### **SOVEREIGN 2561**

## **Chapter 2561 Defective Metal Piece**

Duan Ling Tian did not expect to see the black stone and the dark green jade token to collide suddenly. He had thought the collision would be akin to Mars hitting earth, but contrary to his expectations, the collision did not even produce any noise! He continued to watch as the two items strangely began to merge into one. 'What's this?'

As soon as the two items merged, a flash of light that was even brighter than the scorching sun during high noon appeared, causing Duan Ling Tian to close his eyes. Before he could even open his eyes, he felt a majestic and mighty force landed on him before it sent him flying back! The force felt ancient as though it had seen the vicissitudes of life.

As soon as it landed on Duan Ling Tian, it seemed to have restrained his strength. He could not even mobilize his energy to resist this energy. The energy had landed squarely on his chest, it felt as though he had been hit with a heavy hammer. His internal organs were affected, causing him to throw up blood.

Duan Ling Tian barely managed to muster up some of his strength to stabilize himself after being sent flying a distance away. When he recovered, the first thought that came to his mind was someone had ambushed him. He bellowed, "Who's it?"

However, when Duan Ling Tian carefully surveyed his surroundings, he discovered there was no one around. He only saw a piece of metal-like item hovering nearby.

Duan Ling Tian was baffled. Where did the jade token and black stone go? They seemed to have disappeared after merging together. He only realized what had happened when he sensed a vaguely familiar aura from the metal-like item. The aura was similar to the energy that had sent him flying earlier. 'Is this metal piece the product of the merge between the black stone and the dark green jade token? What's happening? Why did the jade token that third uncle gave me merged with the stone and turned into this metal-like thing?'

Duan Ling Tian tentatively approached the metal-like item that was shrouded in a mysterious light. When he was certain it would not attack him, he carefully reached out to grab it. He studied it carefully and weighed it in his hand. Its end was blunt, making it seemed as though it had been broken off of something. He murmured to himself, "It seems like a defective piece of metal. It's quite thick. Hm? What are these writings and patterns on it? They're incomprehensible..." When he held the piece of metal, he could feel the ancient aura from it. It seemed as though it had existed for a long time.

'What is it actually? The only thing I'm certain of is that it's definitely not something ordinary.' Duan Ling Tian furrowed his brows as he continued to study it. Just the force from the metal-like item was enough to send him flying and injure him after all. It was definitely not an ordinary item. After a while, he decided to test the water and sent his Divine Consciousness into the metal-like item. He was taken aback when he saw the writings and the patterns on the metal-like item seemed to have come to life as soon as he sent his Divine Consciousness into it. It also began to emit a strange and sinister aura. It was like a bottomless abyss, it kept devouring his Divine Consciousness regardless of how much he sent into it. As a result, he did not find anything useful about this seemingly defective piece of metal.

He looked at the broken piece of metal with a hint of fear in his eyes as he withdrew his Divine Consciousness. He felt as though he was holding onto a bomb. "What the hell is this?"

'Divine Consciousness comes from one's soul. Since it can easily devour my Divine Consciousness, I wonder if it can absorb soul attacks as well?" After mulling over it for a moment, he cast a soul attack on the defective piece of metal.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian's soul attack landed on the defective piece of metal, the same thing happened. The energy from the writings and patterns on the metal piece absorbed the attack. His eyes brightened as he exclaimed, "It's truly capable of absorbing soul attacks!" The fear in his eyes had been replaced with joy at this moment.

'With this, I no longer have to fear soul attacks from Bodiless Celestials in the mundane realms,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself excitedly. After all, he no longer had to be afraid of Bodiless Celestials who cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. He now looked at the item as though it was a treasure despite its appearance. The jade token that had been given to him by Xia Jie from the Divine Offering Land was clearly special. The same could be said about the black stone as well. The product of the merge between two of such extraordinary items was definitely going to be extraordinary as well!

Duan Ling Tian closed his eyes as he recalled what had happened when he held the black stone and the jade token earlier. He murmured to himself, "There's more to this piece of metal than just being able to devour soul attacks. I'm certain it holds other secrets as well. However, my current strength is probably not enough to unlock all its secrets now. It's also likely that this piece of metal appeared due to my 99 Saint Veins!"

He recalled the energies from the jade token and the black stone had surged into his body and circulated in his 99 Saint Veins, otherwise, known as Heavenly Veins in the Devata Realms, before the energies fused into one. It could be said that the defective metal piece was the result of the fusion between the black stone and dark green jade token after their energies had circulated through his 99 Saint Veins.

He thought to himself, 'I guess I've decrypted the secret of the jade token. Now I have to decrypt the secrets of this metal piece. I wonder what is it? What was it broken off from? Nevertheless, this is a huge gain for me. With this defective metal piece, even if I have to face a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial who has mastered the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique, I wouldn't be helpless!' His eyes brightened again when he thought about it. After a while, he put the defective metal piece away in his Spatial Ring as though it was a precious treasure.

### Chapter 2563 Something Has Happened to Su Li!

The leader of the group of patrolling disciples motioned for Duan Ling Tian to follow him after he respectfully greeted Duan Ling Tian. "Lord Duan Ling Tian, our old ancestor has ordered us to lead you to him immediately if you come."

Duan Ling Tian nodded and followed the leader of the group of patrolling disciples into the inner mansion of the Yellow Thearch Mansion. Not long after he entered the Yellow Thearch Mansion, he heard a familiar voice calling out to him.

## "Brother Ling Tian!"

Duan Ling Tian looked up and saw a figure flying toward him. The figure belonged to an old man. He was none other than Xuan Yuan Zhi, the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial and the old ancestor of the Yellow Thearch Mansion, whom he had met in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone.

A middle-aged man could be seen trailing after Xuan Yuan Zhi. He was tall and handsome and possessed neat eyebrows. He emitted an imposing aura as well.

'The Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion?' Duan Ling Tian managed to identify the middle-aged man with just a glance. He had heard Zhang Yi talk about the Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion before. He knew the Mansion Master was an Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestial. In terms of strength, he was second only to the two old ancestors who were Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials. He was stronger than the other Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestials in the Yellow Thearch Mansion.

"Big Brother," Duan Ling Tian greeted Xuan Yuan Zhi who had come near him with a smile. He discovered that Xuan Yuan Zhi's gaze was different from when they were in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone. Moreover, Xuan Yuan Zhi had also changed the way he addressed him. It had changed from 'Little Brother Ling Tian' to 'Brother Ling Tian'. He was not surprised by this. After all, he was no longer the same person from when he was in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone. More importantly, almost all forces in Yan Huang Realm had most likely learned about him killing the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial in the Heavenly Wave Mansion.

When the leader of the group of patrolling disciples regained his senses, he hurriedly bowed at Xuan Yuan Zhi and the dignified middle-aged man. "Greetings, old ancestor. Greetings, Lord Mansion Master!"

It seemed like Duan Ling Tian had speculated correctly. The middle-aged man was, indeed, the Mansion Master of the Yellow Thearch Mansion!

Xuan Yuan Zhi nodded slightly.

Meanwhile, the Mansion Master of the Yellow Thearch Mansion said to the leader of the group of patrolling disciples, "You may take your leave. We'll receive Lord Duan Ling Tian from here."

Even the Mansion Master of the Yellow Thearch Mansion, an Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestial, addressed Duan Ling Tian as Lord Duan Ling Tian. In his opinion, Duan Ling Tian was equal to a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial or possibly even stronger. He knew very well the only way a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial could kill Duan Ling Tian was if they had cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. Even then, they could only do it if they managed to catch him off guard. Moreover, Duan Ling Tian had even mastered a strange technique that could snatch one's weapon, including Celestial Supreme Treasures, away!

"Yes, sir," the leader of the group of patrolling disciples replied. Before he left, he glanced at Duan Ling Tian. The respect in his eyes grew stronger. After all, even his Mansion Master addressed Duan Ling Tian as a Lord.

After the leader of the group patrolling disciples left, the Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion bowed respectfully. "I'm Xuan Yuan Zheng, the Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion. Greetings, Lord Duan Ling Tian!"

