

SOVEREIGN 1811

### **Chapter 1811: The Hall of Death**

After breaking through to the Eminent Saint Stage, Zhao Kun's True Origin had also undergone an earth-shattering transformation.

The Early Eminent Saint Stage's True Origin was indeed different from the True Origin of someone at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!

Whoosh!

Faced with Hong Gang, Wang Fei Xuan, and the other two, Zhao Kun raised his hand and struck down.

His vast True Origin surged out and transformed into a hill-sized palm that covered Hong Gang and the other three people.

The four of them consolidated their Territories from their True Origins and spared no efforts in resisting with all their might.

At this moment, it was also impossible for them to hold themselves back since their opponent was an Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse!

Although their opponent had just broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage not too long ago, his level was already that of an Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse.

Despite the fact that the Early Eminent Saint Stage and the peak of the Refined Saint Stage was only one level apart, the difference between the two was like a fish and a dragon.

If the peak of the Refined Saint Stage powerhouse was a fish, then the Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse was a dragon.

Boom!

As Zhao Kun's palm landed, Hong Gang and the other three people's Territories that were formed in a timely manner with great difficulty was directly destroyed by Zhao Kun's palm like a broken wall that collapsed at the first blow.

Other than Territories, their techniques and their True Origins were also suppressed by Zhao Kun's slap as well!

At this moment, Zhao Kun was battling with four Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivators, and he was completely dominating the fight.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The four of their bodies were blown by the wind from Zhao Kun's palm and were sent flying before they landed on the ground in a wretched manner.

Their original ruddy cheeks had also turned as pale as a sheet of paper at this moment.

Although they had joined forces and fought with all their might, they still lost in just one blow from Zhao Kun who had just broken through to the Early Eminent Saint Stage!

“How powerful!”

“That’s the strength of an Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse?”

“One’s at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, two are at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage, and the other one’s at the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage... Yet, the four of them still can’t defeat Zhao Kun even after they’d joined forces!”

“A few days ago, Zhao Kun was still being defeated by Hong Gang. However, after just a few days, it only took him one blow to defeat four of them who had joined forces! The difference before and after is just too shocking!”

“Zhao Kun breaking through to the Eminent Saint Stage is like a fish leaping over the dragon’s gate, transforming into a dragon that soars up into the sky! How heaven-defying!”

...

Upon seeing the scene before them, the spectators momentarily fell silent before they regained their senses one by one. Their eyes were all focused on Zhao Kun as they sighed emotionally.

“How weak!” Zhao Kun looked down on Hong Gang and the other three with a domineering and disdainful expression on his face.

At the same time, he took a step forward and walked toward the four people who were heavily injured when they were sent flying earlier. It was as though he was about to make his move again.

Whoosh!

At this moment, a gust of wind seemed to have blown past as a figure appeared in a timely manner, blocking Zhao Kun’s path.

“That’s enough!” The figure glanced at Zhao Kun indifferently. Although he spoke calmly, his tone brooked no argument.

“Ling Tian!” The person who had obstructed Zhao Kun’s path was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

The crowd instantly recognized him as soon as he appeared.

Currently, he was widely acknowledged as the strongest powerhouse among the younger generation in the Mystical Sky Mansion. He was no longer the nobody who had just entered the Mystical Sky Mansion.

“Ling Tian!” Zhao Ji who was standing in the distance narrowed his eyes when he saw Duan Ling Tian. A killing intent flashed in the depths of his eyes.

When he saw Duan Ling Tian, he immediately recalled how Duan Ling Tian had slapped him twice publicly and how Duan Ling Tian had him eliminated from the Saint Martial Secret Zone, causing him to miss his chances with the Divine Ability Relics inside the Saint Martial Secret Zone.

If he was asked who was the person he hated the most in his whole life, there was no doubt the answer would be Ling Tian!

Not only that, but part of the reason he was so eager to cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique to quickly raise his strength was so he could seek revenge from Duan Ling Tian.

“It’s Ling Tian! Is going to stand up for Hong Gang and the others?”

“I don’t think I heard of him being friends with Hong Gang... What’s he trying to do?”

“Hehe... Don’t forget that Ling Tian has enmity with the Zhao Clan. Before he entered the Saint Martial Secret Zone, he had publicly slapped Zhao Ji twice, greatly humiliating him! After they entered the Saint Martial Secret Zone, he even eliminated Zhao Ji who had only been in the Saint Martial Secret Zone for three days. After that, he even eliminated three other disciples from the Zhao Clan.”

“It doesn’t make a difference to him whether he makes a move today since the Zhao Clan won’t change their view about him no matter what.”

“I know this, but even if the Zhao Clan won’t change their opinion about him, it doesn’t seem wise for him to appear now, right? Zhao Kun’s not Zhao Ji. Zhao Kun’s an Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator after all!”

“Don’t forget, although Ling Tian and Hong Gang are not friends, he’s quite close to Wang Fei Xuan... I always see both of them hanging out together. Their relationship must not be as simple as it seems!”

“You’re right. I almost forgot about Wang Fei Xuan. Ling Tian must be doing this for the sake of a woman!”

...

The crowd’s eyes shifted back and forth between Duan Ling Tian and Wang Fei Xuan.

Wang Fei Xuan was originally upset after being injured by Zhao Kun, but when she saw Duan Ling Tian appearing in a timely manner to stop Zhao Kun, she immediately felt joy rising in her heart.

Her autumn eyes turned gentle immediately when she heard the discussion in the surroundings and when she saw Duan Ling Tian graceful figure.

“Ling Tian? You’re Ling Tian?” When Zhao Kun saw someone blocking his path, he was furious. However, when he heard the discussion around him and learned that the young man standing before him was Ling Tian, his heartbeat quickened immediately as he became excited.

How could he not feel excited?

As a Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciple from the Zhao Clan, he had long heard the news that Lord Guardian had released. Whoever could kill Ling Tian would be his adopted son or daughter. Due to this, the entire Zhao Clan was in a frenzy!

Many people were monitoring Ling Tian all the time, waiting for him to leave or trying to lure him out so that they could kill him.

However, Ling Tian had just appeared in front of him and standing so close to him!

How could he not be overwhelmed with excitement?

Duan Ling Tian was baffled when he saw Zhao Kun looking at him as though he was a rare treasure. With a slight frown on his face, he asked, "Do I know you?"

"It doesn't matter if you know me or not as long as you're Ling Tian!" Zhao Kun took a deep breath to calm himself down a little. He tried his best to look as calm as possible as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked in a deep voice, "What? Are you trying to stand up for them, appearing at such a moment?"

Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhao Kun, but he did not reply.

"I can tell even if you don't want to talk." Zhao Kun did not seem to be bothered by Duan Ling Tian ignoring him. Instead, he continued speaking on his own, "You can stand up for them... I'll give you a chance, how about that? You can seek revenge and vent their anger for them!"

"I'd like to hear more about it then," Duan Ling Tian finally said. His tone was calm.

"Think about it. If we fight here, you can only hurt me at most if you're stronger than I am. You won't be able to kill me or cripple me at all! How about this? I'll give you an opportunity. Let's go to the Hall of Death, and let the elder of Hall of Death stand witness as we swear a Death Pact. We can fight with all our might this way. What do you think?" Zhao Kun explained patiently.

When he reached the end of his sentence, his tone was calm but it seemed to be baiting Duan Ling Tian. "At that time, you won't violate the mansion's rules or be subjected to punishment by the Enforcement Hall even if you kill me!"

The Hall of Death!

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow.

Naturally, he knew the place Zhao Kun was talking about.

In the Mystical Sky Mansion, whether it was the Main Mansion, the Heaven Palace, the Earth Palace, the Mystical Palace or the Yellow Palace, each of them had a Hall of Death.

The Hall of Death provided a place for Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples to settle their enmities and disputes.

When two Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples went to the Hall of Death and swear a Death Pact, they could battle to death without being subjected to the Mystical Sky Mansion's rules.

Usually, only people with great enmity between them would swear a Death Pact in the Hall of Death.

At this moment, Zhao Kun had taken the initiative to suggest to Duan Ling Tian to swear a Death Pact in the Hall of Death!

The Hall of Death!

Duan Ling Tian was not the only one who was surprised. Even the people present on the scene were taken aback. The originally noisy crowd fell silent immediately.

Zhao Kun actually issued a Death Duel invitation to Ling Tian!

Did he want to kill Ling Tian?

This was the thought on everyone's mind at this moment.

"Zhao Kun's trying to use this as a chance to kill Ling Tian!"

"What a great move! To think he's following the rules to kill Ling Tian and seek revenge for the Zhao Clan!"

"However, it's up to Ling Tian if he accepts the challenge or not."

"If I were Ling Tian, there's no way I'll agree to such a ridiculous suggestion... Since Zhao Kun suggested this, it means that he's completely confident he's going to win!"

...

Among the people present on the scene, apart from Duan Ling Tian and Wang Fei Xuan, everyone, including Zhao Kun, did not think Duan Ling Tian would agree to it.

"What? Are you afraid?" Zhao Kun smiled mockingly as a hint of disdain filled his eyes when he saw Duan Ling Tian keeping quiet.

"Zhao Kun!" At this moment, Zhao Ji transmitted his voice to Zhao Kun and said coldly, "Stop your foolish act right now! I want to personally kill Duan Ling Tian!"

Although Zhao Ji did not think Ling Tian would agree to Zhao Kun's suggestion, he still could not help but stop Zhao Kun.

If it was before, he would not have minded if Zhao Kun had killed Ling Tian.

However, he would soon be able to cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique, and it would only take him one to two years to surpass Ling Tian. For this reason, he did not want anyone else to kill Ling Tian. He wanted to vent his anger and personally kill Ling Tian!

He had even decided to ask his grandfather to take back the order of killing Duan Ling Tian!

"Huh?" Zhao Kun did not expect Zhao Ji would transmit his voice to him and warn him not to provoke and touch Duan Ling Tian any further.

'You want to personally kill him for revenge? Do you have the strength to do that?' Naturally, Zhao Kun only dared to think these thoughts.

### **Chapter 1812: Duan Ling Tian is Furious**

Although he did not dare to question Zhao Ji, it did not mean he was going to heed Zhao Ji's words.

What a joke!

The opportunity to kill Ling Tian was just right before his eyes! He would be crazy if he let go of this opportunity.

Once he killed Ling Tian in the Hall of Death, he would then become the adopted son of Zhao Jin, the leader of their Zhao Clan!

At that time, his position in the Zhao Clan would be on par with Vice Mansion Master Zhao Deng. Even if he could not be compared to Zhao Deng, he would still be in a higher position compared to the others. Even Zhao Ji would have to politely address him as Uncle when he saw him.

The moment Zhao Kun thought of this, he immediately became excited. How could he possibly care about what Zhao Ji said anymore.

"It's fine if you're afraid. I can understand that." Zhao Kun smiled nonchalantly when he saw Duan Ling Tian had remained quiet. It was as though it did not matter to him whether Duan Ling Tian accepted his Death Duel Invitation or not.

However, his smile was mocking and hints of disdain could be seen in his eyes.

Zhao Kun continued to say as though he had not spoken to his heart's content yet, "It seems like your parents are cowards as well for giving birth to such a cowardly son! Tsk tsk... In my opinion, you shouldn't have been named Ling Tian but Shu Tian instead!"

(A/N: "凌" Ling means "soaring to the top" while "鼠" Shu means "mouse" in Mandarin)

Zhao Kun's earlier words could be considered as quite polite, but his later words were undoubtedly meant to provoke and enrage Duan Ling Tian.

Upon hearing Zhao Kun's words, the other three Heaven Palace's disciples from the Zhao Clan standing by Zhao Ji's side laughed loudly. "Shu Tian? This name sounds pretty good!"

"It does indeed sounds pretty good! In fact, I think it sounds more pleasing to the ears!"

...

When Zhao Kun thought of the benefits he would reap once he killed Duan Ling Tian, he had already thrown all caution to the wind.

"Zhao Kun, what're you doing?!" Zhao Ji said angrily as he looked at Zhao Kun coldly.

It did not cross his mind that Zhao Kun would actually dare to defy and ignore him.

No matter how he scolded him, Zhao Kun continued to ignore him.

