

Chapter 1551: Xue Nai's Master

"Junior Brother, you actually managed to kill Zhao Feng... Zhao Feng was a Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage powerhouse. In terms of strength, apart from those at the Saint Stage, only the few Vice Sect Leaders, another inner court elder and me are stronger than him. How strong are you exactly?" Bai Li Hong asked solemnly. He was curious about Duan Ling Tian's current strength.

"To be honest, Senior Brother, currently, I'm not afraid of anyone below the Saint Stage," Duan Ling Tian said bluntly without hiding anything. He sounded extremely confident when he spoke.

Naturally, he kept his next thought to himself. 'When I break through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, I'm confident I can even kill ordinary Saint Stage powerhouses.'

"You're also confident you can win an Imminent Saint Stage powerhouse?" Bai Li Hong gasped.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. An Imminent Saint Stage powerhouse was strong, but he could crush them in one move by using the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Jasper Celestial Sword, with his current strength.

"It seems like I no longer have to worry about your safety... Junior Brother, your current strength has already surpassed mine even though I'm your senior brother." Bai Li Hong sighed. He did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's words at all.

Although Bai Li Hong sighed, he was actually happy for Duan Ling Tian because this meant he could protect himself better now.

"No matter how strong I become, you're always Duan Ling Tian's senior brother," Duan Ling Tian said solemnly.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Bai Li Hong nodded. An expression of contentment was apparent on his face.

"Junior Brother."

Suddenly, Bai Li Hong seemed to have thought of something and the smile on his face disappeared. He said to Duan Ling Tian solemnly, "It's okay for you to reveal your current strength to me but don't reveal it so easily to other people. Otherwise, I'm afraid it'll cause trouble."

"I understand." Duan Ling Tian nodded. He was not stupid. Naturally, he knew what Bai Li Hong meant when he said it would cause trouble.

If the Supreme Elder, Qian Kong, learned of his current strength, he would probably condemn him immediately because his current strength was sufficient to kill Zhao Feng.

"Moreover, the news was obviously released by Liu Huan... He must know it won't affect us too much, and yet, he still did it. He must be plotting something," Bai Li Hong added.

"It's not hard to guess his plans. He must have seen that I didn't leave the mansion for such a long time after I returned, he's worried I might go into closed-door cultivation for a few years and come out stronger than him... If that happens, the power dynamic between us would totally shift," Duan Ling Tian said with certainty as his eyes gleamed.

"That should be the case." Bai Li Hong nodded in agreement. He sneered. "Unfortunately, he would've never dreamed that Junior Brother's current strength is far superior to his... You can even kill Zhao Feng, it'll be as simple as killing chickens or cutting grass for you to kill him."

"Since he's so eager, I'll have some fun with him," Duan Ling Tian said indifferently as his eyes gleamed coldly.

He was already unafraid of Liu Huan when he left the Moon Illumination Sect previously. At that time, he had not inherited the Sovereign Heart Sword, and he still could not wield the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Jasper Celestial Sword.

Now that his strength had increased, naturally, he was even more unafraid of Liu Huan.

"This time, Senior Brother definitely won't ruin your plan," Bai Li Hong said somewhat awkwardly after he heard Duan Ling Tian's words.

"However... Junior Brother, I suggest you wait for a while before you execute your plan. At this moment, apart from Liu Huan, I'm afraid there are other eyes that focused on your every movement," Bai Li Hong said solemnly as though he had remembered something.

"Senior Brother, you mean Qian Kong?" Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows.

"Yes."

Bai Li Hong nodded. "I have a feeling the relationship between Qian Kong and Zhao Feng is definitely not so simple. In fact, it runs deeper than an ordinary relationship between a master and a disciple... Based on Qian Kong's reaction a few days ago, he won't let Zhao Feng's death go so easily! I'm worried he's watching your every move as well."

"Understood." Duan Ling Tian nodded as he formulated a new plan in his heart.

"If that's the case, I'll wait till I break through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage before I have some fun with Liu Huan," Duan Ling Tian said, emphasizing on the word 'fun'.

In the subsequent days, Duan Ling Tian began his earlier routine. He silently cultivated on the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and the outside world.

Meanwhile, Sect Leader Jiang Wei's words had quickly spread in the Moon Illumination Sect.

"Elder Bai Li had already sworn on the lightning penalty oath that he had nothing to do with Elder Zhao Feng's death. If anyone else dares to smear Elder Bai Li's name, they'll be severely punished!" Those were Jiang Wei's exact words.

As Jiang Wei's words spread around the Moon Illumination Sect, the entire sect began to liven up again.

“As it turns out, the nine claps of thunder that day were the Nine-nine Heavenly Tribulation Oath resonating with Elder Bai Li’s oath.”

“Since he swore on the lightning penalty oath, Elder Bai Li must have nothing to do with this matter.”

“I didn’t expect the Sect Leader to ask Elder Bai Li to swear on the lightning penalty oath for Elder Zhao Feng... Isn’t he afraid Elder Bai Li would be disappointed by his lack of trust?”

“Elder Bai Li is the only Three Star Saint Inscription Master in the Moon Illumination Sect. If we offend him, he can just leave the sect... The eight other great sects and Mountainshade Black Market have long wanted Elder Bai Li to join them.”

“The Sect Leader has gone overboard on this matter.”

Similar remarks were circulating in the entire Moon Illumination Sect. Most people were on Bai Li Hong’s side.

At the same time, the other Supreme Elders in the Moon Illumination Sect’s forbidden area also learned about this incident and had gone to Sect Leader Jiang Wei immediately.

“Sect Leader, you’ve gone overboard on this matter!”

“If Elder Bai Li had left the Moon Illumination Sect due to that, you’ll be a sinner in the Moon Illumination Sect!”

“Humph! It’s just Zhao Feng... Even if he’s killed by Elder Bai Li, so what? He’s worthless to the Moon Illumination Sect compared to Elder Bai Li!”

The few Supreme Elders began to question Jiang Wei as soon as they saw him.

Jiang Wei felt aggrieved, he instantly looked at Qian Kong whose face had darkened. “Junior Uncle Qian, you won’t let me take all the blame for this matter, will you?”

Qian Kong was dragged along by the other Supreme Elders. Although he did not want to go, he knew he had to.

Naturally, he did not come to criticize Jiang Wei, but he had come to stop the other Supreme Elders from criticizing Jiang Wei.

Sure enough, after Jiang Wei had spoken, the other Supreme Elders shifted their attention to Qian Kong.

“Junior Brother Qian, what’s that about?”

“Junior Brother Qian, could it be the person who asked Elder Bai Li to swear on the lightning penalty oath wasn’t the sect leader, but it was you? If that’s the case, then you’re foolish!”

“Senior Brother Qian, I know Zhao Feng almost became your disciple, but he didn’t after all. Why do you care so much about his life or death? It’s not worth it to offend Elder Bai Li for him.”

The other Supreme Elders were either Qian Kong’s senior brothers or junior brothers. They were the older generation of Moon Illumination Sect.

When they spoke to Qian Kong, they were not as polite as they were to Jiang Wei.

“What if he’s my son?” Faced with the criticism from his senior brothers and junior brothers, Qian Kong’s expression was terrifyingly gloomy. Eventually, he revealed the relationship between Zhao Feng and himself.

Silence immediately descended on the scene.

It was obvious the Moon Illumination Sect’s Supreme Elders did not know about the relationship between Qian Kong and Zhao Feng. They were all dumbfounded and could only smile bitterly after they heard Qian Kong’s words.

If that was the case, they could not really blame Qian Kong. After all, they would have probably done the same if they were in his position.

Jiang Wei who was standing at the side also heaved a sigh of relief.

He did not care how those below him were talking about this. But he cared about what the seniors thought about him because they were the guardians of the Moon Illumination Sect.

In Jiang Wei’s opinion, the current outcome was the best ending.

However, he did not know that for some people, this incident was just beginning. It was far from being the end.

In the inner court of Moon Illumination Sect.

“That Duan Ling Tian is so patient?” Liu Huan’s expression turned extremely displeased. He thought Duan Ling Tian would be unsettled by it, his composure completely exceeded his expectation.

For a time, he felt ashamed and helpless.

Was all his effort of doing things in the dark all in vain?

He could not resign to this! He really could not! However, what could he do?

“Wait! Just wait... I don’t believe Duan Ling Tian can hide at Bai Li Hong’s mansion forever,” Liu Huan said as he gnashed his teeth.

Meanwhile, in an area close to the Moon Illumination Sect’s central area, a figure rapidly flew out from an independent courtyard in a mountain obscured by fog. The figure disappeared into the clouds in just a blink of an eye.

Soon after, the figure arrived at the depth of a mountain.

“Master, you’re finally back,” Han Xue Nai said excitedly when she saw the shapely and beautiful woman in front of her.

“Xue Nai, I’ve already asked my friend to divine about the safety of the Sister Ke’er you mentioned. She is safe for now... However, in the near future, she’ll be facing a crisis! It might possibly kill her... Whether she’s able to overcome it will depend on her good fortune.” The beautiful woman smiled dazzlingly when she saw Han Xue Nai before sighing solemnly.

Earlier when Han Xue Nai heard that Ke'er was safe and sound, she had smiled. However, when she heard the subsequent words from the beautiful woman, her expression changed immediately. "A crisis that might kill her? Master, Senior Prophet he... really said so?"

The friend her master was referring to was the famous Old Prophet in the Dao Martial Saint Land. She certainly would not doubt the words of the Old Prophet.

Chapter 1552: The Seven Absolutes Sect

The Old Prophet was a legendary person in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Even Han Xue Nai's father, the Mansion Master of the Greenwave Han Mansion had never seen him before.

On the contrary, when Han Xue Nai was young, she had followed her master and met the Old Prophet once.

The Old Prophet had foretold she would follow Qing Nu to the distant Mortal Continent, Cloud Continent, a few years later. At that time, she would have a fortuitous opportunity waiting for her.

Although up until now she had no idea what the Old Prophet meant by fortuitous opportunity, the trip to Cloud Continent was the happiest days of her life. That was where she met Brother Ling Tian, Sister Ke'er, Sister Li'Fei as well as Little Gold, Little Black, and Little White.

She was free in front of them. They were not like the people from the Greenwave Han Mansion who only treated her as their little princess.

"Master, is there any way to resolve Sister Ke'er's impending crisis?" Han Xue Nai's voice trembled when she spoke. She did not want to see misfortune fall on her kind sister, and she did not want to see her Brother Ling Tian upset.

If something really happened to Sister Ke'er, how could Brother Ling Tian accept it?

"That old fellow said she'll have to depend on herself." The beautiful woman sighed.

"No way! I have to go to Half Moon Island... I want to find Sister Ke'er." After Han Xue Nai said that, she turned around, preparing to leave.

"She's no longer on Half Moon Island nor is she on Cloud Continent." The beautiful woman's words stunned Han Xue Nai.

She turned around and looked at the beautiful woman as she asked, "Master, where's Sister Ke'er now?"

"I can't say where exactly." The beautiful woman shook her head. "However, I returned this time to tell you I'll have to leave for a while..."

"Master, you're leaving?" Before the beautiful woman finished her sentence, Han Xue Nai's face changed slightly.

In her opinion, her master was no different from her mother. Naturally, she would not want her to leave.

“Yes.” The beautiful woman nodded. “I have to leave this time to do something very important... As for you, your Sister Fei’Er, and that three little fellows, you can go back to Cloud Continent and have a look around. According to the old fellow’s prediction, your Brother Ling Tian should have returned to Cloud Continent. Maybe this time you can confirm his whereabouts.”

Brother Ling Tian!

Han Xue Nai’s eyes lit up after she heard the beautiful woman’s words.

“As for the dragon clan...” the beautiful woman said as she lifted her arm and retrieved an exquisite small sword before handing it over to Xue Nai, “If you encounter the dragon clan, infuse some True Energy into it to activate it... You don’t have to worry about what will happen after.”

