

SOVEREIGN 2211

Chapter 2211 Elder Huo's Trick?

A figure appeared before Duan Ling Tian and the others suddenly. It was none other than Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect!

"Sect Leader!" Duan Ling Tian was surprised at Tang Xuan's unannounced arrival.

How could this be!?

The Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect was supposed to be fighting with the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect! Why did he return so soon?

Gan Ru Yan's expression changed when she saw Tang Xuan.

As for Ke'er, the expression on her pretty face changed as well. She held onto Duan Ling Tian tightly as though the act itself would grant her the courage she needed.

The little girl that Gan Ru Yan was holding, Duan Si Ling, Duan Ling Tian and Ke'er's daughter, lay motionlessly in Gan Ru Yan's arms.

Duan Si Ling was sleeping so soundly because Gan Ru Yan had fed her a harmless pill that would make her fall into a deep sleep. She had done so because she did not want Duan Si Ling to worry about her mother and her father.

"Guardian Ling Tian, I didn't think it would really be you!" Tang Xuan looked at Duan Ling Tian somberly. His eyes were cold and furious. Although he had noticed that Duan Ling Tian and the Saint Girl's daughter's brows shared some resemblance, he had only suspected that Duan Ling Tian was the Saint Girl's man from the Lower Province. He had no evidence to support his suspicion. All this time, he had been trying to find ways to test Duan Ling Tian so he could confirm his suspicion. He had intentionally announced that the Saint Girl and her daughter would be executed in three months' time. In his opinion, if Duan Ling Tian was really the Saint Girl's man, he would not be able to bear to watch as his wife and child died. At that time, Duan Ling Tian would reveal himself. This was the opportunity Tang Xuan had been waiting for.

However, Tang Xuan did not expect Duan Ling Tian would reveal himself before he could even execute his plan properly.

"It's really me?" Duan Ling Tian was shocked by Tang Xuan's presence. He felt uneasy and confused by the implications in Tang Xuan's words. He wondered what they meant.

Tang Xuan scoffed coldly when he saw the confusion on Duan Ling Tian's face. "Previously, I've noticed your brows bear some resemblance to the Saint Girl's daughter... Moreover, you're also from the Lower Province. That's why I suspected you're the man that the Saint Girl has a relationship with."

Daughter?

When Duan Ling Tian heard Tang Xuan's words, he instinctively looked at the little girl in Gan Ru Yan's arms. The little girl in Gan Ru Yan's arms only had half of her cute face visible. Indeed, the resemblance in their brows was difficult to hide.

She is... Mine and Ke'er's daughter?' Duan Ling Tian felt a tug on his heartstring when he looked at the little girl. He felt his heart warmed.

This was his daughter.

This was his and Ke'er daughter!

Tang Xuan continued to speak, "However, my guess is nothing but a guess without any evidence. Originally, I planned to wait three months before I release a fake announcement about the execution of the Saint Girl and her daughter. I didn't expect you to expose yourself before I even executed my plan!" He grew angrier and angrier. It seemed as though his anger had reached its boiling point.

As soon as Ke'er and Gan Ru Yan heard Tang Xuan's words, their expressions changed immediately. They had no idea that Tang Xuan had announced that he would execute Duan Si Ling.

"That's to say all the rumors about the execution of my daughter were deliberately spread by you to bait me?" Duan Ling Tian's expression turned grim. He finally understood what was going on.

"Not a bait exactly. More like a test," Tang Xuan said emotionlessly, "I wasn't sure if you were the 'man' that the Saint Girl was searching for in the Lower Province. I just wanted to test you... If you're not, then, it would be a good thing. If you are... then this is an unforgivable offense even if you're the Guardian of Fire Worship Sect." He spoke resolutely. It was clear there was no room for negotiations.

At this moment, Gan Ru Yan looked at Tang Xuan and said, "Lord Sect Leader! Guardian Ling Tian is one of the pillars of Fire Worship Sect. Can't you overlook his crimes? In the past, the Fire Worship Sect has always given some kind immunity to elite powerhouses in regard to the laws of the sect. If you were to execute him, it would be the sect's loss."

Gan Ru Yan's words were not only to persuade Tang Xuan to let go of Duan Ling Tian, but it was also to get Tang Xuan's approval for her sister and Duan Ling Tian to be together.

Tang Xuan glared at Gan Ru Yan with a dark expression when he heard her words. "Ru Yan girl, you better not get involved! Otherwise, don't blame me for not holding back even though you're Guardian Qing Huo's disciple!"

If Ke'er was just an ordinary Saint Girl, Tang Xuan would have given his approval for Duan Ling Tian her to be together. After all, Duan Ling Tian was also an important figure in the Fire Worship Sect. In fact, he would have probably taken the initiative to play matchmaker and make up a good love story in the Fire Worship Sect.

However, this Saint Girl was not just any other ordinary Saint Girl! Her origins were not simple! Her existence was

linked to the powerhouse whose power was similar to a deity.

For this reason, Tang Xuan did not want this matter to escalate. He had to find a way to confine Duan Ling Tian until that powerhouse comes to the mundane realm to hand out his judgment.

Based on Tang Xuan's words to Gan Ru Yan, it could be seen that he had already made up his mind about Duan Ling Tian and Ke'er's relationship! He would never allow Duan Ling Tian and the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Girl to be together. It did not matter that Duan Ling Tian was currently one of the pillars of Fire Worship Sect!

Duan Ling Tian's expression changed when he saw how resolute Tang Xuan was. Initially, he had thought Tang Xuan would forgive him in consideration of his strength and ability. He did not expect Tang Xuan would be so unyielding. At this moment, he understood there could be no happy ending to this matter so he no longer wasted his breath.

It seems like I'll have to trick Tang Xuan into the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and let Elder Huo deal with him before he can get to me. Otherwise, I'll definitely die. If I die, my wife and daughter will be in grave danger.' Duan Ling Tian was left with no other choice. This was the only way.

Duan Ling Tian quickly put his plan into action. He called out to Elder Huo, "Elder Huo!"

"It's too risky! He might not take the bait!" Elder Huo replied to Duan Ling Tian.

"I know. He might not be fooled. However, there's no other way, is there?" Duan Ling Tian said bitterly.

"Place the Jasper Celestial Sword and the Universe Ruler in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda ... I'll try and see if I can send all of you back to the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land!" Elder Huo said again.

Duan Ling Tian was speechless when he heard Elder Huo's words. Elder Huo had just told him he might be able to send them back to the Lower Province!

"Elder Huo, this..." Duan Ling Tian said doubtfully.

Before Duan Ling Tian could finish his sentence, Elder Huo interrupted him. "Stop asking me questions! What you need to do now is to quickly place the Jasper Celestial Sword and Universe Ruler back in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda."

Yes!" From the beginning, Elder Huo had never deceived Duan Ling Tian before. For this reason, he trusted Elder Huo. Since Elder Huo had suggested this, he did not hesitate when following Elder Huo's instructions.

Duan Ling Tian quickly transferred the Celestial Supreme Treasures, the Jasper Celestial Sword and the Universe Ruler, that had been temporarily stored in the Spatial Ring into the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

When Duan Ling Tian transferred the Celestial Supreme Treasures, the Jasper Celestial Sword and the Universe Ruler, into the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, he noticed something strange. The Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda that was the size of a speck of dust seemed to have flown out of his ear. It seemed as though he had lost control of it.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned when he saw this. 'Didn't Elder Huo say that he's unable to control the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda even though he's the pagoda spirit?'

Meanwhile, Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, shouted, "Duan Ling Tian!" He charged toward Duan Ling Tian.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

Lighting flashed in the sky and the sound of sword clashing rang incessantly in the air.

Soon after, a circular light-shield formed from tens of thousands of blood-red sword qi appeared around Duan Ling Tian, Ke'er, Gan Ru Yan, and Duan Si Ling. The Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was also in the protection of the light shield.

"What's this?" Tang Xuan's expression changed when he saw the light shield that was formed by sword qi appearing out of thin air. With a clap of thunder, the Saint Origin of a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage surged out of his body.

"This..." Duan Ling Tian was also shocked when he saw the sudden appearance of the light shield that protected them.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian, a Sword Cultivator, could clearly see the tens of thousands of blood-red sword qi that created the light shield and its terrifying power. "This... Is this Elder Huo's trick?"

Rip!

The sound of something ripping caught Duan Ling Tian's attention. He saw a tear had appeared in the empty space near the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. It was dark and he could not see where the tear led to.

Before Duan Ling Tian could react, he felt a powerful force pulling him, Ke'er, Gan Ru Yan and Duan Si Ling into the tear.

2212 Duan Ling Tian's Guess

Duan Ling Tian and the others were instantly pulled into the tear in the void just as Tang Xuan's attack fell from the sky like a thunderbolt on the circular light shield that was formed from blood-red sword qi.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Mushroom clouds formed around the light shield following the thunderous explosions. The shockwave from the explosions caused the ground to quake, ruining the sprawling courtyard. The shockwave traveled out from the ruined courtyard into the surrounding areas.

Tang Xuan's cultivation place, a huge sprawling estate, was mined from the assault. Smoke billowed everywhere. It seemed as though the apocalypse had arrived! However, Tang Xuan seemed indifferent to the aftermath. His attention was focused on something else.

"This... How's this possible!?" Tang Xuan was shocked at his discovery. Although he had attacked the front part of the light shield, the light shield remained untouched. However, the area surrounding it was completely destroyed.

Although Tang Xuan had only used 70% of his strength, if other powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage tried to defend against his attack, they still would not be able to escape unscathed.

The spherical light shield formed by tens of thousands of blood-red sword qi remained motionless as it hovered in the air. The tear in the void that had pulled Duan Ling Tian and the others in slowly disappeared without a trace.

