

## Sovereign 4491

### Chapter 4491: Duan Tian Hong

Within the Duan clan's side estate for recruitment in Tourmaline Holy City...

The elder in charge of the side estate, who was also an elder of the Duan clan's Enforcement Hall, brought a spatial artifact out and said loudly, "Don't resist. Follow me into the spatial artifact."

Following that, the elder brought Duan Ling Tian into the spatial artifact.

Duan Ling Tian naturally knew better than to resist during the process. After all, he was just entering a spatial artifact, which he could leave at any time. He would not be afraid even if he had entered the old man's Little World. After all, the old man was a supreme powerhouse. If the old man truly wanted to harm him, there was no need to go through all this trouble. The old man could easily kill him now.

!!

After Duan Ling Tian and the old man vanished into thin air, leaving only a gourd-shaped artifact behind, Tan Xiu Teng waited calmly for their return. He was very confident about the result. He knew the Duan clan would be more than happy to accept Duan Ling Tian as an interim elder or a Revered Elder.

After all, although Duan Ling Tian was not a peerless top advanced Supreme God yet, there were likely not many people below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Duan clan who were a match for Duan Ling Tian.

In the spatial artifact.

“Do your best to resist my attack and let me see your true strength,” the elder said. Without waiting for a response, he attacked immediately.

A majestic energy swept toward Duan Ling Tian with the force of a thousand troops immediately.

Before entering the spatial artifact, the old man could already tell that the purple-clad Duan Ling Tian was close to becoming a peerless top advanced Supreme God. However, he was not sure of the level of Duan Ling Tian’s strength. After all, there were differences in strength between those with the same cultivation base.

Upon hearing the old man’s words, Duan Ling Tian did not hold back anymore. His Divine Energy along with his law of space that had reached the perfect form surged turbulently. Following that, he used his Sword Dao and struck with all his might, crushing the incoming attack completely. Needless to say, he was only capable of this because the old man had held back his strength.

As soon as the old man made a move earlier, Duan Ling Tian could tell the old man only attacked with the strength of someone who was close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods, and this level of strength was much weaker than his. Someone with this strength could not even withstand ten moves from him. If the said person did not have some special means, he was confident he could kill the said person.

Swoosh!

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian’s energy gathered and formed a powerful sword ray that shot out immediately.

The power of the sword ray caused the elder to widen his eyes in shock and disbelief. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian to be so powerful.

‘He... His strength is comparable to the strongest members below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion!’

Although the Duan clan had prodigies like Duan Ling Tian in the history of the clan, they were few and far in between. With a history that spanned millions of years, there were only a few people like Duan Ling Tian in the Duan clan. As for the current Duan clan, there was no one like Duan Ling Tian at all.

How could the elder not be shocked now that someone like that was undergoing the assessment to join the Duan clan?

‘There’s no mistake. His Sword Dao has definitely reached the sixth stage.

Moreover, it’s close to entering the seventh stage!’

The elder was further shocked by Duan Ling Tian’s Sword Dao. Based on his knowledge, there were not more than 100 people who comprehended any of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth to the sixth stage in the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds in the current generation.

‘In the current era, perhaps there aren’t more than five people who have comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage. Moreover, I don’t think anyone below the realm of Saints has comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage!’

All Saints, without exception, had the highest level of cultivation. Put everything else aside, they had at least mastered one law to the paramount stage and comprehended one of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth to the sixth stage.

After a brief moment, the elder quickly dismissed his thoughts. He saw Duan Ling Tian's attack sweeping over and waved his hand, easily blocking Duan Ling Tian's attack.

Although Duan Ling Tian's attack was powerful, it was naturally insignificant to the elder who was a supreme powerhouse.

At this time, a smile appeared on his face. His stiff and stern expressions from earlier had vanished. He said, "Young man, I'm Duan Tian Hong; the Second Elder of the Duan clan's Enforcement Hall. What's your name?"

If any member of the Duan clan were here, they would have been shocked to see Duan Tian Hong now. After all, Duan Tian Hong rarely smiled even in front of the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, let alone other people. The only person who received such treatment was only the Duan clan's demi Saint.

"My name is Duan Ling Tian. Greetings, Elder Tian Hong," Duan Ling Tian replied. He was naturally not surprised by Duan Tian Hong's change in attitude.

He had already expected this. With his strength now, let alone a demi-saint-rank force, he would be warmly welcomed even in a saint-rank force.

"Your surname is Duan as well?" The smile on Duan Tian Hong's face widened upon hearing this. Perhaps, he rarely smiled so his smile looked awkward in the eyes of others.

Duan Tian Hong continued to say, “It seems like you’re destined to join our

Duan clan. With your strength, you’re more than qualified to become a Revered Elder in our Duan Ling Tian. In fact, I don’t think there’d be an objection even if you become a Grand Revered Elder in our clan!”

Before Duan Ling Tian came, he knew that the title ‘Grand Revered Elder’ was only given to the strongest interim elders and Revered Elders. This only applied to those below the realm of supreme powerhouses. If it were a supreme powerhouse, he or she would be given the title ‘Guardian’.

‘Revered Elder’ was the title given to interim elders; outsiders below the realm of supreme powerhouses who joined the Duan clan.

“Let’s go! I’ll bring you to the Duan clan’s main estate to meet our clan leader!”

Duan Tian Hong said. He was anxious to bring Duan Ling Tian back, worried that Duan Ling Tian would suddenly change his mind and decide not to join the Duan clan.

“I’ll have to trouble you then, Elder Tian Hong,” Duan Ling Tian said politely.

“It’s no trouble at all! This is just a trivial matter,” Duan Tian Hong said as he waved his hand, “Moreover, your surname is Duan Ling Tian. You must be distantly related to our Duan clan. Not only are you destined to join the Duan clan, but you’re also destined to meet me. Therefore, there’s no need for you to be so polite to me. If you’re willing, you can treat me like an older brother!”

Duan Tian Hong could not sense Duan Ling Tian's exact age, he could only vaguely sense that Duan Ling Tian was not more than 30,000 years old. Those who possessed Duan Ling Tian's strength at such an age were all prodigies.

After leaving the spatial artifact, Duan Tian Hong said, "Since he's your subordinate, he should follow us back to the Duan clan.'

After that, Duan Tian Hong, who did not even take a proper look at Tan Xiu Teng earlier, nodded and smiled at Tan Xiu Teng slightly.

Although the smile was slight and short, it shocked the person who led Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng here.

'What's going on? Elder Tian Hong always has a stern expression on his face and rarely smiles... He actually smiled?'

#### Chapter 4492: Joining the Duan Clan

Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng quickly followed Duan Tian Hong to the Duan clan's main estate outside of Tourmaline Holy City.

During the journey, Duan Ling Tian gave an introduction of Tourmaline Holy City and the various businesses of the Duan clan in the city to Duan Ling Tian. He was very straightforward and told Duan Ling Tian that after becoming a Revered Elder of the Duan clan, he would receive huge discounts at the stores owned by the Duan clan in Tourmaline Holy City if he showed his identity token.

Duan Tian Hong also asked about Duan Ling Tian's origin, and he grew even more excited when he heard that Duan Ling Tian was from the Myriad Worlds.

Those from the Myriad Worlds were without roots and fetters in the Outer Boundary and were like a blank slate. This meant that they were without attachments that could be distracting. Moreover, they likely left the Myriad Worlds to gain a foothold in the Outer Boundary. This meant that they were generally more stable and focused. As such, many forces in the Outer Boundary preferred to recruit such people.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian had a better understanding of the Duan clan after listening to Duan Tian Hong. He learned that there were more than a dozen supreme powerhouses under the realm of demi Saints in the Duan clan. Among them, there were a few who were close to becoming demi Saints. The Clan Leader of the Duan clan, a powerful supreme powerhouse, belonged to this small group of people.

