

Sovereign 4511

Chapter 4511 Returning to the Duan Clan Alone

A foreboding feeling rose in Duan Ling Tian's heart after he noticed Duan You Wei's abnormal behavior. He had no doubt that their lives were at threat. Otherwise, a powerful demi Saint like her would not be in such a rush to leave.

Thank you readers!

For all these reasons, Duan Ling Tian felt extremely anxious. He was not even a peerless top advanced Supreme God yet. Although he was very close to becoming a peerless top advanced Supreme God, he knew the difference in strength between him and a peerless top advanced Supreme God was like a huge chasm. Let alone a supreme powerhouse, even a peerless top advanced Supreme God who had comprehended a law to the paramount stage could kill him in fewer than ten moves even if he fought with all his might.

'Is this the end? No, I still have many unfulfilled wishes... and Ke'er is still not awake!'

Anxiety gnawed at Duan Ling Tian's heart like ants the more he thought about it. For Duan You Wei to feel threatened, there must be at least a few demi Saints or a Saint after them.

"Little Tian, I'll put you down in a while. You'll need to go to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion alone. Follow this direction, and you'll arrive at the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. However, you should take a few detours as you make your way there. The Fu clan's member saw you with me, after all. I'm afraid he might go when he realizes you're not with me..." Duan You Wei said to Duan Ling Tian.

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Upon hearing this, Duan Ling Tian sighed in relief inwardly. He was not afraid of death, but if he stayed with Duan You Wei, he knew his death would be in vain. Nonetheless, he still asked through Voice Transmission, “Sister Wei, how can I help you?”

Duan You Wei sighed heavily and replied through Voice Transmission, “There’s nothing you can do... If I die, the Duan clan will fall into decline. The others will have to rely on themselves to support the clan...”

Duan Ling Tian felt uneasy upon hearing Duan You Wei’s pessimistic words. He said, “Sister Wei, can you tell me...”

Before Duan Ling Tian finished his words, Duan You Wei interjected and said, “Little Tian, we’ll part ways here. That old man from the Fu clan is closing in. I have a deep enmity with him. He brought two powerhouses on par with him as well. Nonetheless, it won’t be easy for them to retain me...”

As Duan You Wei spoke, Duan Ling Tian felt an invisible force pushing him away from Duan You Wei. After he landed in a forest mountain, he stabilized his footing and quickly traveled in another direction.

However, before Duan Ling Tian could go far, three whistling noises rang in the air.

‘Three demi Saints?’ Duan Ling Tian’s expression turned grim immediately. He felt rather helpless, seeing that he was unable to do anything for Duan You Wei at all.

‘I should return to the Duan clan first. I can only hope that Sister Wei will be safe. A demi Saint like her should at least be able to defend herself, right? However, she’s facing three demi Saints... The Fu clan...’

Duan Ling Tian thought about Fu Liang Yu, the man they encountered earlier at the transportation site.

‘Sister Wei has conflicts with the Fu clan... No wonder he was so unfriendly earlier. He must have alerted the demi Saint from the Fu clan...’

Duan Ling Tian continued to speculate to himself. He speculated that Duan You Wei did not kill Fu Liang Yu earlier at the transportation because they were in the Azure Cloud Saint Sect’s territory. Since Fu Liang Yu seemed to be in charge of the transportation site, it was clear that the Fu clan was under the Azure Cloud Saint Sect. If she killed Fu Liang Yu, it was tantamount to slapping the Azure Cloud Saint Sect. More importantly, since she would be at fault for killing Fu Liang Yu, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion might not protect her.

‘I’ll take detours as a precaution...’

Duan Ling Tian was very cautious and took a few detours as he traveled even though he did not think the three demi Saints would come after him.

...

Half a day later, Duan Ling Tian finally entered the territory of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

Although Duan You Wei had her own motives for being so kind to Duan Ling Tian, he could feel that she was sincere as well. He could not help but feel responsible for the situation that Duan You Wei was in. After all, she would not have run into the member of the Fu clan if he did not request her to accompany him to the God Defying World.

‘Sister Wei, if something happens to you, I promise that I’ll avenge you once I’m strong enough!’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as his eyes shone with killing intent.

