

Chapter 3131: Gongsun Jing

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was unaware that he was getting more and more famous in the Profound Nether Mansion and the Leaving Willow Mansion. In fact, his name had even begun to spread to other grade-six Celestial Mansions.

As time passed, news about Duan Ling Tian, an outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion, being a Ten Directions Celestial Duke and comprehending six profundities from the law of space before reaching the age of 1,000 spread further and further. Although his achievements were not too outstanding, the fact that he had achieved these feats before the age of 1,000 shocked everyone.

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In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

After Duan Ling Tian defeated the two inner disciples from the Leaving Willow Mansion and obtained five points, half a day passed before he ran into another person again.

“A disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion?” A middle-aged man dressed in blue long robes stood in front of Duan Ling Tian. His appearance was ordinary, but a hint of viciousness could be seen in the depths of his eyes. After he saw the identity token hanging from Duan Ling Tian’s waist, a sinister smile appeared on his face. ‘An outer court disciple? Since when did outer court disciples from the Profound Nether Mansion become so stupid as to enter the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm?’

The middle-aged man looked at Duan Ling Tian and said contemptuously, “Kid, you’re unlucky to have encountered me. You’re going to be the 23rd disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion whom I, Gongsun Jing, have encountered and killed in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm!” As he spoke, his eyes shone with killing intent. Based on his words, he had killed every disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion whom he had encountered.

“Do you have enmity with the Profound Nether Mansion?” Duan Ling Tian asked calmly before his eyes shifted to the identity token hanging from the middle-aged man’s waist. “An inner disciple from the Azure Green Mansion?”

When Duan Ling Tian saw the middle-aged man’s identity token, he recalled Qi Tian Ming’s words. Similar to the Profound Nether Mansion, the Azure Green Mansion was also a grade-six Celestial Mansion. The two grade-six Celestial Mansions had a huge enmity that had lasted for almost 1,000 years now. Based on Qi Tian Ming’s words, the enmity began almost 1,000 years ago due to the differences between the current Mansion Masters of the Profound Nether Mansion and the Azure Green Mansion. At that time, both mansion masters had yet to attain their current positions and were traveling the world together. At some point, they met a woman and both of them liked her. The duo whose relationship was like that of brothers fell out because of the woman. Although their falling out was not to the extent of fighting to the death, both of them got along like fire and water. After the duo became mansion masters, the first direct disciple of the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion had

killed the third direct disciple of the Mansion Master of the Azure Green Mansion. In retaliation, the second direct disciple of the Mansion Master of the Azure Green Mansion killed the last direct disciple of the Profound Nether Mansion, further cementing the feud between the two grade-six Celestial Mansions. Since then, when disciples from the Profound Nether Mansion and the Azure Green Mansion ran into each other, they would usually fight. In the outside world, the disciples from both mansions might be somewhat reserved to fight to the death. However, in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, they had no reservations about fighting to the death at all. The disciples would usually fight to the death if they ran into each other in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Therefore, the Profound Nether Mansion disciples had killed many disciples from the Azure Green Mansion and vice versa.

At that time, Qi Tian Ming had said to Duan Ling Tian, "If you run into disciples from the Azure Green Mansion in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, you can go all out and kill them. However, if they're stronger than you, flee immediately! There's no way a disciple from the Azure Green Mansion would spare your life!" In other words, Duan Ling Tian only had two choices if he ran into disciples from the Azure Green Mansion: fight or escape!

In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, external help such as Celestial Talismans and Celestial Pills was useless. This meant that one could only rely on one's strength to escape. Even defensive Celestial Weapons were useless in the middle realm. The restrictions in the middle realm were much harsher compared to the lower realm. After all, one could use Celestial Weapons in the lower realm.

Upon seeing Duan Ling Tian's gaze on his identity token, Gongsun Jing smiled coldly as he said, "It seems like there's no need for me to answer you since you've seen my identity token." Killing intent flashed in his eyes as he added, "Kid, you can only blame yourself for being a disciple of the Profound Nether Mansion." As soon as he finished speaking, his Celestial Origin Energy surged out of his body before they transformed into blazing red flames. In just a blink of an eye, the red flames shrouded his body.

'Gongsun Jin... I remember seeing his name on the scoreboard. If I'm not mistaken, he's ranked 69th on the scoreboard,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. He remembered Gongsun Jing possessed 13 points as well.

Boom!

A thunderously loud explosion rang in the air as an intense heatwave seemingly capable of destroying heaven and earth swept toward Duan Ling Tian. It was not difficult for him to identify the profundities from the law of fire that his opponent had cast. Apart from the Fire Elemental Profundity, there were the Explosion Profundity, the Burning Profundity, and the Pillaging Profundity.

"You're going to become the disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion whom I killed in the shortest time!" Gongsun Jing sneered. He was filled with disdain when he saw the young man in front of him seemed incapable of responding to his attack that only contained four profundities from the law of fire. However, in the next moment, a baffled expression appeared on his face when the young man whom he was certain he would be able to kill with just one strike suddenly vanished without a trace.

“How’s this possible?!” After his attack missed, the flames shrouding Gongsun Jing exploded with higher intensity. He charged out in search of Duan Ling Tian before he turned around and saw Duan Ling Tian calmly standing behind him in the distance with his hands on his back.

‘What technique did he use? I couldn’t see how he dodged my attack earlier...’ Gongsun Jin’s expression turned slightly solemn as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. At the same time, he replayed the scene of Duan Ling Tian dodging his attack in his mind. ‘The void seemed to ripple slightly before he disappeared... Could... could it be that he used the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity earlier? I didn’t expect an outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion to be capable of comprehending the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity...’ However, it did not take long before his eyes suddenly widened in shock. “Y-you... You’re not even 100 years old?!”

Gongsun Jing could vaguely tell Duan Ling Tian was not even 100 years old even though he did not probe Duan Ling Tian with his Divine Consciousness. Moreover, when Duan Ling Tian had cast the Teleportation Profundity earlier, he could sense from Duan Ling Tian’s Celestial Energy that Duan Ling Tian was a Ten Directions Celestial Duke like him! In other words, the young man was a Ten Directions Celestial Duke even though he was not even 100 years old? He thought to himself in shock, “A Ten Directions Celestial Duke who’s not even 100 years old? Even if he has only comprehended the law of space’s Space Elemental Profundity and the Teleportation Profundity, he would still be considered a heaven-defying genius!’

Let alone in the grade-six Azure Green Mansion, there was no one under the age of 100 who had achieved such feats in the entire history of the Southern Heaven Territory. Even in the ten major clans, there were only two clans who had produced geniuses of such a level.

With these thoughts in mind, Gongsun Jing felt his blood boil in excitement. His eyes were shining brightly as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. ‘I’ve killed many disciples from the Profound Nether Mansion, but this is the first time I’ll be killing such a genius!’

However, in just a few short moments, as though he had just recalled something, his expression made him look as though he had been doused with a bucket of cold water. ‘He’s a Ten Directions Celestial Duke who has comprehended the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity... With this profundity alone, it won’t be difficult for him to escape me at all. The speed and frequency of his teleportations are superior to the speed and frequency of my attacks...’ He could not help but feel slightly helpless when he thought about this.

Since the two opponents had the same cultivation base as Ten Directions Celestial Dukes, Gongsun Jing knew it would be nigh impossible for him to kill Duan Ling Tian who had comprehended the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity even if Duan Ling Tian’s offensive strength was inferior to his.

“No wonder a mere outer court disciple like you dares to enter the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm... As it turns out, you’re a Ten Directions Celestial Duke who has comprehended the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity,” Gongsun Jing said coldly. Then, he shifted his eyes away, clearly intending to leave. Since he could not kill Duan Ling Tian, he had no intention of wasting his time here. However, just as he was about to leave, Duan Ling Tian teleported and appeared in front of him, effectively blocking his path.

Chapter 3132: Nineteen Points!

Gongsun Jing had assumed the young man would be relieved by his departure. Since he could not kill the young man who had comprehended the law of space's Teleportation Profundity, he decided not to waste his time here. He did not expect the young man to stop him from leaving. He smiled coldly as he said, "I chose to spare your life, but you're seeking death?"

"Spare my life?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly taken aback by Gongsun Jing's words. When he regained his senses, he could not help but laugh. "You'll have to be able to catch me in order to kill me. Since you're a Ten Directions Celestial Duke, you'll need to cast two movement profundities, at least, just to catch up to me. Even if you've comprehended the two movement profundities from the law of fire, the Pillaging Profundity and the Fire Traveling Profundity, you won't be able to cast the Fire Traveling Profundity here since this place isn't suitable for casting the Fire Traveling Profundity."

Duan Ling Tian knew this very well. After all, before he comprehended the law of space, he had focused on comprehending the law of fire. The Fire Traveling Profundity could only be used in an environment where there was fire. Clearly, they were not in that type of environment now.

Gongsun Jin scoffed, clearly displeased that Duan Ling Tian had seen through him. He said disdainfully, "So what? I can't kill you, but do you think you can kill me? Although your innate talent must be heaven-defying for being able to become a Ten Directions Celestial Dukes before the age of 100, how many profundities have you comprehended? Do you think you're capable of breaching my defenses?" Based on his words, it was clear he did not think Duan Ling Tian had comprehended many profundities from the law of space and thought that Duan Ling Tian was incapable of killing him.

"Well, why don't you experience it for yourself... You can see if you're capable of defending against my attacks." Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly as he mobilized his Celestial Origin Energy through his 99 Heavenly Veins before boosting it with the Space Elemental Profundity.

"Teleportation Profundity!" In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian teleported and appeared behind Gongsun Jing.

"Restraining Profundity!"

"Territory Profundity!"

"Distortion Profundity!"

Before Gongsun Jing could react, Duan Ling Tian had already cast the law of space's Restraining Profundity to prevent Gongsun Jing from escaping. He knew this profundity alone would not be able to restrain Gongsun Jing for long so he cast another two profundities from the law of space to prevent Gongsun Jing from escaping.

"The law of space's Restraining Profundity?" Gongsun Jing discovered he was restrained after Duan Ling Tian cast three profundities from the law of space.

