

Unparalleled 671

Chapter 671: Time to Clean Up the Mess, Do You Have Anything to Say About It?

The Demonic Realm's skies were dark blood crimson-colored all year round.

Chu Kuangren had been on a killing spree for three days now. Besides Demon Emperor Pride whose whereabouts were unknown, he had slaughtered all the remaining six Demon Emperors. His solo killing spree made the whole Demonic Realm cower in horror.

After doing all that, Chu Kuangren left the Demonic Realm.

Behind him, countless demons shivered in fear.

Once he left, everyone felt much more relieved.

"How terrifying. The past three days have been a living nightmare for us. Ever since the Demonic Realm has been built, there hasn't been such a dark moment in our history. before"

"How can such a scary human being exist?"

"We have seven Demon Emperors, who are now either dead or have gone into hiding. All because of one human, the whole Demonic Tribe has suffered unprecedented damages."

"Has the human world become so dangerous?"

"That man was on a killing spree for three days and three nights. He alone wiped out all the Demonic Realm's troops and forces. I'm afraid the Demonic Realm won't be able to assemble such a large army if they ever want to invade the human world in the future."

Countless demons were engaged in discussions, still deeply horrified and shocked by what happened.

Meanwhile.

Atop a blood-colored mountain peak, Demon Emperor Pride looked at the Demonic Realm entrance in the sky with great hatred.

Yet... he also shuddered in fear!

He was enraged!

He had witnessed Chu Kuangren's killing spree for the last three days in secret. However, he did not dare to act and instead chose to hide for fear of being caught.

Even if Chu Kuangren had destroyed his palace, massacred all of his troops and subordinates, he still did not dare to speak out, let alone attack.

It was because he understood.

If he ever showed himself, there was only one way he would end up!

Death!

He wanted to live!

Only by staying alive would he have the chance to take revenge!

“Chu Kuangren, for ruining my pride, dignity, and reputation, I shall make you pay back tenfold and a hundredfold. Even if I end up paying a terrible price for it, I don’t care!” Demon Emperor Pride growled.

Terrifying surges of demonic qi emanated out from his body.

In an instant, the blood-colored mountain peak crumbled to ashes!

After calming down, his eyes lit up as he looked toward the depths of the Demonic Realm. “Looks like I’ll have to use the power of the Gods to defeat Chu Kuangren. In the Underworld, the Demonic Realm’s largest forbidden area!”

“Only that place holds the chance I have to do this!”

...

Firmament Star, inside the Purgatory Forest.

Chu Kuangren stepped out from the Demonic Realm entrance. Although his white robes remained spotless and untainted, a murderous aura was still overflowing from his body.

Going on a killing spree for three consecutive days was no joke.

Chu Kuangren could no longer remember how many lives he had taken.

Maybe one or two hundred million?

It did not matter anymore.

The most important thing was that the Demonic Realm could no longer assemble enough troops to invade the Firmament Star for a while after this battle.

Just for that fact, Chu Kuangren felt that no matter how heinous the sins and how bad the karma he had to bear for ending so many lives, it was all worth it in the end.

“He is out?!”

“Look at all that murderous qi. How many did he kill there?!”

“By the heavens...”

All of the Emperors’ gazes narrowed as they watched Chu Kuangren step out from the Demonic Realm vortex. Everyone was stunned by the murderous qi he had on him.

However, Murong Xuan and the other Black Heaven Sect members waiting outside were delighted to see him.

All of them were relieved that their Sect Leader was unharmed.

Chapter 672: The Heavenly Imperials Have No Power to Deal With This Person, Greetings Heavenly Tormentor

Inside the Purgatory Forest.

Chu Kuangren frowned when he sensed that the Demonic Realm Domain was not completely gone. As such, he let out a punch into the sky.

An explosion erupted, causing the sky and the ground to rumble.

As if it had landed on some sort of barrier, Chu Kuangren's punch blasted the void open, and seven black iron insignias fell from the sky.

The Demonic Realm Domain instantly disappeared.

Chu Kuangren reached out and grabbed the seven black iron insignias in mid-air.

"Is this the energy that created the Demonic Realm Domain?"

Chu Kuangren said as he fiddled with the iron insignias curiously.

Those iron insignias were engraved with the names of the Seven Great Demon Emperors and mysterious Daoist patterns. Besides that, it contained some strange and inexplicable energy too.

That energy was different from Emperor qi.

However, Chu Kuangren was a little familiar with it.

He seemed to have come across it at some point before.

That was when he remembered. He had felt the same energy aura from God of Light and God of Darkness when he battled them in the past.

"Is this the so-called... Divine Might?"

Chu Kuangren mumbled.

Divine Might was a power possessed by only the Gods.

With that, he kept the seven iron insignia as he wanted to study them in the future. Furthermore, he has gained a tremendous amount of resources during his killing spree in the Demonic Realm. Hence, it might take him a while to organize them when he returned to the Black Heaven Sect.

After that, a cold glint flashed across Chu Kuangren's eyes as he recalled something. "Fellow Emperors, time to clean up the mess right now!"

Although his voice was not loud, all of the Emperors could hear him well and clear.

Despite that, they remained silent without any sign of moving.

Chu Kuangren raised his brow and shouted, "What's the matter? Do you need me to invite you guys one by one?"

This time, the tone of his voice was harsher, and a blast of lightning erupted in the sky as if it was a sign of Heavenly Might — a sign that the Firmament Star was angered!

The Emperors could not help but shudder at the sight of Chu Kuangren, who was emanating with murderous qi. If he were to come to them, things would certainly not end well.

Whoosh, swoosh, swish...

One by one, several rays of light approached from a distance and arrived at the Purgatory Forest.

"Chu Kuangren, why did you call us here?"

Bei Ming Xuanse, the Scaled Tribe's Emperor grunted.

Chu Kuangren's gaze turned cold, and he struck out with his first. In the face of the horrifying punch blast, Bei Ming Xuanse's expression changed drastically. He tried summoning his full strength to defend himself but was still sent flying as far as hundreds of meters.

Sensing a tightness in his chest, he could not stop himself from spatting a mouthful of blood.

"You have a problem with me calling you here?"

"Chu Kuangren, don't take it too far."

"So what if I did? Do you have anything to say about it?!"

Chu Kuangren replied coldly.

The murderous intent in his eyes gave Bei Ming Xuanse a chill running down his spine, and goosebumps appeared all over him.

He stood still, looking extremely livid.

"Are you deaf? I'm asking you a question here. Now, answer me. Do you have anything to say about it?" Chu Kuangren yelled.

The Emperors who had arrived were shocked.

'D*mn. Even an Emperor like him is being scolded.'

Bei Ming Xuanse was extremely aggrieved.

After all, he was an Emperor!

His reputation and ego mattered!

How could he let this slide when Chu Kuangren did this to him in front of everyone?

He gritted his teeth and replied. "No, I don't."

"Speak louder! Have you eaten?"

"I have!"

Bei Ming Xuanse replied loudly with his face flushed.

He was afraid!

Chu Kuangren had just slaughtered most of the demons and defeated their Seven Demon Emperors. No matter how angry he was at that time, Bei Ming Xuanse could only swallow his anger.

Standing at a side, Murong Xuan was amazed. Only his Sect Leader could humiliate an Emperor to such an extent.

The other Emperors were dumbfounded as well.

‘Shriveling like that just because Chu Kuangren asked you something, where has your pride and dignity as an Emperor gone?’

“What about the rest of you? Do you have anything else to say?”

Chu Kuangren asked as his gaze swept across the remaining Emperors.

No one dared to look Chu Kuangren in the eyes.

“No, we have none.”

“We wouldn’t dare...”

Just like that, Chu Kuangren had made all of the Emperors speechless with just his strength alone.

Similarly, as new Emperors, Murong Xuan and Lan Yu looked at Chu Kuangren with admiration. Even Zi Wuji was impressed by him.

Although they were all new Emperors, why was there such a large difference in strength between them?

Chapter 673: The Last Scroll, Zhan Hongying Joins the Black Heaven Sect

Chu Kuangren was speechless to see the Emperors around him treating him so friendly. Their sudden change of behavior was just too quick.

‘Seems like that the identity of a Heavenly Tormentor is quite useful.’

After that, he activated the Sealing Sword Formation using the Emperor Weapons as the formation’s core and added the remnants of the previously destroyed sword formation to restore its sealing capabilities to full power!

“Alright, it’s time for me to leave.”

Chu Kuangren said.

Then, he left the Purgatory Forest with Lan Yu and the others.

As she watched him leave, Heavenly Imperial Su started to ponder before calling Great Emperor Hua Xing over. She said, “Tell me everything about this person. The more detailed the better.”

“Of course.” Great Emperor Hua Xing nodded slightly and started telling her everything he and the others knew about Chu Kuangren.

...

Somewhere nearby the Purgatory Forest.

Chu Kuangren and the others found the critically injured Zhan Hongying who was dragged away from the battle by her demonic wolf. After he managed to save her life using a wisp of water qi and his physician skill, she was brought back to the Black Heaven Sect to be treated.

Two days later.

At the Black Heaven Sect's Marrow Cleansing Pool.

