

SOVEREIGN 2015

Chapter 2015: A Conflict

Slap!

The sound of a slap resonated in the Fire Remuneration Palace that had fallen silent due to Duan Ling Tian intentionally blocking Wen Yan's path. The sound of a slap was so abrupt that it caught everyone off guard.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

As the sound of the slap echoed in the Fire Remuneration Palace, the sound of people gasping could be heard as well.

The Saint Land disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian in confusion and disbelief.

Dear Lord!

What did they just witness?

Apart from intentionally blocking Wen Yan's path, Duan Ling Tian had slapped her. When they saw one side of her face that was beginning to swell, they felt chills running up their spines immediately.

Although Wen Yan was a female true disciple, she was very strong. Among over 170 true disciples in the Fire Worship Sect, her strength was ranked in the top ten. She was ranked ninth on the True Ranking.

Even then, Duan Ling Tian, someone who had just become a true disciple and was not even ranked on the True Ranking, took the initiative to provoke Wen Yan by blocking her path and slapping her publicly?

'Is he seeking death?!' At this moment, this was the only thought in the Saint Land disciples' minds.

Meanwhile, Wen Yan whose path had been blocked and then slapped for seemingly no reason was dumbfounded. Due to this reason, she could not react in time. She only regained her senses when she heard the sounds of gasping in her surroundings.

Her expression darkened immediately when she regained her senses. The side of her face that was swollen made her look even fiercer.

Many Saint Land disciples could not help but shake their heads. How come they never realized that Wen Yan had such an ugly side to her?

"Y-you dare to slap me?!" Wen Yan looked at Duan Ling Tian with a twisted expression. Rage filled her eyes, but there was also a small hint of dread in it.

Due to this feeling of dread, she did not instantly make a move against the person standing before her.

Based on Wen Yan's reaction, one could see she was someone who knew when to endure. For example, she had endured for a long time as she bid her time before she reported Gan Ru Yan, Ke'er's sister, to the Saint Land Enforcement Hall.

There were more than 170 true disciples in the Fire Worship Sects, and there were not more than twenty female disciples. Among over 170 true disciples in the Fire Worship Sect, only two female disciples were ranked in the top ten of the True Ranking.

Apart from Wen Yan, the other person was Gan Ru Yan, Ke'er's sister, who brought Ke'er back to the Fire Worship Sect.

Gan Ru Yan was ranked seventh on the True Ranking. Gan Ru Yan was superior to Wen Yan in both appearance and strength.

In the Fire Worship Sect, Gan Ru Yan was like a goddess. As long as Gan Ru Yan was around, Wen Yan was destined to be like a leaf that served as the backdrop.

For this reason, Wen Yan hated Gan Ru Yan very much. Every time she saw Gan Ru Yan, she would curse God for putting them together in the same place.

It was only recently that Wen Yan found an opportunity to get rid of this eyesore. Gan Ru Yan was imprisoned due to her reporting it to the Enforcement Hall.

In any case, it did not cross Wen Yan's mind that a young man who seemed to be a stranger and was wearing a true disciple's uniform had blocked her path and humiliated her by slapping her because she had reported Gan Ru Yan.

"Why did I slap you?" Duan Ling Tian's opinion of Wen Yan rose a little when he saw she did not instantly make a move. When he heard Wen Yan questioning him through clenched teeth while enduring her anger, he answered indifferently, "No reason. I just can't stand the sight of you."

I just can't stand the sight of you!

Duan Ling Tian's indifferent reply caused the Fire Remuneration Palace to fall silent.

Everyone in the Fire Remuneration Palace, including the Fire Remuneration Palace's elders, looked at Duan Ling Tian in shock.

Duan Ling Tian was being too bold, right?

After slapping Wen Yan who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking, he even said he could not stand the sight of her.

Was he not intentionally looking for trouble?

"Wait a minute! Duan Ling Tian must have enmity with Wen Yan. Otherwise, why did he find everybody pleasing to the eyes but not Wen Yan? It's okay if he thinks she's an eyesore, but he actually blocked her path and slapped her!" There were many people in the Fire Remuneration Palace who still had clear minds.

They did not believe Duan Ling Tian's words.

They were not the only ones who did not believe his words. Even Wen Yan did not believe him.

