

SOVEREIGN 2251

### **2251 The State of Affairs in the Upper Province**

The Sect Leader of Heaven Divination Sect had cruelly killed one of the successors of the Prophet Progeny, the Second Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect, three hundred years ago. That person was the Old Prophet's senior brother.

Three hundred years later, the Old Prophet's direct disciple had killed the Sect Leader of Heaven Divination Sect with the Heaven-Defying Art of Cursing to avenge her senior uncle.

Two hundred years ago, one of the Black Kshetra Sect elders and a Black Kshetra Sect disciple joined forces to kill the then-heir to the Red Dust Progeny, the Seventh Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect. That person was Han Xue Nai's grandmaster.

That Black Kshetra elder from back then had become the Sect Leader of Black Kshetra Sect while the Black Kshetra Sect disciples had become one of the Karmapas, the White Tiger King.

Han Xue Nai had killed the Sect Leader of Black Kshetra Sect while Feng Tian Wu killed the White Tiger King in order to avenge the then-heir to the Red Dust Progeny who was killed two hundred years ago!

Five hundred years ago, a Heaven Divination Sect elder killed the then-heir to Dark Shadow Progeny, the Fourth Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect.

After that, the Heaven Divination Sect elder had become an oracle in the sect.

After five hundred years, that Heaven Divination Sect oracle was killed by Yue Wu Ying, the current heir to the Dark Shadow Progeny, the Fourth Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect.

As the saying went, 'What comes around, goes around. If it hasn't, it will.'

Based on this, one could see the Seven Absolutes Sect was settling the scores from a millennium ago.

In the past one thousand years, the Fire Worship Sect did not get into any conflict with the Seven Absolutes Sect. Therefore, no one from the Fire Worship Sect was targeted by the Seven Absolutes Sect.

"If we don't settle the scores from a millennium ago, we would be ashamed to face our predecessors!" At some point, the Old Prophet rose to his feet. His cloudy eyes were bright and gleaming with determination.

"The Devil Clan's invasion is nigh. For the greater good of mankind, the Seven Absolutes Sect will only settle the scores from a millennium ago. We will put all else aside until we've defeated the Devil Clans!" The Old Prophet's words were the principles the Seven Absolutes Sect had to obey when they rejoined society. The members of Seven Absolutes Sect had to have a clear conscience!

The enmity from a millennium ago must be avenged! Other matters could be set aside until they had defeated the Devil Clans. This is all for the greater good of mankind.

If the disciples of the Seven Absolutes Sect had disregarded the greater good of mankind, then, Gu Li, the heir to the Kratos Progeny, the Third Absolute of the Seven Absolutes, and Nangong Chen and Nangong Yi, the heirs to the Didymus Progeny, the Sixth Absolute of the Seven Absolutes, would not

have just defeated their opponents. With their strength, they were more than capable of killing their opponent. However, they had spared their opponents' lives.

"However, we can't let the masses misunderstand the kids... Use the Red Dust Progeny's intelligence network and spread the word about how the Seven Absolutes Sect serves the greater good of mankind. Let people know that the members of the Seven Absolutes Sect have a clear conscience!" The Old Prophet said as he turned to look at the beautiful lady.

"That's what I came to discuss with you," the beautiful lady said before she hurriedly left in a graceful manner.

Soon after, news of people from the Seven Absolutes Sect were only settling the scores from a millennium ago began spreading in the Upper Province.

All the voices that had rebuked the Seven Absolutes Sect had quietened down immediately.

"As it turns out, that's what happened... If that's the case, I don't think the disciples of Seven Absolutes Sect have done anything wrong!"

"I was confused previously. After all, a sect that Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang used to belong to shouldn't be a sect that disregards the greater good of mankind. As it turns out, there's an explanation for it."

Yes. After all, enmity from a millennium ago is quite recent. If they don't do anything about it, they would be ashamed to face their predecessors... I can understand why they acted the way they did."

As news about the reason behind the Seven Absolutes Sect's killing spree spread, the general opinion of the people in the Upper Province took a turn.

Initially, most of them had condemned Seven Absolutes Sect. However, now, they could understand the actions of the disciples from the Seven Absolutes Sect and why they had targeted the Black Kshetra Sect and Heaven Divination Sect.

Naturally, there were still some people who criticized the Seven Absolutes Sect. In their opinion, the Seven Absolutes Sect should temporarily set aside the enmity from a millennium ago and focus on the greater good first.

However, there was only a small minority of people who thought this way. Their voices were overwhelmingly drowned by others.

"So that's why no one from the Seven Absolutes Sect attacked anyone in the Fire Worship Sect... As it turns out, they're only settling scores from a millennium ago! In the past thousand years, the Fire Worship Sect didn't kill anyone in the Seven Absolutes Sect even though we were hunting for them."

At this time, many people in the Fire Worship Sect could not help but feel relieved.

Put aside the new disciples from the Seven Absolutes Sect who had just made their debut, the former heirs to the Prophet Progeny and the Blazing Phoenix Progeny, the Second and Fifth Absolutes of the Seven Absolute Sects, had given the high-ranking officials, excluding the sect leader, in the Fire Worship

Sect a difficult time. After all, both of them were more than capable of killing powerhouses at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

“Seven Absolutes Sect have hidden themselves for a hundred thousand years, it’s obvious they’ve returned prepared!”

“You’re right. Only a few disciples from the Seven Absolutes Sect had made their debuts, but they’ve caused such a huge commotion in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land... As soon as three female disciples appeared, they instantly entered the top twenty on the Supreme Saint Ranking.”

“Speaking of the female disciples from the Seven Absolutes Sect... The most terrifying one is still the heir to the Prophet Progeny, the Second Absolute in the Seven Absolutes Sect!”

“The heir to Prophet Progeny is extremely mysterious... All of the new heirs to the various progenies had announced their names except for her. She only mentioned she’s the heir of the Prophet Progeny, and she’s the direct disciple of the Old Prophet.”

“So mysterious... And she’s a Heaven-Defying Dao Cultivator... It’s better to avoid dealing with the current heir to the Prophet Progeny of the Seven Absolutes Sect!”

Similar remarks were circulating in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Based on their remarks, it was apparent the people from the Upper Province feared and dreaded the current heir to the Prophet Progeny in the Seven Absolutes Sect. This was because rumor had it that she was a Heaven-Defying Dao Cultivator who was suspected to be at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage or higher.

There was even a saying that popped up recently. ‘It’s better to anger the Grim Reaper than to anger the heir to the Prophet Progeny!’

This clearly showed how terrifying the current heir of the Prophet Progeny was!

Meanwhile, apart from the Fire Worship Sect that did not make any move, the Black Kshetra Sect and the Heaven Divination Sect were searching for the people from Seven Absolutes Sect. Naturally, they did not search for them just to capture them. They wanted revenge and to clean up their reputations. As two of the three great sects, what had been done by the Seven Absolutes Sect to them was a huge humiliation. Only the blood of the members from the Seven Absolutes Sect could wash away their humiliation!

Initially, the Black Kshetra Sect and the Heaven Divination Sect wanted to drag the Fire Worship Sect into this matter. They wanted the Fire Worship Sect to lend their strength to them to deal with the Seven Absolutes Sect.

However, Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, was not stupid. He directly rejected the two sects’ proposal. What a joke! They were relieved that the people from the Seven Absolutes Sect did not target them. After all, the current Seven Absolutes Sect was different from the past. If they were not sure if they could annihilate them, it was better to leave them alone.

“Currently, all six heirs to six progenies of the Seven Absolutes Sect had shown themselves... The only one left is the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny, the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect!”

It did not take long for someone to realize this.

“It’s not in the Seven Absolutes Sect’s nature to make an appearance in such a high-profile manner. The last time it happened was during Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang’s time.”

“I’ve heard about that.”

“I once read about it in an ancient book. The Seven Absolutes Sect has a rule that the Seven Absolutes Sect would only make a huge appearance when the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny has appeared. If it’s true, this means the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny, the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect, has appeared!”

“What kind of monster will the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny be when the current heir to the Prophet Progeny is already so terrifying? According to the Seven Absolutes Sect’s tradition, the strongest person in the Seven Absolutes Sect is the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny!”

“The heir to Fog Rain Progeny, the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect! How exciting!”

Many people in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land were discussing the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny, the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect

Naturally, the three great sects had heard the talks as well.

“Now that the Seven Absolutes Sect has appeared, they must have found the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny. It’s very likely that the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny is the direct descendant of Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang!”

In the entire Upper Province, no one knew the Seven Absolutes Sect and the Fog Rain Progeny as well as the great sects. They were even more certain than the others that the Seven Absolute Sect had found the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny! Otherwise, the Seven Absolutes Sect would not appear in such an ostentatious manner!

“Based on what had happened so far, the heir to the Prophet Progeny, the Second Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect, is the strongest! Apart from that, you have to remember that the then-heir to the Prophet Progeny from a hundred thousand years ago was also a Heaven-Defying Dao Cultivator, but his cultivation base was the weakest among the heirs to the other progenies.”

“Yes. During that era, Feng Qing Yang, the then-heir to the Fog Rain Progeny, was the strongest. Second to Feng Qing Yang was the then-heir to the Kratos Progeny. The current heirs to the progenies of the Seven Absolutes Sect are really unpredictable.”

