

## War God 421

### Chapter 421 - Heaven-Tier Demonic Beast

Long Chen had witnessed the magnificence of the Heaven Bearing Sword Prison, which formed a prison using swords around the enemy. That way it had trapped the Azure Dragon Patriarch had created a deep impression of its power. However, Long Chen didn't expect such a simple sword technique to be at the advanced Heaven-tier!

He knew it was no ordinary technique just based on its name, which was why he cried excitedly, "Heaven Sword Array? Tell me about it in detail."

"The Heaven Bearing Sword Prison creates a prison, while the Heaven Sword Array creates an array. It forms an array of swords, making it a sword array, which uses ten thousand swords to attack simultaneously. You can imagine the power of such a technique; it is something the ordinary person cannot withstand. If you can use it properly, it will definitely be much stronger than the Supreme Demon Sword," explained Ling Xi solemnly.

"Sword array?" Long Chen could roughly imagine an array made out of swords in use. The target would be trapped in the array, then ten thousand swords would fly at him simultaneously. Even a powerful cultivator would suffer in the face of the Heaven Sword Array. Long Chen had a feeling that if he could master the Heaven Sword Array, it would become his ultimate fatal strike for a long time to come!

"Brother Chen, I still have a very clear memory of the study of the Heaven Sword Array. Since you're a smart guy yourself, with my guidance, I think you'll master it. From today onwards, shall we put cultivation aside in order to learn the Heaven Sword Array?" Ling Xi asked cautiously.

"No way. I'll spend half of my time on the Heaven Sword Array and half on Qi cultivation. I can't relax even for a moment. I must slay the Sword Emperor in front of everyone!" Pride and anticipation surged within his heart. With the Heaven Sword Array in his arsenal, he would be even more confident in succeeding.

"Alright ..." Ling Xi did not know if it was the right decision to give him the Heaven Sword Array. She could not bear to see him furrowing his brows so tightly with worry, which was why she had instinctively told him about the Heaven Sword Array. After she said it, she was privately a little regretful because she knew that after cultivating the Heaven Sword Array, Long Chen would work even harder to eventually fight the Sword Emperor for the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit.

The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit used to be Ling Xi's greatest desire, but after she fell deeply in love with Long Chen, it became her greatest fear. Every time she wanted to tell him, the fire burning in his eyes made her swallow her words.

“Start from the heavens, lay it all on the earth. Stir the wind and the clouds, then form the sword array ...” After Ling Xi slowly explained the technique, Long Chen gradually understood that although the Heaven Sword Array was considered one technique, it was actually a combination of countless tiny techniques. These tens of thousands of tiny techniques combined into an airtight attack.

This was the magnificence of the sword array. Although it was classified as an advanced Heaven-tier technique, it was more powerful than that. The more Long Chen learned about the Heaven Sword Array, the more shocked he became! The first technique Ling Xi had taught him was indeed much more powerful than the Sword Devil Finger and the Shadow Sword.

To Long Chen, this was a huge opportunity. Therefore, he made a hundred and twenty percent effort to study and practice the Heaven Sword Array. Despite his intelligence, this was his first time facing obstacles in learning a new technique. If Ling Xi was not there to explain it to him or even demonstrate it, it was entirely possible that he would fail to learn the technique, even if he received the technique’s secret scripture.

With Ling Xi’s help, he slowly familiarized himself with it. He made progress every day, bit by bit, so over time, the accumulation of tiny bits of progress grew significant. Towards the end, he could understand her pointers the moment she gave them, and he gained a deeper understanding of the technique. After about a month, his labor finally started bearing fruit.

If it wasn’t for her help, he might not have been successful even after ten months. Long Chen sensed that in terms of cultivating both Qi and combat techniques, he was not as talented as he had imagined. The journey of cultivation was not meant to be smooth. Everyone struggled with the laws of nature, even Long Chen, despite being different from the rest.

Thankfully, he had better luck than other people for some reason.

“Ten thousand swords dispersing evil! Justice of the heavens and earth! The clouds of nine heavens swirl! The magnificence of heaven prevails!”

On this day, Long Chen was levitating above the small river, his foot less than ten centimeters away from the surface of the water. Qi rippled constantly in the gap between him and the river, supporting his body. Constant ripples ran in all directions across the river’s surface.

Long Chen pointed his finger like a sword with his eyes closed, then he gently traced strange shapes in the air. Rays of light started to appear in front of him, forming a dense mass of runes that shone with a blinding light. The runes gradually formed an array that spun under his control.

“Break.”

With a gentle *pop*, there was a sudden vibration in the air, and a tall Japanese pagoda tree nearby disappeared completely. Not even its shadow remained. If someone else were present, they would have been utterly bewildered because how could a tree that was perfectly fine disappear so suddenly?

However, if one approached the tree’s original location, they would notice something odd. There was a fine powder floating in the air, which slowly dispersed and spread out on the ground.

Under closer inspection, each powder particle was similar in size and appearance. Just simple, ordinary powder, which was impressive. The only strange thing was that some were brown and others green.

“The brown powder is the tree trunk, and the green powder came from the leaves. Success.” Long Chen walked on the grass. He had used the Heaven Sword Array without putting in much effort and directed it at a random tree in order to produce this shocking effect. However, looking at how effective his miniature Heaven Sword Array was, how terrifying would a large version of the array be?

“Brother Chen, you’re so smart!” Ling Xi praised. When she first learned the Heaven Sword Array, she also learned it with guidance, but she took longer than he did. It was very, very rare for a person like Long Chen from such a weak country to possess such talent.

Long Chen wanted to reply with something smug, but he felt a sudden trembling in the ground. He swallowed his words and listened closely. Even the slumbering Xiaolang woke up and looked towards the north with a solemn expression.

“Something’s up. Let’s go check it out.” After Long Chen confirmed the direction, he led Ling Xi and Xiaolang quickly towards the commotion. Along the way, Ling Xi returned to the Ling Xi Sword in his ear, while Xiaolang entered his combat state so that he could run faster; he was even faster than Long Chen.

*Demonic beast aura? And it’s a strong aura too?* Long Chen was very surprised. He was not the only one, because Ling Xi and Xiaolang had sensed it too. Faint demonic beast roars came from the deeper parts of the Snowpeak Mountains. If the beast’s roar could travel such a great distance, it was sure to be very powerful.

*How could there be such a powerful beast in the Snowpeak Mountains? That Dark Moon Tiger from before was much stronger than the other beasts, so it probably didn’t originate from here. Now another one has appeared?* Long Chen’s mind raced.

Xiaolang also sensed that it was clearly a very powerful beast aura, and he was much more excited than Long Chen to encounter a beast. The Sun Devouring Wolf had warlike tendencies written in its genes, and Xiaolang had been frustrated that Long Chen had snatched the Sword Devil and Lin Zichen from him.

This time, the desire to fight surged through Xiaolang!

The boy and wolf dashed madly towards the beast. The feeling in Long Chen’s heart intensified as he drew closer. This beast was definitely far from ordinary.

As they approached, the heaven-trembling roars made him anxious. About five hundred meters away, all that was left ringing in his ear were the thunderous roars. Based on the sounds, it was likely a tiger-type beast, and it was probably related to the previous Dark Moon Tiger!

Long Chen was about to use the Soul Swallowing Gaze when Ling Xi made the discovery first. She said hurriedly, “Brother Chen, it’s a Dark Moon Tiger King! It’s a rare monarch among Dark Moon

Tigers, and it's at the Category One Heaven-tier. Don't worry, I can tell that it's severely injured. It has only just regained its ability to move today!"

"Dark Moon Tiger? Is it related to that previous Dark Moon Tiger?" he asked quickly. He was very interested when he heard that it was a Heaven-tier beast. And it was injured! This was an amazing opportunity!

"Maybe it's related. The previous Dark Moon Tiger was probably this Dark Moon Tiger King's subordinate or progeny. I'm guessing that this Dark Moon Tiger King has been recovering here for a long time. It's only being so loud because it has just recovered a little today, and it's calling for its scattered subordinates. We were even called over too!" Ling Xi explained.

"Ling Xi, if Xiaolang and I work together, will we be able to kill it?" Long Chen suddenly asked with fire in his eyes. It had been a long time since he had used Blood Transmutation. This was a rare opportunity, and he had the Heaven Sword Array to test out. As long as he reached the Ninth River Stage, he would be able to defeat the Sword Emperor!

Ling Xi froze, then she fell silent. She was so focused on the Heaven-tier beast that she had forgotten about that. With Long Chen's personality, he would rush to kill the Sword Emperor for the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit the moment he reached the Ninth River Stage. Even if it was just for Xiaolang's revenge, Long Chen would still fight him!

"Xiao Xi, can we kill it?" Long Chen had not encountered a Heaven-tier beast before, so he asked again.

"Brother Chen, can we not kill it? Can we go back?" Ling Xi suddenly asked with sorrow.

"Hmm?" Long Chen froze, then he grinned. "Xiao Xi, you must be kidding. Don't worry. Xiaolang and I should stand a chance against an injured beast, even if it's at the Heaven-tier. Xiaolang, don't you agree?"

#### Chapter 422 - Universal Transporter

Long Chen only thought that Ling Xi was worried about his safety. After their conversation, he led Xiaolang to charge at the Dark Moon Tiger King. Five hundred meters took him merely a few moments to cover, so he soon ran into a gigantic creature in a wide valley.

It was indeed a tiger-type beast. It was enormous, more than two times the previous Dark Moon Tiger's size. Being about ten meters tall, even one limb was as thick as Long Chen's body! The Dark Moon Tiger King looked almost the same as a Dark Moon Tiger and was black all over, and the only difference was that it had a blood-red "王" pattern on its forehead. This mark made it look regal with a hint of bloodlust!