After about an hour, Duan Ling Tian finally saw the outline of Tourmaline Holy City ahead of him. He sped up and flew past Tourmaline Holy City toward the Duan clan’s main estate.

‘Chaos will descend once the Duan clan learns that Sister Wei is in trouble... I wonder if this will affect our trip to the Realm of Origin... I hope it doesn’t... It should be fine. I’m sure I’ll still be able to go to the Realm of Origin if I explain myself to the envoy of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion...’

Duan Ling Tian knew that the Realm of Origin was a huge opportunity for him. If he performed well, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion might recruit him. After all, there was a difference between actively seeking to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion and being recruited by the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

‘Sister Wei, please don’t blame me if I leave the Duan clan. You knew from the beginning that the Duan clan is just a stepping stone for me to join a stronger force. It’ll be easier for me to grow stronger if I join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. With that, I’ll also be able to avenge you quicker!’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he landed in front of the Duan clan’s estate.

Chapter 4512 The Death of a Demi Saint

Thank you readers!

As the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan, Duan Ling Tian could naturally enter and leave the Duan clan's estate freely.

The patrolling members of the clan greeted Duan Ling Tian respectfully when they Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian did not waste time and sent a message to Duan Bing, the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, after entering the Duan clan's estate.

"Clan Leader Duan, where are you?"

"Revered Elder Ling Tian? Have you and the old ancestor returned?"

Duan Ling Tian was briefly stunned by Duan Bing's response. Then, he quickly replied, "Clan Leader Duan, I returned alone. Where are you? I have an urgent matter to report!"

"I'm at my cultivation ground."

Duan Ling Tian responded and quickly made his way to Duan Bing's cultivation ground. At the same time, he tried to calm himself down.

'Clan Leader Duan seems normal. This means that Sister Wei is still alive After all, he'll definitely be among the first to know if Sister Wei's Soul Card shatters'

A Soul Card was like a Soul Pearl, which reflected the life of its owner. However, unlike Soul Pearls, the energy in Soul Cards would not dissipate with the passage of time. Only when the owner died would the energy in the Soul Card dissipate, causing the Soul Card to shatter.

When Duan Bing saw Duan Ling Tian rushing over, he asked curiously, “Revered Elder Ling Tian, what’s the matter?”

Duan Bing did not think it was strange that Duan Ling Tian came alone. He assumed that Duan You Wei had returned to her cultivation ground.

“Clan Leader Duan, is Sister Wei’s Soul Card still intact?”

Before Duan You Wei and Duan Ling Tian left the Duan clan, Duan Bing and the three level-four supreme powerhouses of the Duan clan had already been informed that Duan You Wei had acknowledged Duan Ling Tian as her younger brother. As such, Duan Bing knew that Duan Ling Tian was referring to Duan You Wei when he heard the words ‘Sister Wei’. However, when the meaning of Duan Ling Tian’s words sank in, his expression changed drastically. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked, “What do you mean, Revered Elder Ling Tian? Did something happen to the old ancestor in the God Defying World?”

The God Defying World was one of the 18 Middle Worlds. It was said that it was under the protection of a Saint and governed by many demi Saints. If the God Defying World harbored ill intentions, Duan You Wei might not be able to escape.

“Sister Wei didn’t contact you?” Duan Ling Tian asked. This meant that either Duan You Wei truly did not send a message back or her message had been blocked.

“Revered Elder Ling Tian, what happened exactly?” Duan Bing asked with a hint of impatience as his eyes burned with anxiety.

Duan You Wei was the only demi Saint in the Duan clan after all. Without Duan You Wei, how could the Duan clan hold onto its status as a demi-saint-rank force?

“Clan leader”

Duan Ling Tian recounted what happened after he and Duan You Wei returned from the God Defying World. After he was done, he added, “It doesn’t make sense that she didn’t send a message back considering what happened”

“How could she send a message?” Duan Bing said as he shook his head with a dark expression on his face, “The Azure Cloud Saint Sect has set up Formations in their territories that block all forms of communications. Similarly, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion also has these Formations in its territories. It’s just another way for saint-rank forces to declare sovereignty over their territories.”