A baby-faced woman with a great figure was soaking in the pool. After a while, her brows moved a little as she woke up and looked at her surroundings in confusion. "What place is this?"

"Howl..."

A howl suddenly rang from beside her.

A demonic wolf jumped out from the nearby woods.

At the same time, a woman in white robes walked out. Looking at the woman in the pool, she said, "You're finally awake."

"You're... Lan Yu?"

Zhan Hongying was a little surprised when she saw Lan Yu. After recalling what she saw before fainting, she more or less had an idea as to what happened to her.

"Brother Chu saved my life."

"Yeah."

Lan Yu waved her sleeves, revealing some clothes and a mask by the edge of the pool. She then told Zhan Hongying, "Master brought you back to treat your wounds with the water qi from this Marrow Cleansing Pool. Here are your belongings."

"Wait, you said Brother Chu treated my injuries. Doesn't that mean..."

Zhan Hongying's face turned red when she looked down at her naked body.

Seemingly having guessed her thoughts, Lan Yu assured her. "Don't misunderstand. The treatment doesn't require you to be nude. It was after being treated that you were placed into this pool, and I was the one who took off your clothes. I just didn't expect the Ashura Tribe's Princess to have a babyface, which is kind of... cute."

Zhan Hongying's mouth twitched. "I hate it the most when being told that I'm cute. If it were someone else, I would've bashed them across the jaw!"

It was her baby face that made her seem non-threatening, and that was why she opted to wear a mask. Otherwise, she would not be taken seriously by her opponent if she taunted them with her baby face.

Back in the Ashura Tribe, among the people who made fun of her because of her face, nine out of ten of them were beaten up so badly that their parents could not recognize them.

Zhan Hongying had a sorrowful look in her eyes when she thought about the Ashura Tribe.

Lan Yu fell silent upon noticing the change in her mood. She then told her, "Alright, come on. My Master wants to see you."

Zhan Hongying nodded, stood up, and put on her clothes.

Inside the Towering Heaven Palace.

Chu Kuangren was sorting through the loot he obtained from his battle in the Demonic Realm.

This time, the treasures he got were no small amount.

Other than the various demonic ores and demonic potions, he also obtained a large amount of rare demonic beast corpses. Those corpses were great research materials to him as there were a few species of immemorial and archaic ancient beasts among them.

Besides that, he had also found a black scroll inside one of the Demon Emperor's Yin and Yang Ring. It was the final scroll in a series of Emperor Techniques that he and the Seven Emotions Sect had been looking for!

An Emperor Technique known as the Infatuating Musical Score was recorded in that scroll.

Similar to the Eight Celestial Demonic Chord, it was a Guqin Dao Emperor Technique.

It represented the emotion of... obsession!

Chu Kuangren mastered that technique within a short time.

At this point, he had mastered all the nine Emperor Techniques recorded in all the nine scrolls. The next thing to do would be to combine them and reveal their true form.

Speaking of which, Chu Kuangren was excited about it.

After all, this would very likely be a cultivation technique that surpassed the level of Emperor Techniques, and he was extremely curious about what kind of technique it was.

For one, it could not be an Esoteric Technique.

That was because an Esoteric Technique was a technique developed according to each cultivator's Dao, which meant it was unique to each person. This was not something that could be learned or copied by others.

If it was not an Esoteric Art, then it should be a level above the Emperor Techniques.

The only explanation would be the rumored Immortal Techniques!

"If it truly is an Immortal Technique, then it won't be a simple task to merge the nine great Emperor Techniques into one. Even with my current level of understanding, it'll probably take quite a while to do it," Chu Kuangren murmured.

He would have to go into closed-door meditation for eight or ten days at least.

At this moment, the communication compass at his waist vibrated.

It was Lan Yu.

She was notifying him that Zhan Hongying had woken up.

“Let’s see her then.”

Chu Kuangren sighed.

Honestly speaking, he was quite sympathetic to Zhan Hongying’s situation.

All because of a promise, the Ashura Tribe had guarded the Demonic Realm for tens of thousands of years, and they suffered one disaster after another.

Now, their whole tribe had been wiped out, making Zhan Hongying the last survivor.

Black Heaven Sect, inside the Longevity Hall.

Zhan Hongying, who was wearing her mask at that time, bowed when she saw Chu Kuangren. “Thank you for saving my life, Brother Chu.”

Chu Kuangren shook his head and replied, “The Ashura Tribe has contributed so much to the Firmament Star. Compared to that, saving you is just a small matter to me. It was a shame that I was in closed-door meditation at that time and couldn’t save the Ashura Tribe.”

“You’re not to be blamed for the calamity that has befallen my tribe, Brother Chu. I’ll certainly take revenge against the ones responsible!” Zhan Hongying uttered in rage.

“The Demonic Realm Portal has been resealed. As for the Seven Demon Emperors, I’ve killed six of them. I believe that’s already enough to honor the memories of your fallen tribe members.”

“No, that’s not enough. The real culprit still hasn’t been captured yet!”

“The real culprit? Tell me more.”

Chu Kuangren frowned a bit.

‘Looks like there is more to this.’

“When I returned to my tribe, the Demonic Realm’s forces still had not descended to our realm. However, my tribe members were already killed. I saw a...”

Zhan Hongying then told him everything that happened before the invasion.

Chu Kuangren pondered after hearing what she said. “Someone else wiped out the Ashura Tribe and destroyed the sword formation I left there! And it’s only one person as well. He or she must be an Emperor at least to do this.”

His Sealing Sword Formation was impossible to break unless an Emperor did it.

Was it an Emperor from the Demonic Realm?

Chu Kuangren’s Emperor Thoughts arose and came to the Purgatory Forest, where he entered the void and carefully observed the sword formation within.

Following that, he immediately deployed his Spatial Conveyor Skill.

He reached out and grabbed one of the sword formation's swords across a distance of millions of kilometers away.

Placing his sword hand sign across that sword, he sensed a faint surge of freezing qi fluctuation on it. "Freezing qi... Was the person who attacked the sword formation an expert in Frost-type Dao? Hm. Emperors that specialize in Frost-type Dao..."

Although there were a few Emperors in Firmament Star who were masters in Frost-type Dao, he did not have sufficient information to narrow down who the suspect was.

"I shall investigate this matter. I won't let the Ashura Tribe members die in vain." Chu Kuangren kept that sword and said to Zhan Hongying seriously.

"You have my thanks, Brother Chu."

"So, what do you plan to do now?"

"Now that I'm homeless, I wonder if the Black Heaven Sect would mind having another mouth to feed? But I'll certainly do anything to help out as long as it's within my capability to do so," Zhan Hongying said.

"Oh, you want to join the Black Heaven Sect?"

"That's right."

"Ha, very well! My Black Heaven Sect shall welcome you with open arms."

Chu Kuangren laughed.

Zhan Hongying was a sky-pride second only to him by strength on the Soaring Dragon Leaderboard. Besides, in this era of Great Dharma Emergence, she had a great chance of becoming an Emperor.

Hence, Chu Kuangren had no reason to decline the offer of a future Emperor to join his Black Heaven Sect.

Chapter 674: God Worshipping Cult, Godly Secret Realms, Cultivating an Immortal Technique

Zhan Hongying joined the Black Heaven Sect as an expatriate.

Since it was an idle position, there was nothing much for her to do.

"Sect Leader, Heavenly Imperial Su is here to see you."

At this time, Elder Ruyan walked into the great hall and made the announcement.

"Let her in," said Chu Kuangren.

Heavenly Imperial Su soon walked in and greeted Chu Kuangren with a fist salute. "Greetings, Heavenly Tormentor."

Chu Kuangren nodded slightly. "Greetings to you too, Heavenly Imperial."

This time, he wanted to understand what a Heavenly Tormentor was, so he immediately asked her without beating around the bush.

Heavenly Imperial Su was not surprised to hear his question. This time, she had done her work and found out that Chu Kuangren was not the Heavenly Tormentor that she imagined.

"The Heavenly Tormentors was a secret task force created by the Human King in the past. Nothing is known about the number of members they have nor each of their identities. The only thing we know about them is that they played a tremendous role in the Great Panhuman Revolt.

"It could even be said that without the Heavenly Tormentors, at least half of our human forces would have been dead.

"Because of this, the Heavenly Tormentors were the greatest contributors in the Great Panhuman Revolt. They have been highly revered ever since too. Even a Daoist Celestial won't have the right to interfere in their affairs..."

Heavenly Imperial Su explained.

After she was done speaking, she looked at Chu Kuangren curiously. "The most obvious characteristic of the Heavenly Tormentors is their Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern. However, their powers were apparently given to them by the King of Humans himself. What about you, Brother Chu? How did you manage to possess the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern?"

'Given by the Human King?!'

Chu Kuangren's eyes narrowed a little when he heard this. 'The Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern can even be given to others?!'

If that were the case, then the Human King was far more knowledgeable in the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern compared to him. This made Chu Kuangren even more curious about this person.

Unfortunately, the Human King was already dead, and there was no chance he would ever meet him again.

"I obtained this Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern after breaking through the Heavenly Punishment Seal." Chu Kuangren briefly told her about how he managed to gain control over the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern.