Tang Xuan could only stand and watch as all of this happened.

My goodness... What is this?' Tang Xuan thought to himself as he looked at the spherical light shield that was formed from blood-red sword qi. He had no time to worry about where the four people had disappeared.

The spherical shield that was hovering in the air seemed like a wall that separated two worlds.

Earlier, Tang Xuan had no time to study the light shield carefully. Now that he was studying it, he discovered a faint and sour odor from the light shield. The odor seemed to be destroying everything within its reach. Just a moment ago, there was no time to observe carefully nor did he notice it. Apart from that, he had seen how indestructible it was. There was no doubt that the person who created such a light shield did not come from the mundane realm. He knew this very well. After all, he had met such a powerhouse a few decades ago. That powerhouse had god-like power. Until today, whenever he recalled how that powerhouse had raised his hand and wielded his power, he would break out in cold sweat as fear rose from the depth of his heart.

Before Tang Xuan could continue his trains of thought...

Whoosh!

The spherical shield formed by the thousands of blood-red sword qi suddenly disappeared before Tang Xuan's eyes like a gust of wind. It had disappeared without a trace.

For a brief moment, Tang Xuan stood alone in the empty space that was ruined. He was at a loss.

Tang Xuan finally regained his senses and sighed. Such a powerful light shield that was formed from tens of thousands of blood-red sword qi had just disappeared without a trace in just a blink of an eye. He knew very well that this meant the powerhouse who had created the light shield had easily summoned the shield with just a wave of his hand.

Even if the person came from the Devata Realm, to be able to summon such a light shield with just a wave of his hand, this person must not be simple!' Tang Xuan thought to himself as his breathing quickened. He looked at his surroundings warily, but he did not find anything suspicious.

The Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Outside a rundown village. Shrekkk!

Following the sound of something being torn, a tear formed in the void. The tear lengthened until it was over ten meters long before it finally stopped growing. As soon as it stopped growing, it began to shrink rapidly like a spring that had been let go after it was pulled taut. When the tear was shrinking, three figures fell out of the tear.

There was a young man dressed in a purple robe and two young women who looked identical even though their bearings were different. One of the women carried a girl who was sound asleep.

As soon as these four people appeared, the purple-clad young man's expression changed as he cried out in anguish, "Elder Huo!"

The purple-clad young man's sudden cry shocked the women out of their daze. Their attention quickly shifted to the young man.

Young master, are you okay?" One of the women, the one with a gentle demeanor, looked at the young man with a worried expression. When she spoke, her voice was laced with anxiety.

However, the young man did not seem to hear her question. He stood motionlessly with a pained expression on his face. His body was trembling non-stop as though he had just gone through extreme agony.

"Duan Ling Tian?" The other woman, an elegant lady who was carrying a child, looked at the purple-robed young man and furrowed her slender brows.

The purple-clad young man was none other than Duan Ling Tian.

Just a moment ago, Duan Ling Tian, the two women, and the child were in the Fire Worship Sect that was located in the western region of the Upper Province in the Dao Martial Saint Land. However, in just a blink of an eye, they shuttled through space and arrived at the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land!were

the western region of the Upper Province in the Dao Martial Saint Land. However, in just a blink of an eye, they were

During that time, not only did Duan Ling Tian discover he had lost contact with Elder Huo, but the bond between him and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda had also been severed.

The Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda had long recognized Duan Ling Tian as its master. There was even a blood-bond to cement their ties. However, the bond had now disappeared without a trace!

The first thing that came to Duan Ling Tian's mind was Elder Huo had used a 'forbidden technique' to protect them and open a tear in the void to send them from the Upper Province to the Lower Province. In the process, it had destroyed the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda! If the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was not destroyed, why was his link to the pagoda severed?

If the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda is destroyed, it would be impossible for Elder Huo to survive!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as his heartbeat accelerated.

From the moment, Duan Ling Tian had obtained the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and met Elder Huo, Elder Huo had helped him through every single difficult situation. And now, Elder Huo had even sacrificed himself to protect him!

"Elder Huo!" Duan Ling Tian cried out in sorrow. He fell to his knees to honor the spirit of Elder Huo who had gone to heaven!

Although Ke'er did not know what was happening nor did she know who Elder Huo was, she could acutely feel her man's pain. She instantly kneeled as well to keep him company.

Gan Ru Yan stood at the side, stunned and speechless by Duan Ling Tian's actions. Moreover, she was also confused by her sudden appearance in this place. "This place... looks like the Lower Province?"

The Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in this place was far inferior to the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land. It felt familiar to Gan Ru Yan. The feeling was similar to when she was previously in the Lower Province.

"Ke'er..." Duan Ling Tian who had been kneeling for a while finally said in a hoarse voice, "We're back in the Lower Province... The reason we're able to return is because of Elder Huo's sacrifice! He had sacrificed himself so he could open a tear in the void to send us back here, allowing us to escape from the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect." Grief and disappointment could be heard in his voice when he spoke.

After listening to Duan Ling Tian's words, Ke'er finally understood why her man was in so much pain earlier and why he had suddenly kneeled on the ground. As it turned out, this Elder Huo had sacrificed himself in order to rescue them and send them back to the Lower Province!

Ke'er instantly kowtowed three times as she said emotionally, "Elder Huo, thank you for saving Young Master and all of us. Thank you." Although she had not met Elder Huo before, the kind Ke'er felt sad when she learned of his sacrifice.

"Elder Huo?" When Gan Ru Yan learned about what happened, she followed suit and kowtowed three times as well.

Based on everything that Duan Ling Tian knew, it was only natural that he came to the conclusion that Elder Huo had sacrificed his life and destroyed the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda in order to rescue them and send them back to the Lower Province. Moreover, he could no longer sense the bond between him and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. Apart from this, he could not think of any other possibilities.

However, was Duan Ling Tian's conclusion correct?

The western region of the Upper Province in Dao Martial Saint Land West Region. Somewhere outside the estate of the Fire Worship Sect.

A young man in a blood-red robe hovered in the air. He held a miniature pagoda in his hand.

If Duan Ling Tian were here, he would be able to identify the pagoda as the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda that he had lost!

2213 Humans Are the Fool of Fortune

Inside the Seven Treasures Pagoda.

Elder Huo smiled bitterly as he asked the young man dressed in a red robe, "Lord, don't you want to greet him?"

Earlier, when Duan Ling Tian was facing the Sect Leader of Fire Worship, the young man dressed in a red robe was the one who ordered Elder Huo to trick Duan Ling Tian into placing the Jasper Celestial Sword and the Universe Ruler back in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. Apart from that, the young man

dressed in a red robe was also the one who ordered Elder Huo to tell Duan Ling Tian that he was going to send him back to the Lower Province.

The red-clad young man was the one who fended off the attacks from the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect and sent Duan Ling Tian back to the Lower Province. He had forcibly severed the bond between Duan Ling Tian and Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian was no longer the master of the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, he had lost the pagoda.

Elder Huo knew Duan Ling Tian would be in distress when he returned to the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land and discovered the bond between him and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda had been severed. For this reason, he had asked the red-clad young man if he planned on greeting Duan Ling Tian.

The red-clad young man was none other than Kuang Ling, the sword soul of the Devata Artifact, the Solitary Destructive Flaming Heavenly Sword!

“I have my own plans,” Sword Soul Kuang Ling replied to Elder Huo coldly. Then, he rose up into the air before disappearing in just a flash.

After flying for an indefinite amount of time and distance, Kuang Ling suddenly came to a halt.

In the next moment...

Shreekk!

Kuang Ling pointed to an empty space before a streak of blood-red sword qi shot out of his finger and tore an opening in the void. The tear was ten meters in length and looked breath-taking.

As soon as the tear appeared, Kuang Ling took the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and swiftly entered the tear in the void.

As soon as Kuang Ling entered the tear, it began to shrink rapidly. In just a blink of an eye, the tear in the void disappeared without a trace. The surroundings turned tranquil once more.

In a good distance away from the east side of the Fire Worship Sect’s estate.

A group of high-ranking officials from Fire Worship Sect was making their way back to the sect. These high ranking officials were led by the two Vice Sect Leaders of Fire Worship Sect. They consisted of Golden Flame Elders and the Vice Hall Masters of the Enforcement Hall.

“After searching for so long, we couldn’t even see the shadow of the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod... Do you think one of the Guardians has found the Dharma Rod?” One of the Golden Flame Elders from the Fire Worship Sect suddenly said.

“That’s possible! After all, the Guardians’ speed is faster than all of us. We didn’t encounter any of them during our search... It’s very likely that one of them has already found the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod.” Another Golden Flame Elder nodded in assent.

“If the Guardians have found the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod, they should inform us about it. We look like fools searching with all our might for something that has been found!” A Golden Flame Elder muttered, displeased.

Many people around the Golden Flame Elders, including the two Vice Sect Leaders, agreed with his words.

As they entered the White Tiger Sanctum in the Fire Worship Estate, one of the Vice Hall Masters of the Enforcement Hall said, “I wonder which Guardian managed to obtain the Dharma Rod...”

Many high-ranking officials from Fire Worship Sect began to discuss among themselves when they heard the Vice Hall Master’s words.

“My guess is Guardian Zi Feng has found the Dharma Rod!”

“I agree! After all, among the five Guardians, Guardian Zi Feng is the strongest after Guardian Ling Tian. It’s very likely that he’s the one who found the Dharma Rod!”

“I don’t think it’s Guardian Zi Feng... Everyone makes mistakes once in a while. Although Guardian Zi Feng is the strongest and the fastest, it doesn’t mean he’ll definitely find the Dharma Rod!”

“What you said makes sense...”

Did one of the Guardians find the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod? The answer was, naturally, no.

The four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect had flown to where the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod, and Hao Shuang’s arm had fallen. They had thoroughly searched the area and they even widened the perimeter of their search. However, they still failed to find anything.

