Chapter 3171: The Ultimate Treasure Left Behind By a Supreme Powerhouse

"The Supreme Powerhouse Divinity?" Duan Ling Tian was taken aback by the Profound Divine Metal, the Chaos Divine Flame, and the Chaos Divine Earth's sudden exclamation. This was the first time he had seen them so excited.

"What's a Supreme Powerhouse Divinity?" Duan Ling Tian asked the three Divine Elements curiously. However, there was no response from them. Perhaps, they were still in shock. In the end, he could only ask Huang Jia Long, "What's this, Jia Long?" In his opinion, Huang Jia Long must have a certain degree of understanding of it.

Huang Jia Long replied solemnly, "I have no idea. I only know it's related to a formidable Supreme Powerhouse. Apart from that, I know it complements the law of space and benefits the law of space's users. I have it in my possession for many years now, but I'm too dumb to figure out what it is."

"It complements the law of space and benefits its users?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up immediately upon hearing Huang Jia Long's words. He asked curiously, "Where did you obtain it?"

Duan Ling Tian recalled the three Divine Elements had referred to it as the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, but he had no idea what it was. However, he knew about the existence of a Supreme Powerhouse. Supreme Powerhouses were the strongest beings in existence in heaven and earth, and there were very few of them. The Realms of Gods that were on a higher level than Devata Realms were created by Supreme Powerhouses. This alone showed how formidable and strong a Supreme Powerhouse was.

Huang Jia Long explained, "100 years ago, when I was just a Golden Celestial, me and a few friends were exploring the Supporting Fall Nation with the powerhouses from our families protecting us. One day, we arrived at dark and gloomy marshland. No matter how hard we tried, we couldn't extend our Divine Consciousness into the marshland. Somehow, I was separated from my friends. Alone and afraid, I waited a few days in the marshland before I was found. During those few days when I was alone, the void in my surroundings distorted and rippled. At one point, through a spatial tear, I saw two figures battling. You know how terrifying spatial turbulence is, right? Even Heavenly Emperors might not survive if they were caught in a spatial turbulence. However, despite the turbulence, the two figures were completely unaffected. Moreover, they moved as though they were taking a stroll in the park. With this, you can just imagine how strong they were. I don't know how long they battled, but I watched them for a day and a night. When I first saw them, one of them was badly injured and the other one was slightly better. The one who was in a disadvantageous position chose to escape. Naturally, the other party gave chase. The one who was escaping chanced upon me when he was escaping. Without a word, he brought this stone out and threw it to me. After that, he clapped his hands once and everything returned to normal. No turbulence, no spatial tear, and no ripples or distortion in the void. It was as though everything was just a dream."

A hint of incredulity could be seen in Huang Jia Long's eyes as he continued to say, "Naturally, I knew whatever the man had given me was extraordinary so I kept in my Spatial Ring. Ever since that

encounter, I would occasionally dream about the man demonstrating a variety of techniques. Initially, I couldn't tell what the techniques were. It was only after I learned about the law of space that I realized the technique he had shown me had something to do with the law of space. Naturally, that's about the extent of my knowledge. Until today, I still haven't completely figured them out. Since you've become a Ten Directions Celestial Duke and have comprehended the law of space, I think you're more suited to have this stone! It'll only collect dust in my possession..." As he spoke, he passed the stone over to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian did not make a move to take the stone; he was thoroughly stunned and lost in his thoughts.

'The spatial turbulence didn't affect them and they moved as though they were just strolling through a park? The spatial turbulence outside of Devata Realms is in a different league compared to the turbulence outside mundane realms... It's almost impossible for Heavenly Emperors to survive spatial turbulence. The Divine Elements said the?' Duan Ling Tian's breathing quickened when he thought about this.

"Boy, hurry up and take it!"

"Boy, this is a great fortuitous encounter! With this thing, your future will be smooth-sailing!"

"There's nothing more valuable than this in heaven and earth!"

The Profound Divine Metal, the Chaos Divine Flame, and the Chaos Divine Earth's voices rang in Duan Ling Tian's mind simultaneously. It was as though they were afraid Huang Jia Long would change his mind and refuse to give Duan Ling Tian the stone.

"What is it? Does this Supreme Powerhouse Divinity have something to do with a Supreme Powerhouse?"

"The Supreme Powerhouse Divinity is the essence left behind by a Supreme Powerhouse after spending his life comprehending a certain law. No one is capable of extracting the essence of a Supreme Powerhouse if the Supreme Powerhouse is unwilling," the Chaos Divine Fire began to explain, "Your friend said he dreamt of the man demonstrating various techniques after he obtained the stone. Based on his explanation, it seemed like the Supreme Powerhouse who had given him the stone had fully mastered the law of space. This means the Supreme Powerhouse has the highest comprehension of the law of space. Only another Supreme Powerhouse who has also mastered the law of space would be a match for him. With this tone, nobody would be a match for your speed in comprehending the law of space! Needless to say, our speed can't match this stone as well in regard to comprehending the law of space." After a brief pause, it said with a sigh, "Your friend had this in his possession for 100 years, but he didn't even manage to comprehend the law of space's Fundamental Profundity, the Space Elemental Profundity. It seems like he really has no fate with the law of space!"

Cultivators had certain laws that they had a high affinity with. Therefore, some cultivators could easily comprehend one law but would have a difficult time comprehending another kind of law. It was clear to see that Huang Jia Long had no affinity with the law of space at all. If one had even the slightest affinity

with the law of space, after possessing the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity for 100 years, they would be incredibly accomplished in the law of space by now.

Duan Ling Tian inhaled sharply upon hearing the Chaos Divine Flame's words. His eyes lit up in excitement as he looked at the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity in Huang Jia Long's palm. With it, comprehending the law of space in the future would be easy for him! Despite his excitement, he asked solemnly, "Jia Long, do you have any idea how valuable this thing is?"

"It doesn't matter how valuable it is, I've had it for 100 years, and I couldn't use it all. Since you've comprehended the law of space, you're destined to have it. Don't be shy, and just take it," Huang Jia Long said with a smile.

"This is a Supreme Powerhouse Divinity..." Duan Ling Tian recounted everything he found out about the diamond-shaped stone black stone from the three Divine Elements to Huang Jia Long without holding anything back instead of taking it.

The Chaos Divine Earth was clearly vexed by Duan Ling Tian's actions. He cried out, "What are you doing? Idiot! There's no way he'll let you have it after you tell him everything!"

However, Duan Ling Tian did not pay attention to the Chaos Divine Earth. He lived by his own principles. Moreover, Huang Jia Long treated him like his brother. How could he deceive Huang Jia Long?

"So the two men were Supreme Powerhouses, beings who are even stronger than Heavenly Emperors?" Huang Jia Long was shocked by Duan Ling Tian's explanation. After a brief moment, he said excitedly, "Brother Duan, keep it. I'm sure with this Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, your success will be even greater! All I ask for is that you remember me when you become a Supreme Powerhouse and to occasionally visit me so that we can drink together." Even after finding out how valuable the diamond-shaped stone was, he was insistent that Duan Ling Tian should have it.

"You should keep the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity. Who knows? Maybe one day you'll be able to comprehend the law of space!" Duan Ling Tian said sincerely.

"Take it! I know my limits." Huang Jia Long shook his head. He laughed before he said, "As a matter of fact, thanks to you, the first sect leader accepted me as his direct disciple. I believe the greater your accomplishments, the greater my accomplishments would be as well in the Coupling Celestial Sect as well. Take the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity. Consider it as me investing in you." He treated the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity casually as though it was merely an ordinary stone.

Chapter 3172: Duan Ling Tian is Brimming with Confidence

Finally, Duan Ling Tian took the stone. Despite the size, it was heavier than he had imagined.

"Senior Chaos Divine Flame, can I transfer the World Cleansing Divine Water to Huang Jia Long?" Duan Ling Tian asked. Since Huang Jia Long had given him the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, he wanted to give Huang Jia Long something more in return. Although Huang Jia Long was accepted as the direct disciple of the first Sect Leader of the Coupling Celestial Sect because of him, it was nothing in comparison to the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity.

"Yes, you can. However, it's unlikely the World Cleansing Divine Water would acknowledge him as its master so it might leave him," the Chaos Divine Flame said.

"Then, I'll just keep Jia Long by my side. With our presence, the World Cleansing Divine Water will believe Jia Long is worthy of becoming its master, right?" Duan Ling Tian said as his eyes glinted.

"No," the Chao Divine Flame said with a sigh, "Since we're in your body, we can't interfere at all if another World Cleansing Divine Water attacks the World Cleansing Divine Water in Jia Long's body. After all, our power will harm Jia Long as well. If you transfer the World Cleansing Divine Water to him, he can only rely on his strength to make it acknowledge him as its master."

Duan Ling Tian frowned slightly. In the end, he still decided to give the World Cleansing Divine Water. However, Huang Jia Long refused to accept his kind gesture after realizing what it was.

"Jia Long, if you refuse to take it, then I'll return the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity to you. This Supreme Powerhouse Divinity is far more valuable than a second-form World Cleansing Divine Water!" Duan Ling Tian said resolutely.

In the end, Huang Jia Long had no choice but to accept it.

Duan Ling Tian reminded him, "It's still in slumber. When it awakens, it's up to you to make it acknowledge you as its master."

Huang Jia Long nodded.

Duan Ling Tian spent the next two days staying in one of the rooms in Huang Jia Long's residence. He recounted his journey to obtain the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit.