After passing the small sword to Xue Nai, the beautiful woman had vanished without a trace.

“Master.” Han Xue Nai gripped the small sword tightly, she felt like crying. Over the years, her master had stayed in the Greenwave Han Mansion, silently accompanying her.

Now that she had left, she did not know when they would meet again. Although her master had told her long before that one day she would have to leave, she did not think that day would come so fast.

However, after Han Xue Nai thought about it, with her master’s cultivation base, she could go anywhere she wanted to... As long as she was still alive, they would be reunited one day.

“Xue Nai, after today, you may officially cultivate my Red Dust Progeny mental cultivation method without hesitation... It’s about time for my Red Dust Progeny’s heir to shine.” Han Xue Nai’s master’s voice rang in her ears in a timely manner.

After the beautiful woman left the Greenwave Han Mansion, she headed north.

“Fire Worship Sect, Fire Worship Sect... I didn’t expect the Saint girl of the Fire Worship Sect who had been lost for so many years would turn out to be someone around him. I hope the Fire Worship Sect didn’t go overboard this time... Otherwise, our Seven Absolutes Sect won’t let it go even if we’re small in number and meager in strength! Now, the heir of the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect who has been silent for a long time has also shown himself. Perhaps, it’s just like what the Old Prophet said... It’s time for our Seven Absolutes Sect to shine,” the beautiful woman muttered to herself.

A long time ago, the Seven Absolutes Sect was one of the famous top-tier forces in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

After that, the Dao Martial Saint Land split into two and the Seven Absolutes Sect left the world and became reclusive. That was how the world had gradually forgotten about it.

Since the founding of the Seven Absolutes Sect, there were never more than twenty people in the sect. However, it was precisely this sect that managed to stun the entire Dao Martial Saint Land for an era.

It was the same era when someone very prominent existed. That person was none other than Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang!

One person with one sword, invincible in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

A sect that stunned the Dao Martial Saint Land for an era and a powerhouse who shone for an era, there were very few people who could connect the two together. There were even fewer who knew Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang was the heir of the Seven Absolutes Sect's First Absolute, the Fog Rain Progeny.

The Seven Absolutes Sect have seven absolutes.

Fog Rain was the First Absolute.

Prophet was the Second Absolute, and Red Dust was the Seventh Absolute.

In addition to these three absolutes, the other four were hidden in the Dao Martial Saint Land, biding their time to reveal themselves at the right time in a notable manner.

'I heard from the Old Prophet that this generation's heir to the First Absolute, the Fog Rain, is obscenely lucky even though he couldn't predict his future... Perhaps, I'll be lucky enough to witness the Seven Absolutes Sect returning to its former glory!' The beautiful woman's eyes sparkled when she thought about this.

After Han Xue Nai returned and prepared to return to Half Moon Island and Cloud Continent with Li Fei and the three little fellows, something unexpected happened so she had no choice but to temporarily cancel her plans.

Li Fei was giving birth soon!

In the Moon Illumination Sect's inner court. Bai Li Hong's mansion.

"Why do I feel uneasy all the time recently... It seems like something's going to happen." Duan Ling Tian frowned. He was on the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

Originally, he should have broken through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage. However, he could not focus on his cultivation because of a sudden wave of unease.

He forced himself to cultivate, but he found himself getting more and more frustrated. In the end, he could only leave the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and walked out of his room to get some fresh air.

Duan Ling Tian was not thinking about anything apart from getting some fresh air. Therefore, after leaving Bai Li Hong's mansion, he also left the Moon Illumination Sect's estate.

In fact, it seemed as though he did not hear the greetings from the other Moon Illumination Sect's disciples along the way. It was as though he had lost his soul.

"What's wrong with Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian?"

"He doesn't seem right... Look at him. His eyes look dull. What could've happened to make him look like he has lost his soul?"

The Moon Illumination Sect's disciples who had encountered him along the way also felt like something was not right.

The current Duan Ling Tian seemed as though he had lost his soul.

"Duan Ling Tian, you finally came out." Liu Huan who had been waiting outside the Moon Illumination Sect for a long time quietly followed Duan Ling Tian when he confirmed Bai Li Hong was not around.

Naturally, he was very cautious. In fact, he did not plan to attack anywhere near the vicinity of the sect.

'En?' Liu Huan who was tailing Duan Ling Tian soon discovered his unusual mood. 'Did he discover me?'

However, he sighed in relief when he found no other abnormalities in Duan Ling Tian's behavior.

Half a day had gone by, although Duan Ling Tian was merely walking, he was already far away from the Moon Illumination Sect.

When Duan Ling Tian entered a dense forest, Liu Huan could not wait any longer and prepared to attack.

Boom!

A thunderous explosion reverberated in the air. Liu Huan, an inner court elder of the Moon Illumination Sect, actually launched a sneak attack on Duan Ling Tian. He had unleashed his full strength when he attacked, intending to kill Duan Ling Tian in one blow.

When he saw his attack was about to land on Duan Ling Tian, Liu Huan sneered.

In his opinion, he had finally gotten rid of his biggest worry today.

However, as more violent noises sounded in the air, the smile on Liu Huan's face froze.

God!

What did he see?!

Liu Huan clearly saw as his attack was about to land on Duan Ling Tian, a light shield had suddenly risen from Duan Ling Tian's body. Upon closer inspection, the light shield was actually formed by rays of rapid-moving golden sword ray. It actually managed to block his attack that he had unleashed with all his strength.

Liu Huan's face changed dramatically when he saw the golden light shield had merely trembled but did not collapse.

At this moment, he realized he had underestimated Duan Ling Tian.

"Stagnation Territory!" Without hesitation, Liu Huan immediately released his territory that encompassed a hundred-meter radius.

Liu Huan's territory was called the Stagnation Territory.

Anyone within the territory, apart from himself and those whose cultivation base was above him, would feel some obstruction when they circulate the True Energy in their body. It would feel as though there was an unknown force suppressing their strength.

At the same, Liu Huan took out his Saint Weapon. His True Energy Consolidated Weapon and True Energy Consolidated Beast also appeared above him.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian had already turned around. Light had returned to his soulless eyes.

He was not surprised to see the person who had launched the sneak attack was Liu Huan. He said softly, "Elder Liu Huan, you really won't let go of any chance to kill me... You must have been the one who provoked Zhao Feng to come after me, right?"

"So what?"

Liu Huan sneered. "It's a pity he was useless. Getting killed by a powerhouse before he could even kill you."

"What if I say I was the one who killed Zhao Feng?" Duan Ling Tian's rang in Liu Huan's ears again.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not actually speak. He had used True Energy Voice Transmission instead.

Chapter 1553: Mirror Image Talisman

"You?" Liu Huan was obviously shocked after he heard Duan Ling Tian's True Energy Voice Transmission. After a while, he said disdainfully, "You killed Zhao Feng? What nonsense!"

"Whether it's nonsense or not, you'll know soon enough," Duan Ling Tian responded indifferently.

Meanwhile, his True Energy had formed the Divine Dragon Phenomenon above his head. Blood energy pulsed around the Divine Dragon Phenomenon, making it look even more life-like.

Suddenly, a dragon's cry reverberated in the air...

The huge body of the Divine Dragon Phenomenon shook and flew straight at the Relic Phenomenon and Giant Beast Phenomenon above Liu Huan's head.

The appearance of the Divine Dragon Phenomenon momentarily stunned Liu Huan.

Dragon!

It was an actual dragon!

At this moment, he was too shocked to even register Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base that was at the Perfection Saint Rudiment Stage. There was only one thing left on his mind. Duan Ling Tian's True Energy Consolidated Beast was a dragon. Moreover, the dragon was formed from the blood essence as the foundation.

Boom! Boom!

Two loud explosions caused Liu Huan to regain his senses. At this time, both his Relic Phenomenon and Giant Beast Phenomenon were easily overpowered and defeated by Duan Ling Tian's Divine Dragon Phenomenon.

"You..." Liu Huan looked at Duan Ling Tian in shock.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian immediately took out the Jasper Celestial Sword and wielded it with 30% of his strength.

Chi! Chi! Chi!

The sound of something breaking immediately resounded in the air. It was the sound of the Stagnation Territory, Liu Huan's True Energy Consolidated Territory, shattering.

It was destroyed by Duan Ling Tian in just one move.

"No... It's impossible!" When Liu Huan saw this, his eyes widened. Shock filled his face.

In just a blink of an eye, his True Energy Consolidated Weapon, True Energy Consolidated Beast, and True Energy Consolidated Territory were continuously destroyed by Duan Ling Tian. Only Liu Huan knew his own feelings at this moment.

Xiu!

Liu Huan was still in shock when the Jasper Celestial Sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand moved again. A sword ray swept out at lightning and severed Liu Huan's hand that was holding his Saint Weapon. It looked as simple as chopping firewood.

Liu Huan gasped in pain. When he looked at Duan Ling Tian again, it was as though he had seen a ghost. "You... How are..."

"How am I so strong?" Duan Ling Tian finished Liu Huan's sentence with a faint smile on his face. "Elder Liu Huan, do you believe me now? Do you still feel like I'm talking nonsense?"

"It's impossible... It's impossible that you're so strong!" Liu Huan was still reluctant to believe it. It was, after all, quite unbelievable.

How long has it been? Duan Ling Tian who was just like an ant to him previously had grown stronger than him. Moreover, the sword in his hand was extremely terrifying. With just a casual wave of his hand, he had broken his Stagnation Territory.

"Nothing's impossible.," Duan Ling Tian said faintly while he swung the Jasper Celestial Sword in his hand again and another sword ray swept out. This time, it stabbed Liu Huan's chest.

Liu Huan who was prepared for this immediately cast his defensive martial tactic, intending to dodge the attack.

However, could he dodge it?

Xiu!

The sword ray whizzed past like an arrow shooting across the sky, it penetrated the light shield formed by Liu Huan's defensive martial tactics as easily as breaking a twig before it pierced his heart.

Liu Huan, an inner court elder of the Moon Illumination Sect, died just like that in the hands of an inner court disciple who had entered the sect less than two years ago.

While Duan Ling Tian conveniently kept Liu Huan's Saint Weapon and Spatial Ring, he eliminated all the evidence like he had done it a hundred times before and returned to the Moon Illumination Sect's estate.

It was not his intention to lure Liu Huan out when he left the sect this time. He simply wanted to get some fresh air because he felt uneasy as though something was about to happen when he was cultivating.

However, after the run-in with Liu Huan, the unease he had felt had vanished.

Duan Ling Tian did not realize that while he was killing Liu Huan, a figure in the distance was quietly observing him.

That figure came and left without a trace. His strength was obviously far superior to Duan Ling Tian.

Those who could conceal themselves without being discovered by Duan Ling Tian had to be Saint Stage powerhouses.

'I didn't think Duan Ling Tian has been hiding so deeply... This means Chi Ming probably died in his hands as well. Moreover, the sword in his hands exuded an extremely dangerous vibe. This is so weird...' The Saint Stage powerhouse who left after Duan Ling Tian left slowly revealed himself. It was a middle-aged man with a muscular body.

The muscular middle-aged man was none other than the Saint Stage powerhouse who guarded the Mountainshade Black Market in the area under the influence of the Nine Sect Alliances, Tai Wu.

Ever since the leader of the Mountainshade Black Market's branch dismissed the mission against Duan Ling Tian, Tai Wu became curious about Duan Ling Tian. He had decided on a whim to lurk around the Moon Illumination Sect recently.

As he was lurking around today, he finally saw Duan Ling Tian leaving the Moon Illumination Sect's estate. More interestingly, there was a Moon Illumination Sect's inner court elder tailing Duan Ling Tian, intending to kill him.

He watched silently at the side from the beginning until the end.

In the beginning, he thought Duan Ling Tian was going to die... However, the result was completely beyond his expectation. The one who died was not Duan Ling Tian but the inner court elder of Moon Illumination Sect.