After searching for a long time, the Guardians began to suspect that Hao Shuang had returned and took away the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod.

The Guardians decided to return to the Fire Worship Sect after their fruitless search. When they were passing through the White Tiger Sanctum, they overheard the discussion of the disciples in White Tiger Sanctum about the recent Great War of Saint Land.

“Great War of Saint Land?” For a moment, the Guardians thought Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, and Lang Qian Jin, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect, had brought their fight back to the Saint Land in the Fire Worship Sect. Then, they quickly made their way to the Saint Land.

When the Guardians arrived in the Saint Land, they realized something big had happened on the Saint Islands that were located in the sky. They quickly rose into the air and flew through the clouds and fog to a place near their cultivation places.

The four Guardians were dumbfounded when their eyes landed on the floating island that was located at the highest point. “This...”

The cultivation place and mansion of the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect were in ruins! Moreover, their Sect Leader was standing motionlessly in the air.

A silver figure came forward and greeted the Guardians. "Greetings, four Guardians." This person was a Silver Flame Elder who was on patrol duty today.

"This... what happened?" Guardian Leng Ying asked the Silver Flame Elder with a puzzled expression on his face.

At this time, the four Guardians knew that the state of Tang Xuan's cultivation place had nothing to do with the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect. They knew if the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect and the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect had fought here, the damage would not be limited to just a partially ruined mansion. After all, a fight between two powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage could obliterate the entire floating island.

"I don't know what happened exactly, but..." The Silver Flame Elder said with a wry smile, "Not long after Guardian Ling Tian returned, there was a huge commotion here. When I rushed over, it was already in this state. Lord Sect Leader has been standing there for quite a while now." He turned to look at Tang Xuan who was hovering above the floating island.

"Guardian Ling Tian?" The four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect frowned when they heard the Silver Flame Elder's words.

After the Silver Flame Elder left, they made their way to Tang Xuan.

"Lord Sect Leader, this...what happened?" The arrival of the four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect brought Tang Xuan out of his reverie. His tense body instantly relaxed.

Earlier, Tang Xuan was under extreme stress when he realized there might be a powerhouse stronger than any powerhouses in the mundane realm. He became extremely cautious, and he did not dare to act recklessly. That was why he was standing motionlessly for so long. He only let down his guards when the four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect appeared. He concluded that the powerhouse had already left a while ago.

"It's nothing." Tang Xuan shook his head.

The Guardians looked at Tang Xuan skeptically when they heard his words.

It was not Tang Xuan's intention to hide the truth, but he really did not know where to begin. After all, if one did not personally witness it, it would be difficult for one to believe that a powerhouse with such strength really existed.

"Did all of you just return?" Tang Xuan noticed the Guardians seemed exhausted, and they were covered in dust as though they had just returned from a long journey.

"Yes," Guardian Hong Yun nodded before she said wryly, "We went to look for the Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod... That's why it took us so long to return."

Tang Xuan's eyes brightened when he heard Hong Yun's words. "The Super Saint Weapon, the Dharma Rod? The Dharma Rod appeared? Where did you get this information from?"

"The Dharma Rod is in Hao Shuang's possession now..."

The four Guardians instantly recounted what had happened after Tang Xuan had left. They told him how the Black Kshetra Sect had cooperated with Hao Shuang and how Duan Ling Tian defeated Hao Shuang.

Tang Xuan was shocked when he learned about what happened. It took him a while before he regained his senses. "He... really defeated Hao Shuang with just one strike?"

Tang Xuan's expression turned solemn when the four Guardians confirmed this. If it was not because of the god-like powerhouse, Duan Ling Tian, the strongest person under the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, would be one of the pillars of Fire Worship Sect. The Fire Worship Sect would become stronger if they had such a powerful Guardian like Duan Ling Tian.

Tang Xuan sighed when he thought about Duan Ling Tian's disappearance and how he had been whisked away by a mysterious powerhouse. It was such an irony. "Fate is playing tricks on people..."

"Lord Sect Leader?"

The four Guardians were confused when they saw Tang Xuan's reaction.

"Guardian Ling Tian is the man the Saint Girl has a relationship with... He's the father of the Saint Girl's daughter!" Tang Xuan said in a deep voice.

The four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect were shocked when they heard this shocking revelation. They had an incredulous expression on their faces.

As it turned out, Guardian Ling Tian was the man from the Lower Province whom the Saint Girl had a relationship with? He was the one they had been looking for all this time?

"This...This..."

2214 Returning to the Azure Cloud Mansion

Although the four Guardians of Fire Worship Sect had received multiple confirmations from Tang Xuan, they still found it hard to believe.

Zi Feng was the first to speak up after the Guardians heard this shocking news. "Sect Leader! Although Guardian Ling Tian has violated the Fire Worship Sect's law and has committed an unforgivable crime, having him in the sect is more beneficial to us than losing him. With his current strength, not many people in the Dao Martial Saint Land are a match for him. It would be advantageous for our sect to have him. It would make our sect stronger!"

After Zi Feng spoke up, the other three Guardians began to express their opinion as well.

"Sect Leader, although we have strict rules in the sect, as Guardians, we enjoy a certain degree of immunity... In my opinion, we should give our blessings to Guardian Ling Tian and the Saint Girl!"

"Although the union between Guardian Ling Tian and the Saint Girl violates our Fire Worship Sect's law, there's a precedent for everything. This would make a great tale for the next generation!"

"Indeed!"

"Moreover, the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, is also in Guardian Ling Tian's possession. When the Devil Clans invade the Upper Province, it'll be advantageous to the sect if we have the tablet."

All four Guardians were unanimously asking Tang Xuan to give his blessings to Duan Ling Tian and the Saint Girl!

Tang Xuan grunted when he heard the four Guardians' words. He recalled what had happened earlier. "It's too late for that now!"

"Huh?" The four Guardians had a baffled expression on their faces when they heard Tang Xuan's words. They were unable to comprehend the meaning behind Tang Xuan's words.

"If I'm not mistaken, both Guardian Ling Tian and the Saint Girl have returned to the Lower Province," Tang Xuan said in a deep voice. He had arrived at this conclusion because he felt this was the most likely scenario. The tear in the void that the light sphere created would either lead to an independent space that was left behind by an Eminent Celestial or the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land. He thought there was a higher chance that Duan Ling Tian, the Saint Girl, their daughter, and Gan Ru Yan had returned to the Lower Province compared to being sent to an independent realm that was also the cultivation place of an Eminent Celestial.

"Lower Province?" The four Guardians were stunned when they heard Tang Xuan's words.

Meanwhile, in the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land. In a rundown village.

Duan Ling Tian finally rose to his feet after kneeling for a while. He pulled Ke'er up as well. He held her hand tightly as he looked at the sky and murmured, "Elder Huo... Don't worry. Since you risked your life for me, I'll cherish my life even more!" After he finished speaking, he bowed at the sky.

Ke'er followed suit and bowed at the sky as well.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was under the impression that the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, had been destroyed and Elder Huo was dead. Not even in his wildest dreams would he expect that Elder Huo and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda were alive and well! The link between Duan Ling Tian and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was merely severed by a Devata Realm's powerhouse. That powerhouse seemed to have omnipotent powers. With just a single thought, he had easily severed the bond between the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and Duan Ling Tian. He had brought Elder Huo and the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda back to the Devata Realm.

Gan Ru Yan who was standing at the side all this while looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, "We've arrived in the Lower Province for a while now. Where should we go? Currently, it's not safe in the Lower Province!" She had heard the news that Duan Ling Tian revealed in Sin City. She knew the Devil Clans from the Land of Exile had crossed the space barrier and invaded the Lower Province of Dao Martial Saint Land.

"Let's return to the Azure Cloud Mansion!" Duan Ling Tian responded immediately.

Previously, Gan Ru Yan only knew that the Azure Cloud Mansion was a quasi third-rate force in the Lower Province while Ke'er knew nothing about the Azure Cloud Mansion. At that time, both of them had no idea that Duan Ling Tian was the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion! Later on, when Duan Ling Tian became famous in the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land, many information

about him when he was in the Lower Province were revealed one after another. It was only then that Gan Ru Yan and Ke'er learned about his identity in the Lower Province.

Young Master... Since you're the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, does this mean Aunt Rou is in the Azure Cloud Mansion?" Ke'er asked as she looked at Duan Ling Tian. A hint of concern could be seen in her eyes. She had long regarded Aunt Rou as her mother.

"Previously, she was in the mansion. However, I'm not too sure about it now." A worried expression appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face as he shook his head. He had only returned to the Lower Province. All he knew was the Devil Clans from the Land of Exile had invaded the Lower Province. Apart from that, he had no idea what else had happened.

However, Duan Ling Tian was certain that the citizens of the Lower Province were defenseless against the Devil Clans since they were weaker compared to the powerhouses in the Upper Province.

"This village..." Duan Ling Tian looked around the rundown village and he saw many dry corpses that were strewn on the ground. The corpses looked as though they had been drained.

Did the Devil Clans from the Land of Exile do this? How cruel!" Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted and his expression turned solemn when he saw the withered corpses.

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had only heard rumors about the Devil Clans and their method of attack. It seemed like what he heard was true. The Devil Clans really used a cruel technique to attack their victims. They absorbed all the vital essence from their victims to get stronger!

Ke'er and Gan Ru Yan's eyes followed Duan Ling Tian's gaze and their faces paled when they saw the corpses strewn on the ground.

Ke'er could not bear to look at the scene so she quickly turned away. She asked in a trembling voice, "Young Master, these are..."

"These people must have been killed by the Devil Clans from the Land of Exile!" Duan Ling Tian said in a deep voice.