Huang Jia Long was drenched in cold sweat after he heard about Duan Ling Tian's experience. "Speaking of walking into the lion's den... The reincarnated Celestial Emperor was truly extraordinary to be able to come up with such a huge scheme. Fortunately, you and Ling Jue Yun have trump cards in hand. Otherwise, both of you would've been sacrificed to the tree of the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit!"

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During the last two days, Duan Ling Tian did not cultivate. However, after half a night of sleeping, he managed to successfully comprehend the law of space's Transportation Profundity. This was, naturally, all thanks to the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity.

"Since you already have a basic grasp of the Transportation Profundity, it's only natural that you managed to comprehend it completely with the help of the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity," the Chaos Divine Flames said. It was clearly not surprised that Duan Ling Tian managed to fully comprehend the Transportation Profundity in such a short time. After all, the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity contained the essence of a Supreme Powerhouse who had completely mastered the law of space.

With the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, there was no doubt Duan Ling Tian would be able to easily master the law of space in the future.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian had comprehended seven profundities from the law of space. It was only a matter of time before he comprehended the remaining two profundities from the law of space with the help of the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity.

Before leaving the Coupling Celestial Sect, Duan Ling Tian asked Huang Jia Long, "Jia Long, do you want to join me in the Profound Nether Mansion?" As long as Huang Jia Long was willing, he would bring Huang Jia Long with him to the Profound Nether Mansion.

"I would love to join the Profound Nether Mansion, but I want to join with my own strength instead of relying on your connections," Huang Jia Long replied with a grin.

Upon hearing the conviction in Huang Jia Long's words, Duan Ling Tian no longer persuaded Huang Jia Long. "Alright. I'll wait for you in the Profound Nether Mansion then!"

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On the second day after Duan Ling Tian returned to the Profound Nether Mansion, he was summoned out of his room by Qi Tian Ming.

"What's going on?" Duan Ling Tian was confused. Based on Qi Tian Ming's expression, it was clear something was going on.

"Ximen Hao Xuan and one of the Vice Sect Leaders of the Red Leaves Mansion are here to see you. Do you want to meet them? Otherwise, I'll reject them on your behalf," Qi Tian Ming said.

The Profound Nether Mansion would definitely be hospitable since a Vice Mansion Master of the Red Leaves Mansion was here. However, if Duan Ling Tian refused to meet with them, Qi Tian Ming would still reject them on behalf of Duan Ling Tian.

"There's no need for that. I have an appointment with him." Duan Ling Tian was slightly taken aback. He did not expect Ximen Hao Xuan to visit so quickly. After learning that Ximen Hao Xuan was temporarily staying in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate, he quickly went to meet him.

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"Duan Ling Tian, we meet again!" Ximen Hao Xuan greeted Duan Ling Tian as soon as he arrived. He wasted no time in passing the Floating Image Pearl to Duan Ling Tian. "This is the Floating Image Pearl I promised you."

Duan Ling Tian accepted the Floating Image Pearl even though it was not useful anymore now that he possessed the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity. After all, who knew if he could speed up his comprehension even more after watching the recording? Although the possibility was small, he still wanted to try it.

After that, Duan Ling Tian and Ximen Hao Xuan continued to chat.

Duan Ling Tian was rather surprised that Ximen Hao Xuan did not bring up his origin. In fact, he learned many things about the Ten Major Clans and Five Top Sects in the Southern Heaven Territory from Ximen Hao Xuan that were not recorded in the scrolls or Memory Celestial Talismans that he had seen.

"Duan Ling Tian, there's one more thing..." Ximen Hao Xuan paused briefly and scanned his surroundings, as though making sure no one was eavesdropping. Then, he sent a Voice Transmission to Duan Ling Tian. "I heard the Blood Skull Gang has opened up your case; the mission to assassinate you is

currently active again. Initially, they thought you'd been killed by the reincarnated Celestial Emperor. However, you've gotten famous after your performance in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm so they've heard about it as well." He looked at Duan Ling Tian meaningfully after he finished speaking.

With this, Duan Ling Tian discovered Ximen Hao Xuan knew a thing or two about him. Perhaps, this was why Ximen Hao Xuan did not ask about his origin. He raised an eyebrow as he looked at Ximen Hao Xuan and asked, "How do you know the Blood Skull Gang Assassin is after me?"

"Don't misunderstand. I have nothing to do with the Blood Skull Gang. A friend of mine told me about it," Ximen Hao Xuan shook his head and said when he saw the suspicion in Duan Ling Tian's eyes, "His father is an elder in the Blood Skull Gang."

In fact, Ximen Hao Xuan only found out the day before that the Blood Skull Gang had taken the job to assassinate Duan Ling Tian. After he was eliminated, his friend had tried to comfort him by saying Duan Ling Tian would not be alive for long unless Duan Ling Tian stayed in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate forever since the Blood Skull Gang was out for Duan Ling Tian's blood.

"Duan Ling Tian, you must bring Inspector Qi with you if you ever leave the Profound Nether Mansion's estate. Since he brought you here from the Simplicity Celestial Sect, he'll definitely take good care of you, especially now that you've become so important to the Profound Nether Mansion," Ximen Hao Xuan solemnly said, "If Inspector Qi is unavailable, you should look for the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion. I'm sure he'll protect you since you're indispensable to the mansion now. If you're unhappy staying in the Profound Nether Mansion, just send me a message. I'll have our Old Ancestor bring you to the Red Leaves Mansion. As long as you're a member of the Red Leaves Mansion, we won't let the Blood Skull Gang's assassins kill you!" It was clear that his words were sincere.

"Why did you tell me about this?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Ximen Hao Xuan intently. "If I'm killed by the Blood Skull Gang, it'll only benefit you and the other five people."

"You're right. However, I, Ximen Hao Xuan, am not someone who resorts to such a low tactic to get what I want. If I want to defeat you, I'll defeat you with my own strength and in an upright manner," Ximen Hao Xuan said confidently.

Ximen Hao Xuan's direct attitude definitely left a good impression on Duan Ling Tian. "In return for your kind gesture, I won't team up with another person to fight you the next time we meet in the middle realm."

Ximen Hao Xuan said with a smile, "I'm afraid you won't be a match for me if you don't join forces with another person. You should wait a few years before making such a statement."

"Just because I'm not a match for you alone previously doesn't mean I'm not a match for you now..."

After fully comprehending the Transportation Profundity, Duan Ling Tian's speed was now on par with the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Territory. Therefore, he was confident he could defeat Ximen Hao Xuan without Wan Qing Qing's help if they met again in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Territory.

"You seem confident. I look forward to the day we meet in the middle realm." Although Ximen Hao Xuan was slightly taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's words, he did not seem to think of them. He did not think

Duan Ling Tian would improve so quickly in such a short time to the point where Duan Ling Tian was able to defeat him without any help. Speed-wise, Duan Ling Tian was no match for him. Moreover, he was 70% confident he would be able to defeat Duan Ling Tian just by relying on speed alone.

After Duan Ling Tian bade farewell to Ximen Hao Xuan, he made his way back to his residence.

'I have to rank first consecutively for twelve months... If I'm lucky, I'll be able to pass the Imperial Tutor Pavilion's test easily...' Duan Ling Tian was feeling rather confident about passing the Imperial Tutor Pavilion's test.

Chapter 3173: A Nightmare

There was half a month left before the rankings of the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm would reset. At this moment, five out of the six people who occupied the top six places had already left the middle realm. Out of the five people, Duan Ling Tian was the only one who left willingly while the other four were transported out of the middle realm because their time in the middle realm this month was up.

"Only a few people who're ranked in the top 30 are still in the middle realm. I don't think there'll be any huge change in the ranking until the end of the month."

"I'm not sure about the other rankings, but I'm certain the first place won't change!"

"That's right! He accumulated more than 1,000 points, and he even surpassed the person in second place with almost half of that person's points. Under these circumstances, his place at the top is secure!"

Most of the people from other grade-six Celestial Mansions were certain Duan Ling Tian's ranking would not change this month and that he would remain at first place.

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Soon enough, news of an unknown disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion rising to the top of the scoreboard spread further and further. This, naturally, piqued the interest of many people. It did not take long before even the Ten Major Clans and Top Five Sects in the Southern Heaven Territory learned about Duan Ling Tian.

"Investigate the origins of that outer court disciple from the Profound Nether Mansion. He's a Ten Directions Celestial Duke and is said to have comprehended six profundities from the law of space. Most importantly, he's not even 100 years old."

Upon receiving this news, the high-ranking officials from the Ten Major Clans and Top Five Sects wasted no time and sent their men to investigate Duan Ling Tian.

Naturally, the Su Clan, the clan that the Profound Nether Mansion was under, sent someone to the Profound Nether Mansion to meet the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion because of Duan Ling Tian.

It did not take long before the Ten Major Clans and Top Five Sects learned that Duan Ling Tian had come from the Simplicity Celestial Sect and had consumed the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit. With this, they assumed Duan Ling Tian's innate talent and comprehension skills were not as heaven-defying as they had originally thought. They attributed his current achievements to the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit. They considered his talent to be similar to those peak Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials under the age of 100 who had comprehended two or three profundities of a law. There was no lack of these people in the Ten Major Clans and Top Five Sects, therefore, most of them no longer paid any more attention to Duan Ling Tian.

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In a vast courtyard in the Tao Scholar Profound Sect.