‘Demi Saints, known as imminent Saints in the Myriad Worlds, are level-five supreme powerhouses?’

Through Duan Tian Hong, Duan Ling Tian also learned for the first time that supreme powerhouses were divided into levels according to their strength. The higher the number, the stronger they were. He knew that there were differences in strengths between supreme powerhouses, but he was unaware that they were divided into levels like that.

Duan Ling Tian did not show his surprise and continued to silently listen to Duan Tian Hong.

“My strength is only average among the supreme powerhouses in the Duan clan. I'm just a level-two supreme powerhouse. The clan leader is a level-three supreme powerhouse, similar to the Head Elder of the Enforcement Hall...” They continued to chat until they arrived outside of the Duan clan's main estate.

A complicated maze surrounded the outside of the Duan clan's main estate. It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to guess that it was to prevent outsiders from wandering close to the estate. Although the Duan clan was powerful and not afraid of outsiders, it was annoying having curious people wander close and disturb the clan.

It was easy for powerhouses to find the Duan clan's estate through the maze, but it would be a difficult task for others. Even Duan Ling Tian could not navigate the maze easily.

“Elder Tian Hong!”

After Duan Tian Hong led Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng into the estate, many people greeted Duan Tian Hong respectfully when they saw him.

Among these people, many young people looked at Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng curiously. Naturally, they did not dare to gossip out loud and only spoke through Voice Transmission.

“Who are these two people? Elder Tian Hong treats them rather politely...”

“Isn't Elder Tian Hong's turn to be in charge of our clan's side estate in Tourmaline Holy City recently? Those two are probably here to join our clan then. The fact he personally led them here shows that they must be quite powerful...”

“Based on their appearance, they really don't look too powerful. However, since Elder Tian Hong personally brought them here and treated them politely, there's no doubt that they're at least close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods...”



“There were quite a few people close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods who joined our Duan clan in the past. However, I don’t think

Elder Tian Hong gave them such treatment...’

“Are they supreme powerhouses? No, it’s more likely that only one of them is a supreme powerhouse if my speculation is right.”

Meanwhile, Duan Tian Hong, the Second Elder of the Duan clan’s Enforcement Hall, led Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng to the reception hall to meet Duan Bing, the Clan Leader of the Duan clan.

Duan Bing had long been notified of Duan Ling Tian’s arrival and was already waiting in the reception hall when they arrived.

Duan Tian stopped outside of the reception hall and said respectfully, “Greetings, Clan Leader. I’ve brought him here.”

A loud voice rang from inside the hall.

“Come in.”

Duan Tian Hong smiled and gestured to Duan Ling Tian to follow him while Tan Xiu Teng followed behind the duo.

Duan Ling Tian saw Duan Bing as soon as he walked into the reception hall. He had also heard of Duan Bing's name earlier from Duan Tian Hong. He cupped his fists together at Duan Bing and greeted, "Greetings, Clan Leader Duan." Tan Xiu Teng quickly followed suit and greeted Duan Bing as well.

Duan Bing looked at Duan Ling Tian with a bright smile on his face as he said, "You're Duan Ling Tian, right? Elder Tian Hong sent me a message earlier. He told me you're close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods, and you've comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage."

After a brief pause, Duan Bing continued to say, "I don't doubt Elder Tian Hong's words, but this is my first time meeting someone below the realm of supreme powerhouses who has comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage. I wonder if you're willing to show me your Sword Dao?"

Although Duan Bing's tone seemed like he was asking Duan Ling Tian, a powerful and majestic energy surged and swept out in the reception hall as soon as he finished speaking.

In any case, Duan Ling Tian did not have any intention to refuse Duan Bing. He knew he had to show his strength in order to increase his value. He joined the Duan clan with a purpose, and it would only benefit him to show his strength instead of waiting and bidding his time.

Duan Ling Tian's Divine Energy and his law of space, which had reached the perfect form, surged out immediately before he displayed his Sword Dao.

Swoosh!

An astonishingly powerful sword ray shot out, looking as though it could cut through heaven and earth. However, before it could do any damage to the reception hall, it was stopped by Duan Bing.

Duan Bing was delighted.. He could barely contain his excitement as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, “It’s really in the sixth stage! Moreover, it seems like your Sword Dao has been in the sixth stage for a while now! I heard you’re from the Myriad Worlds? It seems like our Duan clan has found a gem this time!”

#### Chapter 4493: Grand Revered Elder

Although the test was brief, Duan Bing, the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, thoroughly confirmed Duan Ling Tian’s strength. There was no doubt that Duan Ling Tian was close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods. Moreover, in his opinion, even those monstrous prodigies with the same cultivation base in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion might not be able to defeat Duan Ling Tian in a one-on-one fight.

However, after a moment, Duan Bing calmed down and said, looking slightly skeptical, “I’m curious. With your strength, you can join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, and you’ll still be highly valued. Why did you choose to join our Duan clan?”

Duan Bing did not beat around the bush and was direct with his words.

Duan Ling Tian smiled and replied truthfully, “You’re not wrong. However, I’m new to the Sacred Lightning Realm, and there are many things I’m not familiar with. It’ll be more troublesome for me to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion since their main estate isn’t in Tourmaline Holy City. On the other hand, it’ll be more convenient for me to join one of the three strongest demi-saint-rank forces in Tourmaline Holy City. As for why I chose the Duan clan... my surname is also Duan. In the future, if the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion extends an invitation to me to join them, I’ll definitely join them if it benefits me. It’s good that you brought this matter up because I also want to make this clear to you,

Clan Leader Duan.”

Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly upon hearing these words. However, he also admired Duan Ling Tian's frankness. After all, most people, even if they had these thoughts, would not give voice to them.

"Ling Tian, you're quite honest," Duan Bing said. He was naturally not angered by Duan Ling Tian's words. After all, there was nothing wrong with Duan Ling

Tian's words. There were quite a few members of the Duan clan who joined the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion since the Jade Tide Mansion could give them things that the Duan clan could not.

Although demi-saint-rank forces were only below saint-rank forces, the gap between them was insurmountable.

Duan Bing smiled and continued to say, "In any case, it's a lucky coincidence that joined us at this time. As it happens, there'll be a great opportunity for you in the Duan clan in ten years. At that time, if you perform well and stand out, there's a high chance the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion will invite you to join them."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up as soon as he heard these words. It was naturally great if he could join the Jade Tide Mansion. He cupped his fists at Duan Bing again and said seriously, "Clan Leader Duan, you're a magnanimous person. Even if I only stay in the Duan clan for ten years, I will never forget my time in the Duan clan."

Duan Ling Tian had never been an ungrateful person, after all. Even if the Duan clan did not do anything else for him in the coming ten years, the opportunity that Duan Bing spoke about was more than enough for him to feel grateful. If there was a chance in the future, he would definitely repay the Duan clan.

After chatting for a while, Duan Bing finally asked Duan Tian Hong to bring Duan Ling Tian to complete the formalities to become a Revered Elder of the Duan clan. The main purpose of this was to obtain an identity token.

After helping Duan Ling Tian obtain an identity token, Duan Tian Hong led Duan Ling Tian to the cultivation ground for Revered Elders.

Duan Tian Hong said, “Ling Tian, with your strength, now that you’re a Revered Elder, you can challenge the current Grand Revered Elder of our Duan clan. Needless to say, if you win, you’ll become the new Grand Revered Elder of our Duan clan. The current Grand Revered Elder is skilled in the law of thunder. He’s also comprehended the law of thunder to the perfect form, and he has comprehended the Mastery Dao to the third stage.”

The Mastery Dao was one of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth. In the past, when Duan Ling Tian was in the lower realm and was still weak, he had briefly comprehended the Mastery Dao. He had come across it from the legacy of a

certain Heavenly Emperor of a Devata Realm. However, as he grew stronger, he found that the Mastery Dao was becoming increasingly useless to him so he eventually stopped comprehending it.

