

### Chapter 2029: A Face Full Of Blood

When the Sun Saint Energy on Duan Ling Tian's body skyrocketed to its limit, the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace saw something flashed before their eyes. It was Dong Lin who was charging toward Duan Ling Tian. At this moment, he was only a foot away from Duan Ling Tian.

Bang!

A loud explosion suddenly rang in the air at the crucial moment. Dong Lin had come to a halt before Duan Ling Tian. The sound of his feet landing on the ground was like a clap of thunder that shocked everyone.

At the same time, the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace saw two cracks underneath Dong Lin's feet.

The sound of people gasping sounded in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

Although the ground in the Fire Remuneration Palace was not as tough as the ground in the Death Arena in the Palace of Death, it was extremely tough since it was made from rare materials. It was extremely difficult for ordinary swords or sabers to leave their marks on it. However, Dong Lin's feet had just left marks on the ground. Based on this, one could see how much force he had used when his feet had landed on the ground.

"That's..." When Dong Lin had forcefully come to a halt, many Saint Land disciples who had sharp eyes could see that a handful of hair fell from Dong Lin's forehead. The hair was cut evenly as though they had been cut using an extremely sharp weapon.

"Duan Ling Tian had already taken out his sword?" Many Saint Land disciples who had seen Duan Ling Tian casting the invisible sword technique before could not help but gasp again as they broke out in cold sweat.

At this moment, many people also noticed the beads of sweat on Dong Lin's forehead. He was sweating profusely.

One could tell how frightened Dong Lin was just a moment ago. Otherwise, he would not have sweat so much!

"Duan Ling Tian cast his sword technique again?"

"Why didn't I hear the sound of sword whistling the air?"

"Are you an idiot? That sound must have been overpowered by the sound that was caused by Elder Dong Lin's feet landing on the ground. I was wondering why he would suddenly stop since he was so angry. As it turns out, Duan Ling Tian had cast his sword technique!"

"That handful of hair that fell from his forehead must have been cut by Duan Ling Tian. It's obvious he's sweating because he's afraid. Looks like he wouldn't be able to live if Duan Ling Tian intends to kill him!"

“Isn’t this a given?! Although Elder Dong Lin is quite strong, he’s not even a match for Wen Yan who’s ranked ninth on the True Ranking. How could he be a match for Duan Ling Tian?”

“He already knows he’s no match for Duan Ling Tian, but he still dares to make a move against Duan Ling Tian. I really admire his courage! It’s fortunate he managed to stop in time. Otherwise, I’m afraid it’s not his hair that would be cut, but his head!”

Although in the eyes of the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace, it seemed as though Duan Ling Tian was merely standing still with his arms folded, they knew he had cast his formidable sword technique that caused Dong Lin to come to a halt immediately.

Barf!

At the same time, under the watchful gaze of the others, as Dong Lin’s sweat dripped continuously, his face turned red suddenly as he threw up a mouthful of blood.

The huge mouthful of blood was headed in Duan Ling Tian’s direction. Naturally, it did not contain any offensive force.

“Hurmph!” Duan Ling Tian snorted when he saw this and waved his sleeve. A piercingly cold energy swept out and sent the blood flying in the opposite direction, causing it to splash on Dong Lin’s face.

The sweat and blood on Dong Lin’s face mixed and dripped down his body, dyeing his robe red.

Although the patterns of the uniforms of an elder and a disciple in the Fire Worship Sect were very different, they were all white. For this reason, the blood looked extremely eye-catching.

Everyone in the Fire Remuneration Palace fell silent when they saw this.

‘How wretched!’

This was everyone’s thought when they looked at Dong Lin. Naturally, they did not pity him despite his wretched appearance. After all, he was the one who had taken the initiative to look for trouble with Duan Ling Tian.

If Dong Lin did not abuse his power and ban Duan Ling Tian from serving in the Enforcement Hall, none of this would have happened.

Dong Lin whose face was covered in blood felt extremely humiliated. He said angrily, “Duan Ling Tian! What the hell are you trying to do?!” His eyes were burning with hatred. If he could burn Duan Ling Tian with the fire in his eyes, Duan Ling Tian would have been burned to death!

