

Chapter 3221: Grassroots Prodigies

The Palm Fire Zen Sect's Wang Ye stepped aside to watch the show as soon as he finished speaking. He made it clear he would not interfere.

The Palm Fire Zen Sect's Liu Tong followed suit and stepped to the side as well. The corners of his mouth could not stop twitching the entire time.

The Ganges Profound Sect's elder, Qin He Dao, looked at Duan Ling Tian coldly and asked in a low voice, "Boy, did you kill our Ganges Profound Sect's Elder Sun Yu?"

"That's right." Duan Ling Tian nodded nonchalantly.

"Why did you kill Elder Sun Yu?"

The other three men from the Ganges Profound Sect were also staring at Duan Ling Tian coldly at this moment.

"He tried to attack me after I harvested a Celestial Fruit. Why? Should I stand still and wait for him to kill me instead?" Duan Ling Tian said lightly as he swept his gaze across the men from the Ganges Profound Sect.

"Boy, since you dare kill an elder of the Ganges Profound Sect, you can just stay here forever!" the only middle-aged man among the group of people from the Ganges Profound Sect said coldly. His eyes flashed with killing intent when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Meanwhile, the other three old men, including Qin He Dao, stared at Duan Ling Tian, waiting for an opportunity to strike.

"Are all of you going to attack me?" Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly as he said, "Make sure you've thought this through."

"Boy, today will be your death anniversary! This is for killing an elder from the Ganges Profound Sect!" the middle-aged man cried out.

When the fight was about to begin, Liu Tong could not help but ask Wang Ye through Voice Transmission, "Elder Wang, should we give them a heads up? Based on the situation, it's unlikely that these young ones will show mercy like they did earlier."

"Elder Liu, you're an elder of the Palm Fire Zen Sect. Why do you care if those from the Ganges Profound Sect die?" Wang Ye replied indifferently through Voice Transmission.

At this moment, the four men from the Ganges Profound Sect had begun to attack Duan Ling Tian. Since they had heard from Qin He Dao that the purple-clad young man in front of them had comprehended the law of space's Teleportation Profundity to the initial stage, they intended to kill him with one move to prevent him from escaping.

Wang Ye was clearly delighted as he watched the scene before him. Soon after, as he had expected, the four men from the Ganges Profound Sect were all killed without any exception. However, he was

surprised that it was not the purple-clad young man who had made a move. Instead, it was the beautiful white-clad woman who made a move. Most shockingly, the woman took less than one breath to kill the four Celestial Lords from the Ganges Profound Sect!

Wang Ye and Liu Tong's jaws slackened, and their eyes looked as though they were going to pop out of their sockets as they stared at Huan'er.

"W-was that a soul attack?"

When Wang Ye and Liu Tong recalled the expressions on the faces of the four men from the Ganges Profound Sect before they died, they felt chills running up their spines. Fear lingered in their hearts when they regained their senses, and their expressions turned solemn immediately.

The Palm Fire Zen Sect's Liu Tong thought to himself, 'Fortunately, she didn't use this move when we were fighting earlier. Otherwise, I would've died!'

Earlier, Duan Ling Tian had faced Wang Ye while Huan'er faced Liu Tong. Therefore, after Liu Tong witnessed her killing the men from the Ganges Profound Sect, he was keenly aware that Huan'er had held back significantly when they fought earlier.

After retrieving the Spatial Rings and the Celestial Weapons of the group from the Ganges Profound Sect, Duan Ling Tian asked Wang Ye, "Did you think you could borrow our hands to kill those people?"

Duan Ling Tian, naturally, knew Wang Ye had intentionally withheld information from those people from the Ganges Profound Sect.

Indeed. Wang Ye did not warn the people from the Ganges Profound Sect because he knew they would underestimate Duan Ling Tian and suffer the consequences as a result.

"My lord, that wasn't my intention... I just thought we shouldn't be the ones to suffer a loss. I just wanted to see them lose their Celestial Fruits and herbs as well," Wang Ye hastily explained as his expression changed, "After all, if they didn't strike first, you won't have a valid reason to seize their Celestial Fruits and herbs, right?"

"So you're saying you're doing it to help me?" Duan Ling Tian asked with a smile.

"Of course." Wang Ye nodded with a righteous expression on his face even though it was clear he was blatantly lying.

Even Liu Tong who was standing next to Wang Ye could not bear to watch this.

Duan Ling Tian no longer teased Wang Ye. He called out, "Huan'er, let's go!"

There was not much time left before the grade-three medicinal herb paradise closed so Duan Ling Tian wanted to use whatever time they had left to search for more Celestial Fruits and herbs in places that were hidden by Illusory Formations.

After the duo left, Wang Ye and Liu Tong heaved a sigh of relief.

Wang Ye smiled bitterly as he said, "Who knew a Ten Direction Celestial King and a One Basic Celestial Lord could be so powerful? I feel like I've lived my life in vain..."

“You aren’t the only one... It’s truly demoralizing when I look at them.” Liu Tong replied with a wry smile.

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Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s trip to the grade-three medicinal herb paradise was truly fruitful. The Celestial Fruits they obtained made Duan Ling Tian feel confident that he would be able to break through and become a One Basic Celestial Lord within the next thirty years.

After Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er left the grade-three medicinal herb paradise, they returned to the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect’s estate instead of Glacier Valley. This was because the advantages of cultivating in Glacier Valley could not compare to the benefits from the Celestial Fruits they obtained. Moreover, Huan’er liked staying in the sect’s estate more than staying in Glacier Valley.

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Spring came and left. Time flew by quickly; twenty years passed by in just a blink of an eye.

At this moment, Huan’er had become a Three Talents Celestial Lord.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian had yet to become a One Basic Celestial Lord. Apart from that, he did not make any further progress in comprehending the law of space as well.

‘Apart from the Space Elemental Profundity that can’t be improved, I have comprehended all profundities from the law of space to the initial stage. Something seems to be lacking... I can’t seem to comprehend the profundities to the mastery stage,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. He had tried to comprehend the law of space’s profundities to the mastery stage many times but failed in the end.

Duan Ling Tian was already frustrated about the lack of progress in his cultivation base. Needless to say, he was doubly frustrated when there was no progress in his comprehension of the law of space as well.

The Chaos Divine Flame was aware of Duan Ling Tian’s vexations so it explained, “It’s impossible for someone who’s below the stage of a Celestial Lord to comprehend a profundity to the mastery stage. You’ll have to be a One Basic Celestial Lord at least to comprehend a profundity to the mastery stage.”

Duan Ling Tian was enlightened by the Chaos Divine Flame’s words, but these words did not ease his frustrations.

“There are only ten years left before the Genius Secret Realm opens... I can only hope to have a breakthrough within these ten years...”

At this point, despite the lack of progress, Duan Ling Tian was just a hair’s breadth away from a breakthrough and becoming a One Basic Celestial Lord. His situation was similar to Huan’er’s situation when they left the Spirit Overarching Heaven. As time passed, her cultivation base finally improved.

With this thought in mind, he thought to himself bitterly, ‘So does this mean the only thing I can do is wait?’

In the end, Duan Ling Tian decided to leave the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect again to travel. He thought, perhaps, he would have an enlightenment while traveling that would enable him to break through.

Alas, year after year went by, but Duan Ling Tian's breakthrough was nowhere to be found.

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"The Nan Dou Territory's Genius Secret Realm that opens once every 1,000 years will finally be open next year... I only have a year left..."

As the day of the opening of the Genius Secret Realm drew closer and closer, Duan Ling Tian felt the pressure mounting as well. His entrance to the Genius Secret Realm hinged on him breaking through and becoming a Celestial Lord.

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The opening of the Genius Secret Realm was a big event in the Nan Dou Territory. Many forces in the Nan Dou Territory would send their young geniuses into the secret realm.

With a year left until the opening of the Genius Secret Realm, it was already buzzing everywhere in the Nan Dou Territory.

"It has been a long time since we saw a grassroots prodigy rise above young geniuses from grade-one forces in the Genius Secret Realm... Over the past 10,000 years, the young geniuses from the grade-one forces had taken the spotlight in the secret realm. Although there were a few outstanding grassroots prodigies, they can't compare to those from grade-one forces..."

"That's not surprising. Those young geniuses were carefully raised by the forces they belong to, and they're given superior cultivating resources. How can grassroots prodigies compare to them?"

"It's good enough for these grassroots prodigies to be recruited by grade-one forces if they perform well in the Genius Secret Realm."

"Well, apart from being a place for young geniuses from grade-one forces to showcase their strength and search for treasures, the Genius Secret Realm is also a place for grassroots prodigies to prove themselves."

"That's right. Outstanding grassroots prodigies will be invited to join grade-one forces. However, in the past 10,000 years, only two sectless cultivators were invited to join the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory. They joined the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan respectively. As for the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, it has been more than 10,000 years since they extended an invitation to a grassroots prodigy..."

The Ancient Phoenix Clan, the Baili Clan, and the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect were the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory. It was said that the absence of a ruling titled Celestial Emperor in the Nan Dou Territory was due to these three grade-one forces. There were suspicions that three sects had Celestial Emperors comparable to titled Celestial Emperors; rumor had it that these Celestial Emperors did not bother to claim their titles in the Title Temple. Due to the delicate balance between the three forces, there was not one force among the three that solely dominated the Nan Dou Territory.

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Only Celestial Lords under the age of 1,000 could enter the Genius Secret Realm. Those who were capable of becoming Celestial Lords before the age of 1,000 were undoubtedly geniuses.

Apart from the young geniuses from various grade-one forces, sectless cultivators and cultivators from forces below grade one were collectively known as grassroots prodigies.

Most young geniuses from grade-one forces entered the Genius Secret Realm to seek treasures and fortuitous encounters while grassroots prodigies, apart from seeking treasures and fortuitous encounters, usually entered the secret realm to display their strength in hopes of being invited to join a grade-one force.

Although there were other grade-one forces, most grassroots prodigies, naturally, hoped to join the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory; the Ancient Phoenix Clan, the Baili Clan, and the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect.

Most grade-one forces would recruit disciples after the opening of the Genius Secret Realm. However, in the past 10,000 years, among the three strongest grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory, the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan only accepted a grassroots prodigy each.

Chapter 3222: The Genius Secret Realm

Usually, most grade-one forces would recruit disciples during the opening of the Genius Secret Realm. However, they would only take the initiative to recruit truly outstanding grassroots prodigies. These grassroots prodigies could also join some first-grade forces without an invitation, but the treatment between those who were invited to join and those who voluntarily joined was vastly different.

Over the past 10,000 years, two of the three strongest grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory, the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan, had only invited a grassroots prodigy each to join them. On the other hand, the third strongest grade-one force, the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, had not extended an invitation to anyone in the past 10,000 years.

“I wonder if there will be any grassroots prodigy whom the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect deemed worthy of extending an invitation to.”

“That’s unlikely to happen. The Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect’s bar is set much higher than the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan. They won’t simply invite a grassroots prodigy to join them.”

“I agree. Compared to the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, there’s a higher chance of us seeing the Ancient Phoenix Clan or the Baili Clan inviting a grassroots prodigy to join them.”

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There were entrances to the Genius Secret Realm all over the Nan Dou Territory. As long as the requirements were met, anyone could enter the Genius Secret Realm. Even someone from another territory would be able to enter the Genius Secret Realm as long as they were a Celestial Lord below the age of 1,000.

Apart from that, the Genius Secret Realm entrances would only be open for three days and three nights. After that, there would be no way to enter the secret realm.