The Divine Dragon Phenomenon and a mysterious sword.

At this moment, it seemed to him that Duan Ling Tian was shrouded in a veil that he could not see through.

That mysterious precious sword was so powerful, it would be a lie to say he was not moved.

However, he discovered his heart palpitating for no reason when he thought about the sword. It was as though the sword was dangerous and was a threat to his life. Due to this reason, he did not dare to act impulsively.

“I’m really curious what reaction the people from Moon Illumination Sect would have when they see the scene of Duan Ling Tian killing the sect’s elder.” After glancing at the Dao Talisman in his hand, a sinister smile appeared on Tai Wu’s face.

As a Saint Stage powerhouse, Tai Wu’s speed was way faster than Duan Ling Tian. Moreover, Duan Ling Tian was walking leisurely back to the sect. Hence, Tai Wu arrived at the Moon Illumination Sect’s much earlier than he did.

Once Tai Wu appeared above the Moon Illumination Sect, the several Saint Stage powerhouses in the forbidden area of the Moon Illumination Sect, including the Sect Leader, Jiang Wei, instantly discovered his presence and flew up into the air.

At this moment, Tai Wu quickly crushed the Dao Talisman in his hand.

Suddenly, a screen appeared in the sky above the Moon Illumination Sect. It was a crystal clear mirror... If Duan Ling Tian were there and had seen this, he would have been shocked because it was extremely similar to the 3D images on earth.

The Dao Talisman Tai Wu used was a Mirror Image Talisman.

The Mirror Image Talisman can record things that one saw, regardless if it was people or objects, all of it could be recorded.

After crushing the Dao Talisman, Tai Wu hid away.

Meanwhile, Jiang Wei and the others’ attention were focused on the mirror image in the sky. This was because they were familiar with one of the two figures.

“It’s Liu Huan!” One of the Moon Illumination Sect’s Supreme Elders cried out in a low voice.

“Who’s that young man?”

“Liu Huan seems to be following him.”

...

The few Supreme Elders of Moon Illumination Sect were staring at the mirror image in the sky. A purple young man was walking in front while Liu Huan followed after him.

Naturally, these old people in the Moon Illumination Sect did not know who Duan Ling Tian was because they had never seen him. This included Jiang Wei. Although he had long known about Duan Ling Tian and even had him investigated, he had never seen him before. It was only natural he did not recognize him.

Although Jiang Wei and the other Saint Stage powerhouses of Moon Illumination Sect did not recognize Duan Ling Tian, it did not mean the others from the sect did not recognize him.

When the mirror image appeared in the sky, the entire Moon Illumination Sect was in an uproar.

“It’s the Sky Screen’s Mirror Image!” Many well-informed Moon Illumination Sect’s disciples cried out.

“Sky Screen’s Mirror Image would only appear if there’s a Mirror Image Talisman... Although the Mirror Image Talisman doesn’t have an exact grade, only Dao Talisman Masters above Four Star can draw it. Who’s so generous to be using a Mirror Image Talisman this way,” many Moon Illumination Sect’s elders exclaimed in surprise.

“Quickly, come and have a look! It’s Elder Liu Huan... He seems to be following someone.” Quite a lot of inner court disciples in the sect recognized Liu Huan.

“The person he’s following seems to be Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian?”

“That’s right! It’s Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian!”

“What’s Elder Liu Huan trying to do? He’s actually following Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian.”

“You don’t know? Where have you been? Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is from Mound Hill City. His teacher is the City Governor of Mound Hill City, Fang Hui. Elder Liu Huan and Fang Hui are mortal enemies. It’s only natural that he wants to kill Duan Ling Tian.”

...

The entire Moon Illumination Sect was in an uproar over the mirror image in the sky. Many people even had their hearts in their mouths. They were worried about Duan Ling Tian.

In Bai Li Hong’s mansion, Feng Wu Dao and the others were looking at the mirror image in the sky as well.

The mirror image in the sky could be seen in every corner of the Moon Illumination Sect, especially to those who were practicing their Saint Grade Martial Tactics in the courtyard

“What’s that?” Feng Wu Dao and the others did not know what the Mirror Image Talisman was so they were clueless about what was happening.

“Oh, no!” When Bai Li Hong saw the mirror image in the sky showing Liu Huan attacking Duan Ling Tian, his expression changed immediately.

Those who did not know better would probably think he was worried for Duan Ling Tian.

However, even since he learned about Duan Ling Tian’s strength, he longer worried about his safety.

Duan Ling Tian’s strength had surpassed him. Even if Liu Huan launched a sneak attack, he would not be able to harm Duan Ling Tian.

Without even the need to guess, he knew what the outcome was. Liu Huan must be dead!

Bai Li Hong's expression had changed because he realized someone had recorded the conflict between Duan Ling Tian and Liu Huan using the Mirror Image Talisman and revealed it to everyone in the Moon Illumination Sect.

Chapter 1554: Exposing His Strength

"Who is it? So vicious!" Bai Li Hong looked upset. He wished he could tear down the mirror image in the sky. However, he knew he could not do that since he was not strong enough.

Once the Mirror Image Talisman was activated, no one could destroy it unless it was a Saint Stage powerhouse.

At this moment, Bai Li Hong was only angry at himself for being so weak and could not help his junior brother to tear down the mirror image in the sky.

'It's okay if it's just the Sect Leader, but if Qian Kong sees this...' Bai Li Hong became even more anxious when he thought of this.

"Duan Ling Tian? He's Duan Ling Tian?" At the same time, the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei, finally found out the purple-clad young man in the Sky Screen's Mirror Image was Duan Ling Tian. His expression changed immediately.

Naturally, he knew of the conflict between Liu Huan and Duan Ling Tian. However, he did not think Liu Huan was crazy enough to try and kill Duan Ling Tian.

At this moment, Jiang Wei felt slightly regretful he did not secretly get rid of Liu Huan before this. He could already imagine how furious Elder Bai Li would be and vent his anger out on him and the entire Moon Illumination Sect. It was not something he was willing to see happen.

At the same time, the other Supreme Elders, apart from Qian Kong, also had a change of expression. Their thoughts were similar to Jiang Wei. All of them were worried Bai Li Hong would witness the scene of Liu Huan killing Duan Ling Tian.

'This Sky Screen's Mirror Image must be destroyed!' Jiang Wei and the other Supreme Elders' gaze turned cold as they all prepared to strike and destroy the Sky Screen's Mirror Image.

However, just as the True Energy circulated in their bodies as they prepared to strike, the image in the Sky Screen's Mirror Image changed just in time... The change stunned them so much that they simultaneously and involuntarily dispersed the True Energy they had condensed.

It could be seen on the Sky Screen's Mirror Image that Liu Huan had launched a sneak attack on Duan Ling Tian, intending to kill him with his palm.

At the crucial moment, a golden light shield rose from Duan Ling Tian's body and easily blocked Liu Huan's palm that seemed to contain all his fury.

"That's... such a strong defensive move!" At this moment, everyone in the Moon Illumination Sect was shocked.

Duan Ling Tian's defensive move had stunned them.

"Based on Elder Liu Huan's gesture, he had obviously unleashed his full strength... However, I didn't expect Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian to be able to block it so easily."

"Incredible! Incredible!"

"Since when did Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian become so strong?"

"That's too terrifying! Is Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian really human?"

All of the Moon Illumination Sect's disciples were stunned by the mirror image in the sky.

Without even turning around, he managed to block Liu Huan's full-force attack with his defensive martial tactic.

How strong must Duan Ling Tian be?

Even ordinary Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage Martial Cultivators probably could not block Liu Huan's full-force attack so easily, right?

"Junior Brother..." If it was another time, Bai Li Hong would probably sigh in relief seeing his junior brother safe. However, not only did he not feel relieved now, but his heart became heavier.

The subsequent scene was not something he was willing to look at.

At the same time, Feng Wu Dao and the others who were staying at Bai Li Hong's mansion felt nervous for Duan Ling Tian when they saw Liu Huan had launched a sneak attack on Duan Ling Tian. After a moment, they let out their breath when they saw him blocking Liu Huan's attack.

"What's happening in the mirror image in the sky? Why does it feel so real?" Feng Wu Dao and the others were confused.

Eventually, it was Sima who regained his senses first. "Do you still remember, in the jade token we borrowed from the Merit Pavilion, it has records of a Dao Talisman called the Mirror Image Talisman... It seems like this is the effect of the Mirror Image Talisman."

"Seems like it."

"It's really the effect of a Mirror Image Talisman!"

"Mirror Image Talisman. I think only Dao Talisman Masters above Four Stars would be able to draw that? Are there any Four Star Dao Talisman Masters in the area under the influence of the Nine Sect Alliance?" After hearing Sima's words, Feng Wu Dao and the others also reacted.

"The thing that formed the gold shield seems to be sword ray... Such a strong defense obviously came from a high-grade defensive move." In the sky, the few Saint Stage powerhouses of Moon Illumination Sect had seen through Duan Ling Tian's defense in just a glance.

"Duan Ling Tian is actually so strong?!"

Jiang Wei was also shocked by the scene before him. Moments later, a smile appeared on his face again. "I didn't expect such a monstrous Martial Dao prodigy to appear in our Moon Illumination Sect... If we cultivate this person properly, it's not impossible for our sect to advance and become a sixth-rate force."

At this moment, Jiang Wei's heart was filled with excitement. His gaze when he looked at Duan Ling Tian was as though he was looking at a treasure.

All the eyes of the Supreme Elders, apart from Qian Kong, had lit up as well when they saw this scene.

Although they had heard about Duan Ling Tian previously, they thought he was just a lucky boy who was nothing without Bai Li Hong.

They had finally realized the person whom Bai Li Hong acknowledged as his junior brother was no ordinary man.

To possess such strength before the age of forty! How heaven-defying would he be when he had grown into his full potential?

Qian Kong's face was very gloomy. 'This is Bai Li Hong's junior brother, Duan Ling Tian? I didn't expect him to be so powerful at this age. It seems like he definitely has something to do with Zhao Feng's death!' Killing intent shone in Qian Kong's eyes when he thought about this.

Soon after, the mirror image in the sky changed again.

In the mirror image, Duan Ling Tian turned around and confronted Liu Huan.

At this time, Liu Huan cast his True Energy Consolidated Weapon, True Energy Consolidated Beast, and True Energy Consolidated Territory. He even brought out his Saint Weapon. He was fully prepared to kill Duan Ling Tian.

Although the mirror image that the Mirror Image Talisman recorded was without sound, some people could read lips.

Coincidentally, Qian Kong was one of those people.

Liu Huan opened his mouth and his face turned gloomier.

"You killed Zhao Feng? What nonsense!" Those were Liu Huan's words.

"Whether it's nonsense or not, you'll find out soon enough." And these were Duan Ling Tian's words.

The subsequent scene shocked everyone in the Moon Illumination Sect who saw the Sky Screen's Mirror Image once again.

Facing Liu Huan who had unleashed all his techniques, Duan Ling Tian cast his True Energy Consolidated Beast... Everyone instantly discovered Duan Ling Tian was already a Perfection Saint Rudiment Stage Martial Cultivator!

True Energy Consolidated Beast was the sign of a Perfection Saint Rudiment Stage Martial Cultivator!

The following scene shocked them even more.

They clearly saw the Giant Beast Phenomenon that solidified above Duan Ling Tian was a dragon. An actual Divine Dragon!

Dragons, for most of the people present, were undoubtedly a legendary existence.

Among the people present, only Feng Wu Dao and a few others had really seen a dragon before.

Duan Ling Tian had formed a Divine Dragon Phenomenon. Moreover, judging by the blood energy surrounding the Divine Dragon Phenomenon, it was obviously condensed from the blood essence as a foundation... This meant Duan Ling Tian had obtained a Divine Dragon's blood essence.