"Hmm." Duan Ling Tian nodded in response. He remained calm even though the person who respectfully saluted him was the Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion. After all, with his current strength, he was more than worthy of such an honor.

"Brother Ling Tian, let's talk in the great hall." Xuan Yuan Zhi smiled and beckoned Duan Ling Tian to follow him.

Then, the Mansion Master of Yellow Thearch Mansion, Xuan Yuan Zheng, led Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi to the great hall. Both Xuan Yuan Zheng and Xuan Yuan Zhi even asked Duan Ling Tian to take the main seat in the hall. Although Xuan Yuan Zheng favored Duan Ling Tian, it had to be said that Duan Ling Tian probably would not receive this treatment if news about him killing the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion did not spread out.

After all, when they were in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone, Xuan Yuan Zhi only felt that Duan Ling Tian was strong and had strength comparable to an ordinary Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial. Duan Ling Tian might be even weaker than him. However, currently, he felt he would certainly die if they were to fight. Although he was confident he was stronger than the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion, the gap between their strength was not very wide. Duan Ling Tian managed to kill that Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial with just a single blow! Therefore, he knew the current Duan Ling Tian was different from the past.

Xuan Yuan Zhi took a seat on Duan Ling Tian's right before he began to apologize, "Brother Ling Tian, since my elder brother has gone into closed-door cultivation, he's not able to greet you. I apologize on his behalf." His elder brother was the other old ancestor and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial in Yellow Thearch Mansion, Xuan Yuan Rui.

After Xuan Yuan Zhi apologized, he said with a sigh, "I didn't think you would do something so earth-shattering in Yan Huang Realm while I was in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone. You should know that in our Yan Huang Realm, it has been a long, long time since a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial was killed." He had been thoroughly shocked when he heard about Duan Ling Tian's feat when he returned to Yan Huang Realm!

"I'm just lucky." Duan Ling Tian smiled humbly.

Xuan Yuan Zhi shook his head. "Brother Ling Tian, you're too humble. The reason why there are no deaths of Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials for the longest time isn't due to the lack of conflict between them. For example, if I were to fight the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Heavenly Wave Mansion, whom you killed, I would only be able to defeat him after a hundred moves. However, I wouldn't have been able to kill him. Similarly, it's difficult for us Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials to kill another Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials. At most, we can only defeat them. However, since you're able to kill a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials, it shows that you're standing at the pinnacle of all existence in the mundane realms!" His eyes were filled with genuine respect as he looked at Duan

Ling Tian. After all, although Duan Ling Tian was only an Eminent Celestial, Duan Ling Tian's strength was more than worthy of his respect.

"Regardless of how strong one is, there's always someone stronger. The pinnacle of all existence in the mundane realms? I don't dare to accept this compliment..." Duan Ling Tian shook his head. Who knew if there was a powerhouse stronger than a Great Overarching Golden Celestial in the mundane realms? After all, the celestials stronger than Great Overarching Golden Celestials could freely travel back and forth between the Devata Realms and the mundane realms.

Duan Ling Tian continued chatting with Xuan Yuan Zhi for a while. While they were talking, Xuan Yuan Zheng did not interject but stood silently at the side, serving tea to the two of them.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian asked, "Big Brother, is Su Li around?" Su Li had agreed to become a guest elder in the Yellow Thearch Mansion when they were in the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone. It could be said that the main reason he had come to the Yellow Thearch Mansion was to see Su Li. He wanted to see his best friend again before he had to ascend to a Devata Realm.

Upon hearing this, Xuan Yuan Zhi's expression changed drastically.

Meanwhile, the mansion master, Xuan Yuan Zheng, who was standing at the side, dropped the teapot in his hand on the ground, shattering it.

Duan Ling Tian was not stupid. When he saw Xuan Yuan Zhi and Xuan Yuan Zheng's reactions, he knew something was amiss. His expression changed as well. He asked grimly, "What's it? Did something happen to Su Li? Tell me, big brother, what happened to Su Li?"

Xuan Yuan Zhi had a guilty expression on his face as he said, "Brother Ling Tian, I'm sorry for not taking good care of Elder Su Li."

Duan Ling Tian's expression darkened and his eyes turned cold. His voice rose considerably as well when he spoke, "What happened?"

"Duan Ling Tian, you can't blame the old ancestor for this. It's all because of those two from the Gongsun family. They covet your technique that can snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away. Therefore, soon after Elder Su Li returned to our Yellow Thearch Mansion, they came over, injured the old ancestor, and took Elder Su Li away! They wanted to threaten you with Su Li so that you'd teach them that method of yours! Our other old ancestor is in closed-door cultivation and is about to face his tenth Bodiless Celestial Tribulation soon so we didn't disturb him. However, even if the other old ancestor was around at that time, he might not be a match for those two from the Gongsun family! After all, one of them is widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm!" Xuan Yuan Zheng sighed when he finished speaking.

"Gongsun family?" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes that had turned ice-cold.

## **Chapter 2564 Mystical Ancient Galaxy**

This was not the first time Duan Ling Tian had heard of the Gongsun family. When he was traveling with Tang Xiao Xiao from the Coste Galaxy to the galaxy where earth was located, they had talked about the forces in Yan Huang Realm that included the Gongsun family. At that time, he learned that the Gongsun

family was one of the top forces, along with the Yellow Thearch Mansion, in Yan Huang Realm. He estimated that they were even more powerful than Mount Huaguo Sect and the Celestial Masters Sect.

Similar to the Yellow Thearch Mansion, the Gongsun family had two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials and more than five Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestials. However, they had a lot more Seven Tribulation Bodiless Celestials in comparison. Most importantly, one of the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials was widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm.

"I heard that the Gongsun family is also descendants of Gongsun Xuanyuan, the old ancestor of the Yellow Thearch Mansion?" Duan Ling Tian asked as his eyes flashed coldly. His emotions were like a tempest at this moment.

"Yes." Xuan Yuan Zhi nodded. "I don't know when the descendants separated. For some reason, we became arch enemies. We used to be one family, but now one had taken the last name 'Gongsun' while we took the last name, 'Xuan Yuan'! It's the same in the Devata Realms as well."

Xuan Yuan Zhi continued to say, "I heard the fight between the Yellow Thearch Mansion and Gongsun family is even more intense in the Devata Realms! People are killed almost everyday... However, whoever manages to survive, no matter if he or she is from the Gongsun family of the Yellow Thearch Mansion, they would be able to train under the old ancestor himself." His tone turned respectful when he mentioned the old ancestor.

Gongsun Xuanyuan was like a deity to everyone in the Yellow Thearch Mansion and Gongsun family.

"Based on what you said, the fight between the Gongsun family and the Yellow Thearch Mansion is tacitly approved by Gongsun Xuanyuan?" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes. It was not difficult for him to figure this out.

"You can say that." Xuan Yuan Zhi nodded.

"Gongsun Xuanyuan is, indeed, ambitious. He even used such a method to train his descendants!"

Previously, Elder Huo, the Three-legged Golden Crow and the pagoda spirit of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, had told Duan Ling Tian that Gongsun Xuanyuan, the Yellow Emperor of Planet Yan Huang, had become a tyrant after ascending to the Devata Realm and becoming a Heavenly Emperor. It was not difficult to believe that the strife between the descendants was all part of Gongsun Xuanyuan's plan. His objective was to select the best among his descendants to train by his side. After all, he was just a single person. It was impossible for him to personally train every single one of his descendants.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes were so cold that it seemed to cause the temperature in the surroundings to drop. He muttered, "It doesn't matter if the Gongsun family is the descendants of Gongsun Xuanyuan. Since they covet the Sovereign Heart Sword technique and kidnapped my friend to threaten me, they will have to pay a hefty price!"

Then, Duan Ling Tian turned to look at Xuan Yuan Zhi and asked, "Big brother, where's the Gongsun family located?" His eyes were filled with killing intent as though he intended to kill every single member of the Gongsun family. He planned to head to the Gongsun family to save Su Li as soon as he obtained their location. He was going to make them pay for their actions.