The Tao Scholar Profound Sect was a grade-five sect and one of the Top Five Sects in the Southern Heaven Territory.

"Duan Ling Tian didn't die in the Jade Emperor Heaven? He even succeeded in snatching the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit from that reincarnated Celestial Emperor?" A young man cocked an eyebrow when he received the news about Duan Ling Tian.

The young man was handsome. He wore a long white robe and held a fan in his hand. Based on his extraordinary bearing and elegant manner, it was apparent he was not an ordinary character. This young man was Yan Ru Yv, one of the three true disciples in the Tao Scholar Profound Sect. He was the youngest true disciple in the history of the Tao Scholar Profound Sect.

After receiving this news, Yan Ru Yv sent a message to Chen Li, the son of the Vice Leader of the Blood Skull Gang. "Chen Li. Did you hear the news regarding Duan Ling Tian?"

"You've heard about it as well?" Chen Li asked. Clearly, he had also heard the news about Duan Ling Tian.

"That's right. How's everything on your side? Are you alright? Please let me know if you need any help," Yan Ru Yv said.

"Don't worry, I'm fine. My father is taking care of it. The Blood Skull Gang will continue with this mission," Chen Li said.

A member from the Simplicity Celestial Sect had hired the Blood Skull Gang to assassinate Duan Ling Tian, and Chen Li was the guarantor of the mission. Initially, everyone thought it was going to be a simple mission. However, when the Blood Skull Gang lost Celestial King assassins one after another to the mission, they began to realize the mission was not as simple as they had thought. Naturally, the higher-ups in the Blood Skull Gang were displeased by the matter. Under these circumstances, it was only natural that Chen Li, the guarantor of the mission, was under immense pressure. However, since his father was a Vice Leader of the Blood Skull Gang, it was not difficult for his father to help him deal with this matter.

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The Realm Battlefield was the intersection where two realms met. It only appeared once every 10,000 years and would last for 1,000 years.

The current Realm Battlefield was formed by the meeting between the Divine Offering Land and the Sanction Land. At this moment, it had been open for a few decades.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

A few towering mountains collapsed, stirring up clouds of dust, as two figures could be seen flying high into the sky.

One of the figures belonged to a muscular man while the other figure belonged to a beautiful woman dressed in white robes.

The muscular man seemed completely unharmed while a trace of blood could be seen on the edge of the white-clad beauty's mouth.

The muscular man smirked before he said arrogantly, "You're no match for me."

The beautiful woman gritted her teeth with a bitter expression on her face. She seemed to be lost in her thoughts at this moment. A hint of reluctance flashed in the depths of her eyes as she thought to herself, 'Am I going to die here today? No! If I die, what will happen to Sister Li Fei, Nian Tian, Si Ling, my parents, and Uncle Feng... If I possess the strength from my past life, I won't need to fear him. Currently, I'm only one step away from recovering my previous strength. Alas, at this moment, that one step is like a huge chasm...'

As she fell into despair, her blood qi surged in her body.

At this moment, the muscular man exclaimed in surprise, "You're a descendant of the Xia Clan in the Divine Offering Land? Are you related to Xia Jie?"

"You're familiar with my third uncle?" A startled expression appeared on the beauty's face. At the same time, her blood qi gradually calmed down.

"He's your third uncle?" The muscular man's eyes widened imperceptibly. A hint of nostalgia could be seen on his face as he recalled the past. After a moment, he shook his head and said with a sigh, "10,000 years ago, he saved my life in the Sanction Land. Since you're his niece, I won't kill you..." After he finished speaking, he left immediately.

When the beauty regained her senses, the muscular man had already disappeared from sight. A faint smile could be seen on her face as she murmured to herself, "I didn't expect I'd be able to escape with my life intact due to third uncle..."

The beauty was none other than Ke'er who was Xia Ning Xue from the Divine Offering Land's Xia Clan in her past life.

'With my current strength, I can't go too far into the Realm Battlefield. If my opponent weren't an old acquaintance of third uncle, I would've died today!' Ke'er sighed as she thought to herself, 'I miss Brother Tian so much...'

After a moment, Ke'er turned around and left. She was not going to venture deeper. After all, she could not risk her life. There were still many things she had to do; she must not die!

...

The Southern Heaven Territory's Profound Nether Mansion in the Spirit Overarching Heaven.

"Ke'er!"

Duan Ling Tian abruptly sat up, waking up from a nightmare. He was drenched in cold sweat.

Initially, he was dreaming about the Supreme Powerhouse demonstrating the law of space. However, he suddenly dreamt of Ke'er in trouble.

Unbeknownst to him, it was not just a nightmare. He had dismissed it as a nightmare, unaware of the close brush Ke'er had with death. He was unaware that due to the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity containing the essence of a Supreme Powerhouse, the strongest beings to exist in heaven and earth, he could somehow sense Ke'er when she was in danger.

...

In just a blink of an eye, half a month had passed.

The rankings were finalized, and those who were still in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm were transported out.

"Duan Ling Tian is first!"

Although the members of the Profound Nether Mansion had expected this, there was still an uproar when Duan Ling Tian's rank was confirmed at the end of the month.

With this, the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion made a public announcement about his decision to make Duan Ling Tian an inner court disciple. Duan Ling Tian did not even have to take the test to become an inner court disciple.

Naturally, nobody objected to it nor were they dissatisfied. With the glory Duan Ling Tian had brought to the Profound Nether Mansion, they thought Duan Ling Tian more than deserved this privilege.

On the other hand, the title of an inner court disciple did not matter to Duan Ling Tian at all. His only goal was to become the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion so he could enjoy the best cultivation resources. He might not need the mansion's help to comprehend the law of space since he possessed the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, but in regard to cultivation, he would need the mansion's cultivation resources to go beyond the stage of a Ten Direction Celestial Duke. It was a long and tedious process to break through even with the Divine Crystal and the branch of the Divine Tree of Life to help with his absorption of the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy.

There were resources in the Profound Nether Mansion such as pills that could raise one's cultivation base. However, they were incredibly rare. Usually, only core disciples of the mansion were given the chance to obtain these precious items.

"After becoming the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion, I should have a chance to obtain these Celestial Pills and Celestial Fruits... Well, that's if the position of Imperial Tutor is as high as Old Qi said..."

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When the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm opened in the new month, Duan Ling Tian only entered through the Transporting Formation in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate after three days had passed.

Chapter 3174: The Azure Green Mansion's Base

"Senior Duan Ling Tian!"

A group of Profound Nether Mansion disciples greeted Duan Ling Tian reverently as soon as he appeared in the Profound Nether Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

Duan Ling Tian nodded lightly with a smile on his face in response to the greeting before he prepared to leave the base.

"It's unfortunate that Duan Ling Tian can't meet with the Martial Battle Mansion's Wan Qing Qing and join forces with her. Otherwise, both of them can wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base since Gongsun Wuji isn't a match for both of them if they join forces," a Profound Nether Mansion disciple lamented out loud before Duan Ling Tian left the mansion's base.

"Over the past few years, Gongsun Wuji had waited three times outside our base. Nobody dared to leave the base during those three times," another disciple chimed in.

In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, it was considered a public provocation to wait outside another grade-six Celestial Mansion's base. However, it was a normal occurrence between grade-six Celestial Mansions that were enemies to begin with.

Gongsun Wuji, a core disciple from the Azure Green Mansion, was one of the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Whenever he discovered the location of the Profound Nether Mansion's base, he would make a point of waiting outside the Profound Nether Mansion's base. The Profound Nether Mansion disciples were no match for him so they could only stay in the base in fear whenever he waited outside their base.

Duan Ling Tian who was about to leave the Profound Nether Mansion's base came to halt when he heard the conversation in his surroundings. He turned to look at the disciples who had spoken and asked, "Do you know where the Azure Green Mansion's base is located this month?"

"Senior Duan Ling Tian, one of my friends almost died yesterday near the Azure Green Mansion's base. Fortunately, he managed to crush his Accumulative Point Jade in time and escaped. He knows the location of the Azure Green Mansion's base; it's not difficult to find," the disciple who had spoken first quickly replied, "It's unfortunate none of us is as fast as Wan Qing Qing. Otherwise, we would be able to help you."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up as he said, "Where's the Azure Green Mansion's base? Show me the way."

"Senior Duan Ling Tian, we know you're strong, but the Azure Green Mansion has Gongsun Wu Ji!" a disciple warned Duan Ling Tian, "Gongsun Wu Ji is as strong as the Red Leaves Mansion's Ximen Hao Xuan."

"That's right! Senior Duan Ling Tian, the Azure Green Mansion is not like the Fire Glaze Mansion. The Fire Glaze Mansion's strongest Ten Directions Celestial Duke is Tan Yuan; Gongsun Wuji is much stronger than Tan Yuan," another disciple said.

"Gongsun Wu Ji is as strong as Ximen Hao Xuan?" A faint smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face. "Don't worry. Just tell me where's the Azure Green Mansion's base."

Seeing Duan Ling Tian's determination to find out the location of the Azure Green Mansion's base, the disciples could only reveal the location to him.

"Thank you." After Duan Ling Tian thanked the disciples, he vanished without a trace.

One of the disciples asked worriedly, "Do you think Senior Duan Ling Tian is going to wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base?"

"I don't think so... Although Senior Duan Ling Tian is strong, I don't think he's as strong as Gongsun Wu Ji. It's not wise for him to wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base unless he finds someone to work with," another disciple replied.