At this moment, all Zhao Kun could think about was how to kill Ling Tian and obtain the reward promised by the Lord Guardian of Zhao Clan. Even if Zhao Deng was here at this moment, he would not even bother with him, let alone Zhao Ji!

Nobody could stop him, Zhao Kun, from rising to the top!

The moment Zhao Kun's words left his mouth, everybody present on the scene shifted their eyes to Duan Ling Tian in unison. They were all curious how Duan Ling Tian would react.

"Zhao Kun is just too ridiculous, right? It's acceptable if he wants to fight with Ling Tian in the Hall of Death. However, to think he would use such a despicable way to provoke Ling Tian!"

“That’s right! How despicable. He’s trying to provoke Ling Tian so he’ll accept his Death Duel Invitation!”

“Ling Tian must know he’s intentionally provoking him. I don’t think he’ll fall for it.”

...

However, the thoughts of the group of disciples from Mystical Sky Mansion were destined to be wrong.

If Zhao Kun had only attacked him, Duan Ling Tian would not have minded much... Although he did not mind Zhao Kun’s words about him, he would still accept his Death Duel Invitation.

However, Zhao Kun had actually insulted his parents. Whoever touched a dragon’s reverse scale would die!

Duan Ling Tian’s parents were his reverse scale, particularly his mother whom he felt was more important than his own life. However, today, she was insulted by some thug.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian really had the urge to charge forward and slap Zhao Kun to death! However, he managed to restrain himself.

If he killed Zhao Kun now, he would violate the Mystical Sky Mansion’s rules. He knew with his current strength, he would not be able to do anything to the Mystical Sky Mansion’s Enforcement Hall now. For this reason, he remained calm.

Naturally, it only seemed as though he was calm. However, some of the spectators, including Zhao Kun, did not think Duan Ling Tian was calm at all. This was because they could see his eyes had turned terrifyingly cold, and he was not as calm as he was earlier.

“Ling Tian seems furious...”

“Nonsense! Zhao Kun just insulted his parents. Naturally, he’s going to be furious! Will you be able to maintain your composure if someone insults your parents?”

“Of course not! I’d definitely fight with him!”

...

For a moment, more and more people began to doubt if Duan Ling Tian would be able to maintain his composure and reject Zhao Kun’s Death Duel invitation.

“Since you’re seeking death, I’ll fulfill your wish!” Duan Ling Tian finally said under the watchful eyes of the others. His voice was so cold. It was as though it came from a thaw hole, sending chills up everyone’s spines.

He soared up into the sky and left the summit of the Heaven Palace as soon as he finished speaking.

“He accepted the challenge?” Duan Ling Tian’s words momentarily stunned the crowd.

“Ling Tian agreed to Zhao Kun’s Death Duel Invitation?”

“I think so... Based on his words, it seems like he’s on his way to the Heaven Palace’s Hall of Death!”

“No way! He agreed to it? Isn't he acting too rashly?!”

“Everyone has a bottom line... Perhaps, Ling Tian's parents are his bottom line. Although he knows he's going to die, he'll still put up a fight for his parents' sake!”

“I won't comment on the other matter. However, I really have to acknowledge his filial piety!”

“He's seeking death! He's seeking death!”

...

The group of people on the summit of Heaven Palace began to make their way to the Hall of Death in a formidable formation as they continued their discussion. Some people were looking in the distance, it was obvious they intended to call for others to join in the fun.

Let alone the Heaven Palace's Hall of Death, in these two years, even the Hall of Death in the Mystical Sky Mansion was empty of disciples stepping in to sign a Death Pact.

For this reason, there was no doubt many people would be interested in the Death Duel between Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun.

Even some of those famous Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples on the Mystical Sky Ranking came to watch the show after they heard about the news.

Due to this reason, the outside of Heaven Palace's Hall of Death was soon filled with people.

The crowd automatically opened up a pathway as a person walked toward the Hall of Death. That person was none other than Duan Ling Tian!

“Junior Brother Ling Tian!” Suddenly, a figure walked out from the crowd and blocked Duan Ling Tian's path. “Don't act rashly!”

The person who had obstructed Duan Ling Tian's path was none other Hong Gang. Wang Fei Xuan came with him as well.

Since he was still injured from earlier, his face was extremely pale. He had blocked Duan Ling Tian with much difficulty on his part. In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian had only gotten himself involved and accepted Zhao Kun's Death Duel Invitation due to him, his junior brother, and junior sister! For this reason, he did not want any harm to come to Duan Ling Tian.

“Senior Brother Hong Gang!” Wang Fei Xuan had already rushed next to Hong Gang and spoke before Duan Ling Tian could even reply.

At the same time, she asked Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, “Your speed's on par with an Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse when we were in the Saint Martial Secret Zone... You're confident going into this fight with Zhao Kun? I believe you won't lose your reasoning just because of Zhao Kun's provocation!”



From the beginning until the end, Wang Fei Xuan felt that Duan Ling Tian would not have accepted Zhao Kun's Death Duel Invitation if he was not confident that he could win. However, she could not help but ask him to reassure herself.

"He'll die today!" Duan Ling Tian transmitted his voice to Wang Fei Xuan as he narrowed his eyes that shone coldly when he heard Wang Fei Xuan's words.

"Understood." Wang Fei Xuan nodded and was about to tell Hong Gang to make way for Duan Ling Tian.

However, before she could do that, a cold voice resonated in the air. "What? Don't tell me both of you are going to join forces and sign a Death Pact and have a Death Duel with me as well?"

The owner of the voice was none other than Zhao Kun who had just arrived at the Hall of Death!

His words were targeted at Wang Fei Xuan and Hong Gang who were blocking Duan Ling Tian's way.

"Senior Brother Hong Gang, don't worry. Ling Tian will definitely be able to kill him... Let's go!" Wang Fei Xuan transmitted her voice to Hong Gang. She brought Hong Gang who had yet to understand the situation away with her, making way for Duan Ling Tian under the watchful eyes of the others.

"Both of you are very sensible!" Zhao Kun, naturally, thought Wang Fei Xuan and Hong Gang were afraid of him when he saw them moving away. He smirked arrogantly.

The crowd in the surrounding had the same thought as well.

Hong Gang who was in a daze was pulled away by Wang Fei Xuan finally regained his senses. His eyes instantly brightened as he asked in his deep voice, "Little Junior Sister, did you say Ling Tian can kill him?"

"Don't worry, Senior Brother. Ling Tian is not someone who would do something he has no confidence in. I understand him!" Wang Fei Xuan replied. However, when she reached the end of her sentence, her cheeks reddened when she realized her words sounded ambiguous.

Although that was the case, Hong Gang was not in the state of mind to notice it at all. Wang Fei Xuan's words struck him like a bolt of lightning. His mind went blank, and he only snapped back to reality after a long while.

He was baffled and filled with disbelief when he regained his senses. 'Didn't Ling Tian just break through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage not long ago? Don't tell me he has already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage? Otherwise, why did Junior Sister say he won't ever do something he has no confidence in?'

Just like how Wang Fei Xuan believed in Ling Tian, he believed his little junior sister as well. Although he did not know her for a long time, he knew she was not the kind to make baseless remarks.

Soon after, Zhu Lu Qi's two other disciples arrived as well.

"Ling Tian is confident?" When they learned from Wang Fei Xuan that Duan Ling Tian was confident accepting the Death Duel, they were stunned as well.

Similarly, although they were stunned, they believed in their junior sister's words.

The Hall of Death was usually empty. However, it was filled with people today. This, naturally, surprised the elder of Heaven Palace's who was stationed at the Hall of Death.

When he walked out of the Hall of Death, he instantly learned about what had happened.

The Heaven Palace's Hall of Death's elder shifted his eyes to Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun as he asked with narrowed eyes, "Both of you want to sign the Death Pact?"

### **Chapter 1813: Death Pact**

In front of Duan Ling Tian, Zhao Kun acted arrogantly. However, he was as meek as a kitten in front of the Heaven Palace's Hall of Death's elder. "Yes, elder."

Duan Ling Tian only nodded in reply to the elder's question.

"You're Ling Tian?" It was apparent this Heaven Palace's elder was much more interested in Duan Ling Tian than Zhao Kun. He merely glanced at Zhao Kun nonchalantly before he shifted all his attention toward Duan Ling Tian.

Upon seeing this, Zhao Kun's eyes gleamed coldly. 'He's just an old fellow with poor judgment. Can't he tell Ling Tian is going to die soon?'

Although he was unwilling to admit it, he had no choice but to acknowledge that his innate talent could not be compared to Ling Tian at all if he did not take his current strength into consideration.

His cultivation base might be higher than Ling Tian now, but how old was he, and how old was Ling Tian?

It was impossible to compare them at all.

When Duan Ling Tian noticed the Heaven Palace's elder attention on him, he did not think it was right to just nod so he smiled faintly before saying, "Yes, I'm Ling Tian."

"I heard your cultivation base is only at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, and he has just broken through to the Early Eminent Saint Stage a few days ago. Are you sure you want to sign a Death Pact with him and have a Death Duel?" The Heaven Palace's elder asked.

Before Duan Ling Tian could reply, Zhao Kun quickly interjected, "Elder, as the person-in-charge of the Hall of Death, your job is to stand witness to our Death Pact, right? Don't you think other matters are not for you to be concerned about?"

At this moment, Zhao Kun had to say something even though it might offend the Heaven Palace's elder.

Who knew if Ling Tian would change his mind if the elder continued to advise him.

If Ling Tian changed his mind, who should Zhao Kun complain to?

He was prepared to kill Ling Tian and claimed the reward promised by the Lord Guardian of Zhao Clan!

"Zhao Kun, are you telling me what to do?" As the person-in-charge of the Hall of Death, this Heaven Palace's elder was, naturally, not someone who could be underestimated. When he looked at Zhao Kun once again, his eyes gleamed piercingly.

"I dare not!" Zhao Kun quickly lowered his head, but he still continued to say, "As the saying goes, 'Good advice is unpleasant to hear.' I hope that you won't let your personal feelings interfere with your duty, elder. Please don't meddle in this matter too much!"

"It's not up to a youngster like you to tell an old man like me how to do my job!" The Heaven Palace's elder did not expect Zhao Kun would dare to act so unrestrained. His expression turned grave immediately.

Many people thought Zhao Kun would be taught a lesson when a voice resonated from the distance. "It's not up to him to teach you how to do your job, but I can teach you how to do your job, right?" The tone that sounded dignified attracted everyone's attention immediately.

They were curious about the person who dared to speak to the elder in charge of the Hall of Death so rudely!

Among everybody present on the scene, Zhao Ji was the first one to recognize the voice without having to turn to look. "Father!"

He turned around with a pleasantly surprised expression on his face as he flew toward the middle-aged man who was making his way here.

"It's Vice Mansion Master Zhao Deng!"

"I can't believe even Vice Mansion Master Zhao Deng would personally come... It seems like the fight between Ling Tian and Zhao Kun is going to be very interesting."

"If those who are not here learn that even Vice Mansion Master Zhao Deng is here, they'll definitely regret not being here."

...

The group of Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples discussed among themselves again when they saw Zhao Deng.

"Zhao Deng?" Duan Ling Tian frowned when he saw Zhao Deng. He did not expect this fellow would come as well.

What was he doing here? Was he here to watch a show and watch him getting killed by Zhao Kun?

Well, it was unfortunate that he would be disappointed.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian!" At the same time, another loud voice resonated in the distance as a familiar figure appeared.

"Senior Brother Gu Li!" A rare smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face when he saw the familiar figure. He did not think Gu Li would come as well.

When Gu Li arrived outside the Hall of Death, he immediately looked at Zhao Deng and took the initiative to speak first, "Vice Mansion Master Zhao, you're here as well? It seems like you're looking forward to watching this fight as well."

"I was just casually strolling around and decided to come and have a look," Zhao Deng replied nonchalantly.

In the Mystical Sky Mansion, without the position of the Vice Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion, he and Gu Li were both the sons of Guardians.

In terms of innate talent, he was not as good as Gu Li, but in terms of strength, he was much more powerful than Gu Li. However, this was because he was much older than Gu Li. By the time Gu Li reached his age, Gu Li's strength would definitely be stronger than his and would not be weaker. Moreover, Gu Li would only continue to grow stronger and stronger.