"Brother Ling Tian." Xuan Yuan Zhi did not seem surprised by Duan Ling Tian's reaction. He thought about it for a moment before he tried to dissuade Duan Ling Tian. "I know you're not weak, and you mastered a technique to snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away. I have no doubt you can kill even the strongest of Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials. However, the Gongsun family is not that simple..."

Xuan Yuan Zhi continued to say, "Not to mention the others, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm is not only a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial, but he has also mastered the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique!" He explained patiently, "Perhaps, if he didn't abduct Elder Su Li, you might be able to catch him off guard and kill him. However, since he has abducted Elder Su Li, he's definitely expecting your arrival. He will definitely be guarded against you. It's almost impossible for you to kill him before he cast a soul attack."

Duan Ling Tian was calm and relaxed even after he heard Xuan Yuan Zhi's words. "Thank you for the reminder, Big Brother. However, I know what I'm doing. Do you have a star chart of the galaxy where the Yellow Thearch Mansion and Gongsun family are located? I would like to borrow them."

Xuan Yuan Zhi asked tentatively, "Brother Ling Tian, are you certain about this? He's able to cast soul attacks!"

"So?" Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently. He did not seem troubled by the fact that the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials had cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique.

Upon seeing this, Xuan Yuan Zhi had a feeling Duan Ling Tian might be stronger than what he had thought. However, he had no idea what was the extent of Duan Ling Tian's strength.

"Brother Ling Tian, since you've made up your mind, I'll accompany you on this trip as well!" Xuan Yuan Zhi continued to say, "After all, Elder Su Li had been taken away under my nose..." His eyes flashed coldly as well when he spoke.

...

Since the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm was from the Gongsun family, the Gongsun family could, more or less, be considered as the top force in Yan Huang realm as well. The Gongsun family ruled over a galaxy called the Mystical Ancient Galaxy. It was an extremely vast galaxy. Its size was far bigger than all the galaxies Duan Ling Tian had visited. It was more than twice the size of the galaxy that was ruled by the Yellow Thearch Mansion.

Apart from that, the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the galaxy was extremely rich as well, it was richer than the galaxy where the Yellow Thearch Mansion was located.

As soon as they entered the Mystical Ancient Galaxy, Xuan Yuan Zhi said, "Brother Ling Tian, this is the galaxy the Gongsun family ruled. It's called the Mystical Ancient Galaxy."

Duan Ling Tian nodded as he looked at the countless stars in his surroundings. Before they had come here, Xuan Yuan Zhi had told him the Mystical Ancient Galaxy did not have an Interstellar Transportation Formation. Everyone, including the Gongsun family, would have to physically travel in and out of the galaxy. This was so they would have a better hold and control of the Mystical Ancient Galaxy.

"Who's there?!" A voice rang in the air as Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi hovered in the outskirts of the Mystical Ancient Galaxy. They were just about to enter the home planet of the Gongsun family, but they came to a halt immediately when they heard the low and stern voice.

### Whoosh!

In just a blink of an eye, a figure appeared seemingly out of thin air like a ghost. However, with their strength, Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi could, naturally, see the figure's movement. They saw the figure belonged to a blue-clad middle-aged man with an ordinary appearance.

"Xuan Yuan Zhi?!" The blue-clad middle-aged man's expression changed drastically when he saw Xuan Yuan Zhi who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian. It was obvious he did not expect to see the old ancestor and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Yellow Thearch Mansion. Although he was a well-respected Seven Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun family, he was nothing in front of a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial like Xuan Yuan Zhi.

Xuan Yuan Zhi asked, slightly taken aback, "Who are you? How do you know me?"

"I am an elder of the Gongsun family... I... I have seen you once," the blue-clad middle-aged man stammered as he lowered his head. He really regretted making an appearance here. Initially, he was about to leave the Mystical Ancient Galaxy, but when he noticed two people in the outskirts of the galaxy, he thought to show off his might as a Seven Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun Family. Who knew things would turn out this way? He would not have appeared if he knew one of those two people was the old ancestor from the Yellow Thearch Mansion.

Xuan Yuan Zhi's eyes turned cold when he heard the blue-clad middle-aged man's words. "You're a member of the Gongsun family?"

# **Chapter 2565 Gongsun Wen Tian**

With Xuan Yuan Zhi glaring at him, the middle-aged man did not dare hesitate and quickly replied, "Yes, yes... Senior, my name is Gongsun Yun. I'm an elder of the Gongsun family."

Xuan Yuan Zhi looked at Gongsun Yun and said indifferently, "I heard the Gongsun family has moved to another planet about 300 years ago. Take us there..."

Although Xuan Yuan Zhi's tone was calm, and his expression was indifferent, his words sounded threatening, therefore, Gongsun Yun did not dare to refuse. Gongsun Yun also had no intention of finding out if the old ancestor of the Yellow Thearch Mansion would kill him if he refused the request. He might be a Seven Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun family, but if this person wanted to kill him, even if the Gongsun family wanted to avenge him, they would not be able to do so. After all, even their strongest old ancestor was not able to kill this person standing before him.

Led by Gongsun Yun, Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi soon arrived near the planet where the Gongsun family was based.

The planet was blue. With a glance, it was easy to tell their ecosystem was similar to earth, but it was ten times bigger than earth

"Senior, our Gongsun family is based on this planet." Gongsun Yun said. Then, he asked anxiously, "C-can I leave now?"

"Scram," Xuan Yuan Zhi said calmly.

Gongsun Yun sighed in relief before he flew to the distance. In just a blink of an eye, he had disappeared from Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi's sight.

Xuan Yuan Zhi was about to ask Duan Ling Tian about his plan when Duan Ling Tian's majestic voice rang in the air. "I'm Duan Ling Tian! Bring Su Li to me in the next fifteen minutes, and make sure he's in his best condition. If I don't see him in fifteen minutes... I, Duan Ling Tian, will annihilate the Gongsun family."

Duan Ling Tian's voice that was infused with his energy was heard by every inhabitant on the planet before him. His words shocked everyone and caused an uproar.

Many people gasped when they heard Duan Ling Tian's words.

"Duan Ling Tian? Is he the one who barged into the Heavenly Wave Mansion and killed their Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial?"

"Apart from that Duan Ling Tian, is there anyone else who's so bold to publicly announce he would destroy the Gongsun family?"

"The Gongsun family is the top force in Yan Huang Realm. Moreover, one of the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials of the family is the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm! Is Duan Ling Tian trying to seek death by proclaiming he wants to annihilate the Gongsun family?"

"That might not be the case. After all, Duan Ling Tian is capable of killing that Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion."

The inhabitants from all over the planet discussed heatedly among themselves when they discovered the voice they had heard was from the person who had killed the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from Heavenly Wave Mansion.

On the planet that housed the Gongsun family and the other planets they ruled, they were many other second and third-tier forces. They had to regularly send Saint Stones to the Gongsun family as a fee for protection and cultivation resources in the Mystical Ancient Galaxy.

"It's true he killed the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion, but don't forget that's only because that Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial didn't use soul attacks!"

"You're right. I heard Duan Ling Tian is only an Eminent Celestial. Although he's really strong and has even mastered a technique that allowed him to snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures from his opponents, his soul is still that of an Eminent Celestial."

"How unfortunate. The Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion had also cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique, but he was still killed by Duan Ling Tian."

"Indeed. It's a waste. He had a chance to kill Duan Ling Tian. Even if he had to die, he could have taken Duan Ling Tian's life as well..."

Many people knew Duan Ling Tian was only an Eminent Celestial. They also knew the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion was not aware that Duan Ling Tian was an Eminent Celestial. Otherwise, at the very least, even if he had to die, he could have dragged Duan Ling Tian down with him.

"If I'm not mistaken, the old ancestor from the Gongsun family who's widely regarded as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm has also cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique, right?"

"You're right. The old ancestor from the Gongsun family has indeed cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique."

"Apart from that, the old ancestor from the Gongsun family is widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm. If he's prepared, there's a high chance he could kill Duan Ling Tian with his soul attack before Duan Ling Tian could do him any harm. Worst case scenario, he could still kill Duan Ling Tian as well before he dies."

