

SOVEREIGN 1991

Chapter 1991: Palace Of Death

“Duan Ling Tian’s really smart! He just called Senior Brother Yang Wen’s bluff, and it’s enough to scare Senior Brother Yang Wen... Don’t tell me Senior Brother Yang Wen really doesn’t dare to accept the Death Duel that Duan Ling Tian suggested?” The Saint Land disciples whispered among themselves as they looked at Yang Wen.

Based on their words, one could hear them mock Yang Wen and insinuating he was a coward!

“Calling my bluff?” Naturally, Yang Wen had also thought of this. However, he did not dare to simply agree to Duan Ling Tian’s suggestion.

He did not dare to take this risk. If he lost, then he would die!

“It seems like you don’t dare to accept this Death Duel...” Duan Ling Tian said nonchalantly as he looked at Yang Wen, “So much for being a true disciple!”

As soon as he finished speaking, he soared up into the sky and was about to leave.

So much for being a true disciple!

Duan Ling Tian’s words that were filled with disdain had enraged Yang Wen, causing his expression to turn grave. He snorted coldly. “Duan Ling Tian, I agree with your suggestion! Do you really think that I, Yang Wen, will be fooled by you? How ridiculous!” Yang Wen quickly made up his mind.

If he did not agree to Duan Ling Tian’s suggestion, it would mean that he was afraid of Duan Ling Tian who had killed his younger brother.

If Duan Ling Tian was really stronger than him, it would be better for him to turn down Duan Ling Tian’s challenge. However, Duan Ling Tian was weaker than him, and he was just calling his bluff. It would be very embarrassing if he refused his challenge.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s disdainful words, after weighing the pros and cons, Yang Wen finally agreed to his suggestion.

Based on what he could see, Duan Ling Tian was just calling his bluff.

“You agree?” Duan Ling Tian was momentarily stunned when he heard his words. A hint of surprise could be seen on his face.

Due to the surprised expression on his face, a round of discussion began again among the Saint Land disciples.

“Did you see it? Duan Ling Tian’s expression changed! It’s as though he didn’t expect Senior Brother Yang Wen would agree to his suggestion!”

“Based on this, I’m certain he’s only trying to look mysterious. Fortunately, Senior Brother Yang Wen agreed to his suggestion. Otherwise, he would only bring shame to himself and the other true disciples!”

“That’s right! A true disciple that’s afraid to accept a Death Duel from an elite disciple. If news of this spread out, he would really bring shame to himself and the other true disciples!”

“Fortunately, Senior Brother Yang Wen finally agreed to Duan Ling Tian’s suggestion at the crucial moment! Duan Ling Tian has failed to call Senior Yang Wen’s bluff!”

The group of Saint Land disciples felt that Yang Wen had made the right decision. In their opinion, Duan Ling Tian was just calling Yang Wen’s bluff. He was probably trying to scare Yang Wen into retreating by suggesting a Death Duel. Since Yang Wen had agreed to it, his plans had, naturally, failed.

At this moment, would Duan Ling Tian still dare to insist on having a Death Duel?

“The fact that Senior Brother Yang Wen agreed to Duan Ling Tian’s suggestion means he has already investigated Duan Ling Tian. Look at the change in Duan Ling Tian’s expression. I’m certain he won’t dare to continue with the Death Duel!”

“If he continues, he’ll definitely die! At this moment, on the brink of life and death, I’m sure he would rather be tortured by Senior Brother Yang Wen rather than die!”

“His little trick has failed!”

The group of Saint Land disciples whispered among themselves. They all felt Duan Ling Tian would go against his words now that Yang Wen had agreed to it.

“Duan Ling Tian, I’ve agreed to your suggestions. Don’t tell me you’re going to go back on your words? Perhaps, you’d rather I torture you instead of going to the Palace of Death to sign the Death Pact and carry out the Death Duel?” A mocking smile appeared on Yang Wen’s face when he saw the surprised expression on Duan Ling Tian’s face. His words were filled with disdain.

At this moment, Yang Wen recalled his earlier hesitation. He was glad he agreed to Duan Ling Tian’s suggestion. Otherwise, he would be the one who was humiliated.

Faced with Yang Wen and the Saint Land disciples’ mocking gaze, Duan Ling Tian regained his composure. He said indifferently, “Lead the way!”

Lead the way!

When Duan Ling Tian said these three words, the entire place fell silent.

The group of Saint Land disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian with a dumbfounded expression. It did not cross their minds that Duan Ling Tian would agree to it. Was he not afraid he would not be able to back out later?

Yang Wen was stunned as well. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian would agree to it as well.

Yang Wen’s determination faltered again as various expressions flitted across his face.