For a time, many people, including Jiang Wei, could not help but feel jealous. They were jealous of Duan Ling Tian's fortuitous encounter. He actually managed to obtain a Divine Dragon's blood essence before reaching the Perfection Saint Rudiment Stage.

In the next moment, they could clearly see Duan Ling Tian's Divine Dragon Phenomenon had easily defeated Liu Huan's Relic Phenomenon and Giant Beast Phenomenon.

"So strong!"

"It's a divine dragon after all!"

"I didn't expect the Giant Beast Phenomenon Duan Ling Tian formed for his True Energy Consolidated Beast is actually a Divine Dragon Phenomenon!"

A group of Moon Illumination Sect elders exclaimed.

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is really heaven-defying!"

"Isn't he? Not only did he break through to the Perfection Saint Rudiment Stage, but he has also condensed a heaven-defying phenomenon like the Divine Dragon Phenomenon... Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is a miracle of the younger generation of Moon Illumination Sect!"

"I don't know if Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian can defeat Elder Liu Huan... After all, Elder Liu Huan is a Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage powerhouse. He has the True Energy Consolidated Territory that's even stronger."

The group of Moon Illumination Sect's disciples looked expectantly at the screen in the sky.

Duan Ling Tian answered their question through his actions.

Duan Ling Tian could be seen bringing out a sword before he swung it around. Following that, the air trembled for a moment before Liu Huan's Stagnation Territory shattered.

When Liu Huan was still in shock, Duan Ling Tian swung his sword again and chopped off one of Liu Huan's hands.

Because the mirror image was recorded by a Saint Stage powerhouse, Tai Wu, using the Mirror Image Talisman, every detail was recorded clearly. Even if it was a weaker Moon Illumination Sect's disciple, they could see the entire process clearly even though Duan Ling Tian's attack speed was extremely fast.

"So strong!"

“That’s terrifying!”

The Moon Illumination Sect, regardless if it was the elders, deacons or disciples, all of them were dumbfounded by Duan Ling Tian. Those who had enmity with Duan Ling Tian, especially, gasped and were drenched in cold sweat.

A few moments later, everyone saw Duan Ling Tian pierced Liu Huan’s chest with his sword and killed Liu Huan.

At this moment, no one pitied Liu Huan. He had brought this upon himself. After all, he was the one who had intended to kill Duan Ling Tian first.

‘He has finally avenged Master!’ At the outer court of the Moon Illumination Sect, Ling Yun and Xiong Hu looked at each other and saw the excitement in each other’s eyes.

“God bless the Moon Illumination Sect! God bless the Moon Illumination Sect!” The Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei, and the other Moon Illumination Sect’s Supreme Elders were extremely excited due to the appearance of such a monstrous prodigy in the sect.

They saw the future of Moon Illumination Sect in Duan Ling Tian.

Due to their excitement, they did not even notice Qian Kong’s silent departure.

Chapter 1555: Qian Kong’s Death

When Qian Kong left the group of people, Bai Li Hong had also left his mansion. He was headed toward the monastery gate. He intended to intercept Duan Ling Tian at the gate and advise him to leave the Moon Illumination Sect. Naturally, it was because of Qian Kong he was doing this.

In his opinion, Qian Kong would definitely think Duan Ling Tian was the one who killed Zhao Feng after watching that scene.

Based on the way Qian Kong had reacted toward Zhao Feng’s death, it was unlikely he would let Duan Ling Tian go.

As soon as Bai Li Hong had left his mansion, Qian had arrived at Bai Li Hong’s mansion. After searching the entire place, he still could not find Duan Ling Tian. His expression turned grave immediately. “Don’t tell me he isn’t back yet?”

The moment he thought of this, he searched the entire Moon Illumination Sect with his fastest speed. In the end, he also appeared at somewhere near the Moon Illumination Sect’s monastery gate and waited there.

“Bai Li Hong!” When he arrived near the Moon Illumination Sect’s monastery gate, he instantly noticed Bai Li Hong, and his expression turned grave immediately. However, he did not act rashly in order to not alert Bai Li Hong and immediately concealed himself at the side.

Bai Li Hong was waiting and so was he.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, was unaware of all that had happened in the Moon Illumination Sect. At this moment, he was returning to the Moon Illumination Sect, blissfully unaware.

Soon after, he saw a black dot in the distance.

As he continued moving forward, the tiny black dot began to grow bigger and bigger before it turned into the Moon Illumination Sect's estate. The Moon Illumination Sect's monastery gate also appeared before his eyes.

"I'm back." Upon seeing the Moon Illumination Sect's monastery gate, a smile flashed across Duan Ling Tian's face. "I'll find a time to return to Mound Hill City to inform Teacher about Liu Huan's death. I'm sure Teacher will be happy."

"Duan Ling Tian!" At the moment when Duan Ling Tian was walking toward the Moon Illumination Sect's monastery gate, a thunderous voice resonated in the air. It was so loud that it spread everywhere.

Everyone in the Moon Illumination Sect's estate also heard this thunderous voice.

At this moment, the Sky Mirror in the sky had also disappeared.

Almost everyone in the sect was shocked for a moment before they looked in the direction of the sect's monastery gate. They could all sense there was a show to be watched at the place where the voice came from.

The Moon Illumination Sect's elders and disciples surged toward the Moon Illumination Sect's monastery gate. Sect Leader Jiang Wei who was hovering high in the sky was puzzled. He recognized the owner of the voice. "It's Junior Uncle Qian!"

"Junior Brother Qian?"

"Senior Brother Qian?"

At this moment, the few Moon Illumination Sect's Saint Stage powerhouses who were also the Supreme Elders of the sect could not help but frown. They were confused and could not figure out what was happening at this moment.

"SH*T!" Jiang Wei was the first to realize what was happening, and horror dawned on him immediately.

"Why?" The few Moon Illumination Sect's Supreme Elders looked at Jiang Wei one after another.

"Junior Uncle Qian just witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength, and he must have come to the conclusion that Duan Ling Tian had killed Zhao Feng... We must stop him!" The moment his words left his mouth, he instantly vanished from his spot, making his way to the sect's monastery gate at his fastest speed.

The instant the Supreme Elders heard his words, they began to figure out what was happening. Horror instantly dawned on them as well.

'Junior Brother Qian is confused!'

'Senior Brother Qian is being too rash!'

A few Supreme Elders snapped inwardly as they followed Jiang Wei at lightning speed.

They knew the severity of this matter.

They were very familiar with Qian Kong's temper. Since he was certain Duan Ling Tian had the capability to kill Zhao Feng, he definitely would not show any mercy to Duan Ling Tian.

He was the kind of person who would rather wrongly kill 1,000 people than let one person go.

However, Duan Ling Tian was currently a 'treasure of the Moon Illumination Sect' in their eyes. The future of the sect depended on him. Due to this reason, they would not let Qian Kong harm him. So far, the situation did not look very promising.

Even if they arrived in time, Duan Ling Tian would have probably already been killed by Qian Kong.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was also stunned by the sudden angry voice that resonated in the distance. He was momentarily confused.

"Junior Brother!" In the next moment, a familiar voice rang in the air. He could tell it was his senior brother, Bai Li Hong's voice.

At this moment, Bai Li Hong's voice was laced with panic.

The moment Duan Ling Tian heard Bai Li Hong's voice, he could not help the wave of panic that washed over him as well.

At this moment, he felt pressure shrouding his body in just a blink of an eye. Everything in a hundred-meter radius around him had turned into a golden ocean in just a flash.

'Territory! It's not an ordinary Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage's Territory!' This was the first thought that rose in Duan Ling Tian's mind as horror dawned on his face.

Even at this moment, he still had no idea what was going on. Why was someone at the Saint Stage attacking him?

Just when Duan Ling Tian was almost suffocated to death by the golden ocean-like Territory, an angry voice entered his ears through Voice Transmission. "Duan Ling Tian, you're going to accompany my son, Zhao Feng, in the afterworld!"

The voice made Duan Ling Tian feel like fainting even more.

During this critical moment, under the heavy pressure, a vast True Energy swept out of Duan Ling Tian's Qi Sea and began to flow rapidly through his 99 Saint Veins.

Through the nine dragons, the True Energy completed one great Qi circulatory cycle in just a blink of an eye before rushing into Duan Ling Tian's Qi Sea.

In just a second, the Qi Sea located deep in the spot between Duan Ling Tian's eyebrows trembled as though it had exploded.

The feeling of fainting appeared again. However, Duan Ling Tian did not feel the pressure time. Instead, he felt as though his body had become lighter.

This was because he had made a breakthrough!

Under the heavy pressure, he had made a breakthrough to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage. He had achieved this effortlessly.

Duan Ling Tian was originally just a step away from entering the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage. All the time he had spent cultivating on the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda had not been spent in vain.

Due to some reason, he kept having trouble taking the last step into the next stage.

The pressure from the Territory and thunderous Voice Transmission of a Saint Stage powerhouse had spurred him on and helped him to overcome the critical step and break through to the next stage.

After he had broken through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, although the pressure from the golden ocean still existed, it was no longer as powerful as before.

However, the sense of crisis that was almost suffocating turned stronger instead. At the same time, he could feel a wave of terrifying aura coming toward him at a ridiculously fast speed.

Without any hesitation, Duan Ling Tian immediately activated his Strange Pupil. His Spiritual Energy continued to deplete rapidly, causing his image in his vision to slow down.

Duan Ling Tian seized the chance at this critical moment and quickly took out his Jasper Celestial Sword. A steady flow of True Energy surged out from his Qi Sea that had expanded after his breakthrough into his Jasper Celestial Sword.

However, Duan Ling Tian still kept 10% of his True Energy to himself.

90% of his True Energy was quickly infused into the Jasper Celestial Sword.

At this instant, the Jasper Celestial Sword began to tremble violently as it emitted a piercing and blood-curdling aura. The green energy around the sword even made the air in the surrounding tremble.

Duan Ling Tian did not have time to think at all. He raised his hand and swung the Celestial Sword out without any hesitation at all.

Duan Ling Tian realized he was completely calm when lifted his hand up. He felt as though he had just obtained a faint connection to the Jasper Celestial Sword in his hand.

The connection was very mysterious. He could feel it, but he found it hard to describe it using words.

Swish!

The sound of sword whistling in the air appeared by Duan Ling Tian's ears before it disappeared.

Under the eyes of the group of Moon Illumination Sect's elders and disciples who had surged out from the Moon Illumination Sect's estate, an ancient figure standing near Duan Ling Tian was cut into two.

At the same time, the golden ocean in the sky also began to vanish.

“Junior Uncle Qian!”

“Junior Brother Qian!”

“Senior Brother Qian!”

At the moment when the ancient figure was cut into two by the sword ray, a few sorrowful cries rang out in the air. It was none other than the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei, and the few Supreme Elders.

Initially, they felt a little dejected when they thought about Qian Kong killing Duan Ling Tian. However, the scene that followed without warning had thoroughly shocked them.

Duan Ling Tian had killed Qian Kong with just one blow!

Jiang Wei and the others were not the only ones who were shocked. Even Tai Wu who was hiding high up in the sky was shocked. Cold sweat began to break out on his forehead.

‘Lucky... How lucky...’ At this moment, there was only one thought left in his mind. He felt fortunate he did not try and snatch the mysterious sword from Duan Ling Tian.

Although he felt he was more powerful than Qian Kong, he was not confident he would be able to fully block the sword.

The sword was just too fast and too powerful. It had shocked him and made his heart quiver.

Although Bai Li Hong was also dumbfounded by Duan Ling Tian’s tyrannical attack, he regained his senses first and quickly urged him, “Junior Brother, run!”

Perhaps he had no idea why Duan Ling Tian’s sword was so terrifying, but he had a feeling it had come with a price. It would probably be difficult for Duan Ling Tian to attack with the sword again.

“I’ll protect your family and friends!” Bai Li Hong continued to urge him.

“Qian Kong?” When Duan Ling Tian heard his words, his mind instantly cleared.