"Well, if Duan Ling Tian is swift enough and attacks before the old ancestor manages to cast his soul attack, Duan Ling Tian will be unharmed."

"Indeed!"

Similar discussions could be heard everywhere on the planet. Most of them were uncertain of the outcome if Duan Ling Tian and the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun family were to fight. They only knew whoever managed to strike first would have the upper hand. Worst case scenario, both of them would die together.

"This is a bit awkward..."

"Huh! I still think the old ancestor from the Gongsun family has a higher chance of winning. Duan Ling Tian only managed to kill the old ancestor from the Heavenly Wave Mansion because they didn't know he was only an Eminent Celestial. However, everyone knows he's an Eminent Celestial now. Moreover, since he announced his presence so openly, he wouldn't be able to catch the Gongsun family off guard. The Gongsun family will definitely come prepared."

"I agree."

"I really wonder what's going through Duan Ling Tian's mind. Why would he just barge in and openly announce his presence? This is disadvantageous to him. Did he forget he's just an Eminent Celestial?"

More and more people began to think Duan Ling Tian was too reckless. He had given his opponent the upper hand by announcing his presence.

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In space, outside the blue planet.

"Brother Ling Tian... You... You're too reckless!" Xuan Yuan Zhi was perplexed. He had thought of many possibilities for today, but he really did not expect this.

Since Duan Ling Tian had announced his arrival, there was no doubt the old ancestors from the Gongsun family would make preparations to deal with Duan Ling Tian. In any case, there's no more hope for Duan Ling Tian to catch the old ancestor off guard and ambush or assassinate him.

"Reckless?" Duan Ling Tian laughed lightly when he heard Xuan Yuan Zhi's words. "Perhaps..."

At this moment, a strong voice rang from somewhere on the planet. The person laughed before saying, "Duan Ling Tian! You're finally here! I have waited for you for a long time!"

Similarly, all the inhabitants on the planet heard this person's voice as well.

A hint of anger could be seen on Xuan Yuan Zhi's face as he narrowed his eyes. "It's Gongsun Wen Tian! That old fool!"

Previously, if the other Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun family was the only one who came to take Su Li away, Xuan Yuan Zhi would have been able to stop him. However, this person, Gongsun Wen Tian, had come as well, making him unable to save Su Li.

Not to mention Xuan Yuan Zhi, even his older brother, Xuan Yuan Rui, who was stronger than him was around, his brother still would not be able to stop this person.

"Gongsun Wen Tian?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed when he heard Xuan Yuan Zhi's words. A cold light flashed in his eyes.

Gongsun Wen Tian! The strongest person in Yan Huang realm!

Apart from Xuan Yuan Zhi, Duan Ling Tian had also heard about Gongsun Wen Tian from Tang Xiao Xiao previously. This person was like a modern-day legend after he became the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Two gusts of wind suddenly appeared accompanied by the arrival of two figures in front of Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi. To be more accurate, there were three figures.

One of them was an old man dressed in blue robes while the other figure was an old man dressed in turquoise robes who was holding onto a frail-looking young man with a pale face.

"Su Li!" Duan Ling Tian cried out, his expression changed drastically when he saw the state the young man was in. His eyes burned with fires of anger as he stared at the turquoise-clad old man. "Old fart! What did you do to Su Li?"

The young man was, indeed, Su Li. When Su Li heard Duan Ling Tian's voice, he struggled to open his eyes before he said in a hoarse voice, "D-duan Ling Tian... Leave! Go... now! D-don't worry... about me..."

"Gongsun Wen Tian!" Xuan Yuan Zhi's expression turned grim and cold. It was as though he could freeze the air with just a look. He bellowed, "You... How dare you torture an elder from our Yellow Threarch Mansion?! Do you really think our Yellow Threarch Mansion can't retaliate?"

The turquoise-clad old man was none other than Gongsun Wen Tian, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm. When he heard Xuan Yuan Zhi's words, he said nonchalantly, "I didn't plan to torture him. I had to seal his power and torture him mentally. Otherwise, he would've killed himself. This brat really values friendship. He would rather die than be used to threaten his friend!"

## **Chapter 2566 Threa**

"Y-you..." Xuan Yuan Zhi's facial expression changed drastically again when he heard Gongsun Wen Tian's words. His gaze turned ice-cold as though it was capable of freezing everything.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian who was standing next to Xuan Yuan Zhi remained calm. He looked at Gongsun Wen Tian with nary a ripple in his expression as though he was unaffected by Gongsun Wen Tian's words. However, it seemed like Gongsun Wen Tian was the only person he could see at this moment.

Time seemed to stand still.

Gongsun Wen Tian thought he had everything under control, but his expression changed slightly when he met Duan Ling Tian's calm gaze. Before he had shown up, he was confident he could use Su Li to threaten Duan Ling Tian to reveal the technique to snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away. However, now that he saw Duan Ling Tian was still able to maintain his composure, an ominous feeling rose in his heart. He was truly discomfited by how calm Duan Ling Tian was. Duan Ling Tian's gaze was similar to how the strong would look down on the weak, it was as though Duan Ling Tian did not take him seriously. He had seen gazes like this before he became a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial. Moreover, he had this gaze as well when he faced weak opponents. He would have felt better if Duan Ling Tian was as angry as Xuan Yuan Zhi.

'He's definitely bluffing! He's intentionally acting mysterious!' Gongsun Wen Tian thought to himself. When he looked at Su Li whom he held captive, he felt the uneasiness and ominous feeling fade away. After all, if Duan Ling Tian tried to do anything, he still had his 'shield', Su Li. Moreover, there was a possibility that Duan Ling Tian was not even as strong as a Golden Celestial from the Devata Realms. Even if Duan Ling Tian was that strong, he was confident he could kill Su Li before Duan Ling Tian could kill him. With Su Li in his hands, he felt that he was invincible. Duan Ling Tian would certainly restrain himself since he wanted Su Li to live.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

More and more figures appeared in the surroundings as Duan Ling Tian stared at Gongsun Wen Tian calmly. Initially, the onlookers only consisted of members of the Gongsun family. However, as time passed, people from forces affiliated with the Gongsun family and sectless cultivators came to watch the show as well.

"So he's Duan Ling Tian?"

"I've seen the Mirror Image Talisman from the Heavenly Wave Mansion. There's no doubt he's Duan Ling Tian who killed the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion!"

"He looks very young!"

"Of course! He's not even 100 years old."

"Not even 100 years old? You're joking!"

"It's not a joke! Duan Ling Tian is really younger than 100 years old. It's said that he's not from our Yan Huang Realm and that he's from another mundane realm known as the Saint Province Realm. He came to our realm using the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone."

"Beyond Heaven Secret Zone? Since he's able to enter the secret zone, there's really no doubt he's younger than 100 years old. After all, only people younger than 100 years old and Bodiless Celestials are able to enter the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone."

The onlookers, including members of the Gongsun family, looked at Duan Ling Tian as they furtively discussed him. There were also many people whose attention was on Gongsun Wen Tian who held Su Li in his hand and the old man who stood next to him.

"Are those two the old ancestors from the Gongsun family who are Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials?"

Upon hearing this, some members of the Gongsun family who had never seen their old ancestors before shifted their eyes to them. "They are the two old ancestors from our Gongsun family?"

"The two old ancestors from the Gongsun family are Gongsun Hong and Gongsun Wen Tian. I wonder which one is Gongsun Wen Tian, the strongest person in our Yan Huang Realm?"

Many people were curious about the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm.

Those from the Gongsun family who were in the know said in a low voice, "That's Old Ancestor Wen Tian."

At this point, everyone realized the old man who was holding a seemingly unconscious pale young man in his hand was Gongsun Wen Tian, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm.

"I wonder who's the young man Senior Wen Tian is holding in his hand?"

"He's probably Su Li. Duan Ling Tian demanded that the Gongsun family hand someone called Su Li over to him earlier."

"Duan Ling Tian said he'll annihilate the Gongsun family if they don't hand over that person named Su Li within 15 minutes!"

"Indeed. That's what he said."