“Why? You don’t dare to do it? Didn’t you readily agree to it earlier?” Duan Ling Tian mocked Yang Wen with a smile when he saw the changing expressions on Yang Wen’s face.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, Yang Wen's face turned green before it paled. He clenched his teeth angrily before he said, "Duan Ling Tian, I'd like to see if you'll still be so arrogant when we sign the Death Pact!"

As soon as Yang Wen finished speaking, he did not wait for Duan Ling Tian's reply as his body turned into a blur as he charged toward the Central Square. "Follow me to the Palace of Death if you dare to sign the Death Pact. We'll have a Death Duel then. If you dare not, I'll let you feel what it feels like to be better off dead!"

As he charged out, his voice resonated from afar. It was filled with a terrifyingly cold aura. It seemed to cause the temperature in the surroundings to drop by a few degrees.

After Yang Wen traveled a distance away, he slowed down before he turned around to look at Duan Ling Tian disdainfully. It was as though he wanted to make sure Duan Ling Tian really did follow him.

The Palace Of Death was situated in the middle of the Central Square in the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Island.

The Saint Island was also another name for the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land's Main Island.

In the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land, Saint Land disciples with enmity could go to the Palace Of Death and sign a Death Pact that would be witnessed by the Palace Of Death's elder.

Not only that, but they could also fight a life-or-death battle in the Death Arena!

Currently, Yang Wen was making his way to the Palace Of Death in the Saint Island's Central Square. Naturally, that was only if Duan Ling Tian followed him there.

"It seems like Senior Brother is aware of Duan Ling Tian's trick and is no longer fooled by him!"

"As the saying goes, 'Once bitten twice shy'. If Senior Brother Yang Wen still doesn't know, then him being a true disciple and a Saint Celestial Stage powerhouse is just a waste!"

"That's right! A true disciple who's afraid of a Death Duel with an elite disciple? If news spread out, wouldn't he become a laughingstock?"

Most of the Saint Land disciples gave Yang Wen a thumbs-up when they saw his compelling manner.

At the same time, these Saint Land disciples shifted their gaze to Duan Ling Tian again.

Their eyes contained a hint of mockery. They wanted to see if Duan Ling Tian dared to follow Yang Wen to the Palace Of Death at the Saint Island's Central Square.

Once they went to the Palace Of Death and sign the Death Pact, none of them would be able to retreat!

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, don't go!"

"Senior Brother Ling Tian, don't go!"

Just as Duan Ling Tian was about to follow Yang Wen, two voices rang in his ears.

At once, Duan Ling Tian noticed the two Saint Land disciples who were standing at two different places. It was them who transmitted their voices to him, trying to stop him from following Yang Wen to the Palace Of Death on the Saint Island's Central Square.

One of them was none other than Sun De whose Primus house was snatched by Duan Ling Tian in the Punishment Zone of the Four Symbols Sanctum's First Mine.

Just like Duan Ling Tian, Sun De was from the Black Turtle Sanctum from the Four Symbols Sanctums.

The reason Sun De was able to leave the Four Symbols Sanctums' First Mine and came to the Saint Land to become a Saint Land disciple was due to him successfully comprehending the Black Turtle Sanctum's most treasured Divine Ability, the Black Turtle's Barrier.

The reason he succeeded in comprehending the Black Turtle's Barrier was due to the pressure from Duan Ling Tian that day.

Due to this reason, he felt thankful toward Duan Ling Tian. When he saw Duan Ling Tian was about to jump into the fire pit, he quickly transmitted his voice to Duan Ling Tian.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, the shepherd would rather lose the wool than the sheep! As long as you live, you'll eventually get a chance to seek revenge! There's no need to follow Yang Chong to the Palace Of Death just because of a moment of anger. If you really go to the Palace Of Death and sign the Death Pact, it would be too late even if you want to change your mind!" Sun De tried his best to persuade Duan Ling Tian.

The meaning of Sun De's words was simple. As long as he stayed alive, he would be able to seek revenge in the future. It was not worth it for him to seek death!

"Thank you for your concern, Senior Brother Sun De. I know what I'm doing!" Duan Ling Tian reassured Sun De before he looked at the other person who tried to stop him.

He had only seen the other person once. Due to this reason, he was shocked when he saw the person who tried to stop him.

This person was the Saint Land disciple whom he encountered ten days ago. At that time, he had just left the registry for new Saint Land disciples and did not know where the residence of the Saint Land's disciples was. For this reason, he had stopped this person to ask for directions.

Apart from that time, he had no other interactions with this person.

It did not cross his mind this person would stop him at this moment.

"Senior Brother, why did you call me Senior Brother?" Duan Ling Tian asked with a wry smile through his Voice Transmission. He remembered he had addressed the other person as senior brother the last time they met. Moreover, the other person also addressed him as junior brother.

The Saint Land disciple who stopped Duan Ling Tian was none other than Guan Xiu who gave Duan Ling Tian directions ten days ago. He said in a slightly fearful voice, "Junior Brother Ling Tian, I, Guan Xiu, didn't know your identity that day. I'm sorry for being ignorant!"