“What am I trying to do?” Upon hearing his words, Duan Ling Tian was amused. “Elder Dong Lin, what do you think I’m trying to do? I don’t have any objection if you want to leave the Fire Remuneration Palace...” When Duan Ling Tian reached here, his tone suddenly changed. His voice turned cold as he said, “However, today, no matter what, you must say if I can accept the assignment from the Enforcement Hall or not before you leave! Didn’t you say that I’m not qualified to serve in the Enforcement Hall because I have a yellow Innate Spiritual Root? Now that I’ve proven I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root, am I qualified to serve in the Enforcement Hall?”

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Dong Lin was so enraged that he almost threw up blood again.

As a matter of fact, it did not really matter to Dong Lin if Duan Ling Tian served in the Enforcement Hall or not. He had even taken the initiative to seek reconciliation with Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission and guaranteed to recommend him to serve in the Enforcement Hall. He did not expect that not only was Duan Ling Tian not grateful, but he actually pushed him into a corner in front of so many people. It was obvious Duan Ling Tian wanted him to admit he was wrong with his earlier judgment. This was akin to slapping him on the face!

"Why? Don't tell me you think there's something wrong with the Spiritual Pearl in my hand, Elder Dong Lin?" Duan Ling Tian looked at the Spiritual Pearl in his hand and asked calmly when he saw Dong Lin keeping quiet for a long time, "If you think there's something wrong with this Spiritual Pearl, you can always take out your Spiritual Pearl to check my Innate Spiritual Root, Elder Dong Lin! I believe that as an Enforcement Hall's elder, you must have a Spiritual Pearl with you, right?"

Although Duan Ling Tian spoke calmly, his words sounded like claps of thunder when Dong Lin heard it. In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian wanted to push him onto the road of ruin!

If Dong Lin was uncertain earlier about Duan Ling Tian possessing a blue Innate Spiritual Root, he was completely certain now that Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root! Otherwise, he would not have acted so domineeringly.

"Moreover, if I'm not mistaken, you've just returned to the sect or came out from closed-door cultivation, right, Elder Dong Lin?" Duan Ling Tian was not angry even though Dong Lin was ignoring him. Instead, he changed the topic and asked Dong Lin about other things.

"How do you know that?" At this moment, Dong Lin was stunned by Duan Ling Tian's words. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian would be able to guess that he only recently returned to the Fire Worship Sect.

"If you didn't just return to the sect or come out out of closed-door cultivation, it's impossible that you wouldn't know I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root!" Duan Ling Tian explained patiently, "Perhaps most people in the Fire Worship Sect think I have a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. However, apart from the true disciples in serving in the Enforcement Hall, 90% of the people from the Enforcement Hall know that I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root. Those who are unaware are only those who have just come out of closed-door cultivation or weren't present in the sect until recently."

Duan Ling Tian's words caused everyone in the Fire Remuneration Palace to fall silent again.

'The people in the Enforcement Hall know he possesses a blue Innate Spiritual Root?' Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Dong Lin's expression turned grim. At the same time, he turned to look glare at Chen Peng with killing intent, frightening him.

"Senior Brother Dong Lin, don't listen to him! He's spouting nonsense!" Chen Peng quickly refuted. "His Innate Spiritual Root was tested twice in front of my master. Both times he was found to possess a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. There's no mistake about this!"

As soon as Chen Peng finished speaking, Duan Ling Tian turned to look at him and asked, "Chen Peng, if I'm not mistaken, you've also either recently came back to the sect or just came out of closed-door

cultivation, right? In fact, you've not even seen your master, Li An, before you came to look for trouble with me, right?"

"Who's looking for trouble with you? Don't slander me!" Chen Peng said in panic when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words. At the same time, an ominous feeling rose in his heart. This was because Duan Ling Tian was right. He had recently come out of closed-door cultivation, and he had not gone to see his master yet before he found Dong Lin to look for trouble with Duan Ling Tian. He had planned to see his master after he had gotten Duan Ling Tian into trouble so he could share this piece of good news with him and please him.

Naturally, Chen Peng was unaware that he would not be able to find his master, Li An, even if he had gone to look for him since he had gone to the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land!

### **Chapter 2030: The Fire Worship Sect's Eighth Prodigy**

Although Chen Peng said Duan Ling Tian was slandering him, a hint of shock and disbelief could be seen in the depths of his eyes. His eyes had completely betrayed him.