“There’s a possibility that the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny is not even as strong as the current heir of the Prophet Progeny who’s a Heaven-Defying Dao Cultivator!”

You have a point.”

Similar remarks were heard among the high-ranking officials from the three great sects.

At this moment, none of them realized that the current heir to the Fog Rain Progeny, the First Absolute of the Seven Absolutes Sect, was someone they knew or had heard of!

All of these happened during the year Duan Ling Tian was away from the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

### **2252 Breaking Through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!**

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who was in the Lower Province was unaware of the happenings in the Upper Province in the year that followed after his departure. Otherwise, he would have found out he was the heir to the Fog Rain Progeny after obtaining Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang's legacy.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian was in the Human-Devil Saint City. He was in closed-door cultivation in an inn that belonged to Crimson Blaze Palace, one of the powerful factions from the Three Palaces and Six Halls of the Human-Devil clan.

Duan Ling Tian knew he would not be disturbed if he cultivated in the inn since no Human-Devils would dare to unreasonably cause a scene at an inn owned by the Crimson Blaze Palace.

The people from the Crimson Blaze Palace were obviously unaware that the person who murdered the godson of Wu Tian Jin, the Vice Palace Master of Crimson Blaze Palace, and the direct disciples of several elders from the Crimson Blaze Palace were cultivating in their inn. Otherwise, there it would have been impossible for Duan Ling Tian to cultivate peacefully in the inn.

Previously, I had a low-grade Innate Spiritual Root... Now that I have a violet Innate Spiritual Root, I should cultivate so I won't be a burden to Brother Tian!' Ke'er thought to herself. She did not stay idle while Duan Ling Tian was in closed-door cultivation. She decided to start cultivating as well. Naturally, she did not enter closed-door cultivation since she had a daughter to care for. She could only cultivate when she was free.

As for Ke'er's sister, Gan Ru Yan, she had entered closed-door cultivation the moment they returned from the Mortal Continents. Currently, her Innate Spiritual Root had evolved from indigo to violet. She had a dark violet Innate Spiritual Root! It was as though her dreams had come true! For this reason, she went into closed-door cultivation as soon as she arrived at the inn. She wanted to test her newly improved Innate Spiritual Root.

"Mummy, where's daddy?"

The first thing Duan Si Ling did when she woke up was to look for Duan Ling Tian. She was clearly very attached to her father, Duan Ling Tian.

"Be good, Si Ling... Daddy's in closed-door cultivation now, he'll come out in a few days. At that time, you'll be able to play with him, okay?" Ke'er said lovingly as she patted Duan Si Ling on her head.

"Okay, Si Ling will wait... Mummy, Si Ling wants to cultivate too. Si Ling wants to help daddy beat up bad guys!" Duan Si Ling said with a determined expression on her adorable face as she waved her tightly clenched fist in the air, looking like a little adult.

“Si Ling is such an angel... However, if you want to cultivate, you’ll have to wait until daddy comes out from closed-door cultivation so he can teach you, okay?” A relieved smile appeared on Ke’er’s face when she saw how obedient her daughter was.

Not only was Duan Si Ling not disappointed after hearing Ke’er’s words, but she seemed even more excited as she clapped her hands and said excitedly, “Okay! I’ll ask daddy to teach me when he returns!” In her eyes, her father is even more powerful than her mother and aunt. For this reason, she thought she would be more powerful if her father taught her.

Time passed by silently...

In just a blink of an eye, twenty days had gone by...

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Suddenly, a gust of wind appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s room! The wind blew violently at Duan Ling Tian who was sitting cross-legged on the bed. The wind resembled angry divine dragons as it blew in the room! However, as the raging wind approached the walls and door, it disappeared in just a blink of an eye as though it was devoured by something.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian who was sitting cross-legged on the bed opened his eyes. His eyes gleamed. It was as dazzling as the sun, it seemed as though it could light up the whole world!

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian seemed different from when he entered closed-door cultivation. He had an otherworldly air around him now.

“This is the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven-Defying Form?” Duan Ling Tian muttered under his breath. Based on his words, it was clear his cultivation base had broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

The Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was also known as the Heaven-Defying Form. When one had broken through to this stage, one’s lifespan was equal to heaven and earth!

“It’s at this stage when powerhouses achieve immortality...” Duan Ling Tian knew cultivators would achieve immortality at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage

In the past, Duan Ling Tian merely knew that cultivators at and above the Seventh Form of Saint Celestial Stage can achieve immortality, but he did not know how one would achieve immortality. Now that he had a breakthrough, he found out that the Saint Veins in one’s body would fuse with one’s veins and vessels once one had broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven Defying Form, thus, granting one immortality. Apart from that, the Saint Origin would circulate through the entire body, changing the body’s metabolism rate.

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had always found the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven-Defying Form, mysterious. However, now that he had made a breakthrough, he finally had an understanding of it.

Now, I understand why the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage is called the Heaven-Defying Form,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, ‘My cultivation speed is still slower cultivating in the Human-Devil

Saint City with my dark violet Innate Spiritual Root compared to the fourth floor of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda... However, this can't be helped since the cultivation environment here can't be compared to the Upper Province."

In fact, ever since Duan Ling Tian had improved his Innate Spiritual Root to a dark violet one, his cultivation speed was almost comparable to the speed when he cultivated in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda with the assistance from the slower time flow. Based on this, one could see his current cultivation speed had improved a lot. It was only due to the inferior cultivation environment in the Lower Province that his cultivation speed seemed slow. If one were to compare it in the same cultivation environment, the difference would be clear.

Regardless, I still managed to break through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven Defying Form!" Duan Ling Tian thought to himself with bright eyes.

Apart from achieving immortality, his Sun Saint Origin had also grown stronger. Although it was not as strong as the Saint Origin of a cultivator at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, it was still stronger than ordinary cultivators at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Currently, I'm a level stronger than I was before after breaking through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself excitedly. Growing stronger meant he was better equipped to protect himself and his family in the Lower Province that was overrun with Devils.

It's too bad Elder Huo isn't here now...' Duan Ling Tian's excitement was dampened when he thought about the pagoda spirit of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. He sighed and sadness could be seen in his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian suddenly thought of Elder Huo because Elder Huo had once told him that once he had broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, he would help him upgrade his Golden Crow's Wings to its third form! Not only would his speed increase once he had improved the Golden Crow's Wings to its third form, but at that time, he would be able to see its ability as a Divine Ability from the Devata Realm!

"Without Elder Huo, I'm unable to upgrade the Golden Crow's Wings to its third form... Although my speed is a lot faster in comparison to all the movement techniques in the Dao Martial Saint Land with the second form of the Golden Crow Wings, it's only average compared to the movement techniques in the Devata Realm!" Duan Ling Tian sighed.

Duan Ling Tian could still try and improve his other Divine Abilities. However, without Elder Huo, he would not be able to further improve the Golden Crow's Wings!

The Golden Crow's Wings was, originally, Elder Huo's innate Divine Ability as a Three-legged Golden Crow. Duan Ling Tian only managed to master the skill because Elder Huo had helped him plant the Golden Crow's Wings on his back!

Otherwise, it would have been impossible for him to master this skill.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian finally regained his senses. He shook his head. "The past is in the past" Duan Ling Tian,

you must believe that Elder Huo would be proud of you if he knew you managed to break through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven Defying Form, in such a short time!” Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself, trying to lift his own spirit. “If I’m not mistaken, less than a month has passed since I entered closed-door cultivation...”

### **Chapter 2253 Disappointed**

Duan Ling Tian got up from the bed and left the room. He finally exited his closed-door cultivation!

“Daddy! Daddy!”

Duan Ling Tian heard an excited squeal as soon as he opened the room door. He saw his daughter, Duan Si Ling, running toward him with open arms. The excitement was apparent on her adorable little face.

“Si Ling.” Duan Ling Tian bent down to catch Duan Si Ling who lunged at him and carried her.

At this point, Duan Si Ling was already ten years old. However, she was still very innocent due to her lack of contact with other kids her age. She was like a princess before Duan Ling Tian, and to Duan Ling Tian, she was his one and only little princess!

“Daddy... Why do I feel like you’re a little different?” Duan Si Ling blinked her eyes innocently as she sized Duan Ling Tian up. She could see the difference in his aura.

Before Duan Ling Tian entered the closed-door cultivation, his cultivation base was merely at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. His bearing and aura had changed drastically now that he had broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Although Duan Si Ling had yet to officially start cultivating, she was very sensitive to the changes in Duan Ling Tian due to her black Innate Spiritual Root. Naturally, she did not know what aura was, she only knew that her father felt different to her.

Duan Ling Tian patted Duan Si Ling’s head affectionately and said with a smile, “Daddy has had a breakthrough.”

Duan Si Ling’s eyes lit up when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words. “Wah! Daddy is amazing! This means daddy has broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven-Defying Form! Does this mean you’re an immortal now?”

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had told Duan Si Ling that his cultivation base was at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and some facts about the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven-Defying Form. For this reason, he was not surprised when he heard her words. He only nodded with a smile on his face.

However, Duan Si Ling looked downcast when she saw Duan Ling Tian nodding as though something was bothering her.