"No wonder people say the Devils are cruel and inhumane... This scene is a testimony to that!" Gan Ru Yan was appalled by what she saw. These corpses were once humans like her.

"Don't wake Si Ling up... Let's return to the Azure Cloud Mansion first." Duan Ling Tian instructed Ke'er and Gan Ru Yan. In just a blink of an eye, he appeared before Gan Ru Yan. Without any warning, he took the little girl from Gan Ru Yan's arms. As fast as his movements were, he was extremely gentle and careful not to wake the little girl up.

Gan Ru Yan was annoyed when Duan Ling Tian took her niece away without even telling her. "You..." However, her anger vanished when she saw the adoration in Duan Ling Tian's eyes when he looked at her niece. Only then did she remember that this man was the father of her niece. It had been nearly ten years since her niece was born, and yet, this was the first time the father and daughter met. She no longer felt angry the more she thought about this.

“Ke’er, you’ve worked hard.” Duan Ling Tian said softly as he reached out with his other hand to hold Ke’er’s hand. He had moved back to stand by Ke’er’s side.

“I-It’s nothing... Young Master... I-I’m not tired...” Tears welled up in Ke’er’s brown eyes when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words. She was moved by his words.

“From now on, don’t call me Young Master.” Duan Ling Tian released Ke’er’s hand and pulled her into his arms. He lowered his head and buried his face in her hair. “You’re my wife. From now on, I don’t want to hear you calling me that again... This will be the last time you address me in such a way.” His tone brooked no argument. He had to be firm. Previously, he had told her to stop calling him young master, but she had always forgotten about it since she was used to it. He was no longer her master! He was her husband now!

“Alright...” Ke’er trembled slightly when Duan Ling Tian referred to her as his wife. Tears of happiness streamed down her pretty face. She said softly, “Then, from now on... I’ll call you Brother Tian.”

A warm smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian’s face when he heard Ke’er’s words. He hugged her tightly as he said, “Good girl...”

Gan Ru Yan stood nearby and watched as the family of three embraced each other. A rare smile appeared on her usually expressionless face. She felt happy for her sister.

2215 The Azure Cloud Mansion Is Gone!

After the heart-warming moment, Duan Ling Tian carried his sleeping daughter and led his wife, Ke’er, and her older twin sister, Gan Ru Yan, toward the direction of the Azure Cloud Mansion.

Although Duan Ling Tian was sent back to the Lower Province through the space barrier, it was not difficult for him to pinpoint the location of the mansion. He carried both Ke’er and Gan Ru Yan as he flew. With his current cultivation base at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, he cast the assist-type Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, and the movement Divine Ability, the Golden Crow Wings. With that, his speed became much faster than an ordinary cultivator at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. In terms of speed, anyone below the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was no match for him. It did not take long before he arrived in the vicinity of the Azure Cloud Mansion. He remembered the Azure Cloud Mansion was located above a vast lake that was named the Crouching Dragon Lake.

However...

Duan Ling Tian’s expression changed drastically when he saw the flatland that stretched endlessly. ‘Where’s the Crouching Dragon Lake?’ He was certain of the location of the Crouching Dragon Lake, but why did it disappear?

Swoosh! Swoosh!

In the distant sky, the sound of wind howling broke the silence and attracted Duan Ling Tian’s attention. He looked in the direction of the sound. From afar, he saw two figures traveling in the same direction. Based on their speed, it seemed that they were at the upper level of the Saint Celestial Stage.

At first glance, these two figures looked like humans — a young man and a middle-aged man. However, as Duan Ling Tian silently extended his Divine Consciousness to investigate them, he soon discovered an anomaly.

“Such a strong and powerful Devil Qi... They’re from the Devil Clans!” In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian confirmed their identities. These figures did not belong to humans, they were Devils from the Land of Exile!

“Let’s follow them and see what they’re up to.” Duan Ling Tian was eager to find out why the Crouching Dragon Lake of Azure Cloud Mansion had disappeared. He tailed the two figures as he carried his daughter, Ke’er, and Gan Ru Yan with him.

These Devils in their humanoid forms were also coincidentally traveling to where the Azure Cloud Mansion’s Main Mansion was located.

“Brother Tian, is something wrong?” Ke’er asked softly, her voice filled with concern. She had noticed something was not right with Duan Ling Tian.

“He must be shocked that the Crouching Dragon Lake of Azure Cloud Mansion has disappeared...” Before Duan Ling Tian could speak, Gan Ru Yan had already responded to Ke’er.

“Back then, I passed the Azure Cloud Mansion twice when I was in the Lower Province... I remember this plot of land wasn’t here back then. The Crouching Dragon Lake should be here.” Gan Ru Yan furrowed her brows as she recalled the times when she was here. “It seems like the Devil Clans have filled up the lake...” Gan Ru Yan figured out why the Crouching Dragon Lake had disappeared.

“What about Azure Cloud Mansion’s Main Mansion?” They followed the two figures in front for a while before they came to a halt. Duan Ling Tian looked around and discovered that the floating island that was suspended in this location had also disappeared. All that was left were blue sky and clouds.

Duan Ling Tian’s expression turned grim. The Azure Cloud Mansion’s Main Mansion did not only serve as the campground for the Azure Cloud Mansion, but it was also where his family and friends lived. However, now that he had returned, not only did he discover the Crouching Dragon Lake had disappeared, but the Main Mansion had disappeared as well!

“Father, Mother, Little Fei’er, Nian Tian... Uncle Feng, Senior Brother...” At this moment, Duan Ling Tian thought of his father, his mother, his wife, Li Fei, his son, Duan Nian Tian, Feng Wu Dao, Bai Li Hong, and the others.

Since the Main Mansion of Azure Cloud Mansion had disappeared, were they safe? These were the things that Duan Ling Tian was worried about.

“There’s a city ahead!” Gan Ru Yan suddenly said, causing Duan Ling Tian to regain his senses.

Duan Ling Tian’s eyes followed Gan Ru Yan’s gaze and landed on a huge and obviously new city in the distance. It looked like a giant beast standing in the vast plain, mighty and domineering.

“From what I remember, there was no city like this near the Azure Cloud Mansion, right?” Gan Ru Yan asked as she looked at Duan Ling Tian skeptically. She did not wait for Duan Ling Tian to reply as she

continued to say “The scale of this city... It’s even bigger than Sin City and the cities in the central region of the Upper Province. Did the Devil Clans build this city?”

“It’s possible,” Duan Ling Tian said in a deep voice. His eyes burned with anger and vengeance as he looked at the city before him. “They built the city over our Saint Stone reserve land... It seems like they’re planning to settle down here!” Duan Ling Tian said calmly. However, beneath the calm, a hint of iciness could be heard.

At this time, the two figures they were tailing finally entered the city. More and more figures entered Duan Ling Tian’s sight. These figures could be seen leaving and entering the city from the outskirts. The city was like a beast, swallowing people into its body.

“These Devil powerhouses can even transform into humans?”

When they approached the city, Duan Ling Tian discovered that many of these figures did not match the description of a Devil. All of them looked human. However, with his Divine Consciousness, he could clearly sense the strong Devil Qi within their bodies.

Devil Cultivators did not have this level Devil Qi. Even if one were to cultivate orthodox Devil Cultivation, it would still be impossible for one to possess such a strong and pure Qi in just a few years.

“Are they humans or Devils?” Gan Ru Yan was stunned and confused. Since the Devils were in human form, she could not tell if they were humans or not. She did not dare to use her Divine Consciousness to investigate this matter.

“According to my Divine Consciousness, it’s unlikely that they’re humans...Even if they cultivated

Human-devil Cultivation, without a few decades of hard work, it’s impossible for them to possess such a strong and

pure Devil Qi!” Duan Ling Tian said.

“You can sense the Devil Qi in each and every one of them?” Gan Ru Yan asked.

Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded.” I can clearly sense the Devil Qi in the body of everyone I probed...”

“Brother Tian, we don’t have Devil Qi in our body... If we enter the city, won’t they discover us?” Ke’er suddenly said. Duan Ling Tian’s words had reminded her of this crucial fact

“If someone probes us, it’s likely that we’ll be discovered. Currently, among the Devils we see who are wearing human skin, the strongest among them is only at the Fourth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. With me around, they won’t discover us. However, if we enter the city, there are definitely stronger Devils. If any of them have a higher cultivation base than me, they can easily discover us if they probe us with their Divine Consciousness,” Duan Ling Tian said.

Gan Ru Yan frowned when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words. An anxious expression appeared on her delicate face. “What now? If there’s a Devil stronger than you in the city, we’re only seeking death if we decide to enter the city...”

“Indeed, this is a problem.” Duan Ling Tian stopped moving and thought long and hard for a plan. After a while, an idea appeared in his mind. “I have a plan... We’ll have to see if it works...”

“What kind of plan?” Gan Ru Yan’s eyes brightened while Ke’er stared at Duan Ling Tian with adoration like how a fan would stare at his or her idol.

“You’ll find out soon enough.” Duan Ling Tian did not reveal his plan. He brought the two ladies in another direction instead of entering the city that was as big as Sin City.

“It’s him!”

After flying for a while, the Devils in human form became scarcer until finally, there was only one Devil in human form left in front of Duan Ling Tian.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The Devil who looked like a young man discovered three figures following him when he heard the sound of wind whistling. His expression changed immediately.

In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian and the others had arrived in front of the Devil. They studied the Devil from head to toe.

“T-three Lords!” The Devil bowed respectfully when he saw Duan Ling Tian and the two women. A sense of unease began to rise in his heart when he saw how impressive their speed was. His cultivation base was only at the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Based on these people’s speed, it was obvious their cultivation base was at least at the Fourth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

2216 Human-Devil Clan

The Devil that looked like a young man did not notice that the twin sisters were flown by the purple-clad young man they were standing next to.