"Break!" Although Gongsun Jing was taken aback by the three profundities from the law of space, he was not afraid. With just a thought, Celestial Origin Energy surged out of his body.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

A raging flame burst forth from Gongsun Jing's body, looking as though they were capable of breaking the Restraining Profundity's restraints. Apart from the Fire Elemental Profundity, the Explosion Profundity, the Burning Profundity, and the Pillaging Profundity, Duan Ling Tian also cast the law of fire's main offensive profundity, the Corrosive Profundity, and the Fire Style Profundity. The Corrosive Profundity's attack was fierce and corrosive as its name suggested. On the other hand, the Fire Style Profundity was similar to the law of metal's Metal Style Profundity in that it would engulf its user with flames, boosting his strength and his profundities.

"H-how's this possible?!" Soon enough, a shocked expression appeared on Gongsun Jing's face when he discovered he could not break free despite casting all of his profundities from the law of fire.

Gongsun Jing could sense he was being restrained by several different energies. After a beat, the space he was confined in began to distort and ripple. He quickly extended his Divine Consciousness. "The Territory Profundity and the Distortion Profundity from the law of space?" His expression changed again when he discovered Duan Ling Tian had cast two new profundities from the law of space.

"An outer disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion who's not only a Ten Directions Celestial Duke but has also comprehended five profundities from the law of space?" Up until now, Gongsun Jing had seen Duan Ling Tian casting five profundities from the law of space: the Space Elemental Profundity, the Teleportation Profundity, the Restraining Profundity, the Territory Profundity, and the Distortion Profundity. However, to restrain him, Duan Ling Tian had only used four profundities from the law of space: the Space Elemental Profundity, the Restraining Profundity, the Territory Profundity, and the Distortion Profundity. He was truly shocked. The law of space was one of the Four Supreme Laws so it was superior to ordinary laws like the law of fire. Needless to say, the profundities from the Four Supreme Laws were also stronger than profundities from ordinary laws.

"Not only are you a Ten Directions Celestial Duke, but you even comprehended five profundities from the law of space before the age of 100... I truly didn't expect this! However, do you really think you're capable of killing me just because of this?" Although Gongsun Jing was shocked by Duan Ling Tian's heaven-defying innate talent and comprehension skills, he was quick to regain his senses. Moreover, he did not seem afraid. He extended his right hand before he fisted it with a cold smile on his face.

All of a sudden, the raging flames that engulfed him began to converge at his right hand before forming a red and purple flaming sword that emitted a formidable aura. Apart from that, tiny sword rays that looked like purple lightning bolts flashed around the flaming sword.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Gongsun Jing cast the law of fire's Fire Style Profundity. Although it was not his full strength, he could now easily manipulate the Fire Elemental Profundity.

Swoosh!

Gongsun Jing's right arm trembled slightly. Then, the red and purple flaming sword shot out of his hand toward the void, intending to forcibly break out of Duan Ling Tian's restraints with just one strike. Based on the current situation, he would be able to eventually break free if he continued attacking. However, with the Teleportation Profundity, Gongsun Jing knew Duan Ling Tian would be able to reinforce the areas that he had weakened quickly. At that time, he would fall further into a disadvantageous situation.

Therefore, he decided to put all his power into this one strike to break Duan Ling Tian's restraints.
"Break!"

The void rippled in the wake of the flaming sword, looking as though it would tear.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed upon seeing this; he understood Gongsun Jing's intentions.

"Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity!"

A terrifying spatial tear appeared where Gongsun Jing's flaming sword had pierced.

Gongsun Jing was dumbfounded upon seeing this. Although the power behind his flaming sword was extraordinary, he did not think it was capable of tearing a hole in the void.

"Could it be..." Soon enough, an ominous feeling rose in Gongsun Jing's heart. When he saw a grey sword ray shooting out of the spatial tear toward him, he confirmed his suspicion. "T-the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity?!"

Although Gongsun Jing did not comprehend the law of space, he had studied the law of space before. Therefore, it was not difficult for him to tell that Duan Ling Tian had cast the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity!

"S-six profundities?" Gongsun Jing tried to maintain his composure, but it was futile. He was so tense that he lost focus, causing the flaming sword to weaken.

Buzz!

At this moment, the grey sword ray collided with the flaming sword. In just a second, the grey sword ray overwhelmed and destroyed the flaming sword.

Duan Ling Tian had cast the other profundities from the law of space to boost the grey sword ray from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity after all. Moreover, due to Gongsun Jing being distracted, his flaming sword had weakened. Therefore, it was easy for the grey sword ray to overwhelm the flaming sword.

"No!" Gongsun tried desperately to cast another attack, but he could only watch helplessly as the grey sword ray continued shooting toward him.

Swoosh!

Blood splattered in the sky and rained down as Gongsun Jing, who had been confident in his victory, was decapitated by the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity. His corpse was pulled into the turbulence, and it did not take long before his corpse was reduced to ashes.

With this, Gongsun Jing, a Ten Directions Celestial Duke who had comprehended six profundities from the law of fire from the Azure Green Mansion had died.

After Gongsun Jing's death, the 13 points in his Accumulative Point Jade were transferred to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian's points rose from six to 19 in just a blink of an eye. With this, his ranking rose as well. Naturally, he was going to rank higher than Gongsun Jing who was ranked 69th before he died.

Unlike the lower realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Heaven, the scores were instantly reflected on the scoreboards.

Therefore, as soon as Duan Ling Tian killed Gongsun Jing and obtained Gongsun Jing's points, a huge commotion broke out in the Profound Nether Mansion, the Leaving Willow Mansion, the Azure Green Mansion, and the other grade-six Celestial Mansions.

Chapter 3133: Duan Ling Tian Ranks 52nd

In the Azure Green Mansion's estate.

A crowd had gathered around the scoreboard in the site of the Transporting Formation to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm in the estate. A commotion broke out as soon as they saw the changes on the scoreboard.

"Senior Gongsun Jing has been defeated?"

"Senior Gongsun Jing has comprehended six profundities from the law of fire and has always maintained his rank in the top 60. How did he suddenly get defeated?"

"He's defeated?"

"Most probably... Unless he met those from the Profound Nether Mansion. Even then, it's unlikely that he has died since he should be able to crush his Accumulative Point Jade in time."

"That's right! Only Zhou Hong Jie from the Profound Nether Mansion is capable of killing Senior Gongsun Jing. However, there are no changes in Zhou Hong Jie's points."

The disciples from the Azure Green Mansion thought that Gongsun Jing was only defeated; they did not think he had been killed.

"Hey, look!" one of the disciples suddenly cried out. He had been paying close attention to the scoreboard. "This person is ranked 93rd a moment ago, but now, he has shot up to the 52nd place!"

"Duan Ling Tian from the Profound Nether Mansion? He had only six points previously. He has a total of 19 points and rose to the 52nd place after Senior Gongsun Jing's name disappeared from the scoreboard..." another disciple said.

The entire place fell silent as soon as that disciple finished speaking.

Most of the disciples were familiar with Duan Ling Tian's name after Duan Ling Tian entered the top 100. Duan Ling Tian had caught their attention earlier due to his sudden rise on the scoreboard and also due to the fact that they had not heard of such a person from the Profound Nether Mansion. They assumed he had only entered the top 100 due to luck since they had never heard of him before. However, after seeing the changes in his ranking and Gongsun Jing's disappearance from the scoreboard, it was clear to them that he had defeated Gongsun Jing.

“Hey, do you think Senior Gongsun Jing is fine since he’s defeated by someone from the Profound Nether Mansion?”

“He should be fine... After all, among the Ten Directions Celestial Dukes under the age of 1,000 in the Profound Nether Mansion, only Zhou Hong Jie and another two disciples who have comprehended six and seven profundities respectively are capable of killing Senior Gongsun Jing.”

“The other two disciples are only slightly stronger than Senior Gongsun Jing so it’s unlikely that they’re able to kill him before he could even shatter his Accumulative Point Jade.”

“That’s right. I know their names; Duan Ling Tian certainly isn’t any one of them!”

“Is it possible that Zhou Hong Jie and the others used Duan Ling Tian to lure Senior Gongsun Jing out to kill him?”

“Impossible! Even if they use an ordinary disciple to lure Senior Gongsun Jing out and kill him, do you really think they’d give the points to an ordinary disciple?”

The disciples from the Azure Green Mansion discussed fervently among themselves.

“Let’s look for an elder to check if Senior Gongsun Jing’s Soul Pearl is still intact...” one disciple suggested loudly.

Upon hearing his words, a few disciples made a move to look for an elder.

Most of the disciples who remained continued to discuss among themselves.

A disciple scoffed before he said, “Even if Senior Gongsun Jing is defeated, it’s impossible that an unknown disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion is capable of killing him. Even Zhou Hong Jie might not be able to kill Senior Gongsun Jing unless he resorts to a sneak attack.”

“That’s right! Moreover, Senior Gongsun Jing will definitely shatter his Accumulative Point Jade as soon as he sees Zhou Hong Jie.”

These disciples who were confident that Gongsun Jing was still alive were shocked when the few disciples who had gone to look for an elder earlier returned, bearing the news of Gongsun Jing’s shattered Soul Pearl.

“How’s that possible?!”

“Impossible! Impossible!”

“How’s it possible that an unknown disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion is capable of killing Senior Gongsun Jing?”

As time passed, news of Gongsun Jing’s death spread like a wildfire through the Azure Green Mansion. Although he was just a Ten Directions Celestial Duke, he was one of the strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the Azure Green Mansion. As a regular fixture in the top 60s of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, he was more popular than some of the Celestial Kings in the mansion. For this reason, it was only natural that news of his death caused a commotion in the mansion.

“An unknown disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion called Duan Ling Tian killed Gongsun Jing?”

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Meanwhile, at the three sites of the Transporting Formations in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate.

Similar to the Azure Green Mansion, there was a huge commotion as well.

"Gongsun Jing from the Azure Green Mansion has been defeated?"

"Hey, it seems like his points are obtained by Duan Ling Tian, a new disciple of our mansion!"

"Duan Ling Tian isn't even 100 years old, but he's capable of defeating Gongsun Jing? How's that possible? Gongsun Jing has comprehended six profundities from the law of fire after all!"

"Duan Ling Tian rose to the 52nd place after Gongsun Jing's name disappeared from the scoreboard..."

"Previously, we said he managed to enter the top 100 due to luck... Don't tell me he got lucky again?"

