Emperors at the Great Frost Dragon Mountain and then plan the things I should accomplish next,” Chu Kuangren muttered to himself.

...

The next day.

Chu Kuangren led Lan Yu and the rest of his group to bid farewell to Lady Leng Yue and her people. However, his team saw the addition of two other people.

These were Leng Ningyu and Chu Yue.

They were headed to the Firmament Star as well.

It was because the Great Frost Dragon Mountain that the Emperors mentioned was situated in Firmament Star. This place was quite well-known as it was one of the Ten Great Forbidden Areas of the Firmament Star.

After knowing all these, Leng Ningyu decided to join Chu Kuangren and his crew, leaving her homeland behind. Meanwhile, Chi Yue tagged along for the thrill of it.

Aside from that, Murong Xuan also made a trip to Seven Chord City along the way to pick up Yang Xiyun.

Prior to this, Yang Xiyun’s sect, the Melodious Void Sect had banned their people from getting into a romantic relationship with anyone. Yet now, they no longer stopped it.

Since Murong Xuan had already become an Emperor, why would they stop them?!

When Murong Xuan came up to their door, Melodious Void Sect Leader was unbelievably polite and generous toward him. She even apologized to him straight in the face.

She blurted out a bunch of nonsensical gibberish that she would have never uttered before, such as ‘all hail the great Emperor. I have wronged you in the past for not recognizing your capabilities.’ I hope you will disregard how we treated you’ and et cetera.

In the end, she respectfully brought Yang Xiyun out to reunite them both.

At last, the true lovers were together.

“Heh, these two lovebirds finally got what they wanted. They can finally spend quality time and live happily ever after now. I’m sure a lot of people will envy them.” Chu Kuangren stared at Murong Xuan and the rather sheepish Yang Xiyun and mocked them.

At the side, Nangong Huang and the others said their congratulations too.

“Sect Leader, I hope you will be our wedding witness when we return to Black Heaven Sect.” Murong Xuan said cordially as he looked at Chu Kuangren

Under normal circumstances, wedding witnesses were roles held by the bride and groom’s elder relatives.

However, to Murong Xuan, Chu Kuangren was not just a Sect Leader but a person whom he would forever look up to. Hence, he naturally qualified for this role.

“Of course.”

Chu Kuangren smiled in response.

“Alright, let’s hit the road.”

Leaving Emperor Road was no longer a difficult task to the newly-ascended Emperor, Chu Kuangren. All he had to do was activate the Spatial Conveyor Skill.

Firmament Star.

Ripples spread across the void.

Immediately following that were the appearance of a dozen or so figures.

When Chu Kuangren, Lan Yu, Murong Xuan, and Leng Ningyu appeared in the Firmament Star, their strong Emperor’s Aura emanated and caused a tremor across Firmament Star’s fabrics of space.

However, everything returned to normal after a short while.

Firmament Star’s current state was sturdy enough to withstand the presence of beings in the Emperor Realm.

“Come, let’s go back to the Black Heaven Sect.”

Chu Kuangren led the pack and dashed in the Black Heaven Sect’s direction.

Throughout their journey, they did not bother covering up their auras. As such, their tremendous Emperor Might spread far and wide, reaching beyond the skies and seas, filling the realm with its stupendous force.

Wherever they passed, countless living beings would cower in fear.

This whole scene felt like a homecoming for the new Emperors.

They had spent so many years cultivating to achieve Emperorhood. How could you expect them to maintain a low profile after all that they had been through? They must announce their arrivals and gather everyone in the realm to congratulate them!

Various orthodoxies and Forbidden Areas on Firmament Star could sense the Emperor's energy that came from Chu Kuangren and his group.

Suddenly, the whole Firmament Star shuddered in their presence.

"That... that's an immense energy!"

"My gosh, what kind of being has arrived?!"

"Emperor's Aura... A never-before-seen Emperor Aura. This must be the sign of an Emperor's arrival. D*mn, I knew that something big had happened when I noticed the enormous changes to the realm earlier. It turns out that somebody has become an Emperor!"

"Who is that?!"

"It's... Chu Kuangren!"

"D*mn it. It really is that d*mned guy!"

"Wait a minute. It's not just Chu Kuangren... there's Lan Yu and Murong Xuan too! These two had become Emperors as well?!"

Every cultivator on Firmament Star was stunned.

Chu Kuangren becoming an Emperor may have shocked them, but it did not catch them by surprise. After all, they could still vividly recall the remarkable feats that he had achieved throughout his time here.

However, how did Murong Xuan and Lan Yu become Emperors too?

This meant three Emperors had emerged from the Black Heaven Sect!!

What the hell was this?!

How were the other orthodoxies supposed to survive now?

In that case, they might as well surrender the whole Firmament Star to the Black Heaven Sect!

Chapter 653: Calm Down Lil Red, A Message from Gu Linglong

Chu Kuangren and his group did not even conceal their respective Emperor energies as they swooped across the skies of various great orthodoxies. The Forbidden Areas and all of Firmament Star's cultivators now knew that somebody from the Black Heaven Sect had become Emperors!!

Moreover, it was not one, not two, but a whopping three of them!!

It had been a few hundred thousand years since the Firmament Star last saw the birth of an Emperor. Now, there were three altogether at once, and everyone was overwhelmed.

This Black Heaven Sect was literally breaking the laws of nature.

"How arrogant are these people?"

Atop a random mountain, a middle-aged man could not help but scoff upon seeing Chu Kuangren, Murong Xuan, and the rest of their group dashing past up in the sky.

He had a sword strapped to his waist, and his whole body emanated with a piercing sword qi. An intense Emperor's Aura would vaguely pervade him from time to time.

When Chu Kuangren flew past him, the two of them locked eyes for a brief moment. However, they immediately retracted their gazes to prevent any conflicts from happening.

A soft-spoken man in green who dressed like a scholar was standing beside this middle-aged man. The former whipped out his fan and smiled. "It's true what they say. Men won't return to their homeland until they have turned their fortune. It's the same in the cultivation world. He has to show off now that he has become an Emperor."

"Hmph, I'm just saying that he might have made it too flashy even though he's just a new Emperor."

"Brother Jian Feng, I know you and your Sword Tribe have a vengeance with this guy, but you've been an Emperor for over a hundred thousand years now. You shouldn't take these matters too seriously when it concerns another Emperor. This guy must not be taken lightly. He may be just a new Emperor, but he gives me a mysterious feeling. I think it's best you don't go seeking his trouble."

The soft-spoken green-robed man smiled gently and said.

Jian Feng nodded his head lightly. "Don't you worry. I know my boundaries."

A great distance away, deep in the ocean.

A man with a golden scale on his forehead opened his eyes and looked toward the far side. After sensing the Emperor's energy from Chu Kuangren and his people, he sneered. "Chu Kuangren, I shall patiently await your battle!"

After saying that, he shut his eyes once again.

Black Heaven Sect.

A boundless and overwhelming Emperor's energy swept across the land.

Elder Ruyan, Honorable Xuan Qi, Second Forefather, Third Forefather, Fairfrost Sage, White-Robed General, and others were all startled.

They glanced toward the distance, visibly shocked by what was coming at them.

"Such powerful energy... Who has our sect offended?"

"This energy... Is it an Emperor?"

"Quick, everybody, on your feet. Activate the formation... Huh?"

Elder Ruyan was the first to rush out and stared at their alleged attackers on the far side of the horizon. However, just as she was about to send orders to activate the Astonishing Sea of Clouds Formation, she gasped as caught sight of Chu Kuangren and the few others.

"It's the Sect Leader. He's back!!"

“Don’t activate the formation. It’s our Sect Leader!”

A blazing light suddenly shot up into the sky and turned into a stunning Godly Phoenix, dyeing more than half of the sky in red.

“Brother...” Godly Phoenix Lil Red stared in Chu Kuangren’s direction, feeling incredibly emotional. Then, her figure turned into a fiery flash of light and dashed out at him.

Chu Kuangren was just about to open his arms and embrace Lil Red when he realized that she was not slowing down.

His expression abruptly changed as he said, “Lil Red, slow down now! Don’t be too excited! Ah—”

Lil Red was so excited that she flew at such a fast speed and could not stop herself from crashing onto Chu Kuangren.

With a loud rumble, the heaven and earth trembled as the man and the phoenix crashed into a mountain with great force.

Inside a giant crater, the Godly Phoenix, Lil Red could not suppress the excitement in her, and she kept rubbing her head against Chu Kuangren.

“Brother, you’re finally home...”

Chu Kuangren caressed her furry head and consoled her. “I’m sorry I made you wait for the last few years. I’m home now.”

“Yes. I’m just glad that you’re home. You don’t have to say sorry.”

Not far away, Leng Ningyu and Chi Yue gazed at the Godly Phoenix with amazement. “Wow, Black Heaven Sect has a Godly Phoenix?”

The Godly Phoenix was a Supreme True Dragon...

Such prosperous divine beasts brought with them immense good fortune since they were favored by the heavens. They were even rarer than those immemorial beings.

“That’s Sect Leader’s little sister. Her name is Chu Hong...”