It was precisely because of all these reasons he could not directly ignore Gu Li.

Gu Li nodded at him before rising up into the air to Duan Ling Tian's side.

However, the first person he greeted was not Duan Ling Tian but the Heaven Palace's elder, the elder in charge of the Heaven Palace's Hall of Death, who was standing opposite Duan Ling Tian. "Junior Uncle Cheng, it has been years since I last saw you. You still look as young as you did!"

"Look at you, boy. You're still a smooth talker just like before. I heard you're now the strongest person on the Mystical Sky Ranking, right? Not bad!" The Heaven Palace's elder smiled at Gu Li in response.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, this is Cheng Yun, Junior Uncle Cheng, he could be considered as my father's junior brother... His master is my grandmaster's master as well," Gu Li finally introduced Duan Ling Tian to the elder.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned for a moment when he learned about the Heaven Palace's elder's identity. He cupped his hands before his chest and took the initiative to apologize. "Elder Cheng, I didn't know you're actually Senior Brother Gu's junior uncle... I'm sorry if I happened to offend you earlier."

Earlier, Cheng Yun had taken the initiative to warn him that he was not Zhao Kun's match. Initially, he was baffled. He did not know this Heaven Palace's elder at all, why would he be so kind as to warn him? He finally understood now that he learned that Cheng Yun was Gu Li's junior uncle.

He believed Cheng Yun must have also known about him being good friends with Gu Li. Otherwise, he might not have warned him.

Since Duan Ling Tian had thought of this, Zhao Kun, naturally, came to the same conclusion as well. His expression turned grave immediately. He prayed inwardly that nothing would change, and Ling Tian would sign a Death Pact with him. He really hoped Ling Tian would not change his mind at the last moment.

If Duan Ling Tian changed his mind and refused to sign a Death Pact with him, he did not dare to kill him in the Mystical Sky Mansion's estate even if he really wanted to.

"Elder Cheng, since they're here to make a Death Pact, please take the Death Pact contract out so they can stamp their palms on it. I want to witness this battle as soon as possible since I think it's going to be a very interesting one!" Zhao Deng said as he walked over with Zhao Ji.

Based on his words, there was no doubt he was trying to rush Cheng Yun to take the Death Pact contract out so that Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun could sign it as soon as possible.

Just as Zhao Deng's words left his mouth, and Cheng Yun was looking at Gu Li, a voice resonated in Zhao Deng's ears through Voice Transmission, "Father!"

Zhao Deng could tell it was his son's Voice Transmission. "Ji'er, what's the matter?"

"Father, you must order Zhao Kun to stop this now! Don't let him sign the Death Pact!" Zhao Ji continued to transmit his voice. His tone sounded desperate and urgent.

"Why?" Zhao Deng did not understand. "I thought you wanted Ling Tian to die since a long time ago? Once he signs the Death Pact, he'll definitely be killed by Zhao Kun who has already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage!"

"I know! That's the point! I don't want him to die! Father, I want to personally kill Ling Tian. I don't someone else to do it!" Zhao Ji added again.

"Ji'er, are you okay? You agreed to this when your grandfather ordered for Ling Tian to be killed at that time! Why did you suddenly change your mind?" Zhao Deng was a little confused. He did not know whether his son had gone crazy or not.

Naturally, Zhao Ji was not crazy.

The reason for his huge transformation was due to the Devouring Dark Devil Technique that was almost in his hands. Previously, he did not think he would be able to surpass Duan Ling Tian. However, with that technique, it would only take him one to two years to surpass Duan Ling Tian. Due to this reason, he did not wish to rely on someone else to kill Duan Ling Tian.

However, how could he tell his father his thoughts?

"Father, my cultivation speed is a little slow lately, and I think it must have something to do with Ling Tian. I'm worried my cultivation will be affected if I don't personally kill Ling Tian!" Zhao Ji randomly came up with a lousy excuse.

"Ji'er, I know that you want to personally seek revenge from him. However, with your innate talent, the gap between you and him will only get wider and wider! In the end, let alone you, even your grandfather and I might not be able to suppress him!" Zhao Deng replied, "Stop being so willful. Just let Zhao Kun kill him. In regards to the cultivation problem you're facing, it won't be a problem anymore once Ling Tian dies. You'll be happy then. At that time, your cultivation speed will naturally increase as well. Believe me, okay? I've also experienced this before," Zhao Deng said in one breath.

Subsequently, no matter what excuses Zhao Ji came up with, Zhao Deng did not intend to stop Zhao Kun. In the end, Zhao Ji even almost blurted out the secret about the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. Fortunately, he managed to stop himself in the end.

While Zhao Deng and his son were conversing through Voice Transmission, Cheng Yun and Gu Li were also conversing through Voice Transmission. He had hoped that Gu Li would advise Duan Ling Tian to change his mind from signing the Death Pact since he did not think Duan Ling Tian would be able to win. as well.

Gu Li then spoke to Duan Ling Tian about this through Voice Transmission. After he received Duan Ling Tian's determined answer, he told Cheng Yun, "Junior Uncle Cheng, don't worry. Junior Brother Ling Tian won't do something he has no confidence in. Just bring the Death Pact out."

Although Cheng Yun did not know why Gu Li had so much confidence in Duan Ling Tian, he knew it would be useless to say anything else since the people involved were much calmer than him.

For this reason, when Zhao Deng looked at him again to rush him, he instantly took out the Death Pact.

Boom!

The Death Pact of Heaven Palace's Hall of Death was a huge stone tablet. It landed on the ground with a loud boom.

With just one glance, one could see rows and rows of clear writings etched on the stone. It was clearly the content of the Death Pact.

There were two spaces below the stone tablet.

"Each of you place a palm on it. This will activate the Death Pact," Cheng Yun said to both Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun.

#### **Chapter 1814: *The Truth Will Shut Them Up!***

Bang!

The moment Cheng Yun's words left his mouth, Zhao Kun made his move as fast as a bolt of lightning and placed his palm on the Death Pact stone tablet and forged the Death Pact.

After he withdrew his hand, he looked at Duan Ling Tian with a hint of provocation and mockery in his eyes.

Naturally, he still felt anxious in his heart. Now that they had reached the critical juncture, all his efforts would have been in vain if Duan Ling Tian suddenly changed his mind.

"Will Ling Tian really sign a Death Pact with Zhao Kun?" The group of Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples standing at the side, in the distance, studied Duan Ling Tian. At this moment, all of them were filled with anxiety as well.

Bang!

When Duan Ling Tian finally extended his hand and placed his palm on the Death Pact stone tablet, the Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples who were anxious finally calmed down.

As soon as they calmed down, many of their eyes widened, and some of them even gasped.

"Ling Tian actually signed the Death Pact! Isn't he afraid of death?"

"Although he's quite strong and can be considered as an elite powerhouse among the group of powerhouses at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, even a stronger Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage is not a match for an Early Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator!"

“That’s right! If Zhao Kun didn’t break through to the Eminent Saint Stage, he might not be a match for Ling Tian. However, Zhao Kun has just broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage a few days ago! Even Hong Gang who’s previously much stronger than him is not a match for him now. He could barely withstand a blow from Zhao Kun!”

“I really wonder what Ling Tian is thinking! He knows it’s a trap, and yet, he’s still jumping into it!”

“Being rash is a sin! I think Ling Tian will die today!”

...

Outside the Hall of Death, people were discussing among themselves. None of them spoke highly about Duan Ling Tian.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, it seems like they don’t think very highly of you,” Gu Li transmitted his voice to Duan Ling Tian. It contained a hint of teasing. “What do you think of their words? Don’t you feel frustrated and feel like explaining yourself?”

“There’s no need for that,” Duan Ling Tian shook his head before replying through Voice Transmission, “The truth will shut them up!”

“It seems like you’re very confident!” Gu Li replied as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

In fact, even Gu Li was not entirely certain if Duan Ling Tian would be able to defeat Zhao Kun who had already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage.

However, since this was Duan Ling Tian’s choice, coupled with the fact that he had faith in Duan Ling Tian, he did not intend to stop Duan Ling Tian at all from the beginning.

‘Don’t tell me Junior Brother Ling Tian has already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage as well?’ Gu Li thought to himself as his eyes that were trained on Duan Ling Tian narrowed.

“It has been a long time since the Mystical Sky Mansion has been this busy.” Zhao Deng chuckled. Although his voice was not loud, everyone still heard it clearly. “Today, I hope both of you will be able to demonstrate your strength and show us a fierce battle! Since both of you have already signed the Death Pact, there’s no need for both of you to hold back. Both of you can just fight with all your might!”

One had to admit Zhao Deng was qualified to become one of the Vice Mansion Masters of Mystical Sky Mansion with his eloquence.

The moment his words left his mouth, the group of Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples present on the scene became enthusiastic immediately. It was as though they were the ones that had signed a Death Pact, not Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun.

“Hurmph!” Zhao Ji snorted when he saw how his father did not believe in him as well. He turned around and walked away after that. Naturally, he only left Zhao Deng’s side. He did not leave the Hall of Death. If Duan Ling Tian had to die today, he still wanted to witness it with his own eyes at least!

Cheng Yun, the Heaven Palace's elder in charge of the Hall of Death said to Duan Ling Tian and Zhao Kun, "The Death Pact is completed. Both of you can pick an arena to carry out the Death Duel."

"Ling Tian, I'll give you a chance. Pick a place with good feng shui as your burial place!" Zhao Kun smiled sinisterly as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. Based on his words, it was obvious he thought he had Duan Ling Tian grasped in the palm of his hand.

A few days ago, he had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage so he was completely unafraid of Duan Ling Tian who had only broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage less than a year ago!

Even the most outstanding young genius in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land who had broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage less than a year ago might not even be able to make a breakthrough so quickly to the Eminent Saint Stage!

Due to this reason, Zhao Kun did not think there was even the slightest chance that Duan Ling Tian had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage.

It was not only Zhao Kun, but even Zhao Deng and almost every Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples present on the scene did not think Duan Ling Tian would be able to break through to the Eminent Saint Stage from the peak of the Refined Saint Stage in just less than a year. This was because it was almost impossible to do so!

Naturally, there were also some people who suspected Duan Ling Tian had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage as well. These people were Wang Fei Xuan and Gu Li. Wang Fei Xuan, in particular, since she had witnessed Duan Ling Tian displaying the speed comparable to an Early Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse when they were in the Saint Martial Secret Zone half a year ago.

However, when she asked Duan Ling Tian if he had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage, he told her that he had not.

It was only natural that she did not believe him.

"Give me a chance to pick a burial place with good feng shui?" The moment Duan Ling Tian heard Zhao Kun's words, he was momentarily stunned before he chuckled loudly. A charming smile replaced the solemn expression on his face immediately as though he had just heard the funniest joke in the world.

"What are you laughing about?" Zhao Kun's expression turned grave immediately. He felt as though Duan Ling Tian was looking down on him, and he flew into a rage out of embarrassment at once.

"There's no need for you to trouble yourself to prepare my burial place. However, it doesn't seem like this place is suitable to be your burial ground. Otherwise, you might tarnish the sacred ground of the Hall of Death!" Duan Ling Tian's tone was calm during the first half of his sentence. However, he spoke quickly when he reached the second half of his sentence.

At this time when everyone, including Zhao Kun, thought Duan Ling Tian was being overconfident, Duan Ling Tian began to make his move.

The Sun True Origin instantly surged out from his body. It was extremely dazzling. His entire being was like a rapidly moving sun in the eyes of the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples watching by the side.



Before the crowd realized what was going on, the bright sun had already shrouded Zhao Kun.

Among the people present on the scene, Zhao Deng was the strongest one. It was only natural he was the first to realize what was going on. He cried out to warn Zhao Kun, "Watch out!"

This was because he noticed Duan Ling Tian whom the Zhao Clan regarded as their mortal enemy had also broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage. Moreover, he was not an ordinary Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse!

'Even someone at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage doesn't possess speed as fast as his!' The moment Zhao Deng thought of this, an ominous feeling rose in his heart immediately.

Zhao Kun was most likely not a match for Ling Tian!

Whoosh!

Zhao Deng was still bewildered when Duan Ling Tian appeared in front of Zhao Kun.