"Perhaps, the Profound Nether Mansion did seek him out for help, and he somehow bribed his way up the rankings..."

"Bribed his way up? Do you think it's possible for someone from the Azure Green Mansion to be bribed into helping the Profound Nether Mansion?"

The disciples discussed among themselves heatedly when suddenly, a disciple used his Celestial Origin Energy to speak, drowning out everyone's voices. "Although the Profound Nether Mansion and the Azure Green Mansion have enmity, I have a childhood friend in the Azure Green Mansion whom I still keep in touch with. He just sent me a message saying Gongsun Jing is dead! Apparently, Duan Ling Tian had killed him! My friend even asked me when did such a strong disciple who's capable of killing Gongsun Jing appeared in our mansion..."

As soon as the disciple finished speaking, the entire place turned as silent as a graveyard.

A few disciples looked at the scoreboard. To be precise, they were looking at the name that was ranked 52nd.

"D-uan Ling Tian... killed Gongsun Jing?"

"We can't use Celestial Weapons, Celestial Pills, and Celestial Talismans in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. This means he can only rely on his Celestial Origin Energy, Soul Energy, and the profundities he has comprehended... Since he killed Gongsun Jing, doesn't this mean he's much stronger than Gongsun Jing?"

"How's that possible? He's not even 100 years old..."

"Where did Inspector Qi find such a monster?"

Duan Ling Tian's name began to spread like a wildfire in the Profound Nether Mansion as well. Since most of the disciples and elders had not heard of Duan Ling Tian's name before, they knew he had to be a new disciple. This also explained why Duan Ling Tian was only an outer court disciple despite his

monstrous strength. However, they were stunned when they later discovered he was not even 100 years old.

In the Profound Nether Mansion, apart from Qi Tian Ming who brought Duan Ling Tian here and the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion, there was another person who was familiar with Duan Ling Tian. That person was none other than Bihai Mingfeng, an inspector of the mansion like Qi Tian Ming.

“Duan Ling Tian? Inspector Qi sent Duan Ling Tian into the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm? Most importantly, Duan Ling Tian managed to kill Gongsun Jing and has risen to the 52nd place?”

After receiving news of this, Bihai Mingfeng did not waste time and went to look for Qi Tian Ming for answers.

“Senior Uncle Qi, what’s happening? Previously, when I met Duan Ling Tian at the entrance of the lower realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, he was only a peak Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. It wasn’t even that long ago, but now he’s capable of killing Gongsun Jing?” Bihai Mingfeng who rarely lost control of his emotions could hardly contain his curiosity. He could not figure out what was happening at all. How did someone who was just a peak Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial a few years ago achieve such a heaven-defying feat?!

Upon seeing Bihai Mingfeng’s curiosity, Qi Tian Ming knew Bihai Mingfeng would continue to persist until he obtained an answer. Therefore, he answered truthfully, “The Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit.”

“The Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit?!” Bihai Mingfeng’s eyes widened in shock. “So, the rumor that was circulating previously about peak Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials being tricked by a reincarnated Celestial Emperor to become sacrifices for the tree of Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit is true?” Since he did not hear about anyone from the Profound Nether Mansion’s territories being involved in that matter, he could not verify the rumor at that time. However, he did not doubt Qi Tian Ming’s words. After all, with the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit, it made sense now how Duan Ling Tian had gotten so strong in such a short time.

After Qi Tian Ming further explained the matter, Bihai Mingfeng was further shocked. “So he really went to the Jade Emperor Heaven because of that reincarnated Celestial Emperor? Moreover, Ling Jue Yun from the Cloud Platform Celestial Sect and Murong Xiao Xiao from the Murong clan had also gone to the Jade Emperor Heaven because of that reincarnated Celestial Emperor’s scheme?”

Qi Tian Ming nodded as he said, “That’s right... Unfortunately, Murong Xiao Xiao perished in the Jade Emperor Heaven. Duan Ling Tian and Ling Jue Yun obtained a Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit each. However, Ling Jue Yun decided to stay in the Jade Emperor Heaven. Since his Soul Pearl that’s left in the Cloud Platform Celestial Sect is still intact, he’s still alive.” After he had received a message from Sun Liang Peng, the Sect Leader of the Simplicity Celestial Sect, he had thoroughly investigated the matter. With his status, the Cloud Platform Celestial Sect and the Murong Clan were highly cooperative as well during the investigation.

Chapter 3134: Heng Feng

“How did they manage to obtain the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruits from the reincarnated Celestial Emperor?” Bihai Mingfeng found this hard to believe. A reincarnated Celestial Emperor might not be as strong as he was in his previous life, but since he was daring enough to trick so many people, it meant he was confident he had everything under his control. He should have successfully obtained the two Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruits. How did the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruits end up with Duan Ling Tian and Ling Jue Yun instead?

“I’m afraid only both of them have the answer to that question,” Qi Tian Ming replied.

Bihai Mingfeng’s eyes glinted as he speculated out loud, “Is it possible that one of them is the reincarnated Celestial Emperor?”

“This crossed my mind as well. However, after my investigation, I ruled out the possibility that Duan Ling Tian is the reincarnated Celestial Emperor. Moreover, since he had arrived in the Simplicity Celestial Sect, he had never left the sect’s estate. Therefore, it’s impossible for him to invite so many people to the Jade Emperor Heaven.”

“Those two lads are really mysterious...” Bihai Mingfeng said. After listening to Qi Tian Ming’s words, he knew his speculations could not be right. Nevertheless, he was still in shock. He did not expect the two young men he met at Scaling Cloud Lake would have such a heaven-defying fortuitous encounter within a few short years.

“Senior Uncle Qi, is it your intention to send Duan Ling Tian into the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm?” Bihai Mingfeng could not help but ask.

“No.” Qi Tian Ming shook his head. “The reason I brought Duan Ling Tian here was to recommend him for the position of Imperial Tutor.”

“You want him to take the Imperial Tutor Pavilion’s test? If he succeeds, he’ll become the first Imperial Tutor in the Profound Nether Mansion in 30,000 years!” Bihai Mingfeng thought it should be easy for Duan Ling Tian to become the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Sect based on Duan Ling Tian’s capabilities and his young age. Even in the Ten Major Clans and Top Five Sects, it would be difficult to find someone as talented as Duan Ling Tian.

Qi Tian Ming nodded as he said, “The Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion has already set the test for him...”

Bihai Mingfeng listened with rapt attention as Qi Tian Ming spoke. He was curious about the test that had been assigned to Duan Ling Tian.

“The test is Duan Ling Tian must rank first in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm for twelve consecutive times. If he succeeds, he’ll become the first Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion in 30,000 years!”

Bihai Mingfeng was stunned. Duan Ling Tian was not even 100 years old. Even the former Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion from 30,000 years ago would not be able to pass this test at Duan Ling Tian’s age.

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In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

“Gongsun Jing from the Azure Green Mansion ranked 69th with 13 points. Now that I have 19 points, I should be ranked in the top 60...” Duan Ling Tian had roughly memorized the names and rankings on the scoreboard before he entered the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Since he had just entered not too long ago, there should not be any huge changes on the scoreboard.

Unbeknownst to Duan Ling Tian, his appearance on the scoreboard had caused quite a stir. After all, the rankings had stagnated since it was almost the end of the month. With Duan Ling Tian’s sudden appearance, the scoreboard had undergone a huge change.

...

Over the next three days, Duan Ling Tian traveled boldly and openly across the different terrains. However, after traveling for three days, he still did not run into anyone.

“I can’t continue like this. Without opponents, how am I going to obtain more points?” Duan Ling Tian sighed. He knew the lack of opponents was not because people were hiding from him. He knew it was due to it being the end of the month.

After passing through another forested mountain, Duan Ling Tian’s eyes lit up. He saw a valley that looked familiar to him. “This valley resembles the Profound Nether Mansion’s base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm... Could this be the base of another grade-six Celestial Mansion?”

Just as Duan Ling Tian noticed the valley, Duan Ling Tian saw a figure shooting out from the valley. It seemed like the figure had noticed Duan Ling Tian’s presence as well.

The figure belonged to a tall and muscular man. He was topless so his muscles and sculpted body were exposed for everyone to see. Moreover, despite his size, his speed was rather fast as well. His eyes lit up as soon as he saw Duan Ling Tian flying toward him. As Duan Ling Tian drew closer, he saw the identity token hanging from Duan Ling Tian’s waist. “A disciple of the Profound Nether Mansion?”

Soon after, the man furrowed his eyebrows. “An outer disciple? Is he here to have a look at the middle realm? How did he manage to come so far out?” Based on his knowledge, the Profound Nether Mansion’s base was located rather far away from here. No matter how fast a Ten Directions Celestial Duke was, it would still take him a day and night to reach this place. Based on his calculations, it should take this outer disciple a few days to arrive at this place. How did this outer disciple manage to survive after traveling for so many days? Was he so lucky that he did not run into anyone at all?

“Martial Battle Mansion?” Duan Ling Tian saw the muscular man’s identity token as well when he finally came to a halt. Based on the man’s identity token, he was an inner disciple of the Martial Battle Mansion, and his name was Heng Feng.

‘Heng Feng...’ Duan Ling Tian went through the names he had seen on the scoreboard, but he did not remember seeing this name. This meant Heng Feng was not on the scoreboard. Naturally, he knew this did not necessarily mean that Heng Feng was weak. It could be that Heng Feng had entered the middle realm late and had not accumulated enough points to make it on the scoreboard. In the end, he looked at Heng Feng and asked, “Is that the Martial Battle Mansion’s base behind you?”

“That’s right.” Heng Feng nodded as a smile appeared on his face. He asked bluntly, “Lad, for an outer court disciple to make it this far, you’re really lucky. However, your lucky streak is about to come to an end. Do you want to surrender and shatter your Accumulative Point Jade or do you want me to beat the hell out of you before you shatter your Accumulative Point Jade?”

In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, people seldom kill each other unless they had a deep grudge like the Profound Nether Mansion and the Azure Green Mansion. Naturally, there were some bloodthirsty people who would kill indiscriminately. However, those people were relatively few and far in between. Heng Feng was not one of those bloodthirsty men.

“Please go ahead and beat the hell out of me then.” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes flashed.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words, Heng Feng was dumbfounded. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian’s would choose the latter option. He asked in a low voice, “Lad, have you not heard of me?”

