

### **Chapter 1461: The Second Level Of The Merit Pavilion**

“Around the corner?” Responding to Duan Ling Tian, Elder Huo replied, “You’re too confident. The reason the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda could be repaired by 60% with just these few materials is all thanks to the Nuwa Stone fragment. Among them all, just the Nuwa Stone fragment alone can boost the repair by 40%.”

Elder Huo’s words were like a bucket of cold water that was poured on Duan Ling Tian’s head as it completely overpowered the excitement and joy in his heart.

So, it turned out that the reason these materials could repair it by that extent was all thanks to the Nuwa Stone fragment.

At once, the Nuwa Stone fragment in Duan Ling Tian’s heart skyrocketed right away.

“Elder Huo, I’ve heard of a legend before. It says that Sun Wu Kong, the Great Sage, Equal of Heaven, was actually born from the five-colored stone that had fallen when Nuwa was repairing the Heavens. You also seemed to have said before that Sun Wu Kong wasn’t a native to Planet Yan Huang, but was transformed from the Nuwa Stone of the Ancient Goddess Nuwa. Is the five-colored stone really that extraordinary to the point that it could give birth to such a freak as Sun Wu Kong?” Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

“Of course, an ordinary five-colored stone wouldn’t have been able to give birth to such a freak as the Horse Protector. The part that gave birth to him was the most valuable part of the five-colored stone which is also called the Five-colored Chalcedony. Through the creation of Heaven and Earth, along with the place that was endowed with the fine spirits of the universe, a freak such as the Horse Protector could finally be born,” Elder Huo replied.

“Oh, I see,” Duan Ling Tian finally understood before asking again, “Then, in this case, is the five-colored stone fragment that I obtained just now just an ordinary five-colored stone fragment?”

“Yes,” Elder Huo replied.

“Elder Huo, since this five-colored stone is so extraordinary, would it be any help to me?” Duan Ling Tian could not help but ask again.

The moment he thought of how powerful this five-colored stone was, he also hoped that it would be able to bring some benefits to himself. In that case, it would be better than using it on the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

“If it’s an intact five-colored stone, then without a doubt, it would be a great help to you. However, if it’s only a fragment of the five-colored stone, it’s no help to you at all.”

Upon hearing this, Duan Ling Tian became slightly disappointed.

Now that all of the materials he needed had been bought, Duan Ling Tian left the first level of the Merit Pavilion and proceeded to the second level. “The second level of the City Governor’s Estate of Mound Hill City houses the Saint Grade Martial Tactics, so I wonder if it’s the same case too here on the second level of the Merit Pavilion of the Moon Illumination Sect.”

Duan Ling Tian entered the second level of the Merit Pavilion and discovered that this was not the place that housed the Saint Grade Martial Tactics.

The second level of the Merit Pavilion was a place where they could exchange their Merit Points for a variety of materials.

The different materials could be used in refining weapons and pill. Some could even be used for inscribing Dao Talismans and Saint Inscriptions.

Of course, the materials that could be placed in the second level of the Merit Pavilion were all valuable. In the Moon Illumination Sect, nobody would be willing to use their Merit Points in exchange for ordinary material.

After all, the Merit Points were far more valuable than the Saint Stones in the Moon Illumination Sect.

“Of all these various valuable materials on the second level of the Merit Pavilion, I wonder whether there’re any that could be used to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.” The moment Duan Ling Tian thought about this, he began to look forward to it.

Right then, the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda could be deemed to have already been repaired by 70%. With just another 30% more to go, it would be completely restored.

There was a counter by the entrance of the second level of the Merit Pavilion with an old man sitting behind it. The old man appeared to be dozing off, but he gave off a peculiar sense of feeling.

When Duan Ling Tian passed the counter, he even had a feeling that he was being monitored.

At once, he glanced at the old man warily and realized that although he appeared to be dozing off, he was actually wide awake, much more so than anyone else.

Just as Duan Ling Tian looked at the old man vigilantly, the old man opened his misty eyes and instructed nonchalantly, “Leave your Spatial Ring behind, then only can you go in.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded his head before taking his Spatial Ring off and placing it on the counter.

He knew that the feeling of being monitored that he had earlier must have been the old man using his powerful Spiritual Energy to check on the Spatial Ring on his body. He was probing to see how many Spatial Rings he had. Fortunately, the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was not something that the old man could detect using his Spiritual Energy.

Duan Ling Tian was not worried about placing his Spatial Ring on the countertop as well.

That was a Spatial Ring that had had a Blood Ownership Claim performed on it. Unless he died, it would be useless even if someone else took it as he would have no way of performing an ownership claim on it at all.

Of course, Duan Ling Tian was not surprised by the rule of having to hand over the Spatial Ring in the second level of the Merit Pavilion.

It was obvious that there were no other people guarding the second level of the Merit Pavilion. There were only a few people over there picking their materials.

If they did not hand over their Spatial Rings, it would be hard to avoid people from sneakily placing materials into their Spatial Rings and intentionally sneaking them out through the ring to save their Merit Points.

After Duan Ling Tian walked into the second level of the Merit Pavilion, he motioned to Elder Huo. "Elder Huo, please have a look whether there's any material here that you could use to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda."

Usually, if he did not take the initiative to signal Elder Huo, the latter would not look at the surroundings outside.

Duan Ling Tian was very pleased with this. At the very least, Elder Huo would not take a peek at his privacy.

Elder Huo was still quite sensible when it came to this.

Now that Duan Ling Tian was the owner of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, he would be able to instantly find out if Elder Huo looked outside through the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

He knew that Elder Huo was not looking now, so he took the initiative to signal him.

After going around the second level of the Merit Pavilion, Duan Ling Tian managed to find more than ten items that could be used to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. However, even if all of these items were added up together, it could only repair the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda by 10%.

"It seems like I really lucked out when I was on the first level of the Merit Pavilion," Duan Ling Tian lamented to himself.

The materials on the second level of the Merit Pavilion had their price clearly marked with no bargaining allowed.

The ten-odd items that Duan Ling Tian found cost a total of 15,000 Merit Points — ten times more than what he spent on the first level of the Merit Pavilion.

Duan Ling Tian could not help but be filled with all sorts of emotions as he thought about this.

Of course, he knew that there was no point in comparing.

With the Nuwa Stone fragment that was the most valuable being a gift on the first level of the Merit Pavilion, there was no need for him to spend a single Merit Point at all.

After he returned to the counter and took out the Crystal Card straightforwardly to swipe 15,000 Merit Points from it, Duan Ling Tian slid the Spatial Ring back on his finger again before storing away the items that he had bought from the second level of the Merit Pavilion.

"Thank you, elder." Before Duan Ling Tian went to the third level of the Merit Pavilion, he thanked the old man behind the counter.

This old man had powerful Spiritual Energy that surpassed every other person that he had come across before. Of course, every other person there was everyone who had demonstrated their Spiritual Energy in front of Duan Ling Tian before.

As for those who had not, Duan Ling Tian had no idea either just how strong their Spiritual Energy was.

It was also for this reason that he suspected that this old man must be an inner court elder.

“I wonder whether Elder Dongfang is more powerful than him or not?” Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Elder Dongfang was Dongfang Quan, the grand elder of the outer court district of the Moon Illumination Sect. Duan Ling Tian had gone to find him before and had met him once.

However, he did not use his Spiritual Energy to probe Duan Ling Tian, so the latter had no idea just how strong his Spiritual Energy was.

That time, he had used a fourth-grade Saint Stone and ten pieces of fifth-grade Saint Stones to ask Dongfang Quan to make a statement. That very statement was released just a few days before the Death Duel between Feng Fan and him.

Many were taken aback by this then.

It had never crossed his mind that the grand elder of the outer court, Dongfang Quan, would release a statement to become the witness for the bet that Duan Ling Tian set up and was willing to help him carry out his promises had he been killed.

Many people tried to speculate the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and Dongfang Quan.

However, they would never be able to guess that Duan Ling Tian actually relied on these eleven Saint Stones to forge this relationship with Dongfang Quan.

Of course, it was mostly because of the meaning these eleven Saint Stones implied.

Usually, the Saint Stones that were mainly circulated around the surrounding districts of the Moon Illumination Sect and even the entire Nine Sect Alliances' district were sixth-grade Saint Stones. These sixth-grade Saint Stones could only be produced in a small number in an ordinary seventh-grade Saint Stone reserve.

As for the fifth-grade Saint Stones, even if they managed to enter the Nine Sect Alliances' district, very few people would take them out to use.

Most of them would use it for cultivation instead.

As everyone knew, the higher grade Saint Stones would not affect the cultivation speed, but the if the Saint Stone was of a high grade, high-intensity closed-door cultivation could then be maintained for a longer period of time without the need to be interrupted halfway to change the stone. Many Martial and Dao Cultivators had missed the golden opportunity to make a breakthrough because they had to keep changing Saint Stones halfway.

Therefore, a higher grade Saint Stone would always be sought after by a Martial or Dao Cultivator who had a high cultivation base.

For Martial and Dao Cultivators who had a high cultivation base, their closed-door cultivation would usually take up to several years long. It was not possible for some to have closed-door cultivation of up to several dozen years or even up to 100 years.

Of the eleven Saint Stones that Duan Ling Tian gave to Dongfang Quan, ten of them were fifth-grade Saint Stones while one was a fourth-grade Saint Stone.

A fifth-grade Saint Stone would need to be produced in at least a sixth-grade Saint Stone reserve that a sixth-rated force controlled. It was very scarce in the Nine Sect Alliances' district but the chances of coming across one were not entirely zero.

The fourth-grade Saint Stones, on the other hand, were extremely rare in the Nine Sect Alliances' district.

This was because it needed at least a fifth-grade Saint Stone reserve that was controlled by a fifth-rated force for it to be produced.

Unless the people from the Nine Sect Alliances' district went to the central district of a district controlled by a fifth-rated force to get the possibility to exchange for a fourth-grade Saint Stone, it was basically impossible for anybody from the Nine Sect Alliances' district to possess a fourth-grade Saint Stone.

Of course, there was another possibility, which was if somebody from the central district of the district controlled by the fifth-rated force came to the Nine Sect Alliances' district and left a fourth-grade Saint Stone behind.

This fourth-grade Saint Stone that Duan Ling Tian took out was more than enough to keep Dongfang Quan from guessing his identity.

That was also Duan Ling Tian's purpose.

It was also why Dongfang Quan would have gone along with him so straightforwardly.

Otherwise, as only an outer court disciple, what basis did he have to let the awe-inspiring Dongfang Quan help him?

"There're not many polite little fellas like you now these days." The old man smiled, never expecting Duan Ling Tian to take the initiative to thank him.

In fact, usually, the people who came to the second level of the Merit Pavilion would leave right away after they had exchanged their materials. Who would give a damn about this old man like he did?

"Little fella, what's your name?" The old man asked kindly.

### **Chapter 1462: The Dao Talismans With A Whopping Price**

"My name is Duan Ling Tian." Duan Ling Tian beamed.

“Y-You’re Duan Ling Tian?!” Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s reply, the old man was stunned before he shifted his eyes to his waist instantly. The moment he saw the outer court disciple Order Token, his eyes lit up right away. “You’re that outer court disciple who killed the Earth Rankings powerhouse yesterday in the Death Duel in the outer court district yesterday, aren’t you?”

“You’ve heard about that already too, elder?” Duan Ling Tian chuckled, acknowledging it indirectly.

“Great, great... You have such a solid innate talent in Martial Dao, yet you’re still so polite. How rare!” The old man had a precious kind expression on his face.

“You flatter me, elder.” Duan Ling Tian smiled humbly.

“I’m Fang Gan. If you need anything in the future, you can just come to find me here in the Merit Pavilion. If I don’t happen to be on duty at that time, you can look for me in the inner court.”

“Thanks for your kindness, Elder Fang Gan.” It had never crossed Duan Ling Tian’s mind that the old man would say such words to him. At once, he quickly expressed his gratitude as his heart was filled with emotions. After all, he had only just greeted the old man out of politeness.

After bidding farewell to the old man, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to leave the second level of the Merit Pavilion and went to the third level.

When he came to the third level of the Merit Pavilion, he could see a counter that looked more or less the same as the one on the second level of the Merit Pavilion by the entrance. There were two middle-aged men sitting behind the counter and it was obvious that they were the people-in-charge of the third level of this Merit Pavilion.

After sensing their Spiritual Energy, Duan Ling Tian could distinguish that their strength was not as great as Fang Gan’s on the second level of the Merit Pavilion.

“These two people have a strength that is on par with an outer court elder. They should be either outer court elders or inner court deacons.” Duan Ling Tian could more or less guess the identities of these two men.

“Put your Spatial Ring down and enter,” ordered one of the middle-aged men nonchalantly as he glanced at Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded his head before putting his Spatial Ring down and entering the third level of the Merit Pavilion.

After entering the third level of the Merit Pavilion, Duan Ling Tian glanced all over and could not help but be visibly moved. This was because the third level of the Merit Pavilion was separated into three sections that each housed various treasures.

These three sections were the pill section, the Saint Weapon section, and the Dao Talisman section.

Duan Ling Tian went to the pill section and searched for many Three-Star Healing Medicinal Pills and Three-Star Sensory Pills. On top of that, he also bought some Four-Star Saint Grade Pills that were exorbitantly priced. He felt a sense of loss as he spent the Merit Points.

The price of just one Four-Star Saint Grade Pill started from 10,000 Merit Points.