Murong Xuan provided commentary from the side.

Then, the crowd crossed the Astonishing Sea of Clouds Formation and entered the Black Heaven Sect.

With that, Lil Red transformed into her human form — a graceful red-dressed teenage girl, who clung to Chu Kuangren. She did not want to leave him, not even for one moment.

Black Heaven Sect, inside Longevity Hall.

A crowd was gathered in the hall.

As Elder Ruyan, White-Robed General, and the others glanced at Chu Kuangren, they gulped. “Sect Leader, you... you’ve become an Emperor?!”

Chu Kuangren opened his arms and laughed. “Why? Do I not resemble one?”

"You do. You definitely resemble one."

"What do you mean 'resemble'? He is already one, okay?"

"Haha, bless the Black Heaven Sect. Our Black Heaven Sect has finally produced an Emperor after all these years. This is terrific news."

Everyone could hardly contain their emotions.

Especially Xuan Qi, who looked at Chu Kuangren with a face full of joy and relief. At the same time, he looked at the Second Forefather and Third Forefather, and said to them proudly, "I told you guys that I'll become an Emperor's Honorable Teacher someday."

"Yeah, yeah. Brag all you want."

"Pfft, you haven't even done anything remarkable thus far."

Then, Elder Ruyan and the elders looked at Murong Xuan and Lan Yu with a surprised expression. "You two..."

"Yes, we've become Emperors too."

Murong Xuan's words blew everyone's minds.

"Um, Elder Ruyan, would you mind giving me a slap to check if I'm in a dream?" Xuan Qi said in a daze.

Elder Ruyan did not hold back either. She straight-up threw a forceful slap at him and slammed him out of the great hall. Following that came a painful wail.

"Ouch, it hurts? Huh? I'm not dreaming."

Xuan Qi's peal of crazed laughter would be heard outside the hall.

Even the people inside the hall felt the same way as him.

Three Emperors!

Black Heaven Sect now had three extra almighty Emperors!

This was a dream that they had never dared to imagine!

After the bout of emotions, Chu Kuangren inquired about the recent developments that had happened in Black Heaven Sect. Aside from the improvements in cultivation for Elder Ruyan and a few others, there were no other big changes.

"Right, Sect Leader. I wanted to inform you about something."

Seeming having recalled something, Elder Ruyan suddenly took out a jade scroll and passed it to Chu Kuangren. "This is a letter that Queen Linglong left for you."

"Linglong? Did anything happen to her?"

Chu Kuangren frowned slightly.

"A few days ago, Queen Linglong suddenly announced that she'd abdicate the throne, passing it to the Fourth Prince. After that, she disappeared. But before she was gone for good, she had someone send this jade scroll here and requested that we pass it to you."

"Alright."

Chu Kuangren read the message on the jade scroll.

"My dear husband, hope you are well..."

In the jade scroll, Gu Linglong briefly explained where she was headed and detailed how she had met this mysterious woman who possessed the Godly Daoist Physique similar to hers. As such, this woman intended to take her in as a student.

At that time, the Royal Azure Dynasty was already quite peaceful with its folks leading happy and healthy lives. After weighing the trade-offs, Gu Linglong made the decision to follow that woman as a student and leave the dynasty for an obscure location.

As for where she was headed, the jade scroll was quite vague about this piece of information.

It seemed like Gu Linglong herself was quite clear about her decision. However, she wanted to explain things so that Chu Kuangren would not worry about her.

"A woman who is a Godly Daoist Physique host as well. If this weren't such a great Opportunity of Fortune, Linglong would never have been swayed. Who is this woman, I wonder?"

Chu Kuangren mumbled to himself.

Then, he mobilized his Emperor to cover the whole Firmament Star in no time. With his current cultivation realm, not even the prohibition from the Forbidden Areas could restrict his Emperor thought. Nonetheless, he did not manage to find anything in his search.

Gu Linglong appeared to have left the Firmament Star.

Chu Kuangren gave it a moment's ponder before putting the thought at the back of his mind.

Chapter 654: The New Emperor's Grand Wedding, Guests from Various Places, Sword Tribe's Jian Feng

News of Chu Kuangren and the few new Emperors returning to the Black Heaven Sect spread across the entire Firmament Star like wildfire. All orthodoxies and Forbidden Areas were shocked by it.

Soon after that, another news came from the Black Heaven Sect.

The new Emperor Murong Xuan was going to get married, and he had invited all the orthodoxies to attend his wedding!

All of a sudden, a commotion erupted among the countless orthodoxies.

A new Emperor's wedding!

This could be considered the greatest event that had happened in the past few hundred thousand years.

Everybody wanted to go and join in the fun.

"The Black Heaven Sect has really struck gold for gaining three new Emperors in one go. This is just simply unbelievable."

"One even announced his marriage upon returning home. They're trying to announce their presence to the world!"

"Come, let's go to the Black Heaven Sect and have a look."

"We can't just attend a new Emperor's wedding empty-handed. Go and find some treasures before we go. It doesn't matter whether the new Emperor likes it or not. What matters is our sincerity."

Various of Firmament Star's great forces were sent into a hustle and bustle.

Everybody wanted to capture the attention of the new Emperor, hoping to forge good relations with him.

On Murong Xuan's big day.

The entire Black Heaven Sect was lavishly decorated for the celebration.

"Hang those lanterns well. Make sure every building has one of those."

"Also, the red carpet. Set them up nicely. Honestly, I never knew of this walk-the-red-carpet ritual. Is it a common thing to do when cultivators wed?"

Elder Ruyan was busy instructing the disciples on the preparations for the wedding. Although she was very busy, there was a delighted smile on her face.

It had been a long time since the Black Heaven Sect was this buzzing.

Not far away, Yang Xiyun and Murong Xuan looked rather helpless as they watched the rest busying themselves. "I just wanted Sect Leader to witness our marriage. Who knew he would throw such a grand affair instead?" Murong Xuan commented.

"Nonsense. You're not just any new Emperor. You're Black Heaven Sect's very own Daoist, so it has to be grand. Besides, marriage is a once-in-a-lifetime thing. Your bride has already vowed to spend the rest of her life with you. How could you just make it a simple ceremony? We have to make it the grandest occasion ever!"

Elder Ruyan stared Murong Xuan dead in the eye.

Despite having become an Emperor, Murong Xuan still acted like a junior when he was speaking with Elder Ruyan. He dared not rebut her words and merely smiled wryly in response.

"Let me see if there's anything else left to prepare."

Elder Ruyan took out a small booklet.

It had all of Chu Kuangren's suggestions regarding the wedding written on it.

"Ring?"

"We still need a ring as a symbol of your union. Hm, your Sect Leader really does ask for quite a lot of things," Elder Ruyan muttered under her breath.

She then turned to Murong Xuan and told him, "Why don't you two go and look for a perfect ring. We'll need to use it during the ceremony later on."

"Oh, got it." Murong Xuan nodded hastily in agreement.

"Hey, hey. That lantern is slightly crooked to the side."

Elder Ruyan continued on with the preparations.

After three days.

The day of the marriage.

"The Eight Wind Palace has gifted ten stalks of Millennium Coral..."

"The White Jade Inn has gifted ten Wondrous Flowers..."

"The Nether Abyss Valley has gifted ten Ethereal Ice..."

Various great orthodoxies' leaders attended in person, and many of the Forbidden Areas' Boundary Emperors came too, each carrying their respective valuable gifts with them.

"Ahem. I can't. My throat hurts."

At the reception area, one of the disciples coughed and passed the gift list to another disciple beside him.

The amounts of gifts they were receiving were way too overwhelming. All the named forces on Firmament Star and almost all of their cultivators had turned up.

In front of Longevity Hall.

The orthodoxy leaders and cultivators were gathered here. With numerous tables arranged almost side by side, the atmosphere was incredible.

"My fellow friends, how are you?"

"Eight Wind Palace Lord, you're here too."

"Of course. How can I not attend the wedding of the new Emperor?"

"Elder Ruyan, you Black Heaven Sect people are truly fortunate. You guys have three new Emperors all in one go. Do you have any idea how jealous you've made us?"

"No, no, not at all. Credits to our Sect Leader's incredible guidance."

Elder Ruyan and a few other people were welcoming the guests.

Just then, a man walked out of Longevity Hall. With a white loose-sleeved robe, black hair, and his exquisite looks, the crowd could immediately tell who this familiar face was.

It was none other than Chu Kuangren.

The crowd quickly rose and bowed upon seeing his arrival.

“Greetings, Sect Leader Chu.”

“Greetings, Sect Leader Chu.”

Chu Kuangren smiled and said, “Save the courtesy, my fellow guests. Today is a big day for the Black Heaven Sect. The feast is on the house!”

He swept a glance at Elder Ruyan beside him.

She immediately got the signal. “Bring the wine out.”

The disciples were seen carrying wine bottles to their assigned tables. Soon, the whole place was filled with the pleasant smell of wine mixed with a faint herbal fragrance. It was very refreshing.

When the cultivators present smelt this wine fragrance, they suddenly felt their spiritual power stimulated. They were instantly shocked.