“I have not.” Duan Ling Tian shrugged.

Heng Feng’s face flushed red. He was a regular fixture in the top 50. Almost everyone who paid attention to the scoreboards knew him. Since he had just come out from his closed-door cultivation today, he was late in entering the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. He did not expect the first person he met today was a foolish young man who clearly did not pay attention to the scoreboards.

‘Forget it... Why should I make a fuss about this matter? He’s just an outer court disciple of the Profound Nether Mansion. It’s not strange that an outer court disciple doesn’t pay any attention to the rankings of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.’ With this thought in mind, he no longer wasted time and advanced toward Duan Ling Tian.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

A loud drumming noise would ring in the air with every single step Heng Feng took. At the same time, a mustard light appeared on his body. As he drew closer to Duan Ling Tian, it seemed like the light had turned into rocks. The rocks protected him like armor.

As soon as the rock armor appeared, Heng Feng’s aura turned formidable. Even Duan Ling Tian felt a slight pressure from the aura.

“Rock Style Profundity?” Based on the mustard light, Duan Ling Tian could tell it was the Rock Style Profundity from the law of earth. After all, the law of earth was the first law that Duan Ling Tian had comprehended. Although he did not comprehend the Rock Style Profundity, he had read about the law of earth. Similar to the Metal Style Profundity and the Fire Style Profundity, the Rock Style Profundity would greatly boost one’s strength and one’s defenses!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

As He Feng was almost upon Duan Ling Tian, Heng Feng extended his hand, and his Celestial Origin Energy that had been boosted with the Earth Elemental Profundity shot out, looking like beams of lights. The beams of lights eventually transformed into rock pillars that imprisoned Duan Ling Tian.

In just an instant, Duan Ling Tian could feel a huge pressure pressing down on him. He narrowed his eyes as a faint smile appeared on his face. "Gravitational Space Profundity!"

Chapter 3135: The Six Profundities of the Law of Earth

Duan Ling Tian was rather familiar with the Gravitational Space Profundity, therefore, he knew its weaknesses as well.

"Distortion Profundity!" Faced with the mounting pressure and the constantly shrinking cage around him, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as he mobilized his Celestial Origin Energy through his 99 Heavenly Veins. When his Celestial Origin was boosted by the Space Elemental Profundity after it surged out of his body, he quickly cast the Distortion Profundity. Due to his 99 Heavenly Veins, his speed when he mobilized his Celestial Origin Energy was extremely swift. Ordinary cultivators could not hope to compare with him at all.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The space around Duan Ling Tian began to ripple and distort in just an instant. The immense pressure that was bearing down on him earlier suddenly vanished without a trace now that the Distortion Profundity had nullified the Gravitational Space Profundity's effect. With the Distortion Profundity, he was immune from most energy attacks.

When the cage shrank until the four sides were only seven or eight meters away from Duan Ling Tian, he quickly cast the Territory Profundity. The combination of the Territory Profundity and the Distortion Profundity began to wreak havoc on the cage, clearly trying to destroy the cage.

'He's a Ten Directions Celestial Duke! Aren't these two profundities the Distortion Profundity and the Territory Profundity from the law of space?' Heng Feng was stronger than Gongsun Jing, the person whom Duan Ling Tian killed. Therefore, he was more discerning compared to Gongsun Jing. Based on Duan Ling Tian's Celestial Origin Energy, he quickly discovered Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base. Apart from that, it was easy for him to identify the two profundities Duan Ling Tian had cast. With these revelations, his expression turned grim immediately.

"Shake Profundity!" A mustard energy rose and shrouded the Gravitational Space Profundity's cage, causing the cage to quake. Its effect was somewhat similar to the law of space's Distortion Profundity. Alas, Heng Feng had cast the Shake Profundity too late. Before the Shake Profundity's full power took effect, it was suppressed by Duan Ling Tian's Territory Profundity and Distortion Profundity.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

A series of loud explosions rang in the air as the cage created by Heng Feng's Gravitational Space Profundity was reduced to dust in just a blink of an eye. However, in just a matter of seconds, the dust seemed to converge before they formed a cage again. Just like earlier, the cage continued to shrink.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes glinted upon seeing this. A faint smile appeared on his face as he thought to himself, 'The Recovery Profundity... How interesting.'

Indeed, Heng Feng managed to reconstruct his cage by casting the law of earth's Recovery Profundity. The Recovery Profundity allowed its user to replenish Celestial Origin Energy that had been boosted with the Earth Elemental Profundity and restore any structure that was created using the law of earth. Therefore, it was easy for Heng Feng to use the Recovery Profundity to reconstruct the cage that the Gravitational Space Profundity manifested.

With this, Heng Feng, the inner disciple of the Martial Battle Mansion, had cast five profundities from the law of earth so far: the Earth Elemental Profundity, the Rock Style Profundity, the Gravitational Space Profundity, the Shake Profundity, and the Recovery Profundity.

"I, Heng Feng, have underestimated you... I didn't expect an outer court disciple to possess such strength!" Heng Feng's loud and energetic voice rang in the air. "However, if this is the extent of your strength, I advise you to crush your Accumulative Point Jade!"

As soon as Heng Feng finished speaking, the cage shrank at an even faster speed.

At this moment, the Shake Profundity had almost reached its full power as well. Its resistance against Duan Ling Tian's Distortion Profundity and Territory Profundity grew stronger as well. After all, just like how Duan Ling Tian's Distortion Profundity was boosted by the Territory Profundity, Heng Feng's Shake Profundity was boosted by the Gravitational Space Profundity and the Rock Style Profundity.

"Teleportation Profundity!" Duan Ling Tian vanished into thin air in just a blink of an eye.

Heng Feng's eyes narrowed upon seeing this.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian reappeared behind Heng Feng. His eyes flashed coldly before energy surged out and shrouded Heng Feng, imprisoning Heng Feng. He had cast the law of space's Restraining Profundity.

He did not waste any time before he cast another two profundities from the law of space. "Territory Profundity! Distortion Profundity!"

With this, a formidable and seemingly peerless energy swept out toward Heng Feng. It seemed capable of destroying everything in its path.

Everything had happened so quickly that Heng Feng barely had time to process everything. As he was restrained by the Restraining Profundity, a layer of crystal had appeared above his rock armor. He had cast the Crystal Barrier Profundity! It was the main defensive profundity from the law of earth. At the critical moment, he had cast the sixth profundity from the law of earth. Currently, his strength far surpassed Gongsun Jing, the inner disciple from the Azure Green Mansion.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

When Duan Ling Tian's wave of energy swept over Heng Feng, it shattered the layer of crystal wrapped around his rock armor. However, the remaining force from the energy only managed to leave cracks on Heng Feng's armor.

Heng Feng spat a mouthful of blood before he quickly regained his composure. A powerful energy surged out of his body again; it was the Gravitational Space Profundity. Combined with the Shake Profundity, the restraining space Duan Ling Tian had created began to quake.

At this moment, the two opponents' energies collided.

"Recovery Profundity!" After Heng Feng cast the Recovery Profundity, not only did the layer of crystal reappear and the cracks on the armor disappear, but his Celestial Origin Energy that had been boosted by the Earth Elemental Profundity grew stronger as well.

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian had fallen into a disadvantageous position.

"The Space Elemental Profundity, the Distortion Profundity, the Territory Profundity, the Restraining Profundity, and the Teleportation Profundity... Since when did the Profound Nether Mansion have a Ten Directions Celestial Duke like you?" Although Heng Feng had gained the upper hand, his expression remained grim. He found it strange that he had never heard of such a person from the Profound Nether Mansion. For someone with Duan Ling Tian's strength and achievements, he should be quite famous. After all, Duan Ling Tian had comprehended one of the Four Supreme Laws, the law of space. The Four Supreme Laws were notoriously difficult to comprehend. For example, comprehending five profundities from the law of space was as difficult as comprehending seven or eight profundities from an ordinary law.

At this moment, Heng Feng dismissed his intention of making Duan Ling Tian crush his Accumulative Point Jade. After discovering Duan Ling Tian had comprehended the law of space's Teleportation Profundity, he knew it would be impossible for him to catch Duan Ling Tian. As long as Duan Ling Tian's opponent was not someone who had comprehended the law of wind's Gale Profundity or other movement profundities to a higher level, Duan Ling Tian would be able to escape from most people.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Heng Feng was staring at Duan Ling Tian solemnly when a few figures flew out from the Martial Battle Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

"Senior Heng Feng?"

"Who's that? He's equally matched with Senior Heng Feng!"

"Are my eyes tricking me? He's... he's an outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion?"

"What? How's it possible that an outer court disciple is capable of standing on even ground with Senior Heng Feng?"

These disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion were drawn here by the huge commotion from Duan Ling Tian and Heng Feng's fight. Although Duan Ling Tian and Heng Feng had exchanged quite a few blows now, the fact was only a short time had passed.

A hint of surprise flashed in Duan Ling Tian's eyes as he said, "I didn't expect you to have comprehended six profundities from the law of earth as well."

Duan Ling Tian ignored the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion as he fell deep into thoughts. Heng Feng's strength was comparable to Gongsun Jing. In fact, if both of them fought, it was likely that Gongsun Jing would lose to Heng Feng. However, if Gongsun Jing tried to escape, Heng Feng might not be able to catch up since speed was not the law of earth's forte.

“He said that Senior Heng Feng has comprehended six profundities from the law of earth... Don’t tell me Senior Feng had to use all six profundities from the law of earth that he has comprehended to deal with this person?”

“That might not be the case... Don’t forget Senior Heng Feng is quite famous among those who enter the middle realm. This person could’ve heard about Senior Heng Feng comprehending six profundities from the law of earth.”

Upon hearing these words, an observant disciple from the Martial Battle Mansion scoffed before he said, “Can’t any of you tell that Senior Heng Feng had cast six profundities from the law of earth?”

At this moment, Heng Feng said in his low voice, “Why don’t you leave since you’ve comprehended the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity? It’s impossible for me to catch you anyway.”

Upon hearing Heng Feng’s words, the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion were stunned.

Teleportation Profundity?

Not only did this outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion force Heng Feng to cast six profundities from the law of earth, but he had also comprehended the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity?