The Dark Moon Tiger King was roaring at the skies, but Long Chen and Xiaolang's arrival instantly attracted its attention, especially because Xiaolang was radiating an aura that made it anxious. In the past, it would not have been afraid of Xiaolang, but it had just begun to recover from a severe injury. Its heartbeat quickened when it saw Long Chen and Xiaolang, but due to its dignity as the king of beasts, not only did it not retreat, it became extremely furious!

Roar!

The Dark Moon Tiger King let out an intimidating roar as a warning for Long Chen to leave quickly or it would not hold back.

"Universal Transporter!" Ling Xi suddenly cried from within the Ling Xi Sword. There was surprise in her voice.

Long Chen froze and asked in confusion, "What?"

"Look! Behind the Dark Moon Tiger King is the Universal Transporter. That's the mysterious array your master mentioned. You should be able to reach the Divine Martial Territory through this Universal Transporter. I was just wondering why a Heaven-tier beast would appear in the Cangyang Kingdom! This is why," Ling Xi explained, suddenly understanding.

Long Chen saw a faint array on the ground behind the Dark Moon Tiger King. It was about twenty meters in diameter. Mysterious symbols flickered gently within the array, but without close observation, it was not easy to notice it.

This was the Universal Transporter that could instantly transport Long Chen to the Divine Martial Territory.

"Xiao Xi, can you tell me what it is?"

"The Universal Transporter requires energy in order to activate and transport a person. Usually, Universal Transporters like this small version in front of you require Heavenly Passage Pills to activate. If you want to get to the Divine Martial Territory, you'll probably need a lot of Heavenly Passage Pills."

Long Chen had heard Zhao Qingyun talk about the Heavenly Passage Pill before. The Heavenly River Realm had Heavenly River Pills, so naturally, the Heavenly Passage Realm had Heavenly Passage Pills. Cultivation at the Heavenly Passage Realm was similar in concept to the Heavenly River Realm, but instead of condensing eighteen heavenly rivers, it focused on the formation of the nine great meridian points in the body!

Long Chen did not know which meridian points specifically, but he knew that Heavenly Passage Pills were imperative for their formation. It was just like how Heavenly River Pills were required for progressing through the Heavenly River Realm, but Heavenly Passage Pills were countless times more expensive.

"Xiao Xi, are you saying that this Dark Moon Tiger King and the previous Dark Moon Tiger passed through the Universal Transporter? And they're demonic beasts from the Divine Martial Territory?" It all suddenly made sense to Long Chen.

“I think so. The beasts do not have Heavenly Passage Pills on them. They probably entered the Universal Transporter by accident, but because they did not have Heavenly Passage Pills, the Universal Transporter directly absorbed their demonic energy instead. This Dark Moon Tiger King’s injuries were due to its demonic energy being sucked dry by the Universal Transporter. The core functions of its body were damaged, which is why it’s in such a sorry state right now. The other Dark Moon Tiger wasn’t injured, probably because it was being protected by this Dark Moon Tiger King!”

Long Chen now understood the situation. In the beginning, he thought he was just so lucky that whatever he wanted would appear. The beasts had long been here, and Long Chen was only able to find this Dark Moon Tiger King because the previous Dark Moon Tiger had wreaked havoc.

As Ling Xi and Long Chen conversed, the Dark Moon Tiger King realized that they would not leave despite its warnings. It had the dignity of a Heaven-tier beast, and despite being injured, it was now truly angered. A thick killing intent rose within it, and it was directed at Long Chen and Xiaolang.

After Long Chen understood everything, his determination to kill the Dark Moon Tiger King solidified. This was the only way he could quickly reach the Ninth River Stage and shock everyone in the Imperial Capital with his extraordinary strength!

When Ling Xi saw the desire to fight in his eyes, she had no choice but to swallow her words despite having much to say. She privately decided that after this battle ended, she would tell him what she was hiding in her heart.

Because all she wanted was to be with Long Chen.

Long Chen and Xiaolang locked eyes, then they immediately separated. One on the left and one on the right, they both charged at the furious Dark Moon Tiger King!

Even a starving camel was larger than a horse, let alone a Heaven-tier demonic beast. Long Chen did not dare let down his guard. As he charged, he quickly completed his Dragon Soul Transformation and activated the demon seed within him. He used the Demon Seed Planting Technique to increase his Qi to the maximum. The Dark Moon Tiger King initially looked down on Long Chen, but now he was a master as strong as Xiaolang that made the Dark Moon Tiger King nervous. It even trembled when Long Chen took out the Demon Emperor Sword!

It sensed that the sword was a weapon capable of injuring it!

“Blood Devouring Domain!” Long Chen used his trump card the moment they started the attack. He had not even used the Blood Devouring Domain against Lin Zichen, showing just how seriously he was taking the Heaven-tier Dark Moon Tiger King!

Blood-red mist engulfed the Dark Moon Tiger King in an instant. The immense sucking force made it roar in panic. It had no choice but to use its demonic power to suppress its bubbling blood, leaving a lot less demonic power to fight!

“Demon Emperor Sword Technique, Supreme Sovereign Sword!”

After using the Blood Devouring Domain, Long Chen leaped off the wall of the mountain and soared like a crane, landing on its head. He swung the Demon Emperor Sword down hard, and a gust of earth-shattering black sword Qi flew towards it. Sand and pebbles flew in the air within the valley, and trees were uprooted all around them!

Roar!

The Dark Moon Tiger King roared furiously and, as quick as lightning, slammed its paw against Long Chen's Supreme Sovereign Sword attack. The toughness of its body far exceeded Long Chen's imagination. All the attack had done was leave a white mark on its skin with a slight bit of blood oozing out of the wound.

However, even though it was just a little bit, the beast's blood flew towards Long Chen as it was under the influence of the Blood Devouring Domain. The Dark Moon Tiger King was in pain and hurriedly used its demonic power to suppress its blood. Then it swiped its other paw quickly at Long Chen's head!

"Traceless Demon Shadow..." Long Chen turned into multiple shadows circling around the Dark Moon Tiger King and successfully dodged its attack!

This Heaven-tier beast is indeed stronger than any other beast I've seen thus far. The attack I launched at maximum strength only left a tiny wound on its body! And it's injured too! If it were at its peak, Xiaolang and I would probably be no match for it!

Long Chen was privately shocked!

Then Xiaolang ran past Long Chen. He too had reached the second stage of the Demon Seed Planting Technique, and he currently had half as much demonic power as the Dark Moon Tiger King. He slammed his body hard into the Dark Moon Tiger King, and the gigantic force caused the Dark Moon Tiger King to falter several steps back!

Xiaolang quickly retreated with a *whoosh*. The Dark Moon Tiger King raged and bit at Xiaolang. Its jaws were large enough to swallow Xiaolang whole, and its sharp teeth could definitely split Xiaolang in half with one bite!

A human-like smile appeared on Xiaolang's face. As he retreated, he opened his mouth, and roaring black flames poured like a flood towards the Dark Moon Tiger King. The flames were like an approaching tide, and they were difficult to dodge. The Dark Moon Tiger King was cautious and had a feeling that the fire would be very powerful. It opened its mouth too, and another fierce, black wave poured out and collided with Xiaolang's Nine Devils Ancestral Fire!

Sizzle, sizzle!

Black mist rose high into the air, instantly clouding Long Chen's vision!

As a whole, the Dark Moon Tiger King had underestimated the destructive force of the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire. Although it had done its best to dodge, Xiaolang's Nine Devils Ancestral Fire still drowned out its black flood. Some peripheral flames hit the Dark Moon Tiger King's shoulder, and hard ice formed instantly on its body. When it moved slightly, the hard ice shattered, revealing gory blood and flesh!

Xiaolang had successfully used the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire to injure the Dark Moon Tiger King!

Several large, crater-like wounds appeared on the Dark Moon Tiger King's body, causing it to let out another earth-shaking cry! Immense demonic power erupted from its body—it had gone mad this time! The fierceness of a wild beast exploded from the Dark Moon Tiger King!

The whole valley seemed to move all of a sudden, and Xiaolang quickly retreated. Every swipe of the Dark Moon Tiger King's claws was powerful. If Long Chen or Xiaolang were hit even once, they would be severely injured. That was why he chose to dodge for the moment while Long Chen was behind the Dark Moon Tiger King!

Chapter 423 - Ninth River Stage

After exchanging attacks, Long Chen gradually figured out the Dark Moon Tiger King's strength. In its injured state, although it was terrifying, it was not unbeatable.

“Haha, Xiaolang! Even your Nine Devils Ancestral Fire didn't kill it. It's my turn now.” Long Chen used Traceless Demon Shadow and appeared behind the Dark Moon Tiger King in a flash. The Demon Emperor Sword whistled as more than ten blades of Demon Emperor Sword Qi flew at the Dark Moon Tiger King's back, forming white cuts!

Roar!

The front of its body was already injured by Xiaolang's strange Nine Devils Ancestral Fire, and now Long Chen was attacking its back. Although the Demon Emperor Sword Qi had not injured it, the pain angered the Dark Moon Tiger King even more. It turned its gigantic body around, and when it was about to attack the irritating Long Chen, Xiaolang started to move behind it once more.

The valley was wide to Long Chen, but very narrow to the Dark Moon Tiger King. This resulted in a great decrease to its agility. With Long Chen and Xiaolang blocking its front and back, and more importantly, the effects of the Blood Devouring Domain, the Dark Moon Tiger King's movement was severely restricted.

Many wounds started to appear on its body. If it did not use its demonic power to suppress its blood, it would quickly die by Long Chen's hand.