The other Profound Nether Mansion disciples remained silent but nodded in agreement. Most of them thought Duan Ling Tian would search for someone to join forces with before heading to the Azure Green Mansion's base.

...

As the day passed by, Duan Ling Tian's ranking improved tremendously.

At the same time, Gongsun Wu Ji's name appeared on the scoreboard as well.

"Gongsun Wu Ji from the Azure Green Mansion has entered the middle realm!"

Gongsun Wu Ji's progress was even faster than Duan Ling Tian. After only a day, he had surpassed Duan Ling Tian on the scoreboard.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who was wandering around the middle realm was unaware of this. He would nod at the Profound Nether Mansion disciples whenever he encountered them and eliminate those from other grade-six Celestial Mansions. Up until now, he had encountered two disciples from the Azure Green Mansion. One of them was only eliminated while the other was killed. This was because the disciple who had died intended to kill Duan Ling Tian when he recognized Duan Ling Tian. Duan Ling Tian, naturally, would not let those who intended to kill him go.

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Meanwhile, the Martial Battle Mansion's Wan Qing Qing discovered that Duan Ling Tian had already made it into the top ten before she entered the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

"Duan Ling Tian... If we meet, I hope we can join forces again... However, the middle realm is so vast that it's unlikely that we'll run into each other..." Wan Qing Qing knew the chances were slim for her to encounter Duan Ling Tian again in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

...

As time passed, more and more people from other grade-six Celestial Mansions were eliminated by Duan Ling Tian.

"The Profound Nether Mansion's Duan Ling Tian is really strong. He nearly killed me before I could even react! If he didn't spare me, I would've died!"

"I used to doubt Duan Ling Tian's capabilities, but now I'm truly convinced!"

"Didn't they say his capabilities are on par with the second-tier Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm? My speed is definitely among those in the second-tier, but he's clearly faster than me!"

"It wasn't easy for me to make it into the top 20, but everything's lost thanks to Duan Ling Tian!"

At this time, many people were astonished by Duan Ling Tian's strength. They began to think that Duan Ling Tian was as strong as the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm even without joining forces with Wan Qing Qing.

...

On the sixth day Duan Ling Tian entered the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, he was already ranked 7th with 383 points. Unexpectedly, on this day, he returned to the Profound Nether Mansion's base.

"Senior Duan Ling Tian, congratulations on ranking 7th on the scoreboard!"

"Congratulations, Senior Duan Ling Tian!"

The disciples in the Profound Nether Mansion's base congratulated Duan Ling Tian as soon as they saw him. Soon after, they saw him stepping into the Transporting Formation and leaving the base. After he left, they continued discussing among themselves.

"Senior Duan Ling Tian didn't seem to join forces with anyone, and yet, he's capable of ranking 7th. How remarkable!"

"However, he lacks experience in comparison to the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm. Otherwise, his rank would be higher."

"Experience is accumulated over time. Senior Duan Ling Tian has performed exceptionally well so far."

...

Nobody knew why Duan Ling Tian suddenly left the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. He, naturally, caught everyone's attention when he appeared in the Transporting Formation in one of the sites in the Profound Nether Mansion's estate.

Duan Ling Tian remained indifferent to everyone's curious gaze as he turned to look at the scoreboard. The corners of lips curled up into a smile as he thought to himself, 'Ximen Hao Xuan is ranked 3rd, and Gongsun Wu Ji is ranked 2nd? It's time to act now. Otherwise, he might return to the Azure Green Mansion's base before I have a chance to act."

After obtaining the information he wanted, Duan Ling Tian returned to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm in just a blink of an eye.

The disciples at the site of the Transporting Formation did not even have a chance to greet him before he had left again.

...

A day later.

"Finally! The Azure Green Mansion's base!" After following the directions given to him by one of the Profound Nether Mansion disciples, he finally arrived at the Azure Green Mansion's base. He did not bother to hide and openly approached the Azure Green Mansion's base.

At this moment, two Azure Green Mansion disciples coincidentally walked out of their base.

Buzz!

A grey sword ray shot out from a spatial tear and shot toward the two Azure Green Mansion disciples' vital points before they could even react.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

The two Azure Green Mansion disciples' expressions changed drastically. They could not even see the person who had attacked them! Their hearts raced in their chests when it dawned on them that they would have died if the person who had attacked them chose not to spare them

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian teleported and appeared in front of the two frightened Azure Green Mansion disciples.

"Return to your base or die," Duan Ling Tian said nonchalantly as he stared at the two Azure Green Mansion disciples.

"D-duan Ling Tian?!" The two Azure Green Mansion disciples' expressions changed again when they saw the identity token hanging from Duan Ling Tian's waist and heard his threatening words. They no longer wasted time and scurried back into their base.

Although Duan Ling Tian did not speak loudly, his words were clearly transmitted to those in the Azure Green Mansion's base. With these, the Azure Green Mansion disciples in the base were all aware of Duan Ling Tian's presence outside of their base.

Chapter 3176: The Azure Green Mansion's Base

"Senior Duan Ling Tian!"

A group of Profound Nether Mansion disciples greeted Duan Ling Tian reverently as soon as he appeared in the Profound Nether Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

Duan Ling Tian nodded lightly with a smile on his face in response to the greeting before he prepared to leave the base.

"It's unfortunate that Duan Ling Tian can't meet with the Martial Battle Mansion's Wan Qing Qing and join forces with her. Otherwise, both of them can wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base since Gongsun Wuji isn't a match for both of them if they join forces," a Profound Nether Mansion disciple lamented out loud before Duan Ling Tian left the mansion's base.

"Over the past few years, Gongsun Wuji had waited three times outside our base. Nobody dared to leave the base during those three times," another disciple chimed in.

In the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm, it was considered a public provocation to wait outside another grade-six Celestial Mansion's base. However, it was a normal occurrence between grade-six Celestial Mansions that were enemies to begin with.

Gongsun Wuji, a core disciple from the Azure Green Mansion, was one of the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Whenever he discovered the location of the Profound Nether Mansion's base, he would make a point of waiting outside the Profound Nether Mansion's base. The Profound Nether Mansion disciples were no match for him so they could only stay in the base in fear whenever he waited outside their base.

Duan Ling Tian who was about to leave the Profound Nether Mansion's base came to halt when he heard the conversation in his surroundings. He turned to look at the disciples who had spoken and asked, "Do you know where the Azure Green Mansion's base is located this month?"

"Senior Duan Ling Tian, one of my friends almost died yesterday near the Azure Green Mansion's base. Fortunately, he managed to crush his Accumulative Point Jade in time and escaped. He knows the location of the Azure Green Mansion's base; it's not difficult to find," the disciple who had spoken first quickly replied, "It's unfortunate none of us is as fast as Wan Qing Qing. Otherwise, we would be able to help you."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up as he said, "Where's the Azure Green Mansion's base? Show me the way."

"Senior Duan Ling Tian, we know you're strong, but the Azure Green Mansion has Gongsun Wu Ji!" a disciple warned Duan Ling Tian, "Gongsun Wu Ji is as strong as the Red Leaves Mansion's Ximen Hao Xuan."

"That's right! Senior Duan Ling Tian, the Azure Green Mansion is not like the Fire Glaze Mansion. The Fire Glaze Mansion's strongest Ten Directions Celestial Duke is Tan Yuan; Gongsun Wuji is much stronger than Tan Yuan," another disciple said.

"Gongsun Wu Ji is as strong as Ximen Hao Xuan?" A faint smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face. "Don't worry. Just tell me where's the Azure Green Mansion's base."

Seeing Duan Ling Tian's determination to find out the location of the Azure Green Mansion's base, the disciples could only reveal the location to him.

"Thank you." After Duan Ling Tian thanked the disciples, he vanished without a trace.

One of the disciples asked worriedly, "Do you think Senior Duan Ling Tian is going to wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base?"

"I don't think so... Although Senior Duan Ling Tian is strong, I don't think he's as strong as Gongsun Wu Ji. It's not wise for him to wait outside the Azure Green Mansion's base unless he finds someone to work with," another disciple replied.

The other Profound Nether Mansion disciples remained silent but nodded in agreement. Most of them thought Duan Ling Tian would search for someone to join forces with before heading to the Azure Green Mansion's base.

...

As the day passed by, Duan Ling Tian's ranking improved tremendously.

At the same time, Gongsun Wu Ji's name appeared on the scoreboard as well.

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Gongsun Wu Ji's progress was even faster than Duan Ling Tian. After only a day, he had surpassed Duan Ling Tian on the scoreboard.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who was wandering around the middle realm was unaware of this. He would nod at the Profound Nether Mansion disciples whenever he encountered them and eliminate those from other grade-six Celestial Mansions. Up until now, he had encountered two disciples from the Azure Green Mansion. One of them was only eliminated while the other was killed. This was because the disciple who had died intended to kill Duan Ling Tian when he recognized Duan Ling Tian. Duan Ling Tian, naturally, would not let those who intended to kill him go.

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As time passed, more and more people from other grade-six Celestial Mansions were eliminated by Duan Ling Tian.

"The Profound Nether Mansion's Duan Ling Tian is really strong. He nearly killed me before I could even react! If he didn't spare me, I would've died!"

"I used to doubt Duan Ling Tian's capabilities, but now I'm truly convinced!"

"Didn't they say his capabilities are on par with the second-tier Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm? My speed is definitely among those in the second-tier, but he's clearly faster than me!"