Duan Ling Tian was actually not surprised by this at all.

As far as he knew, the most outstanding Alchemist in the Moon Illumination Sect was also only a Three-Star Saint Refinement Master who could only refine Three-Star Saint Grade Pills at the most.

These Four-Star Saint Grade Pills that were even more valuable had been obtained by the Moon Illumination Sect through other methods at a dear cost too. Therefore, the price set was particularly high.

The pile of pills that Duan Ling Tian bought added up to almost 200,000 Merit Points.

After leaving the pill section, Duan Ling Tian came to the Saint Weapons section. He realized that almost all of the Saint Weapons there were Earth Rank Saint Weapons. Furthermore, a majority of them were inscribed with Saint Inscriptions.

Of course, the Saint Weapons that were inscribed with different Saint Inscriptions were priced differently too.

Without a doubt, the Saint Weapons that were not inscribed with any Saint Inscriptions were the cheapest.

Those Saint Weapons that were inscribed with basic One-Star Saint Inscriptions were slightly more expensive while those that were inscribed with better One-Star Saint Inscriptions were even higher priced. As for those Saint Weapons that were inscribed with many One-Star Saint Inscriptions, they were way more expensive.

Of course, all of these Saint Weapons could not compare to the Saint Weapons that were inscribed with Two-Star Saint Inscriptions.

The Two-Star Saint Inscriptions were categorized into various grades too.

Over there, Duan Ling Tian could see many Earth Rank Saint Weapons that were on the same grade with the Thousand Mass Sword and the Gale Hammer. On top of that, there were also other Earth Rank Saint Weapons that were much better than them and were inscribed with more than two Saint Inscriptions.

Of course, the prices were even more ridiculous.

It was so expensive that the price was labeled at almost a million Merit Points.

“These Saint Weapons are really cash burning items! However, in addition to having the Sun Shooting Bow, I also have the Thousand Mass Sword that I obtained from Feng Fan, so for the time being, there’s no need for me to buy any other Saint Weapon.” Duan Ling Tian clicked his tongue and left the Saint Weapons section for the Dao Talisman section.

The items that were on sale in the Dao Talisman section were all Dao Talismans.

Each of the Dao Talismans had a detailed description by its side.

“Two-Star Golden Energy Talisman. Once it’s activated, it’ll form a layer of golden energy shield on the caster and will last for 15 minutes. It can be used to defend against attacks from a Martial or Dao

Cultivator on the Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage or below. A Martial or Dao Cultivator who is on the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage will be able to break through it.” The moment Duan Ling Tian saw the descriptions for this Dao Talisman, he could not help but be dumbfounded.

With this Dao Talisman, even if one was only an ordinary person, one would be able to withstand the attack from a Martial or Dao Cultivator who was on the Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage or below for 15 minutes while receiving zero damage.

“This is brilliant stuff!” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes lit up while he looked at the price of the One-Star Adamant Talisman.

“20,000 Merit Points?” When he saw the price, the corner of his mouth twitched violently for a moment. “It’s only a one-time usage Dao Talisman and it actually costs 20,000 Merit Points? This is not a sale! This is daylight robbery!”

Right then, Duan Ling Tian finally recalled why it was said that the Dao Talisman Master was one of the two main occupations that could accumulate wealth by unfair means in Dao Martial Saint Land.

The other occupation that could accumulate the most wealth by unfair means was the Saint Inscription Master.

After going one round in the Dao Talisman section, selected pieces of Dao Talisman entered Duan Ling Tian’s sight one by one.

Their respective descriptions also entered his field of vision one by one, dazzling him for a moment.

“Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman. Once it’s activated, it’ll allow the caster to enter a level that’s on par with a Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator and will last for 15 minutes.” The Divine Strider Talisman was a life-saving Dao Talisman.

Other than the Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman, the third level of this Merit Pavilion also had many One-Star Divine Strider Talismans. However, there were only a few Three-Star Divine Strider Talismans.

Once the One-Star Divine Strider Talisman was activated, it would increase the caster’s speed to be on par with an Early Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator and would last the same time as the Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman.

The Three-Star Divine Strider Talisman could increase the caster’s speed to be on par with a Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator and also lasted the same as the Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman.

“A Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage’s speed?” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes brightened up as he was overwhelmed with excitement. “I must buy a few of such talismans for defense!”

However, when he saw the price of the Three-Star Divine Strider Talisman, he felt as though a bucket of cold water had been splashed on top of him, thoroughly extinguishing his excitement. “300,000 M-Merit Points? This is blatant robbery!” He could not help but curse in a deep voice.

However, despite swearing, he still took a Three-Star Divine Strider Talisman. Bearing the pain of spending the points, this was indeed a valuable item.



It could help to save his life at a critical moment.

“Another 300,000 Merit Points are gone now! Along with that pile of the Saint Grade Pills, that’s a total of 500,00 Merit Points!” Duan Ling Tian finally understood the feeling of spending money like water now. At this moment, he regretted being so generous to agree to return half of the wagers to the group of outer court deacons and disciples.

Of course, when the thought rose up in his mind, he instantly suppressed it down again.

No matter what, what was done was done now.

Moreover, doing so did not necessarily bring zero advantage to him. At the very least, he had forged a good relationship in the outer court district.

“And this Three-Star Golden Energy Talisman can withstand the attack from a Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator for 15 minutes... 200,000 Merit Points... Although it’s slightly cheaper than the Three-Star Divine Strider Talisman, it’s still kind of ridiculous!” Duan Ling Tian was dumbfounded.

The Three-Star Dao Talisman really was worth a lot.

However, as a defensive Dao Talisman, the Golden Energy Talisman was still cheaper than the Divine Strider Talisman.

Besides the vast difference between the Three-Star Golden Energy Talisman and the Three-Star Divine Strider Talisman, the Two-Star Golden Energy Talisman and the Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman also had a difference of a whole 10,000 Merit Points.

The Two-Star Golden Energy Talisman was worth 20,000 Merit Points while the Two-Star Divine Strider Talisman was worth 30,000 Merit Points.

“No matter what, it’s still the One-Star talismans that are cheaper as they only need 2,000 to 3,000 Merit Points. However, the One-Star talisman’s effect isn’t really that great and other than this One-Star Divine Strider Talisman that has speed similar to an Early Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator, it can only withstand the attack from an Early Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator.” To Duan Ling Tian, the One-Star Dao Talismans did not have much significance.

Since there were defensive and speed Dao Talismans, there would surely be offensive Dao Talismans too.

There were various offensive Dao Talismans. In fact, there were so many that Duan Ling Tian became confused.

However, soon, Duan Ling Tian was sure of something, which was that the price of the offensive Dao Talisman was much higher than the speed Dao Talisman, the Divine Strider Talisman. Not only that, but there were also only Two-Star offensive Dao Talismans that were on sale. Not a single Three-Star offensive Dao Talisman was there at all.

Once a Two-Star offensive Dao Talisman was activated, it could cast an attack that was on par with a Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator.

If those Martial and Dao Cultivators who were on the Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage and below were struck by the Two-Star offensive Dao Talisman, other than those who could defeat an enemy who was a level higher than them, they would either be crippled, if not dead.

“The price of the Two-Star offensive Dao Talisman is the same with the Three-Star. How ridiculous!” Duan Ling Tian was dumbfounded again.

However, he still took one of the Two Star offensive Dao Talismans with the intention of buying it.

In just a short while, he had already taken a variety of items that were worth 700,000 Merit Points on the third level of the Merit Pavilion. It was fortunate that there was nobody else on this level. Otherwise, they would be stunned with jealousy.

However, when Duan Ling Tian took these items to the entrance of the third level of the Merit Pavilion to pay the bill, he still shocked the two inner court deacons for a moment.

“A-Are you sure you want to buy all these?” One of the inner court deacons asked in disbelief. He had no choice but to ask for confirmation.

Even an inner court disciple would never spend so extravagantly.

On top of that, this young man in front of him had an outer court disciple Order Token hanging from his waist. It was obvious that he was only an outer court disciple.

“Just swipe the card,” Duan Ling Tian replied nonchalantly. When 700,000 Merit Points were swiped out of his Crystal Card, he could not help but be hit by a pang of pain.

Seeing how the 700,000 Merit Points went through, the two inner court deacons exchanged glances with each other right away. Both of them could see the inexplicable astonishment in each other’s eyes.

Since when had an outer court disciple become so rich now?

### **Chapter 1463: Golden Roc Mass Tactic**

After the two inner court deacons watched Duan Ling Tian leave the third level of the Merit Pavilion, his silhouette proceeded to disappear before their eyes as he climbed up to the fourth level.

“Could he be the last disciple of an inner court elder or something?” One of the inner court deacons muttered.

Since he was only an outer court disciple, it would only be possible for him to take out that many Merit Points if he was the last disciple of an inner court elder.

The last disciple in this context meant the final disciple, of which his Master would never take in any disciple anymore.

Usually, the last disciple was always someone who was highly doted on and highly regarded by his Master, so much so that his Master would spare no resources to train him.

“Even if he were the last disciple of the inner court elder, he’d not have been that rich either... That was a total of 700,000 Merit Points for goodness’ sake! Not 70,000 Merit Points! He didn’t even bat an eye when he swiped the card.” The other inner court deacon smiled wryly.

Just like him, no matter what, he was still an inner court deacon and held a position in the Moon Illumination Sect that was on par with an outer court elder. However, his entire wealth only accumulated to barely 500,000 Merit Points.

When he did not make any comparison, it was alright, but when he did, he would only infuriate himself.

He had never even heard about such thing as an outer court disciple swiping 700,000 Merit Points away casually, let alone seeing it.

Whilst the two inner court deacons were in shock over Duan Ling Tian’s extravagant spending, he had already gone up to the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion, which was also the final level.

There was also a counter by the huge entrance of the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion with an old man in white robes with a white beard sitting behind it.

The old man was resolutely sitting right there, appearing like a dormant, gigantic beast. In just one glance, he oozed a sense of invisible pressure.

When the old man’s Spiritual Energy swept out, Duan Ling Tian was overwhelmed by an unfamiliar sense that he had never experienced before.

“What powerful Spiritual Energy! He’s definitely not in any way inferior that Elder Gan,” Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

This white-robed old man who was on the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion had Spiritual Energy so powerful that he was in no way inferior to Fang Gan, the inner court elder on the second level of the Merit Pavilion. It was apparent that he was an inner court elder too.

“Are you Duan Ling Tian?” Just when Duan Ling Tian walked over to the counter and took off his Spatial Ring sensibly without the need for the old man to instruct him, the sturdy, white-robed, old man finally opened his mouth and studied him with interest and astonishment in his eyes.

“Do you know me, elder?” Duan Ling Tian was stunned. It had never crossed his mind that he would be recognized. Could this old man have also gone to the outer court district yesterday and witnessed the Death Duel between him and Feng Fan?

“That old fella Fang Gan has just transmitted a Voice Transmission Talisman to me, saying that you’ve come to the Merit Pavilion and even praised you in an extravagantly colorful phraseology... Now that I see you firsthand, you’re indeed a fine man. As for the others...” Before the old man finished his sentence, a powerful aura had already risen up from his body and swept out as though it had transformed into a gigantic beast that had its bloody mouth gaping wide open as it pounded towards Duan Ling Tian to swallow him whole.

Duan Ling Tian had never thought that the old man would suddenly overwhelm him with his own power, so at that moment, he was completely unguarded as well.

The powerful menacing aura charged at him head-on and gave him a tremendous sense of pressure.

However, one should not forget just how powerful his body and just how tenacious his will was. Of course, he would not be affected by the old man's manner. No matter how strong the wind blew, he would still stand steadfastly on his ground, remaining firm and unshaken like a mountain.

Seeing how his own imposing manner did not make the purple-clad man take a step back — not even the slightest change in his expression at all — astonishment could be seen in the old man's eyes right away. "It looks like that old fella Fang Gan didn't speak in superlatives."

It was obvious that he acknowledged Duan Ling Tian's strength.

"Elder Fang Gan, you flatter me. I'm just an ordinary outer court disciple," Duan Ling Tian replied humbly.

"An ordinary outer court disciple?" The white-clad old man snorted. "I've never seen any ordinary outer court disciple who could defeat and kill Feng Fan who was ranked in the Earth Rankings. Young man, having talent is a superb thing, but too much humility will make you lose your dashing spirit of a young person."

"Thanks for the guidance, Elder." Duan Ling Tian sweated profusely. This elder had actually told him off for not showcasing a full display of his abilities.

"That's enough. Put your Spatial Ring here and enter," said the white-clad old man, waving his hand.

"Alright." Duan Ling Tian nodded. After he had put his Spatial Ring down, he walked to the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion.

Before he entered, he had already guessed that this level of the Merit Pavilion must be the place that housed all sorts of Saint Grade Martial Tactics. This was because it was already the last level of the Merit Pavilion and he had never seen a set of Saint Grade Martial Tactic at all in the previous levels.

One of the main reasons he came this time was the Saint Grade Martial Tactic.

To be more precise, he was there for the Human Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic.

Before he came, he already had a target. Therefore, he did not spend very long choosing this time.

Even on the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion of the Moon Illumination Sect, there were not many Human Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactics. Duan Ling Tian's gaze instantly locked on to one of them, specifically the Saint Token that stored the Saint Grade Martial Tactic.

Beside the Saint Token was a paragraph of descriptions, introducing the name of the Saint Grade Martial Tactic inside the token and the techniques it contained.