When Xiaolang saw that the Dark Moon Tiger King was focused on Long Chen, he knew that Long Chen was creating opportunity for him. Just as the Dark Moon Tiger King turned around, Xiaolang leaped onto its back and lowered his head. The Nine Devils Ancestral Fire poured from his mouth towards the Dark Moon Tiger King instantly!

The close-range attack caused the Dark Moon Tiger King to let out another earth-shaking cry of agony. When Xiaolang stepped on its back, it already knew that it was a bad sign. It quickly waved its large tail to flick Xiaolang off, but Xiaolang was faster and spewed the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire on its body!

Roar!

There was a cry of pain. The Dark Moon Tiger King's body crackled and popped as black ice spread quickly across its back. Xiaolang saw that the Dark Moon Tiger King's tail was coming and quickly leaped off before fleeing in the opposite direction! The tail hit empty air!

The Dark Moon Tiger King was in misery after losing so much flesh and blood, as well as sustaining injuries to its internal organs. It was already injured before this battle, and now it had new injuries on top of its old ones. It grew dizzy from the huge amount of blood loss and could barely stand up straight.

Long Chen charged from its front. There was a gust of wind, and he thrust the Demon Emperor Sword out!

“Demon Emperor Sword Technique, Supreme Demon Sword!” At that moment, rays of sword light shot out at the Dark Moon Tiger King. This was the technique he had used to kill Lin Zichen, and this time, it was executed even more perfectly. The powerful attack charged at the Dark Moon Tiger King like a moving storm!

The Dark Moon Tiger King was in a state of dizziness from its blood loss when the attack arrived. Long Chen and Xiaolang’s attacks worked together perfectly. Since the Dark Moon Tiger King could not recover in time, it could not fight back against Long Chen’s final strike. In a state of panic, all it could do was swipe its claw at Long Chen!

Rumble!

The Supreme Demon Sword pierced through the Dark Moon Tiger King’s paw and struck its neck. The attack was so powerful that it slashed open its neck, respiratory tract, blood vessels, etc. Long Chen’s attack had severed all of them and still he did not stop. Using Traceless Demon Shadow, he appeared in front of the Dark Moon Tiger King instantly and stabbed his sword through the back of its head!

The Dark Moon Tiger King finally let out a sorrowful cry and collapsed. Its blood flowed towards Long Chen and formed a large sphere around him.

At Long Chen’s feet was the Heaven-tier Dark Moon Tiger King’s dried-up body.

Xiaolang finally looked back and surveyed the situation with joy. He knew that with the Dark Moon Tiger King’s blood, Long Chen would definitely level up by one tier.

He waited quietly.

Long Chen started to use Blood Transmutation to refine the beast’s blood. Since the Dark Moon Tiger King was huge, it had very thick blood. Long Chen absorbed the blood bit by bit until the blood sphere around him shrank. After some time, all of the blood had been consumed by Long Chen.

The essence contained within the blood had been turned into Dragon Qi in his body, while other impurities were released outside of his body. There was about one unit of essence for every ten, or even hundred units of blood.

Long Chen accumulated more and more Qi until he had enough to condense the ninth pair of heavenly rivers in his body. Half a day had passed by then.

*It’s finally time to break through to the Ninth River Stage.* Long Chen was ecstatic. He took out almost all the Heavenly River Pills from his Universe Pouch and started condensing the ninth pair of heavenly rivers. Due to prior experience and having enough Qi, he would accomplish this with ease. All he needed was time.

With a plentiful supply of Heavenly River Pills, the ninth pair of heavenly rivers quickly formed. Long Chen's aura intensified quickly. Very soon, the final pair of heavenly rivers formed, and they were much more stable than a normal cultivator's heavenly rivers.

His eighteen heavenly rivers connected to form a perfect cycle within his body. Blood-red Qi flowed within them, almost in a liquid state. They looked like the heavenly rivers in the sky[1]—shimmering and shining with a light that shook the soul.

Once everything ended, Long Chen stood up and stretched his arms wide with his eyes closed, feeling the power within his body.

So, this is how the Ninth River Stage feels ... This is like the feeling of completion.

Long Chen gained more insight as he felt power flow through his body.

No. While the heavenly rivers in the body are indeed complete, there is one place that hasn't been cleared yet. The power in my body lacks convergence points. If it had some, then it would be perfect. I'm guessing that these centerpoints make up the meridian points of the Heavenly Passage Realm.

Long Chen knew that after the Dragon Veins, Divine Core, and Heavenly Rivers, the journey of cultivation was completed only after he had completed the meridian points too. However, he also knew that it was only the beginning. The Draconic Realm, the Divine Core Realm, the Heavenly River Realm, and the Heavenly Passage Realm were only the four foundational realms of cultivation where the cultivator solidified his base. Just like how Yellow, Black, Earth, and Heaven-tier demonic beasts were the lowest-ranked beasts of the world. More powerful opponents existed in this vast world.

*I've only completed three of the four foundational realms. I don't know when I'll be able to complete all four. Then I can see what realms exist beyond them ...* Long Chen sighed.

But when he looked in the direction of the Imperial Capital, there was a smile on his face.

With my Ninth River Stage cultivation, plus my newly mastered Heaven Sword Array, I'm sure I'm qualified to get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit now!

With that thought, he stored the Dark Moon Tiger King's carcass and beast soul, then he called for Xiaolang to leave. Two months had passed since his battle with Lin Zichen. He was now itching to battle the Sword Emperor to the death!

Long Chen had a rough idea that with his current cultivation level, if he added the Dragon Soul Transformation and Demon Seed Planting Technique, he would surely have as much Qi as someone at the Heavenly Passage Realm. With the help of his powerful divine techniques, he definitely had the right to challenge the Sword Emperor!

Long Chen had finally become the strongest person in the Cangyang Kingdom.

Of course, he had the Dark Moon Tiger King to thank for this. If it had not entered the Cangyang Kingdom's Snowpeak Mountains by accident through the Universal Transporter, Long Chen would need two more months to make a breakthrough.

Although he looked calm now, there was a wave of emotion running through him.

He was about to face his final battle on the journey that started in Baiyang Town! This was the end of his saga in the Cangyang Kingdom. If he obtained the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, all his wishes would have been fulfilled. Then he would have no more stress and could live a carefree life exploring the Dragon Continent while holding Ling Xi's hand.

Although all the fighting had been exciting, Long Chen was also tired.

When he was in Baiyang Town, he was only a prodigal son who had nothing to do. However, many things had forced him to this current position. The threats to his family and to Ling Xi had left him with no choice but to step up and resolve them with brute force. Now everything had come to an end. He only had to fight his final battle to resolve Ling Xi's final threat. Then he would have a happy ever after with his beloved!

How could he not feel emotional?

He had waited for so long just for this moment!

"Let's go, Xiao Xi. It's time for the last battle. This time, I will be sure to get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit for you. I won't stop until I do!" he said with great resolution.

"Brother Chen, I don't want the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit! I want you!" Ling Xi suddenly started crying.

Chapter 424 - Canyon

Long Chen had successfully reached the Ninth River Stage and was initially filled with confidence. He froze for a long time after he heard Ling Xi speak with such sadness, then he looked at her solemnly without a word.

He had long noticed that something was off, but he thought it was because she was worried about his safety. However, he was completely capable of defeating the Sword Emperor now, so why had Ling Xi said such a thing?

"Ling Xi, tell me what's on your mind." Long Chen's burning passion gradually died down. He sat down on a patch of grass and waved towards Ling Xi. She pursed her lips, then flew onto the back of his hand and sat down cross-legged. She was nervous in the beginning, but as she gazed into his sincere eyes, she finally forced herself to speak.

"Brother Chen, I'm bringing this up now of all times for a good reason. I have been afraid to talk about this because I thought it would make you resent me ... I feel miserable," she said as she looked at him. She was starting to become choked up.

"Silly girl, don't say that. You can tell me if there's a problem. Don't you trust me yet? Since the beginning, have I ever blamed you for anything?" Although Long Chen couldn't figure out what she was going to say, he remained calm.

Ling Xi started to tell him the full story.

“When we first met, I never thought there would be a day where you and I would be so tightly connected that it would be difficult for us to separate. At the time, I thought that if you were nice to me, I didn’t mind being nice to you. And if I really could return to my original state, I wouldn’t mind giving you some type of reward. And then ... I would bid you farewell. I would treat you as just a kind passerby in my life.”

At this point, Ling Xi’s voice became unintelligible due to her crying. Although she had no tears, Long Chen knew that her heart was crying too, or she would not look this sad.

“Why are you telling me this?” Long Chen had a bad feeling.

Ling Xi shook her head and said in despair, “Brother Chen, you don’t understand the powers behind me. They’re at a place you cannot even fathom. I don’t want you to obtain the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit today, because I don’t want to leave you! I can’t bear to leave you at all!”

She was usually a shy girl, but she was not afraid to speak her mind at this moment as she stared at him with her big eyes.

It was clear how strong her feelings were.

They had experienced too much together, from life to death, and death to life. If they did not have each other’s support, it would have been difficult for them to survive to this day.

“Why will we separate once we get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit? Xi’er, are you saying that your clan will stop us from being together?” Long Chen had once thought of this problem too. However, when Ling Xi regained her body, she would not have to return to her home immediately. He had always thought that he had a lot of time to grow, then he would obtain her clan’s approval when he was strong enough. Was something different now?

Long Chen’s chest tightened.

Ling Xi shook her head painfully and said apologetically, “There is one thing that I have been keeping from you. Brother Chen, you don’t know how powerful the people behind me are. My father and mother are very highly ranked masters. In my eyes, you’re very, very awesome. But they will never be satisfied with you.”