“As it turns out, Zhao Feng was really Qian Kong’s illegitimate child!” Duan Ling Tian recalled the Voice Transmission Qian Kong had transmitted to him. He also realized that his speculation before was correct.

However, he was puzzled. How did Qian Kong know he was the one who killed Zhao Feng?

Judging by how angry and threatening Qian Kong was, it was obvious Qian Kong was certain Duan Ling Tian had killed Zhao Feng.

Chapter 1556: Being Pursued

However, Duan Ling Tian knew he did not have much time to think about this.

Qian Kong was a Supreme Elder of the Moon Illumination Sect. As a Saint Stage powerhouse, he was like a patron to the sect.

He had killed Qian Kong in front of so many people, his crime would not be small.

The most important thing was, he was able to kill Qian Kong not because he was powerful, but it was because he had used the Jasper Celestial Sword. He had used 90% of his strength wielding the sword. At this moment, he was only left with 10% of his True Energy in his Qi Sea. When he thought of all these, his heart jolted.

“Senior Brother, I’ll leave Uncle Feng and the others to you.”

At this instant, Sword Qi roamed freely and waves of sharp tyrannical sword rays swept out in a hundred-meter radius. It was similar to a Sword Territory.

This was the Territory Duan Ling Tian had mastered after breaking through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage.

True Energy Consolidated Territory! As for what kind of Territory, it was out of Duan Ling Tian’s control.

After breaking through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, Duan Ling Tian discovered what kind of territory he possessed. It was the 10,000 Swords Territory.

Duan Ling Tian had a feeling the territory he had consolidated had something to do with the Sovereign Heart Sword.

After Duan Ling Tian discovered what kind of territory he had comprehended, it was only natural he knew what his territory could do.

10,000 swords roamed about in a hundred-meter radius around him. In the next moment, the 10,000 swords charged toward him quickly as though they were going to pierce his heart.

The 10,000 swords looked spectacular. The ear-piercing sound of sword whistling could be heard as the swords swept past.

In just a blink of an eye, the 10,000 swords gathered at the bottom of Duan Ling Tian’s feet before it transformed and solidified into a dazzling sword. It brought him away at the speed of light as he rapidly disappeared in the distance.

“What a terrifying territory! It’s so fast! That speed far surpassed the speed of an Imminent Saint Stage powerhouse! It’s comparable to a Saint Stage powerhouse!” Tai Wu who was watching from high above was shocked as well.

“However, his face doesn’t look well... It’s obvious the mysterious sword had depleted a lot of his True Energy. It’s unlikely he’ll be able to attack with the sword again for now.” As a Saint Stage powerhouse, Tai Wu was naturally observant. He could easily see through Duan Ling Tian’s current situation. Due to this reason, he instantly chased after him.

As soon as Tai Wu gave chase to Duan Ling Tian, Jiang Wei, the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, and the few Supreme Elders regained their senses. They had an appalled expression on their faces as they also chased after Duan Ling Tian.

It did not cross their minds that thing would turn out this way. Duan Ling Tian had killed Qian Kong!

Who was Qian Kong?

He was the older generation's powerhouse in the Moon Illumination Sect, a veteran who had lived together with them in the sect. However, he had died before their eyes.

The person who killed him was a Moon Illumination Sect's disciple.

All of them held Duan Ling Tian in high regard and felt that if he continued to grow, he would definitely bring glory to the Moon Illumination Sect. However, things had developed to this stage, everything was out of their control now.

It would not have been too bad if they were the only ones who witnessed Duan Ling Tian killing Qian Kong. The problem was more than half of the people in the sect had witnessed it as well.

Although Qian Kong was the Moon Illumination Sect's Supreme Elder and many disciples had not seen him before, there were still some elders and disciples who recognized him.

If the person who killed Qian Kong, a Supreme Elder of Moon Illumination Sect, was nurtured by the sect and became the Sect Leader in the future, the sect would turn into a huge joke.

Due to this reason, they knew Duan Ling Tian could no longer remain in the sect the instant he killed Qian Kong.

Since he could no longer remain here, he might resent the Moon Illumination Sect due to Qian Kong's matter. There was only one option left to them, and it was to kill Duan Ling Tian now to avoid trouble in the future.

They could not take any risk. Duan Ling Tian would be a potential threat to the Moon Illumination Sect when he grew stronger. They must eliminate the threat while it was still in its infancy.

At this moment, Bai Li Hong was relegated to the back burner. Although a Three Star Saint Inscription Master was very rare, it was negligible in the face of the life-or-death of their sect.

Before they chased after Duan Ling Tian, Jiang Wei, the Sect Leader, did not forget to instruct the few Vice Sect Leaders, "Keep an eye on Bai Li Hong. Don't let him and the people in his mansion leave."

The moment the few Vice Sect Leaders heard these words, they instantly went to Bai Li Hong's mansion and intercepted Bai Li Hong in a timely manner when he was about to leave with Feng Wu Dao and the others.

"Elder Bai Li, Sect Leader has given an order that none of you can leave this place. Please forgive us for this offense," one of the Vice Sect Leaders said as they surrounded Bai Li Hong and the others.

Bai Li Hong did not panic at all when faced with the few Vice Sect Leaders. Instead, he asked nonchalantly, "Guys, let's make a trade, shall we?"

"What trade?" The few Vice Sect Leaders frowned.

"If you let me go, I'm willing to give each of you a Saint Weapon inscribed with three Three Star Saint Inscriptions," Bai Li Hong replied.

Bai Li Hong's words instantly made the few Vice Sect Leader's eyes lit up. "Are you serious?"

"I can swear on the lightning penalty oath... However, it's not convenient for me to take the lightning penalty oath in the sect now. I'm sure all of you wouldn't want the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation's resonance being seen by the others, right?" Bai Li Hong asked again.

"Let's go!" The few Vice Sect Leaders exchanged glances with each other immediately. Not only did they disobey the Sect Leader's order, but they also escorted Bai Li Hong, Feng Wu Dao, and the others to leave the Moon Illumination Sect's estate.

Naturally, nobody noticed they had left due to how stealthy they were.

They had come to this decision because Bai Li Hong's offer was too enticing. Let alone them, even the Sect Leaders and the Supreme Elders did not have a Saint Weapon with three Three Star Saint Inscriptions.

In their opinion, it was not important if Bai Li Hong lived or died. The most important thing to them is the benefits they would get. As for Sect Leader Jiang Wei, they could shirk the responsibility and say they failed to chase after Bai Li Hong.

When Bai Li Hong arrived at a place far from the Moon Illumination Sect's estate, he swore by the lightning penalty oath and struck a deal with the Vice Sect Leaders before they finally let Bai Li Hong leave.

Although they had not obtained the Saint Weapons with three Three Star Saint Inscriptions yet, they were not afraid that Bai Li Hong would renege on the deal since he had sworn by the lightning penalty oath.

Bai Li Hong had sworn to give them a Saint Weapon with three Three Star Saint Inscriptions each after three years. Three years were not long to them.

Naturally, the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei, was unaware of this. Otherwise, he would be angered to the point of throwing up blood.

While Bai Li Hong brought Feng Wu Dao and the others away from the Moon Illumination Sect, near the Moon Illumination Sect's estate's monastery gate, the group of Moon Illumination Sect's elders, deacons, and disciples finally regained their senses.

The incident earlier had greatly shocked them. Those Moon Illumination Sect's elders, in particular, who recognized Qian Kong muttered bewilderedly, "Duan Ling Tian actually killed Elder Qian Kong? H-How's that possible?"

"Elder Qian Kong was a Supreme Elder of our sect, and he was a Saint Stage powerhouse... Y-Yet he has b-been..."

"Impossible! Impossible! How can Duan Ling Tian be so powerful?!"

The group of Moon Illumination Sect's elders was in a great shock. Some of them even used various methods to check if they were dreaming.

“Elder Qian Kong?”

“Supreme Elder?”

“Saint Stage powerhouse?!”

Naturally, the disciples of the sect had also heard the elders’ words.

The identity of the old man who was killed instantly began to spread.

Qian Kong was a Supreme Elder of Moon Illumination Sect and a Saint Stage powerhouse.

“My goodness! I’m not dreaming, right?! Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian first killed Elder Liu Huan and now Elder Qian Kong? Elder Qian Kong was a Saint Stage powerhouse for Lord’s sake!”

“A Saint Stage powerhouse is basically invincible compared to Martial and Dao Cultivators below the Saint Stage... D-Don’t tell me Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is actually a Saint Stage powerhouse, too?”

“When Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian left, it seems like he had used his True Energy Consolidated Territory... His strength is not as simple as the one he had shown Elder Liu Huan!”

“The True Energy Consolidated Territory is the trademark of a Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage powerhouse so Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian must at least be at the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage now!”

“What Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage?! In my opinion, Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is originally a Saint Stage powerhouse. Otherwise, how can he kill Elder Qian Kong?”

“I also think Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is a Saint Stage powerhouse!”

...

The group of Moon Illumination Sect’s disciples buried their heads together in a discussion. When each of them mentioned Duan Ling Tian, respect and shock could be seen on their faces.

It was not only them, but even the sect elders did not realize how exhausting it was for Duan Ling Tian after he had killed Elder Qian Kong.

Apart from Mountainshade Black Market’s Tai Wu, the few Saint Stage powerhouses and Jiang Wei could see the strike had taken a toll on Duan Ling Tian.

They knew it would be difficult for Duan Ling Tian to strike that powerfully again for the time being so they immediately chased after him. Otherwise, would they really dare to chase after someone who had killed Qian Kong with just a swing of the sword?

Naturally, apart from trying to eliminate future trouble, the main reason chased after Duan Ling Tian was to see the unique sword in his hands.

As Saint Stage powerhouses, apart from having extraordinary eyesights, they also possessed insight that was far superior to ordinary martial artists.

At that moment when Duan Ling Tian brandished that sword, they could clearly see the aura on Duan Ling Tian’s body was not powerful. What was powerful was the sword in his hand.

Chapter 1557: The Unlucky Duan Ling Tian

The few Saint Stage powerhouses, including the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei, also began to have greedy thoughts about the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hands. Due to this reason, they instantly pursued Duan Ling Tian without a second thought.

Far ahead of them, Duan Ling Tian's face turned paler and paler as he moved forward on his sword.

When he swung his sword to kill Qian Kong earlier, it had looked deceptively simple, but in fact, he had depleted 90% of his True Energy. He had used his remaining True Energy to cast his True Energy Consolidated Territory, the 10,000 Swords Territory, to quickly leave the Moon Illumination Sect.

One had to admit the flying sword's speed was fast. However, this was the exact cause of its heavy consumption of a lot of his True Energy.

Duan Ling Tian did not fly too far before he noticed the True Energy in his body had almost reached zero, and his Spiritual Energy in his mind had almost reached zero as well due to the Strange Pupil he had cast earlier.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian felt extremely unwell mentally.

"What should I do? The few Saint Stage powerhouses from the Moon Illumination Sect will definitely come after me!" After killing Qian Kong, Duan Ling Tian had noticed the few figures flying out from the sky above Moon Illumination Sect's estate were the few Saint Stage powerhouses of the sect.

Although he had killed Qian Kong with just a strike, it was mainly because of the Jasper Celestial Sword.

If he did not have the Jasper Celestial Sword, he would only be invincible against those below the Saint Stage even if he had broken through to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage. Without the Jasper Celestial Sword, he might not even be able to defeat the weakest powerhouse at the Saint Stage, let alone killing a Saint Stage powerhouse with just one strike.

Currently, it was nearly impossible for him to use the Jasper Celestial Sword since it had used up 90% of his True Energy.

"They're getting closer to you!" At the same time, Elder Huo's voice resonated from Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, reminding him of the approaching danger.

"Elder Huo, what should I do now?" Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly. Not only did the flying sword under his feet become slow, but it had also begun to dissipate as though it would vanish completely at any given time.