After that, Heavenly Imperial Su started to wonder. "The Heavenly Punishment's power is said to be the most mysterious and unimaginable power in the world. Yet, no one knows where it originates from."

"Even for the Human King, no one knew where his Heavenly Punishment energy came from. Could it be that he was struck with a Heavenly Punishment Seal as well?"

Historical records about the Human King were few and scarce. Even someone in a high position like Heavenly Imperial Su did not know much about him either.

However, Chu Kuangren noticed the look of admiration on Heavenly Imperial Su's face whenever she talked about the Human King.

In the past, the Chaos Daoist Celestial also had the same look when talking about the Human King. The respect and adoration the Human King had among the humans were simply unfathomable.

He had seemingly become an idol of faith for them.

“No matter what, the fact that you have the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern persists, Brother Chu. I bet the Heavenly Tormentors will come to meet you soon, so do prepare yourself when the time comes.” Heavenly Imperial Su reminded him.

“I understand.” Chu Kuangren nodded. After that, he took the opportunity to gain more intel about the Nine Heavens and Extraterritorial Battlefield.

He expressed his interest in wanting to gain some experience at the Extraterritorial Battlefield. However, she turned silent for a while and replied, “If possible, I hope you can stay in the Firmament Star for the time being.”

“And the reason being?”

“You possess the Heavenly Punishment Daoist Pattern, Brother Chu, which is effective against the Gods’ Divine Might. I wish you can stay here, for now, to deal with the God Worshipping Cult and help us find the Godly Secret Realm.”

“God Worshipping Cult? Godly Secret Realm?” Chu Kuangren became more interested as new terms began popping up.

“That’s right. The God Worshipping Cult is a cult created by the followers of the Gods. They worship the power of the Gods and wish to release them from their prisons. In the past, the Emperors from the God Worshipping Cult could not enter the Firmament Star because the Heavenly Dao was damaged. However, things are different now. With the Heavenly Dao restored, they have already secretly infiltrated the Firmament Star and started work on finding the Gods that have been sealed away.”

“As for the Godly Secret Realms, it was a place where the Gods dwelled a long time ago. Hordes of treasures are hidden inside there — treasures that will greatly benefit us and the God Worshipping Cult. Since the Heavenly Dao is restored, these Godly Secret Realms that have been sealed along with the Gods will reveal themselves once again.”

“When that time comes, a battle between us and the God Worshipping Cult’s forces will be inevitable. Furthermore, the powerhouses of that cult are normally able to use the power of the Gods too. That’s why I hope that you can stay and help us with your Heavenly Punishment power, Brother Chu.”

Chu Kuangren pondered after hearing what Heavenly Imperial Su told him. To be honest, he was not in a hurry to go to the Extraterritorial Battlefield.

Battling the Gods might be a great learning experience for him too.

“Alright, I shall remain at the Firmament Star for now.”

Chu Kuangren nodded.

“Thank you, Brother Chu.”

Heavenly Imperial Su thanked him delightedly.

After sending her off, Chu Kuangren looked into the sky from the great hall and shook his head frustratingly. "Extraterritorial Battlefield, the Blood Tribe, the Gods that have been sealed, the God Worshipping Cult... It is a mess both in and out of Firmament Star!"

...

Chu Kuangren went into closed-door meditation after sending off Heavenly Imperial Su.

This time, his main goal was to combine the nine scrolls to return them to their original form.

"Heart Piercing Finger, Raging Gods Fist, Palm of Sorrow, Heart Tearing Claw, Seal of Delight ..." Nine types of Daoist patterns started to swirl around Chu Kuangren.

Under his deduction, the nine Emperor Techniques gradually merged together.

Time flew past.

Ten days had gone by in a blink of an eye.

On this day.

An immeasurably powerful fluctuation suddenly erupted from the Towering Heaven Palace, and it was a very peculiar Daoist fluctuation at that.

It was not a Daoist Rhyme or a Daoist pattern...

It was a mysterious Daoist fluctuation that surpassed those two!

When the countless disciples in Black Heaven Sect felt the abnormal fluctuations, they were confused.

"What aura is this?"

"How strange..."

"Sob... W-why do I suddenly feel like crying?"

"D*mn it. Why did you hit me!"

"I can't stand you anymore!"

Affected by that Daoist fluctuation, many of the Daoists were shocked at first. However, that feeling of shock was soon replaced by a variety of emotions.

Some were angered, some were sad, some burst out in tears...

Atop a mountain somewhere.

Murong Xuan was standing in the wind while looking at a tree whose leaves were turning yellow and withering. He said in melancholy, "The wind feels sad today."

'Huh?'

'Something is wrong.'

When did he become so sentimental?

Murong Xuan was taken aback. After noticing something was not right, he mobilized his Emperor Thoughts and found out that the whole Black Heaven Sect had fallen into chaos.

Everyone had lost control of their emotions.

“What kind of power is this? What is the Sect Leader up to this time?”

Murong Xuan looked towards the Towering Heaven Palace with shock, only to notice the mysterious Daoist fluctuation spreading out from it.

Needless to say, this was certainly Chu Kuangren’s doing.

The mysterious Daoist fluctuations spread everywhere from the Black Heaven Sect and throughout the whole Firmament Star.

The emotions of countless mortals and cultivators were affected by it.

Even the Emperors were in disbelief by what was happening as they all looked towards Black Heaven Sect. “What is that guy up to this time?!”

In the Extraterritorial Region far beyond.

Inside a glamorous Daoist Palace.

A white-haired old man suddenly opened his eyes. “Someone has cultivated an Immortal Technique! This aura... Could it be? It’s the Phantasmal Seven Emotions Tune!”

Chapter 675: Just Mastered an Immortal Technique, That’s All, Something Happening Beneath the Ocean

Inside the Towering Heaven Palace.

Chu Kuangren was in closed-door meditation, trying to cultivate an Immortal Technique. After ten days, he finally succeeded in combining the nine Emperor Techniques, revealing a new cultivation technique!

The Daoist fluctuations from the new cultivation technique spread far and wide and resonated with the Heavenly Dao.

Across Firmament Star, countless people and cultivators were affected by that wave of Daoist fluctuation. Needless to say, it plunged the world into chaos as everyone suddenly lost control of their emotions.

Upon realizing what was happening, Chu Kuangren quickly stopped deploying that cultivation technique and uttered with shock, “What a powerful Daoist fluctuation! Standing a level above the Daoist Rhymes and Daoist patterns, is this the legendary Immortal Dao?”

The Immortal Dao was hidden within the Immortal Technique!

After ten days of research, he had restored the cultivation technique to its true form. However, he still needed much practice to master it properly.

It was an Immortal Technique, after all.

Besides, with Chu Kuangren's current strength, he still had a long way to go before he could unleash the full power of that Immortal Technique.

Even so, there was no denying that he had, once again, mastered and added another powerful trump card to his arsenal of techniques.

"Phantasmal Seven Emotions Tune, huh? This Immortal Technique is truly extraordinary."

Chu Kuangren murmured.

Phantasmal Seven Emotions Tune was the name of this Immortal Technique.

This technique specialized in attacking the mind and spirit of one's opponent, which could affect their emotions. It could even make them fall into an illusion and trap them in there forever.

Cultivators whose Daoist core was not strong enough or had a low cultivation level would be akin to dead meat before him.

After walking out of the Towering Heaven Palace, he noticed Lan Yu and the others were waiting for him with their eyes grim.

With that, he mobilized his Emperor Thoughts to scan the area only to realize that all the Black Heaven Sect disciples did not look alright. Some of their eyes were red as if they had burst into tears earlier. That was when he figured out what had happened.

"So... Um... There was some slight mishap during my closed-door meditation just now. I kind of lost control for a moment. I'm so sorry," replied Chu Kuangren with an awkward laugh.

"What have you done to make all of the Black Heaven Sect disciples lose control of their emotions, Sect Leader? This is just too strange."

Murong Xuan asked curiously.

"Ha, it's nothing much. I've just mastered an Immortal Technique, that's all."

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

"Oh, I see."

Murong Xuan was caught in a sudden realization. As soon as he came to his senses, he stared at Chu Kuangren with a stiff face and gulped. "What did you just say, Sect Leader? C-can you repeat it again?!"

"It's nothing much. I've just mastered an Immortal Technique, that's all."

"An Immortal Technique!"

Murong Xuan let out a strange yell, his voice several times louder than before.

Lan Yu, Leng Ningyu, and the others were dumbfounded.

'An Immortal Technique!'

'Immortal Techniques really exist in this world?!'

Ever since time immemorial, the existence of Immortals was only a rumor, while their Immortal Techniques were even more of a fantasy. No one has ever seen it before.

However, Chu Kuangren just said that he had mastered an Immortal Technique!

How could anyone believe him?

“Sect Leader, are you serious?”

“Do I look like I’m joking with you?”

Chu Kuangren replied while blinking his eyes.

“No, I’m just curious, that’s all.”

“Why don’t you try it yourself and see?”

A playful smile suddenly etched on Chu Kuangren’s face as he pointed his finger towards Murong Xuan, and a strange Daoist fluctuation emerged.