“I’ve thought about this a long time ago, but Xiao Xi, don’t we have time?” Long Chen asked hurriedly.

“No, we don’t have time. When ... When I regain my body, the strength I once had will also return to me. My powers are easily identifiable, and my clan has likely already expanded their search to the Ten Thousand Nations Territory in search of me. This means that if I regain my body, it is very, very possible that my family will discover me and come straight here... Brother Chen, I’m so sorry for not telling you from the beginning ...”

Long Chen felt like lightning had struck him when he heard her explanation. He had never expected this at all. It was no wonder Ling Xi had said that she wanted him but not the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit.

He felt like he was going mad with frustration because he understood the problem. Ling Xi's background was too powerful for him to fathom and was far from his current understanding. This also meant that when Ling Xi's family came for her, she would likely be brought back immediately. Then they would be separated forever, and they would never meet each other again ...

There was a canyon as wide as the gap between heaven and earth between them. The moment they separated, it would last forever.

Long Chen's throat went dry. He realized that he was extremely miserable at this moment. To be honest, he was furious. Why had she only brought this up now? She should have told him a long time ago so he would be prepared! Not now!

He had just reached the Ninth River Stage and cultivated the Heaven Sword Array, so he was in a confident state of mind. After she gave him such a huge blow, he had completely woken up. He felt chills with the realization that it was not enough.

“Brother Chen, I'm so sorry ... I know you're miserable. I am too. I want to beat myself to death for this, but I had no choice. Every time I saw you filled with battle spirit, I couldn't bear to tell you. Now I have no other option. That's why I had to force myself to tell you. I'm sorry ...

“When I first heard about the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit in Yuanling City, I had already guessed that it would end like that. We didn't have such a deep bond at the time, so all I thought was that I would repay you generously for it, and I didn't dwell on the matter ... But after that ... After that, many things happened, and you slowly became the most important person in my life. Brother Chen, I'm not lying. As long as you let me, I am willing to stay by your side. Even if I have no body, even if I can only stay in the sword and watch you speak. I am willing to bear it all ...”

Ling Xi hung her head, and her emotions reached their peak.

Long Chen pursed his lips. There was some pain in his gaze. Ling Xi's words had put him in a dilemma. Ling Xi felt like she could never leave his side, and he felt the same. He had almost gone mad with frustration when he had to endure a month without her by his side in the Counter Essence Realm.

When she saw his deeply torn look, Ling Xi bit her lip and said gently, “Brother Chen, don't be sad. I will never leave you. That is why I have decided that I don't want the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit no matter what. Can we just stay together like this and live our lives? I know that I cannot give you a child, and I cannot give myself to you ... but I want to be selfish just this time. Will you let me?”

When she finished, she gazed deeply at him with hope in her eyes, waiting for his reply. She had already said what she wanted to say.

There was a huge surge of emotion in his heart. Like a drowning man, he struggled desperately in the waves until the end, then he slowly said, "Xiao Xi, what you said is right. You're correct, but you don't know men. You don't know me!"

Long Chen stood up. There was some redness in his eyes as he spun around, looking at the vast lands. The world was huge, and he was so minute. This made him feel weak, but it did not scare him into giving up!

"I don't know men?" She didn't understand what he meant.

"No, and you don't understand me." Long Chen gritted his teeth and stared in the direction of the Imperial Capital coldly. "Ling Xi, after being with me for so long, do you still not know my personality? I am a proud man. Have I ever given up? Have I ever been afraid? I have always held the firm belief that as long as I am forging ahead, no one in this world can stop me. Including your family!"

"Brother Chen, what are you saying?" Ling Xi was startled. Long Chen's determination scared her a little.

"What am I saying? Hehe ..." Long Chen smiled and gently held Ling Xi in his palm. He tried his best to soften his tone as he said, "I have never retreated in fear. I am a man, and I especially don't want to run away from our problems so that you have to live as a soul in secret for the rest of our lives! Ling Xi, think about it! If I agree to your request today, will I be fit to be called a man?!"

Towards the end, Long Chen was almost shouting. Ling Xi was frozen with shock, almost crying. Long Chen had never looked at her with such a scary expression. This was the first time, but Ling Xi knew that he would never hurt her, even if he had to die!

"Brother Chen, are you saying that you want me to use the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit? But if that happens, it is very likely that I will leave you forever. You will never see me again! Can you bear to part with me?" she said, sobbing.

"I could not bear to leave you, Xiao Xi ..." Long Chen closed his eyes. He was so overcome with emotion that tears almost flowed. He did his best to suppress his tears and leaned close to her ear. "I would miss you ten thousand times, but I also could not bear to trap you by my side forever. I cannot destroy your future because of my selfishness. This form does not suit you. You're still young, so you should have a complete body, not live as a fugitive with me in this pitiful state. All it would prove is that I am trash! Also, the most important thing is ..."

Long Chen's breathing was ragged. He stared straight at her and said slowly, "My darling, don't forget that one day, I will appear right in front of you again, and I will defeat and even kill every person in my way. Then you will become my wife!"

Chapter 425 - No One Can Stop Me

Long Chen's words struck Ling Xi's soul like a heavy hammer. She was at a loss for words, so she stared at Long Chen in a daze. He was breathing heavily, and his eyes were turning red. There was stubbornness and refusal to surrender in his eyes, and that gaze made Ling Xi completely lost. She didn't understand how she had ended up with such a stubborn man. There was not a hint of surrender from his eyes to his bones. He had always determined the outcome of his fights. That was why he always won and his enemies always died.

Right now, there was only one final person in the Cangyang Kingdom fit to be his enemy: the Sword Emperor.

Long Chen had risen to his current position one step at a time. Although he looked weak, no one had been able to stop him.

Emotion drowned Ling Xi completely. She suddenly felt so loved. Perhaps other people would think that Long Chen was just too ambitious, or that he simply did not know how vast the world was, but Ling Xi had an unwavering belief in him. If he said he would do it, then he would. If he didn't, then there would be only one possibility. It meant he was dead.

"Xiao Xi, do you know what this means? It means that no matter what happens, I will work hard to catch up to you. You are my woman right now. You will be my woman forever. So, do you think you can get away from me?"

Ling Xi's mouth was agape, but she could not say a single word.

"You don't have to say anything else. I have already made my decision. I must go to the Biyang Imperial Capital and I must fight the Sword Emperor. I must get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit and you must regain your body. If I really am unlucky and your family arrives to take you away, please tell me where you live. I will kill my way there even if I need to kill every god and demon who stands in my way. I will do this until I can hold your hands in mine!"

Long Chen made this solemn declaration while looking up at the heavens.

The determination in his eyes was deeply etched in her heart. She initially thought that if she told Long Chen about this, he would choose to give up, but it looked like she did not understand him at all. Ling Xi suddenly understood many things now. She also knew that he had always been stubborn, and if he had made a decision, he would never change his mind.

Therefore, no matter what she said, Long Chen would storm the Biyang Imperial Capital and retrieve the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit in order to fulfill the dream he had for half a year.

In order to retrieve the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, Long Chen had left Yuanling City and fought for almost half a year. They had reached the final obstacle, yet Ling Xi had hit him with a brutal revelation. It was indeed a huge blow to Long Chen, but he did not retreat. He was only sad for a while, then he reset his goal again.

In the face of brutal reality, he was a cockroach that refused to die. That was the mindset that had allowed him to get this far.

Xiaolang was watching their conversation in silence. When Long Chen uttered the last word of his declaration, he beamed with a proud smile. He was bursting with pride for his big brother!

His declaration did not mean that he wasn't in pain. Talk was easy, but he needed to work ten thousand times harder. If Ling Xi really was taken away, he swore he would find her and gain her family's approval with his own abilities. But to complete this, he would have to cross rivers and mountains, and even kill tens of thousands of masters. He was sure that he would have thousands of brushes with death in order to even catch a glimpse of his goal!

The most likely outcome was that he would die in an obscure corner of the world and become a withered skeleton, then he and Ling Xi would never meet again. That was fate. Sometimes, fate was cruel. Very few people could change their fate.

Long Chen was clear that his future efforts would all be for the solemn vow that he made today. The very, very long path ahead was now fixed.

He had been working hard for the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit, but once he got his hands on it, he would lose the beautiful dream of traveling the world with Ling Xi. He had no choice but to accept this path, one that would be very lonely. He would have to work hard towards a future that was likely impossible, all for the day he could meet her again. Then he would hug her and feel the warmth of her body, and the feeling of two hearts touching each other.

This was fate.

Long Chen knew that since he had made the vow, he would have to struggle against fate. But he did not complain, nor did he regret it.

He could definitely choose to follow Ling Xi's suggestion, and then he would be able to stay by her side forever without effort. However, that meant that he had surrendered to fate, and surrender was not part of his personality. He had always chosen the path against fate.

However, what they both did not know was how much suffering they would have to endure in order to end up together. No one could control their fate. Even the strongest people still had to die in the hands of fate.

A strong gust of wind blew.

Long Chen took a deep breath. The path ahead did not look good. He felt like a huge boulder was pressing on his heart, but he did not give up. He gazed towards the Imperial Capital, smoothed his clothing, then said gently to Xiaolang, "Let's go. It's our final battle in the Cangyang Kingdom. Xiaolang, he's also your enemy, so let's fight him together today."

Xiaolang finally stood up and morphed into his gigantic form. His spirits were lifted as he gazed at Long Chen with a burning fire in his eyes. Then he let out a ground-shaking howl at the skies.

"Brother Chen, Xiaolang says that no matter what happens, he will fight by your side till the end!"

"That's good. Let's go. Let's fight for our beautiful future!" Long Chen let out a laugh. His laugh lightened the mood and invigorated their battle spirits. As the wind blew, the trio embarked on their journey towards the capital.