Just like Zhao Deng had seen, the speed Duan Ling Tian demonstrated earlier was a lot faster than most Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouses.

For this reason, Zhao Kun only managed to regain his senses when Duan Ling Tian appeared in front of him.

'How fast!' This was Zhao Kun's first thought when he saw Duan Ling Tian had appeared in front of him. Duan Ling Tian's speed far surpassed his speed!

At this moment, Zhao Kun did not have time to wonder why Duan Ling Tian's speed was so fast. He instinctively activated the True Origin in his body, and it surged out through the several dozens of Saint Veins in his body. It was as though he would only feel a sense of security after his True Origin enveloped his body.

Unfortunately, the number of Saint Veins he possessed was just too few compared to the Saint Veins that Duan Ling Tian had in his body.

If he had 99 Saint Veins like Duan Ling Tian, his True Origin might have been able to surge out quickly. However, his True Origin was still in the midst of surging out when Duan Ling Tian's right hand that contained the Sun True Origin landed on his shoulder like an eagle's claw. With the sound of a crack, it crushed his shoulder.

Meanwhile, Zhao Kun felt a vast energy sweeping out from Duan Ling Tian's hand into his body, suppressing True Origin that had yet to completely surge out! When the True Origin in his body was being suppressed, the sharp intense pain Zhao Kun felt made him feel as though he had fallen from Heaven into Hell in just a blink of an eye!

At this instant, he would have lived his entire life in vain if he still could not figure out that Duan Ling Tian was far stronger than him!

“Pleas...” Zhao managed to say through the pain, and he was drenched in sweat. Before he could even finish begging, he was already sent flying out of the Heaven Palace’s Hall of Death by Duan Ling Tian into the sky nearby. Just below the sky, there was a bottomless abyss.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian withdrew the Sun True Origin back into his body, allowing the crowd to see him and Zhao Kun.

“P-please forgive me... S-Senior B-Brother Ling T-Tian...” Zhao Kun coughed. At this moment, Duan Ling Tian whose hand was on Zhao Kun’s shoulder earlier was clamped around his neck.

Zhao Kun continued to struggle, but he could not free himself from Duan Ling Tian’s grasp at all. All he could do was beg with all his might. His face had turned so red, it was as though blood was going to drip out from it.

Not only did Zhao Kun fail to mobilize his True Origin, but every time he tried to activate it, it was instantly suppressed by Duan Ling Tian’s energy that surged into his body.

Duan Ling Tian’s energy charged into his body tyrannically like the pigeon that occupied the sparrow’s nest!

To be able to treat an Early Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator this way, one had to be at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage at least!

Only the True Origin of an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse or higher would be able to suppress Zhao Kun’s True Origin!

‘Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage... Ling Tian’s an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse!’ Zhao Kun thought to himself in despair.

He was feeling truly regretful now. If he was given another chance to do everything again, he would not have offended Duan Ling Tian.

Even if he could become the adopted son of the Zhao Clan’s Lord Guardian if he managed to kill Ling Tian, he still would not dare to have any malicious thoughts toward Ling Tian. Ling Tian was not someone he could deal with!

Silence!

It was completely silent outside the Hall of Death.

Apart from the sound of Zhao Kun begging for forgiveness, there was no sound at all in the surrounding.

After some time, the crowd finally regained their senses. They stared at the scene before them in bewilderment with their mouths agape.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

**Chapter 1815: Ling Tian is at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage?!**

“How’s this possible?!” The scene before Zhao Ji’s eyes shocked him greatly. His emotion was in turmoil, and he could not calm down for a long time.

Initially, he had thought Zhao Kun would definitely kill Ling Tian today since he had already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage a few days ago. It would be impossible for Ling Tian to have broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage as well.

However, the truth had just slapped him on his face.

It was impossible for Ling Tian to break through to the Eminent Saint Stage?

Put everything else aside, based on the strength Duan Ling Tian had just demonstrated, it was 100% obvious his strength was comparable to an Eminent Saint Stage’s powerhouse. It was not easy to make a breakthrough to the Eminent Saint Stage since he had just made a breakthrough not too long ago.

How could he not see that Zhao Kun was powerless before Duan Ling Tian and was even toyed with by him?

“Ling Tian must be eliminated!” Zhao Deng’s eyes turned cold. If it was not because he had to be careful with his actions in the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate, he would have made his move and kill Ling Tian a long time ago.

He would not rest until he died if he did not kill Duan Ling Tian based on the enmity between him and the Zhao Clan! It was only natural he did not wish for Duan Ling Tian to grow stronger.

If a young man with such high innate talent grew stronger, even his father would be stepped on by this young man in the future, let alone him.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian...” Gu Li stared at Duan Ling Tian, dumbfounded, with his mouth agape.

As a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Eminent Saint Stage, naturally, he could see Duan Ling Tian’s speed was almost comparable to the speed of a Mastery Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator. It was much faster compared to most Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivators. “When did he break through to the Eminent Saint Stage? I didn’t hear him mention anything about it before!”

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, you really hid this well from me.” Somehow, there was a hint of bitterness hidden in Gu Li’s eyes as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

“As expected, he has broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage! Humph! To think that he actually lied to me previously by saying he hasn’t made a breakthrough!” Wang Fei Xuan heaved a sigh of relief as she snorted to herself.

Hong Gang and Zhu Lu Qi’s two other direct disciples who were by her side, on the other hand, were shocked. “Ling Tian has already broken through t-to the Eminent Saint Stage?”

“No wonder he dares to accept Zhao Kun’s Death Duel Invitation! As it turns out, he’s not afraid of Zhao Kun at all!”

...

"I'm afraid his strength is not as simple as just breaking through to the Eminent Saint Stage recently... Zhao Kun is completely powerless before him!" Hong Gang remarked with a gasp.

Cheng Yun, the Heaven Palace's elder in charge of the Hall of Death, was also staring at Duan Ling Tian at this moment in confusion. "I can't believe this young fellow is not even forty years old yet... With his current strength, I think he can be considered as the strongest person among the younger generation in the entire Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land!"

At the same time, the other Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples had also returned to their senses. They were looking at Duan Ling Tian as though they had seen a ghost.

Just a moment ago, they all felt that Duan Ling Tian would definitely die!

However, the truth was laid bare before their eyes now. All of their faces reddened, they all thought their opinion earlier was too foolish.

Due to this, the entire scene was silent again.

When the people fell silent, Duan Ling Tian's voice could be heard clearly as he said to Zhao Kun while he held on to his neck, "Forgive? Did you think about asking for my forgiveness when you insulted me? Did you think about asking for my forgiveness when you insulted my parents? If I'm not stronger than you, would you have let me go in this Death Duel?" Duan Ling Tian's tone gradually turned colder as he asked three questions in succession.

"Hurmph!" At this moment, a cold snort could be heard. Zhao Deng had already risen up into the air, it was obvious he was preparing to leave this place.

"Lord Vice Mansion Master... s-save me!" Upon seeing this, Zhao Kun began to panic. He began to struggle as he begged for help from Zhao Kun.

Everyone shifted their eyes to Zhao Deng as he came to a halt. He turned around to look at Zhao Kun indifferently. "Zhao Kun, you're the one who took the initiative to issue a Death Duel Invitation... You're the one who signed the Death Pact. Even if my father is present, it wouldn't be convenient for him to save you, let alone me. If we save you, what's the point of having Halls of Death in the Mystical Sky Mansion then? What's the point of signing a Death Pact?"

Zhao Deng's words were said in a righteous tone, causing many Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples to nod their heads. They felt Vice Mansion Master Zhao Deng had kept the cardinal principles in his mind and did not break the rules of Halls of Death just because Zhao Kun was from the Zhao Clan.

When Zhao Deng felt the eyes on him, he knew his goal had been achieved.

"If there's someone you want to blame, blame yourself for being weak!" These were Zhao Deng's last words to Zhao Kun before he left.

After he left, despair could be seen in Zhao Kun's eyes. His head moved violently a few times before he gradually became dispirited.

When Duan Ling Tian saw Zhao Kun was similar to a spent arrow, he struck his hands out and sent Zhao Kun flying.

Nobody saw Duan Ling Tian moved as hundreds of sword rays appeared from his body and pierced Zhao Kun's body, causing his body to look like a beehive.

Duan Ling Tian had never shown any mercy to his enemy, let alone an enemy who had insulted his parents!

Only when Duan Ling Tian, Gu Li, and Wang Fei Xuan left by walking on air, shoulder to shoulder, that the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples outside the Hall of Death finally regained their senses.

"Too powerful!"

"I can't believe there's actually such a monster in our Mystical Sky Mansion! Was there any Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse below the age of forty in the history of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land?"

"I don't think so."

"Ling Tian's cultivation base must have already broken through to the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to completely overpower Zhao Kun!"

"That's right! Zhao Kun was an Early Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator no matter what! However, he was completely powerless before Ling Tian! I wouldn't believe it if he said he has only broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage recently!"

"How does Ling Tian cultivate? How did he raise his cultivation base to such a level in such a short time?"

...

Among the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples, some of them were well-known powerhouses on the Mystical Sky Ranking at the Eminent Saint Stage. They had some understanding of the abilities Duan Ling Tian had shown.

One of the Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage remarked, "Although I've just broken through to the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage recently, I don't think my speed will be as fast as Ling Tian even if I use all might. Although Ling Tian might not have reached the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage, he could be considered as an elite among Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouses."

He was a famous powerhouse on the Mystical Sky Ranking so his words carried some weight.

After a while, everyone came to a unanimous conclusion. Duan Ling Tian could be considered as an elite among Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouses.

'Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse?' Zhao Ji was still standing among the crowd. When he heard the discussion in his surroundings, his expression turned grim. 'I really can't believe his cultivation

speed is actually this fast! If it's not for the Devouring Dark Devil Technique, I'm afraid I'll only be eating the dust in his wake my entire life! In fact, I think I won't even be able to get close enough to eat the dust left in his wake!' Zhao Ji thought to himself before he turned to leave.

However, he did not return to his own residence. Instead, he covertly left the Mystical Sky Mansion's estate to look for Zhu Lu Qi and Xu Jing.

"I must cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique as fast as possible. Otherwise, it'll be difficult for me to chase up to him, let alone seek revenge!" His heart burned with anxiety as he made his journey there.

At this moment, he was desperate to obtain the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. In his opinion, he was certain he would be able to surpass Duan Ling Tian as long as he could cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique in a timely manner.

After Zhao Ji left, the news about Duan Ling Tian signing a Death Pact with Zhao Kun and killing him also began to spread in the Mystical Sky Mansion's estate. It shocked everyone, including Mansion Master Meng Qing.

"Ling Tian? Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage? How's this possible?" Naturally, many people felt skeptical. How was it possible for someone below the age of forty at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage to appear in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land?

However, as time went by, as the news continued to spread, coupled with the testimonies from the people who were present on the scene, those who felt skeptical had no choice but to believe it.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, you really hid it well from me!" Gu Li looked at Duan Ling Tian as though he was criticizing him. "When I told you to make a breakthrough to the Eminent Saint Stage as soon as possible before I break through to the Divine Stage so we can go to the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land together, why didn't you tell me you've already broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage long ago?"

"Senior Brother Gu Li, my situation is a little... special." Duan Ling Tian could see Gu Li was not really angry. However, he could not come up with a plausible excuse so he had no choice but to reveal the truth in the end. Naturally, he only told him the partial truth.

"I had a fortuitous encounter that allowed me to undergo an earth-shattering transformation. When my cultivation base was at the Early Pristine Saint Stage, the force of the True Origin in my body was already comparable to the True Origins of ordinary Intermediate Refined Saint Stage powerhouses! In fact, my current cultivation base is only at the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage. I'm still far away from the Eminent Saint Stage," Duan Ling Tian explained. Although what he said was true, he did elaborate on what kind of fortuitous encounter it was.

Elder Huo and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda were his biggest secrets. If news of him possessing it spread out, it would only attract calamity!

Due to this reason, he had to be extremely careful.

“There’s actually such a fortuitous encounter?” Gu Li’s eyes turned as wide as saucers. An expression of disbelief appeared on his face. However, he did not doubt Duan Ling Tian’s words. The world was huge and filled with all kinds of wonders.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, it was not rare for someone to have a fortuitous encounter. There were extremely fortuitous and normal fortuitous encounters so nobody could say anything for certain when it came to fortuitous encounters.