“What’s wrong?” Duan Ling Tian asked in surprise. It was his first time seeing his daughter acting this way. He was baffled.

“Daddy... Si Ling wants to start cultivating too,” Duan Si Ling pouted adorably and said, “Si Ling wants to be an immortal too. Otherwise, Si Ling will grow old and die. Daddy will be very bored if that happens... Si Ling wants to accompany daddy.”

When Duan Ling Tian heard his daughter’s words, his heart felt warm. He said with a smile, “Si Ling can cultivate, but daddy has to ask for mummy’s permission first, okay? If she agrees to it, we can start cultivating!”

“Daddy, mummy has agreed to it. She told me to wait until you come out from closed-door cultivation so you can teach me,” Duan Si Ling said.

“Well, we still have to inform your mother about it,” Duan Ling Tian said affectionately as he patted Duan Si Ling’s head.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, a soft voice that was laced with surprise rang in the air. “Brother Tian, you’re done?”

A beautiful lady walked out of the room next to Duan Ling Tian’s room.

It was Ke’er. She had heard movements out in the yard and had come out to take a look.

“Yes.” When Duan Ling Tian saw Ke’er, the look in his eyes turned gentle. The look in his eyes seemed capable of melting the hardest of hearts.

“Mummy, daddy promised to teach me how to cultivate,” Duan Si Ling cried out excitedly as she waved at Ke’er.

Before Ke’er could respond, Duan Ling Tian said, “Since Si Ling is about ten years old now, it should be fine if she starts cultivating. However, the final decision is yours to make. If you agree with it, then, I’ll teach her to cultivate. If you think she’s still too young, we can revisit this idea in two years.”

Duan Si Ling was stunned when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words. When she regained her senses, her eyes were brimming with tears. “Daddy, what are you saying? I thought you’ve promised me?”

“I did promise you, but I also said mummy has to agree to it first... If mummy doesn’t agree, I wouldn’t dare to teach you at all.” Duan Ling Tian felt slightly sorry when he saw the tears in Duan Si Ling’s eyes. He quickly smiled at her and patted her head.

Duan Ling Tian still felt guilty about the fact that Ke’er had to bring their daughter up on her own. For this reason, he thought it was important to listen to Ke’er’s opinion first before he made any decision. Moreover, even if she did not raise their daughter on her own, it was still not right for Duan Ling Tian to make a decision without discussing it with Ke’er. As the mother of his daughter, she had the right to her own opinions as well. After all, their daughter belonged to both of them.

“Mummy...” After listening to Duan Ling Tian, Duan Si Ling instantly turned to look at Ke’er. She knew the decision lay with her mother. She said with a pout, “You can’t go back on your words. You’ve already promised me!”

At this time, Ke’er was standing next to Duan Ling Tian and their daughter. She said, “Brother Tian, we’ll do what you think is best.” It seemed as though she was willing to go along with whatever decision Duan

Ling Tian made. His words had shown her how much he cared and respected her. It warmed her heart immensely.

That was how they decided Duan Si Ling would begin cultivating.

Duan Ling Tian finally remembered something important and asked Ke'er, "Ke'er, how many days have passed since I went into closed-door cultivation?"

"Twenty days," Ke'er replied.

"Only twenty days?" Duan Ling Tian's eyebrows rose in surprise. He thought at least twenty five days had passed. He did not expect only twenty days had gone by. After finding out how much time had passed, he said again to Ke'er, "Ke'er, I'm going out for a while. It'll take an hour at most,"

Duan Ling Tian played with his daughter for a while before he passed his daughter to Ke'er and left the inn that was owned by the Human-Devil clan's Crimson Blaze Palace.

Duan Ling Tian only left the inn because he wanted to test his current strength! He wanted to see how much stronger he had gotten now that he had broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven Defying Form. There was no point in making any guesses. The best way was to directly test his strength!

After leaving the inn, Duan Ling Tian left the Human-Devil Saint City as well. After fifteen minutes, he arrived at an empty desert. As he hovered in the sky, he extended his Divine Consciousness and found no signs of life. Even the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was fairly thin here.

Let's start with my Sun Saint Origin...' With just a thought, Duan Ling Tian's Sun Saint Origin began to churn in his body before it flowed to his 99 Saint Veins. It did not take long before it surged out of his body. It was extremely powerful. It felt as though a raging beast had awoken inside Duan Ling Tian's body!

The number of Saint Veins one possessed was connected to the speed one mobilized the force in one's body. The more Saint Veins one had, the faster one would be able to mobilize one's Saint Origin.

However, compared to the Devata Realm, cultivators from the mundane realm relied less on their Saint Veins because their strength was too weak. In Devata Realms, Saint Veins were known as Heavenly Veins!

"Elementary Devouring Tactic!" Duan Ling Tian instantly cast the assist-type Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, after he mobilized his Sun Saint Origin and began to absorb the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in his surroundings.

Duan Ling Tian changed location once he finished absorbing the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy around him. He could choose to stay, but the speed of absorption would be greatly reduced. His absorption speed would be faster if he moved to a place where there were more Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy.

Duan Ling Tian continued to change places a few times to absorb the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy!

After about a dozen breaths, Duan Ling Tian finally raised his Sun Saint Origin to its limit. When he discovered the limit, he was disappointed.

“It’s the same as before... Could this be the bottleneck or obstacle before passing the Heavenly Tribulation? Elder Huo seemed to have mentioned something about this before...” Duan Ling Tian muttered under his breath.

Duan Ling Tian’s Sun Saint Origin was the same as before when he had not broken through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. He did not get weaker nor did he get stronger. It was as though his strength had plateaued.

Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly as he thought to himself, ‘Previously Elder Huo had said the strength of powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage would plateau before they pass the Heavenly Tribulation. They could only break through it if they pass the Heavenly Tribulation!’

### **Chapter 2254 The Boar-Devil Clan**

I thought I’ll be able to break through the bottleneck with the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic... Who knew that even after I’ve completely mastered the Elementary Devouring Tactic, I’ll still encounter an obstacle!’ Duan Ling Tian sighed before he smiled wryly.

Due to this obstacle, it meant that even with the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, Duan Ling Tian’s Sun Saint Origin could only reach the level of a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

If one wanted to increase the strength of their Saint Origin, they would have to pass the Heavenly Tribulation to ascend. Only those who had successfully passed the Heavenly Tribulation could break through the bottleneck and increase the strength of their bodies and Saint Origin.

Based on Elder Huo’s words, once a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage has successfully passed the Heavenly Tribulation, his or her Saint Origin would break through this bottleneck and partly transform into the Celestial Origin Energy. It would still be Saint Origin, but it would be considerably stronger since it has partly transformed into the Celestial Origin Energy!’ Duan Ling Tian sighed again as he thought to himself, ‘In other words, it matters not if I’ve broken through to the Eighth Form or Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage since I won’t be able to raise the strength of my Sun Saint Origin any higher with the Elementary Devouring Tactic if I haven’t passed the Tribulations of Celestial Ascension! This means that once I break through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Elementary Devouring Tactic would be useless since it won’t be able to raise my Sun Saint Origin any longer.’

Naturally, when Duan Ling Tian said the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, would be useless, he meant that it would no longer be able to raise his strength after he had broken through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. It was obvious that the Elementary Devouring Tactic still had other uses such as devouring and improving Innate Spiritual Roots.

Once I’ve broken through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and pass the Tribulation of Celestial Ascension, I’ll have both the Sun Saint Origin and the Celestial Origin Energy even if I can’t raise my Sun Saint Origin with the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic! My Sun Saint Origin might have already reached its limit in the mundane realm, but that’s not the case for the Celestial Origin

Energy!' Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened when he thought of this. 'The most important thing now is to break through the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and pass the Tribulation of Celestial Ascension! Once that's done, I'll be able to raise my strength tremendously with the Elementary Devouring Tactic again.' The dejection he felt lessened slightly when he thought about this possibility.

Although Duan Ling Tian felt dejected, he knew there was nothing he could do about this.

"Apart from raising my cultivation base, I should also improve my other techniques... This way I'll be able to increase my strength in a short time! After all, before I break through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and pass the Tribulation of Celestial Ascension, this will be the limit for my Sun Saint Origin," Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself. A hint of determination could be seen in his eyes.

In the past, I relied too much on the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, to the point where I've neglected improving my other techniques" Duan Ling Tian laughed bitterly to himself. Whether it was the defensive Divine Ability, the Black Turtle's Barrier, the offensive Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial, or even the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method, the Sovereign Heart Sword, he had temporarily neglected improving them quite some time ago. He had only realized this as he realized the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, was becoming less and less useful to him.

"Nonetheless, my current strength is much better compared to when I was at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage without being able to increase my strength. With my current strength, I don't need to fear anyone in the Wandering Saint Palace of the Human-Devil clan's Three Palaces and Six Halls except for the Palace Master!"

Maybe I should enter the Wandering Saint Palace and take up the position of Vice Palace Master to test the water.' Duan Ling Tian had not forgotten his earlier plan. When he thought about this, he did not waste his time idling. He instantly changed direction and headed back to the Human-Devil Saint City.

In less than an hour, Duan Ling Tian arrived at the Human-Devil Saint City and the inn that belonged to the Crimson Blaze Palace of the Human-Devil clan's Three Palaces and Six Halls. As soon as he arrived at the inn, he began to prepare to take Ke'er, their daughter, and Gan Ru Yan to the Wandering Saint Palace.