Long Chen knew that their target was already waiting for him.

It had been two long months.

This final battle would surely be a colorful one.

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There had been an odd change to the mood in the Imperial Capital since Lin Zichen's death. Everyone sensed that a storm was coming.

News of Long Chen's incident had spread across the whole capital, so every random person not only knew Long Chen's name, they could also describe in detail how he had infiltrated the palace and how he had killed Lin Zichen in front of Ginger City.

He had killed the most favored prodigy of the Cangyang Kingdom, which caused a larger commotion than when he previously fled the kingdom. He was a dark horse that seemed to have materialized from nothing and taken the final victory. This grabbed almost everyone's attention in the capital.

Long Chen's final declaration had made the whole capital erupt. Everyone knew that after he killed Lin Zichen, he would return to the capital and embark on a final battle against the number one master of the Cangyang Kingdom! The abrupt appearance of this young man startled all the higher-ranked people of the kingdom.

To them, Long Chen had long been a top-tier master. At this point, he was probably only ranked just beneath the Sword Emperor and the Heavenly Demon Lord.

Of course, everyone now also knew of his identity.

Ever since he used the Demon Emperor Sword and the Three Great Secret Scriptures, there was no question that he had pledged himself to the Heavenly Demon Palace and was going to become the next Lord of the Heavenly Demon Palace. The battle between Lin Zichen and Long Chen was actually a fight between the two major factions of the Cangyang Kingdom. As a result, Lin Zichen's death pressured the imperial family greatly.

This meant that if Long Chen remained alive, the imperial family would completely lose to the Heavenly Demon Palace in the near future. The Emperor's seat would also be taken by them, and the royals would face the threat of being completely annihilated.

The capital seemed to be holding its breath for the storm.

The First Prince had brought back news that Long Chen would challenge the Sword Emperor, but he did not say when. Two months of anxious waiting had passed. During this time, the gossip did not lessen, but rather intensified.

There was a discussion in a small teahouse.

"Brother Zhang, why are you here drinking tea today? Aren't you usually locked up at home cultivating?" asked a middle-aged man with a grin.

"To hell with that! I couldn't calm my mind, so I came to the teahouse to listen for more information. Is the Heavenly Demon Palace's Long Chen coming today?" the man asked softly.

"There isn't any commotion, so I don't think so?" answered the middle-aged man, furrowing his brows.

“The whole capital is talking about Long Chen’s challenge. I wonder if he’ll actually come. It’s been two months. Brother Chen, you don’t think he simply made an empty promise, do you?”

“I don’t think so. I hear that he’s coming to avenge a brother of his. I think it’s almost time. I hear that the Imperial Capital has made sufficient preparations. I’ll only consider it an empty promise if he doesn’t show up in another month!”

“His Majesty the Sword Emperor’s son was killed, so why didn’t he storm the Heavenly Demon Palace?” asked the man.

“I don’t know either. He’s probably waiting for Long Chen to come. I hear that based on Long Chen’s personality, if he said it, he will definitely do it. It should be almost time, so let’s wait and watch!”

#### Chapter 426 - Golden Eyes

It was the morning assembly<sup>[1]</sup> in the palace, but the atmosphere was heavy after what had happened.

The stampede at Ginger City had come to pass and the Cangyang Kingdom was supposed to be peaceful again. The kingdom had always emphasized cultivation strength, and the citizens lived with the belief that there was nothing that could not be solved through pure force. The morning assembly was just a tradition that had passed down through the ages and served no purpose.

Thanks to the Sword Emperor, the Cangyang Kingdom appeared to be a land ruled over by a sect rather than a proper country, though most kingdoms were the same. The Cangyang Kingdom had very few rules and regulations and was being held in place by the strength of the imperial palace.

The morning assembly was the only thing that resembled how a normal country would operate.

One of the officials gave a report of what was happening in the capital as well as the other cities. No one else had anything to report after that. The patriarch of the Gongsun family, one of the two remaining noble families, stepped up. “Your Highness, a lot of people flooded into the capital recently, and various incidents have taken place. It’s been ten years since something like this has happened.”

The Sword Emperor was sitting on a white jade throne with his eyes closed. He appeared to be asleep and didn’t move at all even though the patriarch of the Gongsun family was speaking. He slowly opened his eyes, and golden light radiated from his pupils when the Gongsun family patriarch finished his report.

The other officials lowered their heads and dared not look into the Emperor’s eyes.

If Long Chen were here, he would’ve been surprised because the Emperor’s eyes were not black like what he had seen that night, but instead gold. The Emperor with black eyes had an indescribably gentle aura that resembled Yin energy, while the golden-eyed Emperor exuded a harsh and dominating aura that resembled Yang energy. No one dared to look at him.

There had been a rumor circulating the Cangyang Kingdom that the Sword Emperor was cultivating a secret technique that caused the changes in his eye color. It would be golden during the day and black during the night. It was somewhat true as many had witnessed the change in eye color.

The Sword Emperor looked at the Gongsun's family patriarch.

The patriarch couldn't endure the pressure and his body trembled slightly.

"Is that so ... I don't know why they are here, but if I had to guess, it's because that Long Chen brat wants to duel me." The Sword Emperor enunciated each word clearly and calmly without expressing any emotions.

"I think so ..." The Gongsun family patriarch had to admit that the people flocking in were indeed here to witness the battle. How could they afford to not watch it?

Silence filled the room.

"Hmm ... Gongsun, lead your family members to kill all those that came into the city to watch the battle. Pile their corpses in front of the city gates to warn the others."

His tone was calm, as if he had just said something normal.

The officials, however, felt their scalps go numb. They had expected something like this after serving the Emperor for so long and learning of his temperament.

"I understand!" The Gongsun family patriarch quickly withdrew himself. The moment the morning assembly ended, there would be a massacre. Everyone else said nothing as they waited in trepidation.

"It's been two months ... When will Long Chen come? I can't wait any longer. Batian, you came back with the news. Tell me." The Sword Emperor looked at Lin Batian.

Lin Batian took a deep breath and calmed himself. Ever since the death of Lin Zichen, the Sword Emperor's mood had been unpredictable. He had killed many people during this time, and even Lin Batian was afraid.

"Long Chen was slightly stronger than Lin Zichen, and he's not an idiot. He knows that you're leagues above him, so he would never dare to challenge you without improving himself first. Long Chen must be confident in himself, so he won't come here before he reaches the Heavenly Passage Realm. But it takes years to get there, so I think he's lying. He will never come here!"

Lin Batian took a deep breath after saying that.

He had never really digested what Long Chen had said to him before running back to tell his father. That was why they were in this mess right now. He finally had time to think and realized that it was possible Long Chen would not come here. Although he was a genius, there was a large gap between him and the Sword Emperor.

“The Eldest Prince is right. I think Long Chen is only at the Ninth River Stage and is roughly as strong as the Fourth Prince. Youths are arrogant and always boast about themselves. He must have been overcome with embarrassment when he realized the absurdity of his statement. I think he’s lying and will never come here.” The Zhou family patriarch followed suit. The Zhou family was the second of the two remaining noble families.

The Sword Emperor smiled before shouting angrily, “Idiot! I know for a fact that he will come here!”

Everyone kept quiet when the Emperor shouted.

Just as he finished shouting, someone ran in with a report. The messenger kneeled on the ground in a panic. “Your Highness ... Long Chen and his wolf have been spotted outside the capital!”

Everyone was shocked by what they had heard. All of them looked at each other in disbelief.

“He’s really here?” Lin Batian almost fainted from the shock. He had just sworn that Long Chen would not show up.

Lin Batian calmed down and asked, “Hm? Are you sure? Is it really Long Chen?”

“It’s definitely true! Everyone on the city wall saw him, and a black demonic wolf is with him. This is the real deal! He stood outside the capital and shouted towards us to call for the ... Emperor to come out ...” The messenger hesitated at the end.

The Emperor’s golden eyes glared at the messenger as he said without any emotion, “Speak. What were his original words? He would never say something so simple. Answer me truthfully or die.”

The Sword Emperor’s words terrified the messenger. He had no choice but to tell the truth. “Long Chen ... Long Chen is shouting for the Emperor to scramble out of the palace immediately to serve him. Your Highness! That brat is so arrogant and full of himself. To think he would say something this controversial! He must die!”

The other officials' faces paled when they heard what Long Chen had said. The Sword Emperor was a being above them all and had never been humiliated before, and now Long Chen had called him to scramble out of the palace.

And even wanted the Sword Emperor to serve him?

It was insane.

Everyone dared not to look at the Sword Emperor’s face, but they could imagine how angry he had gotten.

“Is that so?” The Sword Emperor smiled. Everyone was surprised to see him so calm.

“He’s finally here. I’ve been getting impatient.” The Sword Emperor stood up with a smile, his golden robes covering his body. He walked forward and started heading towards the exit.

“Let’s go. We can’t have our guests waiting for us for so long.” The Sword Emperor approached the messenger and placed his hand on his shoulder. An instant later, the messenger’s eyes grew wide and his body slumped to the ground without a breath.

No one knew what to do.

It was clear that the Sword Emperor’s killing intent was at its peak. They feared that even the smile of the Sword Emperor was only a cover for his killing intent. No one showed any intention to help the messenger. They simply followed the Sword Emperor and headed outside.

“Does Long Chen like fighting outside city walls? I heard that he killed Zichen just outside the city walls. Interesting ... To think that I didn’t recognize him last time ...” The Sword Emperor’s voice spread towards the back of the group.

They slowly walked towards the city gates.