Wang Fei Xuan who had been quietly following Duan Ling Tian could not help but interject at this moment, “Then, does this mean our cultivation base is the same?”

“Well, if we’re just talking about cultivation base then yes, it’s the same.” Duan Ling Tian nodded.

He regarded Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan as his friends so he decided to tell them about this matter. As long as he did not mention Elder Huo and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, it was not a big issue to reveal part of the truth.

### **Chapter 1816: Extremely Popular!**

After receiving confirmation from Duan Ling Tian, Wang Fei Xuan was rendered speechless for a moment. She felt that God was extremely unfair!

The young man in front of her whose cultivation base was similar to her did not possess an innate talent that was higher than her, and yet, his strength was comparable to an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse! How was this fair?!

At this moment, Wang Fei Xuan was feeling extremely exasperated. Naturally, she only felt this way because she did not know about Duan Ling Tian’s origin. If she had known Duan Ling Tian came from the Mortal Continent and had reached this stage step by step, she would not have felt this way.

For someone who came from the Mortal Continent to the Dao Martial Saint Land to possess such a cultivation base was not someone she could compare to in regards to innate talent. Moreover, she knew very well that even a top-rated genius from the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land who grew up in the Mortal Continent since young might not even achieve as much as Ling Tian had!

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, what kind of fortuitous encounter did you have? If I could have one, won’t my strength be comparable to a Divine Saint Stage powerhouse?” Gu Li looked at Duan Ling Tian with bright eyes. He was eager for his True Origin to have an earth-shattering transformation as well.

Upon hearing Gu Li’s words, Wang Fei Xuan’s eyes lit up as well. She stared at Duan Ling Tian intently. It was obvious she was interested in Duan Ling Tian’s fortuitous encounter as well.

“The fortuitous encounter I had was with a type of mysterious Spirit Fruits. After I ate the Spirit Fruits, my True Origin underwent an earth-shattering transformation immediately. I didn’t know how powerful the Spirit Fruits were when I ate it. Ever since then, I’ve not encountered those Spirit Fruits again even though I’ve searched for it. Moreover, after I plucked all of those Spirit Fruits, the tree they grew on began to wilt and die,” Duan Ling Tian lied brazenly. His words snuffed out Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan’s hope immediately.

“What? There were more than one Spirit Fruit? They were all eaten by you?” Gu Li’s eyes went as wide as saucers. “What a waste of God’s gift! What a waste of God’s gift!”

“You...” Wang Fei Xuan stared at Duan Ling Tian for a long time before she finally said, “What a waste!”

Although Duan Ling Tian’s words were a blatant lie, the words he said were meant to let them know his fortuitous encounter could not be duplicated similar to his real fortuitous encounter.

The Three-legged Golden Crow could only enlighten one person once in their life and bestow the Sun’s Flame attribute to that person’s energy.

Elder Huo had chosen to give it to him.

“Just keep this to yourselves. If other people find out, I’ll be troubled to death by them,” Duan Ling Tian said to remind Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan.

Since it was a fortuitous encounter that could not be duplicated, other people would not be able to do anything even if they found out. However, there would still be people who would come to him and ask about the characteristics of the Spirit Fruits.

For example, even Gu Li was looking at Duan Ling Tian with gleaming eyes as he asked, “Junior Brother Ling Tian, do you still remember the look and the characteristics of the Spirit Fruit?”

“That Spirit Fruit appeared very ordinary. They looked identical to an ordinary apple. At that time, I thought they were merely apples so I just casually ate them. I didn’t expect they would transform my True Origin in such an earth-shattering way,” Duan Ling Tian answered casually, snuffing out Gu Li’s hope again. Naturally, this included Wang Fei Xuan as well.

Duan Ling Tian did not know that after the news about his Death Duel with Zhao Kun and how he killed Zhao Kun had spread out, it had shaken the high-ranking officials in the Mystical Sky Mansion.

Zhao Kun had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage just a few days ago. Even then, he was killed by Ling Tian! Moreover, it seemed like the cultivation base he had demonstrated when he killed Zhao Kun was at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage at least!

He was not even forty years old, but his cultivation base was already at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage.

Such a monstrous genius was more than worthy for Mystical Sky Mansion to spare no efforts in persuading him to remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion.

For this reason, apart from the Zhao Clan and Guardian Gu Ci Yun, the group of high-ranking officials in the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate had gone to find Meng Qing at the same time.

One of the Vice Mansion Masters of the Mystical Sky Mansion said, “Lord Mansion Master, with Ling Tian’s innate talent, he’ll definitely become someone like Duan Ru Feng from the Azure Cloud Mansion and Dugu from the Mountainshade Black Market... I think we need to persuade him to stay in our mansion. It’ll be worth it even if we have to announce him as the next Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion.”



“I agree!”

“I agree as well!”

The group Mystical Sky Mansion’s high-ranking officials present on the scene agreed unanimously.

“I understand what all of you are trying to say. However, Ling Tian has long made it clear that he’ll leave the Mystical Sky Mansion in a few years’ time... For this reason, I’m afraid all your wishes are only in vain.” Meng Qing shook his head. Although he did not have many interactions with Ling Tian, he could see Ling Tian was not someone who would be tempted by the title of Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion.

One of the Mystical Sky Mansion’s elders who was much wiser said, “Lord Mansion Master, Ling Tian only feels this way because he doesn’t have a sense of belonging to our Mystical Sky Mansion. If our Mystical Sky Mansion is willing to spend all our efforts on him and satisfy all his requests, coupled with making him the next Mansion Master, I believe he won’t reject us.”

“Exactly!”

“No matter what, please give it a try at least, Lord Mansion Master!”

“Lord Mansion Master, Ling Tian’s appearance in the Mystical Sky Mansion is too important. Please persuade him to stay, Lord Mansion Master!”

The group of Mystical Sky Mansion’s high-ranking officials was subtly pressuring Meng Qing.

However, Meng Qing was not unhappy since he knew these Vice Mansion Masters and elders were only doing this for the sake of the Mystical Sky Mansion.

“If Ling Tian is willing to remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion, I don’t see any problem with directly announcing that we’ll make him the next Mansion Master... Since this is the case, all of you please follow me and look for Ling Tian. Let’s tell him about our proposal to see if he’s willing to remain here.” Although Meng Qing felt it was unlikely Ling Tian would remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion even with the favorable conditions, he also knew these Vice Mansion Masters and elders would never give up if they did not personally witness Ling Tian rejecting him. Due to this reason, he decided to bring all of them to look for Ling Tian.

The eyes of the Mystical Sky Mansion’s high-ranking officials present on the scene brightened immediately when they heard Meng Qing’s words.

“You’re wise, Lord Mansion Master!”

“I believe with Lord Mansion Master and our sincerity, Ling Tian will be willing to stay in the Mystical Sky Mansion!”

“Hehe... If Ling Tian is willing to stay in our Mystical Sky Mansion, our Mystical Sky Mansion will become the second Azure Cloud Mansion in several dozens of years at most!”

...

Previously, the Mountainshade Black Market was a powerful force that was second to none in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. They stood above all the other quasi third-rate forces.

When the Azure Cloud Mansion changed its Mansion Master, it rose to the top and became a force comparable to the Mountainshade Black Market!

Ever since then, there were two tips on the top of the pyramid in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

The group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials believed that if Ling Tian was willing to stay in the Mystical Sky Mansion, he would definitely be able to lead the Mystical Sky Mansion to become a force that was comparable to Mountainshade Black Market.

At that time, the Mystical Sky Mansion would become one of the three most powerful sects standing at the peak of the Lower Province with the Azure Cloud Mansion and Mountainshade Black Market!

One must admit the ambition of the Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials was indeed very high. Naturally, this was also because they placed high hopes in Duan Ling Tian.

When Meng Qing, the Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion, brought the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials to look for Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian was just about to bid farewell to Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan.

Upon seeing Meng Qing and the group of people who were making their way over, not only Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan was stunned, but even Duan Ling Tian was stunned as well.

They quickly regained their senses and bowed respectfully to express their respect. "Good day, Lord Mansion Master, Vice Mansion Masters, and Elders."

"Mansion Master." Unlike how courteous Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan were, Duan Ling Tian merely nodded at Meng Qing as a greeting. As for the others, he regarded them as his equals.

Usually, the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials would definitely be infuriated by such a rude Mystical Sky Mansion's disciple.

However, today, Duan Ling Tian's rudeness was nothing in their eyes. Not only that, but they even justified Duan Ling Tian's behavior for him.

'As expected from someone who's widely acknowledged as the ultimate genius! What a dignified and unyielding character who refuses to bend to just anyone! If someone like that becomes the Mansion Master of our Mystical Sky Mansion in the future, there's no need for us to worry the Mystical Sky Mansion wouldn't rise in the future.'

'A monstrous genius should have noteworthy conduct and independent character! If he's the type that goes with the flow of the tide, how's he any different from those ordinary disciples? Ling Tian is indeed extraordinary!'

'So young, and he's already so unyielding. This means he's extremely confident. Someone like this will definitely become extremely powerful in the future!'

It was fortunate nobody knew of the thoughts running through the minds of this group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials. Otherwise, all the Mystical Sky Mansion's disciples would be so furious that they might even throw up blood if they knew about it.

Duan Ling Tian was clearly being rude, but how did he suddenly become a dignified and unyielding character who did not go with the flow of the tide?

Initially, Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan were worried Duan Ling Tian would offend the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials standing behind Meng Qing. However, when they saw that none of the Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials was angry, they sighed in relief and thought he was lucky.

However, what happened next completely shocked and amazed them.

"Ling Tian, we've met previously when you entered and left the Saint Martial Secret Zone. Do you still remember me?" One of the Mystical Sky Mansion's Vice Mansion Masters looked at Duan Ling Tian and smiled as he introduced himself

Then, each of the Vice Mansion Masters and elders took turns to introduce themselves to Duan Ling Tian. Their tones were extremely polite. It did not seem like they were speaking to an ordinary disciple at all.

Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan exchanged a glance. Both of them could see the shock in each other's eyes.

As the saying went, 'One would find difficult to beat someone who's smiling.'

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian smiled in response when he was greeted by the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian looked at Meng Qing and asked, "Mansion Master, I wonder if there's a reason you and every Vice Mansion Masters and Elders came and looked for me?"

Naturally, he already knew the answer to this although he asked this question out loud.

Wang Fei Xuan still could not guess Meng Qing and the others' intention, but Gu Li could already guess their intention. For this reason, he had a solemn expression on his face. "I can't believe Junior Brother Ling's popularity has already reached such an extremely high level!"

### **Chapter 1817: Zhao Ji is at the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage!**

"Ling Tian, we came here because we hope you'll remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion and work for the Mystical Sky Mansion!" Faced with Duan Ling Tian's blunt question, Meng Qing did not beat around the bush as he said, "As long as you're willing to stay, the Mystical Sky Mansion will spare no efforts in nurturing you in the future. All of the cultivation resources will be given to you without any reservation. Not only that, but I can also announce you'll be the next Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion!" Meng Qing's tone was filled with certainty when he spoke.

The moment his words left his mouth, the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials shifted their attention to Duan Ling Tian in unison.

Their eyes were filled with anticipation and longing.

As long as this young man was willing to make a pledge to the Mystical Sky Mansion, the mansion would definitely rise to a higher level in the future and become a powerful force equal to both the Mountainshade Black Market and the Azure Cloud. If they could witness such a scene while they were alive, they would die with no regrets!

Upon hearing Meng Qing's words, Duan Ling Tian and Gu Li were not too surprised since they had already guessed this beforehand. Wang Fei Xuan, on the contrary, was dumbstruck even though she had just regained her senses not too long ago.

It did not cross her mind that a group of high-ranking officials led by Lord Mansion Master would come to look for Duan Ling Tian and persuade him to stay.

"What are you standing there for? Hurry up and agree to it!" When Wang Fei Xuan saw Duan Ling Tian did not respond after a long time, she began to feel anxious on his behalf.