After a moment, Duan Bing’s expression eased slightly before he said to Duan Ling Tian, “I just contacted the elder in charge of monitoring the Soul Cards in the Duan clan. The old ancestor’s Soul Card is still intact. She’s safe for now.” After a beat, he said, “Revered Elder Ling Tian, the envoy from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion will bring you and another Revered Elder away tomorrow morning. You should rest and prepare for your journey tomorrow.”

“Alright,” Duan Ling Tian said as he heaved a sigh of relief inwardly. There was a chance that Duan You Wei could successfully escape from the three demi Saints. Unfortunately, even if she could not, there was nothing he could do to help her.

After Duan Ling Tian took his leave, Duan Bing sent a message to the Duan clan’s three level-four supreme powerhouses. He was extremely anxious when he thought about Duan Bing who was currently facing a life-or-death situation.

Unsurprisingly, the Duan clan's three level-four supreme powerhouses' expressions turned grim when they heard about what happened.

An old man, a level-four supreme powerhouse who was Duan You Wei's elder, sighed. "Little You Wei was discovered by a member of the Fu clan in the Azure Cloud Saint Sect's territory? Damn it! She's in deep trouble this time"

Another level-four supreme powerhouse, a middle-aged man, said, "Cousin sister shouldn't have gone to the God Defying World! This is caused by Duan Ling Tian! He's a jinx to our Duan clan!"

The third level-four supreme powerhouse, a beautiful woman, said, "What's the point of saying these words? Sister You Wei went to the God Defying World voluntarily. Do you think Duan Ling Tian, who's not a supreme powerhouse, can force her to do something she doesn't want to do? It's ridiculous for you to put the blame on him just because she encountered danger during her return from the God Defying World. When you leave the Duan clan, you should know your safety isn't 100% guaranteed. Who knows if you'll encounter a crazy Saint? In any case, I believe Duan Ling Tian didn't expect something like this to happen as well. It's not like you don't know about the enmity between Sister You Wei and the Fu clan. I don't think Duan Ling Tian has anything to do with this matter"

The beautiful woman was originally not a member of the Duan clan. She became friends with Duan You Wei when Duan You Wei left the Duan clan to gain experience. The duo grew close and treated each other like sisters. When Duan You Wei returned to the Duan clan, she brought the beautiful woman, who was a sectless cultivator, back to the clan as well. With that, the Duan clan gained another supreme powerhouse, who was only second to Duan You Wei.

Perhaps due to the beautiful woman's strength, the middle-aged man remained silent after she spoke.

The old man with a white beard said, “It’s not the time to argue now. We should use our connections and contact all our allies in the Azure Cloud Saint Sect’s territories to look for Little You Wei.”

Upon hearing these words, Duan Bing finally calmed down a little. However, in the next moment, his expression changed drastically. He dropped to his knees and cried out in despair, “Old ancestor!”

Upon seeing this, the three supreme powerhouses’ expressions changed as well. In just a blink of an eye, they vanished and reappeared in the hall where the Soul Cards of high-ranking members of the clan were kept. When they saw the Soul Card that was placed in the highest position had shattered, they cried out in grief.

“Little You Wei!”

“Sister You Wei!”

“Cousin sister!”

The high-ranking members of the Duan clan were in despair when they discovered that Duan You Wei, the pillar of their Duan clan, had died. News of death remained within their circle so the Revered Elders were unaware of her death.

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian was also unaware of Duan You Wei’s death.

The high-ranking members of the Duan clan decided to keep Duan You Wei’s death a secret for now because they knew that it would bring turmoil to the clan. Nonetheless, they knew it was only a

matter of time before the news spread. After all, even if they did not do anything, the demi Saints who killed Duan You Wei would definitely brag about his deed.

Blood rained down heavily from the sky on a barren land. A terrifying cry rang intermittently as lights of various colors flashed in the sky. Even when the lights stopped flashing, blood continued to rain down on the land.

These phenomena could be seen by everyone within tens of thousands of miles. Many supreme powerhouses sighed heavily as they watched the phenomena.