"Sister is still in closed-door cultivation," Ke'er said to Duan Ling Tian. He learned that Gan Ru Yan had gone into closed-door cultivation the same time he did, but she had yet to come out.

"If that's the case, we'll wait for her."

While waiting for Gan Ru Yan to come out from closed-door cultivation, Duan Ling Tian did not forget his promise to his daughter. He began to formally teach her how to cultivate. During their lessons, he became deeply aware of how terrifying a Black Innate Spiritual Root was.

When he saw his daughter's cultivation improving at the speed of light, Duan Ling Tian could not help but think to himself, 'Isn't this... too fast!?'

When Duan Si Ling had learned how to cultivate properly without needing Duan Ling Tian to be by her side all the time, he went to look for Ke'er.

“Ke’er, there shouldn’t be any problem for Si Ling to cultivate on her own for now... I’m going out to improve my Innate Spiritual Root to a black one!”

“Brother Tian... how long will you be away?” Ke’er asked, concerned. She did not want to be away from Duan Ling Tian for too long.

“It shouldn’t take too long... After all, my Innate Spiritual Root is just half a step away from turning black!” Duan Ling Tian said softly to Ke’er as he pulled her into his arms, “I’ll come back as soon as I can... When Si Ling wakes up from her cultivation, inform her of this as well”

“Alright.” Ke’er nodded, her face filled with reluctance. “Brother Tian, come back soon.”

“I will,” Duan Ling Tian replied and gently kissed Ke’er’s forehead before he left the inn and the Human-Devil Saint City.

After Duan Ling Tian left the Human-Devil Saint City, he headed north. His target this time was no longer the Human-Devil clan, but the other clans. While he was in the Human-Devil Saint City, he learned that the Boar-Devil clan had settled down on a piece of land some hundreds of thousands of miles north of the Human-Devil Saint City. As it turned out, that place used to be the estate of a fourth-rate force in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

Although the Boar-Devil clan was not considered powerful like the Human-Devil clan and the Ox-Devil clan, they were second only to these clans. They were relatively strong compared to other Devil Clans.

“When I was in the restaurant, I heard the Boar-Devil clan has three powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! These three powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage are the respective leaders for the Black Boar Tribe, the Thunder Boar Tribe, and Red Boar Tribe. They’re also three great chiefs of the Boar-Devil Clan!”

Duan Ling Tian had some knowledge about the Boar-Devil Clan because he had been out and about, listening in to conversations, while he was in the Human-Devil Saint City.

“From what I heard, the members of the Boar-Devil clan have the head of a boar. Based on the description, they’re not unlike Second Senior Brother, Monk Pig, from the legends in my past life!”

Duan Ling Tian was so immersed in his thoughts that when he regained his senses, he discovered he had left the vast land occupied by the Human-Devil clan and had entered the Boar-Devil clan’s territory.

“A Human-Devil?” A strong voice had called out from the distance as soon as Duan Ling Tian discovered he was in the Boar-Devil clan’s territory. The voice instantly caught his attention.

Duan Ling Tian turned to look at the source of the voice and saw two figures. Both figures possessed a human body. However, their heads were that of a boar. Indeed. They really looked like Monk Pig in the legend from his past life on earth. The only difference was the Boar-Devils were nowhere as fat Monk Pig from the legend.

One of the Boar-Devil had a strong build while the other one was thin. The one who had spoken was the skinny Boar-Devil.

The Boar-Devils! Based on their appearances, it was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to guess their identities.

The thin Boar-Devil flew to Duan Ling Tian and arrived next to him in just a blink of an eye. He opened his mouth and said, "Human-Devil boy, you have crossed the border... This is the territory of the Boar-Devil clan!"

When the Boar-Devil spoke, Duan Ling Tian smelled an awful stench wafting out from the Boar-Devil's mouth.

"Leave!" Duan Ling Tian's gaze turned cold suddenly as he raised his hand. His powerful Sun Saint Origin surged out of his hand and shrouded the Boar-Devil. It effectively nullified the stench from the Boar-Devil's mouth as well.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian's Sun Saint Origin shrouded the Boar-Devil, it did not take long before the Boar-Devil completely disappeared. Nothing remained except for his Spatial Ring.

The Boar-Devil with a strong build was about to follow his companion to stop Duan Ling Tian when he saw his companion being killed with just a wave of the hand. He came to a halt immediately. His eyes widened in fear as he trembled. "A powerhouse from the Human-Devil clan!"

#### **Chapter 2255 The Three Great Guardian**

Duan Ling Tian looked over after he collected the thin Boar-Devil's Spatial Ring.

The Boar-Devil with a strong build felt fear coursing through his veins and instantly dropped to his knees before he begged for mercy with a trembling voice. "Please spare my life, sir! Please spare my life!"

"Apart from the three chiefs in the Boar-Devil clan, who has the best innate talent?" Duan Ling Tian asked the kneeling Boar-Devil calmly as though he did not just kill the Boar-Devil's companion.

"Who has the best innate talent?" The kneeling Boar-Devil was stunned when he heard Duan Ling Tian's question. It seemed as though he did not know how to answer the question.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the lack of response from the Boar-Devil, he narrowed his eyes that were filled with killing intent. "Hmm... Don't you know the answer?" It did not take long before the killing intent surged out of his body, intimidating the Boar-Devil.

The Boar-Devil quickly regained his senses and shivered in fear. He hurriedly replied, "Yes, sir. I do know! I honestly know!"

"Tell me!" Duan Ling Tian demanded.

"Apart from the three chiefs, the strongest in our tribe are the three Great Guardian Warriors followed by a few talented youngsters..." The Boar-Devil replied without any hesitation. It was as though he knew Duan Ling Tian would kill him without twinkling twice if he had hesitated to answer the question. His strength was on par with his companion's strength after all. However, this powerhouse from the Human-Devil clan had easily killed his friend with just a wave of his hand. He had no doubts this Human-Devil could kill him as easily too. For this reason, he did not dare to run away, he knew he would not be able to escape anyway.

“Three Great Guardian Warriors? Are their innate talents high?” Duan Ling Tian interrupted the Boar-Devil before he could finish speaking. He had heard about the three Great Guardian Warriors while he was in the Human-Devil Saint City, it was no surprise to him when he heard the Boar-Devil said they were the strongest apart from the three chiefs.

The three Great Guardian Warriors’ cultivation bases were at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, but they were nowhere close to the peak. They were triplets so they had the gift of telepathy among themselves. Due to this, their strength was quite formidable when they joined forces. They were no ordinary triplets! They were much stronger than ordinary twins or triplets.

If the three Great Guardian Warriors combined forces, even Xing Yuan Ba, the Vice Palace Master of the Great Spirit Palace, who was widely acknowledged as the strongest among those below or at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage might not be a match for them. For this reason, the three Great Guardian Warriors were also known as being invincible among those at or below the Eight Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

“Yes,” the kneeling Boar-Devil with a strong build quickly replied when he heard Duan Ling Tian’s question, “They’re definitely stronger than the other talented youngsters in our clan. Therefore, they’re known as young geniuses in our clan!”

“Young geniuses? They’re actually youngsters?” Duan Ling Tian was surprised. He had heard about how strong the three Great Guardian Warriors were, but he did not know how old they were.

Since Duan Ling Tian had returned to the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, he had roughly understood what Devil Clans considered as young. For the Devil Clans, those below the age of 100 were considered young.

Yes,” the Boar-Devil nodded and replied quickly, “The three Great Guardian Warriors are quite young, they’re only about 50 years old!”

50 years old!

“So young?” Duan Ling Tian was shocked when he heard this. They were only about 50 years old, but they had broken through to the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Put hard work aside, without extremely remarkable innate talent, even if Duan Ling Tian continued to devour the essence of others, he still would not be able to achieve something like that in a short time!

Duan Ling Tian began to guess. ‘They must have indigo Innate Spiritual Roots. Moreover, their Innate Spiritual Roots shouldn’t only be light indigo! They might have a dark indigo Innate Spiritual Root, but that’s unlikely...’

When Duan Ling Tian was in Human-Devil Saint City, he learned about the innate talents and Innate Spiritual Roots of the Devil Clans. He discovered there were only a few super-geniuses who possessed a violet Innate Spiritual Root in the history of the Devil Clans. Apart from that, most of these geniuses were pure-blooded humans from the Human- Devil Clan. In other words, there were no known super-geniuses with violet Innate Spiritual Roots in the other Devil Clans apart from the Human-Devil clan.

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian concluded that dark indigo Innate Spiritual Roots should be the limit for the Devils from the Devil Clans. He was certain the three Great Guardian Warriors of the Boar-Devil Clan only had normal indigo Innate Spiritual Roots and not dark indigo Innate Spiritual Roots. Still, he was quite surprised by what he had learned.

There are three of them. Even if they only have light indigo Innate Spiritual Roots, I'm certain my Innate Spiritual Roots will turn black after I devour three of their Innate Spiritual Roots!' Duan Ling Tian felt excited when he thought about this. It seemed as though he could already see his Innate Spiritual Root turning black.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself decisively. 'These three will be my targets!' To be precise, his targets were the triplet's Innate Spiritual Roots.