Suddenly a cry resonated in the Fire Remuneration Palace. A Saint Land disciple seemed to have recalled something as he cried out in surprise, "I remember now!"

Many people present on the scene shifted their attention to this Saint Land disciple immediately.

With all the attention on him, the Saint Land disciple was a little nervous, but he still said, "Do any of you remember? When Duan Ling Tian killed the Vermilion Bird Sanctum's disciples, Yuan Hong and his brother, Yuan Kuang, he was pardoned by the Enforcement Hall! At that time, we thought Duan Ling Tian has an extraordinary background and that was why the Enforcement Hall had intentionally let him go. In hindsight, it's possible the Enforcement Hall has known since then that Duan Ling Tian has a blue Innate Spiritual Root!" The Saint Land disciple revealed everything he remembered without leaving any details out.

The Fire Remuneration Palace fell silent again.

"Something like that happened?" Dong Lin narrowed his eyes. His expression turned even graver. Since he had just returned to the Fire Worship Sect, he was unaware that Duan Ling Tian had been pardoned by the Enforcement Hall. Otherwise, he would not look for trouble with Duan Ling Tian in a hurry!

Would a person who was pardoned by the Enforcement Hall be somebody ordinary? As an Enforcement Hall's elder, Dong Lin, naturally, knew the answer to this.

To outsiders, Chen Peng was his friend. However, in Dong Lin's eyes, Chen Peng was only his follower. Since he had come of age, he was no longer a true disciple and had become a Bronze Flame Elder. For this reason, Chen Peng no longer followed him as closely as before.

If Dong Lin had known that Duan Ling Tian had been pardoned by the Enforcement Hall before, even if Chen Peng was his brother, he would not have simply come looking for trouble with Duan Ling Tian. He even abused his power solely to make things difficult for him.

If this matter was not dealt with properly, it would be difficult for Dong Lin to escape from being severely punished even if he was an Enforcement Hall's elder and the only son of one of the Vice Hall Masters in the Enforcement Hall.

"Now that you mentioned it, I think I remember something like that happening!"

"It seems like the Enforcement Hall knew Duan Ling Tian possesses a blue Innate Spiritual Root that's why the Enforcement Hall didn't punish him. There's an unspoken rule about this after all."

"It seems like the rumor is wrong. Duan Ling Tian doesn't have a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. Instead, he has a blue Innate Spiritual Root!"

The group of Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace finally pieced the puzzle together.

As it turned out, the Enforcement Hall had long known that Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root. Only Dong Lin was unaware of it.

"Elder Dong Lin is really unlucky. Based on Duan Ling Tian's words, Elder Dong Lin must have only recently come out of closed-door cultivation or recently returned to the sect."

"Isn't it obvious? Otherwise, Elder Dong Lin wouldn't have thought that Duan Ling Tian has a yellow Innate Spiritual Root!"

"He and Duan Ling Tian are strangers. He only made things difficult for Duan Ling Tian today because of Chen Peng. It seems like Chen Peng has made a fool out of him!"

As many of the Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves, they shifted their attention to Chen Peng.

Upon hearing these words, Chen Peng's face turned green immediately. What did they mean by he had made a fool out of Dong Lin? Prior to this, he was also unaware that Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root!

Chen Peng felt like dying when he sensed Dong Lin's cold gaze swept over him. He knew that after today, Dong Lin would probably ignore him since he must also felt that he had been fooled.

Chen Peng felt extremely remorseful at this moment. Why did he have to be so rash?

The Fire Remuneration Palace was extremely noisy now that everyone learned Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root. It finally made sense why the Enforcement Hall would take special care and even pardon Duan Ling Tian previously. This was all due to his blue Innate Spiritual Root. After all, the people he killed were only Vermilion Bird Sanctum's disciples with ordinary innate talent and would not impact the Fire Worship Sect greatly.

"I can't believe Duan Ling Tian actually possesses a blue Innate Spiritual Root. Looking back, all those comments about the limit of his cultivation base being at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage sounds so ridiculous now!"

“Indeed! As long as a martial genius with a blue Spiritual Root doesn’t suddenly die or decide to stop cultivating, he would definitely be able to successfully break through to the Saint Celestial Stage!”

“I can’t imagine how terrifying Duan Ling Tian’s strength would be once he breaks through to the Saint Celestial Stage!”