Looking at the description by the side of the Saint Token, Duan Ling Tian muttered, "The Roc Soaring The Nine Heaven, the Gargantuan Taishan, the Golden Shirt... Yes, it's this one. So, it turns out that the Saint

Grade Martial Tactic that contains these three techniques is called the Golden Roc Mass Tactic.” The Golden Roc Mass Tactic was also the Saint Grade Martial Tactic that Feng Fan, who died by his hand yesterday, had cultivated.

The Golden Shirt, the defense technique this Saint Grade Martial Tactic contained was the upgraded version of the Silver Shirt, the defense technique that Duan Ling Tian cultivated. Right now, the Silver Shirt that he cultivated had already reached the highest stage: the Impeccable Stage.

Unless he switched to cultivate the Golden Shirt, he would not be able to develop it any further.

If he switched to the Golden Shirt, he did not have to start from the beginning as he could just transform it to the third stage, the Competent Stage of the Golden Shirt.

Its force was the same as the highest stage of the Silver Stage.

Before he went to the Merit Pavilion, Duan Ling Tian had already made up his mind to choose the Saint Grade Martial Tactic that contained the Golden Shirt.

Other than Golden Shirt, he had taken a liking to the Gargantuan Taishan too.

The Gargantuan Taishan was a close-range offensive martial technique. He had experienced its powerful force before.

Ever since he had come to Dao Martial Saint Land, attacking at close-range had always been his disadvantage. He could only rely on the Sound of Death, the sole close-range offensive technique that was contained in the Colossal Aerolite Arrow, the Saint Grade Martial Tactic that he cultivated.

The Colossal Aerolite Arrow was a Saint Grade Martial Tactic that focused on long-range offense, so the Sound of Death was still a little lackluster compared to the Gargantuan Taishan.

The Golden Roc Mass Tactic was a Saint Grade Martial Tactic that focused on close-range offense.

“Feng Fan’s Thousand Mass Sword is already in my hand, so if I cultivate the Gargantuan Taishan, its force will be far from being comparable by the Sound of Death when I match it together with the Thousand Mass Sword even if I’ve just started to cultivate it.” Duan Ling Tian was very clear about this.

The Thousand Mass Sword was inscribed with the Two-Star Inscription: the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription. If it was activated, it would cause the massive sword to be as heavy as a thousand tons, but it would not burden the caster at all.

“This is it then.” With a jolt in Duan Ling Tian’s heart, he reached out a hand to take the Saint Token that contained the Saint Grade Martial Tactic, the Golden Roc Mass Tactic, in his hand.

Just as the Saint Token was in his grip, his face changed without reason suddenly. In the next instant, he quickly pulled his hand holding on to the Saint Token back as fast as lightning before taking two steps backward.

At the same time, another hand swept past where the Saint Token was lying at a breakneck speed and even elicited a gust of wind.

However, this hand was still too slow.

Duan Ling Tian had beaten him to snatch the Saint Token first.

“Hmph! You’re an outer court disciple, yet you still dare to compete with me for the Golden Roc Mass Tactic? Don’t even think about having it today before I’ve even borrowed it!” A snort resonated. It turned out to be a young man who had somehow appeared beside Duan Ling Tian out of the blue. He was now glaring at him with disdain and at the same time, he looked down at him in a haughty manner.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian could clearly see that the person who reached out to take the Saint Token after he did was an inner court disciple. He could see this from the inner court disciple Order Token that was hanging by his waist.

If it were a polite inner court disciple who explained that he was in rush and wanted to borrow the Golden Roc Mass Tactic first, perhaps Duan Ling Tian would have given it to him and let him borrow it first.

However, this inner court disciple wanted to seize the Saint Token in his hand in the first place and after that, he had even talked to him in a haughty tone as though he was giving an order.

At once, Duan Ling Tian’s face turned grave.

He was always a person who could be persuaded by a soft approach, but would never be cowed by fear.

Therefore, in the face of this rude inner court disciple, Duan Ling Tian merely cast a cold glance at him and did not bother to reply him before he walked towards the other section of the Merit Pavilion.

The items housed in this section were not Saint Grade Martial Tactics but some jade tokens that were stored with various messages.

These jade tokens covered all fields and contained everything, and they were exactly what Duan Ling Tian needed.

Although it had already more than one year since he had gone to Dao Martial Saint Land, there were still many things regarding the place that he did not really understand. Through all these jade tokens, he could gain further understanding on this mysterious yet vast Dao Martial Saint Land.

“How dare you ignore me?” Watching how Duan Ling Tian just left with the Saint Token after casting a nonchalant glance at him, the inner court disciple was first stunned and by the time he snapped back to his senses, he burst into fury.

It had never crossed his mind that the moment he came out of his closed-door cultivation and gone to borrow the second half of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic to read, he would happen to come across such an outer court disciple who did not know what was coming for him.

In the outer sect of the Moon Illumination Sect, the only people who could elicit dread from him were the five outer court disciples who were placed in the Earth Rankings.

As for the other outer court disciples, he thought nothing of them at all.

He had seen the five outer disciples who were established in the Earth Rankings before, so he could tell that this outer court disciple was not one of the five.

If it were not for the fact that battling was not allowed in the Merit Pavilion, he would have long taught this insolent outer court disciple a lesson.

Looking at Duan Ling Tian's silhouette, the inner court disciple threatened, "Boy, everyone needs to pay for their foolishness... I'll give you one last chance to send the Saint Token over and apologize to me! Otherwise, whatever takes place after you've left the Merit Pavilion will be out of your control."

### **Chapter 1464: Being Intercepted**

In the face of the continuous provocation and threats from the inner court disciple, Duan Ling Tian could no longer hold it in and turned around to cast a cool glance at him before spitting out a single word, "Idiot!"

The moment Duan Ling Tian opened his mouth, the inner court disciple was instantly dumbfounded.

Idiot!?

Had this guy just called him an idiot?

Had an outer court disciple actually dared to call him an idiot?

At this moment, all the inner court disciple could feel was his raging flame of rage that was about to burst out as he was unable to hold it in.

However, when he returned to his senses, Duan Ling Tian had already picked out a few jade tokens and was already making his way to the great entrance of the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion.

Taking a deep breath, the inner court disciple suppressed the boiling wrath of flame and followed him.

Soon, he appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian and beat him to the counter before walking away after snatching his Spatial Ring. It was obvious that he was not going to borrow the Golden Roc Mass Tactic anymore.

The white-clad old man behind the counter did not stop him because this inner court disciple had not taken anything from the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion. He did not even touch the Saint Tokens containing the Saint Grade Martial Tactic inside the Merit Pavilion at all.

"Elder." When Duan Ling Tian took out the Saint Token that contained the Golden Roc Mass Tactic and the few other jade tokens, he could sense that the inner court disciple's gaze was filled with cold murderous intent before he walked down the stairs.

However, he just ignored it.

He, Duan Ling Tian, was not a person who was easily frightened!

"The Golden Roc Mass Tactic? This is a decent Human Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic!" The old man took the Saint Token to have a closer look and nodded his head before looking at the few other

jade tokens, "These jade tokens only contain some ordinary information, but the amount it contains is quite huge, so each of them will cost 1,000 Merit Points. This Golden Roc Mass Tactic costs 30,000 Merit Points for a one-time reading and you can only read it here... Once you've handed over the Merit Points, you can start to read it," the old man told Duan Ling Tian.

"Let's just process all of them altogether." Duan Ling Tian took out his Crystal Card and swiped more than 30,000 Merit Points. After he had stored the few jade tokens that contained information away, he proceeded to take the Saint Token with the Saint Grade Martial Tactic Golden Roc Mass Tactic and began to read.

In just a moment, Duan Ling Tian could feel the vast information gushing into his mind, becoming part of his mind right away.

The entire set of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic was now stored in his mind. This was his unique ability.

An ordinary Martial or Dao Cultivator would need to borrow and read the Saint Grade Martial Tactic or Saint Grade Dao Tactic five times before they could completely master it.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, only needed one chance to memorize basically everything in just a second.

Originally intending to drag the time to 15 minutes deliberately, he suddenly remembered the words that the white-robed old man behind the counter had uttered just now. It brought a smile to his face right away. "I, as a young man, must have the dashing spirit of a young man? In that case..."

With a jolt in his heart, Duan Ling Tian made up his mind.

In the next instance, under the shocked gaze of the old man, Duan Ling Tian put the Saint Token down, "Elder, I've finished reading it."

"Finished reading it?" Upon hearing that, the old man was bewildered for a moment as bafflement crept up on his face. "Could you've started reading it when you were still inside?"

Many people would start to read the Saint Grade Martial Tactic on the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion when they came to borrow it.

Whoever picked the Saint Token up in the Merit Pavilion had to pay the loan fee no matter what, even if he took the token out now. This was also to prevent anybody from reading the Saint Grade Martial Tactic in secret without paying any Merit Points.

As the caretaker of the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion, other than collecting Merit Points, the old man had to monitor the situation on the level too.

Just take the inner court disciple who had left just now as an example. Because he did not touch any Saint Token or jade token, the old man did not stop him when he left.

If he had touched any Saint Token or jade token, the old man would have definitely stopped him immediately when he was about to leave and ask him to pay the necessary Merit Points.



In the face of the old man's query, Duan Ling Tian smiled. "What do you think, elder?"

"Boy, you really gave me a fright of my life! For a moment, I thought that you were really done reading the contents of the first stage of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic in just one second! So, it turns out that you've already read it when you were inside the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion," exclaimed the old man as he shook his head.

It was apparent that he did not think that Duan Ling Tian would be able to finish reading the contents of the first stage of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic in just such a short span of time.

Had he found out that on top of finishing reading the content of the first stage of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic, Duan Ling Tian had even finished the entire five stages, one would wonder what kind of expression he would have on his face.

This was also what made Duan Ling Tian unique compared to the others.

He could memorize whatever Saint Grade Martial Tactic that was stored in the Saint Tokens in just the blink of an eye. This was what also gave him a unique advantage that no other ordinary people had.

Just like now, he managed to memorize the entire contents of the Golden Roc Mass Tactic in one go just by spending 30,000 Merit Points and no longer needed to re-borrow it to read it. Unlike other ordinary Martial Cultivators who wanted to borrow and read the Golden Roc Mass Tactic, he had saved a whole 120,000 Merit Points.

After all, an ordinary Martial Cultivator would need to read the Golden Roc Mass Tactic at least five times if they wanted to cultivate it to the highest stage.

It was 30,000 Merit Points per session, so five times of borrowing it would equal to 150,000 Merit Points.

Upon hearing the old man's words, Duan Ling Tian merely smiled and did not explain further.

What could he say?

That he had already memorized the entire Golden Roc Mass Tactic and no longer needed to come to borrow it anymore?

Even if he really did say so, the old man would not necessarily believe him.

"Elder, I'll take my leave first." Duan Ling Tian bade farewell to the old man and proceeded to leave.

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to leave, the old man opened his mouth tacitly again to warn him, "The inner court disciple just now was on the Early Saint Rudiment Stage."

It was apparent that he never missed every single detail of the conflict between Duan Ling Tian and that inner court disciple from the beginning till the end.

"Although this isn't important to me, I still want to thank you, elder." Upon hearing the old man's warning, Duan Ling Tian smiled and expressed his gratitude.

"Not important?" The old man was stunned.

“Doesn’t the sect have a rule saying that an inner court disciple isn’t allowed to bully an outer court disciple at the outer court district? Let alone the fact that he’s on the Early Saint Rudiment Stage, even if he’s on the Intermediate or Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage, would he still be daring enough to attack me?” Duan Ling Tian smirked.

The old man was astounded. “So, this is how you actually think. However, you’re very mistaken.”

“Oh?” When Duan Ling Tian heard that, he could not help but be filled with confusion.

“The Merit Pavilion is situated right at the juncture between the inner court and the outer court district. Strictly speaking, it isn’t considered as the outer court district here. Of course, it’s not considered as the inner court district too. It’s more like a middle district,” the old man explained, “The inner court disciples are allowed to make a move on the outer court disciples here. As long as they don’t kill or cripple the outer court disciples, there’re basically no other limitations.”

“Oh, so that’s how it is... If that’s really true, this piece of information is indeed very important to me.” Duan Ling Tian had never expected the situation to actually be like this. Once again, he expressed his gratitude towards the old man.

Originally, when he had the conflict with that inner court disciple, he was already prepared to receive his revenge.

Of course, that was before when he thought that that disciple did not dare to make his attack on him until he had finally entered the inner court.

Even when he had already entered the inner court, he would not necessarily be afraid of that disciple.

Now that he heard the old man’s advice, he knew just how wrong he was. It turned out that the Merit Pavilion was situated at a place where it was no longer considered as the outer court district, so the outer court disciples were not protected by the sect rules.

“Early Saint Rudiment Stage?” However, after knowing that the inner court disciple was only at the Early Saint Rudiment Stage, Duan Ling Tian’s worries vanished again.

After leaving the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to go down and came to the third level of the Merit Pavilion in just a while.

Just as he was about to head downwards, an inner court deacon behind the counter of the great entrance of the third level of the Merit Pavilion suddenly called out to him, “Hey, are you Duan Ling Tian?”

The inner court deacon’s eyes were filled with curiosity. It was apparent that his partner beside him was equally interested too.