"Which tribe are the three Great Guardian Warriors from? The Black Boar Tribe? The Thunder Boar Tribe? Or the Red Boar Tribe?" Duan Ling Tian asked in a low voice as he stared at the kneeling Boar-Devil.

It would be rather difficult for Duan Ling Tian to attack them if they belonged to one of these tribes because each tribe had a chief at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! Even with his Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, he was not completely certain he would be able to kill a Devil at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. He had a high chance of winning only if he could raise his Sun Saint Origin, uninterrupted, to the level of the powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage with the Elementary Devouring Tactic and use the Devilseal Tablet. However, would his opponent give him time to raise his Sun Saint Origin to that level?

Up until now, the only powerhouses at the Ninth Stage of the Saint Celestial whom Duan Ling Tian had met were Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, and Lang Qian Jin, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect.

At that time, the battle between Tang Xuan and Lang Qian Jin revealed how terrifying the strength of a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was. Even until now, Duan Ling Tian still felt chills running up his spine when he thought about the battle. A powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was really strong.

Moreover, Duan Ling Tian knew Tang Xuan and Lang Qian Jin were not considered as the strongest powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. For this reason, he was wary in regards to powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage even though he had gotten stronger and possessed the Devilseal Tablet!

"I can raise my body's Sun Saint Origin instantly to the Eight Form of the Saint Celestial Stage with the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic... However, with my Sun Saint Origin at that level, even if I use the Devilseal Tablet, I'm not confident I can kill those at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Even if I was given the time to raise my Sun Saint Origin to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, I'm not 100% certain I'll be able to kill a powerhouse at that level. After all, the Devilseal Tablet is damaged. If the Devilseal Tablet isn't damaged, I believe I have a high chance of killing Devils at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!"

For all these reasons, Duan Ling Tian did not dare to directly confront a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

“They don’t belong to any of the tribes.”

When Duan Ling Tian was worrying about this matter, the kneeling Boar-Devil with a strong build said, “They’re considered as tribe-less in our Boar-Devil Clans...”

“Tribe-less?” A hint of joy could be seen in Duan Ling Tian’s eyes when he heard the Boar-Devil’s words.

### **Chapter 2256 The Targets Appeared**

Duan Ling Tian wanted to turn his Innate Spiritual Root black in one go by devouring high-grade Innate Spiritual Roots. To save time, he decided to ask about who had the best innate talent in the Boar-Devil clan. After all, it would take a longtime for his Innate Spiritual Root to turn black if he only devoured low-grade Innate Spiritual Roots. He was not willing to spend so much time if he did not have to. After all, Ke’er did not want to be away from him for too long, and he felt the same way. For this reason, he wanted to quickly finish his task so that he could return to her side.

The three Great Guardian Warriors possess indigo Innate Spiritual Roots and they don’t belong to a specific tribe...’ Duan Ling Tian’s eyes brightened when he learned about this. His breathing quickened as well.

How could Duan Ling Tian not feel excited? Since the three Great Guardian Warriors did not belong to any one tribe, especially the three strongest tribes, in the Boar-Devil clan, this meant they were not directly near the three Boar-Devils at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

“Your clan’s territory is rather big... Do you know the location of the three Great Guardian Warriors?” Duan Ling Tian asked in a deep voice.

The Boar-Devil did not respond to Duan Ling Tian’s question immediately. Instead, he asked hopefully, “Sir, will you let me go if I tell you?”

Duan Ling Tian sneered. “Are you trying to negotiate with me? Do you think you’re the only one who knows the location of the three Great Guardian Warriors?” As soon as he finished speaking, killing intent rose from his body again, suppressing the Boar-Devil.

The killing intent made the Boar-Devil tremble in fear. He quickly shook his head. “No, sir, that’s not what I mean. I really didn’t mean it like that. I-I’ll bring you the three Great Guardian Warriors’ cultivation place now!” The Boar-Devil looked at Duan Ling Tian fearfully as though he was afraid Duan Ling Tian would kill him at any time.

It was a fact that most Boar-Devils knew the cultivation place of the three Great Guardian Warriors. That was why the Boar-Devil with a strong build knew he could not use this as leverage against Duan Ling Tian.

“Take the lead!” Duan Ling Tian ordered.

The Boar-Devil stood up immediately and turned around to lead Duan Ling Tian to the three Great Guardian Warriors' cultivation place. Their cultivation place was located far away from where most Boar-Devils gathered. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian did not meet any Boar-Devils during his journey.

"Sir, after we climb over that hill, we'll arrive at the three Great Guardian Warriors' cultivation place," the Boar-Devil turned around and informed Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded slightly. The fact that the cultivation place of the three Boar-Devils was located far away from most Boar-Devils was definitely to his advantage. He had been worrying earlier if the cultivation place was near many Boar-Devils. After all, he might fail to devour the three Great Guardian Warriors' Innate Spiritual Roots if any of the three chiefs made an appearance.

It did not take long before they began to climb the hill.

"Hmm?" Duan Ling Tian frowned as he stared down the hill as though he had detected something. Whoosh! Whoosh!

Two piercing sounds rang from the mountain range almost immediately as two figures appeared in Duan Ling Tian's sight.

The figures belonged to two Boar-Devils. One was plump with a big stomach. He looked very similar to Monk Pig in the legend from Duan Ling Tian's past life on earth.

The other Boar-Devil had a fitter body. If Duan Ling Tian was not mistaken, this Boar-Devil was probably considered good-looking in the Boar-Devil clan.

"Xiong Jie, how dare you bring a Human-Devil to our territory... How dare you!"

When the Boar-Devil who looked like Monk Pig moved, he seemed like a ball rolling toward Duan Ling Tian and the Boar-Devil who had brought Duan Ling Tian here.

It was obvious the Boar-Devil who brought Duan Ling Tian here was called Xiong Jie.

When the plump Boar-Devil who bore a resemblance to Monk Pig made his way over, Xiong Jie turned to say in disgust to Duan Ling Tian, "Sir, this is my enemy... I didn't expect to meet him here." However, a hint of relish could be seen in his eye. It was as though he was taking pleasure in the misfortune he knew was going to befall his enemy soon.

That fool was going to die!

Duan Ling Tian saw the look in Xiong Jie's eyes and knew the thoughts that were in his mind. He sneered. However, he made a move anyway.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Although Duan Ling Tian remained motionless, waves of power surged out of his body like a tsunami and shrouded the plump Boar Devil. There was no time for the plump Boar-Devil to defend himself at all before he was killed. All that was left of him was his Spatial Ring!

Whoosh!

Xiong Jie quickly flew out and collected the Spatial Ring before he passed them to Duan Ling Tian respectfully. "Sir!"

After Duan Ling Tian kept the Spatial Ring, he turned to the other Boar-Devil who had a fit body.

"Sir, he's that fool's comrade, you shouldn't let him go... Otherwise, he'll definitely spread the news of your presence here," Xiong Jie said. The hint of delight and smugness in his eyes intensified. This Boar-Devil was also his enemy.

The fit Boar-Devil regained his senses when he heard Xiong Jie's words. He instantly turned to escape. What a joke? This Human-Devil powerhouse could easily kill him as he had killed his companion. His strength was only on par with his companion after all. He was horrified when he saw his companion being killed.

Swish!

The sound of a sword whistling rang in the air as Duan Ling Tian made a move with just a flick of his finger.

Before the Boar-Devil could even take a step forward, the sword ray that shot out of Duan Ling Tian's finger had already pierced his glabella.

Dead!

The two Boar-Devils were killed in just a blink of an eye.

Although Xiong Jie had personally witnessed how strong Duan Ling Tian was, he still felt a jolt of terror when he saw how easily Duan Ling Tian had killed his two enemies. However, he quickly regained his senses and flew out to collect the Spatial Ring of his enemy and presented them respectfully to Duan Ling Tian again. After that, he earnestly led Duan Ling Tian to his destination without saying anything. He felt delighted inwardly when he thought about the deaths of his two enemies.

Soon after, a wide valley appeared before Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"Sir, we're here."

At the end of the valley, Duan Ling Tian saw three simple wooden huts at the hillside. With just a thought, he extended his Divine Consciousness to the three wooden huts.

Duan Ling Tian instantly felt three stronger Divine Consciousness wrangling with his Divine Consciousness.

"Who's it?!"

However, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have expected this as he quickly withdrew his Divine Consciousness at the moment he sensed the three strong Divine Consciousness.

One's Divine Consciousness came from the soul, and one's soul was linked to one's cultivation base.

Since Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, his soul and Divine Consciousness were, naturally, also at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Needless to say, the three Divine Consciousness was stronger than his because they were at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

"The three Great Guardian Warriors!" Duan Ling Tian knew Xiong Jie did not lie to him. There was no doubt that this place was the cultivation place of the three Great Guardian Warriors.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The three wooden huts at the hillside exploded simultaneously and three formidable-looking Devils emerged from the rubble.

The three figures hovered in the sky near Duan Ling Tian and glared at him.

These three Boar-Devils looked identical! They were about two meters tall and Devil Qi continued to surge out of their bodies, making them look like a Devil King. They were none other than the three Great Guardian Warriors!

"A Human-Devil?"

The three Boar-Devils' expressions darkened when they took in Duan Ling Tian's appearance.