Based on Duan Ling Tian's words, the onlookers could easily figure out Duan Ling Tian's reason for coming here today.

"What's the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and Su Li?"

"Who's Su Li? Why would Duan Ling Tian come for him?"

"Based on the situation, it's obvious Su Li isn't a member of the Gongsun family. Looked at his tortured state. The Gongsun family wouldn't torture one of their own to this extent."

However, the onlookers were still confused, and this included many members from the Gongsun family. Why was Gongsun Wen Tian, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, holding the young man? Moreover, it seemed like he was using the young man to threaten Duan Ling Tian.

Some of the members of the Gongsun family looked at the well-informed members of the Gongsun family for an explanation. It did not take long before they learned about what was happening.

"As it turns out, the Gongsun family covets Duan Ling Tian's technique that can snatch away Celestial Supreme Treasures. They kidnapped Su Li so they can threaten Duan Ling Tian."

"I didn't expect things would be like this."

"Me too. I had assumed Duan Ling Tian thought he was very strong and blindly came to challenge the Gongsun family to make a name for himself. As it turns out, he's only here to save his friend."

"It's not very becoming of the Gongsun family to do something like that, right?"

Many people who were not from the Gongsun family could not help but whisper among themselves when they learned the truth of the matter. Their voices were lowered since they were afraid of offending the Gongsun family.

In fact, some upright members from the Gongsun family had fallen silent when they discovered the truth. Although they disagreed with the family's way of doing things, they did not speak up. After all, even if they voiced out their opinion, it would not be heard or heeded.

Naturally, there were also members from the Gongsun family who became excited upon discovering the truth. Their gaze turned greedy as they stared at Duan Ling Tian. After all, if the family obtained the technique from Duan Ling Tian, it meant they would have a chance of learning it in the future. How could they not feel excited about learning a technique that could snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away from people?

Humans are naturally greedy. Otherwise, the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials from the Gongsun family would not have abducted Su Li to threaten Duan Ling Tian into revealing his technique.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Gongsun Wen Tian who had been in a confrontation with Duan Ling Tian for almost 15 minutes finally broke the silence. He said in a low voice, "Duan Ling Tian, I'm sure you've learned about my objective from Xuan Yuan Zhi. As long as you swear on the lightning penalty oath and promise to teach the Gongsun family your technique of snatching Celestial Supreme Treasures away and not hold this against the family, in addition to letting Su Li go, I won't kill you as well. Otherwise, don't blame me for killing you and Su Li!" His eyes flashed with killing intent as he continued to say, "You should know that I'm a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial who has cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. With just a thought, I can cast a soul attack to kill you. Since I'm here, I'm, naturally, confident that I'm able to kill you."

Then, Gongsun Wen Tian added, "Naturally, you can try to kill me. However, I promise you that before you're able to do so, I'll kill Su Li first. Moreover, you might not even be able to avoid my soul attack!"

# Chapter 2567 A Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial's Soul Attack!

"Gongsun Wen Tian is so ruthless!"

Those who were not from the Gongsun family gasped when they heard Gongsun Wen Tian's words. They felt Gongsun Wen Tian was too ruthless for forcing Duan Ling Tian to choose between swearing on the lightning penalty oath according to his request and death. He was even willing to sacrifice himself to achieve his goal.

Gongsun Wen Tian was not certain if Duan Ling Tian's technique was a Celestial Method or a Celestial Supreme Treasure.

"Old ancestor!" The members of the Gongsun family were moved when they heard Gongsun Wen Tian's words. After all, their ancestor took such a huge risk to threaten Duan Ling Tian and was even willing to sacrifice himself for the sake of the Gongsun family! Even those who thought it was not right for Gongsun Wen Tian to threaten Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel moved. Their ancestor went to such great lengths to obtain Duan Ling Tian's technique that could snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away for the sake of their family!

Xuan Yuan Zhi's expression darkened as he said through clenched teeth, "Gongsun Wen Tian, you're widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm. Aren't you ashamed of threatening someone who's not even 100 years old?" He did not expect Gongsun Wen Tian would risk his own life just to achieve his goal!

Gongsun Wen Tian did not deign to reply to Xuan Yuan Zhi, he only stared at Duan Ling Tian calmly. It was as though, by staring at Duan Ling Tian, he could somehow make Duan Ling Tian act according to his will.

Duan Ling Tian suddenly burst into laughter.

Everyone, including Xuan Yuan Zhi, was baffled.

Xuan Yuan Zhi wondered if the pressure had gotten to Duan Ling Tian for him to be able to laugh at a time like this.

"Why are you laughing?" Gongsun Wen Tian's expression darkened again. The ominous feeling he had dispelled earlier rose in his heart again.

Duan Ling Tian finally stopped laughing. He looked at Gongsun Wen Tian and replied indifferently, "I'm laughing at your hubris." He glanced at Su Li before he continued to say, "Su Li is my friend so I know him very well. For you to threaten me using him, he definitely feels it's worse than dying. I know he'd rather die than let you threaten me."

When Su Li heard Duan Ling Tian's words, a faint smile appeared on his face. He clearly agreed with Duan Ling Tian's words.

Duan Ling Tian shifted his eyes back to Gongsun Wen Tian, his eyes flashing with a sinister and cold light as he said, "You can kill Su Li. However, if he dies, I promise you I'll destroy the entire Gongsun family!"

Duan Ling Tian's words raised a commotion among the onlookers. Those who were not from the Gongsun family felt there was a higher chance that Gongsun Wen Tian would survive if things came to blows.

"Isn't Duan Ling Tian too arrogant? Things have already escalated to this extent, and yet, he dares to utter such audacious words!"

"How can he possibly withstand a soul attack from the old ancestor when his soul is that of an Eminent Celestial?"

"That's right! Gongsun Wen Tian came well-prepared. Even if he's able to kill Gongsun Wen Tian with his strength, there's no way he can withstand Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack. The soul of an Eminent Celestial is defenseless against the soul attack of Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial."

"Does he really think Gongsun Wen Tian won't kill him because of his technique that allows him to snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away?"

Members of the Gongsun family thought Duan Ling Tian was being too arrogant. Only a few remained calm as they observed the killing intent in Duan Ling Tian's eyes and the chilling aura he emitted.

"Ridiculous! How arrogant!"

"How dare Duan Ling Tian speak about destroying the Gongsun family in front of our old ancestors? He's seeking death!"

"I wonder if he's really that delusional to think he's able to stand up against a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial who has mastered the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique? Has he forgotten his soul is only that of an Eminent Celestial?"

"Does he intend to die together with our old ancestor?"

Meanwhile, Gongsun Wen Tian who was stunned by Duan Ling Tian's words finally regained his senses. His grip around Su Li tightened, causing Su Li's face to turn paler. It was as though Su Li was on the verge of suffocating. "Do you really think I don't dare to kill him?"

"I've already said that you can kill him. However, if you do, I'll definitely annihilate the Gongsun family!" Duan Ling Tian said indifferently in a tone that brooked no arguments.

Gongsun Wen Tian asked impatiently, "So you're really not going to hand over the technique that can snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away?" He had thought he would have things under control since he had Su Li in his hands. He thought he could control Duan Ling Tian. Who knew Duan Ling Tian would wrestle the control from him and made him take a passive stance?

"Can't you understand human language?" Duan Ling Tian said with a faint smile.

"Good, very good! Since it's like this, I'll kill Su Li now!" Gongsun Wen Tian's eyes flashed coldly as he made a move. Naturally, he had no intention of killing Su Li, he only wanted to intimidate Duan Ling Tian and see if Duan Ling Tian was calling his bluff.

### Whoosh!

When Gongsun Wen Tian's hand almost landed on Su Li's forehead, he halted his movement. His eyes were filled with disbelief when he saw Duan Ling Tian remaining motionless, he clearly had no intention of stopping him. He truly did not expect that Duan Ling Tian was not calling his bluff. "You truly don't care if Su Li lives or dies?" According to his investigation, Su Li was Duan Ling Tian's closest friend. How could Duan Ling Tian not care about his friend's life and death?

Similarly, the onlookers had thought Duan Ling Tian was only putting on a front. Upon seeing this, they realized Duan Ling Tian had meant what he said.