There were plenty of people across the Nan Dou Territory who were in a similar situation as Duan Ling Tian. Their cultivation bases were stuck at that of a Ten Direction Celestial King, and they just needed a push to break through and become a Celestial Lord. With the opening of the Genius Secret Realm drawing closer and closer, they were all frantically searching for an opportunity to break through and become a Celestial Lord in order to enter the secret realm.

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As the days passed, the opening of the Genius Secret Realm drew closer and closer.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was sitting in one of the mountain valleys in the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect. He sighed before he muttered to himself, "It's over for me... There's only one month left to go. I wonder if I'll be able to trick the Genius Secret Realm into letting me in if I use the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon to boost my cultivation base to that of a One Basic Celestial Lord?"

With that thought in mind, Duan Ling Tian decided to look for Chai Xiong Yi, the Sect Leader of the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect, for answers. After spending all these years in the sect, he was aware that Chai Xiong Yi was the most knowledgeable person in the sect. In fact, it was not an exaggeration to say Chai Xiong Yi was the most knowledgeable person in Northern Iceland.

After listening to Duan Ling Tian's question, Chai Xiong Yi said, "Revered Elder, what you suggested will work. However, do you think it's possible for you not to expend any energy once you're in the Genius Secret Realm? After all, your cultivation base would fall the more energy you use. At that time when your cultivation base reverts back to that of a Ten Directions Celestial King, you'll be transported out of the secret realm. There is no lack of people who tried to circumvent the rules with this method, but all of them were eventually transported out of the secret realm."

Duan Ling Tian fell silent upon hearing Chai Xiong Yi's words.

Upon seeing Duan Ling Tian remaining silent, Chai Xiong Yi put forth a bold suggestion. "Revered Elder, since you have a consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon, why don't you use it now and try to familiarize yourself with the cultivation base of a Celestial Lord. Perhaps, it'll give you the enlightenment you need to break through and become a One Basic Celestial Lord. With your current cultivation base, it's not a waste for you to use the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up immediately upon hearing Chai Xiong Xi's suggestions. 'That's right! Why didn't I think of this?'

He did not hesitate and used up the last of the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon to temporarily raise his cultivation base.

After the final use, the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon slowly disappeared.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base, Celestial Origin Energy, and Soul Energy were that of a One Basic Celestial Lord.

'This is what it feels like to be a One Basic Celestial Lord...' Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply and immersed himself in the feeling of being a One Basic Celestial Lord.

Following that, Duan Ling Tian bade farewell to Chai Xiong Yi and returned to his courtyard in the valley.

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In the following month, Duan Ling Tian was careful not to simply use his Celestial Origin Energy or Soul Energy in fear of causing his cultivation base to revert to that of a Ten Directions Celestial King.

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On the second day the Genius Secret Realm opened, a burst of laughter rang in the valley in the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect.

Duan Ling Tian who had lost all hope of breaking through finally became a One Basic Celestial Lord. Just as Chai Xiong Xi had said, he really managed to find the enlightenment he needed to break through after using the consumable Royal Grade Celestial Weapon to raise his cultivation base.

“Congratulations, Revered Elder Ling Tian.” Hao Wang, one of the Supreme Elders of the Snow Horizons Celestial Sect, congratulated Duan Ling Tian. He was in the valley as well so he was quick to discover Duan Ling Tian’s breakthrough.

Duan Ling Tian nodded in response to Hao Wang before he quickly went to wake up Huan’er who was comprehending the law of space.

“Huan’er, I’ve broken through! Let’s go! There’s an entrance to the Genius Secret Realm nearby!”

At this moment, there was slightly more than a day left before the entrances to Genius Secret Realm closed. From their current location, it would take Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er a day to arrive at the nearest entrance.

Although there was plenty of time left until the entrances closed, Duan Ling Tian was in a rush due to his excitement.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Hao Wang who was standing nearby, naturally, overheard Duan Ling Tian’s words. He watched in shock as Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er vanished from his sight. “The Genius Secret Realm? This means... This means the two Revered Elders aren’t even 1,000 years old?!”

Hao Wang was dumbfounded when he recalled Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s strength before they even became Celestial Lords.

“They’re definitely comparable to those young geniuses from the grade-one forces in the Genius Secret Realm... In fact, I don’t think there are many young geniuses from grade-one forces who are a match for the two Revered Elders.” Hao Wang had full confidence in Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er since he had witnessed their strength, after all.

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After almost a day, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er finally arrived at one of the Genius Secret Realm entrances that was located closest to the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect. This entrance was located halfway up a sharp cliff.

At this moment, there were many people hovering in the air outside the entrance. It was clear these people were only here to have a look or here to accompany their friends. Only a few people could be seen going into the entrance.

When Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er arrived, everyone was, naturally, stunned by Huan'er's peerless beauty.

"Huan'er, let's go!" Duan Ling Tian did not pay any attention to the people in the surroundings. He held Huan'er's hand and quickly led her into the entrance.

Even after the duo had entered the Genius Secret Realm, the people outside were still in awe over Huan'er shocking beauty.

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"Is this the Genius Secret Realm?" Duan Ling Tian's vision darkened before it became bright again. He discovered he and Huan'er were standing above a majestic building at this moment.

They could see other people milling around the building as well.

"Huan'er, let's have a look over there." Duan Ling Tian saw a towering mountain peak in the distance. He discovered many people were heading in that direction as well.

It did not take long before Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er caught up with a group of people heading to the towering mountain.

At this time, many people had taken notice of Huan'er. Many men were charmed by her beauty, and their expressions soured when they saw her holding onto Duan Ling Tian's hand. Their eyes were brimming with envy and jealousy when they looked at Duan Ling Tian.

A muscular middle-aged man said in amazement, "It's rare for a female Celestial to be able to enter the Genius Secret Realm! Moreover, she's such a beauty! It's too bad that she's taken!"

Upon hearing this, a young man who seemed like a womanizer said with a smile, "It doesn't matter. You can always snatch that woman if you're strong enough."

Another young man who was standing nearby said mockingly in return, "You're all talk but no actions... Why don't you try it?"

Despite their words, no one caused any trouble. After all, those capable of entering the Genius Secret Realm were extremely talented. Perhaps, apart from a few young geniuses from grade-one forces, no one would simply provoke anyone here. After all, they could not be certain if the other person was stronger than them.

At this moment, a young man near Duan Ling Tian said with a sigh, "The Genius Secret Realm has only been open for less than three days... I wonder if any of the geniuses from the grade-one forces have already arrived at the foot of Peak of Gravity. If they arrive first, I don't think I stand a chance of getting a good rank."

'Peak of Gravity?' Duan Ling Tian's eyes glinted as he looked at the towering mountain where everyone seemed to be heading toward.

After listening to conversations around him, Duan Ling Tian finally learned about Peak of Gravity.

Peak of Gravity was a mountain where the gravity would grow stronger and stronger the higher one climbed up.

There were 99 Peaks of Gravity in the Genius Secret Realm. Everyone was free to challenge any of the peaks. One would be rewarded once one reached a certain height. If one managed to set a new record, one might even be rewarded with an Emperor Grade Celestial Weapon or something of similar value. Needless to say, it was not an easy feat to set a new record.

Duan Ling Tian whose interest was piqued continued listening in to the conversations around him.

"According to the Peak of Gravity's record, it has been almost 20,000 years since anyone has set a new record. I think the last person to do so is Yu Jian Cheng, the current Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, right?"

"That's right! Back then, Sect Leader Yu set a new record by rising 37,086 meters high with the cultivation base of a Six Combos Celestial Lord. After that, he was rewarded with an Emperor Grade Celestial Weapon!"

"If I'm not mistaken, the best result over the past 10,000 years is a little more than 30,000 meters high, right? Even that is still far cry from Sect Leader Yu's record!"

"Sect Leader Yu of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect isn't an ordinary man, after all. He's as powerful as the older generation powerhouses in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect even though he's the youngest among them."

Chapter 3223: Climbing The Peak Of Gravity

'Sect Leader Yu Jian Cheng of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect was a Six Combos Celestial Lord before he reached the age of 1,000?' Through the conversations in his surroundings, Duan Ling Tian learned that the sect leader of the Thousand Tribulations Celestial Sect, one of the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory, was a prodigy. He thought to himself confidently, 'Based on the unbreakable record he left behind, his comprehension of the law must be extraordinary as well...'

After a while, Duan Ling Tian finally reached the towering mountain, one of the Peaks of Gravity in the Genius Secret Realm. At this moment, there were more than thirty people gathered at the foot of the mountain.

'It seems like there are many people who are qualified to enter the Genius Secret Realm...' Duan Ling Tian had learned earlier that there were 99 Peaks of Gravity in the Genius Secret Realm. Just the Peak of Gravity in front of him alone had more than thirty people gathering around it at this moment. Many more people were still making their way here. Based on this, it could be seen that there were many people who met the requirements to enter the Genius Secret Realm.

Duan Ling Tian continued thinking to himself, 'On second thought, it's not that surprising. Although Celestial Lords below the age of 1,000 are rare, the Nan Dou Territory is vast. There should be no lack of geniuses in the territory. Moreover, the Genius Secret Realm isn't exclusive to the people of the Nan Dou Territory. People from other territories can enter as well....'

The Nan Dou Territory was the only territory without a titled Celestial Emperor ruling over it. The de facto ruler of the territory was the three most powerful grade-one forces in the territory. For this reason, there was a lot of tension between the grade-one forces. Sometimes when the members of the grade-one forces met each other outside, they would even fight to the death. This was also considered a way for them to gain combat experience.

'I wonder if Ling Jue Yun will come.' Duan Ling Tian could not help but recall Ling Jue Yun whom he had split the Heaven Sacrificial Divine Fruits with in the Equal Heaven Territory.

Ling Jue Yun was originally from the Divine Offering Land. It could be said that he was born with a silver spoon in his mouth.

Since Duan Ling Tian had a breakthrough and became a Celestial Lord, he thought Ling Jue Yun should have become a Celestial Lord as well.

Meanwhile, the attention of the people at the foot of the Peak of Gravity was focused on Huan'er due to her peerless beauty. It was only when a voice rang in the air that everyone's attention shifted away from her.

"Look! It is Thousand Hands Devil Sect's Ye Yu Chen! He's already climbing the Peak of Gravity!"

Duan Ling Tian instinctively looked up and saw a figure climbing the Peak of Gravity.

From afar, the Peak of Gravity looked like an ordinary mountain. However, now that he was at the foot of the mountain, Duan Ling Tian could see many steps leading up to the peak. The height between the steps was roughly ten meters tall.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The black figure swiftly climbed up the steps. In just a blink of an eye, he had already climbed up 1,000 steps. In other words, he was now 10,000 meters in the air.

It was unknown if it was intentional, but the clouds in the Genius Secret Realm were 30,000 meters aboveground. One would have to climb 3,000 steps to reach the clouds. This meant that the black figure had climbed one-third of that distance.

"Ye Yu Chen? He's the prodigy from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect who's a Four Phenomena Celestial Lord below the age of 1,000?"

"That's right! I've met him once. There's no doubt that person is him!"

"Ye Yu Chen is among the top three prodigies below the age of 1,000 in the Thousand Hands Devil Sect. I wonder how he'll fare here..."

"The Genius Secret Realm opens once every 1,000 years and only Celestial Lords below the age of 1,000 are allowed to enter. This means that it's everyone's first time in here..."

“Among the grade-one young prodigies below the age of 1,000, Ye Yu Chen can barely rank in the upper-middle tier..”