“Elder Tian Hong, I know that ‘Grand Revered Elder’ is a title given to the strongest Revered Elder. However, is there a difference between being a Grand Revered Elder and a Revered Elder?” Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

“Of course, there’s a difference. Moreover, the difference isn’t small,” Duan Tian Hong said with a smile, “For one, the cultivation ground is different. The cultivation ground of Revered Elders is located in one of the nine great spiritual springs in the Duan clan, and the Grand Revered Elder’s cultivation place is actually right above the heart of the spring.”

Duan Ling Tian knew that spiritual springs were formed by excess Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy after a number of divine crystals reached a certain level. The cultivation environment where the springs were located was perfect, and the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy there was extremely rich. The closer one was to the heart of the spiritual spring, the better the cultivation environment would be. For cultivators below the realm of supreme powerhouses, cultivating at the heart of the spiritual spring could give them twice the result with only half the effort.

Duan Tian Hong continued to say, “Apart from that, the Duan clan would give cultivation resources to Revered Elders at a fixed time. Many of the cultivation resources are highly coveted. At that time, the Grand Revered Elders will be given priority and can choose three of the cultivation resources first. On the contrary, not only do Revered Elders have to wait for the Grand Revered Elder to choose first, but Revered Elders can only choose one cultivation resource each.”

After that, Duan Tian Hong continued to talk about various benefits of being a Grand Revered Elder such as increased salary, the difference in status, and so on.

After listening, there was one thing that excited Duan Ling Tian the most. Every year, the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan would be given a chance to follow the Duan clan’s demi Saint for three days. During the three days, one could ask for advice and so on from the demi Saint.

Duan Ling Tian’s heart skipped a beat, and his eyes shone with determination as he thought to himself, ‘I must become the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan!’

Soon after, they arrived at the cultivation ground for the Revered Elders of the Duan clan. Just as Duan Tian Hong said, it was where a spiritual spring was located.

A thick fog of Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy could be seen around and on the spiritual spring.

“Elder Tian Hong, the hut suspended in the middle of the spring is the cultivation place of the Grand Revered Elder, right?” Duan Ling Tian asked. His attraction was immediately attracted by a hut on a floating island just right above the heart of the spring, which looked beautiful and magnificent under the light. The thick and viscous liquid from the spring lapped against the floating island gently.

Duan Tian Hong nodded. “Yes. Ling Tian, do you plan to issue a challenge now or do you plan to wait? Every Revered Elder is given a chance to challenge the Grand Revered Elder, but if he or she fails, he or she can only issue another challenge after thirty years. This rule exists to prevent the Grand Revered Elder from being disturbed too much during cultivation..”

Chapter 4494: Qin Yun Yi, the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan Clan

As a demi-saint-rank force, the Duan clan had nine spiritual rings, and each of them was an excellent place for cultivation. The closest place to the spring was also where the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was the strongest.

Although Duan Ling Tian was also attracted by the cultivation place of the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan, its attraction was not as strong compared to other benefits of becoming a Grand Revered Elder. After all, he owned quite a number of divine crystals now. If he absorbed the divine crystals and opened up his Little World to cultivate with the help of the Divine Tree of Life, its effect was not any worse than that of the spiritual spring.

What Duan Ling Tian was more excited about was the chance to spend time and learn from the demi Saint of the Duan clan. Most importantly, Duan Tian Hong had later told him that it was not impossible to make a request or two as long as they were not excessive and within the demi Saint’s capabilities.

‘After becoming a Grand Revered Elder, I can use that as a chance to ask the Duan clan’s demi Saint to see if he can break the soul imprisonment technique on Ke’er. It’ll be great if he’s able to do that. If not, perhaps, I can ask him to slow down the erosion on Ke’er’s soul. That’s still very good since it’ll buy me more time...’

Duan Ling Tian was still not optimistic that the demi Saint of the Duan clan would be able to break the soul imprisonment technique on Ke'er. However, this was his only choice now, and he could only try every avenue available to him.

Naturally, it was best if he had the help of a Saint. However, it would not be an easy task. Put everything else aside, with his current strength, it would be difficult for him to meet a Saint. Saints were the most powerful existence, after all. Even in the God Defying World, it was said that there was only one Saint.

Duan Ling Tian had learned about this after he came to the Outer Boundary. In fact, after coming to the Outer Boundary, his knowledge of the God Defying World had grown significantly.

The God Defying World was one of the Myriad Worlds, and one of the 18 Middle

Worlds under the Three Upper Worlds, which were also the three strongest Worlds. The 18 Middle Worlds were mostly governed by a World supreme powerhouse. As for a World without a World supreme powerhouse, a few imminent World supreme powerhouses would band together to govern it. With special effects from their respective Realms of Gods, when they joined forces, they did not have to be afraid of the average World supreme powerhouse.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses and said to Duan Tian Hong, "Elder Tian Hong, I want to challenge the current Grand Revered Elder now."

Duan Tian Hong nodded. "He's in closed-door cultivation now. Before you issue a challenge, please listen to my explanation. Generally, challenges will disturb the cultivation of the Grand Revered Elder regardless if it's just an ordinary cultivation or a closed-door cultivation. However, if one chooses to issue a challenge when the Grand Revered Elder is in closed-door cultivation, the Grand Revered Elder will be given the choice to turn the challenge into a life-or-death battle.'



In fact, Duan Tian Hong was not worried about Duan Ling Tian. After all, he did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's strength at all. He had said this hoping Duan Ling Tian would show mercy. Hence, after saying that, he added, "If the current Grand Revered Elder wants to change the challenge into a life-or-death battle, I hope you'll show mercy to him."

Duan Tian Hong could have sent a Voice Transmission to the current Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan to warn him against changing the challenge to a life-or-death battle no matter how irritated he was by being awoken from his closed-door cultivation. However, he did not think the current Grand Revered Elder would believe him or heed his advice. After all, prodigies were mostly proud and arrogant.

"Don't worry, Elder Tian Hong. I know what to do," Duan Ling Tian said with a faint smile. He knew most people would be furious to be interrupted during their closed-door cultivation. As such, it was understandable if the current Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan wanted to change the challenge into a

life-or-death battle.

"Very well," Duan Tian Hong said with a nod before he taught Duan Ling Tian the way to issue a challenge.

After that, Duan Ling Tian reached out for his identity token and sent his Divine Energy into it. Following that, he guided the energy from the identity token to the spiritual spring.

In just a moment, the spring shook, and the liquefied Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy surged for a moment before it receded from the floating island.

At this time, an angry roar rang out from the hut.

“Who dares to challenge me while I’m in closed-door cultivation?! I’m going to kill you! This challenge is now a life-or-death battle!”

Following that, a muscular young man came out of the hut. Lightning flashed around his body, and a resolute and angry expression could be seen on his angular face. He was at a critical juncture during his closed-door cultivation, and although the improvement would not be significant, he was still understandably furious at being disturbed.

Boom!

As thunder rang and lightning flashed in the sky, the muscular young man flew over and stood across from Duan Ling Tian and Duan Tian Hong in the air.

The muscular young man saw Duan Tian Hong and cupped his fists together at Duan Tian Hong before he said, trying his best to suppress his anger,

“Greetings, Elder Tian Hong. Is this my challenger? Is he new?”

Duan Tian Hong looked at the muscular young man and sighed inwardly before he said through Voice Transmission, “Grand Revered Elder Qin, you’re no match for this new Revered Elder. With his strength, very few people under the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods are a match for him. Even those who claimed to be invincible among those below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Sacred Lightning Realm are on par with him at the very least.’

Duan Tian Hong was very straightforward with his words.