There was no earth-shattering explosion or collision...

Instead, he could hear faint sounds of music in the void.

That was Daoist chimes!

It sounded extremely sad, as if it was weeping and complaining.

Under its effect, Murong Xuan’s eyes slowly turned red. He then knelt on the ground and wailed in sorrow. “If life after rebirth exists, I’ll never be a human again. I’m such a failure... Boohoo...”

A dignified Emperor like him was now bawling his eyes out like a little girl.

Lan Yu, Leng Ningyu, and the others widened their eyes.

‘What just happened?’

“Master, w-what did you just do?” Lan Yu asked curiously.

“Nothing much. I merely amplified the inferior emotions in him. This is one of the little things I can do with this Immortal Technique.”

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

“Emotions? Could it be those scrolls?”

Leng Ningyu suddenly remembered something and asked.

Chu Kuangren nodded slightly. “That’s right.”

He then took out the ninth scroll and said to her, “This is the last scroll that I found. You can have it as a gift from me to the Seven Emotions Sect. It’s all up to you guys whether you can combine it into an Immortal Technique.”

That Immortal Technique was incredibly profound. Even though Chu Kuangren had studied and learned it, it would still be a challenge for him to teach it to others.

Immortal Techniques could only be comprehended and not taught or explained in words.

Those in the Seven Emotions Sect who wished to learn this Immortal Technique would have to rely on themselves to achieve it.

However, from Chu Kuangren's view, the probability of someone from the Seven Emotions Sect learning this Immortal Technique was almost... zero!

After all, not everyone possessed such terrifying levels of cognizance as he did.

Nevertheless, it was not impossible to learn if they kept at it for tens of thousands of years. The chance was there.

That's right...

Like him, who just took ten days to do it.

"Many thanks, Brother Chu." Leng Ningyu took the scroll and kept it, planning to send it back to the Seven Emotions Sect after some time.

"Um... Sect Leader, how long will he cry for?"

Lan Yu asked while pointing at Murong Xuan, who was now half kneeling on the ground with a depressing air around him. He looked as if there was no hope left for him in the world.

"Well... Around two to four hours, I think."

Chu Kuangren chuckled.

He did not even use his full strength either. Otherwise, Murong Xuan would have probably killed himself on the spot due to major depression.

Then, his eyes lit up as an idea popped into his mind.

"If I control its power output, I might be able to use this Phantasmal Seven Emotions Tune to train our disciples' Daoist cores."

Chu Kuangren murmured.

Lan Yu secretly mourned for the disciples when she heard that.

...

Far away in the Oceanic Domain.

Bei Ming Xuanse was practicing his cultivation inside the Scale Tribe's palace when suddenly, he felt a tightness in his chest and immediately vomited blood.

"D*mn it, d*mn it!"

"There's a mental knot in my Daoist core. I can't even focus and practice my cultivation!"

Bei Ming Xuanse could not help but recall how Chu Kuangren humiliated him in the Purgatory Forest that day. As the Scaled Tribe's Emperor, he was questioned like a fool, but there was nothing he could do about it.

Every time he thought of this, a bundle of flame welled up within him. It burned so fiercely that he became restless. He felt like his whole body was going to explode.

"Stealing an Emperor Weapon that belongs to my Scaled Tribe, injuring me at the Great Frost Dragon Mountain, humiliating me in front of the other Emperors at the Purgatory Forest? Chu Kuangren. Chu Kuangren, you deserve nothing less than a painful death!!"

"However, he's now a Heavenly Tormentor, so what can I even do?!"

The Heavenly Tormentor possessed one of the highest positions and status among humans.

Even the Daoist Celestials would not dare to compare themselves against the Heavenly Tormentors. Their position alone was not something he could obtain easily.

"Tsk, tsk, tsk. Do you seek revenge? Do you seek power?"

A low voice suddenly rang beside Bei Ming Xuanse's ear.

"Who is it?"

Bei Ming Xuanse's expression changed.

However, he could not see anyone after looking around his surroundings.

"Who I am is not important. What's important is that I can help you gain revenge, help you obtain more power, help you defeat Chu Kuangren..."

That voice sounded bewitching.

Bei Ming Xuanse looked cautious and alert.

"What's the matter? Don't you want to take revenge? Do you want to crawl beneath Chu Kuangren's feet forever? You are the mighty Emperor of the Scaled Tribe. This position not only represents yourself but the pride and dignity of those in the Scaled Tribe as well..."

"Give it some thought. Once you've decided, come to the Deep Ocean Valley."

Bei Ming Xuanse's expression changed. "Deep Ocean Valley... Are you the..."

However, that voice had disappeared by then, leaving a perplexed Bei Ming Xuanse alone, wandering within his uncertain thoughts.

Chapter 676: Bei Ming Xuanse's Decision, One of the Godly Secret Realms

Inside the dark, bottomless Deep Ocean Valley.

On this day, the Scaled Tribe's Emperor, Bei Ming Xuanse arrived. The moment he stepped into this land, that strange voice rang out once again.

"Bei Ming Xuanse, you're here at last."

“You wanted me here. What was I supposed to do?”

Bei Ming Xuanse looked glum as he replied.

He felt that he must be mad to be doing this.

Otherwise, why else would he be here?

“My request is simple. Just shatter that stone tablet that is limiting my powers! If you manage to free me, no one will look down on the Scaled Tribe from now on, and no one will dare belittle you. You will become... a God!!”

That voice tempted him in a bewitching manner.

“A God?” Bei Ming Xuanse’s eyes lit up.

“Yes. I have a divine fragment with me right now. As long as you release me, I will not only help you exact revenge, but I will also bestow this divine fragment upon you. Once you’ve refined this divine fragment, you will become the next Sea God!

“The almighty power of the sea shall belong to you!!”

Upon hearing this, Bei Ming Xuanse was a little tempted. He looked toward the depths of the Deep Ocean Valley and found that there was indeed a faint glow coming from there.

That faint glow was emitted from a stone tablet.

Bei Ming Xuanse inhaled deeply before dashing toward that stone tablet. After that, he lifted his arm and punched his fist ferociously at the stone tablet.

However, despite the violent collision with his Emperor qi, the stone tablet was unscathed.

“This stone tablet was set up by the archaic ancient Emperors to vanquish the Gods of the Sea. It’ll be impossible to smash this thing apart with my own powers.”

Bei Ming Xuanse frowned.

If the Gods’ Seal was so easily breakable, the Gods would not have been oppressed for so many years.

He gave it another few tries, but in the end, his efforts were futile.

“It seems like you’re just too weak.”

That voice sounded a little disappointed. However, it continued, “Head to the Bottomless Chasm. That was once the place where all of us lived. There is a Godly Weapon in there. Go and take it out. Then, come back to break the seal.”

A ray of blue light then shot out from the Deep Ocean Valley and infused into his body. “This Divine Might can grant you protection and freedom to roam around the Bottomless Chasm. But bear in mind that once you arrive at my palace, leave immediately after retrieving the Godly Weapon. Do not linger around any longer, and do not cause any damage to the palace. The Divine Might Seal that I have set up is still there. If there’s any damage to the place, it would be activated.”

“Bottomless Chasm, huh? Got it.”

Bei Ming Xuanse nodded.

...

Meanwhile, at the Black Heaven Sect.

Since mastering the Phantasmal Seven Emotions Tune, Chu Kuangren has sculpted a Phantasmal Secret Realm using this Immortal Technique. He designated this secret realm as a place for his disciples to train their Daoist cores and commanded all his disciples to head there and do as such.

Currently, in front of the Phantasmal Secret Realm.

The disciples were lining up one after another, awaiting their entry into the secret realm.

Then, each disciple who entered that place all had mixed emotions when they came back out again. Some had their faces flushed red, some looked horrified, while some were so embarrassed that they would kill to take their own life. Each reaction was different.

This made the disciples who had not entered yet extremely terrified. They wondered what kind of treatment their fellow disciples had experienced there.

“What kind of sick place has Sect Leader created?”

One of the disciples said worriedly as he stared at the cave-like Phantasmal Secret Realm in front of him. He found himself gulping nervously.

Some disciples even tried to make space and sneak out of the place, but they were immediately spotted by Nangong Huang, Shang Qingxue, and a few other Daoists who stood guard there. They were the ones who secretly increased the time these disciples spent inside the secret realm.

Inside a palace.

Chu Kuangren, Elder Ruyan, and a few other people were gathered here. A giant bronze mirror was placed in front of them.

Through this bronze mirror, they were able to witness everything these disciples encountered inside the Phantasmal Secret Realm, as well as monitor the condition of their Daoist cores.

At this moment.

The bronze mirror showed a disciple who was enchanted by the female beauty. He was seen holding multiple women in his embrace, looking like he was having a whale of a time.

Nonetheless, the next second, these beautiful ladies turned into malicious skeletons and ghouls who chased after him for his life. This sudden turn of events scared that disciple shitless.

“That’s a low-grade Daoist core. Note down this disciple. Have him come to the Phantasmal Secret Realm for more training in the future,” Chu Kuangren said as his mouth twitched.

“Alright.”

Elder Ruyan held a pen and jotted it down.