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"Return to your base or die," Duan Ling Tian said nonchalantly as he stared at the two Azure Green Mansion disciples.

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Although Duan Ling Tian did not speak loudly, his words were clearly transmitted to those in the Azure Green Mansion's base. With these, the Azure Green Mansion disciples in the base were all aware of Duan Ling Tian's presence outside of their base.

Chapter 3177: The Death of Gongsun Wu Ji

Ximen Hao Xuan's comprehension ability was on par with Gongsun Wu Ji. Although Ximen Hao Xuan was slower than Gongsun Wu Ji speed-wise, Gongsun Wu Ji was weaker than Ximen Hao Xuan in other aspects. Previously, Ximen Hao Xuan had openly said that his offensive power was inferior to Duan Ling Tian's and that Duan Ling Tian's offensive power was peerless in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. In short, this meant that Gongsun Wu Ji was not a match for Duan Ling Tian in a direct battle.

Gongsun Wu Ji might have had a chance of defeating Duan Ling Tian with his speed before Duan Ling Tian comprehended the law of space's Transportation Profundity. Alas, now that Duan Ling Tian had comprehended the Transportation Profundity to the rudimentary stage, Gongsun Wu Ji did not stand a chance of defeating Duan Ling Tian even if he was slightly faster than Duan Ling Tian. The difference in their speed now was negligible.

'Damn it! He's comprehended the law of space's Transportation Profundity!' Gongsun Wu Ji cursed inwardly as his eyes flashed with resentment. With this revelation, he was aware that he was not a match for Duan Ling Tian; he had already lost this battle.

'I have to return to the base...' Although Gongsun Wu Ji felt incredibly reluctant to return to the Azure Green Mansion's base, he knew he had no other choice. After all, he knew he would only be giving Duan Ling Tian a chance to defeat him if he did not return to the mansion's base.

Swoosh!

Gongsun Wu Ji was about to make his way back to the Azure Green Mansion's base when a purple figure suddenly appeared before him and barred his way. Needless to say, the purple figure was none other than Duan Ling Tian who had just cast the Teleportation Profundity to stop Gongsun Wu Ji from leaving.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Gongsun Wu Ji and said mockingly, "What's the problem? Didn't you say you're going to kill me? Don't tell you're trying to escape now?"

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, peals of laughter rang in the air. A group of Profound Nether Mansion disciples had come over to watch the spectacle. Initially, they were not confident that Duan Ling Tian would be able to defeat Gongsun Wu Ji. However, after watching the recent development that proved Duan Ling Tian's strength, many of them felt reinvigorated. Some of them even began to taunt Gongsun Wu Ji.

"Gongsun Wu Ji, didn't you say that you wanted to kill Senior Brother Ling Tian? What happened? Why are you trying to escape back to the Azure Green Mansion's base?"

"Gongsun Wu Ji, you're a joke!"

"Our Profound Nether Mansion's Senior Brother Ling Tian is the strongest! Even Gongsun Wu Ji needs to turn tail and run when faced with Senior Brother Ling Tian!"

On the contrary, a gloomy atmosphere loomed over the Azure Green Mansion disciples.

A few of those who were knowledgeable already knew the outcome of the battle as soon as they saw Duan Ling Tian casting the law of space's Transportation Profundity.

On the other hand, the remaining majority of the Azure Green Mansion disciples only felt disappointed that the show was ending when they saw Gongsun Wu Ji trying to return to the Azure Green Mansion's base. The fact was most of the Azure Green Mansion disciples only came to watch the show. After all, the match between their mansion's core disciple, Gongsun Wu Ji, and the Profound Nether Mansion's Duan Ling Tian was bound to be exciting. They were eager to watch Gongsun Wu Ji defeat Duan Ling Tian. Alas, not only did Gongsun Wu Ji fail to defeat Duan Ling Tian, but Gongsun Wu Ji was even forced to escape as well. How could they not feel disappointed?

"Let's go! Let's go! There's nothing interesting to see here!"

"I really didn't expect the Profound Nether Mansion's Duan Ling Tian to be so strong that even Senior Brother Gongsun isn't a match for him!"

"Is there anyone in the middle realm who's capable of defeating Duan Ling Tian now?"

"Even Senior Brother Gongsun Wu Ji was forced to escape... I think the other five strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes aren't any faster than Duan Ling Tian, right? Senior Brother Gongsun might be able to escape, but the other five might not be able to escape from Duan Ling Tian, right?"

"Duan Ling Tian's appearance has completely disrupted the power balance in the middle realm!"

"That's right! Unless he's extremely unlucky, the top spot on the scoreboard definitely belongs to him now!"

The Azure Green Mansion disciples' expressions were rather gloomy as they whispered among themselves. Many of them even left the middle realm.

...

Meanwhile, back at the sites of the Transporting Formations in the Azure Green Mansion's estate.

The disciples who chose to return caught everyone's attention. Those who could not enter previously grew excited. Now that there were people leaving, they assumed they would be granted entry to the middle realm.

"Someone's coming!"

"Does this mean I'll be able to enter the middle realm?"

"I want to enter! I want to enter!"

The group of disciples who had returned from the middle realm shook their heads when they heard the others clamoring to enter the middle realm.

"Enter the middle realm? Do all of you plan to enter the middle realm to see how our Azure Green Mansion gets humiliated?"

"It's pointless to enter now... If I knew this would happen, I wouldn't have bothered entering the middle realm."

"How embarrassing!"

The Azure Green Mansion disciples who were denied entry to the middle realm were naturally confused when they heard these words.

"Embarrassing? Humiliating?"

"What happened? Hasn't Senior Brother Gongsun arrived at our base yet?"

Then, the group of disciples who had just returned from the middle realm recounted what had happened, leaving the others in shock.

Gongsun Wu Ji, a core disciple of the Azure Green Mansion, whom they were confident could overpower Duan Ling Tian was forced to escape!

"It's truly embarrassing! I'm not going to enter the middle realm!"

"It's so disappointing! I am not entering as well!"

Not only did the expressions of the disciples turn sour, but even the elders' expressions did not look too good.

If even Gongsun Wu Ji could not defeat Duan Ling Tian, was there anyone in the Azure Green Mansion who was capable of defeating Duan Ling Tian?

It was destined that the Azure Green Mansion's performance in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Realm would not be good this month.

"Fortunately, Senior Brother Gongsun has already risen to second place this month. Even if he's forced to escape, he'll still be able to maintain his rank this month..."

As soon as someone said these words, some of the disciples instinctively turned to look at the scoreboard with a relieved expression on their faces. However, in just a moment, their expressions stiffened when they saw Gongsun Wu Ji's name disappearing from the scoreboard while Duan Ling Tian who was ranked 7th instantly leaped to the top spot!

"How's this possible?!"

"Senior Brother Gongsun is eliminated by Duan Ling Tian?"

"Didn't you say Senior Brother Gongsun was going to escape? He's faster than Duan Ling Tian, right? How did this happen?"

"What happened?"

Gongsun Wu Ji's disappearance from the scoreboard, naturally, caused a huge commotion. After all, even if he was forced to escape by Duan Ling Tian, the Azure Green Mansion disciples and elders did not expect him to be eliminated by Duan Ling Tian. Even if Duan Ling Tian's speed was on par with Gongsun Wu Ji, if push came to shove, Gongsun Wu Ji should still be able to escape from Duan Ling Tian, right?

Who could tell them what happened?

••

Back in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm.

The Azure Green Mansion disciples in their mansion's base were even more shocked compared to those in the mansion's estate. After all, not only did they witness Gongsun Wu Ji's elimination, but they witnessed Gongsun Wu Ji's death!

Although Duan Ling Tian's speed was impressive after he had comprehended the two movement profundities from the law of space, the Teleportation Profundity and the Transportation Profundity, his speed should still be slightly slower than Gongsun Wu Ji. With this, Gongsun Wu Ji should have been able to escape from Duan Ling Tian. However, all of them saw Duan Ling Tian appearing in a flash in front of Gongsun Wu Ji as soon as Gongsun Wu Ji tried to escape. They had even seen the expression of disbelief on Gongsun Wu Ji's face before he was killed by Duan Ling Tian!

With this, it was clear to the onlookers that Duan Ling Tian had been holding back his strength.

The disciples from the other grade-six Celestial Mansions were equally stunned when they witnessed this scene.

"How terrifying! Duan Ling Tian cast the Cross-Dimensional Profundity thrice around Gongsun Wu Ji and created three spatial tears before sword rays shot out at such a speed that Gongsun Wu Ji didn't even have time to dodge them!"

"Casting the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity three times in a row... Is that even possible when he has only comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the rudimentary stage?"

"Based on my knowledge, one can only cast the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity thrice and create three spatial tears once one has comprehended it to the initial stage!"

"Duan Ling Tian has yet to celebrate his 100th birthday, but he's already a Ten Directions Celestial Duke who's comprehended the law of space. As if that's not impressive enough, he even managed to comprehend one of the profundities to the initial stage!"

At this moment, everyone seemed to have forgotten about Gongsun Wu Ji's death. All of their attention was focused on Duan Ling Tian.

Usually, only those who had comprehended nine profundities from a law to the rudimentary stage would have the opportunity to further comprehend the profundities to the initial stage. Apart from that, the majority of those who comprehended profundities to the initial stage were Celestial Lords! It was already a rare occurrence for a Celestial King to comprehend a profundity to the initial stage, let alone a Celestial Duke. No one had ever heard of a Celestial Duke who managed to comprehend a profundity to the initial stage. This was unprecedented in the Southern Heaven Territory!