However, upon hearing these words, the muscular young man scoffed in disbelief. He did not even bother to use Voice Transmission as he said, “Elder Tian Hong, even if you’re trying to speak for him, there’s no need to exaggerate. If he’s as strong as you claimed, I don’t think he’ll join the Duan clan. ”

The muscular young man did not bother to hide his disbelief at all.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At the same time, many figures flew out of the various huts above the spiritual spring. They were the Revered Elders of the Duan clan. “Did someone challenge Grand Revered Elder Qin Yun Yi?”

“Is he new?”

“He has to be a newcomer. Among us, even Revered Elder Yuan who’s closest in strength to Grand Revered Elder Qin would be at most on par with Grand

Revered Elder Qin after a breakthrough. It’s almost impossible for Revered Elder Yuan to beat Grand Revered Elder Qin. In any case, even if Revered Elder

Yuan wants to challenge Grand Revered Elder Qin, he won’t challenge Grand

Revered Elder Qin while he’s in closed-door cultivation.”

“Based on Grand Revered Elder Qin’s words, it seems like Elder Tian Hong told him through Voice Transmission that the newcomer is very strong. Moreover, it seems like the newcomer’s strength is exaggerated since Grand Revered

Elder Qin doesn’t believe that someone so strong would join the Duan clan…’

“Don’t tell me Elder Tian Hong told Grand Revered Elder Qin that the newcomer is comparable to those who are invincible among those below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods? If so, then it’s really too exaggerated!”

“That’s right. It’s impossible for someone with such power to join the Duan clan, right?”

The Revered Elders speculated among themselves, wondering what Duan Tian Hong said to Qin Yun Yi. All of them looked at Duan Ling Tian as they discussed among themselves.

Meanwhile, after a moment of silence, Duan Tian Hong sighed and stepped aside. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, “I hope you’ll show mercy.”

Duan Tian Hong’s words caused the group of Revered Elders to widen their eyes in disbelief, and his words also caused Qin Yun Yi’s face to turn red in anger. Qin Yun Yi felt as though he was being underestimated.

Qin Yun Yi felt as though he was going to vomit blood when he saw the purple-clad Duan Ling Tian nodding seriously before saying, “Elder Tian Hong, don’t worry. I won’t kill him.”

At the same time, Tan Xiu Teng also stepped aside. A hint of pity could be seen in his eyes when he looked at Qin Yun Yi. After all, he knew that Duan Ling Tian was definitely invincible among those

below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods. Qin Yun Yi, like many cultivators close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods, was strong. However, he was no match for Duan Ling Tian at all.

“You’re really arrogant. If you’re not stronger than me, you can only die today,” Qin Yun Yi said furiously as he stepped forward. Lightning flashed even brighter around him as tiny spatial cracks appeared in the void. At the same time, a powerful energy swept out.

Qin Yun Yi’s eyes shone with killing intent. Clearly, he could not wait to kill Duan Ling Tian.

At the same time, the group of Revered Elders in the surroundings inhaled sharply. They knew Qin Yun Yi was thoroughly angered at this moment. They had been with Qin Yun Yi for many years, and this was the first time they had seen him so angry..

#### Chapter 4495: The New Grand Revered Elder

Duan Ling Tian remained calm when faced with the furious Qin Yun Yi, the current Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan. Qin Yun Yi was at most below Ling Yun Di, and as such, he knew Qin Yun Yi was no match for him. After his breakthrough, although he had yet to become a peerless top advanced Supreme God, his strength was now much stronger than those in the realm as him.

Qin Yun Yi’s expression grew even more unsightly when he saw how indifferent and calm Duan Ling Tian was. His eyes burned with fury as he bellowed, “Die!”

Subsequently, Qin Yun Yi pounced at Duan Ling Tian like a ferocious tiger as lightning flashed around him. He held a nine-foot-long spear in his hand.

Swoosh!

!!

Qin Yun Yi used his bloodline power immediately, causing the void to shake before spatial tears appeared.

‘The Mastery Dao?’

Qin Yun Yi not only comprehended the law of thunder the perfect form and possessed a powerful bloodline power, but he also comprehended the Mastery Dao. Like an invincible war god, he struck at Duan Ling Tian with all his might.

Meanwhile, the group of Revered Elders watched in awe as Qin Yun Yi made his move. Some of them had never seen him make a move before, and those who had seen him in action had only seen part of his strength.

“As expected, Grand Revered Elder Qin is really powerful!”

“This is the first time I’ve seen him go all out! Previously, he only used a small part of his strength when he challenged the former Grand Revered Elder!”

“This is Grand Revered Elder Qin’s true strength!”

Duan Tian Hong was surprised as well. ‘Qin Yun Yi... Did he hide his true strength previously or did he just improve recently?’

Duan Tian Hong had never seen Qin Yun Yi fight before, and he did not know exactly how strong Qin Yun Yi was. However, based on what he knew, Qin Yun Yi was not as strong as he was now.

‘Only two members below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in our clan are a match for Qin Yun Yi now, excluding Duan Ling Tian,’ Duan Tian Hong continued thinking to himself.

The Duan clan did not have any peerless top advanced Supreme Gods, and those who were close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the clan were not as strong as Duan Ling Tian. The two strongest members below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Duan clan were still slightly weaker than Duan Ling Tian. Among those close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods, if Duan Ling Tian was in the first tier, those two would be among the top in the second tier.

In the past, even if Duan Tian Hong thought Qin Yun Yi was strong, he knew very well that Qin Yun Yi would at most be in the mid or bottom of the second tier among his peers. However, after witnessing Qin Yun Yi’s true strength today, he realized that Qin Yun Yi was also at the top of the second tier just like the two prodigies of the Duan clan.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, ‘Qin Yun Yi is quite strong. If my law of space didn’t improve recently, I might not be a match for him. Unfortunately for him, he met me at the wrong time...’

Among the people close to the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods Duan Ling Tian had fought so far, Qin Yun Yi was Duan Ling Tian’s strongest opponent. He did not include Linghu Yun Di, who was acknowledged as invincible among those below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Peaceful Might Realm, since he had never fought her before. Nonetheless, from what he could sense, he knew Linghu Yun Di was far stronger than Qin Yun Yi and was likely on par with him.

Swoosh!

Faced with Qin Yun Yi's aggressive attack, a seven-colored sword ray shot out of Duan Ling Tian's hand. It continued to grow in size as it shot toward Qin Yun Yi.

Duan Ling Tian stood still as his Divine Energy swept out along with his law of space and Sword Dao toward Qin Yun Yi. He did not even bother to use his doppelgangers because he knew he could defeat Qin Yun Yi even without them. After his law of space reached the perfect form, his doppelganger from the law of space now possessed about 80% of his strength. Moreover, his doppelganger from the law of space could also use Sword Dao.

'In fact, just the doppelganger from my law of space is enough to defeat Qin Yun Yi. However, I need to show my true strength to show how strong I am to the Duan clan. First impressions are important after all.'

Swoosh!

Boom!

When the seven-colored sword ray collided with Qin Yun Yi's attack, a thunderous explosion rang in the air before a terrifying shockwave swept out in all directions.

The spiritual spring would have been destroyed if Duan Tian Hong did not cast a protective barrier around it in time. The spiritual spring was a cultivation ground; there was no protective Formation around it because it would disrupt the flow of the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy.



Boom! Boom! Boom!

The shockwaves struck at Duan Tian Hong's protective barrier relentlessly.

The collision sparked a blinding light so everyone lost sight of Duan Ling Tian and Qin Yun Yi at this moment.

When the shockwaves receded and the blinding light dimmed, two figures appeared before their eyes again.

Unlike Qin Yun Yi, the purple-clad Duan Ling Tian was completely unscathed.

To everyone's shock, Qin Yun Yi's robes were tattered, and he was covered in blood. They watched as he collapsed to the ground with a loud thud and lay on the ground motionlessly. No one knew if he was alive at this moment.

"Congratulations, Grand Revered Elder Duan!"