Whoosh!

When Duan Ling Tian and the two women appeared in front of the Devil in human form, he did not bother to waste words with the Devil. He instantly executed his plan. He raised his hand and a stone tablet with a missing corner appeared in his hand.

The stone tablet was none other than the extraordinary Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet! The Devilseal Tablet could also be considered as a 10,000 Inscriptions Saint Weapon. However, in terms of strength, it was inferior to an ordinary Saint Weapon. Its strength was its ability to suppress Devils!

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

When the Devilseal Tablet appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s hands, it vibrated violently like an excited hunter who had not hunted for a long time. It seemed as though it could sense its prey!

The Devil that looked like a young man paled the moment the Devilseal Tablet appeared. The seemingly unremarkable stone tablet seemed to contain some kind of power that terrified him. It caused fear to rise from the depth of his soul.

“Seal!” Duan Ling Tian did not hesitate as he raised the Devilseal Tablet and struck at the Devil before the Devil regained his senses.

The Devil had no time to react at all.

“It feels like Devilseal Tablet is even more excited when it sensed the Devil compared to when it sensed Devil Cultivators!”

In just an instant, the soul of the Devil was sucked into the Devilseal Tablet. It did not directly destroy the body of the Devil because the Devil was at the First Form of the Saint Celestial. It would take a while before it could destroy the body completely.

“I hope it works...” When the Devil’s soul was devoured by the Devilseal Tablet, Duan Ling Tian moved forward swiftly and appeared next to the Devil’s body. He took the Devil’s Spatial Ring before he coldly studied the body.

Elementary Devouring Tactic!

After Duan Ling Tian cast the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Spell, he quickly devoured the Devil’s Innate Spiritual Root. “It’s only a yellow Innate Spiritual Root?” He was surprised. After all, in the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land, it was difficult for someone with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root to enter the Quintessential Saint Stage, let alone the Saint Celestial Stage! However, this Devil managed to enter the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

I almost forgot that he’s a Devil... Even if his innate talent is weak, by consuming humans’ blood essence and their own kind’s blood essence, he would still be able to raise his cultivation base in a short time!’ Duan Ling Tian was relieved when he thought of this possibility. His eyes gleamed coldly.

After devouring the Devil’s Innate Spiritual Root, Duan Ling Tian used the Divine Ability, Elementary Devouring Tactic, to execute the crux of his plan. Earlier, when he devoured the Innate Spiritual Root, he had extracted the Devil Qi from the Devil instead of siphoning all the Devil’s power. This was why it had taken him longer than usual to devour the Innate Spiritual Root. Even then, the process only took a few seconds.

Alright, this is the most important step!’ After extracting the Devil Qi from the Devil, Duan Ling Tian sighed in relief. Then, he drew the Devil Qi into his body. However, the Sun Saint Origin instantly rejected the Devil Qi. In the end, he had to move the Devil Qi to other parts of his body so that it would not come in contact with his Sun Saint Origin.

When the powerhouses from the Devil Clans probe me with their Divine Consciousness, they’ll be fooled into thinking I’m one of them when they detect the Devil Qi in my body...’ Duan Ling Tian knew his plan had succeeded. He managed to disguise himself as a Devil.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian discovered something. ‘However, since the Devil Qi doesn’t belong to me, it won’t take long before it’ll be completely depleted. It’ll last for about a month! This should be enough time for me to investigate the situation in the Lower Province and the secret of the city.’ He felt more at ease after he finished thinking about this.

Ke'er and Gan Ru Yan stood in the distance and silently watched Duan Ling Tian's carrying out his plan. They did not know what was happening. It was not until Duan Ling Tian explained to them that they realized what had happened.

"So, you can use the Devil Qi for your own purpose?" Gan Ru Yan was alarmed by Duan Ling Tian's method. She did not expect this man who was stronger than her and indifferent toward her would use such a method.

Yes. However, I'm not absorbing the Devil Qi, I'm only temporarily holding it in my body so the stronger Devils won't find out that I'm human," Duan Ling Tian explained to her. "Now, all we have to do is search for more victims... We'll have to capture three more Devils, and I'll extract their Devil Qi for both of you and Si Ling so we can avoid detection," Duan Ling Tian said.

Although Duan Ling Tian really despised the idea of impersonating a Devil, he knew the situation called for it. He had no other choice. He could be considered as strong, but it was only inevitable that there were Devils who were much stronger than him. If he wanted to enter the city to uncover the truth, this was the only option he had.

Without the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, I'm like a tiger without its teeth.

Under Elder Huo's order, both the Universe Ruler and the Jasper Celestial Sword were returned to the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda before we were sent back to the Lower Province.' Duan Ling Tian let out a long sigh when he thought of this. Without the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Jasper Celestial Sword, he was definitely not a match for Hao Shuang if he had to face him again. After all, Hao Shuang was a quasi Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage powerhouse even though his cultivation base was essentially at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Duan Ling Tian was, naturally, unaware that Elder Huo was following the orders of a strong powerhouse from the Devata Realm and had tricked him into returning the Universe Ruler and the Jasper Celestial Sword to the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. He had assumed Elder Huo required the power from the Universe Ruler and the Jasper Celestial Sword to defend against Tang Xuan's attack and to send them back to the Lower Province.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian shook his head and decided not to dwell on this matter. He decided to focus on finding his next victim. It did not take long before he found three victims. Two Devils at the Saint Celestial Stage and one Devil at the Quintessential Saint Stage. He successfully extracted the Devil Qi from the three Devils and placed them in Ke'er, Gan Ru Yan, and his daughter's bodies.

Apart from that, Duan Ling Tian had also cast the Soul Searching Secret Tactic on the Devil at the Quintessential Saint Stage. He managed to glean valuable information from this Devil.

"As it turns out, it's not that all Devils are able to shift into human form. These Devils came from a clan where all the Devils have a human appearance!"

Duan Ling Tian, Ke'er, and Gan Ru Yan were shocked when they discovered this.

“Human-Devil Clan... I didn’t expect there would be such a clan among the Devil Clans in the Land of Exile!” Duan Ling Tian sighed softly.

The Human-Devil Clans appeared during the last Human-Devil era. The Devils from this clan were the byproduct of the union between Devils and Devil Cultivators who followed the Devil Clans back to the Land of Exile.

The last Human-Devil Period was more than 100,000 years ago.

For more than 100,000 years, the Human-Devil Clan had formed a large community with the help of their rapid breeding ability. Since they possessed the blood of humans and Devils, they were rejected by other pureblooded Devils. This served to unite them, and in turn, making them grow stronger. In the end, they became one of the strongest Devil Clans in the Land of Exile! However, this did not mean the other Devil Clans did not ostracize them or had acknowledged them.

Since the Human-Devil Clan had grown strong, the other Devil Clans did not dare to look for trouble with them even if they did not approve of them.

Apart from that, Duan Ling Tian also learned about other things. “So the Devil Clans’ invasion in the Dao Martial Saint Land is led by the Ox Devil Clan?” He also learned about the city that he had seen. ‘This city was built by the Human- Devil Clan after they followed the Devil Clans to invade the Dao Martial Saint Land. The city is also the base camp for the Human-Devil Clan in Dao Martial Saint Land! This entire area is the territory of the Human-Devil Clan, that’s why no other Devil Clans could be seen here! The Human-Devil Clan has also established a social hierarchy that’s similar to humans... Among them, the Three Palaces and Six Halls is the strongest!’

Duan Ling Tian continued thinking to himself as he sighed, ‘I didn’t expect that a new breed of Devil that’s similar to humans would appear after the last Human-Devil era!’

Ke’er and Gan Ru Yan felt the same way.

The Human-Devil Clans had human blood so they could be considered as half of their kind.

2217 Six Absolute Re-entering the Society

“I didn’t expect the Human-Devil Clan would grow so strong!” After learning what he could from the Devil from the Human-Devil Clan, Duan Ling Tian decided to make a trip to the city. He learned that the city was called the Human- Devil Saint City!

When the Devils from the Human-Devil Clan arrived in the Dao Martial Saint Land, this area is already occupied by the scouts from the clan. They claimed the area where the Crouching Dragon Lake and the Azure Cloud Mansion were located. After they arrived, they joined forces and built the Human-Devil Saint City in a short time.’ He decided to go to the Human-Devil Saint City to find out more about the Azure Cloud Mansion. If he could not learn anything in the city, he planned to return to his hometown to have a look. His hometown was at the edge of Cloud Continent where the Ten Great Dynasty, the Darkhan Dynasty, the Darkstone Empire, the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, and the Crimson Sky Kingdom were located.

“Let’s go to the Human-Devil Saint City,” Duan Ling Tian called out to Ke’er and Gan Ru Yan as he held his daughter who was still asleep.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Like a gust of wind, Duan Ling Tian gathered his strength and brought the two women to the city they had seen earlier, the Human-Devil Saint City! The city was even bigger than Sin City that was located in the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land.

“There are many forces in the Human-Devil clan. Apart from the mysterious and elusive Clan Leader who’s speculated to be an Eminent Devil who had passed the Heavenly Tribulation and is about to ascend to the Devata Realm, the strongest force is the Three Palaces and Six Halls! The three Palace Masters and six Hall Masters from the Three Palaces and Six Halls are the strongest powerhouses after the Clan Leader of the Human-Devil Clan. All three Palace Masters are at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, and the Hall Masters are at the peak of the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!” Duan Ling Tian felt chills running up his spine when he learned about this earlier.

The Human-Devil Clan was one of the biggest Devil Clans. The number of powerhouses in the clan was comparable to the powerhouses in the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land!