The Sword Emperor was looking forward to fighting Long Chen, but he slowed down his pace intentionally, as if he was enjoying the moment.

Just then, the entire capital was in chaos after hearing the news. More and more people reached the city gates, and the streets were crowded. If the people hadn’t made way for the Emperor, he wouldn’t have made it to the gate.

The Cangyang Kingdom’s strongest dark horse against the strongest individual. Everyone was clamoring to watch the fight. Thankfully, the capital’s wall was large enough for everyone to get a look at the fight from above. Even the soldiers couldn’t stop the waves of people as they surged past to find a spot on the city wall.

The Sword Emperor led a thousand people from the palace as they slowly walked to the gates. Only the Sword Emperor was smiling while the others were serious. Long Chen was leaning on Xiaolang on an empty field just outside the Biyang Imperial Capital with his arms crossed.

He had killed a guard on that very spot before meeting the Seventh Commander when he came here for the first time.

Time had passed and now he was here again, but as the strongest youth in the Cangyang Kingdom. Ling Xi had the Profound Jade Lotus back then, but now whether she would get a physical body again hinged on him fighting one last time!

Chapter 427 - Battle Against The Sword Emperor

“Xiao Xi, do you see how everyone in the Biyang Imperial Capital is watching us?” Long Chen raised his head and smiled plainly. The city gates were closed due to him being outside, and the plains outside were empty except for himself and Xiaolang.

Xiaolang was currently lying on the ground while staring at the city wall. It was finally time for his revenge. He was more than excited because the time to exact revenge had finally arrived.

To Xiaolang, killing the Sword Emperor was the only way to complete his revenge for the massacre of his family. Xiaolang was considered kind in the martial world. He only wanted to kill the Sword Emperor even though the entire imperial family had a hand in killing his family.

Xiaolang and Long Chen had decided to fight together because they weren't sure if Xiaolang alone could handle it.

Long Chen noticed that the number of people was increasing. They not only wanted to watch him fight the Sword Emperor, they also wanted to catch a glimpse of the legend himself. However, due to the distance, only stronger cultivators with good eyesight could see Long Chen's face clearly.

"To think the rumored Long Chen is so young. He's a legend in the Cangyang Kingdom. Too bad he's from the Heavenly Demon Palace and is doomed to fight against the imperial family ..."

"Of course. Did you think that the person who killed the Fourth Prince would be normal? I even heard that he killed the Sword Demon. Two of the three strongest individuals in the imperial family are dead. The only one left is the Sword Emperor."

"Are you joking? Do you think the Sword Emperor would lose to him?"

"Oh, my mistake. I never said anything of the sort." Everyone started discussing amongst themselves on the city wall.

Everyone shuddered with anticipation when the gate finally opened and a group of people walked out. They were the strongest cultivators of the Cangyang Kingdom, and the golden-eyed Sword Emperor was at the forefront. Everyone cheered when they saw him.

But not all of them were earnest in supporting the Sword Emperor. It was just because they lived in the capital and had no choice but to show support. They would not feel sad if the Sword Emperor lost.

Long Chen saw the two golden lights when the city gate was opened. The lights felt like swords poking holes into his skin. To think that the gaze of the Sword Emperor was capable of achieving something like this!

"Xiao Xi, do you see his eyes? I think they were different from the ones I saw before." Long Chen was confused because the Sword Emperor's eyes were black during that night, and his presence was not as domineering as it was today.

"That's so strange." Ling Xi shook her head with confusion. "Half of the Sword Emperor's soul is missing, and I don't know where it is. I think the one we saw before was missing a half too, but that missing half is inside the Emperor in front of us!" Ling Xi thought she was seeing things.

Long Chen didn't understand what she meant.

"It's fine, we don't have to think about it too much. We just need to defeat him! Xiao Xi, I will fulfill my promise. From here onwards, I will do my best to defeat him and get the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit." Long Chen was itching to fight.

"Oh ..." Ling Xi knew that there was no turning back now that Long Chen was here. She could only hope for the best. She also knew that Long Chen would never be

satisfied living with her in her current state, and he would do whatever he could to restore her physical body.

Unfortunately, Long Chen was born in a low-tier kingdom even though his talent was unheard of. Despite the fact that he had grown into the strongest individual in the Cangyang Kingdom in just a single year, there was no chance he would win against her family in the end.

Ling Xi knew the gap between his strength and that of her family. She loved Long Chen, but she also knew how impossible their love was.

She said nothing to Long Chen, choosing to watch his fight silently. His opponent would be the Sword Emperor, an opponent significantly stronger than the Dark Moon Tiger.

“You finally came out? You are such a slowpoke. I thought you were napping.” Long Chen was not worried even though he was facing a lot of pressure. Even the people were impressed by how relaxed he was.

The Sword Emperor didn’t respond; he merely told his consorts to go back. He looked at Long Chen with a calm gaze and walked out of the city. One hundred and fifty meters, one hundred meters, fifty meters—he finally stopped twenty meters away from Long Chen. Everyone was tense, wondering what was going to happen next.

The result of this fight would affect the Cangyang Kingdom for years.

All of them watched carefully, afraid to miss even the tiniest detail.

The Sword Emperor stood still as he looked at Long Chen. “I went to Zhao Qingyun two months ago and asked to fight him to the death, but he told me that my opponent would be you. I asked if he was joking, but he wasn’t. I trusted him and waited till this day. You killed two of my sons and even my brother, but I did not touch your family and your master all because I respect your potential. I hope you at least put up a good fight today. I will kill your family and friends if I’m not satisfied.”

Long Chen waited for him to finish.

“Relax. I will kill you today. I spent two months preparing for this. I’m sure you won’t be disappointed.” Long Chen didn’t step back at all.

Their voices traveled a long distance across the plains, so many people heard what they had said. The Sword Emperor did indeed respect Long Chen to a certain degree.

Only Long Chen knew that the Sword Emperor’s grudge against him was almost as strong as Xiaolang’s grudge against the Sword Emperor.

“I heard that your sworn brother was a member of a family I destroyed. I checked the records and saw that there was indeed one of them that escaped, Mo Xiaolang. The reports that he didn’t come out of the Burning Heaven Secret Realm. To think that the final bastard of the Mo family is dead. Such a shame.” The Sword Emperor sighed and shook his head. Long Chen was angry at how nonchalant the Sword Emperor was.

“The imperial family will suffer the same fate. I will kill you and Lin Batian. The other weaklings are too worthless for me to do anything. Do you know how Lin Cangtian

died in my hands? I burned him alive. Do you know how Lin Zichen died? I cut him in half!" Long Chen scoffed, as if killing the princes had been easy tasks.

The Sword Emperor's body shuddered and killing intent leaked out.

*What strange eyes ...* Long Chen became wary of his foe's eyes.

The spectators were listening to every word. They knew that the battle was going to start the moment the Sword Emperor allowed his killing intent to leak.

The Sword Emperor took one step, and a gust blew towards Long Chen. The gust grew into a whirlwind until even the tough soil staining the city wall was blown away.

"Xiaolang!" Long Chen shouted, and they immediately executed their plan. They split apart and ran towards the Sword Emperor from two directions. Long Chen needed to use all of his cards immediately against an enemy like the Sword Emperor, especially his Dragon Soul Transformation and the Demon Seed Planting Technique. After his Qi multiplied, it surged through his body and the eighteen starry rivers. Long Chen's Qi exploded out of his body!

Xiaolang also used the Demon Seed Planting Technique, and his strength reached the border of the Heavenly Passage Realm. He could now use even more of his Nine Devil Ancestral Fire.

The Sword Emperor was slightly taken back when both Long Chen and Xiaolang finished transforming. He was first shocked by Long Chen's transformation.

"I've heard that your transformation is very strong, but to think it could reach this state! You have almost as much Qi as a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator when you use the Demon Seed Planting Technique. No wonder Lin Zichen lost to you and Zhao Qingyun said you would be my opponent."

He was then taken aback by Xiaolang's Demon Seed Planting Technique.

"What! How can a demonic beast cultivate the Demon Seed Planting Technique?! What kind of beast is it?" Xiaolang surpassed the Sword Emperor's common sense. He had always been confident in his knowledge, but Xiaolang was too much of an irregularity.

The people on the city walls heard what the Sword Emperor had said.

"Did I hear that right? Long Chen is already as strong as a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator? And the beast can use the Demon Seed Planting Technique? What kind of monstrous duo are they?"

"Well, we can't be sure of that. We don't even know how strong Long Chen is exactly. We should just wait and see. The Sword Emperor is definitely surprised, but he's not retreating. That means he's confident in defeating Long Chen."

Long Chen utilized the enhanced speed granted by his transformation and the Demon Seed Planting Technique to quickly approach the Sword Emperor.

He knew that even though he had as much Qi as a Heavenly Passage Realm cultivator, there was still a large gap between them, so Long Chen dared not be careless.

Long Chen and Xiaolang had discussed prior to this that Long Chen would be fighting while Xiaolang supported him since the latter was slightly weaker. Xiaolang's strongest attack was the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire, so he would only use it when the Sword Emperor's guard was down.

Long Chen pulled out the Demon Emperor Sword at this point.

“The Demon Emperor Sword? I haven't seen it in years. Zhao Qingyun used it once to fight me when we were younger, but he wasn't my match. He doesn't stand a chance even now!” The Sword Emperor wasn't anxious even though Long Chen had brought out the Heaven-tier Divine Arm.

The Sword Emperor was the monolith of the Cangyang Kingdom. Since he was the strongest, he had very few enemies. That was why he had given Lin Zichen the Imperial Sword, thinking that no one would be capable of stealing it. But now Long Chen was keeping the Imperial Sword in his Universe Pouch, so the Sword Emperor had no way of retrieving it.