Duan Ling Tian had never heard of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect’s Ye Yu Chen before this. Over the past years, he had stayed in the Snow Horizon Celestial Sect and did not care about the affairs of the world. For this reason, he was unfamiliar with the young prodigies from grade-one forces. It was only when he heard the conversation in his surroundings that he learned the person climbing the Peak of Gravity was the Thousand Hands Devil Sect’s Ye Yu Chen.

“Huan’er, let’s go,” Duan Ling Tian called out to Huan’er. He could see the others had no intention of climbing the Peak of Gravity yet.

The duo walked hand in hand toward the steps of the Peak of Gravity. When they drew close to the steps, a gentle but powerful force separated them. Based on this, it was obvious that one could only rely on their own strength to climb the Peak of Gravity.

Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s actions, naturally, drew everyone’s attention.

“They’re going to climb up the Peak of Gravity!”

“I feel inexplicably happy that they’re separated even though I don’t know them...”

“That woman is such a peerless beauty. It’s normal that most men are jealous of him. You’re not the only one; I’m also happy to see them being separated.”

As though Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er had spurred them into action, more than ten people followed suit and began to climb up the Peak of Gravity.

“Let’s go!”

“That’s right! What’s the point of waiting? We should test our strength at the Peak of Gravity. Moreover, if you’re able to rise past 20,000 meters, your name will be shown to everyone! It’ll appear on all 99 Peaks of Gravity!”

“Is that true? I want my name to be shown to everyone!”

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Not too long after, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er reached the 1,000th step of the Peak of Gravity at the same time. They were now 10,000 meters aboveground.

“It’s true; the higher we are, the stronger the gravity.”

At this moment, the duo had yet to feel the pressure from the gravity. Moreover, it was obvious their speed of ascent was faster than the Thousand Hands Devil Sect’s Ye Yu Chen.

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Back at the foot of the mountain, those who had yet to climb the Peak of Gravity had, naturally, noticed Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s progress. Stunned by the duo’s progress, they began to discuss among themselves.

“Who are they? They made it to the 1,000th step faster than Ye Yu Chen did!”

“I don’t know... However, they look like they’re from a grade-one force.”

“I don’t think so. If they’re from a grade-one force, it’s impossible that none of us recognizes them.”

“Perhaps, they’re closed-door disciples of a high-ranking official from a grade-one force. It’s possible that they were keeping a low profile before this and planned to make a name for themselves in the Genius Secret Realm!”

“There’s also a possibility they’re just grassroots prodigies.”

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Meanwhile, when Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er reached the 1100th step, Duan Ling Tian looked up and saw the Thousand Hands Devil Sect’s Ye Yu Chen. ‘Ye Yu Chen’s speed has slowed down considerably after the 1600th steps. It’s obvious he’s beginning to feel the pressure from the gravity.’”

At this moment, Ye Yu Chen had not even reached the 1,700th step.

On the contrary, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s speed of ascent did not slow down at all. It did not take long before the duo caught up with Ye Yu Chen after the 1,800th step.

“Hm?” At this moment, Ye Yu Chen who was clad head to toe in black had an expression of surprise on his usually expressionless face when he saw two people had caught up to him. He was even more surprised when he discovered he did not recognize the duo.

‘Grassroot prodigies?’ As a prodigy of a grade-one force, Ye Yu Chen was absolutely certain the duo was not from a grade-one force. The young prodigies from grade-one forces would have gatherings occasionally, and he had attended all of them. He had met all the young prodigies from grade-one forces, therefore, he was certain the duo was not from a grade-one force.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Soon after, Ye Yu Chen saw Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er swiftly overtake him. In just a blink of an eye, the duo had reached the 1,900th step.

“The law of space!” Based on the greyish glow of Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s Celestial Origin Energies, Ye Yu Chen could tell the duo had comprehended the law of space.

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Meanwhile, a commotion broke out at the foot of the Peak of Gravity when everyone saw Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s speed. With this, they were certain the duo would easily make it to the 2,000th step.

At this time, a list of names could be seen at the Peak of Gravity. Next to the names were the steps that they were currently at. The steps next to the names kept changing. For example, Baili Sheng, who was ranked second at the 2113th step, rose to first place when his steps changed.

“They’ve overtaken Ye Yu Chen!”

“From the beginning until now, they’ve yet to slow down at all! I’m certain they’ll make it to the 2,000th step at least.”

“Look! Names are beginning to appear at the Peak of Gravity. There’s the Ancient Phoenix Clan’s You Ping Zhi, the Baili Clan’s Baili Sheng, and the Heavenly Profound Dao Sect’s Ouyang Chen! There’s also...”

While everyone’s eyes were trained on the names above the Peak of Gravity...

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er finally reached the 2,000th step.

As soon as he stepped foot onto the 2,000th step, he felt a pressure bearing down on him. The force of the gravity here was on a different level from the steps below.

“Brother Ling Tian... The force of gravity is getting stronger...” Huan’er said through Voice Transmission.

“I feel it too,” Duan Ling Tian replied.

The duo endured the increasing pressure and continued climbing the Peak of Gravity when a voice rang in their ears.

“Name please.”

When the duo looked up, they saw a writing brush in front of them. It was not incorporeal; they could hold it in their hands when they reached out. Clearly, they were meant to write their names using the brush.

When Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er finished writing their names, their names appeared immediately above the Peak of Gravity.

Huan’er 2,000th step.

Duan Ling Tian 2,000th step.

With this, everyone near the Peak of Gravity could see their names.

Chapter 3224: Feng Qi Qi

“Huan’er? Duan Ling Tian? Do you know them?”

“I don’t think they’re from a grade-one force...”

“Before this, the names that appeared on the Peak of Gravity belong to those prodigies from grade-one forces. These two grassroots prodigies’ names appeared so quickly?”

People at all 99 Peaks of Gravity were fervently discussing the two unfamiliar names that had appeared. Most prodigies in the Nan Dou Territory belonged to grade-one forces. Grade-one forces controlled vast amounts of resources and carefully nurtured these prodigies since they were young. Therefore, it was not surprising that these forces had many prodigies.

However, at this moment, the two newcomers whom everyone suspected to be grassroots prodigies had risen so quickly at the Peak of Gravity, and their names had even appeared among the names of young prodigies from grade-one forces. How could other grassroots prodigies not feel excited?

Although there are more grassroots prodigies in the Genius Secret Realm compared to young prodigies from grade-one forces, the young prodigies from grade-one forces were mostly superior to grassroots prodigies. Therefore, all the grassroots prodigies paid close attention to any grassroots prodigy whose name appeared on the Peak of Gravity.

When everyone was busy discussing Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er, another commotion broke out again. Another unfamiliar name had appeared on the Peak of Gravity!

Hou Zi Long 2000th step.

"Hey, another person who seems to be a grassroots prodigy entered the Peak of Gravity's Ranking!"

"Hou Zi Long? I've never heard of him... He should be a grassroots prodigy as well, right?"

"I think so."

"It seems like there are many outstanding grassroots prodigies this time!"

Many grassroots prodigies who had yet to climb the Peak of Gravity were inspired by the results they had seen and began to climb up the Peak of Gravity.

Currently, there were 22 names on the Peak of Gravity. Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er were in fourth and fifth place respectively. However, the distance between the duo and the people in front was constantly shrinking.

...

"The pressure is growing intense..." Duan Ling Tian steeled himself and endured the force of gravity. However, he still felt the huge pressure when he arrived at the 2,600th step. When he turned to look at Huan'er who seemed unaffected by the gravity, he said to her through Voice Transmission, "Huan'er, there's no need to wait for me... Try your best to climb as high as you can..."

"Alright." Huan'er nodded in agreement and continued to make her way up when she saw the look of encouragement in Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

It did not take long before Huan'er rose to third place and second place. Eventually, she was in the first place.

Currently, Huan'er's cultivation base was higher than Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base, and her comprehension of the law of space had already caught up to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian had comprehended all the profundities from the law of space to the initial stage long before he became a Celestial Lord. However, it was impossible for him to comprehend the profundities to the mastery stage before he became a Celestial Lord. He did not have the chance to use the Supreme Powerhouse Profundity to comprehend any profundity to the mastery stage because he had to enter the Genius Secret Realm soon after he became a Celestial Lord.

During the time Duan Ling Tian was cultivating, Huan'er was comprehending the law of space using the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity. With that, she successfully caught up to Duan Ling Tian.

"Although the pressure is mounting, with my strength, I should be able to reach the 3,000th step." Duan Ling Tian soldiered on and continued to climb. His speed of ascent was faster than those ahead of him so it did not take long before he had risen to third place.

...

Meanwhile, another uproar broke out at the foot of all 99 Peaks of Gravity.

"Heavens! Huan'er is in the first place! She's now at the 2932nd step. Is she going to reach the 3,000th step?"

"Based on her performance so far, the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan will surely invite her to join them even if she doesn't reach the 3,000th step. If she really reaches the 3,000th step, there's a possibility that even the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect will extend an invitation to her."

"Duan Ling Tian's doing great as well! He's already in third place. These two people really make grassroots prodigies like us proud!"

The grassroots prodigies in the Genius Secret Realm were delighted by this development while some of the young prodigies from grade-one forces were embarrassed. With this, many young prodigies from grade-one forces were spurred into climbing the Peak of Gravity. Moreover, their speed was rather fast as well.

...

"It seems like this is the end for me... I've reached my limit. Although I can teleport myself to the top, I'm certain I'll be injured by the force of gravity up there. I stand to lose more than I gain if I persist in continuing..." Duan Ling Tian finally decided to stop when he reached the 2839th step.

'I'll return to conquer the Peak of Gravity after I comprehend the law of space further. Since the Genius Secret Realm will be open for ten years, I have plenty of time to return.' Duan Ling Tian consoled himself with this thought. He was confident that he would be able to comprehend the profundities from the law of space to the mastery stage in ten years since he had the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity.

After Duan Ling Tian sorted out his thoughts, he looked up ahead. "Huan'er, she... She's about to reach the 3,000th step."

Duan Ling Tian continued to watch, and soon after, he watched in delight as Huan'er arrived at the 3,000th step. "She made it!"

"Brother Ling Tian, the pressure is overwhelming."

Huan'er's voice rang in Duan Ling Tian's ears soon after. Based on her voice, he could tell it was getting strenuous for her.

"Huan'er, let's stop for now. You did very well! We can return to challenge the Peak of Gravity again in the future!" Duan Ling Tian replied through Voice Transmission. While he climbed the Peak of Gravity, he discovered that it was not just a test of strength but a test of patience as well. Although he and

Huan'er were both extraordinary among their peers, there were many Five Elements Celestial Lords and Six Combos Celestial Lords from grade-one forces. Needless to say, these Celestial Lords' comprehension of the law was not inferior to his and Huan'er's comprehension of the law.

"Back then, the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect created a new record when he was a Six Combos Celestial Lord... He must have already comprehended more than one profundity to the mastery stage at that time." Previously, Duan Ling Tian did not think much about the achievement of Yu Jian Cheng, the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. However, now that he had climbed the Peak of Gravity, he realized how impressive Yu Jian Cheng's accomplishment was.

...

Many people saw Huan'er and Duan Ling Tian descend from the Peak of Gravity. At this moment, none of the men was jealous of Duan Ling Tian when they saw Huan'er holding his hand. After all, a man like Duan Ling Tian was more than worthy of such an exceptional beauty.

"You're amazing, brother!"

"Brother, all of us grassroots prodigies are proud of you and your companion!"

"Brother, are you and your companion grassroots prodigies?"

Apart from the Thousand Hands Demon Sect's Ye Yu Chen, the others at the foot of the mountain were mostly grassroots prodigies. All of them greeted Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er enthusiastically.