Obviously, they guessed Duan Ling Tian’s identity but were not fully certain yet.

“Yes, I am.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. Then, with the realization that dawned on the two inner court deacons, he left the third level of the Merit Pavilion and continued to walk downwards.

“So, he really is Duan Ling Tian! No wonder he can spend so lavishly!”

“Exactly! That was a whole 700,000 Merit Points gone just like that... I heard that he earned three million Merit Points yesterday. Today, he even generously returned half of the Merit Points that he has to the people of the outer court district who had given him those Merit Points.”

As they exchanged their opinions, the two inner court deacons sighed emotionally.

“Elder Fang Gan.” When Duan Ling Tian passed by the Merit Pavilion’s second level, he greeted the old man whose eyes stared widely open some time ago and who was smiling at him before heading to the first level of the Merit Pavilion after the old man had nodded at him.

When Duan Ling Tian reached the first level of the Merit Pavilion, he felt as though he had entered a morning market.

Many inner court disciples were shouting and hawking their wares.

“Some of these stalls weren’t here when I came...” Duan Ling Tian cast a glance at the first level of the Merit Pavilion and noticed there were many new stalls. At once, he called out to Elder Huo and started to stroll around the first level of the Merit Pavilion once again.

Unfortunately, he did not come across any materials that were needed to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda anymore.

“It looks like I’ve run out of luck now.” Duan Ling Tian shook his head and chuckled wryly before striding outwards, leaving the Merit Pavilion.

After walking a few steps, he came to a halt right away when he noticed somebody making his way to him with ill intentions.

In just one glance, Duan Ling Tian could tell that this person was the arrogant inner court disciple whom he had met on the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion. It was obvious that he had been waiting for him right there ever since he left the Merit Pavilion.

“I thought you didn’t dare to come out anymore.” Looking at him, the inner court disciple smirked.

It was apparent that he had been waiting for Duan Ling Tian for quite a while now.

Facing the inner court disciple’s smirk, Duan Ling Tian did not back down as he chuckled and mocked, “Didn’t dare to come out? Do you really think that just you alone are enough to scare me till I wouldn’t have dared to come out?”

### **Chapter 1465: He’s Duan Ling Tian!**

Originally, the inner court disciple thought that the outer court disciple in front of him would seem bewildered the moment he realized that he was blocking him.

However, who would have known that instead of being bewildered, this person had actually dared to talk back boldly?

Somehow, he had no idea why but dread started to rise up in his heart at this time.

Could this outer court disciple have somebody backing him?

Otherwise, why would he have dared to talk back to him, an inner court disciple, in such a manner?

Was he not afraid that he would be beaten until he had to be bedridden for several months?

At this point, many people had noticed the stalemate between Duan Ling Tian and the man. One after another, they came forward to watch the show.

Even the inner court disciples who were vendors on the first level of the Merit Pavilion had also closed their stalls to watch the show. To them, watching the show was much more interesting than guarding their stalls.

Besides that, when there was such a performance to be enjoyed, nobody would have the heart to guard their stalls anymore because everyone had gone to watch the show too.

“It’s Ye Nan!” Somebody recognized the inner court disciple who was in a stalemate with Duan Ling Tian and mocked out loud, “Ye Nan, you’re an awe-inspiring inner court disciple, so why are you battling it out with an outer court disciple? Don’t you feel embarrassed?”

Upon hearing that, Ye Nan’s face turned various shades of green and white.

“Eh? It’s him!” At this moment, a few inner court disciples, who were also vendors from whom Duan Ling Tian had bought items before, recognized him.

He had left a striking impression on them especially since he had slashed their prices to the point that it had reached their bottom line.

Soon, the spectators surrounding them almost became a circle.

Ye Nan had also never expected the scene to turn out like this. This had gone beyond his control and he was left with no option to back down now.

“Who’s your Master?” Taking a deep breath, he asked Duan Ling Tian via True Energy Voice Transmission in a tamed tone.

“My Master?” Upon hearing Ye Nan’s True Energy Voice Transmission, Duan Ling Tian could instantly tell what he was thinking about. At once, he became delighted and asked with a grin, “What? Are you worried that there’s a Master who’s also a high-ranking official of the sect behind me and you’re scared of offending him?”

Although Ye Nan used his True Energy Voice Transmission, Duan Ling Tian had answered him out loud instead.

At once, everybody looked at Ye Nan slightly peculiarly.

“He’s already blocked the person, but he’s only now asking whether there’s anyone behind him? Isn’t it a little too late?” Many inner court disciples chuckled as they ridiculed Ye Nan.

“Haha! Ye Nan, don’t tell me that you’re afraid now! If you’re already scared, hurry up and make way for this Junior Brother. Don’t block him from returning to the outer court.” Many people recognized Ye Nan and the inner court disciples who were not so close to him taunted him.

“Tsk tsks... Is an awe-inspiring inner court disciple actually turning into a coward in the face of an outer court disciple? How embarrassing!” More and more spectators ridiculed.

Ye Nan’s face turned a shade of green as rage started to fill his heart. When his gaze landed on Duan Ling Tian again, it was piercingly cold. “No matter who is behind you, since you don’t know how to respect your seniors, I, as your Senior Brother, will teach you a lesson on manners!”

Ye Nan’s words were high-pitched and sounded noble as he changed the reason he had originally blocked Duan Ling Tian.

“No respect for my seniors?” Upon hearing Ye Nan’s words, Duan Ling Tian chuckled, “What terrible slander that is! Do you really think that after you’ve spoken such words, even if I had somebody behind me, he wouldn’t dare to touch you anymore even after he knew that I’m in the wrong?”

“YOU!” Ye Nan did not expect to have his limelight destroyed in just a few words. At once, he was ashamed and resentful as he could tell that the surrounding gazes that were looking at him had started to turn judgmental.

“Actually, you don’t have to rack your brains so hard... Let me just be honest with you. I don’t have anybody behind me, so you no longer need to speculate anymore. If you want to make your move, just go ahead. If you don’t, scram! I still want to go back to cultivate and I don’t have the time to waste with you,” Duan Ling Tian replied nonchalantly. At the end of his sentence, he huffed, slightly exasperated.

Many inner court disciples shook their heads and remarked as though they craved nothing short of watching the place go down in chaos.

“Haha! Ye Nan, don’t tell me you’re really scared, no?”

“This Junior Brother has said that he has nobody behind him, so don’t tell me that you’re still scared to make any move now!”

“How boring! At first, I thought that there’d be a show to watch, but who knows that Ye Nan would turn out to be this cowardly?!”

...

The remarks entered Ye Nan’s ears one by one and forced his face to swell in crimson red. He was so pissed that he could no longer hold it back as he glared at Duan Ling Tian in rage. “Today, as an inner court Senior Brother, I’ll teach you a lesson on how to respect your seniors!”

Duan Ling Tian had unmasked Ye Nan’s futile efforts, again and again, causing him to be utterly infuriated to the point that he was almost losing his sanity.

Noticing that Ye Nan was about to make his move anytime, Duan Ling Tian grinned and said coldly, “Want to teach me a lesson? Well then, let’s see whether you have that ability or not.”

“You’re looking for death!” Ye Nan roared out loud and finally made his move. His body moved as though he was a tempest. In just a brief second, he had already gotten near Duan Ling Tian. With just a raise of his hand, a seven-foot-long spear appeared and slashed towards the latter in a flick.

As the long spear cut through the air, the spear shadow blotted the entire sky. Like poisonous snakes that were charging out all at once, the shadows opened their mouths and snapped towards Duan Ling Tian.

As an inner court disciple who was on the Early Saint Rudiment Stage, one must admit that Ye Nan’s strength had indeed reached a spine-chilling level. At the very least, he was in no way weaker than Feng Fan who had not activated the Thousand Mass Saint Inscriptions on his broadsword yet.

In the face of Ye Nan’s countless spear shadows that were charging at him with menacing fury, Duan Ling Tian’s expression remained unchanged. Standing right there, he was unmoved as a mountain as though he was willing to expose his entire being in front of Ye Nan.

Just as many of the surrounding inner court disciples had their hearts hoisted up high while they started to break out in cold sweat for Duan Ling Tian, the purple-clad man finally made his move.

A broadsword appeared in his hand out of thin air and the moment it materialized, his True Energy gushed out into it, causing an unfathomable mystical aura to ooze out of the broadsword as though it had transformed into a thousand-ton gigantic hammer in just a brief second.

Gargantuan Taishan!

Duan Ling Tian recited in his heart. With a lift of his hand, the broadsword trembled and suddenly started to slash around as it charged towards Ye Man’s menacing spear shadow that blotted out the entire sky.

The broadsword moved like a typhoon. Wherever it swept past, it was as though a mountain had crashed down, making the air quiver as it set off a series of continuous rumbling thunder.

As the thunder boomed, it spread out all over the place along with a series of tyrannical hurricanes.

“It’s the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription!” One inner court disciple exclaimed out loudly. It was obvious that he had recognized the Saint Inscription that was activated on Duan Ling Tian’s broadsword.

The moment Ye Nan heard the inner court disciple cry out, his face turned slightly pale. He could tell that this outer court disciple might really have an incredible background.

What a joke!

That was a Two-Star Saint Inscription — The Thousand Mass Saint Inscription!

The price of the Saint Weapon that was inscribed with the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription was at least 200,000 Merit Points in the Merit Pavilion.

Could such a person who used this kind of Saint Weapon merely be an ordinary outer court disciple?

Obviously not!

At this moment, Ye Nan started to regret his decision.

However, right now, he had exerted his entire force, so it was already too late for him to retract his attack now.

Yet, he soon noticed that even if he did not retreat, he would not be able to inflict any harm on his opponent at all.

As the howling sound rushed towards him, the mountainous broadsword clashed together with the long spear that Ye Nan lashed out with. The air also seemed to erupt in this brief second. A gush of tiny impact waves spread out ruthlessly, setting off a series of even more ghastly hurricanes.

The tyrannical hurricanes caused the robes of the group of inner court disciples who were watching by the side to flutter. However, none of them gave a damn about this at all as they continued to watch Duan Ling Tian and Ye Nan battle it out without batting an eyelid.

As the air seemed to erupt, Duan Ling Tian's broadsword swept out took two steps backward under everyone's gaze.

As for the other side, the sword in Ye Nan's hand, the inner court disciple, had snapped in two and was sent flying away.

His hand that was holding on to the spear was now badly mutilated.

On top of that, being caught right in the center of the detonation force, he also received the force coming at him forcefully after the long spear in his hand was sent flying away. His entire body blasted away before he crashed onto the ground more than ten meters away miserably.

"Exerting this Gargantuan Taishan and the Thousand Mass Saint Inscriptions together is indeed awesome!" Even though Duan Ling Tian's body was surging with his vital energy and blood, there were hints of excitement in his eyes.

He had yet to start cultivating the offensive technique, the Gargantuan Taishan, in the Golden Roc Mass Tactic and had just casually cast it. However, along with the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription, the effect it demonstrated took him by surprise and delight.

That sword swept out grandly as though everything would have to make way for him.

That kind of tyrannical satisfaction caused all of the blood in his body to boil with burning violence now.

Right now, he only felt excited and he itched to throw his head behind with a carefree laugh.

"Inner court Senior Brother?" Casting a nonchalant glance at Ye Nan who was lying on the ground like a dead dog, Duan Ling Tian smirked. After he retrieved his Thousand Mass Sword, he strode towards the outer court district under the horrified gaze of the group of inner court disciples.

Ye Nan heard the mockery in Duan Ling Tian's tone and at once, he was so infuriated that his energy and blood surged upwards, adding more damage to his injuries. In the end, he fainted at once.

At that moment when Duan Ling Tian's silhouette disappeared in front of their eyes, the inner court disciples who were watching the battle started to snap back to their senses one by one. Exchanging glances with one another, each of them could see the bafflement in each other's eyes.

One after another, the outer court disciples buried their heads in a discussion. The scene just now had given them quite a shock of their lives.

"Since when was there such a remarkable person in the outer court?"

"In the entire outer court, only five outer court disciples could've defeated Ye Man this easily. They're all powerhouses who are at the peak of the Mortal Shedding Stage and are listed in the Earth Rankings."

"You're wrong. It's four! Feng Fan already died yesterday!"

"I didn't say it wrong! Yes, Feng Fan is dead but somebody has taken his place... Don't forget that after killing Feng Fan, that monstrous outer court disciple who has risen abruptly lately has replaced Feng Fan's position and taken his place in the Earth Rankings."

"That monster seems to be called Duan Ling Tian!"

...

"Guys... Do you think that it's possible that the outer court disciple just now was actually Duan Ling Tian?" Suddenly, a voice resonated.

"Now that you put it that way, it's possible! The broadsword in the outer court disciple's hand just now looks a lot like the broadsword that Feng Fan used before. Not only that, but it also has the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription on it too."

The moment somebody pointed it out, many of the inner court disciples finally returned to their senses.

In the end, they were almost certain that the outer court district earlier was the monster who had just recently risen up to the top unexpectedly, Duan Ling Tian!

## **Chapter 1466: Paradise**

After they were certain that the outer court disciple just now was Duan Ling Tian, the astonishment on the group of inner court disciples' faces increased.

"I've heard that Duan Ling Tian's strong, but it has never crossed my mind that his strength is actually this ridiculous! Although it's partly thanks to the Thousand Mass Sword that he was able to defeat Ye Nan, it still didn't overshadow his own abilities," many inner court disciples mused.