"W-what?"

"Duan Ling Tian is not acting?"

"Earlier, our old ancestor almost killed his friend, and yet, it seems like he doesn't care!"

"Well, I guess he intends on abandoning his friend. Regardless, does he really think he's capable of annihilating the Gongsun family to avenge his friend's death?"

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently to Gongsun Wen Tian, "I know you won't kill him. After all, you're meticulous and farsighted. You won't kill Su Li unless you're certain you can kill me. You're worried you'll bring catastrophe to the Gongsun family if you fail to kill me after killing Su Li!" His piercing gaze made him seem as though he knew the thoughts that were running through Gongsun Wen Tian's mind.

Gongsun Wen Tian's expression turned grim. "It seems like you know me well." He was, naturally, displeased that Duan Ling Tian was able to guess his thoughts. However, since Duan Ling Tian had no intention of compromising, he decided not to hold back any longer. He looked at Duan Ling Tian coldly and said, "Since you want to die, I'll fulfill your wish!"

With a thought, a cold light flickered in his eyes before they shot out two beams of light that looked like a pair of dragons playing with a pearl. The two beams of light that were shooting toward Duan Ling Tian were a soul attack!

### Swoosh!

Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack moved swiftly. In just a blink of an eye, it had reached Duan Ling Tian. As soon as it landed, it would destroy Duan Ling Tian's soul!

However, in the split second before the soul attack could land on Duan Ling Tian, a thunderous sound rang in the air.

Duan Ling Tian had raised his hand, and a defective metal piece shot out of his palm and hovered between him and Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack.

Gongsun Wen Tian sneered when he saw Duan Ling Tian's actions. "You think you'll be able to defend against my soul attack with your physical strength? Preposterous!"

Gongsun Hong, the other old ancestor and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun family, said disdainfully, "Truly preposterous! You intend on countering my junior uncle's soul attack with a physical attack?"

# Chapter 2568 I, Su Li, Will Die Without Regrets!

Physical attacks and soul attacks were two completely different attacks. Physical attacks, as its name suggested, would leave physical injuries and could be countered with strength. Soul attacks, on the other hand, left no injuries on the physical body as it would destroy one's soul. Moreover, it was almost impossible to stop it unless one had an object with a Restriction Formation. Unfortunately, Restriction Formations were only available in Devata Realms.

For this reason, Gongsun Wen Tian was confident the defective metal piece that Duan Ling Tian had shot out would be helpless to stop his soul attack. He was certain his soul attack would easily pierce through the defective metal piece and destroy Duan Ling Tian's soul!

Similarly, Gongsun Hong who was standing next to Gongsun Wen Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi, the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Yellow Thearch Mansion, who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian, had the same thought as Gongsun Wen Tian.

'Brother Ling Tian, that's a soul attack! You won't be able to repel it!' Xuan Yuan Zhi was certain Duan Ling Tian would die.

Meanwhile, the Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestials from the Gongsun family could vaguely see the situation before them. They smiled coldly, certain that Duan Ling Tian would die. Many people thought Duan Ling Tian's actions were futile.

"The old ancestor has cast his soul attack, right?"

"Hum! Duan Ling Tian is seeking death!"

"Our old ancestor is a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial after all. His soul attack is comparable to the soul attack of a Heavenly Celestial at his peak. As a mere Eminent Celestial, it's impossible for Duan Ling Tian to repel our ancestor's soul attack!"

"Duan Ling Tian is truly seeking death!"

"Duan Ling Tian is trying to defend against the soul attack from Gongsun Wen Tian? How pointless! Not only is he doing something useless, but he has also lost the chance to take Gongsun Wen Tian down with him!"

"I wonder what's going through his mind? Don't tell me he thinks his physical attack is able to stop Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack?" The only two Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestials present on the scene shook their heads.

The two Eight Tribulation Bodiless Celestials were the only ones who could vaguely see what was happening. They thought Duan Ling Tian was foolish for not trying to take Gongsun Wen Tian down with him but cast such a useless attack instead.

Just a moment later, as the Eight and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials watched on, there was a sudden disturbance...

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The defect metal piece that Duan Ling Tian had thrown out finally collided with Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack!

Everyone expected to see the soul attack pass through the defective metal piece. After all, the soul attack was in soul form, it could easily pierce through the defective metal piece that was a physical object.

Their eyes soon widened in disbelief when they saw Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack that was like a pair of dragons playing with a pearl disappeared as soon as it touched the defective metal piece! It was as though the defective metal piece had devoured or absorbed the soul attack!

### Swoosh!

Before the onlookers regained their senses, Duan Ling Tian casually waved his hand. The defective metal piece made a turn and returned to his hand immediately. He played with the defective metal piece in his hand as he glanced at Gongsun Wen Tian coldly. He said in an indifferent tone, "So this the soul attack of a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial? Is that all?"

When the Eight and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials regained their senses, they inhaled sharply. Their eyes were filled with shock and fear when they looked at Duan Ling Tian again. This was especially true for the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, the old ancestor and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun family, Gongsun Wen Tian.

Gongsun Wen Tian did not hold back and had unleashed all his strength when he had cast the soul attack earlier. He had exhausted a part of his soul and would need ten to fourteen days to recover. However, Duan Ling Tian had easily blocked his soul attack!

'What's that metal piece?' Gongsun Wen Tian, naturally, knew the defective metal piece Duan Ling Tian was playing with was the reason Duan Ling Tian was able to counter his soul attack.

Naturally, the Eight and Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials shared the same thought as Gongsun Wen Tian. Their eyes were all glued to the defective metal piece in Duan Ling Tian's hand at this moment.

The defective metal piece looked very ordinary at a glance. However, upon closer inspection, they saw a faint and mysterious light surrounding it. When they subconsciously extended their Divine Consciousness to probe the metal piece, they discovered the metal piece was like an insatiable beast that kept devouring their Divine Consciousness. It was difficult for them to withdraw their Divine Consciousness from the defective metal piece!

Xuan Yuan Zhi, the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Yellow Thearch Mansion, who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian, sighed in relief as he looked at the defective metal piece in Duan Ling Tian's hand. 'That's why it's able to block Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack. Brother Ling Tian's metal piece is, indeed, extraordinary!' A wry smile appeared on his face as he continued thinking to himself, 'No wonder Brother Ling Tian is so calm. As it turns out, he already has a plan.' If Duan Ling Tian had told him about this earlier, he would not have felt so frightened earlier.

"What's that piece of metal in your hand?" Gongsun Wen Tian looked at Duan Ling Tian in fear and shock. At the same time, he realized the ominous feeling he had earlier was accurate. As it turned out, Duan Ling Tian was truly not afraid of his soul attack. He knew regardless of how many times he cast his soul attack, he would not be able to injure Duan Ling Tian as long as Duan Ling Tian possessed the defective metal piece. For a moment, he felt remorse flooding him. He should not have been greedy and covet Duan Ling Tian's technique that could snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away. Otherwise, he would not be in this predicament now.

Everyone, non-members and members of the Gongsun family alike, was confused since they could not see what happened earlier due to their weak cultivation bases. However, they could tell that Duan Ling Tian seemed to hold the upper hand. They could see the fear in Gongsun Wen Tian's eyes. He seemed as though he was looking at a monster when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"W-what's going on?"

"Didn't our ancestor cast his soul attack? Why is Duan Ling Tian still alive?"

"Can anyone tell me what's going on?"

One of the onlookers who was more astute said, "Look! Apart from Gongsun Wen Tian, even the other Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Gongsun family seems afraid of Duan Ling Tian."

Instantly, an uproar broke out.

"W-what's going on?"

Gongsun Wen Tian, the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun family who was widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, looked at Su Li whom he held in his hand. As though he was clutching at straws, he said threateningly, "Duan Ling Tian! Swear on the lighting penalty oath that you won't be an enemy of the Gongsun family for the rest of your life. Otherwise, I'll kill Su Li right now!" He stared at Duan Ling Tian with reddened eyes. He seemed like a cornered beast at this moment.