"That's right." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "I entered the Genius Secret Realm in hopes of joining a grade-one force."

"With your ability, it shouldn't be difficult for you to achieve your goal."

"That's right!"

The grassroots prodigies became even more excited once Duan Ling Tian confirmed he and Huan'er were grassroots prodigies.

At this moment, Ye Yu Chen, the young prodigy from the Thousand Hands Demon Sect, walked up to Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er. He said with a polite smile on his face, "Are you interested in joining our Thousand Hands Demon Sect? If you're interested, I can recommend you to the high-ranking official in the sect."

Ye Yu Chen knew if he could persuade the two grassroots prodigies in front of him to join the Thousand Hands Demon Sect, he would be able to make a significant contribution to the sect. However, he knew there was a chance the duo might refuse his invitation. After all, how could the Thousand Hands Demon Sect compare to the Ancient Phoenix Clan, the Bali Clan, and the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect in the Nan Dou Territory? If he were in their shoes, he would also prefer to join one of the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory.

Duan Ling Tian politely declined Ye Yu Chen's offer. He said with a smile, "Since the Genius Secret Realm will be open for ten years, we plan to wait before we make any decision."

“Brother, this is my Soul Pearl. You can contact me at any time if you change your mind. I’m Ye Yu Chen, the third personal disciple of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Demon Sect.” Ye Yu Chen handed a Soul Pearl to Duan Ling Tian and left these words behind before he left. He did not seem displeased by Duan Ling Tian’s rejection at all.

At this moment, a voice rang in the air.

“Look! That grassroots prodigy is quite strong as well! He has arrived at the 2,500th steps! It’s just enough for him to squeeze into the top ten names!”

Duan Ling Tian instinctively looked up and saw the name that just appeared; Hou Zi Long. Based on the conversations in the surroundings, he learned that Hou Zi Long seemed to be a grassroots prodigy as well. He thought to himself, ‘This Hou Zi Long isn’t simple...’

“Huh?” At this moment, Duan Ling Tian discovered a name that was rapidly rising in ranks. In just a blink of an eye, the name overtook him. That person maintained their speed after overtaking him and only began to slow down at the 3,000th step. Not only did this person overtake Duan Ling Tian, but they had overtaken Huan’er as well.

The people in the surroundings had noticed the name as well, and they broke out in a discussion again.

“It’s Feng Qi Qi!”

“Feng Qi Qi is the top prodigy below the age of 1,000 from the Ancient Phoenix Clan!”

“How impressive! Her speed is really terrifying! She reached the 3,300th step in just a blink of an eye!”

“However, her speed has slowed down. It seems like it’ll be difficult for her to reach the 3,500th step.”

Through the discussions in the surroundings, Duan Ling Tian learned that Feng Qiqi was the top prodigy below the age of 1,000 in the Ancient Phoenix Clan. Most importantly, Feng Qiqi was a woman.

‘Feng Qi Qi, Ancient Phoenix Clan... I wonder how Tian Wu is doing now?’ Duan Ling Tian could not help but think of Feng Tian Wu, the girl who was willing to sacrifice her life for him. After all, similar to Feng Qiqi, Feng Tian Wu was also from an Ancient Phoenix Clan, and both women shared the surname.

Chapter 3225: The Son of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect

A commotion broke out when Feng Qi Qi reached the 3,400th step, claiming the top spot of the Peak of Gravity Ranking. Even those who were still climbing the Peak of Gravity stopped to look at her rise through the ranking.

Feng Qi Qi 3,432nd step.

Feng Qi Qi 3,433rd step.

Feng Qi Qi continued to climb higher and higher. As time passed, her speed decreased significantly to the point where it took her a dozen breaths just to advance to the next step. In the end, she came to a stop at the 3,462nd step. Nevertheless, the gap between her and Huan’er, who was in second place after stopping at the 3,000th step, was very wide.

“Amazing! She definitely lives up to her reputation as the top prodigy below the age of 1,000 in the Ancient Phoenix Clan. The height she climbed to is almost comparable to the height that Sect Leader Yu Jian Cheng from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect scaled in the past.”

“That’s right! Yu Jian Cheng managed to climb up 37,870 meters high, which means he stopped at the 3,787th step... Feng Qi Qi who stopped at the 3,462nd step only needs to climb roughly 300 steps to break his record!”

“Us grassroots prodigies are still no match for a prodigy from a grade-one force.”

“How incredible!”

“Hey, did you notice the first and second place are occupied by women? Are men not as good as the two women now?”

An uproar erupted in the Genius Secret Realm and the 99 Peaks of Gravity when Feng Qi Qi claimed the top spot after climbing to the 3,462nd step.

Feng Qi Qi was famous throughout the Nan Dou Territory as the top prodigy among the younger generation in the Ancient Phoenix Clan. Although everyone knew she was strong, they did not know the extent of her strength. This was because she had never openly engaged in a battle or demonstrated her strength publicly. Her performance at the Peak of Gravity provided people with a slight insight into her strength.

The grassroots prodigies who were initially proud of Huan’er for her achievement at the Peak of Gravity could not help but feel disappointed when they saw Feng Qi Qi had claimed the top spot by such a wide margin. Nevertheless, most of them still thought Huan’er had done really well.

At this moment, something caught everyone’s attention.

“Look! Someone’s rapidly rising after passing the 2,000th step!”

“It’s Baili Hong Fei!”

“Baili Hong Fei is the top prodigy below the age of 1,000 from the Baili Clan! It’s said that his strength is comparable to Feng Qi Qi.”

“Let’s see how high he can go!”

The name that was rising rapidly in the Peak of Gravity Ranking belonged to the top young prodigy from the Baili Clan.

Baili Hong Fei climbed up to the 3,000th step and showed no sign of stopping. As time passed, his speed gradually decreased as well. In the end, he stopped at the 3,466th step; he was four steps ahead of Feng Qi Qi.

“He’s ahead of Feng Qi Qi by four steps! Does this mean he’s stronger than Feng Qi Qi?” someone speculated out loud.

Someone was quick to disagree. "That might not be the case. Since Feng Qi Qi climbed up to the 3,462nd step first, Baili Hong Fei might have just pushed himself to climb to the 3,466th step just to break her record."

"I agree. If Baili Hong Fei climbed up first, perhaps, Feng Qi Qi might surpass him."

Duan Ling Tian agreed that Baili Hong Fei might not necessarily be stronger than Feng Qi Qi. After all, people tended to produce better results when there was competition. It was not surprising if Feng Qi Qi became complacent after passing the 3,000th step since she was far ahead of everyone at that time. On the other hand, Baili Hong Fei must have been determined from the very beginning to overtake her.

Duan Ling Tian continued speculating inwardly, 'He only managed to surpass her by four steps despite his determination. It seems like he might not be a match for her...'

Following that, there was no shocking change in the Peak of Gravity Ranking. Even after half an hour had passed, Huan'er still stayed in third place.

Now that the excitement had died down, Duan Ling Tian called out, "Huan'er, let's go."

It was time to explore the Genius Secret Realm. The Peaks of Gravity were not the only places in the secret realm, after all.

Duan Ling Tian asked, "Brother Ling Tian, did you notice that our Celestial Origin Energies seem to have improved after we climbed the Peak of Gravity?"

Upon hearing Huan'er's words, Duan Ling Tian quickly sensed his Celestial Origin Energy. Just as Huan'er had said, his Celestial Origin Energy seemed to have improved.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as his eyes lit up, 'It seems like the pressure at the Peak of Gravity is beneficial to our cultivation!'

"I remember hearing that there's a place called the World of Laws in the Genius Secret Realm. One can comprehend the laws by battling Formation spirits there." Duan Ling Tian had learned about this matter before he entered the Genius Secret Realm and was highly interested in the World of Laws.

After asking for directions, Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er finally arrived at the World of Laws half a day later.

In comparison to the 99 Peaks of Gravity, there were only nine Worlds of Laws. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian did not find it surprising to see a few hundred people had already gathered at the World of Law.

This World of Law was located in a vast plain. On the plain, there were many independent spaces on the plain that contained laws. These spaces were collectively known as the World of Laws.

Once one entered one of the spaces, a Formation spirit would appear. The strength of the Formation spirit depended on one's cultivation base, and it would use the same law one had comprehended. Apart from that, the Formation spirit's combat experience was comparable to a Celestial Emperor. For all these reasons, there were not many people capable of defeating the Formation spirits. Those who fought to draw with these Formation spirits were regarded as outstanding. As for those who managed to defeat the Formation spirits, they would be rewarded by the World of Laws. Additionally, their names would be announced once they had defeated the Formation spirits. With this, they would be able to

attract the attention of grade-one forces. For example, in the past, two grassroots prodigies were invited to join the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan respectively after they defeated the Formation spirits.

“What a beauty!” At this moment, a young man dressed in an embroidered robe with a sinister expression on his face approached Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er. He fanned himself with a fan weaved out of feathers as he blocked the duo’s path.

The sinister-looking young man ignored Duan Ling Tian and looked at Huan’er as he said with a smile, “My name is Yun Xiao. I’m from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect. May I know your name?”

Huan’er ignored Yun Xiao; she did not even bother to look at him.

“Scram!” Duan Ling Tian said with a frosty expression on his face.

“Boy, do you know who I am? My father’s the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect. How dare you speak to me so rudely?” Yun Xiao finally shifted his attention from Huan’er to Duan Ling Tian. “I’ll give you a chance to preserve your life. Kneel before me and kowtow three times. After that, stay away from this woman. Otherwise, you’ll die here!”

As soon as Yun Xiao finished speaking, a dark aura surged out of his body like dark clouds and covered the sun.

Such a huge commotion, naturally, drew everyone’s attention.

“Did that purple-clad young man provoke Yun Xiao?”

“Yun Xiao isn’t just one of the young prodigies in the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, but he’s also the sect leader’s only son! Who’s that purple-clad young man? To think he dares to provoke Yun Xiao.”

Soon after, someone who had witnessed what happened earlier said, “It’s not like that. The purple-clad young man didn’t provoke Yun Xiao. It was Yun Xiao who looked for trouble with him...”

“Among the young prodigies from the grade-one forces, Yun Xiao’s rank is somewhere in the upper-middle tier. This purple-clad young man seems like a grassroots prodigy. He’s really unlucky!”

Many people looked at Duan Ling Tian sympathetically as they discussed among themselves.

At this moment, while Duan Ling Tian and Yun Xiao stood across from each other, stuck in a confrontation, Huan’er suddenly made a move. She raised her hand, and a grey sword ray appeared out of thin air before shooting toward Yun Xiao.

Before Yun Xiao could even react, he was cleaved into two by the grey sword ray. At the moment before his death, he wore a dumbfounded expression on his face and was frozen still.

Following that, Huan’er glanced at Yun Xiao’s corpse briefly as she said in an icy tone, “Whoever wants to kill Brother Ling Tian must die!”

The onlooker inhaled sharply. When they finally regained their senses, they looked at Huan’er as though she was a ghost.

“This woman is really formidable! Although Yun Xiao was not the most outstanding among the young prodigies in the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, he was still rather strong. He even managed to climb past the 2,300th step at the Peak of Gravity.”

“She killed him in just a blink of an eye. Since she dared to kill Yun Xiao, she must have an extraordinary background. Is she from a grade-one force?”

“I have no idea.”

“Hey, did you hear her address the purple-clad young man as Brother Ling Tian?”

“Brother Ling Tian? Is he Duan Ling Tian, the grassroots prodigy who almost climbed up to the 3,000th step at the Peak of Gravity?”