“What kind of wine is this?”

One of the cultivators exclaimed in astonishment. He picked up the wine cup and took a sip of it.

The liquid that entered his throat brought a cool and smooth sensation. Then, it turned into an incredibly delicate spiritual qi, which spread to every nook and cranny of his body. Surprisingly, this wine healed many of the inner injuries that he had suffered from before and increased his spiritual powers up a notch.

“What an amazing wine. Good stuff!!”

The cultivators all gasped in surprise.

The rest of the people also began sipping from their cups when they saw the reaction.

Gasps were soon heard from one end of the crowd to the other.

“This wine has the ability to heal, increase spiritual power, and purge the body of any impurities. With just this cup alone, those meridians that I’ve damaged all those years ago have been healed. Isn’t this marvelous?”

“It truly is unbelievable.”

“What a precious treasure!”

The crowd stared at the wine jar at the very front, their eyes filled with admiration.

Even the Sages were impressed.

“This Spring Rain Wine is a little gift I’ve prepared for everyone to welcome you here in the Black Heaven Sect.” Chu Kuangren said to everyone with a wide smile on his face.

The Spring Rain Wine was a type of herbal wine that Chu Kuangren had brewed.

Since he possessed the Physician's Inheritance and Black Heaven Sect had numerous resources of elixirs and herbs, it was not hard at all for him to make such a wine.

"Many thanks, Sect Leader Chu."

"This wine has benefitted us immensely."

Cultivators were known to amass a body full of inner injuries whenever there was a slight error in their cultivation, such as damages to the meridians

When these inner injuries accumulate to a certain degree, they would become a huge obstacle to a cultivator's cultivation journey.

This problem could only be solved when they ascend into a Sage and forge a Sage body. Even so, how many of these Firmament Star cultivators could go on and eventually become a Sage?

Chu Kuangren's Spring Rain Wine was very useful for them.

Besides healing injuries, it could also elevate their spiritual power.

"I'm Sword Tribe's Jian Feng, and I'm here to deliver my congratulations to the new Emperor!"

Suddenly, an ice-cold voice was heard from beyond the skies.

A golden ray of light shot down from the heavens above!

It was a mighty sword!

A sword that was uniform in texture and looked like it was forged out of pure gold. This sword had various mystical Dao patterns coursing through it, emanating an incredibly terrifying poise. It looked as if an asteroid had hit the earth and was heading straight for the Longevity Hall!

The cultivators in the crowd could sense its terrifying domineering aura. Even those Boundary Emperors were terrified at the sheer force. They were so scared that they shook with fear!

What kind of energy was that?!

Chu Kuangren stared at the sword that was dashing toward them and squinted his eyes. Then, he moved one foot forward, slowly thrusting a sword finger in its direction.

When the tip of the sword collided with the tip of his finger, there were no earth-shattering repercussions produced from the impact.

Instead, the longsword's body gradually disintegrated, and the Dao patterns on it slowly faded. As a result, the terrifying domineering aura slowly dissipated as well.

In the end, that sword turned into its primordial look as it sat silently in Chu Kuangren's grip. Upon closer look, the crowd realized that the sword had not yet been sharpened. Strictly speaking, that was a sword mold.

A white-robed middle-aged man walked out of the void while introducing himself. "Jian Feng from the Sword Tribe would like to gift you a Taiyi Fine Gold sword mold. I hope that you'll accept it."

Chapter 655: Murong Xuan's Wedding, Battling Jian Feng in the Void

At the void, the white-robed man stared at Chu Kuangren and said in a composed manner.

Chu Kuangren, on the other hand, stared into his eyes and placed that sword mold at one side. "We appreciate the Sword Tribe's gift. I thank you on behalf of Murong Xuan. Since you're here, why don't you take a seat?"

"Since you don't mind, I shall do that."

The white-robed middle-aged man said.

His figure flashed, and he sat down on one of the seats.

The cultivators around him automatically shifted aside for him. From the looks of it, it seemed like this man might be an Emperor too!

The crowd knew they did not qualify to share a seat with an Emperor.

Hence, Jian Feng got a table all to himself.

Chu Kuangren could not care less about him too.

After all, the wedding ceremony was about to begin.

"Now, let's welcome the bride and the groom!"

Elder Ruyan announced out loud.

A prosperous light suddenly filled the horizon, and two figures could be seen descending from the clouds. The male looked handsome, while the female looked stunning. Both of them were wearing red, and one could say that they were a match made in heaven.

They landed on the red carpet and then walked toward Longevity Hall.

Wherever they passed, prosperous light and cloud qi coursed under their feet.

The cultivators around them quickly rose and sent them their congratulations.

"Congratulations. Congratulations to you."

"Congratulations Emperor for your marriage. I wish you both a happy and fulfilling life."

Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun had a red band of cloth bound between them as they slowly walked up to Chu Kuangren. Only then did they turn to face each other.

Chu Kuangren was heard letting out a couple of light coughs, as he said in a serious manner, "Murong Xuan, do you take Yang Xiyun as your wedded wife to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do you part?"

Murong Xuan nodded firmly. "I do."

“Yang Xiyun, do you take Murong Xuan as your wedded husband, to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do you part?”

Yang Xiyun’s face blushed slightly as she looked at Murong Xuan across her. She, too, nodded. “I do.”

“Very well, I now pronounce you husband and wife. You may now exchange your rings.” Chu Kuangren smiled delightedly.

Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun took out their rings and put them on each other’s finger.

As if the Heavenly Dao had sensed their union, golden, prosperous clouds and mystical Daoist Rhymes instantly filled the skies, witnessing the new Emperor’s marriage.

“Rejoice!”

Thunderous claps were heard from below the stage.

All the orthodoxies cheered at the newlyweds.

With that, Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun were officially wed as Daoist companions under Chu Kuangren’s witness. They vowed to live by each other for the rest of their lives and till death do they part.

The feast continued.

Murong Xuan and Yang Xiyun were busy entertaining their guests.

Meanwhile, in another corner.

Chu Kuangren left the venue early and came to the top of a mountain. Here, Sword Tribe’s Jian Feng had already been waiting for him long ago.

“Brother, are you not going to have a few more drinks down there?”

“I’m not a fan of crowds.”

Jian Feng replied nonchalantly. An incredibly powerful Emperor Aura was emitted from his body, locking down onto Chu Kuangren. “I came here to meet you today with only one purpose in my mind. I want to see what you’re capable of.”

“Seems like the Sword Tribe always finds a way back to me.”

Chu Kuangren replied.

After defeating the Sword Daoist and their Sovereign, he now had to face the Sword Tribe’s Emperor.

Their successive appearance made him quite annoyed.

“Don’t worry. After our battle today, all the bad blood between you and Sword Tribe will be annulled, and we will have nothing to do with each other ever again.”

“I sincerely hope you keep your words. Make your move then.”

Swish!

The Dao patterns on Jian Feng's body gushed toward Chu Kuangren frenziedly. That was the purest of Dao patterns, one without Emperor qi.

"Oh, you're looking for a spar?"

Chu Kuangren responded.

Similarly, Dao patterns emerged on his body.

When the two types of Dao patterns clashed in the void, a horrific energy wave blasted and rumbled the void.

Gradually, Jian Feng's Dao was suppressed by Chu Kuangren.

"In terms of cultivation realm, you have the upper hand against me."

"But in terms of Dao, you are a far cry from my level!"

Chu Kuangren said to him.

He had attained the Epic Dao, one very close to Prominent Dao.

Such a Dao was extremely rare in this world. Even though Jian Feng's cultivation realm was above his, the former could still never beat Chu Kuangren in Dao.

"Hmph."

Jian Feng scoffed, and a sword ray erupted from his body. Among that, Emperor qi with Dao patterns interweaved within surged out.

He finally made his move.

Seeing that, Chu Kuangren retaliated with a strike of his sword too.

With a bang, the two sword qi collided, and the space in the void fluctuated intensely. The whole Black Heaven Sect could feel the magnitude of that clash.

Faraway, the guests were all startled by this sudden movement.

"What a dreadful energy. What the hell is going on?"

"Are there Emperors battling nearby?"

Having noticed the absence of Chu Kuangren and Jian Feng, some people already had a rough guess on what was happening outside.

Murong Xuan smiled at the guests and assured them, "My fellow guests, enjoy your meals. It's just a minor hiccup. I'm sure Sect Leader will sort it out in no time."

...

The collision of a sword qi ripped a rift open in the void.

Chu Kuangren said to his opponent, "Today is a joyous day for Black Heaven Sect, and I wish not to spoil the fun for my guests. You and I shall resume our battle inside the void!"

As soon as he finished speaking, a pitch-black crack appeared in the space in front of them.

His figure flashed and vanished from where he was.

Jian Feng followed suit and chased after him.

Within the misty void, the air particles surged, each mixed with a strong spatial force.

The spatial force vaguely reflected the appearance of the real world.

The scenes were such as nature, or the bustling streets.

In here was the void, where the space between reality and nothingness lay. Cultivators with not enough cultivation would never be able to reach this space.

Inside the void, two figures appeared in a flash.