Duan Tian Hong's voice pulled the group of Revered Elders back to their senses. A hint of reverence could be seen in their eyes when they turned to look at the Duan Ling Tian. Following that, they cupped their fists together and simultaneously greeted Duan Ling Tian, the new

Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan who was much stronger than Qin Yun Yi based on how he had thoroughly defeated Qin Yun Yi with just a strike.

“Greetings, Grand Revered Elder!”

## Chapter 4496: The Myriad Trading House

Duan Ling Tian defeated Qin Yun Yi, the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan, with a single strike and became the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan. Everyone knew that he was an advanced Supreme God who comprehended the law of space to the perfect form and suspected that he had comprehended the Sword Dao to the fifth stage.

...

On his second day in the Duan clan, Duan Ling Tian's name spread in the Duan clan and Tourmaline Holy City.

“Did you hear about Duan Ling Tian, the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan? He defeated Qin Yun Yi, the former Grand Revered Elder of the clan, with just a strike of his sword! It's said that he has comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage and is a peerless top advanced Supreme God!”

“Where did you hear that? I heard that he has only comprehended the law of space to the perfect form, but he has already comprehended his Sword Dao to the seventh stage, the mystical stage! That's how he became a peerless top advanced Supreme God!”

“Both of you are wrong! I heard that he comprehended the Sword Dao to the eighth stage, the legendary stage, and his law of space is at the paramount stage! He's truly invincible among peerless top advanced Supreme Gods!”

There were many outrageous claims in Tourmaline Holy City, and they were spreading like wildfire. Some people even claimed that he was invincible among those below the realm of supreme powerhouses in both the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds.

Duan Ling Tian was wandering the streets of Tourmaline Holy City when these outrageous rumors reached his ears. He shook his head as he thought to himself, ‘The people of Tourmaline Holy City sure like to gossip...’

Before moving into the Duan clan’s estate, Duan Ling Tian brought Tan Xiu Teng with him to explore Tourmaline Holy City. As such, the elders of the Duan clan, who hoped to get acquainted with Duan Ling Tian after they learned that he had joined their clan, were disappointed when they could not find him at the inn early in the morning.

At the same time, the other two major forces of Tourmaline Holy City also received news about Duan Ling Tian thanks to their intelligence network.

“The Duan clan is quick! They found a prodigious Sword Dao expert in such a short time!”

The Yuan clan, one of the three major forces in Tourmaline Holy City, was on par with the Duan clan. Similar to the Duan clan, the Yuan clan had also received an invitation from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion to send cultivators below the realm of supreme powerhouses who had comprehended the Sword Dao to the fourth stage to explore the Realm of Origin they recently discovered.

The Yuan clan had a cultivator who fit the criteria so they felt that they had the advantage over the other two major forces in Tourmaline Holy City, the Duan clan and the Myriad Trading House. However, they did not expect the Duan clan to find someone who comprehended the law of space to the perfect form and the Sword Dao to at least the fifth stage in just two days.

With this, not only did they lose their advantage but had also fallen to a disadvantageous place.

“Second Elder, Third Elder... Leave Tourmaline Holy City and search for a few more powerhouses to represent us. Come back after a decade. Our goal now is to send a few more representatives to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion,” the Clan Leader of the Yuan clan said anxiously.

Similarly, there was a commotion in the Myriad Trading House as well. Unlike the Clan Leader of the Yun clan, the Master of the Myriad Trading House was rather calm as he issued orders to the branch managers outside of Tourmaline Holy City to search for powerhouses to represent them a decade later.

‘The Yuan clan and the Duan clan might have a slight advantage over us... However, their connections outside of the city are inferior to ours...’

The Master of the Myriad Trading House was confident about their network outside of Tourmaline Holy City. Unlike the Yuan clan and the Duan clan, the Myriad Trading House was business oriented. Apart from cultivation talents, business talents were also important to ensure their success. In terms of wealth, the Yuan clan and the Duan clan were no match for the Myriad Trading House even if they combined their resources.

“Apart from that, investigate the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan. Find out if he’s a direct descendant of the Duan clan. If he’s not, it means that he might have chosen to join the Duan clan because of his surname. Perhaps, he’s unaware of the advantages of the Myriad

Trading House. At that time, we can send someone to persuade him to join us...”

The Myriad Trading House utilized their intelligence network to investigate Duan Ling Tian, and it did not take long for them to obtain results.

‘Could it be him?’

Duan Ling Tian spent about half a day wandering Tourmaline Holy City. When he was about to leave the city with Tan Xiu Teng and make his way to the Duan clan’s estate, he was stopped by an old man dressed in a long green robe.

The old man’s appearance was ordinary, and he had a medium build. He also possessed piercing gaze like that of a hawk.

Tan Xiu Teng’s heart skipped a beat as soon as he sensed the old man’s aura.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian’s eyes widened imperceptibly as he thought to himself, ‘A supreme powerhouse?’

Nonetheless, Duan Ling Tian was not afraid now that he had the support of the Duan clan. Although the Duan clan was situated outside of Tourmaline Holy City, they had a few supreme powerhouses, including Duan Tian Hong; the Second Elder, who were stationed in Tourmaline Holy City.

“Hello, I’m Liu Yan from the Myriad Trading House. I come with no ill intentions,” the old man said politely with a smile to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian was about to send a message to Duan Tian Hong when the old man’s overbearing aura suddenly vanished without a trace.

‘The Myriad Trading House?’ Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow. He knew that the Myriad Trading House was one of three major demi-saint-rank forces in Tourmaline Holy City and was on par with

the Duan clan. For a moment, he wondered about the old man's purpose for approaching him. Unlike many others in Tourmaline Holy City, the old man recognized him. .

#### Chapter 4497: Poaching a Talent

"Greetings, Senior Liu Yan," Duan Ling Tian said to the old man.

After Duan Ling Tian defeated Qin Yun Yi and became the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan, he had a long talk with Duan Tian Hong and learned more about the Yuan clan and the Myriad Trading House. As such, he knew that Liu Yuan was the Deputy Master of the Myriad Trading House, a level-three supreme powerhouse like Duan Bing; the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, Chi Ming; the supreme demon, and Situ Lei.

"Ling Tian," Liu Yan smiled warmly at Duan Ling Tian as he said, "The owner of the Myriad Trading House wants to meet you. I wonder if you're willing to meet him?"

Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised upon hearing this. He knew that the Master of the Myriad Trading House, Chen Ru Fei, was a level-four supreme powerhouse and the second strongest person in the Myriad Trading House.

After a moment, Duan Ling Tian furrowed his brows slightly and said, "Senior Liu Yan, I've already joined the Duan clan."

It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to figure out that Chen Ru Fei wanted to recruit him to represent the Myriad Trading House to enter the Realm of Origin ten years later. Now that he had joined the Duan clan, he knew it would be inappropriate for him to be acquainted with the Myriad Trading House. He had no intention of switching to another force now. If he was going to switch forces, it would be to a saint-rank force.

Duan Ling Tian decisively sent a message to Duan Tian Hong. After all, a level-three supreme powerhouse like Liu Yan could easily kill him. Although it was unlikely for Liu Yan to make a move against him, it was better to be safe than sorry.

“I come with no ill intentions,” Liu Yan said again as he shook his head when he sensed that Duan Ling Tian had sent a message. After a beat, he added, “The Myriad Trading House is aware that you’ve joined the Duan clan. There’s no need for you to be wary of us...”

Meanwhile, Duan Tian Hong was relaxing and enjoying a cup of tea when he received Duan Ling Tian’s message. He sprung to his feet immediately and vanished into thin air. At the same time, he informed the other supreme powerhouses stationed in Tourmaline Holy City about the matter.

In just a short time, Duan Tian Hong and four other supreme powerhouses from the Duan clan appeared and stood in front of Duan Ling Tian. All of them looked at Liu Yan with a displeased expression on their faces.