“I heard his companion was Huan’er who climbed to the 3,000th step. So, if he’s Duan Ling Tian, this woman should be Huan’er, right?”

“These two must be Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er! My friend sent me a message and told me Huan’er is a peerless beauty. Look at her! Have you seen anyone more beautiful than her?”

It did not take long for the onlookers to guess Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s identities.

“This means they’re grassroots prodigies, right? Where did they find the courage to kill Yun Xiao?”

“Killing Yun Xiao is no different from provoking the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect! Unless they manage to join one of the three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory, they would be in big trouble!”

“Although they’ve performed very well so far, their strength isn’t sufficient to attract the attention of those grade-one forces.”

Chapter 3226: The World of Laws

Yun Xiao was strong, but he was no match for Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er.

Huan’er had cast the technique unique to direct descendants of the main Phantom Fox Clan to confuse Yun Xiao first. Before he could even regain his senses, she had already killed him. Perhaps, up until the moment he died, he did not know what had happened.

“These two people are really too daring! They’re behaving as though nothing has happened!”

The onlookers soon discovered the duo was not bothered about Yun Xiao’s death.

Under everyone’s watchful eyes, the duo walked to one of the spaces in the World of Laws.

Duan Ling Tian said with a smile, “Huan’er, why don’t you try and challenge the Formation spirit? If you win, your name will be announced, and you’ll be rewarded as well. I’m quite curious about the reward...”

Huan’er nodded obediently and entered the place that contained the law of space.

Contrary to the spaces that contained elemental laws, the area that contained the law of space was empty. In fact, no one had stepped foot into this place yet. The spaces that contained the elemental laws were the most popular, followed by the spaces that contained derivative laws such as the law of wind, the law of thunder, and the law of ice. The spaces that contained the Four Supreme Laws were the least popular; they were empty.

Apart from the place that contained the law of space that Huan'er just entered, the other three spaces that contained the three remaining Supreme Laws were empty.

Duan Ling Tian surveyed his surroundings. He saw someone battling the Formation spirit in the space that contained the law of darkness.

The battle was intense as both opponents seemed to be evenly matched. Based on this, it could be seen that the man battling the Formation spirit was rather strong. Since his combat experience was definitely not as good as the Formation spirit and his comprehension of the law was similar to the Formation spirit, it was clear that he had other techniques up his sleeve for him to fight on even ground with the Formation spirit. After all, Formation spirits were unable to copy one's personal techniques.

For example, the Formation spirit Huan'er faced would copy her cultivation base and the law she comprehended, but it would not be able to copy the techniques available to her as a Thousand Phantoms Ice Fox.

After a moment, Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention back to Huan'er. When he saw her fighting the Formation spirit without using the Thousand Phantoms Ice Fox's techniques and relied only on her cultivation base and the law she comprehended, he thought to himself, 'It seems like Huan'er is trying to increase her combat experience...'

Meanwhile, Huan'er who was fighting the Formation spirit was isolated from the outside world as soon as she entered this space. This was a rule of the Genius Secret Realm that protected her from being attacked while she fought the Formation spirit.

As time passed, Huan'er gradually fell to a disadvantageous position. She thought to herself, 'What a formidable Formation!'

...

At this time, news of the death of Yun Xiao, the only son of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, spread like a wildfire.

"Yun Xiao is dead! A woman named Huan'er killed him!"

"A grassroots prodigy killed the son of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect. Will she be able to avoid the calamity that's about to fall on her?"

"I think it's unlikely unless she manages to join one of three most powerful grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory and gain its protection. Alas, based on her current strength, she won't be able to attract the attention of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, the Baili Clan, or the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect."

It did not take long before the Thousand Hands Devil Sect's Ye Yu Chen, who invited Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er to join the sect, heard the news as well. A wry smile appeared on his face when he learned about Yun Xiao's death. "It seems like both of them won't be joining the Thousand Hands Devil Sect..."

Ye Yu Chen was rather indifferent about Yun Xiao's death despite being the direct disciple of Yun Xiao's father. Based on this, it could be seen that the relationship between him and Yun Xiao was not that good.

At this time, almost half of the people in the Genius Secret Realm were fervently discussing Yun Xiao's death. Many of these people included the young prodigies from grade-one forces.

"Yun Xiao is dead?"

"That grassroots prodigy is really daring! Isn't she afraid of death?"

"Although Yun Xiao's strength is mediocre at best, he's still the son of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect. Even those of us from grade-one forces wouldn't dare to recklessly hurt him, and yet, a grassroots prodigy killed him!"

"It's said that Yun Xiao was the one who looked for trouble. He provoked the wrong person, resulting in his death."

...

Meanwhile, the onlookers at the World of Laws were observing Huan'er's fight with the Formation spirit.

"I thought she would be evenly matched with the Formation spirit at the very least. It seems like I've overestimated her!"

"She can't even defeat the Formation spirit; how's she going to attract the attention of the Ancient Phoenix Clan, the Baili Clan, or the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect?"

"She's definitely going to be defeated in 30 breaths!"

The onlookers who had witnessed Huan'er killing Yun Xiao earlier shook their heads when it seemed like Huan'er was going to be defeated. However, they soon saw an energy that was different from the Celestial Origin Energy or the profundities of a law surging out. They watched with wide eyes as Huan'er paused for a moment before she attacked and defeated the Formation spirit in one fell swoop. Just like that, the tables were turned. Huan'er who seemed like she was about to be defeated triumphed over the Formation spirit!

"This..."

"She defeated the Formation spirit?"

"Heavens! What happened? Wasn't she about to lose earlier?"

Despite being amazed, most of the onlookers could not figure out what happened. However, a few people with keen eyes seemed to have figured out something.

"I didn't expect her to have mastered other techniques as well..."

“It seems like she was trying to gain combat experience and only relied on her cultivation bases and the law she comprehended to fight! In the end, she used her technique to defeat the Formation spirit with just a blow.”

“Isn’t that pretty similar to how she killed Yun Xiao with one blow?”

At this moment, a loud and majestic voice rang in the entire Genius Secret Realm.

“Congratulations to Huan’er for defeating the law of space’s Formation spirit in the World of Laws.”

With this, Huan’er’s name became known to everyone in the Genius Secret Realm. Those who had heard about or seen her feat at the Peak of Gravity were further amazed by her strength. On the other hand, those who heard her name for the first time were finally made aware of the existence of a powerful grassroots prodigy in the Genius Secret Realm.

Soon after the first announcement was made, another announcement rang in the Genius Secret Realm again.

“Congratulations to Duan Ling Tian for defeating the law of space’s Formation spirit in the World of Laws.”

“Duan Ling Tian?”

Everyone shifted their eyes to Duan Ling Tian who had just defeated the Formation spirit. Apart from his cultivation base and the law of space, the Formation spirit, naturally, could not copy or gain his strength that was boosted by the Profound Divine Metal, the Chaos Divine Flame, and the Chaos Divine Earth. With the boost from three of the Five Divine Elements, he easily defeated the Formation spirit.

The Genius Secret Realm was similar to the middle realm of the Southern Heaven Ancient Realm in the sense that one could not use external tools.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

After the end of the announcements, an object appeared and hovered in front of Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er. They were rewarded with a purely defensive Royal Grade Celestial Weapon and a Celestial Fruit. They were not interested in the Celestial Weapon, but they were satisfied with the Celestial Fruit that was capable of boosting a Celestial Lord’s cultivation base. It would be beneficial to them, after all.

...

Many grassroots prodigies were shocked by the announcement of Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s victories against the Formation spirits in the World of Law.

“Huan’er and Duan Ling Tian? Two grassroots prodigies defeated the Formation spirits in the World of Laws?”

“I didn’t expect such outstanding people would appear among us grassroots prodigies.”

“Currently, there are two grassroots prodigies who have defeated Formation spirits from the World of Laws, but there are no young prodigies from grade-one forces who have defeated Formation spirits from the World of Laws yet...”

As though responding to these words, another announcement rang in the Genius Secret Realm again.

“Congratulations to Yu Tian Xing for defeating the law of space’s Formation spirit in the World of Laws.”

Yu Tian Xing was one of the most outstanding young prodigies in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. He was also the nephew of Yu Jian Cheng, the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. Since Yu Jian Cheng dedicated most of his life to cultivation, he was unmarried. Therefore, he raised and treated his nephew like his biological son.

The young prodigies from grade-one forces seemed delighted when they heard this announcement.

“Yu Tian Xing! Finally, a prodigy from a grade-one force has defeated the Formation spirit in the World of Laws.”

“Well done, Yu Tian Xing!”

After Yu Tian Xing’s victory, a few more young prodigies from grade-one forces managed to defeat the Formation spirits in the World of Laws as well.

In just a day, there were more than 10 people who had defeated the Formation spirits in the World of Laws. However, among these people, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er were the only grassroots prodigies.

...

At this time, there were still people in the Genius Secret Realm who were discussing the fate that awaited Huan’er and Duan Ling Tian after killing Yun Xiao. Almost everyone agreed it would be near impossible for the duo to avoid the calamity that was able to fall on them.

“If Huan’er didn’t kill Yun Xiao, even if the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect isn’t interested in her and Duan Ling Tian, there’s a chance the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan might have invited the duo to join them. However, since Huan’er killed Yun Xia, the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan definitely wouldn’t extend an invitation to them.”

“That’s right! Although the two forces are stronger than the Thousand Hands Devil Sect and have no need to fear the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, they would surely prefer to avoid unnecessary conflict. After all, the Thousand Hands Devil Sect is still a grade-one force even if it can’t compare to the three strongest grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory.”

“Inviting those two to join them is akin to provoking the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect! It isn’t worth it for them to create unnecessary conflict with the Thousand Hands Devil Sect for the sake of two grassroots prodigies even if they’re talented.”

“Well, unless those two display some monstrous abilities or strength, it’s impossible for them to join any of the three strongest grade-one forces in the Nan Dou Territory and obtain their protection.”

...

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er wandered around, looking for a place to cultivate.

Duan Ling Tian wanted to continue comprehending the profundities from the law of space with the help of the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity while Huan'er wanted to consume the Celestial Fruit she obtained from defeating the Formation spirit in the World of Laws to raise her cultivation base.

After they found a suitable place, Duan Ling Tian settled down and tried to sleep in order to comprehend the law of space through the Supreme Divinity Powerhouse. Before he fell asleep, he looked at Huan'er who had just consumed the Celestial Fruit and thought to himself, 'Based on her current cultivation base, she should be able to break through and become a Four Phenomenon Celestial Lord at least after consuming the Celestial Fruit.'

Chapter 3227: The Ten Progenies of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect

In the Genius Secret Realm, apart from the Peaks of Gravity and the Worlds of Law, there were many different places that tested the young prodigies' strength.

At this time, there were many young prodigies from grade-one forces who had performed exceptionally well in the tests. On the other hand, after Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er disappeared to cultivate, Huo Zi Long was the only grassroots prodigy who performed well in the tests.

In just a blink of an eye, six years had passed since the Genius Secret Realm opened.

There were people who wondered where Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er went after leaving the World of Laws. The duo disappeared without a trace as though they had left the Genius Secret Realm.

"Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er have disappeared for about six years, right?"

"I wonder where they are at this moment..."

"Do you think they were killed by members of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect?"

"Impossible! Although the strongest young prodigy from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect is slightly stronger than Duan Ling Tian, he's no match for Duan Ling Tian if Duan Ling Tian joins forces with Huan'er."

...

At this moment, an aloof young man dressed in black robes was sitting at the peak of a steep mountain in the Genius Secret Realm. His eyes were piercing like sword rays, and a murderous aura lingered around him. A glowing black energy could be seen on the surface of his skin before it finally entered his body.