Duan Ling Tian was far stronger than him after all. It was fine if he did not know Duan Ling Tian's identity. However, after learning about Duan Ling Tian's identity, he did not dare to refer to himself as senior brother anymore.

Chapter 1992: The Commotion Continues In the Central Square

Duan Ling Tian could not help but smile wryly when he heard the other party's words.

However, he did not continue to argue about this with Guan Xiu since he knew this was a world where the strong ones were revered. Guan Xiu was sincere when he addressed him as senior brother. If Duan Ling Tian had insisted on addressing Guan Xiu as senior brother, it would pressure Guan Xiu as well.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, although you're strong, I'm afraid it's still lacking compared to a true disciple. Anyone of the true disciples is already at the Saint Celestial Stage or above! Senior Brother Yang Wen, in particular, has already reached the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage a few years ago!" Guan Xiu continued to advise him through Voice Transmission with a solemn expression.

Duan Ling Tian felt a sense of warmth enveloped his heart when faced with Guan Xiu's good intention. After all, he had only met him once prior to this. The fact that he was kind enough to worry about him was very rare.

"Don't worry!" Duan Ling Tian replied Guan Xiu through Voice Transmission and gave him a reassuring look. Then, under Guan Xiu and Sun De's helpless stare, he flew toward the true disciple, Yang Wen, who had flown quite a distance away.

"Huh?" Yang Wen's expression turned solemn immediately when he saw Duan Ling Tian was really brave enough to follow him.

"He actually dares to follow me?"

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"Looks like he won't give up before they sign the Death Duel!"

"He's really giving it his all! However, even if his strength is far from comparable to Senior Brother Yang Wen, by doing this, he's still able to pressure Senior Brother Yang Wen."

"That's right! Look at Yang Wen's expression. It has already turned grave!"

As the Saint Land disciples shifted their attention to Yang Wen, his solemn expression finally disappeared. He glanced at Duan Ling Tian contemptuously and said, "Duan Ling Tian, I really wonder if you'll still be so courageous when we arrive at the Palace Of Death and have to sign the Death Pact. I hope you'll obediently sign the Death Pact. Otherwise, I'll definitely rip off your nails one by one and let you have a taste of death!" His tone turned colder and colder as he spoke. Although his words were not intended for the Saint Land disciples, it still sent chills up their spines.

"Rip off my nails one by one?" Killing intent flashed in the depths of Duan Ling Tian's eyes when he heard Yang Wen's ruthless words. However, his expression was so calm that it was terrifying.

“Humph! I’d like to see how long you’ll be able to maintain your composure!” Yang Wen flew out immediately in humiliation when he saw Duan Ling Tian still remained calm even after hearing his ruthless words. He snorted coldly as he sped up and made his way toward the Saint Island’s Central Square.

Duan Ling Tian followed after him at a speed that was neither slow nor fast. From the beginning until the end, he did not have any intention of shying away from this battle.

Sun De, Guan Xiu, and the Saint Land disciples followed after them as well. When they reached the sky above the Saint Island’s Central Square, the crowd attracted the other Saint Land disciples in the Central Square.

“What’s going on? Why are there suddenly so many people?”

“Huh? The person flying in the lead seems to be Senior Brother Yang Wen!”

“It’s indeed Senior Brother Yang Wen! It seems like the group of people is following Senior Brother Yang Wen.”

“Something doesn’t seem right with Senior Brother Yang Wen’s expression. What’s going on?”

There were only over 170 true disciples in the Fire Worship Sect’s Saint Land. That was the reason many Saint Land disciples recognized Yang Wen.

Although Yang Wen’s strength was considered to be at the bottom among all the true disciples, it was still easy for them to recognize him since there were so few true disciples.

“Is Senior Brother Yang Wen heading to the Palace Of Death?”

“My goodness! What’s going on?!”

“Is Senior Brother Yang Wen going to have a Death Duel with another true disciple?”

When the Saint Land disciples realized Yang Wen who was in the lead was heading to the Palace Of Death at the side of the Central Square, over a thousand Saint Land disciples broke out in an uproar, causing the Central Square to turn noisy.

When Yang Wen descended outside the Palace Of Death, over a thousand Saint Land disciples finally learned about what had transpired from the other Saint Land disciples who had been there since the beginning and followed Yang Wen here.

“Senior Brother Yang Wen is the son of the fifth elder of the Northern Plethora Sect?”

“The young man behind Senior Brother Yang Wen is Duan Ling Tian who recently became famous in the Fire Worship Sect? The Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior? The martial cultivator genius who mastered four high-grade Divine Abilities?”

“It was Duan Ling Tian who suggested having a Death Duel with Senior Brother Yang Wen?”