But the Sword Emperor was not helpless without the sword. When Long Chen was swiftly approaching him, the Sword Emperor pointed at Long Chen with his right index finger, and a golden light appeared on his fingertip. Under the control of the Sword Emperor, nine lights shot out of his finger towards Long Chen!

“Nine Heaven Battle Swords, Heaven and Earth Evisceration!”

This was the other Heaven-tier martial technique other than the Imperial Sword Technique. Its power was not to be trifled with, and Long Chen had to use the Supreme Emperor Sword to destroy it.

But what made Long Chen surprised was that the Sword Emperor's technique was ten times stronger even though he was only using his Qi and fingers. He had to use Traceless Demon Shadow to avoid the attacks. Long Chen took advantage of the gaps in the attack timings to circulate his Qi and launch a jet-black Sword Qi at the Sword Emperor.

“Demon Emperor Sword Technique, Supreme Emperor Sword!”

The air was torn apart, and black dirt sprayed everywhere. Long Chen used the Supreme Emperor Sword to destroy the Sword Emperor's Nine Heaven Battle Swords. At the same time, Long Chen launched numerous rays of Demon Emperor Sword Qi to push the Sword Emperor back.

He had not lost in the first round. It was considered an incredible feat, considering his age, even though he had the Demon Emperor Sword to help him.

Some of the more experienced cultivators knew that if Long Chen could defend against the Sword Emperor's first Heaven-tier martial technique, he could possibly block the rest too. They had thought Long Chen was weaker, but they now realized that he was almost as strong as the Sword Emperor.

Long Chen had forced the Sword Emperor to retreat using the Demon Emperor Sword Qi. Without warning, Long Chen used the Blood Devouring Domain. A blood-red mist enveloped Long Chen and the Sword Emperor. He increased the strength of the technique using his Qi!

The Blood Devouring Domain had always been one of his trump cards. It had worked exceedingly well against the Heaven-tier Dark Moon Tiger, so it would naturally work against the Sword Emperor too!

The Sword Emperor suddenly realized that he was under the effect of an intense suction force. He frowned when he felt his blood boiling and going against its natural flow. It was out of his control!

“What’s happening?” The Sword Emperor quickly used a large portion of his Qi to suppress his blood. He was barely able to regain control of his body when Long Chen launched another attack at him!

“Demon Emperor Sword Technique, Supreme Emperor Sword!”

Long Chen managed to reduce the Sword Emperor’s strength with the Blood Devouring Domain. There was no way he would give his opponent a chance to catch his breath, so he poured all of his Qi into his next attack.

He shot numerous black rays of Sword Qi at the Sword Emperor from a range of only ten meters. The latter was so distracted in trying to regain control of his body that he realized too late that the attack was going to hit him!

This single attack from Long Chen was much stronger than the one he had used to kill Lin Zichen. The very earth itself was torn asunder, and the sound of screeching metal could be heard far and wide.

The people on the city wall were stunned to see the Sword Emperor in danger right at the start of the battle. They had thought that the Sword Emperor would take care of Long Chen with ease, so the thought of seeing him in such a dire situation never crossed their minds!

But the Sword Emperor was not that weak. Even though he was being suppressed by Long Chen’s Blood Devouring Domain, he still managed to retreat while forming seals with his fingers. Then his silhouette turned into a sword and Sword Qi shot out of his hands.

“Imperial Sword Technique, Supreme Martial Sword!”

The Supreme Martial Sword was the first technique of the Imperial Sword Technique. The golden Sword Qi crashed into Long Chen’s black Sword Qi and exploded. The shockwave blew the two of them apart and left a crater in the middle.

Long Chen was blown into the air before he turned and landed safely.

“Xiaolang, this is your chance!” Long Chen’s two attacks were meant to set up a perfect opportunity for Xiaolang to strike. Xiaolang had approached the back of the Sword Emperor when Long Chen used the Blood Devouring Domain. The Sword Emperor had underestimated Xiaolang since the latter was only a Category Nine Earth-tier beast.

The Sword Emperor was strong, and Long Chen had to admit that. The Sword Emperor was so strong that he was capable of breaking Long Chen's Supreme Emperor Sword with a Supreme Martial Sword launched using his fingers even though he was under the influence of the Blood Devouring Domain. Long Chen would've been helpless against the Sword Emperor if he didn't have other strategies.

Xiaolang was one of his backup plans.

The Sword Emperor had been blown back by the explosion as well. He was still thinking about what the Blood Devouring Domain was when he felt a deadly presence behind him.

Xiaolang saw his nemesis flying towards him, and he could no longer wait. His eyes were bloodshot as he pounced towards the Sword Emperor. Xiaolang used all of the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire he could muster and spat it out like a tidal wave towards the Sword Emperor.

It was clear that Xiaolang hated the Sword Emperor a lot.

Long Chen could barely imagine how much pain Xiaolang had endured when his family was wiped out at the age of six, resulting in him living on his own. But Xiaolang had managed to live on and kept a positive outlook on life!

Xiaolang was his sworn brother!

Long Chen had sworn to himself that Xiaolang's problems would be his as well. Naturally, the same could be said for Xiaolang. Even though he couldn't speak now, Xiaolang's heart had not changed.

When the Nine Devil Ancestral Fire blanketed the air, the Sword Emperor felt like his life was in danger. He didn't even look back, because his battle sense told him that if he didn't run towards Long Chen, he would die!

"Divine Nine Palace Step!" The Sword Emperor was sweating when he used his strongest Body Combat Technique to run towards Long Chen at top speed. He would've been faster than Long Chen if he wasn't under the influence of the Blood Devouring Domain.

Everyone on the city wall were shouting and clamoring when they saw the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire. They didn't know what it was, but they knew it was very deadly if even the Sword Devil avoided it.

"What kind of fire emits cold energy?!" The Sword Emperor hissed and ran as fast as he could, but part of his body ended up coming into contact with the flames, including one of his arms!

The Sword Emperor circulated his Qi towards his arm, but then he felt that he was losing all sensation in it!

Bam!

Everyone was in disbelief when the Sword Emperor's left arm exploded and disappeared in the air. Even though he had avoided the bulk of the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire, he had paid a terrible price. He had lost his left arm. It was possible to heal it with spiritual herbs, but it would not be as nimble as before.

His battle strength had diminished as a result!

## Chapter 429 - Yin Yang Sword Emperor

Everyone was in disbelief at what they saw. The Sword Emperor stood motionlessly as he watched his left arm disintegrate. The empty feeling and the prickling pain told him that a younger cultivator and a bizarre demonic beast had crippled him!

Anger coursed through his veins and he roared like a beast. He glared at Long Chen and Xiaolang both.

The people didn't know what to do when they saw the Sword Emperor's arm disintegrate. They looked at each other before rubbing their eyes in hopes that they had seen it wrongly. Lin Batian suddenly felt the fear he had experienced in Ginger City. Lin Zichen had perished before Long Chen without any warning just like that.

Long Chen was an everlasting nightmare to Lin Batian!

The Sword Emperor's howl also shocked Lin Batian. His father had always been a stoic person who never displayed his emotions, but Lin Batian could feel his father's rage now even though he had closed his eyes.

Someone patted Lin Batian's shoulder, causing him to open his eyes. He looked back and was shocked to see who it was. His eyes went wide and his mind went blank.

The person behind him was someone Lin Batian had seen many times before. It was the same person who was still shouting beneath the city wall. *How could he be up here?*

"This is the first time someone has forced me to come out ..." the man said before disappearing. Everyone saw a dark shadow running towards Long Chen.

No one could see who it was, but Lin Batian fell on the ground and looked at everyone in a daze. "I ... I have two fathers?"

It was indeed another Sword Emperor, but this one had black eyes! Lin Batian knew that he was his father, but he never knew there were two of them!

Long Chen sensed someone strong approaching him. When he turned to look, he saw a dark shadow coming down from the wall. Long Chen immediately realized that the person running towards him was at the Heavenly Passage Realm!

There's another cultivator at the Heavenly Passage Realm in the city?!

But Long Chen was stunned to see who it was. He couldn't believe his eyes when he saw another Sword Emperor! The two of them looked the same except for their eye color. One of them had golden eyes while the other had black eyes.

The black-eyed Sword Emperor was completely fine, while the golden-eyed one was missing an arm.

Long Chen didn't know what was happening.

He was not alone. The spectators couldn't believe their eyes when they saw the two Sword Emperors. It was impossible for something like this to happen. How could two people look exactly the same?

And both of them were at the Heavenly Passage Realm!

The people in the city had been talking about how the Sword Emperor was cultivating a technique that caused his eye color to shift, from black at night to golden at day. But there had actually been two Sword Emperors all along?!

Ling Xi suddenly shouted in surprise, “Brother Chen, they are the same person! Each of them has half of his soul! But how could a soul be split into two and placed into two different bodies? One of the bodies is filled with pure Yang energy while the other is filled with Yin energy. I have never seen something this strange before!”

A soul split into two and placed into two identical bodies with the same strength?

This was something Long Chen had never heard of before.

He took a deep breath and calmed down. The most pressing matter was to deal with two Heavenly Passage Realm cultivators right now.

It was already challenging to defeat a single Sword Emperor, and now there were two of them. He and Xiaolang had almost won against the first one, but the situation had turned for the worst as he looked at the two furious Sword Emperors.

Everyone waited with bated breath as they watched the fight unfold.

The fight had been too surreal. Long Chen was in an advantageous position, but now the Sword Emperor held the upper hand.

Long Chen knew he was in deep trouble.

He had planned to fight the Sword Emperor with Xiaolang, but now they had no choice but to each take on a single Sword Emperor. It was possible for Long Chen to fend off one, but Xiaolang definitely couldn't!