The black-clad young man rose to his feet. His eyes glinted as he muttered to himself, "Finally! I've broken through and became a Two Forms Celestial Lord. On top of that, I've also comprehended the law of darkness' Annihilation Profundity to the mastery stage."

A rare smile could be seen on his usually expressionless face at this moment. "Since I entered the Genius Secret Realm, I've been cultivating and comprehending the law of darkness for six years. It's time for me to explore the secret realm..."

After a while, he wondered out loud, "I wonder how Tai-Ah Progeny's Yu Tian Xing performed over the years..."

The Tai-Ah Progeny was one of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect's ten progenies. Since Yu Tian Xing was the most outstanding prodigy in the Tai-Ah Progeny, he was also chosen as the Tai-Ah Progeny's successor.

The Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect had ten progenies: the Yellow Thearch Progeny, the Profound River Progeny, the Crimson Sky Progeny, the Tai-Ah Progeny, the Seven Stars Dragon Abyss Progeny, the Gan Jiang Progeny, the Mo Xie Progeny, the Yu Chang Progeny, the Pure Porcelain Progeny, and the Shadow Support Progeny.

Duan Ling Tian was unaware of the many progenies in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. He would be shocked if he heard the names of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect's progenies because it was the name of the ten famous swords in the myths and legends on earth. He would not believe it if someone told him the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect had nothing to do with earth at all.

"Let's look for one of the Peaks of Gravity so I can see how far I need to go to surpass Yu Jian Cheng," the black-clad young man murmured to himself before he left the mountain peak on a blood-red sword ray.

...

When the black-clad young man arrived at the foot of one of the Peaks of Gravity, only a dozen people were present.

The black-clad young man's present attracted everyone's attention immediately. They could sense his cold and formidable aura that was as deadly as a sword. No one dared to approach him as he stood still.

"This man... His aura is domineering."

"Is he going to climb the Peak of Gravity?"

The onlookers were filled with anticipation when they saw the young man walking toward the Peak of Gravity. They could not help but wonder how many steps he would be able to climb.

Meanwhile, the black-clad young man looked at the Peak of Gravity Ranking. "Yu Tian Xing is in first place after climbing to the 3,537th step?"

His eyes continued to check the ranking in descending order. "Feng Qi Qi, Baili Hong Fei... Duan Ling Tian?"

"Could it be him?" The black-clad young man's eyes widened when he saw Duan Ling Tian's name. For a moment, he seemed to have lost his composure. His breathing quickened as his heart raced and adrenaline coursed through his body.

It took a moment before he regained his senses. He murmured, "It's useless to dwell on this matter. If it's him, we'll naturally meet..."

A faint smile could be seen on his face when he finished speaking.

Meanwhile, the onlookers were dumbfounded when they saw the black-clad young man smiling to himself.

"He... He's smiling? He doesn't look like he knows how to smile!"

"That's right. His face was so expressionless earlier, I didn't expect him to smile."

Someone made a shushing noise and said, "Tone it down! Do you have a death wish?"

Although none of the people present was familiar with the black-clad young man, based on his aura, they knew he had to be outstanding and someone they could not afford to provoke.

Swoosh!

At this moment, the black-clad young man shot toward the steps of the Peak of Gravity on a blood-red sword ray. Then, he began his ascent to the top of the Peak of Gravity. In just one breath, he had arrived at the 1,000th step. After another three breaths, he was already at the 2,000th step.

The people at the foot of the mountain and the people climbing the Peak of Gravity were shocked when they saw the black-clad young man's speed.

"That's fast!"

"His speed is insane!"

"Who is he?"

"How formidable! He has to be a grassroots prodigy! Otherwise, it's impossible for us not to recognize him if he's from a grade-one force!"

"His name will appear on the ranking now that he's made it to the 2,000th step."

...

Meanwhile, the black-clad young man who had reached the 2,000th step grabbed the writing brush that appeared and wrote two characters in the air.

...

Soon enough, everyone saw the new name that just appeared on the Peak of Gravity Ranking.

"H-he is Su Li?!"

"Su Li from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect's Shadow Support Progeny? It's said that his strength is comparable to Yu Tian Xing, right?"

"Rumor has it that he came from a mundane realm. Apparently, he inherited the legacy of the Shadow Support Progeny that the progenitor of the Shadow Support Progeny left in the mundane realm and was

personally invited by the current successor of the Shadow Support Progeny to the Jade Emperor Heaven.”

“His innate talent has to be insanely high for the current successor of the Shadow Support Progeny to personally go to a mundane realm to invite him here...”

“That’s right. It’s said that he’s almost 300 years old... Yu Tian Xing is more than 800 years old, right?”

“What?! Su Li’s not even 300 years old?”

At this moment, everyone was further shocked when they saw the black-clad young man, Su Li, continued climbing after the 2,000th step. Within five breaths, he had already appeared at the 3,000th step.

“His speed is terrifying, right?”

“With that speed, he has to be Su Li from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect’s Shadow Support Progeny! His name has only appeared in the Peak of Gravity less than five breaths ago, but he has already reached the 3,000th step!”

“I think even Yu Tian Xing isn’t as fast as him, right?”

“Impossible! It’s said that Su Li is only a One Basic Celestial Lord... Even if he recently had a breakthrough, at most, he would be a Two Forms Celestial Lord.”

“Hey, he might only be a One Basic Celestial Lord, but don’t forget that he’s said to be evenly matched with Yu Tian Xing who’s a Five Elements Celestial Lord! If he has really broken through and became a Two Forms Celestial Lord, he should be slightly stronger than Yu Tian Xing.”

“That might not be true. Rumor has it that Yu Tian Xing and Su Li had battled once, and the result proved that Yu Tian Xing is stronger. If that’s true, even if Su Li has had a breakthrough recently, he might not be a match for Yu Tian Xing.”

“That’s right! Moreover, if Su Li has grown stronger, Yu Tian Xing definitely has grown stronger as well!”

At this moment, the eyes of everyone at the foot of all the Peaks of Gravity in the Genius Secret Realm were trained on Su Li’s name that was rising rapidly on the Peak of Gravity Ranking. Naturally, they were all fervently discussing Su Li.

Most people had heard of the rumor about Su Li, the prodigy from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect’s Shadow Support Progeny. It was said that he was from the Yan Huang Realm, which was also the hometown of the Heavenly Emperor of the Jade Emperor Heaven.

“In our Jade Emperor Heaven, there are many powerhouses from the Yan Huang Realm. Su Li’s very talented, but he’s still a far cry from those powerhouses who also came from the Yan Huang Realm.”

“Nevertheless, those powerhouses from the Yan Huang Realm might not have achieved as much as Su Li has at his age.”

“Su Li’s only so capable and strong because he inherited the legacy of the Shadow Support Progeny in the mundane realm.”

“So? The other nine progenitors of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect left their legacies in the mundane realm as well. However, those who inherited their legacies can only be considered as mediocre after coming to the Jade Emperor Heaven.”

“That’s right! Su Li is talented for having achieved so much!”

...

At this moment, a white-clad young man was flying above a lake when he received a message.

“Su Li?” His eyes lit up immediately upon listening to the message. With just a flash, he transformed into a sword ray and moved in another direction, leaving his companion, a green-clad young man, behind.

“Senior Tian Xing?” The green-clad young man was stunned. When he regained his senses, he hurried after the white-clad young man.

It did not take long before the duo appeared near one of the Peaks of Gravity and hovered in the air.

The white-clad young man looked at the Peak of Gravity from afar.

Feng Qi Qi who was initially ranked second had been replaced by Su Li who was currently at the 3,522nd step.

The white-clad young man asked the green-clad young man, “Do you think he’ll be able to surpass me?”

Upon hearing these words, the green-clad young man turned to look at the Peak of Gravity Ranking. An expression of disbelief appeared on his face as he exclaimed, “Su Li managed to climb so high up? Senior Tian Xing, he’s only 15 steps behind you?!”

Chapter 3228: Su Li

“He’s still climbing...” Although Yu Tian Xing’s expression was calm, his eyes narrowed slightly as he watched Su Li climb past the 3,523rd step. He would have remained in the spotlight if Su Li did not appear. He had always lived in Su Li’s shadow ever since Su Li appeared in his life. Even his senior uncle, Yu Jian Cheng, the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and the successor of the Tai-Ah Progeny, highly admired Su Li. He felt somewhat similar to a favored child who suddenly lost everyone’s attention to another child. Although he had lived more than 800 years, he found this unbearable.

“He has slowed down tremendously and might not be able to break your record, Senior Tian Xing,” the green-clad young man replied. Despite his words, his expression was incredibly solemn when he looked at the name that was currently ranked second in the Peak of Gravity Ranking. After a moment, he asked Yu Tian Xing, “Senior Tian Xing, did Su Li have a breakthrough? When he first entered the Genius Secret Realm, I don’t think he was capable of climbing this high, right?”

The green-clad young man’s name was He Zhan. He was one of the young prodigies below the age of 1,000 in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and the top prodigy in the sect’s Profound River Progeny.

His strength and abilities were comparable to the top young prodigy from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, but he was a far cry from Yu Tian Xing and Su Li. However, despite being 200 years younger than Yu Tian Xing, his innate talent and comprehension of the law were not inferior to Yu Tian Xing.

“He must have had a breakthrough,” Yu Tian Xing replied confidently, “Previously, he was already on the brink of becoming a Two Forms Celestial Lord so it’s not surprising that he has had a breakthrough in the Genius Secret Realm. However, I wonder if he managed to deepen his comprehension of the law of darkness... If he did, he has a chance of breaking my record at the Peak of Gravity,” Yu Tian Xian said as his eyes remained fixed on a certain name in the Peak of Gravity Ranking.

At this moment, Su Li finally advanced to the next step. Yu Tian Xing knew if Su Li broke his record, it would be difficult for him to break Su Li’s record. This was because he had given it his all at the Peak of Gravity and was thoroughly exhausted at the end of it. Unless there were improvements in his strength, it would be impossible for him to get a better result.

Unlike the Baili Clan’s Baili Hong Fei whose goal was to surpass the Ancient Phoenix Clan’s Feng Qi Qi, Yu Tian Xing’s goal was to break the record of his senior uncle, Yu Jiang Chen, that had remained unbreakable over the past 20,000 years. In truth, despite performing exceptionally well and surpassing Feng Qi Qi, Feng Qi Qi was slightly stronger than Baili Hong Fei. This could be seen when Feng Qi Qi climbed the Peak of Gravity for the second time and overtook Baili Feng.

He Zhan inhaled sharply when he heard Yu Tian Xing’s words. When he calmed down, he said, “That seems impossible... To further improve his comprehension of the law of darkness, he would have to comprehend at least one profundity from the law of darkness to the mastery stage.”

“Nothing’s impossible,” Yu Tian Xing said lightly, “Before he appeared, did you think it was possible for someone from a mundane realm to be capable of such amazing feats?”

He Zhan smiled wryly. He knew Yu Tian Xing had a point. However, Su Li’s progress was just too unbelievable to watch. “The Shadow Support Progeny is incredibly blessed to have such an outstanding talent.”

In the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, the Shadow Support Progeny was not very popular among the ten progenies before Su Li’s appearance. Naturally, once Su Li appeared, the Shadow Support Progeny became immensely popular.

“Moreover, have you forgotten about that extraordinary person from the Shadow Support Progeny in the past? I suspect Su Li inherited his legacy,” Yu Tian Xing speculated out loud.