Chu Kuangren and Jian Feng stood facing each other in mid-air.

"If we fight here, we won't affect reality too much if we keep our powers down," Chu Kuangren remarked casually.

"Come at me then!"

The Emperor's Aura on Jian Feng's body erupted without any restriction!

He was a Rank Three Initial Emperor Realm!

Chu Kuangren checked out his opponent, Jian Feng's strength with his Eye of Revelation activated. The latter was in the same cultivation realm as Qin Yu whom he had met last time.

The difference was that Qin Yu's Dao had an ordinary Dao and an ordinary Emperor's Core.

Meanwhile, Jian Feng had attained Flawed Dao and Middle-grade Emperor's Core!

Their respective Daos and Emperor's Cores were miles apart. Despite being in the same cultivation realm, the combat strength that they both could unleash was starkly different!

Jian Feng also has a longsword in his hands, which was an Emperor Weapon.

With Emperor qi injected into that Emperor Weapon, he swung it out, and Daoist patterns interweaved into a huge net, fully encasing Chu Kuangren within.

However, Chu Kuangren did not show any sign of weakness either as he drew out the Descendant Self in his hand.

Dazzling sword rays containing his Invincible Technique burst out. With a deafening boom, the sword qi tore the huge net open with brute force.

Then, the sword ray continued its course toward Jian Feng with frightening momentum, which ended up blasting him several kilometers out from his spot.

He stared at Chu Kuangren with utter disbelief. "This is... Esoteric Art! I can't believe you've mastered Esoteric Techniques too!"

He could not believe his own eyes.

Those who could self-create Esoteric Arts were those who had been in the Emperor Realm for ages and had gained complete clarity and apprehension of their own Daos.

However, Chu Kuangren had just stepped into the Emperor Realm not long ago! How did he manage to master the Esoteric Art, which most Emperors could not even wrap their heads around yet?

“You’re surprised by that?”

“What about this then?”

As Chu Kuangren thrust his sword finger forward, the Emperor’s Core inside his body ignited again. His might escalated by a whole tier this time, and it shocked Jian Feng to the very core.

“This Emperor’s Core...”

Chapter 656: The Descendant Self Sword Becomes an Emperor Weapon, Meeting the Headless Empress Again, Seems Like She Can Put It Back

The might of Chu Kuangren’s Emperor qi increased once more!

Jian Feng’s expression changed upon seeing this. The quality of Chu Kuangren’s Emperor qi had far surpassed his by now.

Only those with a High-grade Emperor’s Core possessed such powerful Emperor qi.

No, even the Emperor qi from a High-Grade Emperor’s Core rarely possessed such might.

“How many strands of Emperor qi did he use to build his Emperor qi foundation? A thousand strands, or is it two thousand? Could it be even more?!”

Jian Feng’s expression turned grim.

Many factors could affect an Emperor’s combat strength. However, the most important ones were mainly their Emperor’s Dao and Emperor’s Core.

If one was stronger than their opponent of the same realm in those two aspects, they would gain a significant advantage over them and challenge those in a higher rank too!

As of now, Chu Kuangren’s Emperor’s Dao and Emperor’s Core were stronger than his. He had even managed to master an Esoteric Art that only a few Emperors could.

In this case, it would be hard for him to win against Chu Kuangren even if he was in a higher cultivation realm.

Perhaps he would lose too!

“Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique.”

Chu Kuangren raised his hand and struck out with his sword.

Sword qi from his attack surged out like a crashing tide, causing the void to rumble wherever it went. It was so powerful that the spatial fluctuations started to build up back in the real world.

Jian Feng grunted. With the power of his Emperor's Dao and Emperor's Core channeled to its fullest potential, he unleashed a sword technique that turned the intertwining Daoist patterns into a gigantic white sword shadow. "Emperor Technique, Overarching Sword Stream!!"

The two great Emperor Techniques clashed and shook the void by tearing apart the surrounding space with both their sword qis.

In the end, Jian Feng could not defend himself from the power of Chu Kuangren's Heaven-Slaying Sword Drawing Technique and was blasted away. By the looks of it, the attack had critically injured him as the Daoist patterns on his body started to show signs of cracking.

"I've lost this battle."

No longer wishing to continue their fight, Jian Feng immediately admitted his defeat.

Chu Kuangren stopped attacking after hearing that. He, too, did not want to complicate matters before understanding the whole situation.

He retracted his power, opened a rift in the void, and returned to the real world.

Jian Feng came out with him as well.

They were still in the Black Heaven Sect's territory at that time. Chu Kuangren shot a glare at Jian Feng and said, "Feel free to stay for the wedding reception. After all, you did present the couple with a wedding gift."

After that, he turned and walked towards the Longevity Hall.

"Hmph."

Jian Feng snorted before following Chu Kuangren.

As he stared at Chu Kuangren's back with a surprised and inquisitive look, he wondered how could a new Emperor possess such terrifying combat strength.

'What kind of secrets does this guy have?'

...

At the end of the wedding reception, the guests gradually left one after another.

Nightfall.

A full moon hung in the night sky, and its moonlight shone like water.

Chu Kuangren was sitting on a couch with a sword ray circulating within him. Upon closer inspection, it was a white jade-colored sword ray.

That was... the Descendant Self.

Chu Kuangren was currently improving the Descendant Self Sword's quality.

The Descendant Self Sword has been his trusty sword ever since he started his path of cultivation. Besides, it had experienced its fair share of fortunate encounters, such as merging with a sword soul and

absorbing the purple haze during Chu Kuangren's Sage tribulation. With that, the Descendant Self Sword was no longer what it used to be.

Now, Chu Kuangren has become an Emperor.

It was time he increased this sword's quality to that of an Emperor Weapon.

Hence, Chu Kuangren was doing exactly that — using his Emperor qi to nurture the Descendant Self.

Soon, ten days had passed.

On this day.

The Descendant Self Sword let out a soft clang.

A powerful sword aura emanated and spread everywhere from its body, causing all of the swords in the Black Heaven Blade Mountain to tremble.

The Descendant Self Sword has finally become an Emperor Weapon!

"After all these years, you've finally upgraded into an Emperor Weapon. It'll be a pleasure working with you from now on, partner."

Chu Kuangren chuckled as he stroked the sword with his fingers.

The Descendant Self Sword trembled slightly, seemingly replying to him.

Chu Kuangren could also feel a sense of excitement coming from a certain consciousness. It was the Descendant Self Sword's consciousness.

The Descendant Self was a sword that was alive.

After all, not just any weapon in the world would have a soul of its own.

Even an Emperor Weapon could not produce a soul on its own.

It could only manage a spiritual consciousness at most.

As for the Descendant Self Sword, it possessed a complete soul that none other Emperor Weapons had because it had merged with a sword soul and was enhanced by the Sage tribulation's purple haze.

Therefore, Chu Kuangren had never treated the Descendant Self Sword as a normal tool but a true partner in combat instead.

Although he had obtained many Emperor Weapons, among which had greater power than the Descendant Self Sword, Chu Kuangren had never thought of replacing the latter with them.

With that, he sheathed the Descendant Self Sword and tied it to his waist.

After that, Chu Kuangren came out of his room.

At the Towering Heaven Palace's courtyard, the three new Emperors, Lan Yu, Murong Xuan, and Leng Ningyu were mentally sparring with each other.

Three types of colorful Daoist patterns intertwined in the air, appearing ever so gorgeous and fascinating.

Meanwhile, Lil Bing, Nangong Huang, Shang Qingxue, and the others watched attentively from the side, striving to gain some insights from the mental spar that was going on.

Chu Kuangren was watching those three from the side too. He even activated his Eye of Revelation to analyze their strengths.

Lan Yu was the strongest among the three, having obtained a High-grade Emperor's Core while her Dao has reached a Flawless quality.

She was seconded by Leng Ningyu, who had a Middle-grade Emperor's Core while possessing a Flawed-quality Dao. This difference in quality was most likely due to both of their respective Daoist Physiques.

On the other hand, Murong Xuan paled in comparison to the two, with a Low-grade Emperor's Core and an Ordinary-quality Dao.

After watching one match, Chu Kuangren did not disturb the trio. Instead, his figure disappeared from the spot and reappeared on a mountain peak hundreds of thousands of kilometers away from the Black Heaven Sect.

Once he scanned the surroundings with his Emperor Thought and made sure that no one was in the vicinity, he took out the female Emperor's head. With a deep breath, he removed the Forbidden Sealing Talisman from it.

Chu Kuangren instantly sensed a peculiar spatial fluctuation that emanated from that head.

"Let's hope everything goes smoothly."

He murmured.

This time, he had come here to meet the Headless Empress.

To be precise, her name was Luo Shui.

She was a disciple of the Chaos Daoist Celestial.

As the peculiar spatial fluctuation from Luo Shui's head spread far and wide, a rift soon opened in the void before Chu Kuangren, and a figure stepped out to meet Chu Kuangren.

The figure was headless.

It was one of the Seven Great Mysterious Manifestations, the Headless Woman.

She was also Empress Luo Shui.

Upon sensing the spatial fluctuation coming from her head in Chu Kuangren's arms, Empress Luo Shui immediately attacked.