From what we know, currently, there are four powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage in the Upper Province after Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, had a breakthrough. As for powerhouses who are Eminent Celestials, I’m afraid we only have Nie Wu Tian who’s widely acknowledged as the strongest powerhouse in the Dao Martial Saint Land! Since it’s been a while since he last made an appearance, people aren’t sure if he has ascended or not. If he has ascended, I don’t think there are any Eminent Celestials left among humans.’

On the other hand, among the Devil Clans, just the Human-Devil Clan alone has one Eminent Devil. I’m certain other clans that are as strong as the Human-Devil Clan have Eminent Devils as well!’

When Duan Ling Tian thought about this, he could not help but worry about humankind. The Devil Clan had so many powerhouses. Humans, in comparison, were lacking!

When they arrived outside the Human-Devil Saint City, Duan Ling Tian studied the city intently. He saw many pictures were engraved on the city walls surrounding the city. Upon closer inspection, he discovered there were two types of pictures. One of them depicted humans, young and old, in various poses. The other type was strange. They depicted creatures with the head of an ox and the body of a human, creatures with the head of a boar and the body of a man, and various bizarre creatures

Duan Ling Tian had never seen such strange creatures before. However, it was not difficult for him to guess that they were Devils from various Devil Clans. For example, the creatures with the head of an ox and the body of a man were from the Ox Devil Clan. On the other hand, the creatures with the head of a boar and the body of a man should be from the Boar Devil Clan. The other creatures were so strange that he could not figure out which clan they were from. He only knew they were Devils and the enemies of humankind!

Shortly after, Duan Ling Tian and the others arrived at the city gates. Unsurprisingly, their arrival caused a commotion. This was because the twins by his side were too beautiful! Moreover, the way they carried themselves was extremely charming.

Many of the male Human-Devils' eyes turned red when they saw the two women. In fact, some of their faces began to turn a vivid red. Although Human-Devils might look like ordinary humans, they had blood from the Devils after all. This was one of the ways it manifested.

Duan Ling Tian scoffed loudly when he discovered the gazes from the male Human-Devils in his surroundings.

At the same time...

Whoosh!

An ice-cold energy laced with Divine Consciousness surged out of Duan Ling Tian's body and swept toward the group of male Human-Devils. They felt as though they had fallen into an ice-cold lake during winter. The Divine Consciousness of a powerhouse at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was terrifying! After that, the male Human-Devils no longer stared at Ke'er and Gan Ru Yan. They concluded the twin sisters probably belonged to this strong powerhouse.

"Yu Yan, it seems like your man is quite possessive." Gan Ru Yan sent a teasing Voice Transmission to her sister. A hint of envy could be heard in her voice. She knew Duan Ling Tian was unhappy to the point that he even unleashed his Divine Consciousness to pressure the male Human-Devils because they were ogling her sister. It had nothing to do with her at all.

After listening to Gan Ru Yan's Voice Transmission, Ke'Er smiled. Her beautiful eyes were curved attractively in the shape of a crescent moon.

"They're seeking death!" Duan Ling Tian's expression darkened when he discovered there were still a few male Human-Devils who were staring at Ke'er.

Whoosh!

In the next moment, a dazzling golden energy surged out of Duan Ling Tian's body even though it seemed as though he did not make a move. The dazzling golden energy was his Sun Saint Energy! When he released his Sun Saint Energy, they formed many mini golden swords that revolved around him. It emitted a cold killing intent.

Xiu! Xiu! Xiu!

All of a sudden, the sound of a sword cry sounded in the air. They were short-lived but it still sent chills running up people's spines.

"Ahhh!"

"Ah!"

Many cries could be heard at this moment. The male Human-Devils who were ogling Ke'er cried out when their eyes were stabbed. Blood streamed down their faces.

When the Human-Devils in the surroundings saw the state this few male Human-Devils was in, they gasped.

One of the male Human-Devils who were blinded by Duan Ling Tian cried out, "I will kill you!" He was consumed by anger and charged toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Noisy!" Duan Ling Tian said, annoyed, when he saw the Human-Devil charging at him. He lifted his arm and slapped the air before him. However, the seemingly casual slap generated a terrifying energy that swept toward the Human- Devil.

The Human-Devil was instantly blown away before he was killed by the Sun Saint Energy that was generated by Duan Ling Tian's palm. There was no trace of the Human-Devil at all after he was killed.

Everyone was stunned!

Initially, the other male Human-Devils who were blinded were angry. However, when they saw what happened through their Divine Consciousness, none of them dared to make a sound.

How domineering!

This was the impression the Human-Devils had of Duan Ling Tian. When they turned to look at him again, their eyes were filled with fear and respect.

Duan Ling Tian had acted so violently without giving it much thought because they were Devils. If they were humans, he would just teach them a small lesson.

In the northern region of the Upper Province of Dao Martial Saint Land. On the peak of a snow-capped mountain. Seven figures hovered in the air. Three of the figures were females, and the remaining four were males.

The three captivating beauties seemed to make everything in their surroundings dull.

One of the four men laughed. "I, Gu Li, will leave now. Among the seven of us, I'll be the first to rise to fame in the Upper Province!" After he finished speaking, he flew south.

After the man who called himself Gu Li left, another four people also flew south.

"I really don't know what's going through Senior Uncle Prophet's mind. Previously, he wanted us to wait for 6 months before he allowed us to leave. However, he just suddenly decided to chase us away." A pair of twin brothers followed suit and flew away from the snow-capped mountain in the northern region as well.

The successors of the six absolutes of the Seven Absolutes Sect had officially re-entered society!

2218 Reclusive Powerhouse

While the successors of the six Absolutes of the Seven Absolute Sect rejoined society, the western region of the Upper Province in the Dao Martial Saint Land was in a buzz.

News about Lang Qian Jin, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect, leading a group of people to the Fire Worship Seek to seek revenge from the newly appointed Guardian of the sect, Duan Ling Tian, had begun to spread.

"Hey! Did you hear? People from the Black Kshetra Sect went to the Saint Sect to seek revenge from Guardian Ling Tian as soon as they learned about his return to the sect!"

“I heard about it! From what I heard, even the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect who’s ranked second on the Supreme Saint Ranking had personally gone to the Saint Sect!”

“If he didn’t come to the Saint Sect, it would be pointless regardless of how many men they sent. They would not be able to capture Guardian Ling Tian!”

Yes. Currently, our Lord Sect Leader has broken through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. The others wouldn’t be able to do anything if the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect didn’t come!”

“Based on the actions of the Sect Leader of Black Kshetra Sect, it’s clear to see they’re determined to capture Guardian Ling Tian!”

The western region was in chaos. Many people were worried about the western region’s Saint Sect and the sect’s Guardian, Duan Ling Tian. After all, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect was no ordinary person. He was someone who was ranked second on the Supreme Saint Ranking. He was only ranked below Nie Wu Tian, the strongest person in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Everyone in the western region was still discussing this matter about Duan Ling Tian when another shocking news spread from the Fire Worship Sect!

People learned about how Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, had led the five Guardians to meet with Lang Qian Jian, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect, and the people he brought with him.

They learned that Tang Xuan had held his ground and refused to hand Duan Ling Tian over to the people from Black Kshetra Sect. The people from Fire Worship Sect would rather fight with the Black Kshetra Sect than to hand Duan Ling Tian over. In the end, the powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage had gotten into a fight and moved away from the Fire Worship Sect, leaving the Guardians with the Sect Leader of Black Kshetra Sect, the two Karmapas and other people from the sect.

Moreover, people also found out that Black Kshetra Sect had invited outside help. They had asked for help from Hao

Shuang who was ranked fifth on the Supreme Saint Ranking. He was widely acknowledged as the strongest person below the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. He had even brought the Dharma Rod, one of the Super Saint Weapons on the Ten Great Super Saint Weapons Ranking! At that point, victory seemed imminent for the Black Kshetra Sect. However, Duan Ling Tian managed to defeat Hao Shuang with just one move!

News of this began to circulate quickly in the western region and caused another huge commotion.

“My goodness! Guardian Ling Tian from our Saint Sect is terrifying! He even defeated Hao Shuang even though Hao Shuang possessed the Dharma Rod, one of the Super Saint Weapons. Everyone knows Hao Shuang is the strongest person below the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!”

“I heard that Hao Shuang would have died if Guardian Ling Tian didn’t choose to spare him and didn’t chase after him!”

“Apparently, Guardian Ling Tian didn’t chase after Hao Shuang because he knows the Devil Clans are going to invade the Upper Province soon, and he didn’t want to lose more human powerhouses!”

“I’ve decided that Guardian Ling Tian is my idol!”

“Guardian Ling Tian is going to become even more famous after this. After all, he has taken over Hao Shuang’s place in the Supreme Saint Ranking and is currently the strongest person below the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!”

Duan Ling Tian was already famous before this incident, but after this incident, people began to admire and respect him as well. Once news of this spread from the western region to other places in the Dao Martial Saint Land, he would only become even more famous. He would officially become one of the elites in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Land Saint!

Prior to this, Duan Ling Tian had already caused quite a big commotion among the people in Dao Martial Saint Land. News of him returning to the Fire Worship Sect and being appointed as a Guardian had shaken the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Many sectless cultivators were shocked by this.

Rumors about Pei Si Hai who was widely acknowledged by sectless cultivators as the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land began to lose its credibility.

There was a new number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land! It was none other than Duan Ling Tian, the newly appointed Guardian of Fire Worship Sect!

The sectless cultivators were no strangers to Duan Ling Tian. Previously, when the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, appeared in the Lower Province, many people, including the sectless cultivators, had gone to the Lower Province. For this reason, they were all familiar with Duan Ling Tian’s story. They knew he had not even reached fifty years of age.

To become a Guardian in the Fire Worship Sect, one’s cultivation base had to be at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Duan Ling Tian had become a Guardian before he even reached fifty years old!