"His reputation is completely justified! Duan Ling Tian is even freakier than the rumors," another inner court disciple added.

"I heard that Duan Ling Tian is still a Martial Cultivator on the Perfection Mortal Shedding Stage. He's actually this monstrous on the Perfection Mortal Shedding Stage, so I wonder how formidable would he be when he makes a breakthrough to the Paramount Mortal Shedding Stage or even to the Saint



Rudiment Stage!” Somebody cried out in astonishment the moment he recalled Duan Ling Tian’s current cultivation base.

At once, the entire scene fell into a dead silence.

In the end, they had forgotten this one thing — that Duan Ling Tian was only a Perfection Mortal Shedding Stage Martial Cultivator at that moment.

“A Perfection Mortal Shedding Stage Martial Cultivator who killed Feng Fan, who was ranked 99th on the Earth Rankings, and replaced him... I think we’ve never had such a frightful person in the history of the Nine Sect Alliances who could charge in into the Earth Rankings with a cultivation base of just a Perfection Mortal Shedding Stage, have we?” One of the inner court disciples asked.

“Duan Ling Tian is destined to rewrite the history of the Nine Sect Alliances’ Earth Rankings.” Many inner court disciples were excited. “Duan Ling Tian is a disciple of our Moon Illumination Sect! This is an honor to the Moon Illumination Sect!”

“I heard that Duan Ling Tian has earned a whopping three million Merit Points from the battle with Feng Fan yesterday.”

“I also heard of that too, but it seems like he’s given half of them back to most of the people today. However, even so, I’m sure the Merit Points in his hands must be still more than 1.5 million.”

“1.5 million... What insane wealth! He can be compared to those inner court elders in our inner court already, can’t he?”

...

The moment Duan Ling Tian’s wealth was mentioned, many inner court disciples turned green with envy.

“He’s Duan Ling Tian? The rich guy who has at least 1.5 million Merit Points?” The moment those few inner court disciples, from whom Duan Ling Tian had bought items, recalled the scene of how he had come up with different ideas to bargain with them, they were so pissed that they wanted to throw up blood.

At the same time, sorrow could be seen in their eyes.

Come on, you’re a millionaire who has millions of Merit Points! Did you really need to haggle so much when you buy an item that’s only several thousand Merit Points? You really haggled the price from the original several thousand Merit Points all the way to just several hundred Merit Points!

Of course, Duan Ling Tian had an idea about the sorrowful complains of these inner court disciples.

After Ye Nan passed out, he returned to the outer court district and back to the stand-alone little courtyard that he stayed at.

Upon returning to his room, he immediately entered the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. After passing the piles of materials to Elder Huo, he went to the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and took out the jade tokens that he had bought from the fourth level of the Merit Pavilion to study the ample amount of information it contained.

There were many things that he was interested in inside the jade tokens.

While Elder Huo was repairing the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, Duan Ling Tian's state of mind was completely immersed into the few jade tokens, or to be more precise, the ample amount of information stored inside the tokens.

The information the jade tokens contained were all-inclusive.

There was information related to the Weapons and Medicine Refinement of the Saint Refinement Master and the Dao Talisman inscribed by Dao Talisman Master, not forgetting the Saint Inscriptions inscribed by the Saint Inscription Master too... There was also other information about other aspects that were too countless for the eye to see.

The information that Duan Ling Tian read about first was related to the Saint Inscription.

Although he had the broadsword that was inscribed with the Two-Star Saint Inscription, the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription, and he could see what exactly was the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription, he could only tell that the Saint Inscription in the Dao Martial Saint Land was different in approach but had similar effects from the Inscription in the Mortal Continent.

He was completely clueless about the other relations than they had.

From the information recorded in the jade token in his hand, Duan Ling Tian now had a deeper understanding of the Saint Inscription.

"So it turns out that there are actually so many similarities between the Saint Inscription and Inscription! As long as I could find a corresponding point, there's actually not much difference between the Inscription and the Saint Inscription... I think it's not impossible for me to upgrade the Inscription to the Saint Inscription. Perhaps, the other memory of the Rebirth Martial Emperor is kinda useless for me now but the memory regarding the Inscription Dao might be my tremendous wealth in the Dao Martial Saint Land! A Saint Inscription Master represents wealth after all," After having a further understanding on the Saint Inscription, Duan Ling Tian also noticed that he might be able to find the corresponding point of the Saint Inscription and the Inscription if he personally studied the Saint Inscription by himself.

In that case, the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory regarding the inscription Dao would then be able to come in handy.

He, Duan Ling Tian, might become a Saint Inscription Master in the Dao Martial Saint Land

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, the worth of a Saint Inscription was even much higher than a Dao Talisman.

The reason this difference existed was because the Dao Talisman could usually only be used once, meaning that it would be gone once it was used once... Of course, Duan Ling Tian also learned from the information in the jade tokens that a higher grade Dao Talisman would even be able to use two to three times.

Those higher grade Dao Talismans were not something that the Moon Illumination Sect could easily reach. To the Moon Illumination Sect, they were merely a myth.

Unlike Dao Talisman, the Saint Inscription was usually inscribed on a Saint Weapon and as long as the Saint Weapon was not destroyed, the Saint Inscription could always be used.

It was for this reason that the Saint Inscription was very valuable.

Just like the Thousand Mass Sword in his hand now, even though it was only inscribed with a Two-Star Saint Inscription, it was already worth 200,000 Merit Points. A Two-Star Dao Talisman, on the other hand, was usually sold for several ten thousand Merit Points.

Of course, there were some exceptions too, just like the Two-Star offensive Dao Talisman.

Once the Two-Star offensive Dao Talisman was used, it could launch an attack on the Mastery Saint Rudiment Stage level with a powerful force.

After having a certain understanding of the Saint Inscription, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to read about the Saint Refinement Masters of both Weapon and Medicine Refinement. However, very soon, he realized that he was most likely unable to refine any weapon or pill in the future anymore.

All of this was because the Saint Inscription Masters in Dao Martial Saint Land would need to be equipped with a purely fire-attributed body.

Only then could one communicate with the flame that was needed to refine weapons and medicine.

This was completely different from the Cloud Continent.

In the Cloud Continent, as long as one's cultivation base had reached a certain level and he possessed the innate talent of an Alchemist or Weapon Craftsman, anyone could basically solidify the Pill or Weapon Fire from Origin Energy.

"It looks like every place has its own method of doing things..." Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself.

However, he did not feel disappointed at all after learning about all this.

This was because there was no lack of Saint Inscription Masters in Dao Martial Saint Land, whether it was Weapons or Medicine Refinement.

The one lacking was the Saint Inscription Master and Dao Talisman Master.

In Dao Martial Saint Land, other than the strong ones who were revered, the Saint Inscription and Dao Talisman were revered too.

"I guess when I'm free, I'll go ask Elder Fang Gan where I can learn the Saint Inscription. As long as I've mastered the root of the Saint Inscription, it'd only be a matter of time if I want to connect the Saint Inscription and Inscription together," The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he could not help but be overwhelmed with excitement.

Saint Inscription Master!

He, Duan Ling Tian, had the potential and innate talent to become a Saint Inscription Master!

Not only that, once he became a Saint Inscription Master, he would become no ordinary Saint Inscription Master.

Because of the Rebirth Martial Emperor's memory, he might even stand a chance to become a Saint Inscription Great Master.

Although it was only a matter of one word between the Saint Inscription Master and the Saint Inscription Great Master, the actual difference between them was huge like Heaven and Earth!

Among a thousand Saint Inscription Masters, there might not be even one Saint Inscription Great Master.

After roughly learning about the other information the few jade tokens contained, Duan Ling Tian began to focus his heart back onto cultivating. First, he wanted to transform the defensive technique Silver Shirt to the Golden Shirt.

As the upgraded version of the Silver Shirt, the cultivation of the Golden Shirt was similar to that of the Silver Shirt.

Therefore, it did not take him long to cultivate the Golden Shirt at the third stage, the Competent Stage.

Right now, by casting the Golden Shirt, Duan Ling Tian was covered with a golden sheer as though he had put on a layer of golden shirt.

After successfully cultivating the Golden Shirt, he turned his attention completely onto the Saint Grade Martial Tactic: the Golden Roc Mass Tactic and began to cultivate the offensive technique Gargantuan Taishan. This was a powerful technique that corresponded with the Thousand Mass Sword.

Today, before he had even cultivated the first stage of the Gargantuan Taishan, he managed to send Ye Nan the inner court disciple flying with a blast when he first cast the Gargantuan Taishan along with the Thousand Mass Sword.

An eye for an eye!

The feeling of having his energy and blood surged to his heart content's made Duan Ling Tian feel extremely awesome!

Of course, while cultivating the Saint Grade Martial Tactic, Duan Ling Tian did not forget to cultivate his cultivation base too. Right now, his main target now was to bring his cultivation base up to the Paramount Mortal Shedding Stage as soon as possible!

By that time, his strength would definitely experience a spurt of progress!

His Saint Veins would be opened to their maximum limit too.

In the Azure Cloud Mansion in Dao Martial Saint Land.

A huge aerial island that was suspended in the air without any support was surrounded by clouds, appearing like a fairyland.

There was a palace of incomparable luxury on top of this island.

The palace was huge and sprawled across a large area. It was much larger than all the dynasties in the Mortal Continent.

Behind the palace was a savannah-like garden with a lot of strange, docile animals and beasts roaming free, making the entire backyard appear extremely lively and full of vitality.

There was a spacious pergola at the corner of the garden.

The pergola was also hovering in the air. Underneath it was a vast lake with a variety of fishes swimming in it.

In the pergola was a young man and woman who looked like a pair of golden boy and girl sitting opposite each other around a stone table. The stone table was full of delicious food that would whet anyone's appetite.

However, right now, the man and the woman's minds were not on the delicious meals.

To be more precise, the young man and the woman seemed to be lost in thought.

"Rou'er, are you thinking of Tian'er again?" The good-looking young man who looked similar to Duan Ling Tian asked in a soft voice.

"Brother Feng, why is Tian'er not yet here even though so many years have passed? Could something have happened to him?" The young woman was none other than Li Rou, Duan Ling Tian's mother.

#### **Chapter 1467: Old Prophet**

"Don't worry, as long as Tian'er has the ability to open the jade box that I left for him, he'll come to Dao Martial Saint Land without a doubt. I've already left him with a detailed address for him to find Elder Ku." The young man was none other than Duan Ru Feng, Duan Ling Tian's cheapskate father. Looking at his wife, he reassured, "When he has found Elder Ku, Elder Ku will bring him to see us immediately."

"We should've brought him along with us that time," Li Rou said regrettably.

"Rou'er, didn't you agree with my decision last time? Believe me, with the three Dao Talismans that I left for him, along with the fact that he's an extremely blessed person, he will come to Dao Martial Saint Land safely. Who knows? He might have already met Elder Ku already," Duan Ru Feng replied.

That time, the reason he had left his son behind was that he hoped that his son would be able to grow up in the Mortal Continent step by step so that it could stir up his potential more.

If his son had already come with him to Dao Martial Saint Land long ago, his journey on the Martial Dao would have definitely been affected.

Which parent did not have great ambitions for their kids?

Therefore, Li Rou had wholeheartedly agreed with this without any doubts the moment she heard about the stakes from Duan Ru Feng.

"I hope so." Li Rou was still slightly worried.

“A few years ago when I went out, I came across the Old Prophet by chance and asked him to read Tian’er’s future before...” Duan Ru Feng looked at Li Rou and smiled as he said. Before he could finish his sentence, she already interrupted him.

“You mean that Old Prophet who knows everything in the Heavens above and the Earth underneath who claims to be able to read God’s will?” Li Rou had been here in the Azure Cloud Mansion for a long time, so she had already heard that there was a Old Prophet in Dao Martial Saint Land who could read God’s will. However, his temper was extremely peculiar and he was only willing to tell the fortune for the people that he was fond of.

Otherwise, he would not give a damn at all no matter how powerful the force behind that person was.

“It’s him.” Duan Ru Feng nodded.

“I heard that other than having an eccentric temperament, he’ll also only tell the fortune for those he’s fond of. On top of that, even if he only tells the fortune of those that he’s fond of, he’ll usually only tell it to that person-in-concern. Why would he be willing to tell Tian’er’s fortune all of a sudden?” Li Rou asked in suspicion.

“I have no idea why... Not only that, but I also couldn’t even recognize him at first and he was the one who took the initiative to look for me.” When Duan Ru Feng answered, his face looked strange too.

“He was the one who took the initiative to look for you?” Li Rou was stunned. Although her husband was the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion, it was still not enough for that Old Prophet to suck up to him, was it?

Not only that, but Li Rou had also heard of the rumor that a leader from a force that was equally matched with the Azure Cloud Mansion had gone to the Old Prophet to ask him to tell his fortune but had been rejected by him instead.

Therefore, he did not think that it was because of her husband’s identity that the Old Prophet took up the initiative to find him.

There must be some secret that he was hiding.

“I also felt kinda weird as well, but he kept talking about how God’s plan isn’t something that could be revealed to the mortals... Besides, after I asked him to tell Tian’er’s fortune the moment I was certain his identity, he did not reject me and straightaway agreed to it,” Duan Ru Feng replied, “He said that Tian’er is a greatly blessed person and in the future, he’ll definitely surpass me! He also said that it was a good thing that I didn’t bring Tian’er with me straight to Dao Martial Saint Land. Otherwise, I’d have caused Tian’er to lose his great opportunity.”