He Zhan’s eyes widened slightly when he heard Yu Tian Xing’s words. He had heard some rumors about that person from the Shadow Support Progeny after all. “Senior Tian Xing, are you talking about that person who left our Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and challenged the Heavenly Emperor of the Jade Emperor Heaven? The... the progenitor of the Shadow Support Progeny? It’s said that he lost to the Heavenly Emperor and suffered serious injuries. However, it turned out to be a blessing in disguise because he managed to become a god because of that. Many people said that he has already gone to one of the Realms of Gods.”

He Zhan had heard that the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect was not a grade-one sect in the past but a heaven-grade sect. The sect's strength was only second to the force of the Heavenly Emperor of the Jade Emperor Heaven. At that time, the sect had many titled Celestial Emperors.

In Devata Realms, the Heavenly Emperors' forces were undoubtedly the strongest. A Heavenly Emperor's force had many titled Celestial Emperors and ordinary Celestial Emperors. Below a Heavenly Emperor's force were heaven-grade forces that had many legendary and famous figures who were titled Celestial Emperors and ordinary Celestial Emperors. Sometimes, the number of titled Celestial Emperors in a heaven-grade force was not any lesser than those in the Heavenly Emperor's force. Naturally, the difference was the Heavenly Emperor's force had the Heavenly Emperor who could suppress most titled Celestial Emperors, making it the number one force in a Devata Realm. Below the heaven-grade forces were the supreme-grade forces. All supreme-grade forces had to have at least one titled Celestial Emperor. Without a titled Celestial Emperor, it would only be considered as a grade-one force even if they had ordinary Celestial Emperors. For example, the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect used to have many titled Celestial Emperors. However, as time passed, the number of titled Celestial Emperors in the sect began to dwindle. As a result, the sect weakened until it was a grade-one sect.

"That's the rumor most people know..." Yu Tian Xing said as a hint of reverence of that powerhouse from the Shadow Support Progeny shone in his eyes, "It's said after he was defeated by our Heavenly Emperor, he died not long after. It's true that he became a god, but he died before he could go to a Realm of Gods. After his defeat, he returned to his hometown in the mundane realm, the Yan Huang Realm. As you know, that's also where Su Li came from. In fact, our Heavenly Emperor and many famous figures in the Jade Emperor Heaven came from the Yan Huang Realm."

After a brief pause, Yu Tian Xing continued to say, "Anyway, after he died, many forces curried favor with the Heavenly Emperor and seized the chance to suppress the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. During that time, all of the titled Celestial Emperors were killed, and the sect was forced to flee the Jade Emperor Territory to the Nan Dou Territory." He could not help but sigh after he finished speaking.

"This... Doesn't this mean the progenitor of the Shadow Support Progeny was a sinner of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect?" He Zhan asked as his eyes narrowed slightly.

"A sinner?" Yu Tian Xing glanced at He Zhan as he said, "You better not speak such nonsense again. If my senior uncle heard the words you just said, he won't let you off easily. The person my senior uncle admires the most is the progenitor of the Shadow Support Progeny. He takes great care of Su Li because he highly suspects that Su Li has inherited the legacy of the progenitor of the Shadow Support Progeny. He even personally spoke to me and told me not to make things difficult for Su Li. Otherwise, he would never forgive me." He smiled wryly at the end of his words. He treated his senior uncle like his father so he would not disobey his senior uncle.

"If it's true, doesn't this mean Su Li inherited the legacy of a god?" He Zhan inhaled sharply as hints of envy flashed in his eyes.

"Otherwise, why do you think he's capable of such amazing feats when he's not even 300 years old? Moreover, he was from a mundane realm," Yu Tian Xing said.

At this moment, a thought appeared in He Zhan's mind. He quickly asked, "Senior Tian Xing, is it true that there's not even one titled Celestial Emperor in the Thousand Tribulations Celestial Sect?"

"A titled Celestial Emperor?" A faint smile appeared on Yu Tian Xing's face. "In order to become a titled Celestial Emperor, a Celestial Emperor must pass the tests in the Title Temple. However, in Devata Realms, there are many Celestial Emperors as powerful as titled Celestial Emperors who are just not bothered about claiming a title at the Title Emperor." He looked at He Zhan meaningfully after he finished speaking.

Realization dawned on He Zhan immediately. He quickly nodded. "You're right."

"In fact, it's not only the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, but the Ancient Phoenix Clan and the Baili Clan have Celestial Emperors who are qualified to claim their titles at the Title Temple but just didn't do so." After he finished speaking, Yu Tian Xing shifted his eyes back to the Peak of Gravity Ranking again. His eyes widened immediately when he saw the ranking.

Upon seeing this, He Zhan instinctively followed Yun Tian Xing's gaze.

Su Li was still in second place, but he was already at the 3,536th step! He was only a step away from Yu Tian Xing.

He Zhan gasped. A dumbfounded expression appeared on his face as he said, "Su Li actually made it to the 3,536th step. Senior Tian Xing, like you said, it's likely that Su Li has comprehended a profundity from the law of darkness to the mastery stage, right?"

"That's right." Yu Tian Xing nodded. His expression turned grim as he felt the weight on his shoulder grew heavier.

...

Meanwhile, more than 90% of the people in the Genius Secret Realm had gathered at the foot of the various Peaks of Gravity to watch the show.

"Su Li is only a step away from Yu Tian Xing's record!"

"The two prodigies from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect really shine at the Peak of Gravity!"

Chapter 3229: Skyrocketing into the Sky

At this moment, the foot of the 99 Peaks of Gravity that were usually quiet was incredibly lively. Many people flocked toward the Peaks of Gravity because of Su Li, the young prodigy of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and the sect's Shadow Support Progeny.

The foot of the Peak of Gravity that Su Li was challenging was filled with people staring at a dark figure standing on the 3,536th step. Everyone was anticipating the dark figure's next move.

"Will Su Li be able to take the next step to match Yu Tian Xing's record?"

"I think he'll be able to do it. Based on his performance so far, it's obvious he's determined to climb as high as possible. Moreover, if he can't take the next step, he won't waste time standing there."

“Let’s just wait and see... Although Su Li joined the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect later than Yu Tian Xing, he’s actually more outstanding than Yu Tian Xing.”

“In the past, most people thought Yu Tian Xing would be the next Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect... However, that changed after Su Li appeared.”

“Well, Su Li might not necessarily be the next Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. Since he’s so talented, he might leave to explore the Jade Emperor Territory and increase his cultivation base. After all, not everyone wants to be a sect leader.”

“That’s right. There are many people in the Jade Emperor Heaven who are unwilling to be tied down to a force. They’d rather improve their cultivation base instead.”

Apart from grassroots prodigies, there were many young prodigies from grade-one forces who had gathered at the foot of the Peak of Gravity that Su Li was climbing.

“Baili Hong Fei, do you think Su Li can climb further up?”

Upon hearing this question, many onlookers in the surroundings turned to look at a young man that was standing nearby.

Naturally, the onlookers were familiar with Baili Hong Fei, the most outstanding young prodigy in the Baili Clan who was currently ranked fourth in the Peak of Gravity Ranking.

“Ye Wu Dao, instead of asking me for my opinion, why don’t you tell me what you think?” Baili Hong Fei, the young man dressed in a grey and white robe, asked in return.

Upon hearing the name Ye Wu Dao, the onlookers began to whisper among themselves.

“Ye Wu Dao? He’s the most outstanding young prodigy in the Profound Sky Dao Sect, right? He’s currently ranked fifth in the Peak of Gravity Ranking!”

“Ye Wu Dao is only 3 steps away from Baili Hong Fei’s record. Their strength should be almost on par with each other.”

“It’s said that Ye Wu Dao had killed many opponents who were stronger than him. In a fight to the death, there’s a possibility that Baili Hong Fei might not be a match for him.”

“Shh... Lower your voice, Baili Hong Fei is here.”

Meanwhile, Ye Wu Dao smiled. His eyes narrowed slightly as he replied to Baili Hong Fei’s question, “In my opinion, he’s capable of climbing further up...”

As soon as Ye Wu Dao finished speaking, Su Li who was standing on the 3,536th step began to move.

Swoosh!

Under everyone’s watchful eyes, a dark energy that resembled a flood of water shrouded Su Li before it lifted him to the 3,537th step. With this, he was tied with Yu Tian Xing. However, since Yu Tian Xing had reached the 3,537th step first, he was still ranked behind Yu Tian Xing in the Peak of Gravity Ranking.

As expected, an uproar broke out in the Genius Secret Realm again when Su Li climbed to the 3,537th step. Everyone was shocked that he made it to the 3,537th step.

“He did it!”

“It seems like Su Li is really not any weaker than Yu Tian Xing!”

“Yu Tian Xing has lost to Su Li.”

“Is Su Li really from the mundane realm?”

It did not take long before people began to notice Su Li had no intention of descending the Peak of Gravity after reaching the 3,537th step. With this, many of them began to send messages to the others who were not present. Some people who were about to leave turned around immediately and continued watching Su Li.

“Hm? He’s not coming down? Does he plan to continue climbing up?”

“He... Does he intend to break Yu Tian Xing’s record?”

“Su Li’s going to continue challenging the Peak of Gravity!”

“Is it true?”

“It should be difficult for him to continue since it took him such a long time to climb to the 3,537th step, and yet, he plans to continue?”

“Is he capable of continuing?”

Many people doubted Su Li would be able to continue his climb. They knew the resistance would grow with every step he took.

“Su Li is only a One Basic Celestial Lord, right?”

“Even if he has had a breakthrough, he would be a Two Forms Celestial Lord at most. Nevertheless, at this age, even Yu Jian Cheng, the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, wouldn’t be able to achieve what Su Li did, right?”

“That’s right... Yu Jiang Cheng was a Six Combos Celestial Lord when he set the record at the Peak of Gravity.”

“Rumor has it that Su Li isn’t even 300 years old. If the Genius Secret Realm were to open a few years later, there’s no doubt he would be able to break Yu Jian Cheng’s record.”

“The Genius Secret Realm opens every 1,000 years, and only Celestial Lords below the age of 1,000 are allowed to enter. This means everyone would only be able to enter once. It’s rather unfair that Su Li, who’s not even 300 years old, had to enter now.”

“You’re wrong. This has nothing to do with fairness. Everyone has different destinies.”

In the end, nobody left the 99 Peaks of Gravity. They stared at the ranking, eager to see the next development. Su Li’s name was still flashing, indicating he was still at the Peak of Gravity. One’s name would stop flashing the moment one left the Peak of Gravity.

Meanwhile, there were also many people who made their way toward the Peak of Gravity that Su Li was challenging. After all, it was more exciting to watch Su Li climb the Peak of Gravity than just looking at his name in the ranking.

...

At this moment, a valiant young woman approached Yu Tian Xing and He Zhan and greeted the duo. "Senior Tian Xing, Senior He Zhan."

He Zhan smiled and said, "Junior Sister Yun, we wouldn't have known that Su Li is here if you didn't send us a message. Thank you."

The valiant young woman was Yun Yi. She was also a young prodigy from the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and the most outstanding prodigy of the sect's Yu Chang Progeny. Nevertheless, she was still not a match for He Zhan, let alone Yu Tian Xing.

"Senior He Zhan, you're too courteous. This isn't worth mentioning," Yun Yi replied as she looked at Yu Tian Xing furtively. Hints of admiration could be seen in her eyes when she snuck a look at Yu Tian Xing.

It was not surprising that Yu Tian Xing had many admirers in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect. Yun Yi was just one of his many admirers in the sect. However, he was fully devoted to cultivating and did not have any interest in romance.