"Find a place free of disturbance and place the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda there. As long as they don't completely destroy the surrounding, you should be safe," Elder Huo said after a moment of silence.

The moment Elder Huo's words left his mouth, Duan Ling Tian immediately guessed what he meant.

“This might work!” The moment the idea popped into Duan Ling Tian’s mind, he did not hesitate. He descended from the sky with his sword before putting it away and entered a dense forest immediately. Soon after, a huge boulder appeared before his eyes.

“This is it!” Duan Ling Tian mobilized his remaining True Energy and lifted the huge boulder. Then, he dug a hole underneath the boulder and threw the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda inside. After that, he put the huge boulder down and entered the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda with just a thought.

Boom!

When Duan Ling Tian placed the huge boulder down, the little hole that housed the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda that had transformed into a speck of dust was completely concealed.

In such circumstances, unless the pursuers destroyed the surrounding environment in a frenzy, it would be impossible for them to force Duan Ling Tian to appear.

After Duan Ling Tian had entered the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, he instantly went to the third level to recover his True Energy and Spiritual Energy. This was the most important thing to him now.

When Duan Ling Tian hid himself, Tai Wu, the Saint Stage powerhouse from the Mountainshade Black Market’s branch in the Nine Sect Alliances’ district had appeared in the sky above the forest Duan Ling Tian was hiding in.

“Hiding are you?” Looking at the forest beneath his feet, he smirked coldly.

In the next instant, his eyes narrowed and he hid himself as well as though he had noticed something.

The moment Tai Wu hid himself, Jiang Wei, the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect, and the Supreme Elders appeared above the forest. They all came to a halt and began searching their surroundings.

“His aura seems to have disappeared right around here,” Jiang Wei said with a frown.

“Let’s search around here.” The group of Saint Stage powerhouses from the Moon Illumination Sect split up and began to search. Some patrolled in the sky while some entered the forest to do a thorough search.

As Saint Stage powerhouses, their Spiritual Energies had already formed the Divine Consciousness. Everything in the scope of their Divine Consciousness would be visible to them.

In the sky above, Tai Wu who was hiding began to turn grave.

He was not afraid of the Saint Stage powerhouses in Moon Illumination Sect. However, he was no match for them if they joined forces.

Due to this reason, he felt extremely anxious. He was afraid Jiang Wei and the others would beat him to it and snatch the mysterious sword away from Duan Ling Tian’s hands. There was nothing he could do now except to silently watch by the side.

‘I hope you’ve hidden yourself well and not let them discover you... Otherwise, you’ll really disappoint me,’ Tai Wu thought to himself. It was apparent his words were meant for Duan Ling Tian.

One could just imagine how speechless Duan Ling Tian would be if he heard these words.

As Tai Wu continued to feel anxious, the Moon Illumination Sect's people searched the surrounding for a whole hour. In the end, they regrouped and discovered all of their efforts had been in vain.

Tai Wu heaved a sigh of relief when he saw this.

"We didn't get him." Jiang Wei frowned. "However, it's clear his aura had vanished here. Don't tell me he can fly underground?"

"Maybe he has a way to mask his aura to avoid discovery," a Moon Illumination Sect's Supreme Elder speculated.

"It's possible." Another Supreme Elder of the sect agreed.

"I guess this is the only plausible explanation. Otherwise, how can a Martial Cultivator who has not even entered the Saint Stage escape our Divine Consciousness?" In the end, the few Saint Stage powerhouses of Moon Illumination Sect, including Jiang Wei, came to a conclusion.

How could they have guessed that the Seven Treasures Exquisite would mask Duan Ling Tian's aura as soon as he entered it. The Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda had such an ability because it was a Celestial Supreme Treasure.

"I suppose we can only split up to find him." Soon after, the few Saint Stage powerhouses of the sect came to an agreement again. They split into groups of threes to thoroughly search for Duan Ling Tian's tracks.

When Tai Wu saw the people from Moon Illumination Sect had split up, he did not instantly reveal himself.

His expression was calm as though he was waiting for something.

Soon after, Jiang Wei and the Supreme Elders gathered again.

It was apparent their departure earlier was just an act to lure Duan Ling Tian out since they were uncertain if he was still in the area. At this moment, they were certain he was no longer in the area and finally split in three directions to look for him.

Tai Wu finally came out of hiding at this moment.

"Hurmmph! If it wasn't because I was the closest to him and knew that he's hiding here, I would've also been deceived like those trash from the Moon Illumination Sect." After Tai Wu appeared, he looked down at the forest beneath his feet and chuckled coldly.

Based on his words, it was obvious he was certain Duan Ling Tian was still in the area.

"Duan Ling Tian, although I've no idea what kind of secret tactic you used to hide yourself, you'll still have to reveal yourself before me today no matter how great your secret tactic is!" As Tai Wu chuckled to himself, he stretched both his arms out.

At that instant, a vast rolling True Energy surged out from his arms. As though they had transformed into two magnificent dragons, they bellowed and howled as they swept out.

In the next moment, the two magnificent dragons transformed from his True Energy descended into the forest like two huge long whips. The air seemed to disappear and the sound of danger appeared in their wake.

Bang!

Bang!

At the same time, the two magnificent dragons also caused the ground to quake.

Although the two magnificent dragons did not crash against the huge boulder the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was hiding under, due to the trembling of the ground, the huge boulder had overturned. The Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was instantly sent flying by the earthquake.

Before the fourth level was restored, the space inside the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was still unstable.

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian who was hiding inside the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda to recover his True Energy and Spiritual Energy had also been sent out by the earthquake.

Due to the fact that he did not have much of his True Energy left, when Duan Ling Tian was sent out, he rolled on the ground, and he was covered in dust from head to toe. He appeared extremely wretched.

“Damn it!” He regained his senses at this moment and realized what he dreaded the most had happened.

He knew there was a risk hiding in this manner since he did not know if his pursuers would destroy the surroundings. He would be kicked out of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda if they destroyed the surroundings.

He had no other option at that time so he had to take a risk. Who knew he would be so unlucky?

“I can’t believe it failed.” Duan Ling Tian who felt unlucky sighed inwardly. He instantly shifted his gaze to the figure descending from the sky.

He could not help but frown when he saw the black figure. “He doesn’t seem like one of the Saint Stage powerhouses from the Moon Illumination Sect. Besides, his vibe is different from those from the Moon Illumination Sect.”

The person descending from the sky was none other than Tian Wu.

“Duan Ling Tian.” After Tai Wu appeared, he studied Duan Ling Tian curiously. “You have quite a lot of tricks up your sleeves. You even managed to trick those trash from the Moon Illumination Sect... Unfortunately, you’re still too naive to try and trick me, Tai Wu.”

“Who are you?” Duan Ling Tian’s face turned grave immediately. He realized he was right. The black-clad man before him was not from the Moon Illumination Sect.

He even dared to call the Saint Stage powerhouses of the Moon Illumination Sect trash. It seemed like he was even more powerful than the Saint Stage powerhouses from the sect.

“My identity isn’t important... You only need to know that you’ll die in my hands today,” Tai Wu replied nonchalantly.

Chapter 1558: Getting Killed

Although Tai Wu could be considered as a high-ranking official in the Mountainshade Black Market’s branch in the Nine Sect Alliances’ district, he was still an assassin after all.

All Mountainshade Black Market’s assassins had sworn on the lightning penalty oath that they would not reveal their identities.

“I have no enmity with you so why do you want to kill me?” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes narrowed as he asked in a deep voice when he heard Tai Wu’s words.

“You and I have no enmity with each other. However, it’s unfortunate that a man’s wealth can be the cause of his own ruin due to others’ greed. I’ve taken a liking to the sword in your hand!” Tai Wu smiled sinisterly. A hint of greed could be seen in his eyes.

“Sword?” When Duan Ling Tian heard Tai Wu’s words, he was puzzled. However, he soon regained his senses and realized he was referring to his Jasper Celestial Sword.

“Stop acting dumb! You’ve barely broken through to the Saint Stage, and yet, you could kill Qian Kong with the help of that sword. It was the sword that helped you, right? Although Qian Kong was trash, he was still a Saint Stage powerhouse no matter what... If you didn’t have that sword, you wouldn’t have been able to kill him with just a strike!” Tai Wu smirked.

“Are you talking about this?” Duan Ling Tian asked. He raised his hand as the Jasper Celestial Sword appeared.

When Tai Wu saw the Jasper Celestial Sword in Duan Ling Tian’s hand, his eyes lit up immediately.

“If you’re interested in this sword, I’ll give it to you under the condition that you can actually wield it.” Duan Ling Tian turned his hand and gripped the sword’s sheath before presenting the sword’s hilt to Tai Wu as though he was really giving it to him.

Seeing how easygoing Duan Ling Tian was, Tai Wu became guarded immediately. Instead of taking the sword, he asked solemnly, “Boy, what tricks are you playing now?”

“What tricks can I play?” Duan Ling Tian mocked himself. “If I still have any tricks left to play, would I be standing here talking nonsense with you? You’re an almighty Saint Stage powerhouse, don’t tell me you’re so scared that you don’t even dare to touch the sword I’m giving you?” Duan Ling Tian emphasized on the word ‘giving’ a lot.

When Tai Wu heard his words, he returned to his senses and realized Duan Ling Tian had no energy left to activate the precious sword in his hands. Otherwise, just like Duan Ling Tian said, he would not be wasting time talking nonsense, he would have already used his sword.

The way Duan Ling Tian had wielded the sword to kill Qian Kong was still vivid in his mind.

Although the sword seemed common, it actually contained formidable energy. The wave of energy the sword had emitted even made his soul tremble. There was no doubt he would have died if that sword was aimed at him.

After Tai Wu thought it over, he put his heart to rest and reached out to take the Jasper Celestial Sword that Duan Ling Tian passed to him.

However, his expression changed in the next instant. He discovered the Jasper Celestial Sword that was as light as a feather in Duan Ling Tian's hand was alarmingly heavy in his hand. He could not lift it even after he used all his strength.

After a long while, Tai Wu withdrew his hands and asked in his deep voice, "Boy, what's going on? You're a Saint Rudiment Stage Martial Cultivator, but you can wield this sword freely. So why can't I lift it?"

In his opinion, there had to be secret regarding the sword in Duan Ling Tian's hand. He would have to find out and master the secret if he wanted to lift the sword.

"I've given you the sword. You can't blame me if you can't lift it." Duan Ling Tian sighed as he shook his head.

Tai Wu did not notice the dread in the depth of Duan Ling Tian's eyes had disappeared. It was now calm as though his mind had undergone a huge change.

"Boy, you must have tricked me!" Tai Wu's face paled and turned green as he snarled, "I'm warning you, you better tell me the secret of this sword if you're sensible. Otherwise, I'll still kill you even if I can't obtain the sword!"

When he reached the end of his sentence, a murderous gleam appeared in his eyes as though he wanted to devour someone.

"What trick can I pull?" Duan Ling Tian continued to shake his head. There was no fear on Duan Ling Tian's face as Tai Wu had expected. He was calm as though he did not take Tai Wu's threat seriously.

"Boy, do you doubt my words? Do you think I won't kill you?" Tai Wu asked coldly as his expression turned grave.

Duan Ling Tian smiled nonchalantly but did not respond.

"Boy, I can destroy you or kill you if I want to... I'm warning you, you better cooperate with me obediently. I might spare your life if I'm in a good mood" Tai Wu smirked.

"You can destroy me?" When Duan Ling Tian heard Tai Wu's words, he was dumbfounded. He did not know what he meant by this at all.

"You must not know of the interesting things that happened in the Moon Illumination Sect before you returned, right?" Tai Wu smiled sinisterly. "Although I don't know why Qian Kong wanted to kill you,

there's no place for you in the Moon Illumination Sect even if you didn't kill him. The punishment for killing an inner court elder is death in the sect."