“His strength would be extremely formidable! Currently, it seems like his cultivation base is at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage, right?”

“It should be higher than that! Earlier, before he cast his assist-type Divine Ability to raise his Saint Energy, I noticed his energy is similar to a powerhouse at the Early Quintessential Saint Stage!”

“In that case, does it mean he has already broken through to the Early Quintessential Saint Stage?!”

The group of Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace discussed among themselves. They concluded that Duan Ling Tian’s cultivation base was at the Early Quintessential Saint Stage. They continued to marvel over Duan Ling Tian’s strength.

“Although his cultivation base is only at the Early Quintessential Saint Stage, his strength can be considered to be on par with those at the peak of the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!”

“I think so too! Just the sword technique he has mastered alone is enough for him to be ranked on the Supreme Saint Ranking!”

“I can’t believe there’s another prodigy among the younger generation in the Fire Worship Sect who’s qualified to be ranked on the Supreme Saint Ranking!”

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The younger generation who were elite disciples in the Fire Worship Sect were true disciples. If they managed to rank on the Supreme Saint Ranking, they would bring honor and glory to the Fire Worship Sect. Someone like that would be widely acknowledged as a prodigy as well.

For example, the seven people, including Gan Ru Yan, who were ranked on the Supreme Ranking were considered as prodigies in the Fire Worship Sect. The Fire Worship Sect had seven prodigies, and they were known as the Seven Great Prodigies.

The Seven Great Prodigies in the Fire Worship Sect were powerhouses who were famous in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. They were widely acknowledged as elite powerhouses among the younger generation in the Upper Province!

“From today onward, there’s another prodigy in the Fire Worship Sect. The sect now has eight prodigies instead of seven. It won’t be long before the names of the eight prodigies spread in the Dao Martial Saint Land!” Many Saint Land disciples marveled.

Prodigy?

Eight Great Prodigies?

Upon hearing these Saint Land disciples' words, Duan Ling Tian raised his brow. However, his expression was still very calm.

'Gan Ru Yan, Ke'er's twin sister, is considered a prodigy in the Fire Worship Sect?' Duan Ling Tian mused in his heart. He still remembered when he first met her. He was indeed shocked by her strength.

Even the Five-clawed Golden Dragon, Di Jue, from the dragon clan did not dare act recklessly in front of her. At that time, Di Jue's cultivation base had already reached the peak of the Divine Saint Stage.

However, Duan Ling Tian's strength is chasing up to Gan Ru Yan so he was no longer as shocked as he was before by her strength.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention back to Dong Lin and said, "Elder Dong Lin, since it has already come to this, don't you think it's time for you to give me an answer?"

Dong Lin took Duan Ling Tian by surprise. He no longer hesitated and instantly announced, "From this moment on, Duan Ling Tian is no longer banned from serving in the Enforcement Hall!" His voice was loud and clear, and his words were very direct. It even caused Duan Ling Tian to feel suspicious.

"On top of that..." Dong Lin was not finished. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and bowed to apologize to Duan Ling Tian in front of everybody in the Fire Remuneration Palace. "Duan Ling Tian, previously, I was unaware that you possess a blue Innate Spiritual Root so I banned you from serving in the Enforcement Hall. Now that I learned you possess a blue Innate Spiritual Root, I'd like to sincerely apologize!"

Dong Lin's words caused everyone in the Fire Remuneration Palace to fall silent.

Dong Lin's action was extremely shocking.

'Dong Lin really knows how to adapt to situations quite well!' Duan Ling Tian's expression turned grave instead of being happy when he saw this. 'Although he's apologizing to me, he's actually absolving himself of his crimes. Now that he has apologized, he won't be severely punished even if the Enforcement Hall chooses to investigate this matter!'

After apologizing, before the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace regained their senses, Dong Lin left the Fire Remuneration Palace.

This time, Duan Ling Tian did not stop him since he had achieved his goal. He could finally accept the assignment from the Enforcement Hall! This meant he would be able to see Ke'er and their daughter soon.

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Outside the Fire Remuneration Palace.

As soon as Dong Lin walked out of the great entrance of the Fire Remuneration Palace, his calm gaze suddenly turned piercing. An intense hatred rose in his heart.

"Duan Ling Tian, you better watch out. Otherwise, I'll make sure you don't have a chance to rise!"