“A demi Saint skilled in the law of life has died”

Chapter 4513 Hu Ming Yue, the Envoy of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion

In the morning.

Thank you readers!

Duan Ling Tian was anticipating good news before he departed from the Duan clan. Alas, he found out that Duan You Wei, the pillar of the Duan clan, had fallen yesterday.

After breaking the news to Duan Ling Tian, Duan Bing; the Clan Leader of the Duan clan, reminded, “For now, only the high-ranking members of the Duan clan are aware of this. You’re the only one among the Revered Elders who’s aware of this. Please keep this matter a secret. The Duan clan needs time to prepare for the repercussions that will come after the old ancestor’s death.”

Duan Bing continued to say, “We decided to tell you about this due to your relationship with the old ancestor. Please don’t blame yourself. Even if the old ancestor didn’t go to the God Defying World with you, it was only a matter of time before the Fu clan made a move against the old ancestor. You should focus on the Realm of Origin. The Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion might even grant your wish if you perform brilliantly. You don’t need to worry about the Duan clan. We’re not pushovers after all.”

...

Duan Bing’s words continued to echo in Duan Ling Tian’s mind even after he left the Duan clan with the envoy of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. He was silent as he boarded the flying ship with another two Revered Elders.

This time, Duan Ling Tian did not bring Tan Xiu Teng with him. He would send for Tan Xiu Teng if he successfully joined the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Before leaving the Duan clan, he had offered to lift the Heaven Vault’s Blood Oath so Tan Xiu Teng could leave. However, Tan Xiu Teng declined the offer. After following Duan Ling Tian, he gained many things that he could only dream of in the past after all. As such, he was willing to wait and continue to serve Duan Ling Tian.

The envoy of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion was a middle-aged man dressed in a long white robe. After boarding the flying ship, he sat cross-legged across from the Duan Ling Tian and the others.

At this time, one of the Duan clan’s Revered Elders, a young man dressed in a long green robe who was sitting next to Duan Ling Tian, greeted Duan Ling Tian and said enthusiastically, “Grand Revered Elder, I heard that you’ve comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage! Can you give me some advice regarding the Sword Dao when it’s convenient for you?”

Duan Ling Tian was pulled back to his senses by the green-clad young man’s voice. He looked at the green-clad young man and nodded silently.

“Thank you, Grand Revered Elder! By the way, I don’t think I’ve told you, but my name is Xue Ao,” the green-clad young man said. Then, he smiled apologetically before he continued to say, “I apologize for interrupting your thoughts. I’ll leave you alone for now.”

Xue Ao could tell he had interrupted Duan Ling Tian’s thoughts earlier, but he could not help himself. He had joined the Duan clan later, but he had heard that the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan was very close to becoming a peerless top advanced Supreme God. He knew such a person was rare even in a saint-rank force like the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. He was a prodigy as well, but Duan Ling Tian was in a completely different league.

The other Revered Elder of the Duan clan was a middle-aged man dressed in a long black robe. He placed a seemingly ordinary sword, which emitted a faint Divine Energy, across his lap as he sat cross-legged.

Xue Ao turned to the middle-aged man and said casually, “Revered Elder Lan Ming, what are you doing? I remember you used a prime divine artifact when we sparred previously, not an ordinary sword...

Lan Ming, the middle-aged man, opened his eyes. He looked at Xue Ao and said, “Revered Elder Xue Ao, even before I had a prime divine artifact, this sword had been with me for a long time. When I was still weak, I obtained this sword from the legacy I inherited from a sword cultivator. Thanks to this sword, my Sword Dao managed to surpass that of that sword cultivator. This sword could be considered my mentor and the source of my inspiration. As such, whenever I comprehended the Sword Dao, I’d bring it out. Alas, as time passed, I became less and less inspired by it. Perhaps, it won’t be long before it lies in a corner of my spatial ring covered in dust...”

Lan Ming’s words at the end were a metaphor. After all, not a speck of dust could get into a spatial ring.