In her opinion, based on Meng Qing's promise, it was more than enough to prove the sincerity of the Mansion Master and the Mystical Sky Mansion. There was no way Duan Ling Tian would reject them since they were so sincere.

Unfortunately, she was destined to be wrong in regard to this matter.

"Mansion Master, Vice Mansion Masters, and all Elders..." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and glanced at everyone, including Meng Qing. After a moment of silence, he continued to say, "I appreciate your good intentions. However, I've already promised my master I'll head to the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land to look for him. It's impossible for me to remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion."

Impossible!

Gu Li was not surprised when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words since he knew the Mystical Sky Mansion was strong enough to be a fit for his junior brother. By right, his junior brother's stage should be at the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Meng Qing was not surprised as well since he had long anticipated this outcome. The reason he had come was to make the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials dismiss their ideas.

Wang Fei Xuan was dumbfounded.

The Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials were dumbfounded as well.

Wang Fei Xuan did not expect Duan Ling Tian would reject this offer.

Among the group of Mystical Sky Mansion's high-ranking officials, the majority of them was certain Duan Ling Tian would agree to it while there was a minority who was not certain. Although they were uncertain if he would agree to it, they did not expect Duan Ling Tian would immediately reject them.

Based on his words, it was apparent there was no room for discussion at all!

"How ungrateful!"

“Hurmph! If it wasn’t for the Mystical Sky Mansion who took you in and allowed you to enter the Heaven Palace’s Spirit Pool in the first place, would you even achieve so much today?”

“How ungrateful!”

There were good and bad people among the Mystical Sky Mansion’s high-ranking officials. Due to this, some of them understood Duan Ling Tian’s decision while most of them could not understand his decision and began to rebuke him.

Upon hearing these, Duan Ling Tian merely shook his head and smiled.

If the Mystical Sky Mansion did not take him in, he would not have his achievements today?

If it was not for the fact that he entered the Heaven Palace’s Spirit Pool, he would not have his achievements today?

Ungrateful?

There were so many Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples and there were also many who entered the Heaven Palace’s Spirit Pool. Even then, did any of them possess strength at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage at his age?

Duan Ling Tian would achieve great things even if he did not join the Mystical Sky Mansion.

He had always felt grateful toward the Mystical Sky Mansion. Whether it was the Heaven Palace’s Spirit Pool, the Saint Martial Secret Zone or even how Mansion Master Meng Qing and Guardian Gu Ci Yun had helped him to search for all kinds of materials needed for the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

Although he felt grateful, he did not plan to remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion out of gratitude.

There were still some matters he needed to attend to!

It was inevitable that some things would be delayed. He would, naturally, repay the favor he owed the Mystical Sky Mansion in the future, but he would not agree to Meng Qing in regards to this.

Due to Duan Ling Tian’s rejection, he and the group of Mystical Sky Mansion’s high-ranking officials parted on a sour note.

Meanwhile, the news of this matter had spread in the Mystical Sky Mansion like a hurricane, sending the people into an uproar.

“Ling Tian is just too ungrateful!”

“Tsk tsk... If he’s willing to remain in the Mystical Sky Mansion, not only would the Mystical Sky Mansion spare no efforts in nurturing him, but Lord Mansion Master would even make him the next Mansion Master. However, he still rejected it!”

“I really have no idea what’s going through his mind. If I were him, I’ll definitely agree to it immediately!”

Similar discussions could be heard everywhere in the Mystical Sky Mansion. All of them felt Duan Ling Tian was being ungrateful.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, chose to ignore this matter.

In the Main Mansion of Mystical Sky Mansion, there was a huge palace. It was the residence of Guardian Zhao Jin.

Currently, Zhao Jin was with his son, Zhao Deng.

“Father, we can’t allow Ling Tian to live! With his innate talent, he’ll definitely bring calamity to our Zhao Clan!” Zhao Deng said as his eyes flashed coldly.

“If he had agreed to Lord Mansion Master’s offer today, perhaps, I might fear him a little. However, I can’t believe he had foolishly rejected it!” Zhao Jin smirked. “Father, since he has already made up his mind to leave the Mystical Sky Mansion, why don’t we just kill him on the day he decides to leave since he has no intention of leaving the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate at the moment?” Zhao Deng suggested as his body emitted killing intent.

“If he remains here until the day he leaves the Mystical Sky Mansion, we won’t have any other choice anyway!” Zhao Jin replied.

Even he did not dare to act recklessly in the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate.

This was because if he made his move in the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate, it would be instantly discovered by Mansion Master Meng Qing and Guardian Gu Ci Yun since their Divine Consciousness could easily monitor the state of affairs in every corner of the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate with the help of the Formations enveloping the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate.

Due to this reason, no one dared to recklessly kill in the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate unless they no longer wanted to live!

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was unaware that Zhao Jin and his son, Zhao Deng, had made up their minds to kill him on the day he planned to leave the Mystical Sky Mansion’s estate if he did not leave the mansion for the time being!

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian had gone back to the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda to cultivate and comprehend the Sovereign Heart Sword. He would leave the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and his residence when he reached a bottleneck to look for Gu Li and Wang Fei Xuan to chat idly or discuss Martial Dao and Divine Abilities.

Apart from that, a steady flow of materials was also being sent to Elder Huo.

With Elder Huo repairing the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, there was no doubt he worked fast.

Time flew by quickly. In just a blink of an eye, a year had passed.

Naturally, the one year that had passed was in the outside world.

On the other hand, five years had passed in the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

During these five years, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base also made a leap in progress.

He was only half a step away from comprehending the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword.

During this one year, Duan Ling Tian was not the only one whose progress had made a leap.

In the west of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, in a place far away, two people's cultivation bases were advancing at an extremely fast speed. Their speed was far greater than Duan Ling Tian's cultivation speed in the third level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda!

The cultivation method of these two men was not the orthodox method. They did not cultivate by absorbing the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy. Instead, their cultivation method required many young women. Naturally, the effect would be better if these young women were virgins!

The young women whom they used in their cultivation were turned into dried corpses. The commotion caused by them was not small at all. However, it was only contained to a certain area and did not spread out.

This was because anyone who had seen the dried corpses or searched for these young women were covertly killed by them.

The two people cultivating in this area were none other than Zhu Lu Qi, the former Palace Master of the Mystical Sky Mansion's Heaven Palace, and Zhao Ji, the grandson of the current Guardian of Mystical Sky Mansion and the son of one of its Vice Mansion Masters.

Zhao Ji laughed heartily as he stood up from the dense bushes. He was completely naked, and a dried corpse lay by his feet.

Upon closer inspection, one would be able to tell the dried corpse belonged to a young woman. If one paid even closer attention and saw the puddle of blood between the dried corpse's legs, one would be able to tell the young woman was a virgin.

"Mastery Eminent Saint Stage... I've finally broken through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage!" Zhao Ji stopped laughing as his attention turned to his cultivation base.

A year had gone by, and his cultivation base had broken through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage in one go from his cultivation base that was only close to breaking through to the Mastery Refined Saint Stage!

This was all thanks to the Devouring Dark Devil Technique

In this one year, countless young women were turned into dried corpses by him. He had successfully achieved all this with the help of the vital energies and blood of young women.

The former him would not have even dared to dream that he would be able to progress so quickly!

'Although I've broken through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage, I still might not be able to win Ling Tian! After all, he was already at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage a year ago! Continue! I must

continue to cultivate!' The moment Zhao Ji thought of Duan Ling Tian, he felt as though a bucket of cold water had been poured on him. It woke him up from his daydream, sending shivers up his spine.

"Zhao Ji!" Just as Zhao Ji was about to search for his next target, an old voice sounded before a figure materialized before him.

"Palace Master Zhu." Upon seeing the figure, Zhao Ji chuckled. "I've already broken through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage. How's your progress? Have you broken through to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage?"

Half a year ago, Zhu Lu Qi's cultivation base at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage had successfully broken through to the Early Exemplary Saint Stage that he dreamed off with the help of the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. After that, he had continued to cultivate and progress as well.

"A little bit more." Zhu Lu Qi shook his head. "I'll need another three months at least!"

### **Chapter 1818: Exposed**

Upon hearing Zhu Lu Qi's words, Zhao Ji replied in a slightly smug tone, "You're much slower than me."

In just a year, he had broken through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage from the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage, breaking through five stages continuously!

Naturally, in truth, he had only broken through five consecutive stages due to the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. Otherwise, he would not have been able to break through to the Mastery Eminent Saint Stage in such a short period of time.

However, he did indeed break through five consecutive stages, so his cultivation speed was much faster than Zhu Lu Qi who had only broken through one stage.

"As far as I know, the vital energies and blood of young women that you absorbed are much more than what I absorbed..." Zhao Ji sounded even smugger when he reached this part of his sentence.

"Hmmp! Although the amount of vital energies and blood of young women that I absorbed is slightly greater compared to you, what was your previous cultivation base and what was my previous cultivation base? Can those two even be compared?" Zhu Lu Qi snorted coldly, thinking that Zhao Ji was utterly shameless. To think that he actually dared to compare the speed of their cultivation in the past one year.

Zhao Ji was originally only an Intermediate Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivator, naturally, it was easier for him to raise his cultivation base using the Devouring Dark Devil Technique by absorbing young women's vital blood and energy.

Zhu Lu Qi, on the other hand, was already at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage previously so it would not be easy for him to break through even if he had help from the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. He was already satisfied with being able to break through to the Early Exemplary Saint Stage in just a year. Moreover, he was no ordinary Early Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouse.



“Palace Master Zhu, I really don’t understand you... Originally, with your cultivation base, you’ll definitely progress tremendously if you devour the vital energies and blood of virgin girls without restraint while cultivating the Devouring Dark Devil Technique! However, you refuse to touch those virgin girls no matter what. Not only that, but you even refuse to let me touch them in front of you! I’m really speechless!” Zhao Ji remarked, “I really don’t understand what’s the difference between those ordinary young women and those virgin girls?!”

“Hurmph!” Zhu Lu Qi snorted again but did not reply to Zhao Ji.

In Zhu Lu Qi’s heart, there was a secret that only he knew. A long, long time ago, he had a very cute daughter who was left behind by his deceased wife.

Due to his wife’s death from a difficult labor, he cherished his daughter who was born in exchange for his wife’s life and treated her like a little princess.

However, fate was as fickle as the weather.

The year his daughter turned sixteen years old, he was at a critical juncture of making a breakthrough so he did not accompany his daughter. It was at that time his daughter was raped by a good-for-nothing rich kid.

When he came out of closed-door cultivation, all he saw was the corpse of his daughter that had been dead for quite a while and a note that she left behind. She had decided to commit suicide due to the violation of her chastity.

Although he had annihilated the good-for-nothing rich kid’s entire family, his daughter could not be returned to him.

Due to the death of his only family member, he put all his heart and soul into cultivating and achieved what he had previously.

Naturally, he knew it would be more efficient to absorb the vital energies and blood of virginal young women when one cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. However, every time he saw those innocent virgin girls, he could not help but be reminded of his daughter. Due to this reason, he did not have the heart to make a move on them. Not only that, but he would also stop Zhao Ji when he saw him targeting these young virgin girls.

For example, at this moment, he was actually here to stop Zhao Ji, but he was a step too late.

Whoosh!

As Zhu Lu Qi raised his hand, the soil began to rise in the air before it covered the virgin girl’s dried corpse, laying her to rest.

“I just can’t understand you!” Although this was not Zhao Ji’s first time witnessing this, he was still rendered speechless. He really did not understand why Zhu Lu Qi was so protective of these virgin girls.

“Palace Master Zhu, I think it’ll be better if we don’t see each other anymore!” Zhao Ji looked at Zhu Lu Qi before he seemingly transformed into a gust of wind and left as though he was hiding from the God of Plague.

Zhu Lu Qi was not angry. He flew out as well in another direction.

If it was possible, he did not wish to meet with Zhao Ji as well. He knew if he saw Zhao Ji, he would not be able to help but meddle in Zhao Ji’s matter when he targeted virgin girls. Although those virgin girls were not his daughter, they reminded him of his unbearable past!

This was like a thorn in his heart!

If Zhu Lu Qi was as unrestraint as Zhao Ji from the very beginning and targeted virgin girls, he would have been very close to breaking through to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage if he had not broken through yet.