The Saint Land disciples who were in the Central Square broke out in a bigger commotion after they learned about what had transpired.

An ordinary elite disciple issuing a Death Duel to a true disciple. In the history of the Fire Worship Sect, such an absurd thing had never happened before.

After all, a true disciple represented the strength of a powerhouse at the Saint Celestial Stage or above. An ordinary elite disciple could not compare to a true disciple.

More and more Saint Land disciples, like the ones from before, felt that Duan Ling Tian was only calling Yang Wen's bluff in hopes of scaring him.

"I think Duan Ling Tian's going to be afraid once he enters the Palace of Death and has to sign the Death Pact!"

"Duan Ling Tian's not a simple person. He's actually using a psychological tactic. I'm guessing he'll refuse to sign the Death Pact once Senior Brother Yang Wen signs the Death Pact!"

"Based on the situation so far, that'll most likely happen. If Senior Brother Yang Wen hesitates to sign the Death Duel and refuses to sign it, Duan Ling Tian would win this psychological battle!"

Duan Ling Tian, naturally, heard the discussions of the Saint Land disciples.

Psychological tactic?

Duan Ling Tian was not the only one who heard the discussion. Yang Wen had, naturally, heard it as well.

Yang Wen hesitated immediately. In fact, he was not mentally prepared for it up until now. Although he had led Duan Ling Tian here, he only did it to scare him. After all, he was only 90% certain he could kill Duan Ling Tian! He was not 100% certain because he was not sure if Duan Ling Tian really had the capability or he was merely calling his bluff.

He had felt this way because of his younger brother's, Yang Wu, death. He knew how Yang Wu had died. Yang Wu had taken the initiative and issued a Death Duel to Duan Ling Tian. This had left an impression in Yang Wu's heart.

By right, he knew that it was impossible that Duan Ling Tian was a match for him. However, due to his brother's death, he was not certain he should engage in a Death Duel with Duan Ling Tian. He did not wish to follow in his brother's footsteps.

'Don't tell me Duan Ling Tian plans to change his mind after I sign and put my handprint on the Death Pact?' Yang Wen's expression darkened the moment he thought of this.

However, with the thousands of Saint Land of disciples following behind him, he knew the situation was irreversible.

As the saying went, 'Once an arrow is shot out, it would not be able to turn around'.

“Palace Of Death?” Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who was following closely behind Yang Wen shifted his gaze to a huge and majestic palace before his eyes. The words ‘Palace of Death’ were written elaborately on the plaque that was hung on the main entrance of the palace.

“Why did Senior Brother Yang Wen stop?”

“Go in! He has already reached the main entrance, why did he stop?”

“Could it be that Senior Brother Yang Wen is scared? Come on! He’s a true disciple. Don’t tell me he’s afraid of an ordinary disciple who’s obviously calling his bluff?”

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Yang Wen who was in the lead stopped moving for a long time as soon as he arrived before the Palace of Death. Due to this reason, the Saint Land disciples who were following him began to get a little impatient as they grumbled among themselves.

“Tsk! So much for being a true disciple... If you’re afraid, then leave now instead of staying here and embarrassing yourself!”

“He’s really an embarrassment to all true disciples today!”

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No matter where or when, there were many people who liked to watch a show. Many Saint Land disciples were afraid of Yang Wen, but they hid themselves as they mocked Yang Wen.

“Shut up!” Yang Wan said in a raised voice. He felt humiliated. His voice was so loud that it overpowered everyone’s voices. Everyone outside of the Palace of Death instantly fell silent.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Yang Wen turned around and looked at Duan Ling Tian coldly before he said in a deep voice, “Duan Ling Tian, I hope you won’t back out after I sign and put my handprint on the Death Pact. If you change your mind, on top of pulling out your nails one by one, I’ll flay the skin off your face!” As soon as he finished speaking, he did not wait for Duan Ling Tian to reply as he turned around and went into the Palace of Death.

The instant Duan Ling Tian heard Yang Wen’s words, his expression changed immediately. His calm expression was gone.

Flay the skin off his face?

Yang Wen’s cruelty had infuriated Duan Ling Tian. He could no longer maintain his composure.

Duan Ling Tian followed suit as well when he saw Yang Wen had already entered the Palace of Death.

“They’ve finally entered!”

“Let’s go! Let’s go and have a look!”

“It has been a long time since the Death Arena was opened. This time, I must put all my Contribution Points to good use and make a gamble even if the odds of betting on Senior Brother Yang Wen is not high.”

“Isn’t it too early for you to say such things? Right now, there’s no saying if Duan Ling Tian’s going to sign the Death Pact or not!”

The group of Saint Land disciples following them was still loudly discussing among themselves.

However, they fell silent when they reached the entrance of the Palace of Death. They were not allowed to enter the Palace Of Death unless the Death Pact had been signed and the Death Arena was opened.