Chapter 3136: The Devil’s Smile

“You can’t catch me, but it doesn’t mean I can’t catch you!” Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes upon hearing Heng Feng’s words.

Then, the Space Energy in the confines created by the Territory Profundity began to surge and rage as though it was a prelude to something bigger. In just a few moments, a crack in the void appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian.

Upon seeing this, the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion gasped in shock.

“That... Is that a spatial tear?!”

“Heavens! He managed to tear the void open? He’s so powerful?”

“It’s not that. He didn’t tear the void open with his strength. It’s from the law of space’s Cross-Dimensional Space Profundity!”

In just a moment, a grey sword ray shot out of the spatial tear. Its aura was so formidable that it eclipsed everything in its surroundings. When it appeared, the law of space’s profundities boosted its strength, causing it to shine brilliantly. With that, its aura turned even more terrifying as it cut across the sky.

Although the attack was not aimed at them, the disciples from the Martial Mansion Battle could not help but shiver when they saw the attack.

“It is so powerful!”

“How terrifying!”

“So is this the law of space’s Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity? It’s the main offensive profundity from the law of space, right?”

Since the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion disciples could sense the terrifying power of the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity, Heng Feng who was the target of the attack, naturally, felt the terrifying power from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity even more acutely. He quickly cast the law of earth’s Rock Style Profundity, Crystal Barrier Profundity, and the other profundities in an attempt to stop the attack that was shooting toward him. Nevertheless, the feeling of danger that rose in his heart did not abate. Under these circumstances, he cast another profundity from the law of earth that he had barely comprehended. “Defense Profundity!”

Numerous mustard runes appeared around Heng Feng in just an instant. However, the runes were faint and their lights were dim. It did not look like much of a defense.

The disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion continued to watch with bated breath. They could tell Heng Feng was not holding back at all.

“Senior Brother Heng Feng even had to cast the law of earth’s Defense Profundity that he had barely comprehended.”

Boom!

Faced with the terrifying Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity, Heng Feng had cast all the profundities in his arsenal. He even combined the strength of the Shake Profundity and the Gravitational Space Profundity to form a shield in front of him to stop the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity. At the same time, he tried to attack with his defenses. Celestial Origin Energy continued to surge out of his body to maintain his defenses and attacks. At this moment, it seemed as though he was cornered.

‘So he has begun to comprehend the seventh profundity from the law of earth, the Defense Profundity?’ Apart from the faint smile on his face, Duan Ling Tian’s expression remained indifferent. ‘If he has comprehended the Defense Profundity to the rudimentary stage, he might be able to stop my Cross-Dimensional Slash by boosting it with his other profundities... Alas, a barely comprehended profundity isn’t enough to stop me.’

Bzzzt! Bzzzt! Bzzzt!

As though proving Duan Ling Tian right, the attack sailed in the air, easily destroying Heng Feng’s attack before it continued shooting toward Heng Feng. As it traveled, its strength seemed to deplete. However, it was quickly replenished by Duan Ling Tian’s Celestial Origin Energy. With his 99 Heavenly Veins, it was easy for him to maintain the attack’s energy. There was no doubt ordinary people would not be able to replenish the energy of their attacks so quickly.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash continued on its destructive path toward Heng Feng as terrifying sword cries rang in his ears. Although he had erected his defenses with all his strength, he was not certain if his defenses would hold. The Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity was too powerful, after all. It was truly deserving of being one of the Four Supreme Laws. Someone who had comprehended six

profundities from the law of space might actually defeat him even though he had comprehended six profundities from the law of earth and was in the process of comprehending the seventh profundity. Moreover, he did not hold back and had attacked and defended with all his might. It was a fair fight. It should be noted that in terms of defense, the law of earth was superior to the law of space even if the law of space was one of the Four Supreme Laws. Nevertheless, his instincts told him that the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity would be able to breach his defenses, injuring or even killing him. As the attack drew closer and closer, his feelings intensified! Chills ran up his spine as he watched helplessly.

“No!” Faced with a life-or-death situation, Heng Feng could no longer remain calm. His aura fluctuated violently in response to his emotions. However, all of a sudden, he felt as though he had been doused with a bucket of cold water; it was as though he had been enlightened! The things he could not understand about the law of earth’s Defense Profundity in the past suddenly cleared up as though he had been given answers.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Just as the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity was about to land on the shield and the mustard runes around Heng Feng, the dim runes suddenly brightened and looked more solid. The runes that seemed hopelessly inadequate to stop Duan Ling Tian’s attack just a moment ago successfully resisted the attack.

‘Under the crushing pressure of my attack, he managed to break through and comprehend the law of earth’s Defense Profundity?’ Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel surprised when he realized what had happened.

‘Well, it doesn’t matter if you’ve comprehended the law of earth’s Defense Profundity. Since the Defense Profundity isn’t on your body, I can easily avoid the Defense Profundity by sending the attack behind it!’ With this thought in mind, the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity that was at a stalemate with the Defense Profundity suddenly vanished. Then, the attack reappeared behind Heng Feng and continued to shoot toward Heng Feng.

With this, the Defense Profundity was rendered useless.

Heng Feng’s expression changed drastically upon seeing this. A hint of desperation could be seen in the depths of his eyes. He did not have time to move his Defense Profundity now. “How’s this possible?!”

At this moment, the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity landed on Heng Feng’s rock armor. It pressed against the layer of crystal and the rock armor for a moment before cutting them open like tofu. Nevertheless, the law of earth’s Crystal Barrier Profundity seemed to have done its job. Its momentary resistance managed to exhaust at least half of the attack’s power. After all, the Crystal Barrier Profundity had been boosted by the Rock Style Profundity. Although the Rock Style Profundity was not a defensive profundity, it could boost Heng Feng’s defenses.

Regardless, Heng Feng’s face turned deathly pale as he looked at the attack that was about to land on him after cutting through the layer of crystal and his rock armor. He closed his eyes in despair, knowing he was powerless to turn the tide of the battle. ‘I didn’t expect to die in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm...’

After a moment, Heng Feng opened his eyes in confusion. The death he had been expecting did not come for him... Although he could feel an icy aura and burning pain on his chest, he discovered the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity had disappeared.

Bzzzt!

A crisp sword cry rang in the air before the attack disappeared.

With this, realization dawned on Heng Feng. It seemed like the outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion had shown mercy. He turned to look at Duan Ling Tian and said, "Thank you for showing mercy."

Those who had never had a close brush with death would never understand Heng Feng's feelings at this moment. He had one foot in his grave and had expected to die when he suddenly discovered he was saved. It was hard to put that feeling into words.

Duan Ling Tian said indifferently, "Even when you thought you'd be victorious, you have no intention of killing me. Therefore, there's no reason for me to kill you. Will you hand over your points now?"

It would have been easy for Duan Ling Tian to kill Heng Feng earlier with the profundities from the law of space that he had comprehended. However, he knew Heng Feng had no intention of killing him at all. It was only natural that he would spare Heng Feng's life. If Heng Feng had been vicious and intended to kill him, he would not have shown mercy.

"Of course." Heng Feng, whose back was drenched in cold sweat, quickly brought out his Accumulative Point Jade. At the same time, he was glad he was not someone who killed indiscriminately. Otherwise, he would have died. Before he crushed his Accumulative Point Jade, he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said earnestly, "No matter what, I owe you one. If there's a chance in the future, I'll definitely repay this favor."

As Heng Feng was sent out by the Transporting Formation on his Accumulative Point Jade, the points in Duan Ling Tian's Accumulative Point Jade increased by one. With this, he now had 20 points.

"He just entered the middle realm?" Duan Ling Tian felt speechless upon seeing the one point he gained from defeating Heng Feng. He knew Heng Feng had just entered the middle realm since even Gongsun Jing who was weaker than Heng Feng had given him thirteen points. He shook his head; there was nothing he could do about it. Nobody forced him to fight Heng Feng as soon as Heng Feng entered the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

"Hm?" Duan Ling Tian's eyebrows rose all of a sudden as though he had sensed something.

Whoosh!

In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian vanished into thin air before he appeared more than 100 meters away, barring the path of the other disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion who were returning to their base.

"Since all of you are here, why are you rushing back in?" Duan Ling Tian said with a faint smile on his face as he looked at the group of disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion. His smile was like the spring

breeze, but in the eyes of the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion, it looked like the devil's smile, sending chills running up their spines.

Chapter 3137: Entering the Top 50

In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, every grade-six Celestial Mansion had its own base. The identity token and Accumulative Point Jade one carried would only grant one entry to the corresponding base. There was no way for outsiders to enter another mansion's base. If one tried to enter by force, it would trigger the base's defensive Formation that was set up by the mansion's Celestial Lord. Needless to say, it was not a Formation that Ten Directions Celestial Dukes were capable of breaching.

If this group of disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion stayed in their base, it would be impossible for Duan Ling Tian to get to them no matter how strong he was. Alas, they had left the base earlier to watch Duan Ling Tian and Heng Feng's fight. They were returning to the base after Heng Feng was defeated by Duan Ling Tian. Who knew Duan Ling Tian would bar their way as soon as they turned around.

During the fight earlier, they had witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength. Even Heng Feng who had comprehended six profundities from the law of earth was no match for Duan Ling Tian. Most importantly, even after Heng Feng had comprehended the seventh profundity at the crucial moment, Heng Feng was still no match for Duan Ling Tian. They were shocked when they witnessed this earlier. After all, not a single one of them was a match for Heng Feng when Heng Feng had only comprehended six profundities from the law of earth, let alone now that he had comprehended seven profundities from the law of earth. How could they have any intention of going against Duan Ling Tian who was clearly stronger than Heng Feng?

A Martial Battle Mansion disciple knew he would not be able to get past Duan Ling Tian so he easily surrendered. Before he crushed his Accumulative Point Jade, he could not help but ask, "Duan Ling Tian, I'm willing to surrender my points. If it's okay, can I ask if you're really just an outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion?"

The other disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion shifted their eyes to Duan Ling Tian in unison, curious about his answer.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Upon receiving Duan Ling Tian's confirmation, some of the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion could not help but curse out loud.

"Is everyone in the Profound Nether Mansion blind? How can they make someone like you an outer court disciple?"