“What great opportunity?” Li Rou was perplexed.

“I’ve also asked him the same thing but he said he had no idea.” Duan Ru Feng smiled wryly.

“Is it another God’s plan that can’t be revealed?” Li Rou raised his brows. “Brother Feng, the Old Prophet whom you came across isn’t a fake, is he?”

“Well, he didn’t say that the great opportunity that Tian’er would come across is a plan of God that can’t be revealed. He just said that even he didn’t know what that is actually. He only knows that it was a great opportunity. That’s all. From his words, the great opportunity that Tian’er will meet has already surpassed the range that he could predict.” As Duan Ru Feng shared more, astonishment could be seen even on his face as well.

After all, that was his son. The bigger the opportunity that he came across, the bigger his accomplishment would be. Of course, he as the father, would be even prouder.

If it were not for the fact that he wished his son to succeed, he would not have left his son behind at the Cloud Continent in the first place.

Looking back at it, the decision he had made last time was correct.

If he had brought his son to Dao Martial Saint Land, he would have caused his son to miss that great opportunity.

“As for the identity of that Old Prophet, I’ve double checked many times and he’s definitely not fake!” Duan Ru Feng was absolutely certain about this.

“If he really was the Old Prophet, then I guess the things that he said must be true... A great opportunity that even the Old Prophet could not predict. Looks like Tian’er must have obtained a one-of-a-kind opportunity in the Cloud Continent.” A rare smile crept upon Li Rou’s face.

“Haha... Of course, my, Duan Ru Feng’s, son would be a person who is greatly blessed! As the saying goes, ‘like father, like son’, right?” Duan Ru Feng laughed as he remarked.

“Do you actually have the audacity to mention your opportunity? Till now, every time I recall that incident that you said, I still can’t help but break out into a cold sweat for you. If it hadn’t been for the scattering of that Devil Cultivator’s soul, you’d most likely still not able to fully master the ownership of your body now,” Li Rou snapped.

Upon hearing that, Duan Ru Feng smiled awkwardly and had no words to refute.

“How’s Jing Ru and our two other future daughters-in-law?” When Li Rou recalled the three girls who came together with them, she asked.

“Among the three of them, other than Jing Ru whose natural endowment is slightly trailing behind, Bi Yao and Xiao Lan’s innate talents are pretty good. In just a maximum of one more year, Bi Yao and Xiao Lan’s cultivation base will make another breakthrough again.” Duan Ru Feng chuckled.

“That’s great.” When Li Rou mentioned Bi Yao and Xiao Lan, her face was filled with a smile as well. They were her two future daughters-in-law after all. Besides that, they had a great personality and they were fully smitten by her son as well.

So many years had gone by but they did not have a change of heart at all.

This was very similar to her situation and such a social opportunity was very hard to come by.

“Rou’er, as far as I know, the two daughters-in-law have not fully acknowledged by Tian’er, have they? As for the two other daughters-in-law of whom I’ve never even seen before, is it really okay for me to not send somebody to bring them to the Azure Cloud Mansion?” Duan Ru Feng asked.

“It’s better to leave Ke’er and Fei’er in the Cloud Continent for them to accompany Tian’er. If we kidnap all four of our daughters-in-law, don’t you think Tian’er would hate you to his bones?” Upon mentioning the two future daughters-in-law, Li Rou’s smile on her face never ceased.

One could imagine that if Duan Ling Tian was there, he would feel an inexplicable sense of astonishment if he heard the exchange between his parents.

The Old Prophet?

Did he say that he would have a great blessed opportunity that even he could not predict what that was?

If he had followed his father to the Cloud Continent and come to Dao Martial Saint Land, he would not have met the great blessed opportunity, would he?

Was that not the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda?

If he had followed his father to Dao Martial Saint Land in the first place, he would not have gone to the Overseas Saint Island and he would have never met the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

It was all going according to God’s plans.

Of course, Duan Ru Feng and his wife, Li Rou, had no idea that their son had already come to Dao Martial Saint Land since more than a year ago.

Unfortunately, because the voice transmission jade slip inside the exquisite jade box had been damaged, Duan Ling Tian had no idea where to meet with the person whom his dad had arranged.

They did not even know that they were going to become grandparents soon.

Just like Duan Ru Feng and Li Rou who were completely clueless, Duan Ling Tian also did not know that his father was actually the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion, a powerful force in Dao Martial Saint Land. The power of the Azure Cloud Mansion was even greater than the Greenwave Han Mansion behind Han Xue Nai.

Right now, Duan Ling Tian was standing obediently at the Moon Illumination Sect’s outer court district on the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda inside the room in his own stand-alone little courtyard.

“My cultivation base has made another progress in three months. I’m a step closer to the Paramount Mortal Shedding Stage now!” Duan Ling Tian, who had stayed on the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda for three months, was very satisfied with the results in. “Furthermore, I’ve successfully cultivated the technique in the Saint Grade Martial Tactic Golden Shirt to the fourth level, the Proficient Stage, as well. Not only that, but I’ve also successfully cultivated the technique in the Saint Grade Martial Tactic, the Gargantuan Taishan, to the first stage, the Fundamental Awareness Stage too.”



To Duan Ling Tian, the progress that he had made in this three months time was huge.

Of course, even though he had cultivated the Saint Grade Martial Tactic: the Golden Roc Mass Tactic, he did not forget to cultivate the Colossal Aerolite Arrow as well.

However, the techniques that he mainly cultivated in the Colossal Aerolite Arrow were the Aerolite Strike and the Body and Arrow Synchronization. He had now cultivated these two main techniques to a certain level and he would need to spend a great effort if he wanted to raise them even higher.

Of course, the progress that he made in the time that he managed to squeeze out in the span of these three months to cultivate was not particularly ridiculous.

The reason the Golden Shirt was able to have such huge progress was that Duan Ling Tian's body was originally monstrous, causing the golden Shirt's cultivation speed to become monstrous too.

Three months inside the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was equal to one month outside.

After a month, Duan Ling Tian walked out of his room to breathe some fresh air.

However, the moment he opened his door, he noticed a duel invitation falling down right away, "Has another person issued a duel invitation to me?"

Duan Ling Tian frowned but still managed to catch the invitation in his hand.

The moment he opened the invitation, he noticed that it was just an ordinary duel invitation. The person who issued the duel invitation was called He Zhong.

"He Zhong? Isn't he the person who is ranked third on the outer court rankings? His ranking in the Earth Rankings was much higher than Feng Fan's. I think he's a powerhouse who's at the peak of the Mortal Shedding Stage and is ranked 66th in the Earth Rankings." It had been quite some time since he came to the Moon Illumination Sect's outer sect, so he had already gained some understanding about the other four Moon Illumination Sect outer court disciples who were ranked in the Earth Rankings.

Therefore, the moment he saw the name 'He Zhong' on the duel invitation, he instantly knew who he was.

"Since it's not a Death Duel invitation, he mustn't be Liu Huan's man then." With a jolt in his heart, Duan Ling Tian speculated in his heart, "Perhaps, he just wants to battle it out with me after hearing how I defeated Feng Fan to see who is better. That's all."

The moment Duan Ling Tian thought about this, his frown eased up right away.

After placing his fingerprint on the duel invitation, he walked out of the courtyard.

When he walked out, he noticed many gazes looked at him instantly. Each and every one of them was looking at him with anticipation as though they were waiting for something.

"Looks like many people know about the fact that He Zhong has issued a duel invitation to me," Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

At once, in front of the group of outer court disciples outside, he announced that he was going to accept He Zhong's invitation and let him pick a time.

### **Chapter 1468: Elder Dongfang's Invitation**

He Zhong, on the other hand, had also responded very quickly — the battle would take place on the training field ten days later.

"Ten days? He still needs that long to prepare?" After hearing He Zhong's respond, Duan Ling Tian frowned right away.

Actually, it was not only Duan Ling Tian who was perplexed about this. Even the group of outer court disciples who were waiting to watch the show could not help but feel bewildered too. "Senior Brother He Zhong wants to battle it out with Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian in ten days? Isn't that a little too late?"

"Maybe the martial technique that Senior Brother He Zhong is cultivating is about to have a breakthrough soon."

"Perhaps."

"It looks like that Senior Brother He Zhong kinda fears Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian too. He took the initiative to issue a duel invitation but actually dragged it out for so long before the actual battle."

"That's not strange. Remember that time, it only took Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian a split second to kill Feng Fan. Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian's strength is definitely in no way inferior to Senior Brother He Zhong's."

"That's right! It's also basically impossible for even Senior Brother He Zhong to kill Feng Fan using that kind of method in a Death Duel invitation."

...

Right now, the group of outer court disciples had already reached a stage of blind worship of Duan Ling Tian's strength.

Even though He Zhong was a powerhouse who ranked 66th on the Earth Rankings and was even the third on the outer court's ranking of the Moon Illumination Sect, they had a higher opinion about Duan Ling Tian in the battle with He Zhong.

It was not because that Duan Ling Tian had killed Feng Fan a month ago, but because he had defeated an inner court disciple in just one move.

That duel had greatly raised the dignity of their outer courts.

An outer court disciple defeating an inner court disciple. Just how glorious was that?

"You guys have that much confidence in me?" When Duan Ling Tian learned that the group of outer court disciples had so much faith in him, he could not help but smile wryly, as he thought of setting up another bet.

However, come to think of it, even if he really set up another bet, most likely nobody would make a bet anymore.

Of course, Duan Ling Tian also knew that nobody would set a bet for such an ordinary friendly duel. Even if somebody did, nobody would place a bet at all.

Due to the fact that a friendly duel would not place a person's life on the line, under table transactions could be carried out. If I take a step back, you take a step back too.

For the friendly duel between two opponents, they could join forces with the person who became the banker for the gamble and earn quite a lot.

Nobody was a fool, so of course, nobody would be willing to make a bet in such a gamble.

"Are Ling Yun and Xiong Hu in closed-door cultivation?" Duan Ling Tian went to find Ling Yun and Xiong Hu and noticed that they were in closed-door cultivation. "I didn't see them the last time too during the Death Duel between Feng Fan and I. Could they have been in the closed-door cultivation since the last time and still haven't come out yet?"

The reason Duan Ling Tian went to find the two of them was mainly that he wanted to return the Merit Points that his teacher Fang Hui had asked him to safeguard to Ling Yun and Xiong Hu.

He planned to give each of them 50,000 Merit Points, giving the entire 100,000 Merit Points that Fang Hui had given him to the two of them.

After all, he was not lacking Merit Points at all.

However, since the two of them were in closed-door cultivation, he could only wait till the next time.

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to go back to the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda to have another month of cultivation, an invited guest had gone to find him.

"It's you?" This uninvited guest was not unfamiliar to Duan Ling Tian. After all, they had met once before.

It was none other than one of the two burly men from the residence of the outer court's Grand Elder, Dongfang Quan.

"Duan Ling Tian, Elder Dongfang heard that you've come out of your closed-door cultivation and would like to invite you to his residence for a chat." The man did not beat around the bush.

"Elder Dongfang invited me for a chat?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned. He had no idea why Dongfang Quan would look for him because it was only a trade between them the last time, and a fair one between a buyer and a seller.

Other than that, he had nothing to do with Dongfang Quan at all.

"Please." The burly guy looked at Duan Ling Tian in a manner that said, "If you don't walk, I'm gonna carry you straight away".

“Alright.” Even though Duan Ling Tian had no clue why Dongfang Quan would look for him, he did not reject the invitation at all.

After all, he was still in the outer sect of the Moon Illumination Sect and it would not do him any good if he offended Dongfang Quan. No matter what, he was still the grand elder of the outer court and if he wanted to go against Duan Ling Tian, it would only be a matter of time for him to settle him.

Apart from that, Duan Ling Tian was also puzzled as to why Dongfang Quan would look for him.

Once again arriving at Dongfang Quan’s residence, Duan Ling Tian met Dongfang Quan under the guidance of the burly man.

When he saw Dongfang Quan, he was enjoying his tea in the pergola.

“Sit.” After Dongfang Quan motioned to Duan Ling Tian to sit, he looked at the burly guy who had brought Duan Ling Tian there with a meaningful look and sensibly, the burly guy retreated immediately.

“Are you curious as to why I invited you here?” Dongfang Quan asked.

“Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He was indeed curious.

“I heard that you’ve accepted He Zhong’s duel invitation, haven’t you?” Dongfang Quan asked again.

“Yes,” Duan Ling Tian acknowledged, “Why? Is there a problem?”

“Do you know about He Zhong’s identity?” Dongfang Quan questioned again.

“If I’m not mistaken, he must be the direct disciple of an inner court elder. Is that right?” Duan Ling Tian guessed.

Although there was no rumor regarding He Zhong’s background in the outer court, Duan Ling Tian knew that his background must not be ordinary.

Just like Feng Fan before, nobody knew that he had a master who was an inner court elder.

Shooting a wary look at Duan Ling Tian, Dongfang Quan said, “He Zhong’s Master is the Vice Sect Leader.”

“Vice Sect Leader?” Upon hearing that, Duan Ling Tian was stunned as well.

It was not his first day being in the Moon Illumination Sect, so he definitely knew what it meant by the Vice Sect Leader of the Moon Illumination Sect... Even though he was not fully on the Saint Stage, he was at least half a step into the Saint Stage already. His strength was just merely beneath the Sect Leader and a few other Saint Stage powerhouses.