Faced with Gongsun Wen Tian's threat, Duan Ling Tian remained calm. Those who were not in the know would think he did not care about Su Li's life. He replied nonchalantly, "I've already said, you can kill Su Li. However, if he dies, I'll kill and destroy your entire family!" Then, he turned to look at Su Li before he asked, "Su Li, you won't blame me, right?"

Su Li coughed twice as he struggled to breathe. A faint smile could be seen on his face as he said with great difficulty, "I-I can't even thank you enough, so how can I blame you? With a top force like the Gongsun family accompanying me in my death, I, Su Li, will die without regrets!"

Duan Ling Tian nodded. "I'm relieved to hear that."

As soon as Gongsun Wen Tian heard Su Li's words, his expression changed dramatically.

## Chapter 2569 The Death of Gongsun Wen Tian!

When Gongsun Wen Tian discovered Duan Ling Tian was not afraid of his soul attacks, he knew there was nothing else he could do. Duan Ling Tian would definitely come after him for kidnapping Su Li. The only thing he thought would work was to use Su Li as a shield. However, Su Li and Duan Ling Tian's conversation disabused him of that notion.

Earlier, Gongsun Wen Tian thought Duan Ling Tian was lying when he said he would destroy the Gongsun family if he killed Su Li. However, currently, he had no doubt that Duan Ling Tian possessed the capability to do as he had said!

Gongsun Wen Tian stared at Duan Ling Tian and tried to threaten him with Gongsun Xuan Yuan since he knew he could no longer threaten Duan Ling Tian by using Su Li. Duan Ling Tian had tied Su Li's fate to the entire Gongsun family after all. For this reason, he could only look for another alternative. "Duan Ling Tian, my Gongsun family's forefather, Gongsun Xuan Yuan, is the Heavenly Emperor of a Devata Realm. I-If you destroy my Gongsun family, you'll definitely incur his wrath!"

Duan Ling Tian laughed when he heard Gongsun Wen Tian's words. He said scornfully, "Gongsun Xuanyuan? From what I know, although he's from Yan Huang Realm, he has many descendants in other mundane realms as well after he ascended to a Devata Realm." Elder Huo, the pagoda spirit of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, had told him about this. He continued to say, "Moreover, Senior Gongsun Xuan Yuan doesn't only have descendants in the Gongsun family in Yan Huang Realm. He also has descendants in the Yellow Thearch Mansion. Even if your family is his only descendants in Yan Huang Realm, he might not even care about your family. Even if he cares, so what? If I die with your entire family accompanying me, I think it's worth it. Moreover, I might not even die." He was truly unbothered by Gongsun Wen Tian's threat.

Seeing his failure to threaten Duan Ling Tian again, Gongsun Wen Tian's expression changed again.

At this moment, the expressions of all the members of the Gongsun family had turned grim. Even those with a weaker cultivation base who had no idea what was going on could tell there was nothing their old ancestor, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, could do to Duan Ling Tian. Otherwise, was there a need for their old ancestor to threaten Duan Ling Tian with Su Li and their forefather? Only the weak would need to rely on something to threaten the strong.

The onlookers who were not from the Gongsun family also gradually understood the situation. They were, naturally, shocked. After all, Gongsun Wen Tian was the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm. Such a person was clearly helpless against Duan Ling Tian who had not even turned 100 years old, how could they not feel shocked? If they did not witness this with their own eyes, they would not have believed this.

"Uh..."

"Why is Gongsun Wen Tian acting this way?"

"It seems like Duan Ling Tian isn't afraid of his soul attack. Otherwise, he won't act like this."

"If Duan Ling Tian isn't afraid of his soul attack, it's impossible for him to threaten Duan Ling Tian. Duan Ling Tian can't even be threatened with his friend's life and the forefather of the Gongsun family, Gongsun Xuan Yuan."

Gongsun Wen Tian suppressed the unwillingness he felt and asked in a low voice, "You said if Su Li dies, you'll bury the entire Gongsun family with him. Does this mean if I let him go, you'll let the Gongsun family go as well?"

"Yes, well, you can interpret it that way," Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently as though he was not surprised by Gongsun Wen Tian's question.

"D-Does this include... me?" Gongsun Wen Tian asked tentatively. Although he felt it was impossible, he still could not help but ask. He wanted to know if there was any possibility of him surviving if he let Su Li go.

Duan Ling Tian was slightly taken aback when he heard Gongsun Wen Tian's question. He could not help but laugh before he said, "You? Gongsun Wen Tian, you've lived for 10,000 years. Do you think I'll let you go? If you were in my shoes, would you let yourself go?"

Gongsun Wen Tian's face turned deathly pale upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words. Although he had expected this outcome, accepting it was a different matter altogether. He was a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial, and he would be facing his tenth Bodiless Celestial Tribulation in roughly 100 years. Moreover, he was confident he would be able to successfully pass the tribulation and become a Golden Celestial in a Devata Realm. However, in just a blink of an eye, he had lost everything. After cultivation and living for roughly 10,000 years, he treasured his life even more than anyone else. He did not expect to meet this calamity before his ascension. He truly felt unresigned. He hated the predicament he was in. However, he could only hate and blame himself for being greedy and coveting Duan Ling Tian's technique that could snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes shifted from Gongsun Wen Tian to Gongsun Hong, the other Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun Family, and asked indifferently, "Do both of you want to do it yourself or should I do it?"

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, not only did Gongsun Wen Tian and Gongsun Hong's expressions change, but the expressions of the other members of the Gongsun family changed as well.

Prior to this, they assumed Duan Ling Tian would take Gongsun Wen Tian's life and stop pursuing this matter, sparing everyone else's life. They did not expect that he also wanted Gongsun Hong's life!

The Gongsun family only had two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials. If both of them died, the Gongsun family would drop to the bottom tier and become a force that was like Tang Sect.

Gongsun Wen Tian became emotional. It was clear he was afraid of Duan Ling Tian taking Gongsun Hong's life. "Duan Ling Tian, I'm the main culprit. This has nothing to do with my junior nephew, Gongsun Hong!"

Duan Ling Tian said knowingly, "Weren't there two people who went to the Yellow Thearch Mansion to abduct Su Li?" Before Gongsun Wen Tian could reply, he said indifferently, "I'll give both of you three

breaths to act. If both of you are not dead after the given time, all the members of the Gongsun family will die along with you!"

Currently, the situation was completely different from when Duan Ling Tian had first arrived. At this moment, no one doubted Duan Ling Tian's words and capabilities like they had earlier.

Gongsun Wen Tian and Gongsun Hong's expressions changed again. Gongsun Wen Tian was the first to regain his senses. His body shook violently as he let go of Su Li.

#### Whoosh!

A raging force surged out of Gongsun Wen Tian's body before it engulfed him. After a moment, he disappeared without a trace. He did not even ask Duan Ling Tian to swear on the lightning penalty oath to not harm the Gongsun family after his death. After all, he knew he was not qualified to make any demands.

"Old ancestor!" The members of the Gongsun family cried out simultaneously in distress when they saw Gongsun Wen Tian had committed suicide.

When Duan Ling Tian turned to look at Gongsun Hong, he saw Gongsun Hong trying to flee. "No! I don't want to die! I want to live!"

Duan Ling Tian scoffed.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The ear-piercing sound of sword whistling rang in the air.

Everyone felt a raging aura from Gongsun Hong as he tried to run away. However, in just a moment, he had also disappeared without a trace.

The two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials who were the reason the Gongsun family was the top force in Yan Huang Realm had died! If the Gongsun family was described as a tiger previously, currently, the family was a tiger without fangs.

After Duan Ling Tian killed Gongsun Hong, he flew toward Su Li who was swaying on his feet, clearly weakened. He brought Su Li with him as he beckoned to Xuan Yuan Zhi, "Let's go."

Xuan Yuan Zhi who was still in a daze over the deaths of the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials from the Gongsun Family only regained his senses when Duan Ling Tian called out to him. His respect for Duan Ling Tian had risen even higher now.