"Duan Ling Tian, why don't you leave the Profound Nether Mansion and join our Martial Battle Mansion? My father is the Vice Mansion Master of the Martial Battle Mansion so I'll ask him to grant you entry into the Martial Battle Mansion! Moreover, I can promise you that once you join our mansion, you'll become a core disciple of our mansion!" It was clear this disciple was trying to poach Duan Ling Tian from the Profound Nether Mansion.

Upon hearing these words, the other disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian with bright eyes, clearly anticipating his answer. After all, if Duan Ling Tian joined the Martial Battle Mansion, they would have another top contender in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm! Apart from that, they would have bragging rights over disciples from other grade-six Celestial Mansions as well.

“I just joined the Profound Nether Mansion a few days ago,” Duan Ling Tian said with a shrug, “Thank you for your offer, but I wouldn’t be leaving the Profound Nether Mansion!”

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words, some of them wanted to persuade Duan Ling Tian. However, they dismissed that idea in the end since they could see the determination in the depths of his eyes. Even if they continued to persuade him, they knew it would only be futile.

Before crushing the Accumulative Point Jade in his hand, the son of the Vice Mansion Master of the Martial Battle Mansion murmured wistfully, “The Profound Nether Mansion is really lucky...”

With this, the points in Duan Ling Tian’s Accumulative Point Jade rose again.

“29 points?” Duan Ling Tian was pleasantly surprised by the points he just obtained. He did not expect this Martial Battle Mansion disciple to have accumulated nine points. After all, it was not an easy feat to gain nine points for most people.

‘With nine points, he should be ranked on the scoreboard. I remember there were two people with nine points on the scoreboard. One of them is from the Martial Battle Mansion; I think his name is Liu Xiao Zhou?’ Duan Ling Tian recalled the name of the disciple from Martial Battle Mansion who had nine points. Before he entered the middle realm, Liu Xiao Zhou was ranked 78th on the scoreboard, ahead of the other person who had nine points. This meant that Liu Xiao Zhao had obtained nine points first before the other person.

When he regained his senses, he discovered the disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion were looking at him with a bitter smile on their faces.

Even when Duan Ling Tian was distracted, no one tried to escape. None of them dared to draw attention to themselves. Based on the situation, if they did not escape, at most, they would have to surrender their points. It did not matter much to them since most of them were ranked after the 100th place. This meant they would not be rewarded by the Martial Battle Mansion anyway.

All the grade-six Celestial Mansions would reward disciples with good rankings even if it was not an official thing. Even those who ranked after the 20th place would be rewarded. Naturally, those who were ranked in the top 20 would be rewarded greatly and received preferential treatment.

The disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion knew if they tried to escape, they would most likely fail. At that time, they would anger the person in front of them. Who knew if he would kill or injure them? For the sake of their lives, they, naturally, dared not act recklessly. Therefore, they did not put up a fight as they crushed their Accumulative Point Jades one after another.

With this, Duan Ling Tian’s points increased swiftly to 41 points.

At the same time, the group of Martial Battle Mansion disciples disappeared in front of Duan Ling Tian after they were transported out of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

‘Based on what I remember, 41 points should put me at 45th place!’ Duan Ling Tian remembered the person who was at the 44th place had 50 points while the person formerly at the 45th place had 36 points. With 41 points, he, naturally, took the place of the person with 36 points.

The higher one ranked on the scoreboard of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, the bigger the gap between the points would be. For example, when Duan Ling Tian had six points, he was ranked 93rd. When he had 19 points, he was ranked 52nd. Now that he had 41 points, he was merely ranked 45th. His points had doubled, but he only rose a few places on the scoreboard.

Before entering, Duan Ling Tian was surprised to see the point distribution.

The 50th place was like a line that divided one group from the other. The difference in points among those who ranked in the top 50 had a difference of at least three points even if they were ranked next to each other. On the other hand, those who ranked after the 50th place did not have such a wide gap between their points.

‘Those in the top 50 must have comprehended six profundities from a law and in the process of comprehending the seventh one, at the very least. They could probably be considered as the cream of the crop and should be able to hold their own against most people in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, ‘Previously, it would’ve been difficult for Heng Feng to rank in the top 50. However, with his current strength, it shouldn’t be too difficult for him to rank in the top 50 next month.’ Although he thought Heng Feng had a good chance of entering the top 50, he was not completely certain. After all, Heng Feng had comprehended the law of earth. Even if Heng Feng had comprehended seven profundities from the law of earth, speed was his shortcoming. This meant that even those who had only comprehended two profundities from the law of wind, with one of them being the Gale Profundity or another movement profundity, should be able to escape from Heng Feng as long as they did not act recklessly.

‘Well, Heng Feng could join forces with another person. The other person doesn’t have to be strong as long as he or she is fast. At that time, his partner could stop others from escaping as he strikes. With this, it’d be easier for him to enter the top 50.’

...

In the Martial Battle Mansion’s estate.

Similar to the grade-six Profound Nether Mansion, the Martial Battle Mansion had a few Transporting Formations that led to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm as well.

When Heng Feng appeared in the Transportation Formation in a miserable state, he naturally drew the attention of the person in charge.

“Heng Feng, are you injured?”

When the Martial Battle Mansion elders and disciples saw the one-inch-deep wound on his chest, they exclaimed in shock.

Heng Feng comprehended the law of earth. He was known in the Martial Battle Mansion for having the best defenses among those who were below Celestial Kings. How could they not be shocked when they saw him injured and eliminated from the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm? Since he was injured, it was clear to them that someone had managed to breach his defenses.

“Heng Feng, who breached your defenses?” one of the Martial Battle Mansion elders asked in shock, “Was it the Green Spirit Mansion’s Leng Yun You or the Han Qing Mansion’s Liu Ji?” He knew there were not more than thirty Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in various grade-six Celestial Mansions who were capable of breaching Heng Feng’s defenses. Based on the recent changes on the scoreboard, only the Green Spirit Mansion’s Leng Yun You and the Han Qing Mansion’s Liu Ji who were capable of breaching Heng Feng’s defenses were still in the middle realm.

“Neither.” Heng Feng shook his head. At the same time, he looked at the scoreboard and saw a name rose and entered the top 50. A bitter smile appeared on his face as he thought to himself, “It seems like the other didn’t make it back to the base in time.”

Soon enough, another figure appeared in the Transportation Formation, it was the Martial Battle Mansion disciple who had crushed his Accumulative Point Jade after Heng Feng.

The elder who had spoken to Heng Feng earlier widened his eyes in shock. “Xiao Zhou, w-why are you here as well?”

Meanwhile, Liu Xiao Zhou’s name disappeared from the scoreboard.

Chapter 3138: Famous in the Martial Battle Mansion

Liu Xiao Zhou is the son of a Vice Mansion Master of the Martial Battle Mansion. Although he was not as strong as Heng Feng, he was someone who had comprehended five profundities from the law of metal and was in the process of comprehending the sixth profundity. His highest rank on the scoreboard of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm was 69th place. It was incredibly rare for a Ten Directions Celestial Duke who had merely comprehended five profundities from a law to make it into the top 70. This could be attributed to him comprehending the law of metal as well. If he were to comprehend the law of earth, he would not even make it to the top 80, let alone the top 70.

Previously, everyone present on the scene saw Liu Xiao Zhou’s name at the 78th place. They knew, based on his strength, he could still rise in ranks. In fact, many of them were looking forward to it. Who knew he would be eliminated right after Heng Feng? Moreover, both of them were eliminated back to back.

“I didn’t even bother fighting that person who defeated Senior Brother Heng; I surrendered immediately.” Liu Xiao Zhou shrugged in response to the elder’s question.

Silence descended on the place as soon as Liu Xiao Zhou finished speaking.

After a few moments, the elder who had spoken earlier asked again, “You mean you’re also eliminated by the person who breached Heng Feng’s defenses?”

Whoosh! Whoosh!

As soon as the elder finished speaking, two more figures appeared after they were eliminated from the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

“Two more people are eliminated? At this point, our Martial Battle Mansion only has roughly 10 people left in the middle realm, right?”

In less than 15 minutes, four people were eliminated from the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. This was rare in the Martial Battle Mansion.

“Were the both of you eliminated by the same person who eliminated Heng Feng and Xiao Zhou?” The Martial Battle Mansion elder looked at the two Martial Battle Mansion disciples who had just been eliminated with a shocked expression on his face. The intervals between these four disciples’ eliminations were too short so he knew it could not be a coincidence.

“Yes.”

The Martial Battle Mansion elders and disciples looked at the two disciples in shock.

One of them nodded and said with a bitter smile on his face, “There are another seven who were also eliminated. They might have been transported to the other Transportation Formations in the estate since they didn’t show up here...”

The entire place was as silent as a graveyard.

There were another seven disciples who were eliminated as well? In other words, within 15 minutes, 11 disciples, including Heng Feng and Liu Xiao Zhou, were eliminated? Most importantly, they were all eliminated by the same person?

“With this, he managed to enter the top 50,” Liu Xiao Zhou said with a bitter smile on his face as he looked at the scoreboard.

Upon hearing Liu Xiao Zhou’s words, the group of Martial Battle Mansion elders and disciples turned to look at the scoreboard as well. It did not take long before their eyes found the name in the 45th place. They were keeping an eye on the top 50 rankings earlier so it was easy for them to discover the new name that had just appeared.

One Martial Battle Mansion disciple said, “This name seemed to have 19 points earlier. He was ranked 52nd. He’s from the Profound Nether Mansion, but I’ve never heard of his name before this.”

“I’ve never heard of him as well.”

“Duan Ling Tian? When did the Profound Nether Mansion have such a disciple?”

“Is he the Profound Nether Mansion’s secret trump card?”

Most of the elders and disciples had learned that Duan Ling Tian was from the Profound Nether Mansion, and he was the one who had defeated Heng Feng and eliminated Liu Xiao Zhou and the others. Since he was capable of breaching Heng Feng’s defenses and defeating Heng Feng, did this not mean he could easily rank in the top 30?

“Were all of you... Did he eliminate all of you by himself?” the Martial Battle Mansion elder asked again. He found the entire matter hard to believe. Initially, he had assumed the Green Spirit Mansion’s Leng Yun You or the Han Wing Mansion’s Liu Qi had defeated Heng Feng since the duo were the only ones left in the middle realm at this time who were capable of defeating Heng Feng. When Heng Feng denied it and said it was someone from the Profound Nether Mansion, he was shocked. He grew even more shocked when Liu Xiao Zhao and the others said they were also eliminated by the same person.