“Deputy Master Liu, Ling Tian is now our clan’s Grand Revered Elder. Why would you still try to recruit him?” Duan Tian Hong asked, looking slightly dissatisfied.

Duan Tian Hong naturally knew the Myriad Trading House’s intention to snatch Duan Ling Tian away from the Duan clan. Any demi-saint-rank force would be more than happy to have an advanced Supreme God who had comprehended the law of space to the perfect form and the

Sword Dao to such a high level among their ranks. The Duan clan was fortunate that Duan Ling Tian chose to join them due to their similar surnames. Otherwise, the Duan clan would not have been able to compete with the Myriad Trading House in terms of the benefits and privileges they could offer.

Liu Yan looked at Duan Tian Hong and said indifferently, “Duan Tian Hong, a talented person will choose a patron of integrity. This has been the case since ancient times. Moreover, he has just joined the Duan clan yesterday and has yet to benefit from joining the clan. The only thing he’s received is a meaningless title, right? In any case, if he chooses to join the Myriad Trading House, we’re more than willing to compensate the Duan clan generously on his behalf...”

Wealth was nothing to the Myriad Trading House. Moreover, spending a small fortune in exchange for Duan Ling Tian was a good deal for the Myriad Trading House.

The expressions of Duan Tian Hong and the other supreme powerhouses from the Duan clan turned sour upon hearing these words.

“Liu Yan, do you think the Duan clan is a pushover?” a supreme powerhouse next to Duan Tian Hong said indignantly. His eyes were like knives when he looked at Liu Yan.

At the same time, Duan Tian Hong bellowed, “Liu Yan!”

Following that, a terrifying energy swept out into the surroundings, stirring up a sandstorm and causing the buildings nearby to shake. At the same time, the ground shook before cracks began to appear like cobwebs.

At the same time, the other four supreme powerhouses from the Duan clan glared at Liu Yan, ready to mobilize their energy as well.

Liu Yan scoffed. “Just because there are five of you, you think you’re a match for me?”



A level-two supreme powerhouse and four level-one supreme powerhouses were naturally no match for a level-three supreme powerhouse.

At this critical moment, Duan Ling Tian also knew that it was time for him to make his stance clear. He stepped forward and stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Duan Tian Hong and the others.

However, before Duan Ling Tian could speak, an indifferent voice rang from outside Tourmaline Holy City.

“They might not be a match for you, but what about me?”

Following that, Duan Tian Hong withdrew his energy. After all, reinforcement had finally arrived.

At the same time, the other supreme powerhouses from the Duan clan sighed in relief inwardly.

Swoosh!

A gust of wind blew past before a figure suddenly appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian and the others, directly facing Liu Yan.

Chapter 4498: The City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City

A middle-aged man with a medium build dressed in a long green robe appeared and looked at Liu Yan, the Deputy Master of the Myriad Trading House, indifferently.

At this time, the four supreme powerhouses of the Duan clan also greeted the middle-aged man respectfully, “Elder Wu Yang.”

Upon hearing this, Duan Ling Tian knew that the other party was Duan Wu Yang, the Grand Elder of the Duan clan’s Enforcement Hall. He was a level-three supreme powerhouse like Duan Bing, the Clan Leader of the Duan clan.

...

At the same time, the onlookers who were aware of Duan Wu Yang’s identity gasped.

“The Grand Elder of the Duan clan’s Enforcement Hall is here! He’s one of the Duan clan’s pillars of strength!”

“Don’t you know who the Duan clan’s members are facing? He’s Liu Yan, the Deputy Master of the Myriad Trading House. He’s on par with Duan Wu Yang!”

“Are the Duan clan and the Myriad Trading House going to have a confrontation here?”

“What’s all this commotion about? I just arrived. Can someone fill me in?”

“It seems like they’re fighting over that young man! Wait! He must be the prodigy, Duan Ling

Tian, who became famous in Tourmaline Holy City very recently!”

“Duan Ling Tian? The new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan?”

The onlookers shifted their eyes to Duan Ling Tian in unison.

Meanwhile, Duan Wu Yang and Liu Yan stared at each other intently as their energies surged.

“Duan Wu Yang...” Liu Yan called out. If one looked close enough, one would see a trace of fear in the depths of his eyes when he looked at Duan Wu Yang. Although they were both level-three supreme powerhouses, he knew that Duan Wu Yang was stronger than him. Although Duan Wu Yang became a level-three supreme powerhouse later than him, in the past, Duan Wu Yang had fought a level-three supreme powerhouse to a draw when Duan Wu Yang was at the zenith of the second level. Apart from that, Duan Wu Yang comprehended a law that was superior to the law he comprehended and also had a profound comprehension of one of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth.

Duan Wu Yang and Liu Yan’s energies continued to struggle against each other. It was clear that a fight would break out soon.

Suddenly...

A scoff rang in the air before an icy voice rang in the air. The voice was loud and powerful.

“Take your fight somewhere else! Tourmaline Holy City isn’t a battleground!”

The onlookers began to fervently discuss among themselves as soon as the voice fell.

“This voice seems to have come from the City Governor’s estate...”

“It’s the City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City! He’s the former leader of the Seven Saints of Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion!”

“I’ve long heard about the City Governor! However, he’s really mysterious! I’ve never even heard his voice until today, let alone see him!”

“Rumor has it that he’s infinitely close to becoming a demi Saint...”

“I also heard that three members of the Seven Saints from that time have already become demi Saints. If the City Governor didn’t get injured during an expedition in the Realm of Origin, he would’ve already become a demi Saint by now. He was their former leader after all!”

Not long after the voice fell, a powerful but old-sounding voice echoed in the city.

“City Governor, please calm down. The Myriad Trading House has no intention of fighting the

Duan clan. Liu Yan, come back!”

Liu Yan looked at Duan Wu Yang for a moment before he finally left without saying a word. In fact, as soon as the mysterious City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City spoke, he was already prepared to take a step back. Even the Myriad Trading House would not be able to protect him from the City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City. After all, the City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City was not just an ordinary disciple of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion; his master was a Saint in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion!

After Liu Yan left, Duan Wu Yang looked at Duan Ling Tian with an awkward smile and asked, “Grand Revered Elder Ling Tian, would you like to follow me back to the Duan clan?”

“I’ll have to trouble you then, Elder Wu Yang,” Duan Ling Tian said.

Duan Ling Tian did not plan to stay in Tourmaline Holy City any longer. He did not expect to cause a commotion that needed the intervention of the City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City. Nonetheless, he did not regret sending a message to Duan Tian Hong. After all, if the Myriad Trading House had no scruples, he would have been in danger.

Before leaving, Duan Wu Yang said to one of the supreme powerhouses of the Duan clan, “Repair the damages here.”

The latter mobilized his energy and quickly restored everything with his law of earth.

Once again, Duan Ling Tian could not help but marvel over the strength of supreme powerhouses.

‘Supreme powerhouses’ Divine Energies are truly different and more important than the laws they comprehend. An advanced Supreme God like me who comprehends the law of earth can also repair these damages, but it’s impossible to restore everything to such a perfect state in such a short time!’

The level-one supreme powerhouse from the Duan clan who comprehended the law of earth left an impression on Duan Ling Tian. Although he was only a level-one supreme powerhouse, he could easily kill Duan Ling Tian with just a slap.

Duan Ling Tian continued thinking to himself, ‘Among those below the realm of supreme powerhouses, perhaps only a peerless top advanced Supreme God has a chance of surviving an attack from a level-one supreme powerhouse...’

After that, before leaving, Duan Ling Tian did not forget to say to Duan Tian Hong through Voice Transmission, “Elder Tian Hong, I apologize for troubling you. Will the City Governor blame you for this?”

“Rest assured,” Duan Tian Hong replied through Voice Transmission, “The City Governor rarely leaves his residence. Moreover, that was just a warning. We didn’t make a move after all.”