“Who are you? I know for a fact this is our first time meeting, and I have no enmity with you. Why would you humiliate me like this?” Wen Yan’s expression turned even more twisted. Her voice became much lower as she suppressed her flames of fury that seemed as though it would erupt at any time. One could imagine if it erupted, it would be a sight to see.

“Humiliate you?” Duan Ling Tian looked at her indifferently as he smiled contemptuously. “Huh? You really have a high opinion of yourself!”

“YOU!” Faced with his contemptuous smile, Wen Yan’s expression turned ugly. Her eyes were bloodshot as killing intent surged out of her body as though she was about to lose her cool.

“Get lost! Don’t block my path!” Duan Ling Tian said. It was apparent he wanted her to move out of the way. He ignored her killing intent.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

The sound of gaspings resonated again in the air. Soon after, many Saint Land disciples began to whisper among themselves.

“Duan Ling Tian is too bold. Not only did he block Senior Sister Wen Yan’s path, but he even slapped her. Now, he even asked her to get lost and make way for him. If I didn’t witness this with my own eyes, I wouldn’t believe he would dare to act this way.”

“Although Senior Sister Wen Yan and Yang Wen whom he killed are true disciples, Senior Sister Wen Yan is not someone Yang Wen could compare to. Yang Wen wasn’t even ranked on the True Ranking, but Senior Sister Wen Yan is a powerhouse who’s ranked ninth on the True Ranking! Duan Ling Tian actually dares to look for trouble with her? Where does he get his courage from?”

“Perhaps, he really finds Senior Sister Wen Yan to be an eyesore and doesn’t know about her strength?”

“How can you say such nonsensical words? I can’t speak for everyone, but since Duan Ling Tian joined the Fire Worship Sect, he has never taken the initiative to look for trouble. All the incidents that involved him were started by the other parties. He had merely retaliated. Do you think someone like that would block Senior Sister Wen Yan’s path and slap her just because he finds her displeasing to look at?”

“I don’t believe Duan Ling Tian’s excuse either! Senior Sister Wen Yan must have offended Duan Ling Tian at some time. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have acted like this!”

“However, even if Senior Sister Wen Yan has offended Duan Ling Tian, where did he get his courage from? To think he dares to humiliate her in such a way!”

In the Saint Land disciples’ opinion, although Duan Ling Tian was strong and managed to kill the true disciple, Yang Wen, they did not think Duan Ling Tian was a match for Wen Yan who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking. The strength between Yang Wen and Wen Yan was just too wide.

“Duan Ling Tian?” Wen Yan, naturally, heard the whispering in her surroundings. Her eyes instantly narrowed as it flashed coldly. She was no stranger to the name Duan Ling Tian. She had heard about the

recent incident that caused a commotion in the Fire Worship Sect when Duan Ling Tian killed Yang Wen in the Palace of Death.

In the history of the Fire Worship Sect, this was the first time an elite disciple had killed a true disciple. One could say Duan Ling Tian had rewritten history in the Fire Worship Sect.

“So you’re Duan Ling Tian!” Wen Yan looked at Duan Ling Tian with narrowed eyes. The hint of dread had disappeared, it was replaced with a cold look instead. “I’ll give you a chance! Kneel and kowtow to me as an apology. On top of that, let me slap you ten times! Otherwise, I’ll make you leave by crawling out the door today!” Initially, Wen Yan had thought this unknown true disciple must have some sort of support for being so bold as to humiliate her. However, when she found out this disciple was Duan Ling Tian who had recently risen to fame, she was no longer wary of him.

Duan Ling Tian might be strong. However, he was just a commoner with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. He was destined to not have any great accomplishments. Moreover, no powerhouse would accept him as a disciple. For this reason, Wen Yan was not worried Duan Ling Tian had support or some extraordinary background.

As for Duan Ling Tian’s strength, she was not concerned at all even though it was not bad.

Although Duan Ling Tian managed to kill Yang Wen, the true disciple, whose Saint Origin had risen to the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage after consuming the forbidden pill, she could also kill Yang Wen just as easily.

The Saint Origin of a true powerhouse at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was not the only thing that made him or her strong. There were other aspects that made them strong.

Wen Yan knew her strength could be considered as being in the middle among all powerhouses at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage in the Dao Martial Saint Land so she was not afraid of Duan Ling Tian who had killed Yang Wen.