Her Dao was so powerful that Daoist patterns manifested in the void!

"She's powerful, more powerful than the last time I saw her!"

“No, it’s not that she has gotten more powerful. It’s the Firmament Star’s Heavenly Dao. After it’s been restored to its full strength, it can now accommodate more power in this world!”

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

This meant that Empress Luo Shui had never exerted her full strength in the past.

The Firmament Star could not handle her full strength because of its damage in the Heavenly Dao. However, now that the Heavenly Dao had been restored, Empress Luo Shui could unleash more power than ever. Hence, her strength was naturally much more powerful.

“Inverted Universe!”

Chu Kuangren lifted his hand and launched his Invincible Technique.

Two different surges of energy clashed in the void, sending terrifying shockwaves in all directions and rumbling the surrounding terrain within a ten thousand kilometer radius.

Several cracks even appeared in the void.

Both Chu Kuangren and Empress Luo Shui were pushed back from the impact.

“She’s many times stronger than Jian Feng and Qin Yu!”

“And that’s while not having a head as well. If she recovers her head, will her strength be that of an Expert— no, Perfected Emperor?”

Chu Kuangren activated his Eye of Revelation and started to analyze the Headless Empress.

As an Emperor, he could see more information about her and even deduce that she was at least a Perfected Emperor at her prime.

She had a Superb-grade Emperor’s Core and an Epic-quality Emperor’s Dao!

Superb-Grade Emperor’s Core and Epic-quality Emperor’s Dao!

Among the Emperors, possessing such foundations was extremely rare.

“Stop. You can have your head back now.”

Chu Kuangren then tossed her head towards her.

Empress Luo Shui immediately caught it and stopped attacking. The first thing she did was place her head back onto her body.

The moment her head and her body made contact, Chu Kuangren saw a faint blood-colored light radiating from the cut between them. After that, her flesh and bone started fusing rapidly.

“Oh, it seems like she can put it back.”

Chu Kuangren uttered in amazement.

Chapter 657: Meeting the Group of Emperors, a Cataclysmic Event That’s Been Going on for the Past Twelve Eras

After connecting her head back, Empress Luo Shui's eyes opened fiercely, and an indescribable surge of Emperor's Aura spread in all directions.

Chu Kuangren had to channel his Emperor qi to block off her Emperor's Aura.

Empress Luo Shui then shot a glance towards Chu Kuangren.

Just when he was about to say something, she raised her hand and tore open a spatial rift within the void before disappearing in it.

"She's leaving so soon, huh?"

Chu Kuangren shook his head in frustration. Upon further thought, he suspected that she might have gone somewhere to recover her full strength.

"Guess I'll have to pass her the Chaos Emperor Scripture in the future then."

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

The Emperor Scripture he referred to was the one that the Chaos Daoist Celestial had personally written. He was the one who entrusted Chu Kuangren to pass it to Empress Luo Shui.

Nevertheless, this was fine too. Since the Chaos Emperor Scripture contained profound insights, he could take the chance to learn from it while he still had it in his possession.

After settling matters with Empress Luo Shui, Chu Kuangren returned to the Black Heaven Sect and went into closed-door meditation to gain insights into the Chaos Emperor Scripture.

As the author of that Emperor Scripture, the Chaos Daoist Celestial was an Emperor with a deep understanding of the Dao. Despite how knowledgeable Chu Kuangren already was, he still learned a lot from it and gradually perfected his Dao in the process.

The Chaos Daoist Celestial once said that without a great Opportunity of Fortune, it would be incredibly difficult for an Emperor to increase the quality of their Dao.

However, that only applied to ordinary Emperors.

He did not know how terrifying Chu Kuangren's rate of cognizance was. That was why Chu Kuangren could succeed in doing things deemed impossible to achieve.

For instance, studying the Chaos Emperor Scripture had given Chu Kuangren a lot of insights and experiences. Even his Invincible Dao had improved a little.

Besides that, his Esoteric Technique had improved too.

The quality of a cultivator's Esoteric Art could be split into different grades.

Similar to the Emperor's Core, there was Low-grade, Middle-grade, High-grade, Superb-grade, and Prominent-grade quality of Esoteric Art. Before this, Chu Kuangren's Invincible Technique was at Low-grade, but now, it had attained the level of High-grade.

A High-grade Esoteric Art.

Even the Heavenly Imperials would not necessarily possess such power.

“Judging by the time, it’s time to head to the Great Frost Dragon Mountain.”

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

...

The Great Frost Dragon Mountain, one of the Ten Great Forbidden Areas.

Before entering Emperor Road, Chu Kuangren had come to this place to have a mental spar with the Boundary Emperors.

Hence, he was quite familiar with the place.

The Great Frost Dragon Mountain was a place covered in snow all year round. It would snow for at least three hundred days every year. The mountain terrain was undulating, possessing the appearance of a dragon soaring in the sky.

That was why it was named the Great Frost Dragon Mountain.

On the tallest peak of the Great Frost Dragon Mountain, a magnificent palace made of ice stood tall from the ground.

Chu Kuangren, Lan Yu, Leng Ningyu, and Murong Xuan arrived at the main gate of the palace. Zi Wuji, who arrived around the same time as them, was there too.

He immediately greeted Chu Kuangren upon seeing him.

“Greetings, Brother Chu.”

“It’s alright, Brother Zi. No need to be so formal around me.”

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

He could tell that Zi Wuji was still very cautious around him.

It seemed like he still had not recovered from the trauma of witnessing Chu Kuangren killing four new Emperors effortlessly on Emperor Mountain.

Even the heavens would weep for someone like Zi Wuji. Becoming an Emperor was his greatest pursuit in life as he thought that he would have nothing to fear and worry about once he achieved that; from then on, he would be free.

However, never did he expect his fellow Emperors, who were stronger than him like Qin Tianchen would be slaughtered by Chu Kuangren one after another as if they were mere livestock.

He was shaken by that incident ever since.

Even now that he thought about it, there was still a lingering fear in him.

If he had attacked Lan Yu, Murong Xuan, and Leng Ningyu back then, there would have been another dead body at the Emperor Mountain’s peak that day.

Creak...

At this moment, the great palace gates opened.

A surge of freezing qi gushed out from it.

"Enter."

A looming voice echoed.

Chu Kuangren and the others walked inside, eventually arriving at a great hall.

A group of Emperors was already gathered there.

The sight stunned Zi Wuji. After all, each Emperor was a veteran who possessed a deep background and was much more powerful than him.

"You guys are finally here."

Leng Xin walked up and welcomed the five of them.

"We're here, my dear senior. Do you have anything you need us to do?" Leng Ningyu said as she bowed to Leng Xin.

"Oh, just relax. There's no need for formalities here. And also, you can speak to me as equals. We are Emperors after all." Leng Xin chuckled.

She then said, "Why don't you guys find a place to sit?"

Chu Kuangren and the others soon sat down.

At the same time, everyone was secretly checking out the veteran Emperors around them while the latter was looking at them curiously too.

After all, it had been a long time since there were new additions among the Emperors.

"So these are the new Emperors? Why are there only five of them? I recall the Emperor Mountain producing nine Emperor Thrones this time. Where's the rest of them?"

"According to Qin Yu, they were killed by one of them."

"Which one?"

"There, the new Emperor dressed in white that looks like an Immortal. Word of advice, don't underestimate him. There's more than meets the eye about this person."

"Yeah, I've heard about him too. When the Underworld Demonic Realm was attempting to invade the Firmament Star, it was him who stopped them."

The curious gazes of the veteran Emperors landed on Chu Kuangren.

On the other hand, Chu Kuangren had already activated his Eye of Revelation and thoroughly analyzed everyone's information, one by one.

The result disappointed him a little.

In the past, the Divine Predictor had shown him the recording of a group of Emperors thanking him for stopping the demonic invasion. He realized none of those Emperors back then were present.

It was clear that the Emperors around him were only a small group of them.

Not only that, but these Emperors were not that powerful either, with the strongest among them being a Perfected Initial Emperor.

Not even a Heavenly Imperial was present, let alone the Daoist Celestials, who were the strongest Emperors.

Besides this, Chu Kuangren noticed that an Emperor with golden scales on his forehead was constantly glaring at him with seemingly hostile intentions.

That person was from the Scaled Tribe, and his name was Bei Ming Xuanse.

“An Emperor from the Scaled Tribe, huh? I hope you’re not up to no good...”

Chu Kuangren placed his hand on the Descendant Self Sword’s pommel and said.

“Everyone, apologies for making you wait.”

At this time, a voice rang out.

That was when a man and a woman walked in.

This man was handsome, had long black hair, and was wearing a white brocade robe. The woman next to him appeared graceful and aristocratic, with faint freezing qi similar to this snow palace’s aura swirling around her body.

“Great Emperor Huaxing, Rank Nine Initial Emperor...”

“Great Emperor Han Yu, Rank Seven Initial Emperor...”

Chu Kuangren’s Eye of Revelation revealed both of their information to him.