Despite Duan Tian Hong’s words, Duan Ling Tian could clearly sense the unease and fear in Duan Tian Hong’s voice when Duan Tian Hong mentioned the City Governor of Tourmaline Holy City.

After Duan Ling Tian and Tan Xiu Teng left Tourmaline Holy City with Duan Wu Yang for the Duan clan’s estate, Duan Tian Hong, the Duan clan’s supreme powerhouses, and the onlookers left as well.

Nonetheless, the onlookers were still discussing the matter among themselves.

“It seems like the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan isn’t just an ordinary prodigy... Otherwise, the Myriad Trading House wouldn’t have bothered to recruit him even after he joined the Duan clan!”

“Even if he’s not a peerless top advanced Supreme God, he should be very close to becoming one... Otherwise, the Myriad Trading House would not resort to such a desperate measure.”

“It seems like the Duan clan has found a gem!”

Unbeknownst to Duan Ling Tian, while he was making his way to the Duan clan’s estate, a new rumor began to spread in Tourmaline Holy City.

“There’s suspicion that the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan is the person who obtained a number of Blissful Flower Kings and lord-grade Northern Nether Winter Cod from the Peaceful Might Realm’s Zhong clan and Leng clan respectively!”

Unsurprisingly, this rumor shook Tourmaline Holy City. At the same time, the rumor of the supreme treasures also quickly aroused the greed of many people in the city. .

Chapter 4499: A Decade Later

“Heavens! As it turns out, the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan is that person who has the nine stalks of Blissful Flower Kings and three lord-grade Northern Nether Winter Cod!”

“How unexpected! Alas, it’d be difficult to move against him now that he has joined the Duan clan!”

“Only a fool would be willing to offend the Duan clan, a demi-saint-rank force, for nine stalks of Blissful Flower Kings and three lord-grade Northern Nether Winter Cod!”

“There are rumors that Duan Ling Tian has a powerful background. However, no one knows which force he originally came from... Nonetheless, now that he has joined the Duan clan, the clan definitely won't let anyone lay a finger on him!”

Just like that, Duan Ling Tian became a hot topic in Tourmaline Holy City.

Most people could no longer target Duan Ling Tian since it would implicate the forces behind them if the Duan clan took action.

As for sectless cultivators below the realm of supreme powerhouses, there were also not many who were a match for Duan Ling Tian. As for sectless supreme powerhouses, they dared not make a move in or around Tourmaline Holy City since it would be no different from seeking death. The Duan clan had a demi Saint after all. Demi Saints were very powerful, but most importantly, the Duan clan's demi Saint could sense if any of the clan members were in danger through the Duan clan's identity tokens within a certain distance. However, these identity tokens were special; not all members of the Duan clan possessed such an identity token. Nevertheless, no one doubted that the new Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan possessed such an identity token.

A few days later.

Duan Tian Hong returned to the Duan clan after his shift in Tourmaline Holy City ended. He looked for Duan Ling Tian and told the latter about the rumors that had been circulating in the city recently.

‘This news is likely spread by the Myriad Trading House...’



After telling Duan Ling Tian about the rumors he had heard, Duan Tian Hong asked bluntly, “Ling Tian, is it true that you’re the one who obtained the nine stalks of Blissful Flower Kings and three lord-grade Northern Nether Winter Cod from the Peaceful Might Realm’s Zhong clan and Leng clan respectively?”

The rumors were rather convincing since the timing matched when Duan Ling Tian suddenly appeared at the Duan clan. Moreover, similar to Duan Ling Tian, the other person also comprehended the law of space and had a profound comprehension of the Sword Dao.

Nonetheless, Duan Tian Hong did not simply come to a conclusion. He decided to ask Duan Ling Tian about it instead.

“Yes,” Duan Ling Tian replied with a nod. He had long expected this matter to be exposed and had already mentally prepared himself. As such, he was not surprised at all.

Initially, Duan Ling Tian assumed the Duan clan would discover this matter first. After all, he had joined the Duan clan as its Grand Revered Elder; it would be more likely for the Duan clan to connect the dots first. As such, he was slightly surprised that the Myriad Trading House discovered the matter first.

‘The Myriad Trading House...’

Previously, when Duan Wu Yang; the Grand Elder of the Duan clan’s Enforcement Hall, escorted

Duan Ling Tian back to the Duan clan, Duan Ling Tian had learned more about the Myriad Trading House from the former. He learned that the Myriad Trading House was extremely wealthy and possessed a very wide intelligence network. At that time, Duan Wu Yang also said that the Myriad Trading House must have seen his worth and sent Liu Yan to recruit him despite knowing he had already joined the Duan clan.

Duan Ling Tian did not care that the Myriad Trading House discovered the truth, but he was rather displeased that they had made the information public. This was akin to placing a big target on him, after all.

‘There’s no doubt that this is the doing of the Myriad Trading House,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as his eyes glinted coldly. He would not let this matter go.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian sighed emotionally and said, “So it’s really you!” After a moment, he said reassuringly, “Don’t worry. You’re not only the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan, but you’ll also be representing the clan to enter the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion’s Realm of Origin in ten years. The Duan clan definitely won’t harm you. Even if you leave the clan later, this will remain the same. Before I looked for you, I met the clan leader. He wanted me to relay this message to you. As long as you don’t provoke powerful saint-rank forces like the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, the Duan clan will protect you as long you’re a member of the clan!”

Although Duan Ling Tian had already expected that the Duan clan would not betray him, he still felt a sense of warmth when he heard Duan Tian Hong’s words.

After that, the duo continued chatting for a while before Duan Tian Hong said, “I’ll take my leave now. I’m on a break and will be in the clan’s estate for a period of time. If there’s anything, don’t hesitate to ask for my help. I’m staying near the Enforcement Hall. If you ask, the members of the clan will show you to my cultivation ground.”

After Duan Tian Hong left, he returned to the floating island above the center of the spiritual spring. He closed his eyes and began to cultivate.

‘I still have a decade before I have to enter the Realm of Origin... I’ll try to deepen my comprehension and raise the level of my Sword Dao. Unlike my law of space that’s stagnant, at

least my Sword Dao is progressing even if the progress is slow. It'll be impossible for my law of space to reach the paramount stage if I don't break through this bottleneck...'

Duan Ling Tian was not in a hurry to break through the bottleneck. Instead, he prioritized growing stronger through his other means. It was important for him to grow as strong as he could before entering the Realm of Origin to search for treasures. Although he was very strong now, based on what he knew, there were quite a few like him in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Moreover, it was also possible that the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion had a peerless top advanced Supreme God. Even if there was no peerless top advanced Supreme God among the members of the Jade Tide Mansion, the Saint of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion might have a subordinate who was a peerless top advanced Supreme God.

After thinking about it, Duan Ling Tian thought that even if the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion or its Saint had a peerless top advanced Supreme God, the odds were very low for the peerless top advanced Supreme God to have also coincidentally comprehended the Sword Dao specifically to the fourth stage. However, he also knew that with the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion's influence and connections in the Sacred Lightning Realm, it would not be difficult for them to find such a peerless top advanced Supreme God.

Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel immense pressure when he thought about facing peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Realm of Origin. After all, no matter how close he was to becoming one, he was still not a peerless top advanced Supreme God.

Duan Ling Tian was immersed in his cultivation and only came out when it was time to receive the resources given to Revered Elders by the Duan clan. He did not step foot out of the Duan clan after he returned.

As time passed, the people of Tourmaline Holy City and the members of the Duan clan also stopped discussing Duan Ling Tian.

Those who coveted the supreme treasures in Duan Ling Tian's possession also left one after another when they saw that Duan Ling Tian did not go to Tourmaline Holy City anymore and had no

intention of leaving the Duan clan's estate. Liu Yi Fan and Lin Yu from the Peaceful Might Realm were among these people.