"Duan Ling Tian must have been hiding his true strength all this time..." Heng Feng, a disciple from the Martial Battle Mansion, said solemnly and with great certainty as he looked at Duan Ling Tian who was hovering high above the Azure Green Mansion's base like a god.

Meanwhile, Wan Qing Qing who was standing nearby was thoroughly shocked as well. At this moment, her usually expressionless face was filled with disbelief and shock. Similar to Heng Feng, she was sure Duan Ling Tian had hidden his true strength before this. Even without her help, he could have ranked first in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm! She could still accept him comprehending the law of space's Transportation Profundity within two weeks. However, she had difficulties believing he had comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage!

"So not only did Duan Ling Tian comprehend at least seven profundities from the law of space, but he has also comprehended one of the profundities to the initial stage!" Many keen observers arrived at the same conclusion.

At this moment, an inner disciple from the Han Qing Mansion said, "This is only Duan Ling Tian's third time in the middle realm, but he has already killed Gongsun Wu Ji... After this battle, I don't think there'll be anyone bold enough to go against him in the middle realm!"

Chapter 3178: The Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion Summons Duan Ling Tian

Wan Qing Qing was puzzled. She could not help but ask through Voice Transmission, "You've comprehended the law of space's Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage? With your strength, why did you need to join forces with me last month?" In her opinion, since Duan Ling Tian had

comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage, he could easily defeat the six strongest Ten Directions Celestial Dukes in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm without her help at all even if his speed was slower. After all, the speed of the attack from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity that had been comprehended to the initial stage was not something that could be easily avoided. As seen earlier, the Azure Green Mansion's Gongsun Wu Ji did not even have time to react before he was killed by the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity.

"At that time, I haven't comprehended it to the initial stage yet," Duan Ling Tian answered honestly. There was no need for him to hide this. The only thing he had to keep a secret was the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity.

In truth, even with the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity, Duan Ling Tian himself did not expect he would be able to comprehend the law of space's Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage at all in such a short time. According to the Chaos Divine Flame, the reason for this was due to the Supreme Powerhouse, who had left the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity behind, being skilled with the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity.

Unlike Fundamental Profundities, comprehending other profundities to the next stage increased one's strength significantly. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian who had comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity from the rudimentary stage to the initial stage had seen his strength increased by several folds.

"Y-you've only comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage recently?" Although Wan Qing Qing was shocked by this revelation, she did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's words.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"What about the other profundities from the law of space? Since you're able to comprehend the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage, you must have already comprehended all nine profundities from the law of space, right? You're as strong as Ximen Hao Xuan, Gongsun Wu Ji, and the others. There's no need for you to join forces with me at all..." Wan Qing Qing asked through Voice Transmission again. It was clear that she was insistent on getting answers.

Duan Ling Tian was rather speechless when he saw how persistent she was. In the end, he only said, "Anyway, all you have to know is that I didn't have the strength to defeat them on my own last month. If I could eliminate them on my own, I wouldn't have joined forces with you." After he finished speaking, he turned to look at the onlookers in the surroundings with bright eyes.

When the disciples from the various grade-six Celestial Mansions saw Duan Ling Tian looking at them with a predatory gaze, their expressions changed immediately. Many of them even tried to flee.

"Oh, no!"

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian vanished into thin air before he reappeared in front of a few disciples from other gradesix Celestial Mansions, preventing them from fleeing. He asked with a grin, "Do I need to make a move?"

The expressions of the disciples who were blocked by Duan Ling Tian were unsightly. Nevertheless, none of them had the courage to fight Duan Ling Tian.

"No, I'll do it myself."

"Me too."

All of them took the initiative to shatter their Accumulative Point Jades.

After obtaining the points, Duan Ling Tian wasted no time in moving on to his next targets. Apart from those from the Profound Nether Mansion and the Martial Battle Mansion, everyone was his target.

Since the Azure Green Mansion disciples were in their mansion's base, they were safe from Duan Ling Tian. None of them dared to leave the base after they witnessed Gongsun Wu Ji's death. For this reason, Duan Ling Tian did not manage to eliminate anyone from the Azure Green Mansion.

Initially, the Martial Battle Mansion disciples were frightened as well since they thought Duan Ling Tian would target them. All of them sighed in relief when they saw Duan Ling Tian had no intentions of attacking them.

Heng Feng looked at Wan Qing Qing and said with a bitter smile on his face, "Junior Sister Qing Qing, it's all thanks to you that we're safe."

It was not difficult to guess why Duan Ling Tian did not target the Martial Battle Mansion disciples. It must be a gesture of goodwill toward Wan Qing Qing. Apart from that, Heng Feng could not think of any other reason why Duan Ling Tian would spare them.

Meanwhile, the disciples in the Azure Green Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm began to leave one after another through the Transporting Formation in their base.

...

After the Azure Green Mansion disciples returned to their mansion's estate, news of Gongsun Wu Ji's death, naturally, began to spread in the Azure Green Mansion.

The high-ranking officials from the Azure Green Mansion were all summoned to an emergency meeting by the Mansion Master of the Azure Green Mansion not long after news of Gongsun Wu Ji's death spread out.

Bang!

The Mansion Master of the Azure Green Mansion was so furious that he broke the table in front of him when he slammed his hands down on the table.

"The Profound Nether Mansion's Duan Ling Tian killed Gongsun Wu Ji... From now on, it'll be difficult for us to perform well in the middle realm and obtain rewards from the Ten Major Clans!"

"Duan Ling Tian must die!"

"Don't let me run into him! Otherwise, I'd tear him into a million pieces!"

Similarly, the high-ranking officials of the Azure Green Mansion were furious as well.

Gongsun Wu Ji was the Azure Green Mansion's most outstanding disciple in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. Now that Duan Ling Tian had killed him, they had lost their trump card.

This was undoubtedly a huge loss to the mansion. Apart from that, this was also the first time the Azure Green Mansion suffered such a huge loss in the hands of the Profound Nether Mansion.

At this moment, someone said, "Let's hire an assassin to get rid of Duan Ling Tian..."

One of the Vice Mansion Masters of the Azure Green Mansion said in a low voice, "I have a contact in the Blood Skull Gang!"

"Contact the Blood Skull Gang now!"

With permission from the mansion master, the vice mansion master wasted no time in contacting a high-ranking official in the Blood Skull Gang. However, as soon as he received the reply from the Blood Skull Gang, a strange expression appeared on his face.

The others, naturally, noticed the vice mansion master's strange expression.

"What's the matter?"

"What happened?"

"Don't tell me Duan Ling Tian has an extraordinary background and the Blood Skull Gang doesn't dare to accept this job?"

"The Blood Skull Gang is one of the top assassin organizations in the Southern Heaven Territory. If they don't accept this job, I'm afraid other assassin organizations won't dare to accept this job as well."

Finally, the vice mansion master shook his head and said, "No, it's not that... I spoke to my contact in the Blood Skull Gang. He said there's no need for us to hire them for this job because someone has already put out a hit on Duan Ling Tian."

"So someone has already put a hit out on Duan Ling Tian?"

"It seems like Duan Ling Tian has offended quite a number of people."

Someone said with a scoff, "That's great then. We don't have to waste our Celestial Crystals."

...

In the Profound Nether Mansion's estate.

Although the members of the Profound Nether Mansion were shocked as well, the atmosphere in the estate was naturally different from the atmosphere in the Azure Green Mansion's estate.

"Duan Ling Tian killed the Azure Green Mansion's Gongsun Wu Ji?"

"That's great news! I didn't expect I would be able to see this day! Gongsun Wu Ji killed my cousin in the past. I say good riddance! Good riddance!"

"I wonder where Senior Brother Duan came from? He's so powerful that he's even able to kill Gongsun Wu Ji!"

"Rumors have it that not only Senior Brother Duan has comprehended all nine profundities from the law of space, but he has also comprehended the law of space's Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage!"

"He comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the Initial Stage? Is that real? As far as I know, in the entire history of the Southern Heaven Territory, no one under the stage of a Celestial King has ever comprehended a profundity to the initial stage!"

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian has made history!"

The Profound Nether Mansion elders and disciples were delighted by the news of Gongsun Wu Ji's death, but they were puzzled by Duan Ling Tian's strength.

Meanwhile, those who were at the three sites of the Transporting Formations in the Profound Nether Mansion looked at the scoreboard intently as Duan Ling Tian rose to the first place with more than 1,000 points.

"Look! Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian has accumulated more than 1,000 points again!"

"Amazing! Truly amazing!"

"Since Senior Brother Ling Tian is capable of killing Gongsun Wu Ji, he should be able to eliminate the other five as well!"

"I'm sure those five Ten Directions Celestial Dukes have already received the news of Senior Brother Duan killing Gongsun Wu Ji. With this, they probably won't dare to fight Senior Brother Duan if they meet him."

"Not even in my wildest dreams did I imagine our Profound Nether Mansion would one day be invincible in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Heaven."

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is truly outstanding... I'm afraid he won't stay in the Profound Nether Mansion for long."

"Senior Brother Ling Tian achieved all these feats even before reaching the age of 100. It's obvious he's destined for bigger things. In my opinion, it won't be long before the Su Clan sends someone over for him."