"Killing a Moon Illumination Sect's inner court elder? Are you talking about Liu Huan?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. He was even more confused by Tai Wu's words.

"I don't know Liu Huan, but the Moon Illumination Sect's elder whom you killed had already reached the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, he must be a Moon Illumination Sect's inner court elder." Tai Wu snorted. "You might be unaware, but I've recorded the entire scene of you killing the inner court elder with the Mirror Image Talisman and broadcasted it to the entire sect before you returned."

However, Tai Wu was in the dark, not nothing that would happen to Duan Ling Tian even if he were exposed for killing Liu Huan if he did not kill Qian Kong.

Liu Huan only had himself to blame for his own death.

Although he died, nobody in the Moon Illumination Sect felt any sympathy for him at all. Everyone felt he was to blame and deserved to die.

As for Jiang Wei and the others, they even regarded Duan Ling Tian as a treasure after witnessing his strength... If the incident with Qian Kong did not happen, they would have nurtured him to become the Sect Leader of the Moon Illumination Sect even if it was not for Bai Li Hong's sake.

"Oh, I see!" When Duan Ling Tian heard Tai Wu's words, some of the questions in his heart found their answers.

"No wonder Qian Kong wanted to kill me. He actually found out about my true strength. Naturally, he would think I have something to do with Zhao Feng's death!" This suddenly dawned on Duan Ling Tian.

"Boy, I'll give you another 15 minutes... After 15 minutes, if you don't tell me the secret of this sword, I'll kill you!" When he finished saying that, as though trying to prove a point, he even swore on the lightning penalty oath.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

When the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation sounded in the air, Tai Wu faced Duan Ling Tian triumphantly. It was as though he was not worried Duan Ling Tian would refuse to tell him the sword's secret.

"Hahahaha..." When Duan Ling Tian saw Tai Wu swearing on the lightning penalty oath, he laughed unrestrainedly.

"What are you laughing about?" Tai Wu flew into a rage out of humiliation.

"Laughing at your ignorance!" After Duan Ling Tian stopped laughing, he said nonchalantly, "However, since you like swearing using the lightning penalty oath, I'll just play with you then..."

Then, he also swore on the lightning penalty oath.

“If I know how to let this person wield the sword in my hands, I’ll be struck to death by the lightning penalty!” Duan Ling Tian swore.

Duan Ling Tian was not punished by the lightning penalty at all after swearing. This proved he was not lying.

“You don’t know how I can use it? Impossible! Impossible! How can you use it then? You’re just an ant at the Saint Rudiment Stage so how can you use that sword when I, a Saint Stage powerhouse, can’t even lift it!” Tai Wu’s face turned grave immediately when he realized Duan Ling Tian was not lying.

He originally had a perfect plan.

As long as he obtained the sword in Duan Ling Tian’s hand, he would be able to leave the Nine Sect Alliances’ district this shitty place and back to the higher level Mountainshade Black Market’s branch.

Not only did he want to go back, but he also wanted to kill all those that had gone against him previously.

However, the truth of the matter was he could not use the sword he had dreamed about.

“The universe is huge. Nothing’s impossible,” Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently.

“Since I can’t use it, you can’t use it as well. Die! Die!” Tai Wu’s gaze suddenly narrowed as he stared at Duan Ling Tian.

After Tai Wu snarled at Duan Ling Tian, he was so furious that he mobilized the True Energy in his body, intending to kill Duan Ling Tian.

At the moment when Tai Wu was angered to the point of being irrational, Duan Ling Tian said indifferently, “Unfortunately, you don’t stand a chance anymore.” At the same time, he casually threw an item out.

A stone tablet with a chipped corner appeared out of thin air. After Duan Ling Tian threw it out, it seemed as though it had transformed into a bomb as it furiously flew at Tai Wu as though it had been injected with a booster.

Slam!

Before Tai Wu managed to react, the stone tablet had already slammed against his body.

In the next instant, although there was no wound that could be seen on his body, his entire body suddenly fell forward. The eyes that were glaring at him had turned dim as though he had lost his soul.

He, indeed, had lost his soul. To be more precise, his soul had been suppressed.

The item that suppressed his soul was none other than the Devil Seal Tablet.

Earlier when Tai Wu tried to take the Jasper Celestial Sword from his hand with all his strength, Duan Ling Tian had discovered he was a Devil Cultivator. He did not feel worried anymore once he discovered Tai Wu was a Devil Cultivator.

With his cultivation base at the Saint Rudiment Stage, a Devil Cultivation at the first level of the Saint Stage had no way to escape the Devilseal Tablet in his hands at all.

The Saint Stage was split into many different stages.

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had heard from his senior brother, Bai Li Hong, that the strongest powerhouse in the Nine Sect Alliances' district was at the peak of the first stage of the Saint Stage.

In the entire Nine Sect Alliances' district, there were only two powerhouses who had achieved that.

It was said that the leader of the Mountainshade Black Market's branch in the Nine Sect Alliances' district was one of them.

Chapter 1559: Rong Yuan! Ku Mi!

After killing Tai Wu, taking his Spatial Ring, and destroying his body to get rid of all the evidence, Duan Ling Tian immediately left the forest that was destroyed by Tai Wu.

Currently, the most important thing for him was to find a secluded place to recuperate and build his strength.

As for the other matters, he would make a decision once he had regained his True Energy and Spiritual Energy.

The group of Moon Illumination Sect's Saint Stage powerhouses, including Sect Leader Jiang Wei, had been pursuing and searching for Duan Ling Tian for more than ten days. In the end, their efforts were all in vain, and they returned to the Moon Illumination Sect in disappointment.

When they returned to the Moon Illumination Sect, Jiang Wei heard that Bai Li Hong had already escaped with the others. He instantly flew into a rage.

He was not stupid. The first thought that popped up in his mind was the Vice Sect Leaders must have let Bai Li Hong go.

However, what could he do even if he knew the truth?

Could he sentence them to death or kick them out of the Moon Illumination Sect?

The Vice Sect Leaders were all at the Imminent Saint Stage, and all of them were the backbone of the Moon Illumination Sect. Moreover, they might break through to the Saint Stage at any given time. It was because Jiang Wei could not do anything at all even though he was furious

The reason the Vice Sect Leaders of Moon Illumination Sect dared to make their own decisions and let Bai Li Hong go was also due to this.

No matter what, Moon Illumination Sect's Qian Kong was dead, and Bai Li Hong was now gone. Along with the loss of the peerless genius, Duan Ling Tian, the sect had suffered an immeasurable loss.

Due to this reason, Sect Leader Jiang Wei was in a bad mood for a time.

Although he did not continue and pursue Duan Ling Tian, it did not mean that he had given up. He had secretly sent out elders whom he trusted to search for him.

“If the Moon Illumination Sect manages to obtain that sword, it’s not impossible for the sect to rise up to the top of the nine sects in one fell swoop.” When he remembered the mysterious and precious sword Duan Ling Tian used to kill Qian Kong, he felt enthusiastic immediately.

He must obtain that sword!

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was hiding in a secluded place and cultivating on the third floor of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

More than ten days had passed outside, and a month had passed on the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. The True Energy in Duan Ling Tian’s body had also almost fully recovered while his Spiritual Energy was fully recovered.

He did not stop cultivating because he was strengthening his cultivation base at the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage.

His breakthrough to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage was done in haste so his cultivation was not completely stable. He had seized the opportunity to stabilize it.

After he had strengthened his cultivation base, he would return to the Moon Illumination Sect. His heart was filled with worries for Bai Li Hong, his family, and friends.

Although he was worried, he did not think the Moon Illumination Sect would sentence them to death since it would bring the sect more harm than good.

In his opinion, as a seventh-rate force, the Moon Illumination Sect would not do such a foolish thing.

When Duan Ling Tian was strengthening his cultivation base at the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, the Azure Cloud Mansion far away was in chaos as well.

Whoosh!

A rapid figure landed like the wind on the islands that were hovering in the sky.

“Elder Rong!”

“Elder Rong!”

...

When the rows of black-armored guards patrolling the islands in the sky saw the figure slowing down, they came to a halt and bowed respectfully.

This Elder Rong was an old man. He was dressed in a grey robe, and he had white brows and hair and a ruddy complexion. The aura he exuded was similar to a sage.

However, his expression was grave at this moment.

After he nodded indifferently at the black-armored guards he encountered, his body flashed as he increased his speed. Soon after, he entered the most splendid building on the sky islands.

“Lord Mansion Master!” Soon after, the old man saw the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion, Duan Ru Feng.

“Elder Rong, why are you in such a hurry? Has something happened?” Duan Ru Feng asked.

The old man had followed him for many years. He was the only one responsible for collecting intelligence. Unless something had happened, it was unlikely he would come looking for him in such a hurry.

“Mansion Master, if my memory is right, Young Master’s name is Duan Ling Tian, right?” The old man asked after taking a deep breath.

“That’s right.” Duan Ru Feng nodded before asking joyfully, “What? Elder Ku has brought Tian’er back already?”

“No.” Facing the joyous Duan Ru Feng, the old man merely shook his head and smiled wryly before he continued to say, “I’ve received news that the dragon clan is now secretly searching for a young man called Duan Ling Tian...It’s said that this is an order personally issued by the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. Moreover, a portrait has also been circulating in the dragon clan’s intelligence department. This is copied by my underling, and I can see this person resembles you a little. Due to this reason, I suspect the person the dragon clan is looking for is Young Mansion Master!” The old man raised his hand and took out a portrait before passing it to Duan Ru Feng.

Duan Ru Feng flattened the portrait and took a look. His gaze froze immediately. With just a glance, he knew the man in the portrait was his son, Duan Ling Tian.

“What’s going on? My son’s still on the Mortal Continent. How could he possibly have offended the dragon clan?” Duan Ru Feng’s face was slightly grave.

He had to be cautious since this matter concerned the dragon clan.

Although his Azure Cloud Mansion did not fear the dragon clan at all, he could not help but worry about his son’s safety since it was obvious they were not looking for his son to have a cup of tea.

“I feel puzzled as well. By right, Young Mansion Master should be on Mortal Continent... Besides, Mansion Master, you said you’ve left a voice transmission jade slip for Young Mansion Master, and you even had Ku Mi, that old fella, wait for him at the southern border of the Dao Martial Saint Land. If he has left the Mortal Continent, he should’ve gone to look for Ku Mi. However, up until now, there’s no news.” The old man was the chief overseer of Azure Cloud Mansion’s intelligence department. He could be considered as Duan Ru Feng’s eyes and ears in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

He would know immediately if there was any disturbance or trouble in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Naturally, he was not bothered with those small inconspicuous sects at all.

“Something must have gone wrong,” Duan Ru Feng’s eyes gleamed before he said in his deep voice, “Rong Yuan, I plan to make a trip back to Cloud Continent. Later, inform the madam and tell her I’m going out to oversee some matter. Remember not to say anything about this to Madam. I’m afraid she’ll be worried.”

Rong Yuan, apart from being the chief overseer of Azure Cloud Mansion’s intelligence department, was also Duan Ru Feng’s right arm. After hearing Duan Ru Feng’s words, he quickly responded respectfully, “Yes!”

Duan Ru Feng, on the other hand, immediately left the Azure Cloud Mansion after giving out his order.

He left on his own without bringing anyone else. His destination was none other than the southern district of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

“Lord Mansion Master?” Ku Mi who had been waiting at the southern region by the shoreline of the Dao Martial Saint Land did not expect the Lord Mansion Master to make a personal visit. He was extremely shocked.

When Duan Ru Feng saw the old man dressed entirely in a grey robe, he said expressionlessly, “Ku Mi, follow me to Cloud Continent.”

The moment he finished speaking, he immediately left for Cloud Continent. The old man did not dare to slack and instantly followed him.

Although this old man was also dressed entirely in grey like Rong Yuan, compared to Rong Yuan’s sage-like appearance, he was the extreme opposite. He emitted a chilling aura as though he was a ghost. Apart from that, he was also holding a cane.