“It’s no surprise we haven’t heard of him... He told me he just joined the Profound Nether Mansion a few days ago. Based on his identity token, he’s only an outer court disciple in the Profound Nether Mansion,” Liu Xiao Zhou said, “I suspect the Profound Nether Mansion sought help from him. Moreover, he probably has an extraordinary background.”

After Liu Xiao Zhou crushed his Accumulative Point Jade, he was bold enough to probe Duan Ling Tian with his Divine Consciousness, making a shocking discovery. Duan Ling Tian was not even 100 years old! What kind of person who was less than 100 years old could defeat Heng Feng who had comprehended seven profundities from the law of earth? If he did not probe Duan Ling Tian with his Divine Consciousness, he would not have believed it if he had heard it from someone else. For this reason, he did not plan on telling anyone about his shocking discovery. After all, what was the point of mentioning it when he knew no one would believe him?

“He just joined the Profound Nether Mansion a few days ago as an outer court disciple? Heng Feng, what law did he comprehend? Since he managed to breach your defenses, it has to be one of the offensive laws... Moreover, he must have comprehended seven profundities, at least, right?” the Martial Battle Mansion elder asked curiously.

Everyone, including Liu Xiao Zhou, shifted their gaze to Heng Feng.

Although Liu Xiao Zhou knew Duan Ling Tian had comprehended the law of space, he did not know how many profundities Duan Ling Tian had comprehended. Moreover, he was not familiar with the law of space.

“I’m not sure how many profundities he comprehended, but he used seven profundities to defeat me,” Heng Feng replied. He had noted Duan Ling Tian had used six profundities from the law of space during their fight.

When he fought the Profound Nether Mansion’s outer court disciple Duan Ling Tian, he noted that Duan Ling Tian had used six types of law of space profundities. When Duan Ling Tian’s Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity forced him into a life-or-death situation, he managed to comprehend the Defense Profundity. At that time, he had thought he would be able to resist Duan Ling Tian’s attack. Alas, he did not expect Duan Ling Tian to use the Transportation Formation to transport the attack to another location. With that, his Defense Profundity was rendered useless.

The elder was aware of Heng Feng’s strength. Therefore, he quickly came to a conclusion. “He used seven profundities? No wonder you lost... Those who comprehend offensive laws such as the law of wind, the law of metal, the law of fire, the law of thunder, or the law of destruction could easily breach your defenses especially when they have comprehended one profundity more than you.”

Before Heng Feng could reply, Liu Xiao Zhou interjected, "Elder Yun, Senior Brother Heng Feng's defenses were breached after he comprehended the Defense Profundity."

"What?!" Liu Xiao Zhou's words thoroughly stunned the elder. "Heng Feng has comprehended the Defense Profundity?" Based on what he knew, Heng Feng had only comprehended six profundities from the law of earth and was in the process of comprehending the Defense Profundity.

"Heng Feng..." The elder turned to look at Heng Feng for confirmation.

"That's right." Heng Feng nodded. "Actually, I have to thank him for that... When we were fighting, I was pushed into a life-or-death situation. For that reason, I managed to comprehend the Defense Profundity. It was only after I comprehended the Defense Profundity that he used his seventh profundity. Otherwise, he would've been able to defeat me with six profundities!" He felt chills running up his spine when he recalled Duan Ling Tian's formidable attack.

"He would only need six profundities to defeat you if you didn't comprehend the Defense Profundity? Even after you comprehended the Defense Profundity, he still managed to defeat you by casting his seventh profundity?" The Martial Battle Mansion's elder widened in shock as he inhaled sharply.

The other Martial Battle Mansion elders and disciples who were aware of Heng Feng's strength were similarly shocked.

Another elder asked solemnly, "Did he... Did he comprehend one of the Four Supreme Laws?" In his opinion, even if someone had comprehended offensive laws such as the law of wind, the law of metal, the law of fire, the law of thunder, or the law of destruction, it would still be difficult to breach Heng Feng's defenses after Heng Feng had comprehended the seventh profundity. Moreover, with the seventh profundity, Heng Feng had comprehended the two main defensive profundities from the law of earth. Moreover, the Rock Style Profundity would boost Heng Feng's defenses. Therefore, he speculated that Heng Feng's opponent had comprehended one of the Four Supreme Laws.

Chapter 3139: The Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion

It went without saying that the Four Supreme Laws were mysterious and powerful. Not all four laws were offensive laws, but their inherent superiority could easily breach the law of earth's defenses. For this reason, the Martial Battle Mansion elder came to that conclusion.

"You're right, Elder Liu. He has comprehended the law of space, one of the Four Supreme Laws," Liu Xiao Zhou replied.

"The law of space!"

As soon as Liu Xiao Zhou finished speaking, everyone, apart from those who had just arrived from the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, was stunned.

'A Ten Directions Celestial Duke who has comprehended seven profundities from the law of space? Moreover, he's less than 1,000 years old! Where did the Profound Nether Mansion find such a monstrous talent?'

'If all of you know that Duan Ling Tian is not even 100 years old, all of you would be even more shocked,' Liu Xiao Zhou thought to himself as he looked at the reactions of the Martial Battle Mansion elders and disciples. After that, he sent his father a message. Others might doubt him if he revealed Duan Ling Tian's age, but his father was, naturally, different.

"The Profound Nether Mansion's outer court disciple, Duan Ling Tian, is a Ten Directions Celestial Duke even though he's not even 100 years old? Most importantly, he has comprehended seven profundities from the law of space?" Liu Xiao Zhou's father, one of the Vice Mansion Masters of the Martial Battle Mansion, was shocked upon receiving his son's message.

"Father, do you think... Is it possible that he came from the Seven Upper Provinces?" Liu Xiao Zhou asked.

However, Liu Xiao Zhou's father was still in shock over the first message that he did not even realize his son had sent him another message.

...

Meanwhile, a huge commotion broke out in the Martial Battle Mansion when news of eleven people, including Heng Feng and Liu Xiao Zhou, being eliminated from the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm spread.

They were further shocked when they learned that someone managed to breach Heng Feng's defenses even though Heng Feng had successfully comprehended the seventh profundity, the Defense Profundity, from the law of earth during the critical moment.

"Now that Senior Heng Feng has comprehended the Defense Profundity, Among those who are qualified to enter the middle realm, I estimate there aren't more than a handful of people who could breach his defenses..."

"That's right! It's likely that only those Ten Directions Celestial Dukes who have comprehended eight profundities, at least, would be able to breach Heng Feng's defenses now that Senior Heng Feng has successfully comprehended the seventh profundity from the law of earth."

"I'm more curious if the Profound Nether Mansion truly sought external help... Did the Profound Nether Mansion really recruit him just so they could rank at the top of the scoreboard?"

"Currently, there are only a few days left before the scoreboard resets. Regardless of how powerful he is, it's unlikely he'll be able to make it into the top 30 unless he manages to obtain points from the Green Spirit Mansion's Leng Yun You or the Han Qing Mansion's Liu Ji."

"That's right! If he manages to defeat Liu Ji and obtain Liu Ji points, he'd be propelled into the top 30. If he manages to defeat Leng Yun You, it's not impossible for him to enter the top 10!"

"Although the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm isn't particularly big, it would still be like searching for a needle in a haystack for Duan Ling Tian to search Leng Yun You and Liu Ji in such a short time."

Based on the conversation, it was obvious that the people from the Martial Battle Mansion had assumed Duan Ling Tian was the external help hired by the Profound Nether Mansion. Otherwise, how was it possible that someone so powerful and talented was only an outer court disciple?

There were other grade-six Celestial Mansions who had recruited external help in the past. However, none of them had ever topped the scoreboard. At most, they would rank in the top 20.

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian, whom many regarded as hired help, garnered a lot of attention in the Martial Battle Mansion for being able to breach Heng Feng's defenses, especially after Heng Feng had comprehended seven profundities from the law of earth. Many of those who usually did not care about the rankings of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm began to pay attention to the scoreboard as well.

"The scoreboard will be refreshed in a few days... I wonder how far Duan Ling Tian will be able to go."

At this moment, a large crowd had gathered at the site of one of the Transporting Formations in the Martial Battle Mansion's estate. All of them were staring intently at the name that was ranked 45th. It seemed as though the 45th place was even more interesting than the first place.

...

Meanwhile, the other grade-six Celestial Mansions that were paying attention to Duan Ling Tian were shocked as well.

In the Profound Nether Mansion's estate.

Since the other grade-six Celestial Mansions were shocked by Duan Ling Tian's performance, it was only natural that the Celestial Mansion Duan Ling Tian currently belonged to was shocked as well.

Needless to say, Duan Ling Tian entering the top 50 caused quite a stir in the Profound Nether Mansion.

In the beginning, when Duan Ling Tian was on his way to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, many assumed Duan Ling Tian was only a young master from a prominent family who wanted to visit the middle realm to sightsee. They arrived at this conclusion when they discovered he was not even 100 years old and when they saw he was personally accompanied by Qi Tian Ming, an inspector of the Profound Nether Mansion. After all, how could a young man who was not even 100 years old possess enough strength to participate in the competition?

When Duan Ling Tian entered the top 100, many of them concluded that Duan Ling Tian had cheated or had gotten lucky. However, after news of him killing Gongsun Jin spread and his ranking rose to the 52nd place, coupled with the confirmation from a few elders who had friends in the Azure Green Mansion, no one thought he was cheating or was lucky anymore. Most of them were fervently discussing Duan Ling Tian's origins at that time.

The three sites of the Transporting Formations in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate were buzzing. The commotion was even bigger than the Martial Battle Mansion. This was especially true in the site of the Transporting Formation that Duan Ling Tian had used to travel to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Many people were hounding the elder who had issued the Accumulative Point Jade to Duan Ling Tian for answers.

“Elder, is Duan Ling Tian really less than 100 years old?”

“Elder, why’s Duan Ling Tian so special? Is he even human?”

“Elder, did you know this would happen when you gave him the Accumulative Point Jade?”

At this moment, that elder was like a movie star on earth who was surrounded by paparazzi.

“Where did Inspector Qi find someone like Duan Ling Tian?”