The grade-six Celestial Mansions in the Southern Heaven Territory were under the control of a clan. Each of the Ten Major Clans controlled six grade-six Celestial Mansions. The Profound Nether Mansion was under the Su Clan.

Meanwhile, after receiving a message from the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion, Qi Tian Ming hurriedly sent a message to Duan Ling Tian who was still in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. "Duan Ling Tian, since you've already accumulated more than 1,000 points, you can leave the middle realm now. That person in the Imperial Tutor Pavilion wants to meet you."

Similar to everyone else, Qi Tian Ming was also shocked when he heard about Duan Ling Tian comprehending the law of space's Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage. He was rather skeptical and thought, perhaps, the matter had been exaggerated. Therefore, he planned to ask Duan Ling Tian about this matter when Duan Ling Tian returned to the Profound Nether Mansion's estate.

With this thought in mind, Qi Tian Ming sent another message to Duan Ling Tian again. "If you really comprehended the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage, there's a high chance the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion will end the test in advance and directly make you the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion!"

...

After Duan Ling Tian received the two messages from Qi Tian Ming, he made his way to the Profound Nether Mansion's base in the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm so he could return to the Profound Nether Mansion's estate through the Transporting Formation in the base.

Once Duan Ling Tian returned to the estate, all the elders and disciples who saw him would cheer and greet him enthusiastically. After all, he was now one of the most famous people in the Profound Nether Mansion.

Duan Ling Tian wasted no time and went to look for Qi Tian Ming immediately as soon as he returned.

"I'll bring you there!" Qi Tian Ming led Duan Ling Tian to the Imperial Tutor Pavilion as soon as he saw Duan Ling Tian.

During their journey, Qi Tian Ming could no longer hold back his curiosity so he asked, "You... Did you really comprehend the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage?"

Chapter 3179: A Lavish Meeting Gift

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded in response to Qi Tian Ming's question. It was not a secret since many people from various grade-six Celestial Mansions had witnessed this when he killed the Azure Green Mansion's Gongsun Wu Ji.

Although Qi Tian Ming had prepared himself for this answer, he still inhaled sharply when Duan Ling Tian confirmed it. He asked curiously, "When did you comprehend it to the initial stage? I recall you still had to team up with Wan Qing Qing last month to eliminate the Red Leaves Mansion's Ximen Hao Xuan."

"I comprehended it just a few days ago before I entered the middle realm," Duan Ling Tian replied lightly.

The corners of Qi Tian Ming's mouth began twitching upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words. After a beat, he asked, "What about the other profundities from the law of space? Have you already comprehended the remaining profundities to the rudimentary stage?"

"No." Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "I have yet to comprehend the remaining two profundities from the law of space."

Currently, apart from the Space Elemental Profundity, Duan Ling Tian had comprehended the Territory Profundity, the Restraining Profundity, the Distortion Profundity, the Teleportation Profundity, the Transportation Profundity, and the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity. He had comprehended seven out of nine profundities from the law of space and had yet to encounter the other two profundities.

Apart from the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity that had been comprehended to the initial stage, the remaining six profundities were all comprehended to the rudimentary stage.

"There are still two profundities you've yet to comprehend? Is this true?" Qi Tian Ming asked in disbelief. He was so surprised that he stopped in his tracks immediately upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. He knew why Qi Tian Ming was shocked.

Generally, before comprehending a profundity to the initial stage, one would comprehend all nine profundities from a law to the rudimentary stage first. This was the case for 9999 out of 10,000 people. Those who could comprehend a profundity to the initial stage before comprehending all nine profundities to the rudimentary stage were extremely rare; they were considered as peerless geniuses.

"Initially, I assumed you were only able to comprehend the law of space due to the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruit. However, it's obvious now that your comprehension ability is truly outstanding!" Qi Tian Ming exclaimed.

The law of space was notoriously difficult to comprehend. Only a handful of people had succeeded in comprehending the law of space. Among 10,000 people who had comprehended the law of space, perhaps, only one person would be able to comprehend a profundity from the law of space to the initial stage before comprehending all nine profundities from the law of space to the rudimentary stage first. Duan Ling Tian was clearly that person.

Although the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity played a big part in Duan Ling Tian's success of comprehending the Cross-Dimensional Slash Profundity to the initial stage before comprehending all nine profundities from the law of space to the rudimentary stage, Duan Ling Tian's high comprehension skill played a role as well.

Soon enough, Qi Tian Ming and Duan Ling Tian arrived at the Imperial Tutor Pavilion. This time, the Illusory Formation disappeared as soon as they arrived.

Qi Tian Ming remained silent; he did not dare to speak.

"Hm?" As soon as the Illusory Formation disappeared, Duan Ling Tian saw a figure standing nearby looking at him.

The figure belonged to a tall and muscular middle-aged man who was dressed in a dark green robe. He looked majestic and imposing even without having to try.

'Is he the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion?' Duan Ling Tian wondered inwardly.

At this moment, Qi Tian Ming who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian bowed and greeted the middle-aged man, "Lord Mansion Master."

'Mansion master?' With this, Duan Ling Tian knew that he had guessed wrongly.

The mansion master nodded in response to Qi Tian Ming before he turned to look at Duan Ling Tian and said with a small smile on his face, "Duan Ling Tian, you did well in the middle realm of Southern Heaven Ancient Realm. The Profound Nether Mansion definitely will not mistreat. Now, let's meet the grandmaster."

"Inspector Qi, you may take your leave..." the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion added before he turned around to lead Duan Ling Tian away.

"Grandmaster?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned.

"The Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion is most likely Lord Mansion Master's grandmaster," Qi Tian Ming said to Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission. Then, he cupped his fists together at the mansion master before he left.

'The pavilion master is the mansion master's grandmaster?' Duan Ling Tian did not expect the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion to be the grandmaster of the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion.

Duan Ling Tian followed the mansion master's lead until they finally arrived at the backyard of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion.

The backyard was huge, and half of it was occupied by a lake.

At this moment, a skinny old man wearing a bamboo hat could be seen fishing by the lake.

"Grandmaster." The Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion bowed respectfully. "I've brought him here."

The old man put down his fishing rod as soon as the mansion master finished speaking. He rose to his feet and turned to look at Duan Ling Tian with a piercing gaze.

When the old man looked at him, Duan Ling Tian felt as though his thoughts were laid bare before the old man.

"I thought it'd take you longer to pass the test. Who knew you'd grow so strong and overpower everyone in the middle realm in just a few short months?"

Although Duan Ling Tian did not have a clear look at the pavilion master's appearance previously, he could tell the voice belonged to the person who had spoken to him during his first visit here.

"Since you've already overpowered everyone in the middle realm, I'll consider you to have passed the test," the old man said with gleaming eyes, "From today onward, Duan Ling Tian, you're the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion... After such a long time, my Profound Nether Mansion has an Imperial Tutor again. The Imperial Tutor Pavilion will open once again!"

"Thank you, senior." Duan Ling Tian thanked the old man. Since he had already expected this, he was not surprised.

Then, the old man looked at the mansion master as he said, "You may take your leave."

The mansion master bowed before he left.

Currently, only the old man and Duan Ling Tian were left in the huge backyard.

"The first time we met, I've already asked you for your reasons for wanting to become the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion so I won't ask you that again," the old man said.

Duan Ling Tian remembered his answer. He had said that he wanted to become the Imperial Tutor so he could enjoy the cultivation resources that came with that position. Apart from that, the Profound Nether Mansion was a perfect stepping stone for him to move on from the Southern Heaven Territory to a higher stage.

"With your current strength, it's pointless for you to enter the middle realm again. Here! These two Celestial Fruits are for you!" The old man casually tossed two Celestial Fruits over to Duan Ling Tian.

One of the Celestial Fruits was red while the other was green. The red fruit emitted heat while the green fruit emitted a chilly air.

"These are..." Duan Ling Tian instinctively reached out to catch the Celestial Fruits. His eyes widened a moment after he had a good look at the fruits. "Are these... Are these the Ice King Celestial Fruit and the Fire King Celestial Fruit?"

"You're quite knowledgeable to be able to recognize the fruits." The old man was slightly surprised that Duan Ling Tian recognized the fruits. However, from the beginning until the end, his face remained expressionless. "Since you know what the fruits are, I'm sure you know about their effects as well. I won't explain so much then..."

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian had a hard time concentrating on the old man's words. His attention was drawn to the two Celestial Fruits in his hands.

Duan Ling Tian had only read about these two Celestial Fruits in the Simplicity Celestial Sect's library; he had not seen them before. Both the Fire King Celestial Fruit and the Ice King Celestial Fruit were incredibly rare. The price of one of the fruits on the black market would not be any less than the cost of an ordinary Royal Grade Celestial Weapon. The combination of the Fire King Celestial Fruit and the Ice King Celestial Fruit was likely worth the same as a purely defensive Royal Grade Celestial Weapon. It was only natural since their effects were heaven-defying.

It was common knowledge that the higher one's cultivation base was, the harder it would be to break through. The gap between the higher stages was like a huge chasm. However, if a Ten Directions Celestial Duke were to consume these two Celestial Fruits, they would instantly break through and become a One Basic Celestial King.

It should be noted some people cultivated their entire lives but they could only stay at the stage of a Ten Directions Celestial Duke. However, with these Celestial Fruits, they would be able to become a Celestial King.

When Duan Ling Tian finally regained his senses, he looked at the old man and asked tentatively, "Senior... Are you really giving these to me?"