If Han Xue Nai was here, she would be able to recognize in one glance that this old man was the person who blocked her way when she brought the group of men from the Greenwave Han Mansion to leave the Dao Martial Saint Land from the southern side in a mighty formation.

With just his strength alone, the old man managed to block the powerhouses from the Greenwave Han Mansion.

Moreover, even Mu Yi, the strongest powerhouse beside her was also very respectful to the old man.

During the journey, Duan Ru Feng said, “Ku Mi, Rong Yuan brought back news saying the dragon clan is looking for my son.”

Although his tone was calm, Ku Mi could still sense the coldness in his voice.

“Young Mansion Master? Isn’t Young Mansion Master still on Cloud Continent?” Upon hearing that, Ku Mi’s emotion was stirred as well.

“You’ve been waiting here for a long time. Did you encounter anything out of the ordinary? Did any powerhouse leave the Dao Martial Saint Land and head in the Cloud Continent’s direction?” Duan Ru Feng asked.

“There was indeed a group of people who went south two days ago,” Ku Mi replied after a moment of silence, “They’re from the Greenwave Han Mansion, but they did not go to Cloud Continent... They

searched for a long time in the sea region as though they were looking for someone. However, they didn't find what they were looking for."

"Have you seen anybody from the dragon clan?" Duan Ru Feng asked again.

"Anyone from the dragon clan?" When Ku Mi heard his words, his heart clenched a little before he replied, "A year ago, Di Jue, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon from the dragon clan, did pass by, and I spoke to him a little. According to him, he was heading to an island a distance away from Cloud Continent. He had just returned from there not long ago. Although he was smiling, it seemed as though he was feeling defeated."

"This must be it. It must have something to do with Di Jue!" When Duan Ru Feng heard this, his face turned grave immediately.

The instant Ku Mi heard his words, he seemed to have guessed something. His expression changed drastically at once. "Mansion Master, I've been careless. If something really happened to Young Mansion Master because of Di Jue, I, Ku Mi, will kill Di Jue even if I die in the dragon clan's hands!" Ku Mi's words were said coldly.

"There's no point in saying all these now. The most important thing is to head to Cloud Continent to learn more about the situation... Since the dragon clan is looking for my son, I'm sure my son is safe at the moment." When Duan Ru Feng thought of this, he heaved a sigh of relief.

Moreover, after he recalled the Old Prophet's words, he put his heart to rest again.

Chapter 1560: The Three Religions And Nine Forces

According to the Old Prophet, Duan Ru Feng's son had a long life.

The moment Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi realized some conflict might have arisen between the dragon clan's clansman and Duan Ling Tian, they instantly increased their speed as they headed south to Cloud Continent. With their speed, it did not take them long before they arrived on Cloud Continent.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was unaware of all these.

After strengthening his cultivation base at the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, he left the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

After leaving the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, the first thing Duan Ling Tian did was to head back to somewhere near the Moon Illumination Sect and lurked there for a few days. In the end, an opportunity presented itself, and he knocked out a Moon Illumination Sect's inner court disciple who was returning to the sect. He disguised himself and took his inner court disciple's Order Token. He managed to enter the Moon Illumination Sect freely and unobstructed.

After entering the Moon Illumination Sect's estate, he instantly went to the inner court district.

Soon after, he learned that Bai Li Hong had long brought Feng Wu Dao and the others away from the Moon Illumination Sect. He instantly sighed in relief.

'Since Senior Brother has already brought Uncle Feng and the others away, that means they're safe... With Senior Brother's strength and his identity as a Three Star Saint Inscription Master, even if he leaves the Nine Sect Alliances' district, there's no need for him to worry about not having a place to go.' The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of this, he put his heart to rest.

After making sure that Bai Li Hong and the others were safe, Duan Ling Tian went to the outer court to take a quick look at Ling Yu and Xiong Hu.

However, as it turned out, they were both not in.

"Did something happen to them?" Duan Ling Tian did not investigate further since he was worried his identity would be exposed.

He left the sect and went to Mound Hill City. However, he did not show himself.

Who knew if the Moon Illumination Sect had sent someone to the City Governor's Estate of Mound Hill City to wait for him to show up?

Duan Ling Tian asked around in the vicinity of Mound Hill City and learned that Fang Hui, the City Governor of Mound Hill City, was not implicated in the incident at all. He immediately heaved a sigh of relief.

"I guess the Sect Leader of Moon Illumination Sect is not completely unscrupulous," Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself as he left Mound Hill City.

After leaving Mound Hill City, an idea popped up in Duan Ling Tian's mind so he made up his mind and headed to Han River City instead. "I wonder if Senior Brother brought Uncle Feng and the others to Han River City after they left the Moon Illumination Sect? I suppose I'll try my luck there. Perhaps, I might even obtain some useful news."

Han River City was the main city in the Nine Sect Alliances' district. Naturally, the news circulating there came directly from the source as well.

Duan Ling Tian knew his way around Han River City very well since he had been here before.

Once he arrived in Han River City, he stayed for a few days in a restaurant as he listened to things that were happening in the Nine Sect Alliances through the discussions between Martial and Dao Cultivators who came from different places.

He was surprised when he learned the incident in the Moon Illumination Sect did not spread out at all.

Be it the death of a Moon Illumination Sect's Saint Stage powerhouse or the departure of Bai Li Hong from the Moon Illumination Sect, both news did not spread out at all.

Duan Ling Tian found the entire thing a little strange. He was unaware that after the few Saint Stage powerhouses returned to the sect when they failed to find him, Sect Leader Jiang Wei had ordered the inner and outer court elders to make the inner and outer court disciples swear on the lightning penalty oath that they would not reveal the incident that had taken place that day. The incident they meant

undoubtedly referred to the incident of Duan Ling Tian killing Qian Kong and Bai Li Hong's departure from the sect.

Anyone of those incidents was more than enough to shake the foundation of the Moon Illumination Sect. After all, Qian Kong was one of the few Saint Stage powerhouses in the Moon Illumination Sect. Bai Li Hong, on the other hand, was the only Three Star Saint Inscription Master in the sect.

If outsiders found out Qian Kong had died, and Bai Li Hong had left the Moon Illumination Sect, it would no doubt deal a heavy blow to the sect.

Although Duan Ling Tian stayed for a few days in Han River City, he did not directly ask any questions at all.

At this moment, he was in a daze.

Where he should go now?

In his opinion, the Nine Sect Alliances' district was not an entirely safe place. Due to this reason, he did not plan to stay long in the Nine Sect Alliances' district.

The Dao Martial Saint Land's situation was more or less similar to Cloud Continent. The closer it was to the central district, the more powerful the Martial and Dao Cultivators were.

There were many sects there. Many of them were sixth-rate forces or higher.

"I'll head north to the capital of Windfall Nation." Soon after, Duan Ling Tian made a decision.

Previously, when he was still in the Moon Illumination Sect, Duan Ling Tian had already learned about the forces surrounding the Nine Sect Alliances. He knew that the large expanse of land at the northern district of the Nine Sect Alliances belonged to a sixth-rate Saint Nation known as Windfall Nation.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, apart from sects and clans, there was also Saint Nations.

These Saint Nations were originally clans. However, they refused to ally with any forces and ruled the vast expanse of their land and surrounding, creating their own territories and forming nations.

More than half of the nine great sects in the Nine Sect Alliances' district came from the vast expanse of land seized by Windfall Nation.

They would rather reign in hell than serve in heaven so they came to this isolated and barren land at the Nine Sect Alliances' district to build an estate that belonged only to them so they could live a carefree life without being under anyone's rule.

It was said that because Windfall Nation was now a vast country, it did not take interest in the land the Nine Sect Alliances' district was occupying. Due to this reason, the nine great sects lived a carefree life here.

What lay between Windfall Nation and the Nine Sect Alliances' district was an arid desert.

In this desert, apart from being home to many powerful wild beasts, the environment was horrible as well.

Even with Duan Ling Tian's current cultivation base, if he did not use his flying sword from the 10,000 Swords Territory, it would take him ten days to cross the desert.

Standing at the border of the Nine Sect Alliances' district and looking at the boundless desert ahead, Duan Ling Tian who had decided to cross the desert to head to Windfall Nation muttered to himself, "Perhaps, the reason Windfall Nation did not occupy the land the Nine Sect Alliances' district is occupying is due to the desert."

While Duan Ling Tian was entering the desert, he was unaware Duan Ru Feng, his cheapskate father, had already arrived at the ten great dynasties of Cloud Continent. After he went to the Darkhan Dynasty, he entered the Darkstone Empire, followed by the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, and finally the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

"Ku Mi, wait for me here," Duan Ru Feng told Ku Mi as he looked down at the Crimson Sky Kingdom beneath his feet.

"Yes, Mansion Master." Ku Mi was very respectful in front of Duan Ru Feng. He did not dare to overstep the boundary at all.

Then, Duan Ru Feng entered the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City.

One must admit that Duan Ru Feng was smart since he came to the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City.

In the Crimson Sky Kingdom, he finally obtained the clues that he was looking for... These clues were the ones left by Duan Ling Tian for Li Fei before he left Cloud Continent. He knew Li Fei would return as long as she was alive.

However, it was completely out of his expectation that the first one to obtain the clues he left behind would be his cheapskate father, Duan Ru Feng.

Even the voice transmission jade slip Duan Ling Tian left behind for Li Fei was in Duan Ru Feng's hand.

From the voice transmission jade slip that Duan Ling Tian left behind, Duan Ru Feng learned about everything that had happened.

"What a great dragon clan! How bold of Di Jue! Good! Very good! You actually destroyed my son's sect? I'll definitely go to the dragon clan to demand an explanation!" Murderous intent gleamed in Duan Ru Feng's eyes.

However, his heart turned heavy again when he learned that one of his daughters-in-law had been taken away by someone.

'Fire Worship Sect? What kind of background does my daughter-in-law have? Her twin sister actually claims she's from the Fire Worship Sect... Doesn't the Fire Worship Sect belong to the Upper Province? Why did she suddenly come to the Lower Province? Wait a minute! Rou'er told me before that my daughter-in-law, Ke'er, is Tian'er's childhood friend. They had grown up together. How's it possible that she has anything to do with the Fire Worship Sect? However, someone claiming to be from the Fire

Worship Sect had taken her away! Moreover, that person claims she's Ke'er's twin sister. Not only is she powerful, but she's even stronger than Di Jue!' Duan Ru Feng thought to himself, his mood dampened.

Although he did not think much of Di Jue, he knew how powerful he was.

After all, Di Jue was one of the two Five-clawed Golden Dragons in the dragon clan currently.

Although he had not grown to his full potential yet, his strength was still formidable.

If that woman was really Ke'er's twin sister, then she should be only thirty-something years old, right? Someone who was only a little over thirty years old was more powerful than Di Jue?

'So young, and yet, she's already monstrously strong... In that case, I don't think she's lying. It's very likely she came from the Fire Worship Sect. Only those young talents from the Upper Province's top first-rate force are so strong at this young age!' Duan Ru Feng gasped when he thought of this.

Even he had only heard of the Upper Province in the Dao Martial Saint Land. Up until now, he had never encountered anyone from the Upper Province before.

'It has been passed down from the ancient times that there are three religions and nine forces in the Dao Martial Saint Land. The nine forces refer to forces in the Dao Martial Saint Land, from the first-rate to ninth-rate forces. The three religions, on the other hand, points to the three top first-rate forces with the longest legacy in the Dao Martial Saint Land. They're also the most mysterious and powerful sects! Fire Worship Sect is one of them! Ever since the Dao Martial Saint Land split into two, the three great sects and a group of powerful sects had put down their roots in the Upper Province. So many years have passed, very few people from the Lower Province would even mention the three great sects anymore.' The information Duan Ru Feng knew about the Fire Worship Sect suddenly appeared in his mind.