“Rumor has it that the newly appointed Guardian, Duan Ling Tian, is not an ordinary powerhouse at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Even Guardian Zi Feng who’s the strongest among the original three Guardians has admitted that he’s no match for Duan Ling Tian!”

“Guardian Zi Feng from the Fire Worship Sect is at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! Although he’s weaker than Lord Pei Si Hai, he’s still a powerhouse at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. He should be stronger than powerhouses at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!”

“Exactly! Based on that, you can tell that even if Duan Ling Tian isn’t stronger than Lord Pei Si Hai, he’s not much weaker than Lord Pei Si Hai. Moreover, we must remember that Duan Ling Tian is not even fifty years old!”

Even the sectless cultivators could not deny Duan Ling Tian’s innate talent and strength. With all that Duan Ling Tian had accomplished, he was more than worthy of being the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land even if Duan Ling Tian only managed to become strong due to a fortuitous encounter and Pei Si Hai did not have any fortuitous encounter.

However, at this time, the sectless cultivators were unaware that there was another shocking news waiting for them. Once they heard the news, they would know beyond a doubt that Duan Ling Tian, a Guardian of Fire Worship Sect, was much stronger than Pei Si Hai, the person whom they had always acknowledged as the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Somewhere in the northern region of Upper Province in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

It snowed all year long in the northern region. The lake was frozen and people could walk over it. A small wooden cabin stood on the edge of the lake that has frozen over. A man could be seen sitting cross-legged in the air in front of the wooden cabin.

It was a middle-aged man with a messy appearance. His hair was unkempt. Based on his appearance, it could be seen that he did not care much about how he looked.

All of sudden, the middle-aged man opened his eyes and looked at a spot in the distance.

A handsome and well-built young man who was dressed in a green robe stood in the distance. The aura he emitted was sharp as though he was a saber. The young man's hair was pulled back into a ponytail. He carried an unadorned sheathed saber on his back. The carvings on the sheath looked ancient as though they had many stories to tell.

Upon seeing the young man, the middle-aged man stood up immediately and moved toward the young man. In just a few moments, he arrived in front of the young man.

"Pei Si Hai!"

The young man was none other than Pei Si Hai who was ranked seventh on the Supreme Saint Ranking.

"Weng Zheng." Pei Si Hai looked at the middle-aged man solemnly. "I came to see if I can last for ten moves in a duel with you this time around!"

Based on Pei Si Hai's words, it was obvious he had fought with the middle-aged man in the past but had failed to endure for more than ten moves!

If word of this got around, it would definitely cause a commotion. After all, even Hao Shuang who was ranked fifth on the Supreme Saint Ranking did not dare to say he could defeat Pei Si Hai within ten moves.

This middle-aged man who managed to defeat Pei Si Hai within ten moves was not well-known in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Let alone being in the top ten of the Supreme Saint Ranking, he was not even ranked in the top one thousand of the Supreme Saint Ranking. Based on this, one could see that he was a reclusive powerhouse.

Reclusive powerhouses kept to themselves and did not bother with showing their strength to the public.

Similarly, Pei Si Hai was also unknown in the past. However, once people learned of his strength, he was ranked seventh on the Supreme Saint Ranking!

The middle-aged man was in no hurry to fight with Pei Si Hai. Instead, he chose to tease Pei Si Hai. “Pei Si Hai, I heard there’s a freak in the Fire Worship Sect. He’s as strong as a powerhouse at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage even though he hasn’t even reached fifty years old. It seems like you’re no longer the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land.”

Pei Si Hai scoffed when he heard Weng Zheng’s words. “There’s always someone better in the world... I’ve never thought of myself as the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land!”

Weng Zheng shook his head and said with a smile, “Stop being so humble... Before that lad from the Fire Worship Sect appeared, you’re, indeed, the number one prodigy in the Dao Martial Saint Land!”

Swish!

A faint noise sounded as Pei Si Hai pulled his saber out from the sheath and pointed it at Weng Zheng. Then, he said solemnly, “Let’s begin!”

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It seemed as though Weng Zheng could sense Pei Si Hai’s impatience. He shook his head before he acquiesced to Pei Si Hai’s request with a smile on his face. “Bring it on!”

Weng!

A loud and piercing saber cry rang in the air as Pei Si Hai moved and struck. His body moved in tandem with his saber like a ghost.

On the other hand, Weng Zheng had also moved, but he did not wield any weapon. It seemed as though he was going to fight Pei Si Hai bare-handed.

Bang!

Weng Zheng’s fists were like two cannonballs as he punched out. They were swift and powerful. The shockwave from his punch seemed to cause the air to tremble.

Weng! Weng! Weng! Weng! Weng!

The way Pei Si Hai swung his saber seemed simple but profound. Saber Qi swept out destructively from his saber. However, the way Weng Zheng moved his fists was even simpler than the way Pei Si Hai wielded his saber. Those who were not in the know might even think he was fighting like a street punk!

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

One move.

Two moves.

Three moves.

During the ninth move, Weng Zheng’s fists landed on Pei Si Hai’s blade and knocked it out of Pei Si Hai’s hands.

When Pei Si Hai’s saber was knocked out of his hand, his hands were a mangled and bloodied ruin. It looked extremely terrifying!

However, Pei Si Hai did not attend to his hands further after he staunched the bleeding. He stood still with a blank expression on his face as he muttered to himself, "Nine moves..."

It might seem like Pei Si Hai was in a daze, but in his mind, he was replaying his fight with Weng Zheng and analyzing it.

Weng Zheng did not strike again after he knocked the saber out of Pei Si Hai's hand. Upon seeing Pei Si Hai deep in thought, he did not bother him. Instead, he returned to the front of the cottage and resumed sitting in a cross-legged position. He closed his eyes as though Pei Si Hai was not there.

About an hour later, Pei Si Hai moved, finally returning to his senses. He retrieved the saber that was knocked out of his hand before he looked at Weng Zheng who was sitting cross-legged in mid-air. He said in a deep voice, "In half a month, I'll definitely be able to last for ten moves!"

"I'll be waiting," Weng Zheng responded lazily. He did not even open his eyes.

After Pei Si Hai departed, Weng Zheng opened his eyes. With a bitter smile on his face, he muttered under his breath, "That lad is improving faster and faster... I'm afraid it'll be almost impossible to defeat him with ten moves in the future." After that, he shut his eyes and continued sitting cross-legged in the air.

The snow that kept falling in the northern region painted the place white.

In the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Land. In the Human-Devil Saint City.

Although Duan Ling Tian had caused a scene at the city gates, it was not significant enough to raise a commotion in the Human-Devil Saint City.

When Duan Ling Tian entered the Human-Devil Saint City, he was stunned by its size. The city was undoubtedly bigger than Sin City. Moreover, the city planning and its liveliness had even surpassed Sin City!

There were inns, restaurants, casinos, and brothels in the Human-Devil Saint City. It seemed no different from a human city.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian found an inn for his daughter and wife to stay in. He booked two spacious rooms that shared a courtyard. Duan Ling Tian and his family stayed in one room while the other room was occupied by Ke'er twin sister, Gan Ru Yan.

After they settled in, Duan Ling Tian finally woke his daughter, Duan Si Ling, who was asleep in his arms up.

The girl was about nine years old. She looked adorable. Although she was young, one could see she was beautiful. It was clear that she would grow up to become a beauty in the future.

"Mmm..." When the little girl opened her eyes, the first person she saw was Duan Ling Tian. Duan Ling Tian should have been a stranger to her. However, when she saw Duan Ling Tian, she blinked before she said without any signs of unfamiliarity, "Daddy, are you finally free? Mummy misses you a lot, and Si Ling misses you as well."

Was the little girl naturally not shy or was it due to their blood relations that she was not afraid of Duan Ling Tian?

Duan Ling Tian had been prepared for the girl to push him away. After all, this was their first meeting. Who knew his daughter would recognize him immediately and even said that her mother had missed him?

Duan Ling Tian was overwhelmed by emotions. He even felt the corners of his eyes becoming wet.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath before he asked excitedly, "Si Ling, how did you recognize daddy?" The way he looked at Duan Si Ling was so gentle that it could even melt the coldest of heart.

"Daddy is dumb!" Duan Si Ling said cheekily before she turned to Ke'er who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian and said, "Mummy, daddy is dumb. He doesn't know that Si Ling saw him every day."

Duan Ling Tian was baffled when he heard Duan Si Ling's words. He instinctively turned to look at Ke'er.

Duan Si Ling saw her everyday? What was that about?

Ke'er face turned red when she heard Duan Si Ling's words. She turned to her daughter and said, "Si Ling, tell daddy how you saw him every day."

"Okay," Duan Si Ling answered. Then, she turned to Duan Ling Tian and said with a pout, "Daddy is a dummy. Don't you know Si Ling looks at your portrait every day? Si Ling can also draw daddy now even though it's not as good as mummy's drawing..."

Looked at his portrait everyday!

Duan Ling Tian finally understood what happened. His eyes were gentle and filled with affection when he looked at Ke'er.

"Then... Are you happy now that you see me in person?" Duan Ling Tian asked Duan Si Ling with a smile.

"Happy!" Duan Si Ling nodded like a chick pecking on rice grains as she replied to Duan Ling Tian without hesitating, "Since daddy has returned, you can play with mummy and me. Mummy says you're a great hero and you're very strong. With you here, we won't have to stay in a cold house anymore."

You're right. With daddy here, Si Ling doesn't have to stay in a cold house anymore." Upon hearing his daughter's words, Duan Ling Tian hugged her tightly. Tears of regret streamed down his face. Naturally, he knew what his daughter meant by a cold house. She was referring to the prison in Fire Worship Sect. At this moment, he vowed to himself that he would make it up to Ke'er and their daughter.