Yun Yi smiled as she said to Yu Tian Xing, "Senior Tian Xing, it was clearly difficult for Su Li to climb to the 3,537th step... I don't think he's capable of climbing any further..."

Yu Tian Xing shook his head and said, "Junior Sister Yun Yi, don't underestimate Su Li... The time he took to climb from the 3,536th step to the 3,537th step is much faster than mine... Therefore, it's not..."

Yu Tian Xing did not finish his sentence when his eyes suddenly widened.

Su Li had finally made a move!

At this moment, Su Li leaped into the air before he seemed to transform into a gigantic red and black sword. A cloud of black and red mist shrouded the gigantic sword like two black and red dragons.

Swoosh!

The wind howled as Su Li flew past the 3,538th step under everyone's watchful eyes. He showed no sign of stopping until he landed on the 3,552nd step. When the energy shrouding him finally disappeared, he stepped onto a blood-red sword ray and left the Peak of Gravity.

The onlookers were, naturally, shocked to see Su Lu climbing up 15 steps in one go.

"Am I... Am I dreaming? Su Li actually climbed up to the 3,552nd step?"

"What... What happened? It clearly looked like he had a difficult time climbing to the 3,537th step, right? How did he suddenly advance so many steps?"

"Heavens! Yu Tian Xing only climbed to the 3,537th step, and Su Li surpassed him by 15 steps!"

“Su Li is really terrifying!”

“Did he intentionally conserve his energy in the beginning?”

...

Meanwhile, Yu Tian Xing’s expression turned grim as he watched Su Li leave. “Su Li... It seems like he made huge improvements after entering the Genius Secret Realm...”

“This...”

He Zhan and Yun Yi still had not recovered from the shock. They only looked at the name at the top of the Peak of Gravity Ranking blankly.

Su Li, 3,552nd step.

Needless to say, everyone in the Genius Secret Realm was in an uproar over Su Li’s latest feat.

“I don’t think anyone in the Genius Secret Realm would be able to break Su Li’s record this time...”

“I agree!”

“I thought Yu Tian Xing’s record was unbreakable... I didn’t expect Su Li to break his record!”

Chapter 3230: The Formation Spirit Pagoda’s New Record

Over the next two years, places with ranking systems like the Peak of Gravity in the Genius Secret Realm were conquered by Su Li. He rose to first place in all the rankings.

In an eerie forest.

Su Li sat on a branch of a tree as he muttered to himself, “That Duan Ling Tian still hasn’t shown up...”

He suddenly raised his hand at lightning speed. A leaf that was falling to the ground was instantly cut into thousands of pieces by a few sword rays.

Swoosh!

The sound of wind whistled in the air as Su Li flew out of the forest with a blood-red sword ray under his feet.

...

At this time, two figures walked out of a cave in a remote valley. The figures belonged to an incredibly handsome young man and a young woman with unrivaled beauty.

“I can’t believe eight years have passed in just a blink of an eye after we entered the Genius Secret Realm,” the purple-clad young man said with a sigh.

“Brother Ling Tian, if it wasn’t for me, you wouldn’t have to stay here for such a long time,” the white-clad woman said apologetically.

The man and woman were none other than Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er who had spent eight years in closed-door cultivation.

"Silly girl, it's not like I spent my time here in vain. Over the past eight years, my strength has even surpassed yours," Duan Ling Tian replied with a smile, "With our strength, it's easy for us to survive in the Genius Secret Realm. It's time for us to explore this place to see if we can find any treasure. At the same time, if the chance arises, we should display our strength to attract the attention of grade-one forces so that they'll invite us to join them."

Not long after Duan Ling Tian and Huan'er left the remote valley, they saw a huge pagoda that occupied a huge area. The pagoda had 30 floors and stood like a mountain.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up immediately. "Is this... the Formation Spirit Pagoda?"

Before entering closed-door cultivation, Duan Ling Tian had heard about the Formation Spirit Pagoda from the young prodigies in the Genius Secret Realm.

The Formation Spirit Pagoda tested the strength of its challengers. Similar to the Peak of Gravity, external tools were useless in the Formation Spirit Pagoda.

"Sect Leader Yu Jian Cheng of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect seems to be the record holder for the Formation Spirit Pagoda as well... It only took him 132 breaths to defeat the Formation spirits in this 30-story pagoda!" Duan Ling Tian had learned this from the other prodigies.

"After spending eight years in closed-door cultivation with Huan'er, I have two years left before the Genius Secret Realm closes... In the past eight years, I wonder what kind of records the young prodigies from the grade-one forces have set..."

Driven by curiosity, Duan Ling Tian led Huan'er to the Formation Spirit Pagoda.

A stone table was erected in front of the Formation Spirit Pagoda. One could check the ranking by extending one's Divine Consciousness into the table.

"First place... Su... Su Li?" A familiar yet vague figure appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind as soon as he saw the name that was ranked first. It had been 200 years since he last saw his friend Su Li. The last time they met was in the Yan Huang Realm.

Nevertheless, it did not cross Duan Ling Tian's mind that this familiar name belonged to his friend. Although Su Li had a fortuitous encounter previously, he did think it was possible for his friend to break through and become a Celestial Lord in such a short time. Therefore, he did not think the Su Li in the Genius Secret Realm was his friend.

"Second place, Yu Tian Xing... If I'm not mistaken, Yu Tian Xing should be the most outstanding young prodigy in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect..." Although Duan Ling Tian had already entered closed-door cultivation when Yu Tian Xing's name appeared in the Peak of Gravity Ranking, he had heard other people mentioning Yu Tian Xing. Therefore, he was aware that Yu Tian Xing, the most outstanding young prodigy in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, was even stronger than the Ancient Phoenix Clan's Feng Qi Qi and the Baili Clan's Baili Hong Fei.

Duan Ling Tian continued looking at the names in the Formation Spirit Pagoda Ranking.

“Third place, Ye Wu Dao? Ye Wu Dao should be the most outstanding prodigy from the Profound Sky Dao Sect.”

“As a grassroots prodigy, it’s amazing that Hou Zi Long managed to make it into the top ten in the Formation Spirit Pagoda Ranking.”

Hou Zi Long had left an impression on Duan Ling Tian when he entered the top ten in the Peak of Gravity Ranking.

Duan Ling Tian’s eyes flashed as he murmured, “So far, Su Li’s performance is the best... It only took him 141 breaths to complete the challenge here.”

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er’s arrival had attracted the attention of the people who had gathered outside of the Formation Spirit Pagoda. It was only natural they became the focus of everyone’s attention since the duo had suddenly disappeared eight years ago.

“What a beautiful woman!”

“Is it possible that she’s Huan’er?”

“Then, the purple-clad young man next to her should be Duan Ling Tian, right?”

“They were the ones who killed Yun Xiao, the son of the Sect Leader of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, right?”

“They suddenly disappeared eight years ago so I thought they were killed by members of the Thousand Hands Devil Sect.”

At the same time, a blue-clad young man standing among the crowd raised an eyebrow when he heard the conversations in his surroundings. ‘So they’re the ones who killed Yun Xiao?’

The blue-clad young man did not waste time and swiftly sent a message. “Yun Ye, the woman who killed your junior brother has appeared at the Formation Spirit Pagoda you challenged earlier.”

Similar to the Peaks of Gravity and the Worlds of Laws, there was more than one Formation Spirit Pagodas in the Genius Secret Realm. To be precise, there were nine Formation Spirit Pagodas. Although many people could enter the pagoda at the same time, one would be alone and separated from the others after entering the pagoda. To advance to the next floor, one must defeat the Formation spirits in the floor below. To pass the test in the Formation Spirit Pagoda, one must defeat the Formation spirits on all 30 floors of the pagoda. As long as one’s cultivation base was not too weak, it was not difficult to pass the test. However, it was difficult to pass the test in a short time.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian did not pay any attention to the people in his surroundings. He only beckoned to Huan’er and said, “Huan’er, let’s enter and have some fun.”

...

After Duan Ling Tian entered the pagoda, he discovered Huan’er was no longer with him. Nevertheless, he was not worried. He knew it had to be the rules of the Formation Spirit Pagoda.

“The time begins to run as soon as I enter the pagoda... All I can do now is wait for the Formation spirit to appear.” While waiting for the appearance of the Formation spirit, Duan Ling Tian did not let his guard down. He was on high alert as he surveyed his surroundings.

...

Outside the Formation Spirit Pagoda.

A young man dressed in a dark blue long robe descended from the sky at this moment. As soon as he arrived, he asked his friend who had sent him a message earlier, “Where are they?”

The young man was aloof. His eyes shone icily, and the aura he emitted was terrifyingly chilling.

The few people who noticed the young man’s arrival recognized him immediately.

“It’s Yun Ye! He’s the most outstanding young prodigy from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect! He’s ranked seventh in the Formation Spirit Pagoda Ranking!”

At the same time, the young man, Yun Ye’s friend, glanced at the Formation Spirit Pagoda before he replied, “They’ve entered the pagoda.”

“Very well.” Yun Ye nodded. His eyes shone with killing intent as he said, “I’ll wait for them to come out.”

Upon hearing these words, Yun Ye’s friends suggested, “Yun Ye, why don’t we ask more of our people to come over? They’re quite strong so we might not be able to deal with them if they join forces...”

Yun Ye was not against the suggestion. He knew Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er were rather strong, after all. He quickly sent a message to the other young prodigies from the Thousand Hands Devil Sect, asking them to gather at the Formation Spirit Pagoda. However, many of the members could not come at such short notice since they were too far away from the Formation Spirit Pagoda.

At this moment, Yun Ye’s friend made another suggestion. “Yun Ye, before we make a move, let’s see how long it takes them to clear the Formation spirits in the Formation Spirit Pagoda. If their time is roughly similar to yours, let’s not attack recklessly...”

Yun Ye nodded before he asked, “How long has it been since they entered the pagoda?”

“About 30 breaths ago... Usually, the first Formation spirits would appear after 20 breaths so they should have begun their fight about a dozen breaths ago,” Yun Ye’s friend replied.

“I’d like to see how fast they are.” Yun Ye stared at the Formation Spirit Pagoda fiercely.

The onlookers who knew Yun Ye had come to the Formation Spirit Pagoda for Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er could not help but wonder if the duo was a match for Yun Ye.

Time continued to pass...

Swoosh!

Everyone’s eyes widened when they saw a purple-clad figure suddenly appear out of thin air.

Yun Ye and his friend were no exception; they were shocked as well.

Yun Ye's friend exclaimed in disbelief, "He came out so fast!"

"100... 127 breaths?!"

"Heavens! He... He broke Sect Leader Yu Jian Cheng's record that had remained unbreakable over the past 20,000 years?!"

"I... I didn't expect I'd be able to witness such a historical moment! I didn't come here in vain after all!"

When the onlookers saw the purple-clad young man, they had instinctively extended their Divine Consciousness into the stone tablet and discovered someone else had replaced Su Li and was now first in the Spirit Pagoda Formation Ranking.

Duan Ling Tian ranked first with 127 breaths of time. The unbreakable record set by the Sect Leader of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, Yu Jian Cheng, 20,000 years ago was 132 breaths. This meant that Duan Ling Tian was faster than Yu Jian Cheng by five breaths.

It was impossible for one to hold back one's strength in the Formation Spirit Pagoda, therefore, every single breath counted. The difference of five breaths was like the difference between heaven and earth.

Meanwhile, Yun Ye gulped after he withdrew his Divine Consciousness. He looked at the purple-clad young man fearfully. "So he's Duan Ling Tian, Huan'er's companion?"