“How remarkable! It seems like everyone has different ways of comprehending the Sword Dao. As for me, I rely on my imagination to comprehend the Sword Dao. However, the foundation of my Sword Dao came from my elder,” Xue Ao said with a smile, “Rather similar to you, my Sword Dao

has also surpassed that of my elder. It seems like it's a case of the student surpassing the master for both of us."

Xue Ao paused and glanced at Duan Ling Tian, who was sitting cross-legged, before he lowered his voice and said in a hushed tone, "The Grand Revered Elder must have surpassed his master more than both of us did..."

Lan Ming nodded in agreement. "There's no doubt about it. After all, the Grand Revered Elder has comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage."

At this time, Duan Ling Tian, who overheard the duo's conversation, opened his eyes. He said to them, "No, you're wrong. I haven't surpassed my master's Sword Dao. My master should've comprehended the Sword Dao to the seventh stage at least."

Xue Ao and Lan Ming's eyes widened in shock and disbelief upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words.

At the same time, the envoy of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, who was sitting cross-legged with his eyes closed until now, suddenly opened his eyes and rose to his feet. In just a blink of an eye, he appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian and asked, "Revered Elder Ling Tian, is what you said true?"

Duan Ling Tian nodded as he replied, "Yes. I have no reason to lie. When my Sword Dao was at the fourth stage, my master's Sword Dao was already at my current stage."

Duan Ling Tian had always admired his master, Feng Qing Yang. Thanks to his various fortuitous encounters, his cultivation base was higher than that of Feng Qing Yang. However, his Sword Dao had always been behind Feng Qing Yang. In the past, whenever he thought that his Sword Dao had surpassed that of his master, he would quickly be disabused of that notion when they met.

The envoy's tone turned more polite as he continued to ask, "Based on my knowledge, there are only two Saints who comprehended the Sword Dao to the seventh stage. May I know who your master is?"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "My master is neither one of the two Saints..."

The envoy speculated inwardly, 'If that's the case, his master must be a reclusive Saint..."

Following that, the envoy said amiably, "Revered Elder Ling Tian, if you perform brilliantly in the Realm of Origin, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion definitely won't mistreat you."

"Thank you for the reminder, senior. I'll do my very best," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"My name is Hu Ming Yue. You can address me as Brother Hu. Who knows? Perhaps, you'll be joining the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion soon," Hu Ming Yue said with a smile.

This was the first time Duan Ling Tian and the other two heard of Hu Ming Yue's name.

Chapter 4514 The Realm of Origin Will Only Stay Open for Three Years

Hu Ming Yue was rather courteous and enthusiastic toward Duan Ling Tian during their journey. This was because he concluded that Duan Ling Tian's master was a Saint after he heard that Duan Ling Tian's master had comprehended the Sword Dao to the seventh stage.

Thank you readers!

Xue Ao and Lan Ming were naturally envious of Duan Ling Tian, but they were also aware that they could not compare to him. They also thought that Duan Ling Tian's master must be very powerful after learning that the latter had comprehended the Sword Dao to the seventh stage. In their opinion, even if the latter was not a Saint and had not comprehended the law to the paramount stage, the latter should still be invincible among demi Saints.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was still grieving Duan You Wei.

‘Sister Wei... She wouldn't have died if she didn't return to the God Defying World with me...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, filled with remorse and guilt. In the next moment, his eyes burned with the flames of fury as he vowed inwardly, ‘Sister Wei, rest in peace. I'll definitely avenge you once I'm strong enough!’

Duan Ling Tian knew he could not let his grief hold him back. If this affected his progress, he would never be able to grow stronger to avenge Duan You Wei.

‘The Realm of Origin is my chance to prove myself to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion! If I can impress them with my strength, not only will I have hope of saving Ke'er, but I might also receive cultivation resources I need from them...’

Needless to say, a saint-rank force like the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion naturally possessed abundant resources that ordinary people could only dream of. Moreover, there were rumors that there were two Saints in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. If the rumors were true, as the dominating force in the Sacred Lighting Realm, its resources might even surpass all the resources in the God Defying World.

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A few days later...