Currently, he still needed to cultivate for three months before he was confident he would be able to make a breakthrough.

One must admit that Zhu Lu Qi and Zhao Ji kept a very low profile. Not only that, but they had also chosen a secluded area in the west of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

In this area, there was no fourth-rate or fifth-rate forces, let alone quasi third-rate forces. Due to this reason, they were not discovered by anyone during this one year.

However, there was no wall that could remain without cracks forever. Another half a year went by when the strange incidents in the west of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land began to gradually spread.

The person who spread the news was a native living in the western region. Three years ago, he had left to roam the world and had only just returned.

However, the moment he returned, he discovered that his hometown — a little village that was like a paradise — was in ruins. Moreover, there were many corpses as well. Based on the corpses, it was clear they had died quite some time ago.

Some corpses looked ordinary. However, the strange thing was many corpses of young women were dried corpses.

“What’s going on?” The strange scene before his eyes was completely out of his expectation. He was so shocked that he had temporarily forgotten the pain of losing his family.

Subsequently, he began to investigate the surrounding areas. All the places he investigated, the little towns and villages that used to bustle with life, were all in ruins. Moreover, the corpses in these towns and villages were similar to the ones in his village. The other corpses were normal. Only the corpses of young women were turned into dried corpses.

“Something’s wrong!” In the end, he no longer dared to investigate and decided to flee this secluded area in the west.

This was how the news gradually began to spread.

“Hey! Did you hear about it? Everyone in the little towns and villages in the west has been annihilated. However, what’s strange is that only the young women’s corpses were turned into dried corpses! It’s really strange!”

“Dried corpses? What kind of dried corpses?”

“Why don’t you make a trip there and take a look if you want to know?”

As time went by, similar discussions could be heard in some cities in the vicinity of the secluded area in the west.

There were many curious people in this world. Due to this, many of them ventured to the secluded area in groups. When they personally witnessed everything with their own eyes, they finally realized the rumor they heard was indeed true.

“My goodness! Who did this?!”

“All these young women are very pitiful! Not only were they killed, but they were even turned into dried corpses!”

“Wait a minute! Look! There are no signs of injuries on these young women, unlike the ordinary corpses! Moreover, they’re all naked. Hey, do you all think it’s possible this is the work of a Devil Cultivator?”

“If a Devil Cultivator really did this, then the cultivation method is really too inhumane.”

Among the curious people, there were many people who were experienced and knowledgeable. As they discussed among themselves, they began to form a conclusion as well.

There was a Devil Cultivator who cultivated some inhumane Devil Dao Cultivation Method roaming freely in the secluded area in the west!

There was no lack of Devil Cultivators in the Dao Martial Saint Land, and they were widely acknowledged in the Dao Martial Saint Land as well. However, those Devil Cultivators who were acknowledged were those who cultivated ordinary Devil Dao Cultivation Methods.

Devil Cultivators who cultivated inhumane Devil Dao Cultivation Methods were all abhorred by everyone in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

If only one person was spreading this news, there might be people who were skeptical. However, this news was confirmed by hundreds and thousands of people. The number only continued to grow as the news spread. There was no doubt this news was true!

“I remember two years ago, the quasi third-rate force, Mystical Sky Mansion, released news that the Devouring Dark Devil Technique has reappeared in this world! Moreover, the person who obtained the Devouring Dark Devil Technique is Zhu Lu Qi, the former Palace Master of the Mystical Sky Mansion’s Heaven Palace.”

“Rumor has it that the Devouring Dark Devil Technique is a top-tier inhumane Devil Dao Cultivation Method. It’s cultivated by absorbing the vital energies and blood of young women. All the young women

captured by those who cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique would turn into dried corpses in the end. Hey, is it possible that the strange incidents in the secluded area in the west has something to do with the Devouring Dark Devil Technique?"

"Now that you mentioned it, I remember it as well. If it's really the Devouring Dark Devil Technique, then everything makes sense now!"

"Then, does this mean that all of those people who were killed and those young women who were turned into dried corpses are the doings of Zhu Lu Qi, the former Palace Master of Mystical Sky Mansion's Heaven Palace?"

"Most likely!"

Very quickly, people began to connect the strange incidents in the secluded area in the west to the Devouring Dark Devil Technique.

All the blame was instantly placed on Zhu Lu Qi, the former Palace Master of the Mystical Sky Mansion's Heaven Palace, since people in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land only knew that he had obtained the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. Nobody knew that Zhao Ji had also obtained the Devouring Dark Devil Technique as well.

"Palace Master Zhu, it seems like we've been exposed... Looks like we'll have to lay low for a while. Do you have any plan?" The areas in the west were still in an uproar when Zhao Ji and Zhu Lu Qi met up at a vacant stone forest in the secluded area in the west of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

It was apparent they knew their deeds had been exposed.

"What plans do you think I have? Hide, of course! Unlike you, I can't return to the Mystical Sky Mansion openly after cultivating the Devouring Dark Devil Technique and killing so many young women, right?!" Zhu Lu Qi replied in a deep voice.

"Haha... In that case, I bid farewell to you, Palace Master Zhu! Not only that, but I'll leave Xu Jing in your care. After all, we've yet to learn everything about the Devouring Dark Devil Technique!" Zhao Ji made a point of reminding Zhu Lu Qi before he left.

"I can no longer stay here..." After Zhao Ji left, Zhu Lu Qi also began to leave.

### **Chapter 1819: Gu Li, Divine Saint Stage !**

Zhu Lu Qi was aware of his own capabilities. Although he has broken through to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage, there were still a lot of people in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land who could defeat him.

Put aside the Quintessential Saint Stage Watchers from the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, leaders from quasi-third rate forces like the Azure Cloud Mansion and Mountainshade Black Market were strong powerhouses who could easily kill him! It was said that both of their cultivation bases were already at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage!

Apart from both of them, there were also other leaders of quasi third-rate forces, including Mansion Master Meng Qing of Mystical Sky Mansion. The weakest among them was at the Mastery Exemplary Saint Stage.

Other than that, there were also elite figures such as the Deputy Leader of Mountainshade Black Market, Feng Bu Yi, who was a powerhouse at the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage. People like him were merely a step away from breaking through to the Mastery Exemplary Saint Stage. At this moment, he was not a match for them at all.

“Feng Bu Yi... I’ve also broken through to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage. The day I break through to the Mastery Exemplary Saint Stage will be the day you die!” There was a vicious glint in Zhu Lu Qi’s eyes. The reason he had decided to cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique was to seek revenge from Feng Bu Yi!

As time passed, Zhu Lu Qi gradually calmed down. “It’s not beneficial for me to act at this time. I’ll have to lay low for a while. I’ll focus on my martial tactics and Divine Ability!”

The Divine Ability Zhu Lu Qi mentioned was the Divine Ability contained in the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. The Divine Ability was not a useless low-grade Divine Ability. Even Xu Jing was not certain of what it was because only powerhouses above the Divine Saint Stage could comprehend and cultivate it.

Soon after, Zhu Lu Qi also left the western area of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Meanwhile, news about the appearance of the Devouring Dark Devil Technique began to spread further and further. Eventually, most of the people in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land had heard about it.

“The Devouring Dark Devil Technique? What’s a Devouring Dark Devil Technique?”

As news of the Devouring Dark Devil Technique spread, the technique became even more famous. Not many people knew of its existence prior to this.

After all, it had been a long time since the Devouring Dark Devil Technique was famous. Currently, those in the know were mostly people from stronger forces that still had people who lived through that era.

“The Devouring Dark Devil Technique is cultivated by devouring young women’s vital energies and blood? It would be even better if it’s a virgin? Moreover, the corpses of the young women would turn into dried corpses?”

As details of the Devouring Dark Devil Technique spread, the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land fell into chaos and panic. Young women, in particular, wished they could dig themselves a hole to hide in since they were the primary targets of Devil Cultivators who were cultivating the Devouring Dark Devil Technique!

Since the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land was in a state of panic, it was only natural that quasi third-rate forces and fourth-rate forces caught wind of this.

“Does Zhu Lu Qi really intend on becoming like the Devil Cultivator who cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique back then and become the public’s enemy?” Many high-ranking officials from fourth-rate forces began to curse.

“I’m lucky enough to have met Mansion Master Meng Qing of Mystical Sky Mansion once. He’s an extremely righteous person... I don’t understand how a scum like Zhu Lu Qi even appeared in the Mystical Sky Mansion!” Many quasi third-rate forces’ high-ranking officials said.

Quasi third-rate forces stood at the peak of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Naturally, after they had learned about this matter, there was no way they could ignore it since chaos and panic had already descended in the Lower Province.

“Even if Zhu Lu Qi has cultivated for two years, he won’t be that strong yet even though he’s cultivating the Devouring Dark Devil Technique... We must kill him before he grows too strong! If we can’t kill him before then, a lot of lives will be lost in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land,” one of the leaders from a quasi third-rate force said. He was determined to kill Zhu Lu Qi.

At the same time, leaders from other quasi third-rate forces began to order powerhouses from their sects to head to the secluded areas in the western side of the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Even fourth-rate forces joined in to help as well.

Although many of the current powerhouses in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land were not around during the chaotic time when the Devil Cultivator who had cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique first appeared, they knew how terrifying a Devil Cultivator who cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique was from records in their sects.

Back then, the Devil Cultivator who cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique had relied on his cultivation base at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage and killed several powerhouses at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage when he was surrounded by them. This included many Mastery Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouses as well. Even then, he managed to escape eventually.

The Mystical Sky Mansion had sent two of its Guardians. As for Mansion Master Meng Qing, he had to stay in the mansion to guard the Mystical Sky Mansion.

Not long after the two Guardians of Mystical Sky Mansion left, Meng Qing, who was pacing back and forth in the garden with a frown on his face, felt a gust of wind on his face.

Subsequently, an ancient figure appeared before him. It was an old man with only one arm.

If Duan Ling Tian was around, he would be able to identify him as the old man who guarded the Heaven Palace’s Spirit Pool. He was also the master of Guardian Gu Ci Yun and the Grand Master of Duan Ling Tian’s senior brother, Gu Li.

“Senior Uncle.” When Meng Qing saw the old man, he did not dare to dally and immediately greeted him with a bow even though he was the Mansion Master of Mystical Sky Mansion.

The old man standing before him was his master’s senior brother after all! He was the most senior member in the Mystical Sky Mansion!

The seemingly pleasant old man’s eyes gleamed coldly as he said, “Mansion Master, there’s no need for you to be so courteous... I’m here to ask for a favor. Please allow me to leave the Mystical Sky Mansion so I can look for Zhu Lu Qi and personally kill him!”

“Senior Uncle, the two Guardians will deal with this matter... It’s not necessary for you to personally make a move.” Meng Qing smiled wryly.

It was not that he doubted the old man’s strength. It was just that he could not bear the thought of the old man still working for the sake of the Mystical Sky Mansion even at such an old age.

“Mansion Master, that brat, Zhu Lu Qi, had cultivated by my side for quite some time... Although we’re not master and disciple, I feel it’s my responsibility to clean up this mess!” The old man insisted.

“There’s no reason for me to reject your request if you’re so determined, Senior Uncle... However, do take your strength into consideration. It has been two years since Zhu Lu Qi cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique without any restraint. He has probably broken through to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage!” Meng Qing said. He could not help but remind the old man.

“What? Is Mansion Master doubting this old man’s strength and thinks that this old man’s weaker than that brat, Zhu Lu Qi?”

As the old man spoke, a powerful aura surged out from his body and shrouded Meng Qing. Meng Qing’s expression changed immediately. He had a delighted expression on his face. “Senior Uncle, you... You’ve made a breakthrough?!”

Sou!

Meng Qing only saw the back of the old man in response to his question.

...

In the Mystical Sky Mansion’s Heaven Palace.

Sou!

A figure moved rapidly away from the direction of the main residence and arrived at the platform halfway up the mountain of Heaven Palace in just a blink of an eye. He stood in front of an independent courtyard. The figure was none other than Gu Li.

“What are all of you all doing, sneaking around Junior Brother Ling Tian’s residence?” Gu Li asked in a low voice as he raised his hand. The air stirred as an invisible energy harshly picked up the people hidden in the surroundings and threw them on the ground.