Xiong Jie was trembling in fear when one of the three Great Guardian Warriors suddenly bellowed, "How dare you! How dare you bring a Human-Devil to our Boar Devil's territory!"

The Devil Qi from his body turned into a palm and slapped Xiong Jie.

Boom!

The giant palm fell like a huge mountain.

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow, but he made no move to intervene.

Xiong Jie was instantly killed by the palm that was formed by Devil Qi before he could even react.

### **2257 The Battle with the Three Great Guardian Warriors**

Xiong Jie had been overjoyed about the deaths of his two enemies since he thought his life would be smoother and better after this. However, he did not expect he would die as well before he could even enjoy his life. Moreover, he had died at the hands of his own 'people'.

Duan Ling Tian could have stopped one of the three Great Guardian Warriors from killing Xiong Jie if he wanted to but he did not since he did not plan on letting Xiong Jie live anyway. They were just taking advantage of each other. Duan Ling Tian killed two of Xiong Jie's enemies because Xiong Jie had led him to the three Great Guardian Warriors. He was not obligated to save him from his own kind. Moreover, he would never be kind to the Boar-Devils who had killed many of his people.

The Great Guardian Warrior who killed Xiong Jie glared at Duan Ling Tian and said viciously, "How dare you, a Human- Devil, come to our Boar -Devil's territory... It seems like you're tired of living!"

“Tired of living?” Duan Ling Tian could not help but burst into laughter. Then, he smirked. “Actually, I’m here for the three of you... Now, let me send all of you to accompany that Boar-Devil!” He did not waste any time and began to attack as soon as he finished speaking.

Whoosh!

Whirlpools began to appear out of thin air around Duan Ling Tian and absorbed all the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the surroundings! In just an instant, the Sun Saint Origin in his body had increased to a level comparable to a powerhouse at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. However, the strength of his Sun Saint Origin was still increasing albeit at a slower speed.

“Shameless boasting!” The three Great Guardian Warriors yelled simultaneously when they regained their senses.

“Golden Crow Wings!” While the three Boar-Devils glared at Duan Ling Tian, he cast the Divine Ability, the Golden Crow’s Wings. A pair of flaming wings sprouted on his back and began to flap.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

As the deafening sound of explosions rang in the air, Duan Ling Tian quickly moved to another area where there was more Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy for him to absorb. “Elementary Devouring Tactics!”

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian finished absorbing the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the area.

“He’s casting a Divine Ability to devour Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy to raise the strength of his Saint Origin!” One of three Boar-Devils suddenly cried out after they snapped out of their trance.

As powerhouses at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, they were sensitive to the fluctuation of Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in their surroundings. It was only natural they felt the quickly depleting Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in their surroundings.

“Kill him!” The three Great Guardian Warriors bellowed at the same time. Since they were triplets with the gift of telepathy, they flew toward Duan Ling Tian at lightning speed in harmony.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The three Boar-Devils’ speed was not only fast, but their movements were in sync as well. However, even after they cast their Divine Abilities, Martial Tactics, and released their Devil Qis, their speed was only on par with Duan Ling Tian.

It was only natural since Duan Ling Tian had absorbed almost all the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the surroundings. Although the Sun Saint Origin had not reached the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, he was very close to it.

“Elementary Devouring Tactic!” Duan Ling Tian continued to fly from one place to another, absorbing the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the surroundings.

Duan Ling Tian changed places again. “Elementary Devouring Tactic!”

“Elementary Devouring Tactic!” He changed location again

As Duan Ling Tian’s Sun Saint Origin became stronger, his speed became faster as well.

One of the three Boar-Devils cried out in a slightly fearful voice when he saw this, “Impossible! His Saint Origin is still increasing in strength!”

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The other two Boar-Devils were also alarmed by Duan Ling Tian’s increasing speed and his Sun Saint Origin that was getting stronger. At this moment, they realized something was not right.

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian exclaimed, “Finally!” He had finally raised his Sun Saint Origin to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Currently, his Sun Saint Origin was stronger than the three Great Guardian Warriors.

Duan Ling Tian turned around to face the three Great Guardian Warriors. He said confidently now that his Sun Saint Origin was at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, “I heard that when three of you combined forces, you’re invincible to those below the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. I wish to experience it today!”

Duan Ling Tian cast his Divine Ability again with his Sun Saint Origin that had been raised to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. “Golden Crow Wings!” His speed was more than one time faster compared to the three Great Guardian Warriors.

“The Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!” The three Boar-Devils were shocked when Duan Ling Tian turned to attack them. Based on this Human-Devil’s speed and his Saint Origin that was getting stronger, they discovered that he was as strong as a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. This Human-Devil was definitely much stronger than them!

“Go into defense mode! We’ll attack once the effect of his assist-type Divine Ability dies off!” At this critical moment, the three Great Guardian Warriors decided to go on defense.

Meanwhile, the three stopped moving and had their backs against each other, forming a small circle. Their Devil Qis and Saint Origin fused perfectly with each other before it transformed into a black light shield that shrouded them.

Upon closer inspection, one would be able to see bolts of black lightning around the black light shield. Each bolt of black lightning emitted a terrifying Devil Qi.

Since they were triplets, they could sense each other’s Devil Qis and fuse their Defense Martial Tactics and defensive Divine Ability perfectly. For this reason, they were able to defend against an attack from a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! Unless the powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was close to receiving his or her Heavenly Tribulation, ordinary powerhouses at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage would not be able to penetrate their defense in a short time.

In the three Boar-Devils’ opinion, this Human-Devil only possessed strength comparable to a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage due to his assist-type Divine Ability. There

was no doubt the effect would disappear at some point. At that time, they would be able to easily kill him!

“I can’t believe this Human-Devil has mastered such a powerful assist-type Divine Ability that allows him to raise his Saint Origin to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!” The three Great Guardian Warriors could not help but sigh even though they were confident about their defense.

One of the Boar-Devils scoffed. “As long as we manage to endure his attacks... Once the effects of his assist-type Divine Ability is gone, he’ll be like a fish on our chopping board!”

“His current strength should be on par with an ordinary powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, it’s impossible for him to penetrate our defense in such a short time!”

The three Great Guardian Warriors were very confident with their joint defense.

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow as he looked at the three Boar-Devils’ defense before he took out his Thousand Inscriptions Saint Sword. “Interesting.”

“Otherworldly Celestial! Defensive Sword Art!” Duan Ling Tian unleashed the strongest attack he was capable of, using the offensive Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial, and the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method.

At the same time, a few clones of Duan Ling Tian appeared out of thin air.

Shu! Shu! Shu!

The clones wielding Thousand Inscriptions Saint Swords had Sun Saint Origin that was as strong as Duan Ling Tian’s Sun Saint Origin. They pointed their swords at the three Great Guardian Warriors in unison.

The few Thousand Inscriptions Saint Swords sliced through the air, whistling, looking as though they could cut through anything!

“That’s fast!”

“How powerful!”

At this time, the three Great Guardian Warriors discovered how amazing Duan Ling Tian’s attack was. The sword rays from the swords were incredibly fast as well!

In just a blink of an eye, the Thousand Inscriptions Saint Swords and the clones clashed with the defensive black light shield that the three Boar-Devils had formed.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Ear-splitting explosions rang in the air immediately.

The clashes caused the black light shield to ripple and tremble like raindrops that fell on a still lake.

## **2258 The Comprehension of Heaven and Earth**

Duan Ling Tian’s attack was swift and brutal but he still could not pierce the joint defense of the three Great Guardian Warriors.

“It’s just as I’ve expected.” Duan Ling Tian sighed. Although he had expected this, he could not help but feel disappointed. He had already unleashed all his power, but he still could not shatter the three Great Guardian Warriors’ defense. “Although my Sun Saint Origin is comparable to a powerhouse at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, it’s still different compared to the Saint Origin of someone who has broken through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. The full power of my Sun Saint Origin is slightly shy of reaching the full power of a cultivator at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.”

In fact, Duan Ling Tian had discovered earlier that his Sun Saint Origin was not exactly at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage when he tested it.

When a powerhouse at the Eight Form of the Saint Celestial Stage broke through to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, not only would his or her Saint Origin become stronger, but he or she would slowly gain comprehension of heaven and earth. This was something important. It was one of the reasons why the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was also known as the Celestial Ascension Form.

Most people only knew the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage was known as the Celestial Ascension Form because one had to go through the Heavenly Tribulation. However, this was not the only reason. It was also known as the Celestial Ascension Form because of one’s comprehension of heaven and earth. One needed to comprehend heaven and earth to a certain level to bring about the Heavenly Tribulation or the Celestial Ascension Tribulation. Otherwise, the Heavenly Tribulation would not come even if one’s Saint Origin had reached the threshold. As a consequence, one would not be able to become an Eminent Celestial without passing the Celestial Ascension Tribulation.

When one deepened one’s comprehension of heaven and earth at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, one would be able to better manipulate one’s Saint Origin for other purposes apart from using it for martial tactics and Divine Abilities.

This was the reason why the Saint Origin of a cultivator at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and Duan Ling Tian’s Sun Saint Origin that had been raised to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial by the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, was different.