Both of them were Perfected Initial Emperors. Great Emperor Huaxing, who was a Rank Nine Initial Emperor, was especially the strongest among everyone here.

Moreover, both of them were quite intimate with each other, like they were a couple.

“Greetings, Great Emperor Hua Xing.”

Everyone got up and bowed upon seeing the arrival of the two Emperors.

Great Emperor Hua Xing smiled and nodded in response.

After that, he sat down in the main seat of the great hall and looked at Chu Kuangren and others with a smile. “So, you guys are the new generation of Emperors in this era. I know all of you have a lot of questions. Speak forth, and I shall answer them one by one.”

“Why was there no existence of the Emperors in Firmament Star before this?”

Zi Wuji was the first to ask.

“With the Heavenly Dao incomplete, we couldn’t use our power within the bounds of the Firmament Star. Even in the Nine Heavens, we were subjected to many restrictions.”

“What about now?”

“The Heavenly Dao has been restored.”

“What’s the Extraterritorial Battlefield?”

It was not Zi Wuji who asked this.

Instead, it was Chu Kuangren.

Everyone’s expression turned grim upon hearing those two words. However, Great Emperor Hua Xing answered, “This is the most important thing that I will tell you today. At this very moment, our Firmament Star is facing a cataclysmic event, one that started ever since the archaic ancient times. It’s a cataclysmic event that’s been going on for the past twelve eras!”

Chapter 658: Behind the Scene in the Firmament Star, the Disappointing Emperors

“A cataclysmic event that’s been going on for the past twelve eras?”

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

An era was equivalent to one hundred and twenty-nine thousand, six hundred years.

Twelve eras meant that more than a million years had passed since it happened.

What kind of cataclysmic event would last until this very day?!

Zi Wuji and the others dared not imagine how long that was. They felt as if they had been exposed to the deepest secret of this world.

“A very, very long time ago, a group of extraterrestrial visitors appeared outside the vicinity of the Firmament Star. These extraterrestrial visitors called themselves the Blood Tribe, and their goal was to invade the Firmament Star and turn us into their slaves.”

“For this reason, a war broke out between the Emperors and the Blood Tribe. In the end, the Blood Tribe’s forces were successfully halted outside the Firmament Star and not allowed to enter. However, the Emperors paid a great sacrifice for this. Besides losing a large portion of our most elite forces, the Heavenly Dao of the planet was also damaged because of the war, and it deteriorated day by day.”

“Hence, fewer and fewer cultivators were able to become Emperors. In an effort to restore itself to its full strength, the Heavenly Dao entered a state of hibernation. After several eras of recuperation, it managed to recover and produce nine Emperor Thrones in one go. That’s the real reason why there have been no Emperors since the archaic ancient times.”

“As for the Extraterritorial Battlefield, it is a region in space that serves as a frontline for us to battle the Blood Tribe. That region is situated beyond the bounds of the Firmament Star, hence the name.”

Great Emperor Hua Xing explained.

Everyone was shocked by what he said. Although Great Emperor Hua Xing did not say too much, the information was enough to have a huge impact on everyone.

Chu Kuangren began to ponder too.

The Blood Tribe started appearing twelve eras ago, so that must be around the time when the Great Panhuman Revolt just ended.

Was it because of the Blood Tribe's invasion that the Emperors could not spare any time to save the Chaos Daoist Celestial, leaving him trapped until this day?

"Are the rest of the Emperors in the Extraterritorial Region?" Chu Kuangren asked.

"Some of them were tasked with guarding the Nine Heavens. The Nine Heavens is an artificial realm that was created by the Emperors to serve as our line of defense against the Blood Tribe's forces."

"As for us, we've come to the Firmament Star this time to set up bases of operations here. Now that the Heavenly Dao has been restored, many Emperors will be produced in succession from now on. We shall provide them guidance from here."

"Another matter, which is the most important one, is that we'll need to watch out for the Gods and Deities that have been sealed here to make sure they won't cause any trouble."

Great Emperor Hua Xing replied.

"Gods... Are they the same as the God of Light?"

Zi Wuji asked curiously.

He felt that he had learned so many things today that he would need some time to digest all of it when he returned home.

"The God of Light is only one of them. Before our war with the Blood Tribe, there was a war that happened between the human cultivators and the Gods, known as the Great Panhuman Revolt. Like the Blood Tribe, the Gods wished to enslave the humans too. However, they were eventually defeated and sealed within the endless void. We fear that with the Heavenly Dao's restoration, these Gods might break their seals and wreak havoc. That is why we've decided to stand guard here."

Great Emperor Hua Xing answered everyone's questions one by one.

Following that, he raised his arm and flung it across the room.

A gigantic map appeared before everyone. There were several places marked on the map that Chu Kuangren knew.

For example, the Ten Great Forbidden Areas, the territories of each great orthodoxy, and more.

It was a map of the whole Firmament Star.

"Alright, let's get down to business and discuss which areas we'll watch over." Great Emperor Hua Xing chuckled.

Chu Kuangren was not sure whether it was an illusion, but he noticed all of the Emperors' eyes lit up with delight upon the appearance of Firmament Star's map.

"The ocean domain belongs to my Scaled Tribe, so I shall watch over the Oceanic Domain," the Scaled Tribe's Emperor, Bei Ming Xuanse said.

"This won't do. There are at least twenty Gods sealed in the Oceanic Domain alone. How can you possibly stand guard over all of them alone? Why don't you let me help? I'll guard over half of the Oceanic Domain for you," one of the Emperors said.

"It's alright. I'll be fine doing it alone."

"No way. How can we possibly allow you to do so much work alone?"

"Taking the Nether Abyss Valley as the center, I shall watch over the four-million-kilometer radius surrounding it."

"A four-million-kilometer radius around the Nether Abyss Valley? Sheesh, someone's a little too ambitious here. I'll only allow you to take two million kilometers at most."

"This area seems good. Seeing that spiritual qi is abundant there, I bet it will produce countless treasures now that the Heavenly Dao has been restored. Ahem— no, I mean, the God sealed here is quite powerful. It's one of the Malicious Gods too, so I shall stand guard over it for all of you."

The crowd of Emperors was discussing fervently on which region they would guard over. Only Chu Kuangren and the other new Emperors stood aside, looking at them weirdly.

That was because those Emperors did not look like they were setting out to complete a mission. Instead, it looked like they were... splitting territories?!

That was right. They were just splitting the territories of the Firmament Star among themselves!

The more Chu Kuangren observed, the more he felt that way too. He thought to himself, 'These Emperors are just here to split up the territories in Firmament Star?'

"Brother Chu, I suppose the Black Heaven Sect is your orthodoxy, right? The region you're in is not good. It already has three Gods sealed within the three and a half million kilometers of your area. Why don't you let me take over for you?"

At this time, an elegant man in white clothes said to Chu Kuangren.

"Hmph, Brother Bai, didn't you mention earlier that you'd handle the areas around the Floating Frost Mountains? Why have you changed your decision to the Black Heaven Sect? Brother Chu, my cultivation level is higher than his, so you can rest assured that I'll do a good job watching over your area."

"Stop messing around you two. Both of you have your own territories to watch over, so I shall handle the areas around the Black Heaven Sect."

A few Emperors quarreled incessantly around Chu Kuangren, as if they were offering to help ease Chu Kuangren's burden of guarding over his area.

Murong Xuan and Lan Yu started to think it was weird the more they watched on.

It was a few moments later that a mocking expression appeared on Chu Kuangren's face. He had seemingly understood something.

"Everyone, the Black Heaven Sect is my orthodoxy, so please, you can stop worrying about it. Lan Yu, Murong Xuan, let's go."

Chu Kuangren uttered lightly and was about to leave with those two.

"Please hold on, Brother Chu. The Gods that are sealed near your area are not to be messed with. If anything happens, I'm afraid a new Emperor like you won't be able to handle it. Let me deal with it for you."

That elegant man in white clothes said eagerly.

"Thank you for your offer, but I'm fine on my own."

"Brother Chu, I suggest you consider my offer."

The man in white clothes suddenly said with a grim expression.

Murong Xuan and Lan Yu got even more confused.

What were these Emperors up to?!

Why were they so hung up on guarding the Black Heaven Sect? Was there somewhere they had their eye on? Was it the Gods that were sealed there?

"Everyone, I hate to say it, but there's no need to beat around the bush anymore. Why don't we be honest with each other that the reason you guys have come to the Firmament Star is for its resources, am I right?" Chu Kuangren chuckled.

The Emperors' eyes slightly flickered as silence befell the room.

"What resources are there in Firmament Star that you guys are so interested in?"

A puzzled Zi Wuji asked.

"Well, just because there's nothing now doesn't necessarily mean the same in the future. With the Heavenly Dao restored, the spiritual qi in this world will become more abundant. Since Firmament Star is the source of Heavenly Dao, its advantages aren't something an artificial realm like the Nine Heavens can compete against. As time goes by, many Opportunities of Fortune and treasures will undoubtedly show up."

"Everyone, although I don't doubt your intentions of coming to the Firmament Star to guard over the places where the Gods have been sealed, I believe you're here mainly for the treasures and Opportunities of Fortune that will show up. Besides, the places that you're quarreling over are places with an abundance of spiritual qi because only these places will have a higher chance of producing better quality treasures."