“Xiaolang!” Long Chen howled and ran towards Xiaolang.

“You want to save that beast?” A sinister laugh came, and the black-eyed Sword Emperor blocked him before launching a dazzling ray of Sword Qi at Long Chen. The latter used Traceless Demon Shadow and dodged the attack, but he lost the chance to save Xiaolang.

Just then, the golden-eyed Sword Emperor appeared in front of Xiaolang. Even though he had lost one of his arms and his vitality had been shaved off, his strength was still at the Heavenly Passage Realm. He could easily fight off Xiaolang with a single hand!

“Die! Supreme Martial Sword!” The golden-eyed Sword Emperor launched a massive attack at Xiaolang that shook the earth.

Xiaolang retreated and unleashed endless flames from his body. The flames transformed into Divine Fire Clones, and all of them ran towards the Supreme Martial Sword.

Bam, bam, bam!

The clones exploded when they touched the attack, but each of them shaved off some of its power. Xiaolang successfully dodged towards the left after thirty clones were destroyed. He then opened his maw and shot out another wave of the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire.

“It’s that blasted thing again!” The Nine Devils Ancestral Fire was what the Sword Emperor detested the most because it had taken his arm! He was furious at the sight of it.

Xiaolang was slower than the Sword Emperor, but the latter still used the Nine Divine Palace Steps to dodge the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire.

He laughed maniacally when he appeared beside Xiaolang. Just then, a brilliant, golden light exploded from his arm as he prepared his Sword Qi.

“You beast. You will die now! Imperial Sword Technique, Supreme Sovereign Sword!”

Thousands of Sword Qi strikes exploded forth from his fingers, each one rivaling the power of Long Chen’s Supreme Demon Sword. An attack of this scale was something Xiaolang could not avoid!

Xiaolang was going to die! Ling Xi shouted in a panic, “Brother Chen, save Xiaolang!”

Long Chen was fighting the black-eyed Sword Emperor on equal grounds while closing in on Xiaolang. He had been distracted in the fight and was almost wounded by the Sword Emperor on several occasions.

“You want to save him? You need to face me first.” The Sword Emperor laughed as he knew he was winning.

He was indeed stronger than Long Chen. It was already a miracle that Long Chen could survive the barrage of attacks for so long. How could he save Xiaolang? If he were to try that, he would be killed by the black-eyed Sword Emperor.

But he was not afraid of death.

He had to risk it by using a certain technique. The situation had turned due to the appearance of the second Sword Emperor.

Xiaolang was on the brink of danger when Long Chen ran towards him without any hesitation. “Supreme Demon Sword!” He managed to save Xiaolang at the last moment by crashing his technique into the Sword Emperor’s technique.

“Idiot!” The black-eyed Sword Emperor appeared behind Long Chen and shot out a Supreme Martial Sword at him!

Even if Long Chen had additional arms, he was almost certain to die here today!

Chapter 430 - Rewind

Everyone shouted once more when they saw what was happening. They knew Long Chen was in deep trouble once the black-eyed Sword Emperor appeared. Once the demonic beast was defeated, Long Chen would be dead as well since he would have to fight against two Sword Emperors.

But no one had thought that Long Chen would choose to save the demonic beast when the golden-eyed Sword Emperor was about to kill it. If that was the case, Long Chen would have to deal with attacks from two different directions, and one of them would surely take his life.

“Xiaolang, Nine Devils Ancestral Fire! Aim for the golden-eyed Sword Emperor!” Long Chen shouted at Xiaolang as he blocked off the golden-eyed Emperor’s Supreme Sovereign Sword! The clash caused an explosion, but Long Chen had the strength to fend it off!

But his luck was over. No one had expected the appearance of the second Sword Emperor. While Long Chen managed to block the golden-eyed Sword Emperor’s attack, the black-eyed Sword Emperor’s attack landed on him and blasted a massive hole in his chest. Blood and flesh sprayed everywhere.

Long Chen was dead!

Everyone saw it happen.

Long Chen had suffered a massive injury. His body had almost been blown to smithereens by that attack, and there was no chance he had survived.

Everyone on the wall sighed. They had thought Long Chen was a monstrous genius when they saw him go toe to toe with the Sword Emperor at that age. No one knew what to feel after they watched a genius that surpassed Lin Zichen die. Some of them thought that it was a shame.

A rising star had been destroyed just like that.

Everything was silent.

All of them stared at Long Chen’s horrifying corpse.

The Sword Emperors stopped and looked as well. They could sense that Long Chen’s life force was dissipating rapidly; he would be dead in just a few breaths.

The Sword Emperors looked at each other and sighed in relief. They had thought Zhao Qingyun was joking when he said Long Chen was on their level, but then they experienced how strong Long Chen was. If they hadn’t worked together, one of them would’ve been killed today.

“What a monstrous genius. Such a shame he chose to oppose me ...”

Long Chen’s corpse slowly started slumping to the ground, and the two Sword Emperors shook their heads. Long Chen was dead.

People sighed on the wall.

All of them were looking forward to seeing how much stronger Long Chen would get, but now he was dead.

If Long Chen had chosen to save himself and escaped as fast as he could, he might’ve been able to grow strong enough to win against the Sword Emperor one day. Unfortunately, he had sacrificed his life for Xiaolang. Even though it was the wrong move, everyone was touched by his actions.

They would remember Long Chen’s name for a long time.

Long Chen’s body was slowly slumping towards the ground.

Everyone closed their eyes because they couldn't bear to watch it, but they failed to notice a strange ripple coming from his chest and covering his bloody body. In just a single breath, his body turned back to normal and his wounds closed up; even the blood he had sprayed on the field flew back into his body.

Long Chen's eyes lit up, and he was unscathed! There was not a single injury in sight!

Those who had witnessed it couldn't believe what had happened! They had seen everything with their very own eyes, but they could not comprehend it!

The appearance of the two Sword Emperors was shocking enough, but Long Chen's resurrection was beyond shocking. Their understanding of cultivation had been blown away again and again. They never would've believed it if they didn't see it first hand.

It was as if Long Chen had returned to the past!

Long Chen had used the technique given by the stone talisman: Rewind. This was why he had chosen to save Xiaolang. On the verge of death, Long Chen activated the technique and rewound time back to when he was unhurt.

As long as he activated it within ten seconds of taking damage, he could return back to normal!

The stone talisman was incredible. He had tested it before the fight, and it indeed did work. Except for Xiaolang and Ling Xi, no one knew how to react to what was happening. How had Long Chen been revived?!

Xiaolang had been waiting for this chance.

The golden-eyed Sword Emperor had been trying to kill Xiaolang while Long Chen was in the middle of the two to block the attack. After Long Chen recovered, he immediately swung the Demon Emperor Sword!

Long Chen did not hold back against the Sword Emperor. His Demon Emperor Sword Qi was so fast that the Sword Emperor could not react to it. Blood sprayed everywhere as his eyes were destroyed.

The golden-eyed Sword Emperor howled in pain and was still confused by what was happening when Xiaolang leapt above Long Chen and spat the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire. The Sword Emperor cried out before his voice was cut off and he froze into a black ice statue.

The golden-eyed Sword Emperor was dead!

To think that the fight would turn around in just a few breaths! From the death of Long Chen, to his resurrection, and to the death of the Sword Emperor. It was too shocking for the people to process.

This was beyond a miracle! All of them rubbed their eyes in disbelief and pinched themselves, thinking that they were dreaming. But this was reality. Long Chen was still alive after coming back from the dead, while the golden-eyed Sword Emperor was dead!

Rewind had caused such a huge upset!

But Long Chen would've preferred not to use it, because it was scary and painful to use Rewind to surprise his opponent. It had taken a lot of willpower to face a brush with death, and he had only done it to save Xiaolang. His heart was still beating from the gamble. *I will never choose to get hit by a lethal attack again!*

Everything was silent once more.

Xiaolang stood at Long Chen's side and thanked him. Long Chen had not only saved his life, he had given Xiaolang a chance for revenge. One of the Sword Emperors was dead, and now it would be much easier to kill the second one. Long Chen could fight at full power too.

Long Chen suddenly realized something when he looked at the frozen golden-eyed Sword Emperor.

Everything in the golden-eyed Sword Emperor's possession was frozen and would turn to dust along with him. *Does that mean the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit is gone too?*

Long Chen almost passed out when he thought of that. The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit was his goal, and if it was gone just like that, he wouldn't know what to do next.

But using the Nine Devils Ancestral Fire was the correct choice to kill the golden-eyed Sword Emperor. Long Chen had forgotten about the Universe Pouch during the critical moment. Ling Xi noticed his pale face. "Brother Chen, what's wrong?"

She was still shaken up after watching Long Chen nearly die.

"The Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit might be gone ..." Long Chen pointed at the frozen body of the golden-eyed Sword Emperor.

"Gone?" Ling Xi was secretly happy. "Brother Chen, maybe the heavens are giving me a chance to stay with you. Just listen to me. Even though you are right, I still don't want to leave you!"

"Wait, we still have one more enemy to deal with." Long Chen frowned. He would never give up in his pursuit to obtain a Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit. He glared at the other Sword Emperor. The black-eyed Sword Emperor was in anguish after seeing his other half dead.

"Long Chen, what is happening?!" he howled as he glared at Long Chen.

"I'm immortal."

He took a few steps forward. "I will spare you if you give me the Nine Heavens Immortal Fruit."

"How do you know I have it?" The black-eyed Sword Emperor was astonished.

Long Chen noticed the Sword Emperor's movement. He clutched his own waist lightly. That meant that the fruit was with the black-eyed Sword Emperor!