It turned out that He Zhong was actually the direct disciple of the Vice Sect Leader of the Moon Illumination Sect.

“That’s right.” Dongfang Quan nodded.

“Although this news is a little surprising, there’s no problem for me at all, is there? That duel invitation that He Zhong issued to me is only a mere ordinary duel invitation and not a Death Duel invitation,” Duan Ling Tian said with an unconcerned look.

“Well, you’re greatly mistaken if you think like this... Despite the fact that I have no idea why He Zhong didn’t issue a Death Duel invitation to you, I know that the reason he issued that duel invitation to you is definitely not that simple,” Dongfang Quan explained.

“Not that simple? I don’t know him at all, so how could he have any enmity with me?” Duan Ling Tian shook his head with a smile.

“You don’t have any enmity with him, but how about you and his uncle?” Dongfang Quan asked again.

“His uncle? Who is that?” Duan Ling Tian was perplexed.

Under Duan Ling Tian’s perplexed gaze, Dongfang Quan spat out two words, a name that elicited a shock from Duan Ling Tian right away, “Liu Huan!”

“Liu Huan? Really?”

“It’s not a secret in this circle of the higher officials in the sect,” Dongfang Quan continued, “You’re from the City Governor’s Estate of Mound Hill City and on top of that, you’re the disciple of that City Governor of Mound Hill City, Fang Hui... Liu Huan will definitely not let you go. The reason I invited you here is to warn you that you must be careful of He Zhong.”

“He Zhong is Liu Huan’s nephew?” Duan Ling Tian nodded his head and at the same time, he stood up and expressed his gratitude as he cupped both of his hands in front of his chest. “Thank you for your warning, Elder Dongfang.”

“Haha... If you’re really sincere, just give me another piece of fourth-grade Saint Stone, won’t you?” Dongfang Quan burst out laughing as a crafty twinkle shone in his eyes.

“Yes, I will.” Duan Ling Tian was not stingy as well. With a raise of his hand, he took out two fourth-grade Saint Stones and ten fifth-grade Saint Stones before placing them in front of Dongfang Quan.

After putting away the Saint Stones, Dongfang Quan laughed as he asked, “Tsk tsk... Boy, could it be that you’re actually a disciple from the five-rated force who just joined our Moon Illumination Sect temporarily to train yourself?”

In the face of Dongfang Quan’s query, Duan Ling Tian merely smiled and did not reply to him.

He still needed to keep his sense of mystery in front of Dongfang Quan regarding this matter. It was this sense of mystery that became the pivot which maintained the relationship between Dongfang Quan and him, allowing the elder to dread him and not dare to look down on him.

“Elder Dongfang, if there’s no other matter, I’ll take my leave first.” After he bade farewell to Dongfang Quan, he left right away.

When he left, his face turned gloomy at once. “At first, I thought that He Zhong merely wanted a normal friendly duel with me, but who’d expected that he’s actually Liu Huan’s nephew? Liu Huan’s nephew issuing an ordinary duel invitation to me... Hmm, things are definitely not that simple.”

After knowing He Zhong’s background, Duan Ling Tian was certain about this.

‘Zhou Qi hasn’t mentioned this at all to me...’ Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian was reminded about Zhou Qi and frowned right away. The first thing that came to his mind was that Zhou Qi was hiding this from him, but very soon, he returned to his senses again. ‘Perhaps even Zhou Qi himself doesn’t know about this at all. However, Liu Huan has such a nephew that has a Vice Sect Leader as his master... Why does he still need to be so fearful and even grovel to that inner court elder, Zhao Feng? Although Zhao Feng has a high position in the inner court of the Moon Illumination Sect, it’s still not as high as the Vice Sect Leader, is it?’

Duan Ling Tian remained puzzled even after a long time of pondering.

If Duan Ling Tian knew that Zhao Feng’s backer was one of the few Saint Stage powerhouses in the Moon Illumination Sect, he would not think like that anymore.

Because of Zhao Feng’s background, even the few Vice Sect Leaders would usually not dare to pick any trouble with him.

Of course, only a few high-ranking officials who were the highest decision-makers in the Moon Illumination Sect knew about this. Even the outer court elders and inner court deacons did not know about this at all, let alone those outer court deacons and the disciples of both outer and inner courts.

Ten days time was equal to one month in the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

In this span of one month, Duan Ling Tian had spent his time cultivating in the second level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. When the time had come, he finally left the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and his little courtyard, heading to the vast training field in the outer court of the Moon Illumination Sect.

The training field was filled with voices and shouts, making a great commotion.

Other than those outer court disciples who were not in closed-door cultivation, there were many inner court disciples who made their way there too, far more than the inner court disciples who had gone to watch the battle between Duan Ling Tian and Feng Fan a month ago.

That time, only more than ten inner court disciples had come but today, hundreds of them had turned up.

Some of these inner court disciples were those who had watched Duan Ling Tian defeat Ye Nan, the inner court disciple, outside the Merit Pavilion a month ago while some of them had watched how he had killed Feng Fan who was ranked in the Earth Rankings.

The remaining came because they admired his fame and wanted to watch Duan Ling Tian’s abilities.

### **Chapter 1469: Disrespectful**

“Senior Brother He Zhong is here!” One of the outer court disciple with a pair of sharp eyes exclaimed loudly.

His voice had also attracted the gaze of everybody present at the scene.

Under the watchful gaze of the others, a large-built, devilish-looking yet handsome, young man strode with a majestic gait toward them. His green robe fluttered and made him appear to be dapper in appearance, unrestrained and graceful.

“Senior Brother He Zhong!” Many of the female outer court disciples’ eyes shone brightly as though they were hungry wolves who had just seen their prey.

In the outer sect, many of the female outer court disciples regarded He Zhong as their dream man.

There were also many outer court female disciples who frowned and remarked, “Compared to Senior Brother He Zhong, I still like Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian better... Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is handsome in a masculine way while Senior Brother He Zhong is handsome in a softer, feminine way.”

“That’s right! Besides, I find Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian to be more handsome... I even dreamt about him yesterday.”

“I’ve also dreamt about Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian a few days ago. I even dreamt about him bringing a palanquin with eighth carriers to come to marry me!”

“Marry you? Dream on! How can such a monstrous genius like Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian fall for such a commoner like you?”

“Tsk! As though Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian would fall for you!”

...

Undoubtedly, there were more outer court female disciples who were on Duan Ling Tian’s side. In just a short moment, they drowned out the voices of those outer court female disciples who admired He Zhong.

Even though Duan Ling Tian had just been in the Moon Illumination Sect for about three months, the few times that he made his moves within the sect had always taken the entire outer court by surprise.

In the history of the outer court of the Moon Illumination Sect, there had never been anybody who was like Duan Ling Tian before.

“Hmph! Everyone’s taste is different. I still prefer Senior Brother He Zhong!” One of the female outer court disciples snorted with displeasure.

At once, the group of outer court female disciples broke into a commotion again. In the end, due to the reason that they had more people in their side, Duan Ling Tian’s admirers managed to beat He Zhong’s.

“Hmph!” Although He Zhong did not really pay much attention to the fight between the female outer court disciples, he still listened to their exchanges. At once, he also snorted coldly to himself as a sharp gleam shone from his eyes, “Duan Ling Tian, you’ll become a cripple after today! By that time, I’d like to see who will continue to admire you.”

He Zhong’s heart was a little twisted.

Before this, he had never given a damn about these female outer court disciples and even though they confessed their love to him, he merely basked in the attention and had never given any reply at all.

Yet, right now, seeing how most of the female outer court disciples preferred Duan Ling Tian more, he could not help but be engulfed by jealousy as though Duan Ling Tian had just snatched his belongings.

“Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is here!” Just as an excited voice exclaimed out loud, the gazes that were originally on He Zhong shifted to the purple figure walking slowly towards the training field.

He was a purple-clad young man who was huge-built and handsome. His dashing eyebrows were defiant and there was a smile as bright as the sun on his face, completely different from the devilish leer on He Zhong’s face.

He Zhong’s face would make a person feel stressed while Duan Ling Tian’s face would give off a refreshing feeling.

“He’s Duan Ling Tian? He’s only 35 years old... How young!” Among the group of inner court disciples who came to watch the show, there were a few powerful ones too. Boldly, they used their Spiritual Secret Tactic to probe Duan Ling Tian and instantly found out his age of 35 years.

Upon sensing the streaks of Spiritual Energy that were sweeping out at him, Duan Ling Tian frowned but eased up soon as though he was unconcerned about it.

At this kind of time, it was difficult for him to be concerned about that.

There were at least twenty over inner court disciples who probed at him using their Spiritual Secret Tactic. How could he possibly just go to teach them a lesson one by one?

Right now, he still did not have that ability yet.

To the outer court disciples, Duan Ling Tian’s age was no longer a secret as they had already found out about it three months ago.

Three months ago when Duan Ling Tian joined the entrance assessment that the Moon Illumination Sect held, he had already had his age probed by the outer court deacons using their Spiritual Secret Tactic.

“Duan Ling Tian!” Right now, the entire attention on the scene had shifted from He Zhong to Duan Ling Tian the moment the latter arrived, causing He Zhong’s face to turn glum right away.

Even though not many in the outer court knew that he, He Zhong, was actually the direct disciple of the Vice Sect Leader of the Moon Illumination Sect, he was still at least ranked third in the outer court of the Moon Illumination Sect and he was a powerhouse who was at the peak of the Mortal Shedding Stage who ranked 66th on the Earth Rankings too! Yet, today, his limelight had been robbed by somebody who had just entered the sect for only three months!

How could he possibly accept this?

An outer court disciple who had just entered the sect three months ago had actually received cheers in the outer court louder than the one that he — who became an outer court disciple five years ago — had received. Because of this, he felt that his dignity had been trampled horribly and thoroughly.



“You’re Junior Brother Duan Ling Tian?” However, when He Zhong turned around to look at Duan Ling Tian to greet him, the bitterness on his face disappeared without a trace and was replaced by a friendly smile.

Of course, the friendly smile on He Zhong’s devilishly handsome face somehow looked a little strange.

“He Zhong?” Duan Ling Tian cast a nonchalant glance at He Zhong. “Don’t you think it’s a little too early for you to call me Junior Brother now? In the world of martial arts, the stronger ones are revered, so if you turn out to be weaker than me, don’t you think it’s a little disrespectful to call me Junior Brother?”

After learning He Zhong’s identity, Duan Ling Tian knew that he actually had ill intentions.

Therefore, he did not bother to be polite at all even though it was his first time meeting He Zhong.

Anyway, since it was a mortal enmity between him and Liu Huan, and He Zhong was actually Liu Huan’s nephew, they were both on the same boat, so it was natural for him to wish for Duan Ling Tian to be dead.

In the face of the He Zhong who was smiling fakely at him, all that he could feel was utter disgust.

Clamor!

The moment Duan Ling Tian’s words left his mouth, the group of outer court disciples burst into a commotion.

It had never crossed their minds that the smell of gunpowder would be so overpowering the instant Duan Ling Tian and He Zhong met each other. For a moment, they even became suspicious whether the two of them originally had an antagonism with each other.

He Zhong had also never thought that Duan Ling Tian would be this mad. At once, a glimpse of chilly brilliance flashed across his eyes.

The brilliance flashed for a second and vanished in just the blink of an eye.

However, Duan Ling Tian still caught it.

“I was rash. I’m sorry.” However, contrary to everybody’s expectations, He Zhong did not get angry. Instead, he apologized to Duan Ling Tian with a smile and for a moment, he appeared to be the bigger person.

“Look! This is the Senior Brother He Zhong that I admire a lot! Look how noble he is, unlike the Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian that you guys admire! The moment he met Senior Brother He Zhong, he’s instantly so aggressive and wants to argue a point to death! What a petty man!” An outer court disciple who admired He Zhong exclaimed.

“Petty? Puh-lease! This is Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian’s true character. Don’t you know that? Besides, since Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian uttered such words, it’s obvious that he has the confidence to defeat that Senior Brother He Zhong of yours and become his Senior Brother!” A female outer court disciple who admired Duan Ling Tian replied, unwilling to take it lying down.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as an unnoticeable sneer crept up upon the corner of his mouth.

If it were not for the fact that he had known about He Zhong's identity, he would have most likely be deceived by his amiability.

However, at this moment, vigilance rose in his heart.

He Zhong swallowed the humiliation and bore the disgrace. The reason he gave an impression of weakness was to make his opponent put his guard down so that he could launch a lightning-like attack at the critical moment.

'As the saying goes, roll with the punches... I hope that he'll be more obedient. Otherwise, I, Duan Ling Tian, am not some soft persimmon that can be easily crushed!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

At the same time, he cast a nonchalant glance at He Zhong before walking into the middle of the training field and turning to look at him. "Let's start. My time is limited. I still need to go back to cultivating after defeating you."

"Defeating me?" He Zhong grinned faintly. "It looks like you really are confident about your own strength."

"Don't tell me that you're not confident either? In that case, there's no meaning to this battle anymore, is there? Just go ahead and admit defeat then," Duan Ling Tian replied coolly.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, even though He Zhong swallowed his rage and did not erupt right away, he could no longer put up a polite facade in front of Duan Ling Tian as he snorted with a grave face, "I've long heard about your sharp mouth, Duan Ling Tian. Now that I've experienced it, it does indeed live up to its reputation!"