They were grading the disciples' Daoist cores based on their performances in the Phantasmal Secret Realm. It was differentiated into Low-grade, Mid-grade, High-grade, and Supreme-grade.

Right now, not over one-tenth of them had a High-grade Daoist core.

There were even less than a handful who could reach Supreme-grade.

Chu Kuangren had made up his mind that he would take whatever means to raise these disciples' Daoist cores to High-grade. To him, it was alright to have no talent, but their Daoist cores must be trained to the highest. After all, a good Daoist core would often be the major differentiating factor for success at the later part of a cultivator's cultivation journey.

"Sect Leader, I like you!"

A whole new illusion realm was formed inside the Phantasmal Secret Realm.

This time, it was a female disciple getting tested.

She was currently standing under a peach tree, with Chu Kuangren standing opposite her. He was smiling at her as he walked up to cradle her face.

"What a coincidence... I feel the same..."

Inside the palace.

"Low-grade Daoist core. She even harbors an adoration toward her own Sect Leader. Give her more training," Chu Kuangren said indifferently.

Elder Ruyan looked speechless.

The few other elders beside her exchanged glances with each other too.

"How many of them have reacted like that?"

"I think this is the seventh. I have no idea how many more there are behind her. These female disciples are all fond of our Sect Leader."

"I feel so envious."

"What do you mean envious? You old pervert..."

The Phantasmal Secret Realm could create all kinds of illusions that targeted a cultivator's most feared or most yearned for thing.

What a coincidence it was.

Chu Kuangren was exactly the dream lover that every female cultivator in Black Heaven Sect yearned for.

It was not a surprise that such an illusion would appear.

Right when Chu Kuangren was testing his people with the Phantasmal Secret Realm, an incredibly powerful energy wave burst from the very depths of the ocean.

“Eh? This energy...”

There was a look of surprise in Chu Kuangren’s eyes.

“Murong Xuan and Lan Yu, you guys stay here in Black Heaven Sect. I’ll go over and take a look.” Chu Kuangren relayed his message to the two new Emperors of Black Heaven Sect.

Then, his figure disappeared on the spot.

With his Conveyer Spatial Skill activated, he arrived at the sea.

There was a ball of white illumination on the surface of the sea. It emitted a surge of faint and unique energy, which Chu Kuangren was very familiar with.

It was the Divine Might!

“This is the Divine Might’s energy! What is going on?”

Chu Kuangren said in shock.

Following that, the white illumination on the surface of the sea became brighter and brighter until an incredibly majestic palace surfaced above the ocean.

The palace had white jade as its bricks, corals as its décor, and every corner was filled with countless crystals. An infinite number of Dao patterns coursed on its surface too.

Just this palace alone would be priceless for any Emperor. Each one of those gems contained an extremely strong spiritual qi.

Apart from that, a faint Divine Might energy flowed from within that palace, as though a God had once resided inside.

“Could this be the Godly Secret Realm that the Heavenly Imperials have mentioned?”

Chu Kuangren pondered as he stroked his chin.

“Yes. This has to be one of those Godly Secret Realms.”

A voice was heard from the edge of the horizon.

Heavenly Imperial Su had come.

Besides her, there were a few other Emperors too. They were all looking lustfully at that palace, which had surfaced out of nowhere.

“That’s the Blood Coral. Legend has it that this item can make an Emperor’s cultivation improve with devastating speed. This coral has gone extinct during the Immemorial Times. I can’t believe I’d be able to see one here today. This is all too astounding for me.”

“Also, look at those gems. Just from eyeballing it, I can see that a good majority of them are no worse than Emperor-grade soul emblems. Gosh, there are at least several thousand pieces of them here.”

“To have lived in such a great palace and possessed such an astonishing collection of treasures, the past owner of this palace must be at least a Greater God.”

“These Gods have really amassed quite a lot of treasures...”

Chapter 677: Looting the Divine Palace, Heavenly Imperial’s Mini-Universe Energy

Deep within the ocean.

Bei Ming Xuanse watched as the palace rose above the surface of the sea, looking unwilling to let it go. “So many treasures in there... Good for all of you.”

Then, he looked at a black ax within his grasp, and the edge of his lip curled into a smirk. “But I’ve managed to retrieve the Godly Weapon. Now, I should be able to help those Gods break their seals and get my hands on that divine fragment.”

He was already a little excited at that prospect.

As soon as he obtained that divine fragment and refined it, he would become the next generation Sea God. The oceanic powers would be at his disposal!

By then, not even Chu Kuangren would escape him!

At this thought, he quickly left the Bottomless Chasm.

Meanwhile, the Emperors on Firmament Star had felt the divine palace surfacing, and they all dashed toward its direction.

Each one of them wanted to have a piece of it for themselves.

Before long, several dozens of Emperors were already gathered at sea.

On a certain mountaintop.

The mysterious, black-cloaked man could not help but laugh upon witnessing this scene. “Well d*mn, you guys got really lucky. I initially intended to divert these Emperors’ attention through the Demon Tribe, but who knew that Chu Kuangren would intervene and single-handedly take them all out. Now, we have another distraction in the form of this Godly Palace.”

“Now, those Divine Sealed Lands will be left unguarded. It is the perfect time to break the Gods’ Seal. My fellows, prepare for the next stage of our plan.”

After she said that, multiple black figures emerged from the void behind her and swooped towards all four directions.

These people were cultivators from the God Worshipping Cult.

They only came here with one purpose in mind...

That was to release the Gods and then restore Firmament Star to the Age of Immemorial Gods!

...

The divine palace drifted calmly on the surface of the sea, emanating glorious and majestic divine rays. It was not the slightest bit affected by the waves.

“Let’s go inside and have a look.”

Some Emperors rushed into the divine palace impatiently.

After entering the divine palace, that Emperor immediately tore out the gem that he was looking at on the wall just now.

Just as he took off that gem, the whole divine palace began to shake. Following that, boundless torrents amassed and flowed toward him in the form of water soldiers who emitted brutal murderous intent.

“There’s an intruder in the divine palace. Kill!!”

Those water soldiers said as they stared at that Emperor coldly.

Within an instant, hundreds to thousands of soldiers emerged out of nowhere and assaulted the Emperor.

Each one of them had a Sovereign-tier combat strength. A handful of the top-tier ones even had an Emperor-tier combat strength. They were extremely powerful.

“Uh oh, this is the prohibitory seal set that the Gods have set up.”

Heavenly Imperial Su’s expression changed.

She lifted her arm and unleashed a punch with her fist. Numerous Dao patterns intertwined and spread outward like an infinite number of chains, strangling all those water soldiers to their imminent deaths.

Only then was that Emperor saved.

“Thank you, Heavenly Imperial.”

That Emperor thanked Heavenly Imperial Su with fear still lingering in him.

“It’s still too early to thank me.”

Heavenly Imperial Su glanced at their surroundings solemnly to see endless torrential force sweeping toward the divine palace.

One after another, these torrential forces manifested into soldiers in the void. In the blink of an eye, everyone at the place was surrounded by a thousand-strong army.

“A prohibitory seal from a God has such power? What kind of God is this?!”

There were Emperors who began gulping nervously.

Heavenly Imperial Su’s expression looked grimmer than ever. “This must at least be a Greater God, and an elite amongst that category.”

The Gods could be differentiated into Lesser God, Intermediate God, Greater God, and Venerable God.

Even the most ordinary Lesser God would have a strength equivalent to a Heavenly Imperial!

In that case, a Venerable God could be comparable to a Daoist Celestial.

“Let me suppress the prohibitory seal in this divine palace.”

Heavenly Imperial Su remarked.

Then, she stepped forward with countless Dao patterns circulating from her, and an incredibly ruthless Emperor qi spread outward from her as the center.

The Emperor qi integrated with the Dao patterns, forming a massive domain!

The howling storm stopped, and the crashing waves halted. The clouds in the sky became motionless as well, looking a tad bit bluer now.

At this moment, everyone felt as if they had been pulled out from that universe they were in earlier into another unfamiliar universe. They even felt like their Daos were suppressed.

This feeling was familiar to Chu Kuangren. He had experienced something similar when he was at the Demonic Realm Domain.

However, that was a technique cast by the combined forces of seven Demon Emperors with the help of seven iron insignias that contained Divine Might. Meanwhile, this domain was created by Heavenly Imperial Su alone.

“Is this the mini-universe of a Heavenly Imperial?”

Chu Kuangren mumbled to himself.

The biggest difference that set a Heavenly Imperial and an ordinary Emperor apart was that a Heavenly Imperial had already gained enlightenment of the most basics of Dao and had exposure to the universe’s attributes.

That meant they had mastered universal energy!

The mini-universe was a skill that only Heavenly Imperials could master.

After the mini-universe appeared, those torrential-wave soldiers shattered one after another, as if they were engulfed in an invisible force.

“I’ve used the mini-universe to suppress the prohibition seal in this divine palace, but I now need to spend all my energy on keeping this mini-universe running. You guys can go in and explore while I’m at it,” Heavenly Imperial Su said to the rest of the group.

“Alright.”

The Emperors’ figures flashed as they all dash toward the divine palace.