Hu Ming Yue, Duan Ling Tian, Xue Ao, and Lan Ming finally arrived outside of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

A thick fog lingered around the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, and at this moment, a group of people was gathered not far ahead of them. Clearly, these people were also sword prodigies gathered by the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

At this moment, Hu Ming Yue said to the trio from the Duan clan, "In fact, the Realm of Origin opened a year ago. The three of you are the second group of sword prodigies from one of the three major demi-saint-rank forces of Tourmaline Holy City who will enter the Realm of Origin."

After a brief pause, Hu Ming Yue added, "The third demi-saint-rank force of Tourmaline Holy City will send their sword prodigies here after a year. At that time, they will enter the Realm of Origin with the other sword prodigies from the other territories of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion... It's a tradition for the Jade Tide Mansion to send people into Realm of Origins in groups..."

'No wonder there are only three of us...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. After leaving the Duan clan, he had been puzzled that there were only him, Xue Ao, and Lan Ming. He had wondered where the representatives of the other two demi-saint-rank forces were. After all, it was impossible for the other two demi-saint-rank forces to not have found anyone who comprehended the Sword Dao to the fourth stage at all.

"So three groups will enter separately? Why?" Xue Ao asked curiously.

Duan Ling Tian and Lan Ming looked at Hu Ming Yue curiously as well.

Hu Ming Yue's expression was solemn as he said, "In the past, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion discovered a Realm of Origin. We gathered a group of prodigies who fulfilled the criteria and sent all of them in. In the end, all of them died there. After that, we decided to send the prodigies there in groups. Each group will be given a year in the Realm of Origin. As I said before, the three of you are the second group..."

"What?" Xue Ao exclaimed in shock before he said, "We're the second group... The first group has already been there for a year so what's the point of us entering now? Most of the things there must have already been obtained by the first group, right?"

Although Duan Ling Tian and Lang Ming were silent, they shared Xue Ao's thoughts as well.

"Perhaps... We don't know for sure..." Hu Ming Yue said with a nod, "Moreover, there are pros and cons to everything. Although the first group has higher chances of finding treasures and fortuitous encounters, they're at greater risk as well since they're entering first..."

Hu Ming Yue continued to say, "Alright, according to the agreed-upon time, the first group should be out the day after tomorrow. We'll go to the entrance when everyone arrives."

At this time, Xue Ao asked, "What if some people refuse to leave?"

Hu Ming Yue laughed before he replied, "That's no different from seeking death. No one's allowed to go against the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion."

"However, what if it's a prodigy from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion?" Xue Ao continued to ask.

Hu Ming Yue said casually, “The sword prodigies of our Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion will be part of the third and final group to enter the Realm of Origin. As such, your question is invalid.”

Upon hearing this, Xue Ao said to Duan Ling Tian and Lan Ming through Voice Transmission, “The Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion is really careful to place their sword prodigies in the final group...”

“That’s not surprising,” Lan Ming said through Voice Transmission, “The Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion doesn’t have to worry about us keeping the treasures they want to ourselves since we can’t bring our spatial rings in there. As such, we’ll definitely have to hand over the treasures they need to them. With this, why would they need to take the risk and send their prodigies in first?”

Lan Ming was right.

Finally, Xue Ao said out loud, “Three groups of sword prodigies, and each group has a year in the Realm of Origin... It seems like the Realm of Origin will only stay open for three years.”

Hu Ming Yue nodded. “That’s right. Before this Realm of Origin opened, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion had studied it and determined that it’ll only stay open for three years. As such, you must make the most of your time in the Realm of Origin. Later, the first group of prodigies will recount their experiences to you. That should make things slightly easier for you.”

Chapter 4515 Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Golden Dragon Palace

On the second day, Duan Ling Tian, Lan Ming, Xue Ao, and Hu Ming Yue boarded the flying ship and made their way to the entrance of the Realm of Origin when everyone was gathered.

Thank you readers!

Duan Ling Tian looked around and discovered that there were about 36 sword prodigies in the second group, including him, Xue Ao, and Lan Ming.

‘Based on this, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion should’ve gathered about 100 sword prodigies altogether at least to enter the Realm of Origin...’

The other sword prodigies looked around as well, silently surveying the situation like Duan Ling Tian.