"As for why a few of you are so obsessed over my Black Heaven Sect, it's probably because it's a Godly Phoenix's habitat. Since divine beasts are favored by the heavens, the Godly Phoenix is destined for

great luck. Hence, her habitat is the best location one could ever hope for since it has a very high chance of producing incredible treasures.”

“Am I wrong, everyone?”

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

There was a hint of disappointment in his eyes.

So these were what they called Emperors?

From what the Chaos Daoist Celestial told him, Chu Kuangren learned of the great deeds of the past humans, who had given their lives in the fight for freedom against the Gods.

To him, those past humans were the true Emperors.

As for the so-called Emperors before him...

Quarreling for personal gain in the name of guarding humans against the Gods, and cowering for fear that their true intentions would be exposed.

Hmph, he could not even stand to be around them for another second.

Chapter 659: Bei Ming Xuanse Looking for Trouble, I Demand Compensation, Youth and Vigor

The Emperors did not look too happy by the time Chu Kuangren was done speaking. Only then did Lan Yu, Leng Ningyu, and the others realize what was going on all this time.

‘So that’s why. I get it now.’

“Let’s go.”

Chu Kuangren was just about to leave with Lan Yu and Murong Xuan.

“Hold on a second.”

At this moment, the Scaled Tribe’s Emperor, Bei Ming Xuanse stopped him.

He said to Chu Kuangren, “You can leave if you want, but you’ll have to leave behind my Scaled Tribe’s Neptune’s Trident Halberd. That’s an Emperor Weapon that belongs to my tribe.”

“This Neptune’s Trident Halberd is a trophy I obtained myself. Although I don’t have much use for it anymore, I don’t think I’ll hand it over just like that.”

“Oh, I see. I guess a battle between you and me is inevitable then?” Bei Ming Xuanse stepped forwards, and his Emperor’s Aura instantly surged towards Chu Kuangren violently like a crashing tide.

“Please think carefully. Are you sure you want to battle me?”

Chu Kuangren said lightly.

“Hmph, rumor has it that you killed five new Emperors after you became one. Well, let’s see how powerful you are and whether your strength is on par with us, veteran Emperors.”

Without another word, Bei Ming Xuanse unleashed a punch towards Chu Kuangren. Mysterious Daoist Patterns swirled between his fingers as the Emperor qi on his fingertips shot out a surge of powerful energy that could destroy everything in its path.

In retaliation, Chu Kuangren also threw a punch toward his opponent.

As the two fists clashed, both Daoist patterns intertwined and produced a huge shockwave that shook the void. Even Bei Ming Xuanse was forced back several meters by the impact.

However, Chu Kuangren remained in his place.

“How is he so powerful?!”

Bei Ming Xuanse’s expression changed as he looked at Chu Kuangren with fear.

He then took out a white staff that had Daoist patterns swirling all over it. As such, his Emperor’s Aura increased in strength once more.

With his Emperor Weapon in hand, Bei Ming Xuanse dashed towards Chu Kuangren and attacked. His dense and overpowering Emperor’s Aura lashed out one wave after another.

“Now fall! Heavenly Jade Strike!”

Bei Ming Xuanse lifted his staff and slammed it down on Chu Kuangren, its terrifying power directly hitting the void. Countless Daoist patterns containing a terrifying torrential force soon formed into a gigantic whirlpool.

“Empyrean Maelstrom!” Chu Kuangren cast his Invincible Technique, and the same Daoist pattern-formed whirlpool appeared in his palm.

When the two whirlpools collided, Bei Ming Xuanse’s attack was rapidly broken down and absorbed by Chu Kuangren’s whirlpool in the end.

“What?!”

Just as Bei Ming Xuanse was stunned by what happened, a massive surge of energy launched out from Chu Kuangren’s whirlpool.

That was his own torrential force.

With a loud bang, Bei Ming Xuanse was blasted backward with his white staff in hand!

“That’s an Esoteric Art. You’ve managed to cultivate an Esoteric Art!”

Bei Ming Xuanse exclaimed.

Besides him, the rest of the Emperors could not believe it too.

“I can’t believe a new Emperor can master an Esoteric Art?”

“This is truly unbelievable. Furthermore, judging by that Esoteric Art’s aura, it’s not an ordinary one too!”

“Bei Ming Xuanse is no weak Emperor as well. As a Rank Four Initial Emperor, he’s considered an Expert Initial Emperor. Yet, this new Emperor has managed to force him back twice now. The only explanation that justifies his level of combat strength is that he possesses a High-grade Esoteric Art”

Esoteric Arts were usually rare in existence.

What’s more, a High-grade Esoteric Art.

“It’s my turn to return the favor now.”

Chu Kuangren’s Descendant Self Sword instantly shot out from its sheath, revealing its white jade-like body that was covered in mysterious Daoist patterns. At that moment, a terrifying Sword Dao aura erupted and pushed all the surrounding Emperors back.

Then, the Descendant Self Sword circled Chu Kuangren twice before falling into his grasp. With a gentle swing of the sword, the might of an Invincible Technique immediately burst out.

Boom!

A bright purple sword ray directly tore through the void.

Its menacing sword aura was locked onto Bei Ming Xuanse.

“This is bad!” Bei Ming Xuanse hurriedly channeled his power to its fullest potential and unleashed a blow towards the incoming sword ray with his staff.

As the Daoist patterns from both sides clashed, Chu Kuangren’s sword ray deflected off the staff and landed on Bei Ming Xuanse’s body. Upon being hit, several scales appeared on his body. It looked like it was body armor.

Despite this, that tremendous amount of energy still caused Bei Ming Xuanse to vomit blood. The sword ray sent him flying and crashing into the ice palace’s ceiling with such force that caused the whole palace to rumble.

A huge hole opened in the ceiling as Bei Ming Xuanse continued to be blasted out of the palace. However, Chu Kuangren still had no intentions of ending the fight.

He took a step forward and arrived outside the palace.

With his sword in hand, he unleashed a sword technique once more.

This time, the sword ray was far more powerful than before, so much that conjurations depicting a calamitous scenery appeared in the void. Everyone was stunned.

In the face of that attack, a sense of panic arose in Bei Ming Xuanse.

“I won’t be able to block this attack!”

“I might die!”

Bei Ming Xuanse’s forehead was instantly drenched with cold sweat.

Just as he was about to be struck by that sword ray, a stream of light flickered past him and landed on the sword ray like a meteor.

The impact from the two energies colliding was akin to two planets crashing into each other. Several spatial rifts spread in the void, stretching as long as several thousand kilometers.

The whole Great Frost Dragon Mountain was at the brink of destruction.

That huge impact sent Bei Ming Xuanse flying several hundred meters back again. However, he breathed a sigh of relief when he saw the middle-aged man dressed in white standing in front of him.

On the other side, Chu Kuangren pointed his Descendant Self Sword at Great Emperor Hua Xing and asked, "What's the matter? Planning to attack a new Emperor like me too?"

Great Emperor Hua Xing was at Rank Nine in the Initial Emperor Realm.

He was a top-notch Perfected Initial Emperor!

In terms of cultivation realms, Chu Kuangren was just a mere Rank One Initial Emperor, which was worlds apart compared to his opponent. Both of them were on a completely different level.

However, Chu Kuangren was not afraid to face Great Emperor Hua Xing, whose cultivation level was much higher than his. In fact, he looked as calm as ever.

The other Emperors could not help but exclaim in amazement.

They wondered whether he was putting up an act or truly confident in facing his opponent.

Although Great Emperor Hua Xing could not tell why Chu Kuangren was behaving as such, he did not wish to create a conflict with this new Emperor.

However, because he was still the leader of these Emperors, he could not stand by and allow Chu Kuangren to kill Bei Ming Xuanse either.

"Brother Chu, I hope you can be the bigger person and take a step back. Brother Bei Ming is indeed the one at fault here, but don't you think it's a bit too much to kill him over something like this? Why don't you let the matter slide?"

Great Emperor Hua Xing said.

"Hmph, it's easy for you to say. He was the one who attacked me in the first place. Even though I told him to think about it, he still insisted in the end. Am I the one to blame for this? I won't let this slide so easily."

"If that's the case, Brother Chu, what have you got in mind?"

"I demand compensation for this."

Chu Kuangren replied.

Clashing head-on with Great Emperor Hua Xing would not be a smart thing to do right now. However, he could not let things slide without gaining anything in return.

“Impossible.” Bei Ming Xuanse’s face turned grim.

“You have no right to object, loser.”

Chu Kuangren shot him a glare.

He then looked at Great Emperor Hua Xing, who was clearly the person in charge here.

“Here’s a piece of Emperor-grade soul emblem. Is that enough?”

Great Emperor Hua Xing took out a golden crystal that contained an incredibly pure spiritual qi within. It had even produced an Emperor qi on its own.

Chu Kuangren accepted the Emperor-grade soul emblem, and after fiddling with it for a while, he nodded. That item was sufficient for him to increase his cultivation to the next level. He might even step into the Rank Two Initial Emperor Realm with it.