“Wa!!”

“Wa...”

The people who were thrown on the ground were disciples from the Zhao Clan in the Mystical Sky Mansion. All of them were suppressed by the powerful invisible energy to the point that they were throwing up blood.

“Divine...Divine Saint Stage!” One of the Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples from the Zhao Clan whose cultivation base was higher suddenly changed his expression. When he looked at Gu Li once again, it

seemed as though he had seen a ghost. “Gu Li, you... Y-you’ve broken through to the Divine Saint Stage?”

“Zhao Dong, as it turns out, you’re worthy of being ranked number 5 on the Mystical Sky Ranking... You can actually tell that I’ve made a breakthrough,” Gu Li said as he glanced indifferently at the Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciple from Zhao Clan.

The Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciple from Zhao Clan who had spoken earlier was ranked fifth on the Mystical Sky Ranking. He had broken through to the peak of the Eminent Saint Stage recently.

For this reason, he could instantly tell Gu Li had broken through to the Divine Saint Stage.

Although he had just broken through to the peak of the Eminent Saint Stage, it would not be easy for other powerhouses at the peak of the Eminent Saint Stage to injure him!

Only powerhouses at the Divine Saint Stage or above were capable of injuring him so easily. That was why it did not take him long to figure out that Gu Li had broken through to the Divine Saint Stage!

“D-divine Saint Stage?!” The other Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples from Zhao Clan almost fainted when they heard Zhao Dong’s words.

A Divine Saint Stage powerhouse was strong enough to crush them with just his pinky alone!

“Senior Brother Gu Li, congratulations...” At this moment, the door to a room opened up. Following that, a handsome young man dressed white walked out slowly. There was a refreshing smile on his face.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, you finally came out from closed-door cultivation?” Gu Li said in surprise, “I actually came at such a timely manner?”

“I came out from closed-door cultivation half a month ago and was trying to comprehend martial tactics. That’s why I instantly heard what’s happening outside.” The young man who walked out from the room was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

Since he had a disguise on and had changed his identity, Duan Ling Tian no longer only wore purple clothes.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, what do you want to do with them?” Gu Li asked for Duan Ling Tian’s opinion as he narrowed his eyes while he looked at Zhao Dong and the others.

“Don’t mess with us! Don’t forget that Mystical Sky Mansion prohibits killing in the estate!” Zhao Dong was terrified when he saw Gu Li was looking at him.

The other Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples from Zhao Clan were looking at Duan Ling Tian pitifully as though they were begging for mercy.

At this moment, they had completely forgotten that they had angered Gu Li because they were spying on Duan Ling Tian.

**Chapter 1820: Ru Feng in the South... Ru Feng!**



“Let them go,” Duan Ling Tian said indifferently as he looked at the Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples from Zhao Clan.

“Scram!” Gu Li said with narrowed eyes as soon as he heard Duan Ling Tian’s words and saw the Mystical Sky Mansion’s disciples sitting there in a daze.

After the people from Zhao Clan had fled, Gu Li walked into the yard with an annoyed expression on his face. “I wanted to surprise my old man when I came out from closed-door cultivation today. Who knew he’s not around!”

“Is that why Senior Brother Gu Li came over immediately to share the news?” Duan Ling Tian asked with a smile.

Gu Li nodded.

“I’m afraid it won’t be long before news of your breakthrough to the Divine Stage spreads in the Mystical Sky Mansion through those fellows... As far as I know, even the Mansion Master did not reach the Divine Stage when he was your age!” Duan Ling Tian praised.

“Alright, stop complimenting me... It’s okay if others do it, but it’s awkward when it comes from you,” Gu Li waved his hands hurriedly and said, “Who would dare to mention their innate talent in front of a freak like you? By the way, the atmosphere in the mansion doesn’t seem quite right when I was making my way here. Do you know what happened?”

“The Devouring Dark Devil Technique has appeared!” Duan Ling Tian said solemnly. He came out from closed-door cultivation half a month ago, therefore he had heard about what had happened.

“Didn’t the Devouring Dark Devil Technique already appear a while ago?” Gu Li questioned, confused.

Almost two years ago, the Mystical Sky Mansion had acted against the Rising Sky Mansion for the Devouring Dark Devil Technique!

Naturally, they did not know that the Devil Dao Cultivation Method was the Devouring Dark Devil Technique in the beginning. When they discovered what it was later, Xu Jing, the culprit and Young Master of the Rising Sky Mansion, had already been taken away.

“Currently, the remote areas in the western side have become ghost towns... Almost everyone there has died. Young women, in particular, were turned into dried corpses,” Duan Ling Tian said solemnly, “Now that this matter is known in the entire Lower Province, young women, including those from our Mystical Sky Mansion, are all feeling afraid”

“It’s certain that it’s the Devouring Dark Devil Technique because there’s a precedent in the past! The current situation is somewhat similar to what had happened back then,” Duan Ling Tian said, “Originally, only Xu Jing cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. However, after he was rescued, there is more than one person who is cultivating the Devouring Dark Devil Technique.”

“You mean... Palace Master Zhu has already cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique and the incidents in the remote areas in the western side of the Lower Province are his doings?!” Gu Li gasped. He did not expect such a huge matter to happen while he was in closed-door cultivation.

“Xu Jing might still be in a coma physically, but it won’t be hard for him to communicate with others with his soul remnants that had yet to fully recover. That’s why it’s extremely simple for him to teach the Devouring Dark Devil Technique to Palace Master Zhu,” Duan Ling Tian speculated out loud, “Palace Master Zhu might have an agreement with Xu Jing when he brought him away. He rescued Xu Jing in exchange for the Devouring Dark Devil Technique!”

“I didn’t think someone would be able to change so quickly! In the past, Palace Master Zhu had a mild temper, but now...” Gu Li sighed.

“Sometimes being obsessed with revenge can be a person’s downfall!” Duan Ling Tian said solemnly as his eyes gleamed. Zhu Lu Qi was the former Palace Master of Mystical Sky Mansion’s Heaven Palace. Although they were not familiar with each other, they still had a few interactions here and there. Duan Ling Tian’s first impression of him was that he was a kind elder.

However, a seed of hatred had grown in the kind elder’s heart due to the humiliation he suffered from the Deputy Leader of Mountainshade Black Market, Feng Bu Yi.

He could no longer suppress his need for revenge when he learned about the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. The seed of hatred sprouted and grew instead!

Zhu Lu Qi could only absorb as much vital energies and blood of young women to cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique in order to rapidly improve his cultivation base until he could seek revenge from the Deputy Leader of Mountainshade Black Market, Feng Bu Yi!

“However, Feng Bu Yi, the Deputy Leader of Mountainshade Market, did go overboard... If I was Palace Master Zhu and was humiliated like that, I wouldn’t be able to take it either.”

At that time, Gu Li was also present on the scene when Zhu Lu Qi was humiliated by Feng Bu Yi. Whenever he thought of this incident, he still defended Zhu Lu Qi.

“If Senior Brother Gu Li was Palace Master Zhu, and you know very well that you can never seek revenge if you cultivate using orthodox methods, what would you do if you’re faced with the temptation of the Devouring Dark Devil Technique?” Duan Ling Tian asked.

“Perhaps, I might have made the same choice as Palace Master Zhu.” Gu Li sighed, “In my opinion, I’d rather die than suffer that kind of humiliation! Junior Brother Ling Tian, what about you? What would you do if you’re not so talented and you’re in Palace Master Zhu’s shoes?”

“If I was in Palace Master Zhu’s shoes, I’ll definitely want Feng Bu Yi to suffer more than anything else... However, I probably won’t cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. There’s a saying, ‘Treat others how you want to be treated.’ Ultimately, all those young women are innocent,” Duan Ling Tian lamented.

If it was Duan Ling Tian in his past life, he would have definitely made the same choice as Gu Li. However, he had experienced warmth in this world. He was not willing to destroy innocent young women just for his own benefit.

“You’d rather not seek revenge than cultivate the Devouring Dark Devil Technique?” Gu Li asked again.

“Of course not!” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes flashed viciously. “Being humiliated in that manner and having my pride trampled on... How can I not seek revenge for that? However, even if my strength doesn’t allow me to seek revenge in that manner, I’ll look for other ways to seek revenge!” Duan Ling Tian continued to say, “For example, I can think of ways to make others do the work for me.”

“Make others do the work for you?” Gu Li was stunned. “How?”

“For example, I can kidnap one of the family members of the Leader of Mountainshade Black Market or the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion. I can use their family as leverage and ask them to kill Feng Bu Yi. Once Feng Bu Yi dies, I’ll let their family member go!” Duan Ling Tian said, “Even if they kill me eventually, I’ll still feel it’s worth it!”

When Gu Li heard Duan Ling Tian’s words, he felt amazed. At the same time, he sighed emotionally. “It would’ve been great if Palace Master Zhu heard your words before he rescued Xu Jing...”

“Senior Brother Gu Li, I’m just casually saying this... It’s obviously not that easy to kidnap the family members of the Leader of Mountainshade Black Market or the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion,” Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, “That’s why even if Palace Master Zhu heard my words, he might not have heeded them.”

“That might be the case in the past. However, from what I know, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is a sentimental person. I heard he brought back many family members from his hometown to the Azure Cloud Mansion a few years ago,” Gu Li said, “He brought back quite a number of them to the Azure Cloud Mansion. It would be impossible for every one of them to be protected by a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage... With Palace Master Zhu’s strength at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage, it wouldn’t have been hard for him to kidnap one of them.”

“A few years ago, he brought back many family members from his hometown to the Azure Cloud Mansion?”

Duan Ling Tian was stunned when he heard Gu Li’s words. He asked, “Senior Brother Gu Li, I heard that the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is very young. His rise in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land happened less than twenty years ago. During that period of time, he managed to lead the Azure Cloud Mansion to stand at the peak of the Lower Province and is on equal footing with the Mountainshade Black Market?”

“Yes, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is legendary in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land! He’s also someone I admire.” Gu Li nodded. “Although the Leader of Mountainshade Black Market’s innate talent and strength are not inferior to his, he was nurtured by the Mountainshade Black Market since young... On the contrary, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion only came from the Mortal Continent!”

“As someone who came from the Mortal Continent and rose to such heights, it’s enough to make him a legend in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land!” Gu Li said in admiration.

“Mortal Continent?!”

Duan Ling Tian was shocked. “The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is from the Mortal Continent?”

At this moment, all the information about the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion began to appear in Duan Ling Tian’s mind.

In less than twenty years, he rose quickly in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land! A few years ago, he brought his relatives here from his hometown in the Mortal Continent!

Dugu in the North, Ru Feng in the South, holding up the heaven and earth of the Lower Province...Ru Feng in the South refers to the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion!

Ru Feng!

‘Back then, Little Fei’er... She was brought away by father’s men! To be able to bring Little Fei’er away from the Greenwave Han Mansion that’s a fifth-rate force, father’s subordinate is certainly not weak... Could it be...’ A hard to believe thought suddenly appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s mind.

Naturally, this was just his speculation. He could not confirm it yet.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, what’s wrong with you?” Gu Li was baffled when he saw the blank expression on Duan Ling Tian face as he stared ahead in a daze. His body was even trembling a little. He did not know why his junior brother would suddenly react in this manner.

“Gu... Senior Brother Gu Li.” Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and tried to suppress his raging emotions. He looked at Gu Li and asked solemnly, “You... Do you know the name of the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?”

When Gu Li saw Duan Ling Tian’s solemn expression, he expected him to say something serious. He did not expect to be asked this question. Gu Li did not know if he should laugh or cry. “What? Junior Brother Ling Tian doesn’t know the name of the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?”

“Senior Brother Gu Li, tell me!” Duan Ling Tian took another deep breath, but his body was still trembling.

At this moment, Gu Li finally realized something was amiss with Duan Ling Tian. Although he did not know the reason why, he became serious as well as he answered, “The name of the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is Duan Ru Feng!”

“Perhaps, you’ve never heard of his name, but you should’ve heard of the saying, ‘Dugu in the North, Ru Feng in the South, holding up the heaven and earth of the Lower Province’. ‘Ru Feng in the South’ refers to him!”