As time passed, news from the Martial Battle Mansion traveled to the Profound Nether Mansion since there were many elders from the two grade-six Celestial Mansions who were friends. Therefore, it did not take long before special details such as Duan Ling Tian eliminating eleven disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion within 15 minutes reached the ears of the people from the Profound Nether Mansion. Needless to say, the people from the Profound Nether Mansion were shocked and impressed by this feat. After all, they knew Heng Feng and Liu Xiao Zhou who were eliminated had consistently ranked above the top 100 every month.

“Duan Ling Tian comprehended seven profundities from the law of space. Similarly, Heng Feng comprehended seven profundities from the law of earth, including the Crystal Barrier Profundity and the Defense Profundity. Even then, Duan Ling Tian managed to breach his defenses. If Duan Ling Tian didn’t show mercy, he could’ve easily killed Heng Feng!”

“I heard Heng Feng almost died even after he managed to comprehend the Defense Profundity at the critical juncture!”

“Heavens! Duan Ling Tian is a Ten Directions Celestial Duke and has comprehended seven profundities from the law of space before even reaching 100 years old... Is his age real?”

“There are many credible sources who have confirmed Duan Ling Tian is less than 100 years old. There’s no doubt his age is real. I really wonder where Inspector Qi found a person like him...”

“If you ask me, I don’t think Inspector Qi is capable of recruiting such a peerless genius. In my opinion, Lord Mansion Master has to be the one who found Duan Ling Tian. Lord Mansion Master probably tasked Inspector Qi with bringing Duan Ling Tian to the Transporting Formation to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.”

“Well, you have a point as well.”

As the discussion continued, more and more people grew convinced that Duan Ling Tian had been recruited by the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion instead of Qi Tian Ming.

Naturally, these people were unaware that the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion was as shocked as they were by Duan Ling Tian’s ability and performance in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

“Inspector Qi, who’s this Duan Ling Tian?” The Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion was a tall and well-built middle-aged man dressed in a long green robe. He had a dignified air about him that

made him look imposing. As soon as he learned about Duan Ling Tian's existence, he sent a message to Qi Tian Ming. Prior to this, he did not even know there was such a person in the mansion.

After listening to Qi Tian Ming's reply a few moments later, his eyes lit up! It seemed like after 30,000 years, there was going to be an Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion! However, when he heard about the test Duan Ling Tian had to pass before he could become an Imperial tutor, his eyes dimmed, and a bitter smile appeared on his face. He muttered to himself, "Why would he come up with such a test? He knows Duan Ling Tian isn't even 100 years old..."

With this, he left his residence in a haste and made his way to the Imperial Tutor Pavilion.

...

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who was still in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm was, naturally, unaware of all these things.

"It would be great if I have a map that marks all of the grade-six Celestial Mansions' bases in the middle realm... At that time, I'd only need to wait at the bases."

Duan Ling Tian who figured a way to earn points quickly at the Martial Battle Mansion's base began to search for other grade-six Celestial Mansions' bases. Similar to before, he planned to intercept disciples who were returning to the bases. Alas, after searching for two days and two nights, he did not encounter another base.

Chapter 3140: An Indignant Liu Ji

"Over the past two days and nights, I didn't meet a single person at all, let alone a Celestial Mansion's base." Ever since Duan Ling Tian left the vicinity of the Martial Battle Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, he did not meet a single soul at all. He remembered the locations of the Profound Nether Mansion and the Martial Battle Mansion's bases, but he knew it would be useless to wait at those two bases. For one, it was pointless for him to wait near the Profound Nether Mansion's base since he would not be able to obtain points from fellow members of the Profound Nether Mansion. Secondly, since he had just eliminated eleven people from the Martial Battle Mansion near their base, it was highly likely that no one from the Martial Battle Mansion would be stepping out from the base for a while. Apart from that, he knew it was also pointless to wait for disciples from the Martial Battle Mansion to return to their base. After all, the end of the month was fast approaching, and they would be automatically transported out when time was up; there was no need for them to return to their base. For all these reasons, he did not wait at the two Celestial Mansions' bases and ventured out to look for other grade-six Celestial Mansions' bases instead.

'There are less than two days left before the scoreboard is refreshed. There aren't many people who would enter the middle realm at this time. It's going to be like searching for a needle in a haystack to find another person now,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he traveled by teleportation. He no longer held hope that he would run into anyone. He held his Accumulative Point Jade as he continued thinking to himself, 'Since I entered the middle realm too late, I think 41 points will be my final score for this month.'

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian arrived at a forest with treacherous terrain. Previously, he would be extremely cautious when traveling through such terrains. However, at this moment, he was no longer as cautious. After all, he thought it was unlikely that he would run into another soul here. Even if there were people here, he did not think they would be very powerful since those who ranked at the top had already left the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

“Hm?” Duan Ling Tian abruptly came to a halt after traveling for half an hour. Soon enough, he saw a figure shrouded in green energy charging toward him fiercely.

Whoosh!

At the same time, the figure was moving his hands about swiftly, forming an energy saber with the wind. He continued charging toward Duan Ling Tian as he wielded the saber in his hand.

A saber cry rang in the air, and a piercing energy shrouded Duan Ling Tian swiftly. All this happened in just a blink of an eye; Duan Ling Tian who had his guard down almost did not react in time.

“Teleportation Profundity!” The wind saber was merely a few meters away from Duan Ling Tian’s body and it was just a moment away from landing on him when he vanished without a trace.

“Teleportation?” The green figure stopped in his tracks. A hint of shock could be seen in his widened eyes. He had comprehended the law of wind. Therefore, there was only a handful of people in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm who were faster than him. How could he not be shocked that his opponent managed to dodge his attack and vanished into thin air in front of his eyes? If it was not the law of space’s Teleportation Profundity, what else could it be?

‘Restraining Profundity!’ While the figure shrouded in green energy came to a stop and had yet to regain his senses, Duan Ling Tian teleported behind the green figure and cast the law of space’s Restraining Profundity without wasting any time.

‘Territory Profundity!’ At the same time, Duan Ling Tian cast the law of space’s Territory Profundity that covered a ten-meter radius around him. Then, he teleported close to the green figure.

At this time, the green figure turned around, meeting Duan Ling Tian’s gaze. He seemed unaffected by the Restraining Profundity and the Territory Profundity. The green energy around him that seemed to contain tiny wind sabers was keeping the Space Energy in the territory at bay.

“Han Qing Mansion’s Liu Ji?” When the green figure turned around, Duan Ling Tian saw the identity token hanging from the green figure’s waist. He recalled the conversations he had heard before he entered the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

At that time, Duan Ling Tian heard someone saying the Han Qing Mansion’s Liu Ji had only entered the middle realm five days ago, but he already obtained many points. Moreover, his points were still increasing. People seemed to think it would not be difficult for Liu Ji to rank in the top thirty this month.

That was the first time Duan Ling Tian had heard about Liu Ji. He instinctively searched for Liu Ji’s name on the scoreboard after that. With a little over 100 points, Liu Ji was ranked at the 33rd place. He only needed less than twenty points to rank in the top 30.

'Based on the time we have left in the middle realm for this month, today should be his last day in the middle realm. If he doesn't leave soon, he'll be forced to exit.'

"A Profound Nether Mansion's outer court disciple? Duan Ling Tian?" Similarly, Liu Ji was looking at Duan Ling Tian's identity token as well. A frown appeared on his face. He had never heard of a disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion who had comprehended the law of space's Teleportation Profundity. Moreover, he noticed Duan Ling Tian had cast four profundities from the law of space so far: the Space Elemental Profundity, the Teleportation Profundity, the Restraining Profundity, and the Territory Profundity. An outer court disciple of the Profound Nether Mansion who had comprehended, at least, four profundities from the law of space? He was confused. Unless the person in front of him had intentionally concealed his strength, there was no way he would be unknown.

"Distortion Profundity! Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity!" While Liu Ji was deep in his thoughts, Duan Ling Tian did not stop. He quickly cast two other profundities from the law of space. The void in the territory began to distort and ripple violently. The force was so strong that it easily crushed the tiny wind saber that was spinning on the surface of Liu Ji's skin.

The void tore open before a streak of grey saber ray shot out of the crack. It was so eye-catching and formidable that it eclipsed everything in its surroundings. It seemed to have locked on to Liu Ji as it continued shooting toward him.

It was obvious that Liu Ji would die if the attack landed on him. He struggled, but he could not free himself from Duan Ling Tian's restrictions. In the end, he decisively crushed his Accumulative Point Jade before he fiercely said, "Don't let me see you next month!"

A brilliant green light burst forth from Liu Ji's body at this moment, keeping Duan Ling Tian's attack at bay. Soon enough, the Formation from the Accumulative Point Jade sent him back to his Celestial Mansion. This was the first time he was eliminated in such an infuriating manner.

When Liu Ji had first seen Duan Ling Tian, he had assumed Duan Ling Tian, as an outer court disciple, was no threat to him at all. Although he had been surprised when Duan Ling Tian cast four profundities from the law of space, he did not think Duan Ling Tian was able to threaten him. When Duan Ling Tian cast another two profundities, bringing the number up to six profundities, he knew he had been too reckless. Alas, it was too late for him to counter the attack. Moreover, he needed time to free himself from his restraints before he could counter the attack. With how fast and fierce the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity was, he did not have time for that. It was too late. The only thing he could do was to hastily put up a defense for a moment to crush his Accumulative Point Jade. With this, at least, he would be able to preserve his life. Otherwise, he would have died.

Nevertheless, Liu Ji felt indignant that he was forced to crush his Accumulative Point Jade. After all, if he had been prepared and did not underestimate his opponent, he knew he would be able to defeat or kill his opponent even if his opponent had comprehended six profundities from the law of space. Since he had comprehended the two main movement profundities from the law of wind, his speed was comparable to his opponent's Teleportation Profundity.

'If I can avoid his Restraining Profundity and Territory Profundity, I'll be able to catch up to him even if he uses the Teleportation Profundity. At that time, it wouldn't be difficult for me to defeat and kill him.'

Liu Ji was extremely displeased about being forced to leave the middle realm.

“113 points?” After Liu Ji crushed his Accumulative Point Jade, Duan Ling Tian discovered his points had increased a lot. With Liu Ji’s points, he now had 154 points.