“During the battle between Tang Xuan, the Sect Leader of Fire Worship Sect, and Lang Qian Jin, the Supreme Elder of Black Kshetra Sect, I remember that Tang Xuan’s Saint Origin hasn’t reached its limit. Moreover, his martial tactics and Divine Abilities aren’t stronger than mine. However, he’s a lot stronger than me even after I’ve unleashed all my power. This is because his manipulation of his Saint Origin is better since he has a better comprehension of heaven and earth...”

Duan Ling Tian still vividly remembered the battle between Tang Xuan and Lang Qian Jin! That was why he was deeply aware of the gap between his strength and Tang Xuan and Lang Qian Jin’s strength.

If my cultivation base is at the Ninth Form of the Celestial Stage instead of the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, I would be able to break their defense easily with just a slight comprehension of heaven and earth...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself with a sigh as when he looked at the light shield that was formed by the three Great Guardian Warriors.

Duan Ling Tian found it unfortunate that only cultivators at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage were able to comprehend heaven and earth. There was nothing he could do about this.

“Hey, Human-Devil! You better do everything you can while your assist-type Divine Ability is still in effect. You might not be able to withstand our attack after this!” One of the three Great Guardian Warriors sneered.

“I can’t believe you’re from the Human-Devil clan...I think nobody, not even Xing Yuan Ba, the strongest person below the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, has an attack as strong as your earlier attack!”

“Unfortunately, even if you’re stronger than Xing Yuan Ba, you’re still going to die here today!”

The other two Great Guardian Warriors chimed in mockingly as well.

Even with Duan Ling Tian’s strongest attack, their defensive light shield that was formed from Devil Qis only became slightly dimmer. It was obvious that his attack did not do much to the light shield.

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow and narrowed his eyes when he heard the three Great Guardian Warriors’ words. A hint of killing intent flashed in his eyes.

“It seems like three of you think that you’ve got me in the palms of your hands...” Duan Ling Tian said slowly. It seemed as though he was not affected by their words of mockery.

Duan Ling Tian’s calmness momentarily surprised the three Great Guardian Warriors. When they regained their senses, they scoffed.

“Are you trying to be mysterious?”

“Do you think you can scare us with your words?”

“What a joke!”

The three Great Guardian Warriors said disdainfully.

“Your plan’s pretty good ; Duan Ling Tian said flatly, “If I continue attacking with all my might, there’s a chance I’ll be able to shatter your defense after a while. However, at that time, the effect from my assist-type Divine Ability would most likely be gone, and my Saint Origin would return to its original level. It seems like there’s one thing you didn’t consider. With my current Saint Origin, if I escape, will you be able to catch me?” His last sentence was said mockingly.

Duan Ling Tian’s words startled the three Great Guardian Warriors. Indeed. They did not think about this. Their defense and offense were extremely strong when they joined forces, but their speed was their weak point. If Duan Ling Tian really decided to flee, there was nothing they could do to stop him.

“Coward! Human-Devils are indeed cowards!”

“Hey, Human-Devil! Do you intend on embarrassing the Human-Devil clan? I can’t believe you intend on escaping!” “What a wimp!”

The three Great Guardian Warriors were honestly worried Duan Ling Tian would escape so they intentionally provoked him in hopes that he would stay and fight. Let alone kill, if he decided to flee, they would not be able to catch him at all.

Duan Ling Tian scoffed. How could he possibly not see through their thoughts? “There’s no need for you to provoke me. Although I can escape, I won’t... After all, I don’t think three of you are a match for me at all!”

The three Great Guardian Warriors were shocked. They did not know where Duan Ling Tian’s confidence came from.

“I can’t deny that the joint defense by three of you is so strong that even ordinary cultivators at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage wouldn’t be able to destroy it in a short time...” Duan Ling Tian continued to speak before the three Great Guardian Warriors recovered from their shock, “However, it’s unfortunate your opponent today is me!” When he finished speaking, a tablet with a missing corner appeared in one of his hands. Apart from ancient and sophisticated patterns on it, the tablet, for the most part, looked simple.

All of a sudden...

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The tablet suddenly emitted a dense and rich Devil Qi. The Devil Qi surged to the sky as though it could pierce through heaven. This happened because Duan Ling Tian was sending his Sun Saint Origin into the tablet.

I didn’t know the Devilseal Tablet would have such a reaction when I sent my Sun Saint Origin that has been raised to the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage into it... It seems like I’ll be able to break those three’s defenses!’ Duan Ling Tian was shocked and delighted by the tablet’s reaction.

Upon closer inspection, one would be able to see bolts of violet lightning in the Devil Qi that was surging out of the Devilseal Tablet like violet dragons. Moreover, the Devil Qi emitted an ancient aura.

The tablet with a missing corner that Duan Ling Tian held in his hand was none other than the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet!

When the three Great Guardian Warriors saw the tablet emitting Devil Qi, they became worried. An ominous feeling rose in their hearts when they felt the aura from the tablet that seemed capable of destroying heaven and earth!

### **Chapter 2259 Heavenly Tribulation?**

All of a sudden...

Swoosh!

A deafening swoosh sounded in the air when the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, suddenly released a gentle force that did not harm Duan Ling Tian before it flew out of his hand and hovered in the air. At the same time, the Devil Qi it emitted became even more mysterious and domineering!

What’s this?’ Even Duan Ling Tian was shocked by this. He did not expect this at all.

It did not take long before the Devilseal Tablet flew up into the sky. Its Devil Qi became oppressive as it connected with heaven and earth. From afar, it looked like a divine pillar burning with black flames.

Thunder and lightning lit up and rang in the sky accompanied by the sound of wind howling.

All of a sudden, the pillar of Devil Qi increased sharply before they disappeared into the tablet. It resulted in a shockwave before Devil Qi suddenly surged out again, this time in every direction.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The explosions were like a torrential storm that seemed capable of sweeping away everything on heaven and earth.

Meanwhile, the three Great Guardian Warriors who were still shrouded in their powerful light shield could clearly feel the aura from the tablet. They felt their souls shaking when they felt the aura seemed to have locked on them. It seemed inescapable!

“This...is this...”

“Is this...devil... The Devilseal Tablet?!”

At this point, regardless of how low the three Great Guardian Warriors’ IQs were, they would be able to guess what that tablet that caused them to feel so afraid was.

It was the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, that was able to suppress the Devil Clans!

They felt distressed when they felt the Devil Qi from the Devilseal Tablet grow stronger.

Boom!

It left ruins in its wake as the tablet flew out!

When the Great Guardian Warriors regained their senses, the Devilseal Tablet had already collided violently with their defensive light shield. Their light shield was so strong that it could withstand the attacks from ordinary cultivators at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage Ninth Form for a short time. In fact, the attack Duan Ling Tian had unleashed with all his might barely left a dent on it.

However, at this moment...

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Cacophonous explosions rang in the air. It seemed like it would never end.

When the dust settled. One could see the three Great Guardian Warriors’ light shield had become completely useless after the attack from the Devilseal Tablet!

“I-impossible!”

The eyes of all three Great Guardian Warriors widened in shock when they saw how easily the Devilseal Tablet had destroyed their defensive light shield. At this moment, they were afraid.

Escape!!! Three of them shared the same thought. They could not afford to think of anything else at this critical moment. They had no time to think why a Human-Devil possessed the Devilseal Tablet or why a

Human-Devil was able to use the Devilseal Tablet when it was supposed to be harmful to all Devils and Devil Cultivators.

“Want to escape?” Duan Ling Tian smirked when he saw three Devils moving to escape in three different directions.

However, with the Devilseal Tablet around, how could the three Devils at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage escape?

The result was within Duan Ling Tian’s expectation.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Thunderous explosions reverberated in the air again as the Devilseal Tablet destroyed the three Great Guardian Warriors with a formidable force before they could even react. Soon after, the Devil Qi returned to the tablet. The Devilseal Tablet once again resumed its appearance as a simple and harmless tablet.

Meanwhile, the three Great Guardian Warriors stared ahead with lifeless eyes as though they had lost their souls... which they did.

No one knew if their souls had been trapped in the Devilseal Tablet or if it had been destroyed by the Devilseal Tablet. Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian flew to the Devils’ corpses and collected their Spatial Rings before he began to devour their Innate Spiritual Roots.

Although Innate Spiritual Roots were connected to the souls, the three Great Guardian Warriors’ Innate Spiritual Roots were not affected since the Devilseal Tablet only targeted their souls.

“They have ordinary indigo Innate Spiritual Roots...” It was just as Duan Ling Tian had predicted. The three Great Guardian Warriors possessed ordinary indigo Innate Spiritual Roots.

Their Innate Spiritual Roots should be enough for me to improve my Innate Spiritual Root to the next level...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself excitedly. After a while, he began to calm down and continued to devour the three Great Guardian Warriors’ Innate Spiritual Roots. He did not encounter any difficulties when devouring their Innate Spiritual Roots since he had done this so many times before.

“It won’t be long now...!” Duan Ling Tian’s heart thumped excitedly in his chest when the three Innate Spiritual Roots fused with his Innate Spiritual Root. His Innate Spiritual Root was almost at its limit after all. Therefore, after he had devoured the three Innate Spiritual Roots, it instantly transformed his Innate Spiritual Root!

“Black Innate Spiritual Root!” Duan Ling Tian discovered that he had successfully improved his Innate Spiritual Root to a black one. He was delighted! He could not help but laugh heartily when he saw his black Innate Spiritual Root.