"Let's return... We'll only be waiting in vain if we continue this..." Lin Yu said with a sigh, "With the Duan clan, it'll be difficult for us to make a move. Even if we manage to catch him when he's alone, it's unlikely that he'll yield even if we put a knife to his throat. After all, the demi Saint will be able to come to his rescue immediately. At that time, not only will we not gain anything, but we'll also put our lives at risk..."

In fact, as soon as Lin Yu found out that Duan Ling Tian had joined the Duan clan and become the clan's Grand Revered Elder, he had wanted to give up. However, he ended up staying back because Liu Yi Fan was unwilling to return empty-handed. Now that a year had passed, he decided that he had enough and wanted to leave.

Although Liu Yi Fan was still unwilling, he had to leave as well. There was nothing he could do if he was alone since he would not be able to use the Time and Space Escape Technique without Lin Yu. Under such circumstances, he would definitely die if he faced a demi Saint.

In the end, the duo left the Sacred Lightning Realm for the Peaceful Might Realm. They were unaware that they had already met Duan Ling Tian once before Duan Ling Tian was rescued by Situ Lei.

Time flew by, and in a blink of an eye, nine years had passed.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian who was comprehending the Sword Dao heard a familiar voice from outside.

"Ling Tian, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion has sent someone over. We'll depart with him after three days."

The voice belonged to Duan Tian Hong.

Originally, the Duan clan did not have any intention to send Duan Tian Hong to accompany Duan Ling Tian. However, after coming to the Duan clan, Duan Ling Tian went into closed-door cultivation and did not get acquainted with anyone else. As such, in the end, the high-ranking members of the Duan clan thought it was best that they select Duan Tian Hong to accompany Duan Ling Tian since Duan Ling Tian was most familiar with the former in the Duan clan. .

Chapter 4500: Duan You Wei

Thank you readers!

“Apart from that...” Duan Tian Hong continued to say, “The old ancestor came out from his closed-door cultivation yesterday. After learning about you, he wants to meet you. The clan leader has mentioned to the old ancestor that you need help, and the old ancestor is willing to listen to you when you meet.”

Over the past decades, Duan Ling Tian had requested to meet the Duan clan’s old ancestor several times. According to Duan Bing, the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, the old ancestor might not be able to free Ke’er from the soul imprisonment technique. However, Duan Bing said that the old ancestor might be willing to follow Duan Ling Tian back to the God Defying World to take a look at Ke’er after coming out from his closed-door cultivation.

Duan Tian Hong said with a smile, “You might be able to return to your hometown before you have to leave for the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.”

Duan Ling Tian’s eyes brightened as soon as he heard Duan Tian Hong’s words. He said, “Elder Tian Hong, please bring me to the old ancestor!”

Initially, Duan Ling Tian thought that Ke'er's matter would have to wait until he came out of the

Realm of Origin and joined the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. He had comforted himself that the Saint from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion would be of more help compared to a demi Saint. He did not expect that Duan clan's old ancestor to come out of closed-door cultivation a few days before he had to leave for the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Even if a demi Saint was not as powerful as a Saint, it was still good to have an extra pair of eyes to take a look at Ke'er after all. Although there were only a few days left before he had to leave for the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, with the dozens of Transportation Formations in the Sacred Lightning Realm connected to the Myriad Worlds, he would be able to make it back in time.

'I can finally return to the God Defying World!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself excitedly.

When Duan Ling Tian left the God Defying World in the past, he had been in a dangerous situation. At that time, many supreme powerhouses coveted the liquid of the divine fountain in his possession. He was forced to travel to another World to go to the Outer Boundary as a precaution. In the end, he ended up in the Divine Sand Realm, one of the realms located on the outskirts of the Outer Boundary. During his journey to the Sacred Lightning Realm, he also had to be careful not to expose himself. All in all, it felt like a long time since he had last been in the God Defying World.

"I came to you immediately because I knew how important this matter is to you," Duan Tian Hong said with a smile.

Duan Ling Tian might have only been in the Duan clan for a short ten years, but he had grown close to Duan Tian Hong during his time here due to their similar temperaments. Although Duan Tian Hong was a supreme powerhouse, he did not put on air. After all, he knew Duan Ling Tian's potential was far greater than his. He could easily kill Duan Ling Tian now, but that might not be the case in the future.

After a moment, Duan Tian Hong said, "I've already informed the old ancestor that we'll be visiting him now."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes were extremely bright as he made his way to the cultivation ground of the old ancestor of the Duan clan.

As the person with the highest authority in the Duan clan, it was only natural that the Duan clan's old ancestor had a spiritual spring to himself as his cultivation ground.

Soon enough, Duan Tian Hong and Duan Ling Tian arrived at a paradise-like valley where a spiritual spring was located.

Duan Tian Hong cupped his fists together at the house above the source and center of the spiritual spring as he said respectfully, "Old ancestor, the Grand Revered Elder is here..." Upon hearing the nonchalant response that rang from the house, Duan Ling Tian's eyes widened in shock. As it turned out, the Duan clan's old ancestor was a female powerhouse.

At this time, the door flung open, and a slender and graceful figure walked out. It belonged to a young woman dressed in a light green long robe. She looked to be in her early twenties. Although her facial features were exquisite, she was not a stunning beauty. Her expression was aloof; she seemed indifferent to everything around her.

When Duan Ling Tian looked into her eyes, he felt as though he was staring into a bottomless abyss. He quickly recovered his senses and said respectfully, "Duan Ling Tian greets the old ancestor."

The young woman might not look any older than Duan Ling Tian, but he knew that physical appearance was not an accurate determiner of one's age. The old ancestor of the Duan clan was likely as old as a fossil.

“You’re just an interim elder so there’s no need for you to address me as ‘old ancestor’,” the young woman said with a faint smile as she walked toward Duan Ling Tian. However, her eyes were as piercing as she looked at Duan Ling Tian.

When she looked at him, Duan Ling Tian felt as though a hawk was watching him.

“Amazing,” the young woman said as her eyes narrowed imperceptibly. Then, she turned to Duan Tian Hong and said, “Leave us for a moment. I need to speak to the Grand Revered Elder privately.”

“Yes, old ancestor,” Duan Tian Hong replied reverently. At the same time, he reminded Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, “Ling Tian, the old ancestor is skilled in the law of life and the Mastery Dao.”

Following that, Duan Tian Hong vanished out of sight, leaving Duan Ling Tian and the old ancestor alone in the valley.

“My name is Duan You Wei. Young man, you can drop the formality and address me as ‘Sister Weil,’” Duan You Wei said. Her eyes gleamed under the sunlight as she looked at Duan Ling Tian. She approached him and reached out to lift his chin before she stared into his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian instinctively tried to move away, but he quickly felt an invisible energy restraining him. He could not move at all. He was shocked by her strength, and at the same time, he could not help but wonder about her strange behavior.



“This is truly surprising,” Duan You Wei said after a moment, “You’re not even 3,000 years old, but you’re so strong... Someone with your strength at your age is unprecedented in both the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds...”

Duan Ling Tian’s expression changed as soon as he heard Duan You Wei’s words. He did not expect Duan You Wei to be able to sense his age accurately. After all, only those who were close to his age could sense his age. For others outside the range of his age, they could only vaguely sense that he was under 10,000 years old.

“Relax. I have no ill intentions. Do you think you’d be able to remain standing if I had ill intentions?” Duan You Wei said with a faint smile as she withdrew her hand. At the same time, the invisible force restraining Duan Ling Tian vanished as well.

Duan Ling Tian instinctively took a step back and looked at Duan You Wei warily. After a moment, he took a deep breath to calm down before he called out, “Old ancestor...”

Before Duan Ling Tian could continue to speak, Duan You Wei said, ‘Didn’t I tell you to drop the formality and address me as ‘Sister Wei’? I’ll address you as Little Tiana” Then, she continued to say, “Since fate brought you to our Duan clan, from this day onward, we should treat each other as siblings.” .