“You’re giving me a chance to kneel and kowtow to you as an apology and let you slap me ten times?” Duan Ling Tian was momentarily stunned when he heard Wen Yan’s words. Then, he looked at her with a smirk as though she was an idiot. “Wen Yan, have you gone insane?”

Chapter 2016: The Conflict Intensified

“Wen Yan, have you gone insane?” Duan Ling Tian’s cold voice rang loudly in the Fire Remuneration Palace that had fallen completely silent.

At this instant, everybody in the Fire Remuneration Palace could feel the tension in the air between Duan Ling Tian and Wen Yan. It seemed as though they were about to fight.

When Wen Yan saw Duan Ling Tian looking at her as though she was an idiot and heard the words he said, she became so furious that her body began to tremble. Her expression turned uglier as her eyes turned even colder. The flame of fury in her heart burned even hotter.

When she learned the person before her was Duan Ling Tian, Wen Yan had thought to torture him until he wished he was dead before letting him crawl out of the Fire Remuneration Palace. However, she

thought the punishment was too light. Therefore, she had abruptly said, "I'll give you a chance. Kneel and kowtow to me as an apology. On top of that, let me slap you ten times! Otherwise, I'll make you crawl out the door today!"

Duan Ling Tian slapping her in public was a great humiliation to her. She knew it would not take long before news of this began to circulate in the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land and the Four Symbols Sanctums. Therefore, she knew she could not let Duan Ling Tian off so easily.

For this reason, Wen Yan did not act rashly and even suppress her fury. She wanted Duan Ling Tian to kowtow to her and apologize. On top of that, she would beat him up after she had slapped him ten times. She would make Duan Ling Tian wish he was dead and make him crawl out of the Fire Remuneration Palace! However, she did not expect Duan Ling Tian would be so daring and said that she had gone insane. It seemed like he thought nothing of her.

Wen Yan could no longer suppress the fury in her heart!

"Duan Ling Tian, you're seeking death!" Wen Yan hissed. Her fury that was suppressed had completely erupted at this point.

In the next instant, a powerful aura surged out of Wen Yan's body like a typhoon, causing many Saint Land disciples with a low cultivation base to feel suffocated. It was Wen Yan's Saint Origin at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Duan Ling Tian instantly put up his guard. The Sun Saint Energy in his body traveled through the 99 Saint Veins and covered the surface of his body. At this moment, his eyes had turned cold.

When the energy from Wen Yan reached its highest point, and she was about to make her move...

"Hurmph!" A cold snort rang in the Fire Remuneration Palace's Inner Palace. It was as though a bucket of cold water had been poured on her.

"Get lost from the Fire Remuneration Palace if both of you want to fight! The Fire Remuneration Palace is not a place where you can act you please!" The cold voice said from the Fire Remuneration Palace's inner palace. It was the voice of the custodian of the Fire Remuneration Palace.

The Fire Remuneration Palace's custodian was a Saint Land's Silver Flame Elder. Only the custodian of the Fire Remuneration Palace would dare to speak to Wen Yan in such a way.

Although the few Bronze Flame Elders in the Fire Remuneration Palace were considered as elders in the Fire Worship Sect, they might not be a match for Wen Yan. For this reason, they did not dare to order Wen Yan around.

After taking a deep breath, Wen Yan looked at Duan Ling Tian coldly before she turned to walk out of the Fire Remuneration Palace. As though she was afraid Duan Ling Tian would hide in the Fire Remuneration Palace, she said, "I'll wait for you outside the Fire Remuneration Palace. Don't be a coward if you're a man!"

"Hurmph!" Duan Ling Tian snorted coldly before he said indifferently, "It's not up to you to decide if I'm a man or not! If it's another woman, I might have asked them to have a try and see if I'm a man.

However, I really can't bring myself to say such words to you. Even if you strip naked in front of me, I wouldn't be interested at all!"

When Duan Ling Tian learned that Ke'er and their daughter were imprisoned in the Enforcement Hall due to Wen Yan, his anger had been roused. He hated Wen Yan whom he had never met to the core.

If it was not for Wen Yan, Ke'er would not be caught in this perilous situation.

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian's anger had erupted when he saw Wen Yan today! That was why he had intentionally blocked her path and slapped her!

Duan Ling Tian was aware ever since his soul had come to this world, his temperament was no longer indifferent like it was in his former life due to the influences from his family and friends here.