Since Duan Si Ling was a little girl, after a while, she began to look around curiously. "Auntie? Where's auntie?" It was obvious she was looking for Ke'er's sister, Gan Ru Yan.

They sent Duan Si Ling over to Gan Ru Yan's room. After returning, Duan Ling Tian hugged Ke'er tightly and expressed his inner thoughts. "Ke'er, thank you for raising our daughter so well..."

“Brother Tian, she’s our daughter... It’s only natural for me to do this...” Ke’er said softly as she rested in Duan Ling Tian’s arms. Her face was slightly red as she continued to say tenderly, “Ke’er feels extremely happy now. I wish this moment could last forever.”

“Me, too.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He felt the same way as well. After a while, they began to kiss passionately...

After a bout of passionate love-making, Ke’er was fast asleep.

Duan Ling Tian extended his Divine Consciousness into Ke’er’s soul. He wanted to investigate the seal that was placed on her Innate Spiritual Root. He had heard that Ke’er had a violet Innate Spiritual Root and that her innate talent was suppressed due to the seal.

“Hm?” However, when Duan Ling Tian’s Divine Consciousness was in Ke’er soul, he discovered there was no seal. “She really has a violet Innate Spiritual Root! Moreover, she has a dark violet Innate Spiritual Root!”

Although Duan Ling Tian had heard about Ke’er possessing a violet Innate Spiritual Root, he was still excited when he confirmed it for himself. Apart from that, he discovered Ke’er’s Innate Spiritual Root was a violet so dark that it was almost black. It was probably the highest grade for an Innate Spiritual Root. After a few moments, he checked her cultivation base. He discovered that Ke’er’s cultivation had reached the Divine Saint Stage. Although it was still a few stages away from the Saint Celestial Stage, it was an improvement compared to her cultivation base in the past.

I wonder when was the seal on Ke’er removed?’ Duan Ling Tian was curious about this. However, he did not wake Ke’er up to ask her about it. ‘I’ll ask her when she wakes up.’

Duan Ling Tian was truly happy for Ke’er now that he found out the seal on Ke’er had been removed.

Currently, without the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, I can no longer depend on the accelerated time flow in the pagoda. This means my cultivation speed will be ten times slower compared to before!’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as a bitter smile appeared on his face. ‘In order to increase my cultivation speed, I must improve my Innate Spiritual Root...” He sighed.

Chapter 2220 A Sentence

Ever since Duan Ling Tian had opened up the fourth floor of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, his cultivation speed became ten times faster due to the accelerated time flow in there. However, he no longer possessed the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, and he thought it had been destroyed. He could no longer rely on the fourth floor of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda to cultivate as quickly. He could only rely on his innate talent now, he no longer had any shortcut!

“Elder Huo...” Duan Ling Tian could not help but think about the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda’s artifact soul, Elder Huo, when he thought about the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. His eyes dimmed at that thought. He thought Elder Huo had died when the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was destroyed.

After a few moments, Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses. The sadness in his eyes could no longer be seen. ‘Don’t worry, Elder Huo. I’ll cherish my life even more knowing that you sacrificed your life for me. Even without the help from the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, I’ll do my best to cultivate to the

Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage as soon as I can so I can be strong enough to protect my family and the people around me!’ His eyes gleamed with determination. So what if he lost the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda? He was not disabled. At the very least, he possessed a violet Innate Spiritual Root even though it was still light.

Generally, Devils have poor Innate Spiritual Roots. Devouring their Innate Spiritual Roots might not improve my Innate Spiritual Root much. However, I can make up for the lack of quality with quantity! As long as I kill a lot of Devils, I don’t have to worry about my Innate Spiritual Roots not improving. If one isn’t enough, I’ll kill ten of them. If ten aren’t enough, then I’ll kill a hundred. If a hundred aren’t enough, I’ll kill a thousand. If a thousand aren’t enough, then I’ll kill ten thousand! If ten thousand are still not enough, I’ll just kill a hundred thousand!’ Duan Ling Tian’s eyes glinted viciously. He might not be comfortable with killing his own kind without a valid reason, but he would not feel remorse over killing Devils.

“Ke’er...” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes drifted to Ke’er who was deep in slumber. He looked at her with determination in his eyes as he vowed to himself inwardly, ‘I promise that we’ll never be apart again... I’ll never let you go!’ He would never allow Ke’er to leave him again! Being separated from Ke’er for over ten years was torturous for him. He did not want to experience that again. This was a woman whom he wanted to guard with his life!

After a while, Duan Ling Tian sat cross-legged and began to cultivate using the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique and absorbed the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in his surroundings to raise his cultivation base.

Duan Ling Tian had only completed a circle as he thought to himself, “Slow! This is too slow!” This was his first time cultivating after returning to the Lower Province. Although he was mentally prepared, he still found it unbearable.

Duan Ling Tian stopped cultivating after a while since he felt that his progress was too slow. His current cultivation environment should be one of the best in the Lower Province since he was in the Human-Devil Saint City. It was also where the Azure Cloud Mansion used to be. They had one of the best Saint Stone reserves in the Lower Province. However, it was still lacking compared to the cultivation environment in the Upper Province!

Since Duan Ling Tian had lost the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, he felt this acutely.

Improving my Innate Spiritual Root has become even more important...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. Although he possessed a violet Innate Spiritual Root, it was only a light violet Innate Spiritual Root. It could not be compared to Ke’er’s dark violet Innate Spiritual Root! In fact, the gap between them was even bigger than the gap between someone who had a dark indigo Innate Spiritual Root and someone who had a light indigo Innate Spiritual Root.

If my Innate Spiritual Root can improve to dark violet, my cultivation speed won’t be too far off from when I have the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda!’ Duan Ling Tian felt slightly better when he thought about this. After that, he continued to cultivate. He only stopped when dawn broke and Ke’er began to rouse from her slumber.

“Ke’er, I discovered the seal on your Innate Spiritual Root has been removed... Do you know when that happened?”

Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

“It should be when I was brought away from the Enforcement Hall by the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect. He helped me remove it... When I cultivate after that, I can feel my cultivation speed has become a lot faster.” Ke’er, naturally, did not hide anything from Duan Ling Tian. “Later on, I heard from my sister that I have a violet Innate Spiritual Root. That was when I found out my innate talent is good. In the future, I’ll be able to help you once I improve my cultivation base, Brother Tian.” She looked happy. All this time, she had wished to become strong so she could help her man. However, he had become so strong in such a short time that it seemed impossible to catch up to him. Although she had not spoken about it, she was extremely upset by it. For this reason, she was thrilled when she learned from her sister, Gan Ru Yan, that she had a violet Innate Spiritual Root.

However, Ke’er’s excitement died down when she found out her Innate Spiritual Root was sealed. When it was finally removed, she discovered, to her delight, that her cultivation speed had improved tremendously. She had worked diligently to reach the Divine Saint Stage. She was merely one step away from reaching the Exemplary Saint Stage!

After breaking through to the Exemplary Saint Stage and the Quintessential Saint Stage, the Saint Celestial Stage would be next!

“You’ll be able to do more than that... With your innate talent, if I don’t improve my Innate Spiritual Root, you’ll be able to surpass me within ten years!” Duan Ling Tian said with a smile as he held Ke’er in his arms.

“Improve your Innate Spiritual Root?” Ke’er was baffled when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words.

Duan Ling Tian nodded before he began to tell Ke’er about the Elementary Devouring Tactic.

“Devouring others’ Innate Spiritual Roots to improve your own Innate Spiritual Root... There’s such a Divine Ability?” Ke’er was shocked. It took her a while to return to her senses. Then, she turned to look at Duan Ling Tian with admiration in her eyes.

Duan Ling Tian savored this moment. After all, she was his woman, and it made him feel proud that he was admired by her.

Almost all of the Human-Devil clan members from the Land of Exile had gathered in the Human-Devil Saint City. It was extremely bustling. Travelers and carts could be seen everywhere.

“Daddy, what’s this?”

“Daddy, this is so pretty. I want it.”

“Daddy, please buy that as well...”

A chirpy voice could be heard on a busy street.

A little girl who looked about eight or nine years old was carried by a purple-clad young man. As they strolled on the streets, she pointed excitedly at the stalls that lined the street. She wanted everything!

Every time the little girl asked for something, the young man would pat her head affectionately before he bought her the things that she had asked for.

Two women who looked identical walked next to him. The women were extremely beautiful, and the way they carried themselves was extraordinary. They seemed ethereal as though they did not belong to this world. Unsurprisingly caught a lot of attention.

This group of people was none other than Duan Ling Tian, his daughter, Duan Si Ling, his wife, Ke'er, and her sister, Gan Ru Yan.

After staying in the inn for a few days, Duan Ling Tian took them out to relax and to listen for the latest news.

A smile appeared on Ke'er's beautiful face when she saw how well Duan Ling Tian and their daughter were getting along. At this moment, she felt like the luckiest woman on earth.

A complex emotion could be seen in Gan Ru Yan's eyes as she looked at Duan Ling Tian. It was difficult to guess what was on her mind.

After walking a little bit more, Duan Ling Tian said to his daughter with a smile, "Si Ling, your mum and aunt are probably tired by now... Why don't we eat something?"

"Okay." Duan Si Ling nodded obediently like a chick pecking on grains.

Duan Ling Tian intentionally went to the busiest and most impressive restaurant in the Human-Devil Saint City. He had asked for a private room that was located next to the great hall. He had picked this restaurant because it was so busy, he might be able to glean important information here.

The food was served.

15 minutes passed.

Half an hour passed.

After an hour, Duan Ling Tian still did not learn anything.

After an hour and a half had passed, Duan Si Ling asked, "Daddy, why aren't we leaving even though we've finished eating?"

As soon as Duan Si Ling finished speaking, Duan Ling Tian heard a sentence from outside. His eyes lit up immediately like the afternoon sun!