"Sharp mouth?" Duan Ling Tian smiled and mocked, "Since you think that my mouth is sharp, then there seems to be no need for you to retort back, is there? Isn't it more straightforward to make your move directly?"

"Hmph! Do you really think that nobody in this outer court can defeat you anymore after you've killed Feng Fan and defeated an Early Saint Rudiment Stage inner court disciple?" Facing Duan Ling Tian's mockery, He Zhong who originally did not have an even temper could no longer suppress his rage as he exploded all at once, "Even if you're ranked 99th on the Earth Rankings now, you're still too weak to withstand a single blow in my eyes! Since you want me to make my move, well then, I'll do as you wish!"

As He Zhong reached the end of his sentence, he smirked. With a raise of his hand, a twig-like three-foot blade appeared in his hand. Although the blade was narrow and long, it was perfectly straight in He Zhong's hand.

As he poured his True Energy in, it emitted gushes of sharp aura.

This aura was far from being comparable by an ordinary three-foot blade.

"Saint Inscription?" The moment he felt this sense of aura, Duan Ling Tian suddenly squinted his eyes as he realized that the narrow and long blade in He Zhong's hand was also a Saint Weapon that was inscribed with a Saint Inscription.

“Duan Ling Tian, I’ll let you know very soon that you’re absolutely nothing in my eyes even if you could kill Feng Fan!” As the blade in He Zhong’s hand flicked, it suddenly bent and swept out like a keen snake with extreme flexibility.

“You said that I have a sharp mouth, but you’re not quite bad yourself either.” Mock crept up the corner of Duan Ling Tian’s mouth as he remarked.

“You’re looking for death!” As He Zhong’s gaze turned cold, the three-foot blade in his hand trembled and became perfectly straight again in a brief second.

In the next instant, his entire being seemingly transformed into a brief flurry. Holding onto the three-foot blade in his hand, he charged out towards Duan Ling Tian in a straight line along with the sword swishing.

### **Chapter 1470: Three-Star Saint Inscription**

Horizontal Lightning Slash!

It was the only offensive technique in the Human Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic that He Zhong had cultivated. In fact, he had perfected it to the fourth stage, the Proficient Stage.

Right now, as he cast his movement technique, the Horizontal Stride, he soon arrived before Duan Ling Tian in just the blink of an eye. The three-foot blade that was as narrow as a twig charged towards Duan Ling Tian like a sharp thorn.

Horizontal Lightning Slash!

This attack was extremely speedy; it was so fast that it caused a sharp swishing to resonate in the air.

This swishing seemed to be able to pierce through everything, causing the crowd watching from the side to turn horrified right away too.

Of course, some of the outer court disciples whose cultivation bases were much lower could not even hear this sharp swishing sound at all.

Gargantuan Taishan!

In the face of this attack from He Zhong, Duan Ling Tian took out his Thousand Mass Sword and activated the Thousand Mass Saint Inscription. As he swept his sword out, it was like he had hoisted a mountain up and thrown it outward to head towards He Zhong’s assault striking out forward.

“You’ve overestimated yourself!” In the face of this scene, He Zhong smirked. The True Energy from the sword in his hand pulsated like green electrical snakes that were wriggling around as it gave off a sense of pressure.

The moment this aura appeared, Duan Ling Tian’s face turned grave right away.

This gush of aura gave him an invincible feeling.

Just like the sword in He Zhong's hand, it had suddenly undergone an earth-shattering transformation at this moment and turned to become invincible.

Rumble!

The Thousand Mass Sword sliced through the sky and brought along with it a series of thundering noises that charged towards He Zhong's Horizontal Lightning Slice.

He Zhong's Horizontal Lightning Slice, on the other hand, had traveled in a horizontal line from the beginning till the end, having no intention to dodge at all as it charged straight toward the Thousand Mass Sword that Duan Ling Tian hoisted up and crashed down. In the face of the broadsword that swept out at it boldly, it had no fear at all.

Finally, the sword in He Zhong's hand pierced Duan Ling Tian's Thousand Mass Sword.

Just as the corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth smirked when he thought that his sword could send He Zhong and his sword flying away, a shocking scene took place in front of him.

The sneer by the corner of his mouth froze right away.

In confusion, he could see that the sword in He Zhong's hand seemed to be really capable of destroying all strongholds. As the Thousand Mass Sword in his hand was hoisted up and smashed out, Zheng He's sword had pierced through the True Energy he covered his Thousand Mass Sword with and went through the sword as well.

After piercing through the Thousand Mass Sword, the twig-like, narrow, three-foot blade pounded at him as though it had transformed into a poisonous snake.

It was so fast that it was completely atrocious.

Strange Pupil!

Within the time it would take for a lightning strike, Duan Ling Tian's Spiritual Energy swept out speedily and gushed into his left eye to activate his Strange Pupil.

At that instant, the speed of He Zhong's sword started to decrease its speed in the field of vision of his left eye.

Seizing the chance in the span of lightning, he quickly dodged to the side in a split second but still, he was still a step too late. He Zhong's sword brushed past his arm and tore his robe as fresh blood spurted out right away.

It pierced into his body deeply at once.

The piercing, heart-rending pain immediately shot up to Duan Ling Tian's consciousness through his nerves, causing him to gasp right away.

In the next instant, he quickly retreated backward.

He Zhong, on the other hand, did not seize this chance to chase him. With an overbearing manner, he looked down at Duan Ling Tian from the top with eyes that were filled with mockery. "Duan Ling Tian, you're not that impressive, are you?"

"What kind of Saint Inscription is that? It could actually pierce through the Thousand Mass Sword... No matter what, the Thousand Mass Sword is still an Earth Rank Primitive Saint Weapon!" The moment Duan Ling Tian recalled the scene just now, his heart was still filled with lingering fear. When he looked at the sword in He Zhong's hand, hints of dread could be seen in his eyes.

Not only had the sword ignored the impact force of the Thousand Mass Sword, but it had also even pierced through his True Energy and the Thousand Mass Sword to attack towards him.

The Thousand Mass Sword still had a hole as proof of the assault.

"The Thousand Mass Sword has actually been pierced through! Don't tell me that it's the Penetration Saint Inscription?!" An inner court disciple gasped and exclaimed out loud.

The Penetration Saint Inscription?

The moment his words left his mouth, the entire scene burst into a commotion right away.

"The sword in Senior Brother He Zhong's hand has actually been inscribed with a Three-Star Saint Inscription, the Penetration Saint Inscription?"

"As far as I know, there aren't many Saint Weapons that are inscribed with the Three-Star Saint Inscription, even in the Merit Pavilion... It would only appear once in a while. Besides, usually, when it appears, it'd be taken by the inner court elder right away."

"In the sect, higher-ranking officials like the inner court elders and above would usually have the wealth to buy a Saint Weapon that's inscribed with the Three-Star Saint Inscription!"

"The price of the Saint Weapon that's inscribed with the Three-Star Saint Inscription usually starts from one million Merit Points!"

...

The group of people watching by the side buried their heads in a discussion. The gazes that they looked at He Zhong were filled with wonder.

"Eh? That sword seems to be kinda familiar..." Somehow, looking at the sword in He Zhong's hand, an inner court disciple frowned as though he was trying to remember something.

The next instant, his eyes shone brightly as he cried out loud, "I remember now! That's the sword of our Elder Liu Huan from the inner court! I was once in luck to see Elder Liu Huan using this sword before... A Saint Weapon that's inscribed with the Three-Star Saint Inscription will never have a duplicate in the Moon Illumination Sect. It's obvious that the sword in He Zhong's hand is none other than the one that belongs to Elder Liu Huan."

"Elder Liu Huan's sword? I've never heard of He Zhong having any relationship with Elder Liu Huan at all... How come he has Elder Liu Huan's sword with him?" Many inner court disciples gaped at He Zhong in surprise.

“Perhaps He Zhong has been secretly taken by Elder Liu Huan as his direct disciple. As far as I know, the higher-ranking officials in the sect like to take talented disciples from the outer court in secretly. Only when these outer court disciples have entered the inner court, then their identities will be revealed,” an inner court disciple chimed in.

“I’ve heard of this before. It looks like He Zhong must’ve been secretly trained by Elder Liu Huan,” another inner court disciple added.

“Liu Huan?” The eyes of the spectators lit up right away the moment they heard the discussion between the group of inner court disciples.

“Has Elder Liu Huan already made his move? Unfortunately, this isn’t a Death Duel.” Huang Cheng, the outer court elder, who was at the scene from the start and concealed himself by the side watching the battle, smiled coldly. “However, even if it’s not a Death Duel, with the enmity between Elder Liu Huan and Fang Hui, the City Governor of Mound Hill City, he would never let go of Duan Ling Tian this easily.”

The enmity between Liu Huan and Fang Hui was not a secret in the Moon Illumination Sect.

Therefore, after knowing that Duan Ling Tian had come from Mound Hill City, Huang Cheng had been waiting to see him face his doom.

Huang Cheng was none other than the outer court elder who had lost 300,000 over Merit Points to Duan Ling Tian over a month ago. In this one month or so, he had been watching Duan Ling Tian and as long as he dared to leave the sect, he planned to instantly kill him right away.

Unfortunately, all this time that he had been watching Duan Ling Tian, he had never once left the sect to train at all.

“Elder Liu Huan?” Deng Wei, the outer court deacon, had also grinned. “Now that Elder Liu Huan’s men have started to make their move, Duan Ling Tian will be crippled, if he doesn’t die! With He Zhong’s position in the outer court, he’ll only suffer a punishment that’s neither too light nor too heavy even if he cripples Duan Ling Tian.”

Even though Duan Ling Tian was a talented Martial Cultivator, he would no longer be worthy to the Moon Illumination Sect if he was crippled.

However, He Zhong, on the other hand, would still be very valuable, so without a doubt, the Moon Illumination Sect would not punish him that severely.

Of course, if He Zhong dared to kill Duan Ling Tian, then it would be hard for him to escape death too.

That was because it was the rule of the Moon Illumination Sect. If there was anybody who still lived even after they had killed, the Moon Illumination Sect’s prestige would be compromised and nobody would give a damn about the sect rules anymore in the future.

“Duan Ling Tian...” Ye Man was also present at the scene with anticipation glowing in his eyes.

He had also learned about the fact that Duan Ling Tian was from Mound Hill City and about the enmity between the inner court's Elder Liu Huan in these three months that he had entered the Moon Illumination Sect.

Therefore, he also felt that He Zhong would not let Duan Ling Tian go this easily.

Unlike before, Ye Man now itched for Duan Ling Tian to be crippled so that it would be easy for him to kill him once and for all.

"Three-Star Saint Inscription, the Penetration Saint Inscription? Liu Huan's sword?" Duan Ling Tian's turned slightly grave. It had never crossed his mind that Liu Huan would actually lend his sword to He Zhong for the sake of going against him.

However, the force of this Three-Star Saint Inscription had still baffled him.

The last time when he went to the Merit Pavilion, he did not come across any Saint Weapon that was inscribed with a Three-Star Saint Inscription before. Otherwise, he would have bought one for himself.

Horizontal Stride!

Horizontal Lightning Slice!

He Zhong, who heard how the onlooking inner court disciples spilled the origins of the sword in his hand, had also made his move again at that moment. When he made his move this time, the target of the sword in his hand was Duan Ling Tian's right hand that was holding on to the Thousand Mass Sword. It was as though he wanted to cut off Duan Ling Tian's right arm in just one slice.

In the face of He Zhong's atrociousness, Duan Ling Tian turned grave completely at once.

Instantly, he activated his Strange Pupil right away.

A steady flow of Spiritual Energy continued to accumulate in Duan Ling Tian's left eye, causing a tiny whirlpool to appear in his left eye. The speed of the whirlpool twirling kept increasing and in the end, it had almost reached its limit.

At this time, he had no choice but to use his Strange Pupil.

As the person ranked the third in the outer sect, He Zhong's strength was originally powerful. Adding on with the sword that was inscribed with the Three-Star Saint Inscription, the Penetration Saint Inscription, Duan Ling Tian had no way of blocking it at all.

The Strange Pupil was activated — Spatial Manipulation!

In that split second, the sword in He Zhong's hand was also shifted to one side, away from Duan Ling Tian's right arm.

Just as Duan Ling Tian breathed a sigh of relief, he was shocked to find that the gaze that He Zhong was looking at him with seemed to have a hint of revelation in it. However, there was no hint of panic at all as though he had long known that this would happen.

"Has he already known about it?" Duan Ling Tian's heart gave a jolt as an ominous premonition rose in his heart.

“Duan Ling Tian, Feng Fan must have died under your Spiritual Secret Tactic, did he not? Your Spiritual Secret Tactic is indeed remarkable to the point that you can actually move the Horizontal Lightning Slice that I exerted with my entire strength away... However, it's time for all of this to end now.” He Zhong's True Energy Voice Transmission pierced into his eardrums, resonating with the impending feeling that haunted Duan Ling Tian.

In the next instant, Duan Ling Tian realized that a yellow paper that was densely inscribed with a series of complicated markings had appeared in He Zhong's other hand.

“It's a Dao Talisman!” When the crowd recognized that it was a Dao Talisman, so did Duan Ling Tian.

Just as the Dao Talisman was blasted toward Duan Ling Tian's side by inertia, He Zhong, who was glaring deadly at Duan Ling Tian, suddenly shouted out loudly, “Appear!”