From the beginning, Duan Ling Tian was not someone who would blindly look for trouble. However, when he saw Wen Yan today, he could not hold back his temper and directly slapped her.

Every dragon had a reverse scale, if one touched it, one would absolutely die! Ke'er was his reverse scale! For Ke'er's sake, he would even go against the whole world!

...

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

The Saint Land disciples gasped when they heard Duan Ling Tian's words.

'Even if you strip naked in front of me, I wouldn't be interested at all!' This was undoubtedly a cruel statement to a woman since it called to question the woman's charm!

No matter how powerful a woman was, she would still yearn to be acknowledged by a man. Duan Ling Tian's statement had completely denied Wen Yan's charm!

Wen Yan who had just reached the entrance of the Fire Remuneration Palace came to a halt as her body trembled even more.

"I'll wait for you outside!" She said coldly before she quickly left the Fire Remuneration Palace. It was as though she was afraid she could not hold back and would attack Duan Ling Tian if she continued to stay on.

If that happened, the custodian of the Fire Remuneration Palace would definitely intervene in this matter.

No matter how confident Wen Yan was in her own strength, she was not so arrogant to think she was a match for the custodian of the Fire Remuneration Palace.

The Fire Remuneration Palace's custodian was not only the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land's Silver Flame Elder, but as a custodian of a palace, his strength was ranked in the top among all Silver Flame Elders. His cultivation base had entered the Fourth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

After Wen Yan left, a Saint Land disciple looked at Duan Ling Tian as he said, "Duan Ling Tian is too cruel, right?"

"What kind of enmity does Duan Ling Tian and Senior Sister Wen Yan have? Not only did he slap Senior Sister Wen Yan publicly, but he even denounced her charm as a woman. To a woman, that's even worse than death!"

"How cruel!"

"I won't be able to hold back and would instantly attack him if I were Senior Sister Wen Yan!"

"Senior Sister Wen Yan won't let go of him today unless he hides in the Fire Remuneration Palace."

"Where did he get his confidence from? To think he's so bold as to humiliate Senior Sister Wen Yan like this? Don't tell me he's confident that he's stronger than her?"

"Humph! He didn't underestimate Senior Sister Wen Yan and thinks she's a soft persimmon like Yang Wen, right?"

The Saint Land disciples whispered among themselves. None of them thought he was a match for Wen Yan.

After all, Wen Yan was ranked ninth on the True Ranking. Her strength had long been imprinted in their minds.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, seemed inferior to them despite having killed Yang Wen.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian had also heard the whispering from the Saint Land disciples.

However, was he someone who would hide in the Fire Remuneration Palace out of fear of Wen Yan? Of course not.

Duan Ling Tian strode out boldly and determinedly. From the beginning until the end, he did not hesitate at all. If he was afraid of Wen Yan, he would not have blocked her path and slapped her!

"H-He actually walked out?"

"I-is he really not afraid of death?"

"Death? Senior Sister won't simply kill or cripple him as long as the Fire Worship Sect's rule is in effect!"

"Even so, judging from Senior Sister Wen Yan's anger, Duan Ling Tian is going to have his skin flayed even if he's not killed or crippled!"

"That's for sure!"

When Duan Ling Tian walked out of the Fire Remuneration Palace, the group of Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace also left immediately. Currently, only a few Bronze Flame Elders were left in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

These few Fire Remuneration Palace's Bronze Flame Elders who were on duty behind the counters were actually eager to leave the Fire Remuneration Palace to watch the show as well. However, they did not dare to shirk their duties.

"There shouldn't be anyone coming to the Fire Remuneration Palace to put up or accept assignments for the time being. If any of you want to have a look, just go." At this moment, a voice rang out in the Fire Remuneration Palace. It was the voice of the custodian of the Fire Remuneration Palace.

Upon hearing this, the few Fire Remuneration Palace's elders no longer hesitated as they left the Fire Remuneration Palace one after another. They wanted to know how this incident would end.

Naturally, they were more inclined toward Wen Yan. She was a powerhouse who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking after all, and her strength was widely acknowledged!

The moment Duan Ling Tian walked out from the Fire Remuneration Palace, he saw Wen Yan standing in the distance. She was standing in an empty area in the Central Square as she looked at him coldly.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian only looked at her indifferently and ignored her after he walked out of the Fire Remuneration Palace.

In the next instant, he rose up into the air to leave.