Chu Kuangren gave Heavenly Imperial Su a slight nod before he, too, entered the divine palace. The moment he stepped foot in there, that surge of divine energy became more obvious.

It covered almost every nook and cranny of the palace.

This meant that the God who lived here was incredibly powerful, so powerful that even the divine energy still had not dissipated after all these years.

With that, Chu Kuangren's Treasure Locating Skill was activated.

The energy wave from numerous treasures immediately rushed toward him.

Chu Kuangren gave the whole place a thorough search and stashed all those treasures into his Yin and Yang Ring. From afar, Heavenly Imperial Su, who had been observing everything happening inside through her Emperor Thought, was quite taken aback. "It seems like Brother Chu has some kind of treasure detecting technique?"

However, there was a myriad of divine powers in this world, so she was not too bothered by it.

Inside the divine palace.

Chu Kuangren arrived at one of the side palaces.

Here, his Treasure Locating Skill started to react strongly.

There was clearly a precious treasure hidden in here.

Nevertheless, the door of this palace was shut tight. Even Chu Kuangren's slam only shook it a little.

"Divine Sword of Four Mystical Elements!"

Chu Kuangren cast his supreme divine power to form the Four Mystical force into a sword that slashed down ferociously at that palace door.

With an abrupt burst, an infinite number of Dao patterns emerged on the surface of the door.

Divine energy seeped through from the surface.

"Oh, divine energy?"

Chu Kuangren cast his divine power again. However, this time, he added the Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern energy. Only then did the Dao patterns on that door begin to disintegrate inch by inch!

With a bang, the door was blasted open.

"Indeed. The Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns are useful here."

Chu Kuangren said with a light chuckle.

Then, he walked through it.

The first thing that came into his view was a huge pile of rare valuable treasures. What stood out most in the room was a white crystal that was as tall as a person.

This crystal had an incredibly tremendous energy wave flowing within it, but its energy wave was distinct from a soul emblem.

It was a kind of spiritual power, but not the kind that cultivators could easily absorb. On top of that, it had additional energy that was akin to divine power.

However, the difference did not mean anything at all for Chu Kuangren.

As long as it was a different kind of energy in the realm, his Universal Cauldron Physique would still enable him to absorb it, no matter spiritual energy or whatnot!

He waved his sleeve and made sure all the treasures were kept well.

In almost an hour's time, the treasures in the entire palace were mostly reaped by Chu Kuangren and the rest. Even those gems that were sealed onto the walls were all dug out.

"We've looted quite a huge stash this time, huh?"

An Emperor commented excitedly.

"Alright, I will now prepare to close the mini-universe. You should all leave the divine palace before I do," Heavenly Imperial Su said.

The people took off from the divine palace, and Heavenly Imperial Su closed the mini-universe.

Just as the people were about to leave, waves of divine power suddenly emanated from several parts of the Firmament Star.

Chapter 678: Breaking the Gods Seals, The Heavenly Tormentors' Action, An Eventful Period

Divine power energy waves began to radiate from several of Firmament Star's prefectures.

The expression on Heavenly Imperial Su's face changed. "Some of the Gods have broken their seals! D*mn it. The Gods Seals are elaborate seals that require extraordinary methods to break. It must be the God Worshipping Cult!"

Her figure turned into a flash as she dashed toward the far side.

Chu Kuangren followed suit as well.

However, when they arrived at one of the Divine Sealed Lands, all they saw was a huge crater on the ground, and the Gods in question were nowhere to be found.

It was the same occurrence for the few other Divine Sealed Lands.

"Lesser God of Fire, Lesser God of Water, Lesser God of Frost, and an Intermediate God of Thunder... A total of four Gods have broken their seals."

"As for the remaining Divine Sealed Lands, there are signs that they were assaulted recently. But luckily, those few places have a more stable seal, so they haven't been broken. It should be fine once we get someone to patch it up."

"Now, let's first discuss how to deal with those Gods who have broken their seals. Three Lesser Gods and an Intermediate-God... It seems like we need to request the Heavenly Imperials for backup."

The Emperors were communicating through their Emperors Thoughts, exchanging opinions on how they should approach the problem.

Even the most ordinary God had combat strength equivalent to a Heavenly Imperial, so they were not opponents that any Initial Emperor could take on.

Now, there was only one Heavenly Imperial in all of Firmament Star, and that was Heavenly Imperial Su. Although she could fight against a God, she could not divide herself into multiple clones to deal with the others.

"I'll report the breaking of the Gods Seals to the Heavenly Imperials. It's about time the Heavenly Imperials come down for some activity."

Heavenly Imperial Su said.

Then, she gathered all the Emperors who went to the divine palace and requested them to surrender the things they found inside the palace.

"You may keep a portion of this stuff, but I have to take the rest of it away to aid the front line," Heavenly Imperial Su said.

The Emperors at the front line had the heavy burden of ensuring their respective bloodline's survival, so they could never be stingy in terms of resources.

This time around, aside from watching guard over the Gods Seals, the Emperors' reason for being here in Firmament Star was also to collect some valuable resources to aid the front line.

The Divine Secret Realms were their primary target for that.

The Gods had collected way too many treasures in the distant past.

Seeing the floor scattered full of treasures, some Emperors felt a little reluctant to give them up. Conversely, Chu Kuangren was fine with it. After all, that divine palace had a prohibitory seal. If not for the suppression of the Heavenly Imperial's mini-universe, they would never have gotten those treasures in the first place. Besides, these resources would be handy to the Emperors at the front line, so it made sense for them to give them up.

Those guys were fighting to their deaths for the realm. How could they not provide them with the necessary resources?

"I'm claiming this one."

"The Blood Coral belongs to me then."

"This gem is mine."

The Emperors were selecting their respective desired items.

Chu Kuangren glanced at that white crystal that he took from the palace. Of all the treasures, this crystal had the most intense energy wave. However, no one was willing to claim it.

He felt somewhat puzzled.

Either way, he shall claim it for himself since the others did not want it.

"Huh? Brother Chu, are you picking this Divine Emblem?"

Heavenly Imperial Su looked at Chu Kuangren in surprise and said, "This Divine Emblem is an energy crystal. Although the energy within this thing is massive, it is extremely arduous for a human to absorb it."

"No wonder nobody picked this."

Chu Kuangren mumbled to himself.

However, he chose not to forgo his original choice. This Divine Emblem may not be very useful to others, but for him, it was priceless.

With this item, his cultivation level would surely increase by leaps and bounds.

Heavenly Imperial Su saw how adamant Chu Kuangren was in picking this item, so she stopped advising him against it. However, she allowed him to choose a couple more treasures. It was clear that she was giving him special treatment because he was a Heavenly Tormenter.

Everybody else knew this for a fact, but nobody questioned anything.

...

Deep inside the ocean.

Bei Ming Xuanse once again arrived at the Deep Ocean Valley with the Godly Weapon.

Looking at the white stone tablet in front of him, he raised the black ax in his hand high up in the air. Then, he mustered every ounce of energy in his body and battered down forcefully!

With a loud smash, the white stone tablet instantly ruptured!

Soon after, the entire Deep Ocean Valley began to tremble violently.

"Haha, the seal is broken at last!"

"After so many years, we're finally free again..."

The entire ocean was in a ruckus.

All of a sudden, the Deep Ocean Valley was ripped apart by an invisible mammoth force, and a huge whirlpool formed in the deepest part of the ocean.

Two tall figures walked out from the whirlpool.

One of them had a crocodile head with chitinous armor, while the other was a humongous, vicious python that spanned almost ten kilometers in length.

These two were the Greater-Gods sealed in the deep end of the ocean.

They were the Crocodile God and the Sea Serpent God!

The Crocodile God stared at Bei Ming Xuanse. A glint of light flashed past his blood-hued eyes before he gently raised his arm in the air.

The black ax in Bei Ming Xuanse's hand suddenly vibrated and swooped into the Crocodile God's grasp.

With the Godly Weapon in his hand, the Crocodile God's poise amplified further.

Bei Ming Xuanse gulped. He felt like he was a mere puny ant in front of these two Gods.

"Scaled Tribe fella, you've done well. This is the divine fragment that we've promised you. Take it and refine it well." Crocodile God took out a rhombus-shaped azure crystal that contained immense energy and all kinds of mysterious Dao patterns on its surface. With just one look at the crystal, Bei Ming Xuanse was completely enchanted.

He looked absolutely ecstatic upon receiving that crystal.

Yet, he did not notice the obscure look in Crocodile God's eyes.

"Thank you, my two Gods. What is the next stage of your plan?"

Bei Ming Xuanse inquired.

"We shall reside in the Scaled Tribe for a while and get a grasp on the current affairs that are ongoing on the Firmament. After all, we have just returned from a deep slumber, so we shouldn't act too flamboyantly. If we draw the attention of a Heavenly Tormentor, things won't look too good on us."

Upon mentioning the Heavenly Tormentors, a spiteful look flashed across Crocodile God's eyes.

Beside him, Sea Serpent God smirked. "Heavenly Tormentor? They have been mortally wounded during that battle where we got sealed. How many of them are still alive today, you reckon? What is there to be afraid of?"

"We mustn't act in such haste," Crocodile God remarked calmly.