"Why would I give them to you if they weren't for you?" A rare smile appeared on the old man's face when he spoke.

"Thank you, senior!" Although Duan Ling Tian knew there were many benefits to becoming the Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion, he did not expect to receive a Fire King Celestial Fruit and an Ice King Celestial Fruit as a meeting gift. They were truly a lavish meeting gift.

"There's one more thing.... Someone from the Su Clan will be here in a few days. I won't be able to hide you away at that time," the old man said as his expression turned slightly solemn, "I can promise you that you'll definitely gain more by staying in the Profound Nether Mansion compared to the Su Clan. Certainly, when the time is right, I won't hinder your progress and keep you in the Profound Nether Mansion. I'll personally bring you to the Su Clan! With your strength at that time, you'll receive the best treatment in the Su Clan. With that said, the first thing you'll have to do is trust me..."

Chapter 3180: Duan Ling Tian is a Celestial King

Duan Ling Tian's eyes widened imperceptibly when he heard the old man's words. "Senior, you're saying I shouldn't join the Su Clan too soon?"

"That's right. If you join them too early, they won't value you," the old man replied, "Naturally, I won't stop you if you insist on joining them now. Apart from that, if you decide to stay in the Profound Nether Mansion in the meantime, you'll have to promise me something. If you agree to it, I can tell you it'll be more beneficial than going to the Su Clan now. Even if you don't agree to it, I still think it's more beneficial for you to stay in the mansion now."

Duan Ling Tian cocked an eyebrow upon hearing the old man's words. "Promise? What is it? What's the condition?"

"It's not exactly a condition; it's an old rule of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion... Since the former Imperial Tutor perished, and I took it upon myself to guard the pavilion, we've had this rule," the old man explained, "The new Imperial Tutor must avenge the former Imperial Tutor. If you succeed, you'll get the best treatment in the Profound Nether Mansion!"

"The former Imperial Tutor?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly taken aback. "Senior, are you referring to the Imperial Tutor from 30,000 years ago whose wife was raped?"

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, he felt a terrifying energy roll off the old man's body. As soon as the energy swept over him, he felt his blood qi and energy surged. With this, he could tell the old man was incredibly angry.

'Why is he so angry? 30,000 years have passed since then... Is it possible that he's also the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion at that time? Perhaps, he was the one who guided and cultivated the former Imperial Tutor?' Duan Ling Tian speculated inwardly. If his speculation was right, he could understand why the old man was so angry.

"Yes, I'm referring to that Imperial Tutor." The old man forcibly suppressed his anger and calmed down before he said, "Before you decide, it's my duty to inform you the person you're to seek revenge from is the current Clan Leader of the He Clan, which is one of the Ten Major Clans. He's a Celestial Lord. Will you agree to this?" After he finished speaking, he looked at Duan Ling Tian intently, waiting for Duan Ling Tian's answer.

"I agree," Duan Ling Tian said, "That man has no conscience. He deserves to be punished!" He had never considered himself to be particularly righteous, but he would not stand by and do nothing if people went overboard with their actions.

Previously, when Sun Liang Peng, the Sect Leader of the Simplicity Celestial Sect, told him about what happened to the former Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion, he had already been disgusted by the behavior of the current Clan Leader of the He Clan. If he had the chance and the strength, he would certainly right the wrong. For this reason, he did not hesitate to promise the old man.

"Great!" The old man's eyes brightened upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's reply. Then, he said solemnly, "Duan Ling Tian, my seniority is the highest in the Profound Nether Mansion. Even the current mansion master is a disciple of my disciple. Today, I promise you that once you become the Profound Nether Mansion's Imperial Tutor, you'll enjoy the treatment similar, if not better, to the mansion master. You're also now under my protection. In fact, I'll deal with Blood Skull Gang as well. I'll personally ask them to abort their mission and make them promise not to accept any jobs to assassinate you.' He sounded confident when he spoke; it was as though the Blood Skull Gang was nothing.

"Senior, I have no objections to everything you promised me, but you don't have to deal with the Blood Skull Gang on my behalf. I'll deal with them myself."

"You'll deal with them yourself?" The old man looked at Duan Ling Tian, slightly taken aback. "There are many assassins who are Celestial Lords in the Blood Skull Gang... Moreover, their leader isn't an ordinary Celestial Lord. In fact, he isn't any weaker than me."

"Senior, where does he stand in comparison to the Clan Leader of the He Clan?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

"Naturally, the Clan Leader of the He Clan is much stronger," the old man said as his eyes flashed with killing intent. If the Clan Leader of the He Clan was weaker than the Leader of the Blood Skull Gang, he would have killed the Clan Leader of the He Clan a long time ago. Since the Clan Leader of the He Clan was more powerful than him, he had created the rule to avenge the former Imperial Tutor of the Profound Nether Mansion.

"If that's the case, why should I worry about the Leader of the Blood Skull Gang? If I can't even deal with the Leader of the Blood Skull Gang, how am I supposed to seek revenge from the Clan Leader of the He Clan?"

The old man was briefly rendered speechless by Duan Ling Tian's words. Inwardly, he thought Duan Ling Tian was rather admirable and righteous despite being ambitious. Naturally, his expressions did not betray his thoughts. In the end, he said, "In that case, I hope you'll show me your strength and deal with the Blood Skull Gang soon..."

...

A few days later.

Just as the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion had said, the Su Clan sent someone to the Profound Nether Mansion to bring Duan Ling Tian to the clan.

"The Profound Nether Mansion's disciple, Duan Ling Tian, is extraordinarily talented so the Su Clan would like to bring him back to help him with his cultivation," the representative from the Su Clan said to the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion.

The mansion master replied with a smile, "The Profound Nether Mansion has no objections. We'll leave the decision to Duan Ling Tian."

"Could he possibly reject the Su Clan?" The representative from the Su Clan was clearly confident Duan Ling Tian would not refuse the Su Clan's invitation.

The representative from the Su Clan was, naturally, stunned when the mansion master summoned Duan Ling Tian over, and Duan Ling Tian refused the invitation. He asked in disbelief, "You're declining the invitation?"

"It's not that. I just think that I'm not powerful enough to join the Su Clan yet. When I grow stronger, I'll definitely join the Su Clan. I won't consider the other nine clans and five sects," Duan Ling Tian said, "This is my promise to you and the Su Clan."

"Will you reconsider your decision?" The representative from the Su Clan frowned. He had come on the orders of the Grand Elder of the Su Clan. If he failed to bring Duan Ling Tian back to the clan, the grand elder would surely question his ability. However, the grand elder had also said not to use force if Duan Ling Tian refused to join the Su Clan.

"I've made up my mind." Duan Ling Tian shook his head.

"Alright! I hope you'll remember your promise..." The representative from the Su Clan looked at Duan Ling Tian before he left. He did not think his trip to the Profound Nether Mansion was a waste. At the very least, Duan Ling Tian had given his word that he would only join the Su Clan. 'I think the grand elder won't punish me since Duan Ling Tian has promised to join our clan in the future...'

After the representative from the Su Clan left, Duan Ling Tian asked the Mansion Master of the Profound Nether Mansion, "Mansion Master, the pavilion master has said that there's no longer any need for me to enter the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm and to concentrate on becoming a Celestial King. Are you okay with this?"

Duan Ling Tian knew how important the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm was to grade-six Celestial Mansions. Otherwise, the grade-six Celestial Mansions would not expend so much effort to cultivate so many Ten Directions Celestial Dukes to represent them in the middle realm and fight for high rankings on the scoreboard.

"I have no objections regarding grandmaster's decisions." The mansion master made it clear he would agree to whatever the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion said.

With this, Duan Ling Tian could see the weight the Pavilion Master of the Imperial Tutor Pavilion carried in the Profound Nether Mansion. In fact, before he spoke to the mansion master, he had already expected this outcome. He merely wanted further confirmation. He was ready to break through and become a Celestial King with the help of the Ice King Celestial Fruit and the Fire King Celestial Fruit!

Previously, Duan Ling Tian was granted the power of a Celestial King from the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon. However, it was only for a brief period. Once he had broken through and become a Celestial King, the power of a Celestial King would be truly his.

. . .

As soon as Duan Ling Tian returned to the Imperial Tutor Pavilion, he went into closed-door cultivation.

After consuming the Ice King Celestial Fruit and the Fire King Celestial Fruit, he could feel two orbs of medicinal efficacy slowly traveling through his body.

At the same time, he circulated his energy according to his cultivation method. He cultivated using the King Grade Tai Yi Profound Method, which was given to him by Huan'er's grandaunt.

Time continued to pass by silently.

Duan Ling Tian was so immersed in cultivation that he lost all track of time. It was only when he had become a Celestial King that he opened his eyes.

He could clearly sense his Celestial Origin Energy was different from before; it was now richer and purer.

The biggest change he discovered was in the Little World that he had created. With his recent breakthrough, not only did the Little World grew bigger, but it was even more life-like. Apart from that, the main branch from the Divine Tree of Life that was located in the heart of the little world had grown to twice its original size. It looked like a vibrant tree now.

'Now that I've become a Celestial King, I think it's possible for me to create another Little World...' With this thought in mind, Duan Ling Tian waved his hand.

Subsequently, a spatial tear appeared in the void next to him. Instead of leading to the turbulent space, this spatial tear was an opening to another Little World.

With another wave of his hand, he pulled the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the surroundings into the space inside the spatial tear.