## **Chapter 2570 About to Ascend?**

Although Xuan Yuan Zhi had heard about Duan Ling Tian killing the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial from the Heavenly Wave Mansion when he returned from the Beyond Heaven Secret Zone, he did not witness it himself. He had only watched it through a Mirror Image Talisman and was not very shocked. Now that he had witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength with his own eyes, he felt thoroughly shocked.

Xuan Yuan Zhi was amazed when he watched Duan Ling Tian forced Gongsun Wen Tian, the old ancestor of the Gongsun family and the strongest Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial in Yan Huang Realm, to

commit suicide and killed the other Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun Family. Duan Ling Tian was now someone whose strength surpassed Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials in the mundane realms.

Previously, Xuan Yuan Zhi had thought Duan Ling Tian's only flaw was his weak soul as an Eminent Celestial. It made him vulnerable to soul attacks from Bodiless Celestials, after all, despite his immense strength. However, now Duan Ling Tian possessed an object that could even counter soul attacks from Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial who cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique!

After Duan Ling Tian and Xuan Yuan Zhi left the Mystical Ancient Galaxy that was ruled by the Gongsun family with Su Li in tow, Xuan Yuan Zhi looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked with a bitter smile on his face, "Brother Ling Tian, why didn't you tell me earlier that you aren't afraid of Gongsun Wen Tian's Soul Attack? Do you know I was so frightened that you wouldn't be able to survive his soul attack?"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled. "Older Brother Zhi, why didn't you trust me?"

Xuan Yuan Zhi replied, "It's not that I don't trust you. However, it's difficult to imagine an Eminent Celestial would be able to deal with a soul attack from a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial who has cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. Oh, yes, is that defective metal piece you used to block Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack a soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasure?" In the end, he could not help but ask curiously.

"A soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasure? There's such Celestial Supreme Treasures?" Duan Ling Tian was confused.

"Y-you don't know about this? Does this mean your metal piece is not a type of soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasure?" Xuan Yuan Zhi was taken aback.

Duan Ling Tian took the defective metal piece that emitted a mysterious light out and began to study it. However, he did not sense the aura of a Celestial Supreme Treasure from it. "I obtained this by chance, and I don't think it's a Celestial Supreme Treasure."

"It's not a Celestial Supreme Treasure, but it's capable of blocking a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial's soul attack. It's truly extraordinary," Xuan Yuan Zhi said with a sigh. It seemed as though he had thought of something as he added, "I really didn't expect Gongsun Wen Tian wouldn't put up a fight and committed suicide directly. He didn't even try to see if you're truly stronger than a Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials."

Duan Ling Tian replied, "He's a clever man. The scene of me killing the Heavenly Wave Mansion's Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial is recorded by a Mirror Image Talisman. I think he has watched the recording. Otherwise, he wouldn't be so cooperative. Regardless, he was much more respectable than that Gongsun Hong who tried to run away. Gongsun Wen Tian was willing to sacrifice his life for the sake of his family!" A hint of respect could be seen in Duan Ling Tian's eyes when he spoke about Gongsun Wen Tian.

Despite how greedy Gongsun Wen Tian was or the despicable method he used to achieve his goal, the fact that the old ancestor of the Gongsun family, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, was willing

to die for the Gongsun family was enough for Duan Ling Tian to respect him. After all, not everyone would be able to do this. Gongsun Hong, the other old ancestor of the Gongsun family, was a good example of this.

"Indeed. Since I've seen the recording, he must have seen it too," Xuan Yuan Zhi replied. After a while, he discovered Su Li who had been quietly healing himself had finally opened his eyes. He asked worriedly, "Elder Su Li, are you alright?"

"I'm fine." Su Li shook his head lightly. After that, he turned to look at Duan Ling Tian with a smile, but he did not express any word of gratitude. There was no need for such words between them.

Duan Ling Tian carried Su Li and followed Xuan Yuan Zhi back to the Yellow Thearch Mansion. He decided to temporarily stay in the Yellow Thearh Mansion as well.

As time passed, Duan Ling Tian's feat in the Mystical Ancient Galaxy that was ruled by the Gongsun family had begun to circulate widely. The speed of the news spreading was even faster compared to when Duan Ling Tian killed the Heavenly Wave Mansion's Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial. After all, the person who was killed was Gongsun Wen Tian, the old ancestor from the top force of Yan Huang Realm, the Gongsun family. He was also the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm! It, naturally, caused a commotion.

However, when the news was just beginning to spread, many people still did know about the outcome. Many of them thought Duan Ling Tian was just seeking death by provoking the Gongsun family.

"Did you hear? Duan Ling Tian from the Saint Province Realm is causing problems again in our Yan Huang Realm. After he killed the Heavenly Wave Mansion's Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial, he went to look for trouble with the old ancestor from the Gongsun family in the Mystical Ancient Galaxy!"

"The Gongsun family is much more powerful than the Heavenly Wave Mansion. One of the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials is the strongest person in our Yan Huang Realm! Isn't Duan Ling Tian seeking death by looking for trouble with them?"

"That's right! The strongest person in our Yan Huang Realm is Gongsun Wen Tian, the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestial of the Gongsun Family. He's also a Bodiless Celestial who has cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. Although Duan Ling Tian is stronger than all Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials in Yan Huang Realm in terms of physical strength, he's vulnerable against soul attacks!"

"He won't even be able to withstand one of Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attacks!"

When they finally learned of the entire story, they were thoroughly shocked.

"Duan Ling Tian wasn't afraid of Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack?"

"He's an Eminent Celestial who hasn't even turned 100 years old, but he managed to easily block Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack? What is the item he used?"

"Is it possible that it's a kind of soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasure?"

"I think only soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasures are able to help him block Gongsun Wen Tian's soul attack. I really didn't expect him to own a soul defense Celestial Supreme Treasure!"

"Well, I find it unexpected that the two Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials from the Gongsun family provoked Duan Ling Tian first. I had thought Duan Ling Tian was causing trouble in the Mystical Ancient Galaxy. As it turns out, those two old ancestors from the Gongsun family were greedy and coveted Duan Ling Tian's technique that can snatch Celestial Supreme Treasures away."

"I don't think they expected they would lose their lives because of this matter!"

The news caused an uproar wherever it spread. Gongsun Wen Tian, the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm, had died. Moreover, he was killed by an Eminent Celestial who had not even turned 100 years old. What was even more shocking was Duan Ling Tian was completely unafraid of soul attacks!

"Duan Ling Tian's name will certainly go down in history in our Yan Huang Realm."

"Of course. He killed three of our realm's Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials despite being an Eminent Celestial. Moreover, some of the Nine Tribulation Bodiless Celestials had even cultivated the Soul Congregation Embodiment technique. Most importantly, one of them was the former strongest person in Yan Huang Realm!"

Similar comments could be heard everywhere in Yan Huang Realm.

Since the Yellow Thearch Mansion was located in a remote area, news would reach here slower compared to other places.

Duan Ling Tian only heard about all the rumors about him after a while. He was not surprised. After all, the person he killed was widely acknowledged as the strongest person in Yan Huang Realm. Since he was capable of forcing Gongsun Wen Tian to commit suicide, it would, naturally, cause waves in Yan Huang Realm.

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One day, Duan Ling Tian was in his room as usual. He was studying the defective metal piece that emitted a mysterious light, but he still did not discover anything unusual about it.

All of a sudden, a spiritual light flashed in Duan Ling Tian's mind. His eyes widened as though he had sensed something. "Hmm?" At this moment, he clearly sensed a mysterious force from all directions, shrouding him. It gave him a wonderful feeling and seemed as though it was trying to bring him somewhere. Most importantly, he could sense a dense energy similar to the Celestial Origin Energy.

'The Celestial Ascension Force?' A thought appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind. This seemed like the highest possibility.

Duan Ling Tian instinctively mobilized his energy to touch the force that came from all directions. The force grew stronger and stronger, ignoring his energy. However, in the next moment, he felt his body being squeezed by this force to the point where he felt he was going to faint.

'It seems this is truly the Celestial Ascension Force, and I'm about to ascend...' At this time, Duan Ling Tian had no doubt this force was going to help him to ascend when he recalled Tang Xiao Xiao's ascension!