“I don’t care how all of you plan to split the territories, but Black Heaven Sect is mine. Whoever that dares intrude upon my land shall face the merciless edge of my sword!”

Chu Kuangren swept his gaze across the crowd as he said indifferently.

Then, he left with Lan Yu and the others.

Great Emperor Hua Xing appeared a little perplexed as he looked at Chu Kuangren’s departing silhouette. “Is this the person that the Heavenly Imperials want me to keep an eye on? He’s a feisty one for sure. Then again, he’s still a new Emperor, full of spirit and vigor. How nice it is to be young like him.”

Chapter 660: Three Hundred Prefectures, a Hundred-Thousand-Kilometer Radius, the Godly Phoenix Affirms Her Dao

“The audacity a new Emperor like him has to act like this!”

“Hmph, he’s too arrogant.”

“He doesn’t even have the right to decide who can guard over which region. Let’s leave him be, and let him watch over the little territory his Black Heaven Sect is in.”

“That’s right. Let’s continue to discuss splitting the other regions.”

The Emperors were displeased with Chu Kuangren’s behavior.

However, everyone was no longer bothered about him after that.

Leng Ningyu and Zi Wuji did not leave immediately with Chu Kuangren. In fact, both of them stayed back to discuss with the other Emperors.

Upon realizing the potential opportunity he had, Zi Wuji also took a territory within the Firmament Star to watch over like the other Emperors. He planned to use it as his residence in the future.

“Ningyu, why don’t you guard the Skywood Mountains? With the abundance of spiritual qi in that area, it should be a prosperous piece of land. According to the restoration of the Heavenly Dao, this land will soon be producing treasures within the next ten years.”

Leng Xin said to Leng Ningyu. Seeing that they both came from the Seven Emotions Sect, she was still willing to look out for her junior much younger than her. Hence, she had chosen a good piece of land for her to watch over.

“Thank you, Sister Leng Xin. However, I don’t think I’m going to stay in Firmament Star for the time being,” Leng Ningyu replied.

“Oh, I see. Going back to the Emperor Road is not a bad idea either. However, you must take note not to cause any trouble and do whatever you want just because you are now an Emperor. We, Emperors, are not allowed to intervene in matters involving those below our cultivation level.”

Leng Xin reminded her solemnly.

Now that Firmament Star was in its unique period of time, the Emperors holding the frontline at the Extraterritorial Battlefield desperately needed the new Emperors to fill in their ranks. After all, they had not replenished their resources and manpower for several thousand years now.

The Emperors were not allowed to meddle with the affairs of those below them to prevent them from wreaking havoc with their immense might.

It was a pact made by all the Emperors.

“I understand,” Leng Ningyu said.

The Emperors’ discussion lasted three days and three nights. Once everyone had decided which region they would watch over, they each parted their way.

Along her way home, Leng Ningyu returned to the Black Heaven Sect and told everyone what happened after Chu Kuangren left that day.

“The Emperors have split the Firmament Stars into three hundred prefectures. Each Emperor has been assigned to stand guard in each prefecture.”

“Black Heaven Sect is located in Black Heaven Prefecture, which has been left in Brother Chu’s care. However, Black Heaven Prefecture is the smallest in scale among the rest as the area is only a hundred-thousand-kilometer radius from Black Heaven Sect as its center.”

Everyone turned silent when they heard what Leng Ningyu said.

It could be said that the Emperors’ appearance had completely overthrown the existing power hierarchy within the Firmament Star. From this day onwards, those sage orthodoxies had become relics of the past. The Emperors were the true rulers of the Firmament Star.

In fact, those orthodoxies could not even resist at all.

They were too weak before the likes of the Emperors. To the Emperors, killing them would be no different than crushing mere ants.

The only thing they could do was agree and submit.

“This is just too much. Only a hundred-thousand-kilometer radius? How big are the other Emperors’ territories then?” Murong Xuan asked with a frown on his face.

“Besides the Black Heaven Prefecture, the next smallest prefecture has a three million and five hundred thousand kilometers large radius,” Leng Ningyu explained.

Even the smallest prefecture was at least ten times larger than the Black Heaven Prefecture. It was a clear sign of the Emperor’s revenge for Chu Kuangren’s insolence.

“Hah! That’s very interesting indeed. Has all the land in Firmament Star been divided and taken up?” Chu Kuangren chuckled and asked.

“There are still some leftover areas too. They were those that either have no spiritual qi or contain an air of misfortune around them. Hence, they were abandoned because no one wanted them.”

“Oh, I see.”

Chu Kuangren nodded slightly before saying, “Let’s ignore the Emperors’ matter for now and focus on managing the Black Heaven Sect well instead.”

He had said that he did not care how the other Emperors wanted to divide the regions of the land, as long as they kept their hands off Black Heaven Sect.

Compared to the Emperors dividing up the land, he was more interested in the matters related to the Extraterritorial Battlefield and the great calamity that had been happening since several eras ago.

Hence, he planned to go to the Extraterritorial Battlefield after staying in Firmament Star for a while. His intention to go there was to sharpen his skills and see how powerful the so-called Blood Tribe was.

His path of cultivation had yet reached an end.

After all, being an Emperor was not his end goal, but it was just the start for him!

As time went by, everyone in the world soon found out that the Emperors had divided the Firmament Star into three hundred prefectures. That was when every cultivator knew that the times had changed.

The Emperors, whose existence was a myth in the past, had now become the rulers of the Firmament Star. Their sudden arrival gave no one time to react.

Meanwhile, other than the Emperors, the orthodoxies in the Nine Heavens had also sent forth many of their cultivators to build a base of operation. With the Emperors’ permission, they were to set up several branch orthodoxies in the Firmament Star.

Now that the Heavenly Dao had been restored, they also had their eyes on the prosperous land that was the Firmament Star.

The Emperors, the immemorial orthodoxies, archaic ancient orthodoxies, and several beings who were once ancient rumors started appearing. This put the cultivators of Firmament Star into continuous shock.

However, time would not stop for anyone. As the wheel of history turned towards the future, the cultivators, who could not keep up with the times, were soon left behind as the weak and turned into cannon fodder for the strong.

At the same time, countless cultivators had started to make a name for themselves, spreading their glory and valor throughout the land.

It had been more than a year since Chu Kuangren and the others became Emperors. During that year, the Firmament Star had undergone an unprecedented change.

With the Heavenly Dao restored, the spiritual qi became more abundant, and the Great Dharma Emergence had started. Since then, cultivation has become easier and better for everyone.

Chu Kuangren even heard that several old Sovereigns in Emperor Road had ascended the Emperor Mountain, where they affirmed their Dao and became an Emperor.

Nevertheless, he did not think much about it.

He, too, had been cultivating.

Although he had refined an Emperor-grade soul emblem, he did not witness much improvement in his cultivation realm even after a year of cultivation. All he managed to do was reach the Rank Two Initial Emperor Realm. This showed how difficult it was to progress up the Emperor's Realm.

Some of the Emperors did not even have much improvement after several thousand years. Hence, his slow progress was not that unusual.

On that day.

Inside the Black Heaven Sect.

A flame of light suddenly shot into the air, followed by several dense surges of Emperor's Aura that swept out across the whole Firmament Star.

Inside the Towering Heaven Palace, Chu Kuangren opened his eyes.

He looked into the skies in surprise and murmured, "This aura... It's Lil Red. She's preparing to affirm her Dao now!"

His eyes lit up with delight as he walked out of the palace.

The skies and clouds were dyed red by a brilliant red light. Amidst the red clouds, a bundle of flame was burning fiercely, and it emanated a terrifying surge of Emperor's Aura.

A figure could vaguely be seen within the flames.

That was the Godly Phoenix.

Having been startled by the Godly Phoenix, the disciples in Black Heaven Sect hurriedly rushed out to witness it affirming its Dao.

The Emperor's Aura gradually grew denser and denser until the Emperors in the Nine Heavens and even the Extraterritorial Region could sense it.

"This is... a Prominent-quality Dao!"

"A mere creature has managed to affirm and obtain a Prominent-quality Dao!"

“Wait... This aura... It’s a divine beast?! Is it the Godly Phoenix that was birthed by the heavens and earth? No wonder it managed to attain a Prominent-quality Dao.”

“The Godly Phoenix and Dragons are beings of prosperity and are favored by the heavens itself. Because of that, they are on par with the immemorial and ancient gods, so it’s quite normal for beings like this to obtain a Prominent Dao. Since they were made by the heavens and earth, no wonder they possess a bigger advantage than the humans when it comes to affirming their Dao.”

The Emperors lamented.

Meanwhile, in the Black Heaven Sect, the Godly Phoenix’s affirmation of her Dao and becoming an Emperor caused the heavens and earth to celebrate in delight as several rays of auspicious light radiated all over the area.

Countless disciples had a sudden epiphany as they stood under the rays of auspicious light. As for the Godly Phoenix in the sky, she absorbed the spiritual qi from as far as a hundred thousand kilometers away and started to develop her Emperor’s Core with the blessing from the Heavenly Dao!