“I wonder how much faster has my cultivation speed gotten now that I have a black Innate Spiritual Root...” Duan Ling Tian was about to absorb the surrounding Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy when...

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Thunders began to rumble above Duan Ling Tian.

“What’s happening?” Duan Ling Tian instantly abandoned thoughts of absorbing Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy when he heard the thunderclaps that were similar to the Tribulation Oath from the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian saw dark clouds were converging above him. Moreover, bolts of violet lightning flashed intermittently among the clouds. They looked terrifying!

“Is this... the Heavenly Tribulation?” This scene reminded Duan Ling Tian of the Heavenly Tribulation he experienced back on the Mortal Continent. The Heavenly Tribulation he experienced was known as the Six-Nine Heavenly Tribulation. One would experience it when one had reached the peak of the Nascent Soul during a Void breakthrough.

Once in Void Initiation, one could control air and fly. As this was against the Will of Heaven, Heaven would send the Heavenly Tribulation as a form of punishment.

“In the mundane realm, the Heavenly Tribulations are divided into three types: first, the Six-Nine Heavenly Tribulation which one would face upon entering the Void Stage at the peak of the Nascent Soul. The second one is the Tribulation Oath from the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation which one would have to face if one had broken an oath. As for the third...it’s the Celestial Ascension Tribulation experienced by cultivators at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!” Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself.

Could this Heavenly Tribulation occur because of my breakthrough to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, the Heaven-Defying Form? After all, I have achieved immortality. This can be considered as going against Heaven’s Will after all!’ Duan Ling Tian dismissed this thought as soon as it appeared. ‘Impossible! I haven’t heard of anyone facing Heavenly Tribulations after breaking through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. However, if this is not it, then, what could it be?’

Duan Ling Tian was baffled.

## **2260 The Terrifying Heavenly Tribulation**

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Duan Ling Tian was still in a state of confusion as the thunder continued to rumble above him!

The dark clouds that converged above Duan Ling Tian seemed terrifying and oppressive. When Duan Ling Tian saw this, he felt as though the end was near.

Meanwhile, the number of violet lightning bolts in the clouds increased and seemed bigger in size. If the previous lightning bolts were small violet snakes, then, the lightning bolts now were like huge pythons. Apart from that, the bolts of violet lightning became blindingly bright!

“This Heavenly Tribulation... doesn’t seem small or weak...” Although the Heavenly Tribulation had yet to begin, Duan Ling Tian could feel the immensity of its strength. Needless to say, it was a lot stronger than the Six-Nine Heavenly Tribulation he had experienced in the past. In fact, it was not fair to compare the two tribulations since the difference was like heaven and earth!

There's one more possibility left if this Heavenly Tribulation isn't caused by me breaking through to the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'It must be my black Innate Spiritual Root!'

Duan Ling Tian recalled the Heavenly Tribulation had appeared when he was trying to sense and absorb the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy after his Innate Spiritual Root had turned black. Maybe it was not a coincidence!

To a certain extent, a black Innate Spiritual Root can be considered as going against Heaven's will. After all, I wasn't born with it. I improved my Innate Spiritual Root into a black one. This could be the reason for the Heavenly Tribulation...' Duan Ling Tian was quite certain about this.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian put the Super Saint Weapon, the Devilseal Tablet, that was still hovering in the air away as he gazed at the dark clouds that continued to gather and the bolts of violet lightning that were the size of a huge python.

"I wonder how strong is this Heavenly Tribulation?" Duan Ling Tian could not help but worry about the impending Heavenly Tribulation he had to face. After all, he did not know the strength of this Heavenly Tribulation, and the unknown was the most frightening.

As Duan Ling Tian waited with bated breath, the Heavenly Tribulation finally finished brewing.

It was not that Duan Ling Tian was staying still because he had a death wish, but he knew even if he tried to flee, the Heaven Tribulation would follow after him. There was no way to escape this. He could only wait and face the Heavenly Tribulation.

When the Heavenly Tribulation finished brewing, the dark clouds stopped increasing in size, but the bolts of violet lightning flashed impatiently as though they could not wait to strike.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Apart from that, thunder rang in the air with alarming frequency. In the end, it sounded at the frequency of an exploding firecracker.

After roughly fifteen minutes, Duan Ling Tian who was staring at the dark clouds suddenly widened his eyes. "It's coming!"

The Heavenly Tribulation that was brewing for quite a while finally showed its great strength!

Boom!

A deafening sound rang in the air as though a thunder god was present.

Crack!

A bolt of violet lightning the size of a child struck at Duan Ling Tian, accompanied by the sound of thunder.

The Heavenly Tribulation had begun!

“Elementary Devouring Tactic! Golden Crow Wings!” Naturally, Duan Ling Tian did not stay idle. He began to cast his Divine Abilities. He raised his Sun Saint Origin with the Elementary Devouring Tactic to the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and used the Golden Crow’s Wings to dodge the first bolt of lightning. Although he did not think the first bolt of lightning posed a threat to his life, he would be more than happy to dodge it. Since he had experienced the Six-Nine Heavenly Tribulation, he knew for sure that the lightning bolts would only increase strength. For this reason, he planned to conserve as much strength as he could to deal with the last few lightning bolts.

Generally, the Saint Origin used by a movement Divine Ability was a lot less compared to a direct attack.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

When Duan Ling Tian cast his movement Divine Ability, the Golden Crow’s Wings, he became as swift and agile as a bird. He flew and swerved here and there in hopes to dodge the terrifying lightning strike. Unfortunately, it seemed as though the bolt of lightning had a pair of eyes as it chased after him persistently regardless of where he went!

“It seems there’s no way for me to avoid this... I’m only delaying the inevitable...” When Duan Ling Tian realized there was no way for him to escape this, he stopped moving immediately.

Then, he raised his hand to manipulate and gather his Sun Saint Origin and formed a three-foot-long sword qi.

“Sword Defense Art!”

As soon as the three-foot-long sword qi formed, Duan Ling Tian threw it out before it vanished suddenly. All it left in its wake was its afterimage.

The sound of a sword whistling rang in the air when the sword qi reappeared and collided with the terrifying lightning strike.

Surprisingly, the collision between the two did not produce thunderous noises. Instead, only a cacophonous grating noise could be heard. However, there was no doubt the strength of the lightning strike was not to be trifled with.

Although this was just the first strike, its strength was equivalent to the full strength of a martial cultivator at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! However, this strike was still easy for Duan Ling Tian to deal with. He had used his Sun Saint Origin to form a sword qi and had struck with the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, the Sword Warding Heart, to destroy the lightning strike.

Duan Ling Tian managed to destroy the first bolt of lightning, but he did not feel joy at all. Instead, his expression turned even more somber.

“The first lightning bolt’s strength is as strong as a martial cultivator at the Sixth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage... The second strike will probably be as strong as the attack from a cultivator at the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage! These are only the first two strikes... The subsequent strikes will only get stronger... Will I be able to deal with it?” Duan Ling Tian’s expression was grim and a hint of worry could be seen in his eyes as well.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Thunder continued to rumble in the sky. Boom!

Suddenly, another deafening clap of thunder rang in the air, signaling the coming of the second strike.

The second lightning bolt was much thicker than the first. The first was only as thick as a child's body, but the second one was as thick as a woman's body! In terms of strength and speed, it was far superior compared to the first strike!

"Sword Defense Art!" Duan Ling Tian raised his hand again to form a sword qi with his Sun Saint Origin to deal with the lightning bolt. However, his sword qi and the lightning bolt were evenly matched. After a while, his sword qi was destroyed by the lightning strike that seemed to have infinite strength; and the lightning bolt continued its trajectory toward him. It seemed so powerful as though it could destroy the entire world!

The strength of the second strike is definitely as strong as the attack from a cultivator at the peak of the Seventh Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!" Duan Ling Tian was extremely annoyed. He had dealt with the first strike easily. His Sun Saint Origin was currently at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, but he could not block the second strike at all. Although he did not strike back with all his might, the strength of the second strike had shocked him.

Duan Ling Tian raised his hand again. His Sun Saint Origin circulated through his 99 Saint Veins before they surged out to form a sword qi again.

Whoosh!

Although Duan Ling Tian was using the same technique, this strike was much faster and stronger. He had unleashed this attack with all his might. The result was, naturally, vastly different this time around. The sword qi managed to destroy the second bolt of lightning!

It did not take long before the third strike came. It was as strong as the attack from a powerhouse at the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. He managed to defend himself with his Thousand Inscriptions Saint Sword.

The fourth strike was much stronger. Its strength was comparable to an attack of a cultivator at the peak of the Eighth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. It was evenly matched with his current strength.

Duan Ling Tian tried to defend himself by hurriedly flying to a few different places to raise his Sun Saint Origin with the Elementary Devouring Tactic. Boom!

The deafening sound of thunder reverberated in the air, accompanied by the fifth strike.

"This strike's strength should be on par with the attack from an ordinary cultivator at the Ninth Form of the Saint Celestial Stage... I'll have a difficult time defending against it even if I attack with all my strength!" Duan Ling Tian's expression turned grimmer when he sensed the immense strength of the fifth lightning bolt. He did not think he would be able to defend against it.