His appearance may paint him as an obstinate and reckless person, but in truth, he was careful and meticulous in whatever planning he had.

Somewhere far from the Firmament Star.

Nine light wisps were drifting in the cold, dark universe.

Within those light wisps were what seemed like human apparitions that were moving.

"Those Gods have awoken."

One of the light wisps commented.

"Yes, but the wounds on our bodies have not fully recovered. We could well handle those Lesser-Gods and Intermediate-Gods. Even Greater-Gods would not be a great challenge. However, I'm afraid we still don't have the capability to overpower a Venerable God, and this will spell trouble."

"Can't we send somebody else to deal with them?"

"We can't. Things aren't looking too good on the Extraterritorial Battlefield. The Blood Tribe has been stirring up problems more and more frequently these days. We can't afford to divide our forces at this crucial moment just because of the Gods. It's best we handle these Gods."

"I agree. It has always been our solemn duty to keep them in check."

“My wounds were the least severe. After so many years of recovery, I think mine has almost healed now. Let me go and tackle the issues on Firmament Star.”

One of the light wisps said.

“Alright. Also, I recently heard there is a young Emperor who can master the Heavenly Punishment energy. I take special heed in this matter. Old Seven, why don’t you go and have a look into that as well?”

“Sure.” A response was heard from ‘Old Seven’. His light wisp turned into a flash of light that glided across the cold, dark universe and toward the Firmament Star.

Some of the great ones in the Extraterritorial Region had already picked up this movement.

“The Heavenly Tormentors have begun their move.”

“We shall leave the Gods for them to settle.”

“It’s still an uphill battle at the Extraterritorial Battlefield, and the Gods have started to wreak havoc on the Firmament Star. Sigh. What an eventful period.”

Chapter 679: Rank Nine Initial Emperor, A Visit from the Heavenly Tormentor, Chu Kuangren’s Identity

Black Heaven Sect, inside the Towering Heaven Palace.

Chu Kuangren was in closed-door meditation, refining the Divine Emblem. After experiencing several consecutive transformations, he could vaguely feel a sense of urgency.

His enemies were getting increasingly stronger.

Back then, the opponents that he faced were only sky-prides or beings below the Emperor Realm. Now, he had to face the Gods from the ancient past!

He must hasten his pace in becoming stronger.

Ten days later.

Chu Kuangren had completely absorbed and refined that Divine Emblem. With that, his cultivation realm had improved massively, from Rank Four Initial Emperor Realm to Rank Nine Initial Emperor Realm!

He had improved by a whole five ranks!

Bear in mind, he has not been an Emperor for long!

If people were to know of his rate of improvement, they would be utterly shocked.

“The energy within this Divine Emblem is just way too immense. If I can get my hands on a couple more and absorb them, won’t I be able to advance into a Heavenly Imperial?”

Chu Kuangren exclaimed in awe.

This Divine Emblem was something that only Gods could absorb.

Yet, Chu Kuangren had disproven that by being an anomaly.

“The emergence of the Gods may present a threat, but to me, it’s a great opportunity since the various Godly Secret Realms contain numerous treasures. Putting the other stuff aside, just this Divine Emblem alone would suffice. Other people may not be able to utilize it, but I can!”

“This will be a huge turnaround.”

Chu Kuangren muttered under his breath.

After advancing to Rank Nine Initial Emperor Realm, Chu Kuangren did not immediately come out of his closed-door meditation. Instead, he remained inside and continued studying the energy from Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns.

These Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns were a means that could restrict the Gods’ prowess, and it would be one of the most important utilities he had in the days to come. Hence, he must spend some time understanding it thoroughly.

Another ten days passed by.

On this day.

Chu Kuangren resumed studying the Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns as per usual. Yet all of a sudden, he felt the Dao pattern at the very heart of his palm shudder.

It seemed like some sort of reaction to something.

“What was that?”

Chu Kuangren was slightly surprised.

Then, he received news from Elder Ruyan.

“Sect Leader, someone is here to see you.”

“I got it.”

In Longevity Hall sat a man who was wearing a long white robe and had a faint spiritual veil covering his face. The energy on this man was somewhat ethereal and elusive, as though he would vanish at any given moment.

However, when Chu Kuangren arrived, he looked at this man and felt he could see this man before him with distinct clarity. On top of that, that strange reaction to his body’s Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns became more intense.

Through all these signs, Chu Kuangren already had a rough guess as to who this person was.

“You’re a Heavenly Tormentor?”

“Yes.”

The white-robed man, a Heavenly Tormentor whom countless people feared, stared at Chu Kuangren. Nobody could see what expression he wore underneath that spiritual veil. However, Chu Kuangren could sense the other’s curiosity toward him.

"I heard that you possess Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns. May I have a look?"

The Heavenly Tormentor cut straight to the point and revealed the aim of his visit here.

Chu Kuangren raised his arm to show a piece of Dao pattern swirling in his palm. Upon seeing that, the Heavenly Tormentor's body quivered slightly.

For some reason, Chu Kuangren could sense that something was odd with the Heavenly Tormentor in front of him. It was as if the latter was utterly astonished.

Then, this Heavenly Tormentor slowly lifted his own arm to show a piece of Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern in his palm.

However, Chu Kuangren noticed that the Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern on Heavenly Tormentor's palm was distinct from his. The latter's looked more like... a rune?!

"The fusion of Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern and rune? I've never thought about that."

Chu Kuangren's eyes lit up.

These days, he had been studying Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns non-stop, and now, this Heavenly Tormentor's Dao pattern had given him inspiration.

"No way. How is this possible..."

"It's not just any Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern but the fully authentic, truly original Heavenly Punishment Dao pattern. It is the most primitive form of the Heavenly Punishment Dao energy!"

The Heavenly Tormentor looked extremely shocked. He glanced at Chu Kuangren, his voice trembling as he said, "How did you manage to get this Dao pattern?"

As such, Chu Kuangren briefly explained the tale of him encountering the Heavenly Punishment Seal.

"So that's how..."

"The Human King has never informed us about this."

The Heavenly Tormentor mumbled before looking at Chu Kuangren with mixed emotions. He did not know if it was an illusion, but he was beginning to take this person in front of him as the figure that he worshipped most.

Suddenly, an outrageous idea popped up in his mind.

'Has the Human King come alive?'

'No. No way.'

'Such a thing is impossible.'

The Heavenly Tormentor shook his head, ditching that idea from his mind.

He said to Chu Kuangren, "I will now be standing guard over the Firmament Star and put the Gods' powers under control. Since you possess the Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns, the most primitive

Heavenly Punishment Dao energy at that, feel free to approach me if you have anything that you require help for.”

“I shall thank you for that then.”

Chu Kuangren gave him a respectful nod.

That was a Heavenly Tormentor’s promise.

With a Heavenly Tormentor’s promise, not even those Daoist Celestials would dare do Chu Kuangren dirty.

After that, Chu Kuangren briefly conversed with this Heavenly Tormentor.

He found out that this Heavenly Tormentor was called the Seventh Tormentor, and that there was more than one Heavenly Tormentor in this world. Besides the Seventh Tormentor, the rest of the Heavenly Tormentors were still nursing the injuries they suffered from the Great Panhuman Revolt during the archaic ancient era.

...

“The most primitive form of Heavenly Punishment energy? I never thought that in these endless ages, there would be another person aside from the Human King who could master such power. Who is this Chu Kuangren really?”

After leaving the Black Heaven Sect, Seventh Tormentor muttered as he looked up into the sky.

Then, he seemed to have recalled something. “Divine Predictor, I must go and look for him to ask about Chu Kuangren’s origins. I might have some findings there.”

The Divine Predictor was one of the most mysterious beings in all of Firmament Star.

Yet for a Heavenly Tormentor, it was not hard at all to locate this person. In fact, they had known each other for a very long time now.

Divine Predictor was very surprised to see the Seventh Tormentor. “My gosh, isn’t this the great Seventh Tormentor? I can’t believe you’ve come to the Firmament. The Gods have made a commotion, but with you here, I can now rest my mind.”

“I’m here today to ask you about Chu Kuangren.”

The Seventh Tormentor asked directly.

The Divine Predictor did not seem surprised at all, as if he had anticipated this question long ago. He shook his head in response. “If you ask me about other people, including the Daoist Celestials, I would be more than happy to fill you in with everything you wish to know. But as for this person, I am unable to provide you with that.”

“What do you mean?”

“This person’s existence is not limited to both the past and the present. Even now, his fate seems to spread far beyond the ends of time, making him impossible to fathom.”

Upon hearing that, the Seventh Tormentor frowned. "How is that possible?"

"He's an anomaly."

"This man wields Heavenly Punishment energy. Did you know that?"

"Oh, is he an enforcer that the Human King left behind?"

The Divine Predictor was slightly taken aback.

He had a certain understanding toward Heavenly Punishment energy.

"No, the Heavenly Punishment energy that he has is the most primitive form. I've only ever seen such energy on the Human King himself."

The Seventh Tormentor said solemnly.

Upon hearing this, the Divine Predictor gasped, and his expression turned incredibly solemn. "What you're saying... Are you certain?"

"Do you think I'd joke on matters like this?"

The Divine Predictor dished out a bronze mirror and then chanted a mantra, which he cast inside the mirror. Countless runes began to flash across the mirror's surface.

"What are you doing?"

"This bronze mirror is an inheritance from the Phantom Valley's First School of Physiognomy, where I came from. It records the fates of every great figure from the past till present... There it is."

"What is it?"

"I did a brief search on every record related to the Human King's fate. There's only one statement summarizing it... His existence is not limited to both the past and present, free from the restrictions of fate. This description... is similar to Chu Kuangren's."

"A nearly identical fate and similar Heavenly Punishment energy. Adding that to the vibe he's been giving me, could he really be..."

Seventh Tormentor was now at a loss for words.

Chapter 680: Divine Power Upgrade, God Worshipping Cult's Actions, A Tense Situation

"You can combine Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns with runes?"

"I never knew..."

After meeting the Seventh Tormentor, Chu Kuangren had an all-new insight regarding Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns. In the following days, he devoted all his time to studying the Heavenly Punishment Dao patterns.

Apart from that, a string of events had taken place on the Firmament Star too. For instance, the restoration of Heavenly Dao, the emergence of sky-prides from various places, the birth of a myriad of

treasures following the conducive conditions, the breaking of Gods' Seals, and lastly, the secret establishment of certain cults...

In a flash, three months had passed.

Although there were no groundbreaking changes in these three months, the changes on Firmament Star were still noticeable.

Spiritual qi was now more vibrant, while treasures were more abundant. It was much easier for cultivators to cultivate too.

Things especially hold true in Black Heaven Sect.

"How many treasures have appeared from the ground this month?"

Inside Black Heaven Sect, Elder Ruyan looked at a disciple who was carrying a huge jade — one which contained extremely pure energy within.

"I think this is the sixth."

"Keep it inside the vault," Elder Ruyan ordered.

Over the last few months, many different treasures had been emerging from the Black Heaven Sect's territories since it was the Godly Phoenix's residence. This phenomenon had made so many Emperors envious.

Even so, those Emperors dared not have any wishful thinking. After all, a Heavenly Tormentor figure was watching over that place. Who would dare cause any trouble?

Many people were speculating that Chu Kuangren was someone with an insanely good fortune. Otherwise, how could the Godly Phoenix alone be able to produce so many treasures within that small ten-kilometer radius of land?

Nonetheless, those were all just speculations, and there was no concrete proof of that logic.

Black Heaven Sect, Towering Heaven Palace.

Having just completed his closed-door meditation, Chu Kuangren flipped open the Fantasy Roulette.

He had been drawing his gacha rolls in the past three months too. However, with his current cultivation realm, the vast majority of items he drew were no longer of good use to him. Thus, he would often stash these prizes away in the Black Heaven Sect's treasure vault.

Throughout these years, Black Heaven Sect had been using their resources generously. However, Elder Ruyan and the others did not seem to have any sign of slowing down.

Conversely, more treasures just kept on pouring in despite their continuous usage.

"Draw the gacha."

"Congratulations, Host. You've acquired a Transcendent-grade item, a Divine Power Upgrade Card."

A Divine Power Upgrade Card.

Chu Kuangren's eyes lit up. "Another Transcendent-grade item."

With his current cultivation realm, a normal Ordinary-grade item no longer served any use to him. Only those God-grade or Transcendent-grade ones would help him greatly. For example, the Indestructible Physique, Spatial Conveyor Skill, and so on...

These God-grade prizes still benefit him immensely up to this day.

Much more could be said about the Transcendent-grade Lucky Halo and Tome of Physiques.

The former allowed him to draw many incredible prizes. Without this halo, he would never have been able to improve so quickly in such a short time. As for the latter, its value had begun to show more and more as he continued to deepen his study.

Now, he has drawn yet another Transcendent prize.

He opened his inventory.

A Transcendent-grade prize, Divine Power Upgrade Card.

[Using this card can bring improvements to a selected divine power. There is a certain chance that the divine power can improve to the level of a Transcendent-grade.]

This card made Chu Kuangren ponder.

"A selected divine power, huh?"

"The divine powers that I currently possess are the Spatial Conveyor Skill, Divine Sword of Four Mystical Elements, Treasure Locating Skill, Eye of Revelation... Since it provides an upgrade, I might as well utilize this card to its greatest margin."

"Right now, the most useful ones are the Eye of Revelation and Spatial Conveyor Skill. I'll have to choose one of these two then."

Chu Kuangren mumbled to himself.

After pondering for quite some time, he decided to go with the Eye of Revelation in the end.

This divine power had been with him for the longest time and had helped him so much till this day. The Spatial Conveyor Skill, too, was very powerful, and although spatial techniques were scarce in this world, there was still a chance that he might find another one.

However, this did not apply to the Eye of Revelation.

It was the most unique divine power that Chu Kuangren had come across to this date. He was intrigued to know what other effects this divine power could bring after giving it an upgrade.

At that thought, he immediately used the Divine Power Upgrade Card.

"Are you confirming your selection to upgrade the divine power, the Eye of Revelation?"

"Yes."

"Upgrading the Eye of Revelation, progressing one percent out of a hundred..."

Upgrading divine powers required a certain amount of time, so Chu Kuangren did not give it much thought either, allowing it to do its thing on its own course.

After that, he departed the Towering Heaven Palace and did a quick walk around the Black Heaven Sect. He paid additional attention to the Phantasmal Secret Realm.

Many disciples were lined up here, waiting for their test inside.

He smiled in satisfaction. "These fellas are quite disciplined."

As the saying goes, 'The Master can only lead a disciple into the sect, while the cultivation depends on the disciple's own efforts.'

If these disciples were not disciplined and hardworking enough, it would be useless even if Chu Kuangren kept feeding them with more resources.

Chu Kuangren then went to Longevity Hall to see Elder Ruyan busy with work. She was in the midst of organizing and categorizing some treasures.

When she saw Chu Kuangren coming in, Elder Ruyan threw him a side-glance and said, "Sect Leader, please remember to put these treasures in their respective categories the next time you add them to the vault. Weapons should be with weapons, and elixirs with elixirs. The last time I went inside the treasure vault, an ax dropped down from the pillar of the roof. If it weren't for my quick reflexes, this head of mine would have been chopped off."

"Sorry, I'll be sure to keep that in mind."

Chu Kuangren bent his head down apologetically, letting out a wry smile.

"Oh, Sect Leader Chu..." Elder Ruyan shook her head helplessly.

In the next few days, Chu Kuangren settled some of Black Heaven Sect's backlogged external affairs.

Amongst them, one matter bothered him quite a bit.

Several weird cults had suddenly emerged in Barren Cloud Prefecture of Firmament Star. In just a short few months, they had expanded to over thousands in size. There were even some impressive elites in the cult, which was what drew his attention.

Chu Kuangren fell silent.

This could all be perpetrated by those Gods.

"Besides, isn't the Barren Cloud Prefecture the School of White Lotus's base? It seems like I must go check it out."

The School of White Lotus's could be considered the Black Heaven Sect's ally. Besides, Chu Kuangren still had the title of School of White Lotus's Supreme Elder.

Barren Cloud Prefecture.

The person who stood guard over this prefecture was a Rank Four Initial Emperor.

The first thing Chu Kuangren did upon arriving at the place was to look for the Emperor in charge of the place. He directly questioned him, "Cults worshipping the Gods have emerged in your designated area, yet you're doing anything about it. Care to explain?!"

Upon seeing Chu Kuangren here, the Emperor dared not take this matter lightly and hastily offered an explanation. "Apologies, Heavenly Tormentor Sir. It's not that I don't want to, but there is just nothing I can do about it. Those few cults are controlled by the God Worshipping Cult, and they even have a few Gods in there. I'm no match to those guys."

"What about the Heavenly Imperials? Are they not here yet?"

Chu Kuangren raised an eyebrow as he asked.

"Right now, there's only Heavenly Imperial Su and less than a handful of Lesser Heavenly Imperials on Firmament Star. As for the rest of the Heavenly Imperials, I heard that they couldn't make it due to a sudden emergency at the Extraterritorial Battlefield."

The Emperor lamented helplessly.

He initially thought that being delegated to the Firmament Star to guard the Gods' Seal was an easy task, but in hindsight, things were not what he envisioned them to be.

With a slip of caution, the danger level that this task poses would be no less than being on the Extraterritorial Battlefield.

"Has there been a sudden turn of events at the Extraterritorial Battlefield? And the Gods chose precisely this time to cause chaos upon us. What a coincidence, huh?"

Chu Kuangren was a little skeptical.

They were being hit from both inside and out.

The state that Firmament Star was in right now was undoubtedly perilous.

He shook his head and took out a jade scroll to directly contact the Seventh Tormentor. He consulted the latter about his opinion regarding the cults that had emerged recently.

He found out from their conversation that the Seventh Tormentor was currently being held back by two Greater Gods. If he were to leave them unattended, those two Greater Gods would surely join in the havoc as well.

He had not fully recovered yet, so fighting two Greater Gods alone would be too arduous for him even if he had the Heavenly Punishment energy. Hence, he could only stay put.