The sword prodigies either found a corner to sit cross-legged or gathered in small groups. All of them wore a faint arrogant expression on their faces, including Xue Ao and Lan Ming who were usually humble in front of Duan Ling Tian.

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Apart from the sword prodigies, there were also three powerhouses from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, and Hu Ming Yue was among them.

At this time, an old man stroked his long white beard as he asked, “Old Yue, I heard that one of the prodigies you brought here has comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage?”

Hu Ming Yue replied with a smile, “That’s right. His name is Duan Ling Tian. He’s the Grand Revered Elder of the Duan clan in Tourmaline Holy City. Not only has he comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage, but his law of space has also reached the perfect form. He should be invincible among those below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods.”

Upon hearing this, a blue-clad young man exclaimed in surprise, “What? Not even our prodigies from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion are a match for him?”

Hu Ming Yue shook his head. “They likely aren’t a match for him. According to the Duan clan, Duan Ling Tian is very strong. However, I don’t know about the extent of his strength. If he performs well in the Realm of Origin, I plan to recommend him to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.”

“However, if his performance is mediocre, even if he wants to join our Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, we won’t accept him,” the white-bearded old man said with a smile.

“If he doesn’t take the initiative to join us, we’ll have to offer him some benefits to recruit him. On the other hand, he won’t be able to put forth any conditions if he takes the initiative to join us... As such, I don’t think he’ll take the initiative to join us unless we invite him...”

Hu Ming Yue was right. Duan You Wei, the Dark Night Demi Saint, had reminded Duan Ling Tian about this matter. Based on Duan Ling Tian’s innate talent, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion definitely would not let go of the chance to recruit a monstrous prodigy like Duan Ling Tian. For this reason, Duan Ling Tian knew he had to put on air and that he could not lower himself in front of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Otherwise, it would be more difficult for him to save Ke’er after joining the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

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About two hours later, they arrived at their destination.

Hu Ming Yue and his peers led Duan Ling Tian and the other prodigies off the flying ship and to a barren mountain range. When they arrived, there were already at least a dozen people gathered there.

Xue Ao looked at the people in the distance before his eyes finally rested on one figure. Then, he whispered, “They’re powerhouses from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. That young man wearing a white robe with silver trimmings should be the person in charge here.”

Duan Ling Tian followed the direction of Xue Ao’s gaze and saw Hu Ming Yue and the other two men walking toward the white-clad young man. He watched the trio bow at the white-clad young man and addressed him as ‘Palace Master’.

“Lan Ming, how strong is he?” Xue Ao asked.

Lan Ming’s eyes flashed before he said in a hushed tone, “He’s a demi Saint at least.”

Duan Ling Tian looked up. He remembered seeing the other party on board the flying ship. At that time, the other party was sitting alone in a corner.

Xue Ao looked at the young man, slightly stunned. Then, he asked, “He’s really a demi Saint? Do you know him?”

The young man smiled. “I don’t know him, but I saw him many years ago when I was fairly young. His name is Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heavenly Waves’ Golden Dragon Palace. Not only is he a demi Saint, but many people think he has the highest potential to be the next Saint in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.”

Duan Ling Tian looked at Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion's Golden Dragon Palace, and committed the other party to his memory. At the same time, he wondered inwardly, 'I wonder how powerful he is compared to Sister Wei...'

As soon as this thought appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind, he was reminded of Duan You Wei, and his expression turned solemn.

Meanwhile, Lan Ming exclaimed in surprise, "He's Xiao Tian Ci?!"

Xue Ao asked, "Lan Ming, you've heard of him?"

Lan Ming said solemnly, "I heard my elders talking about him before. They said that he was simply a monster. In the past, whenever his strength improved, he would challenge those with the same cultivation base as him in both the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds. At that time, he was acknowledged to be the strongest among level-one to level-three supreme powerhouses. However, when he became a level-four supreme powerhouse, he lost to another monstrous genius. Needless to say, his opponent shot to fame in the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds after defeating him. His opponent continued to challenge others and went undefeated. In the end, his opponent was even acknowledged as the strongest demi Saint in the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds!"

The young man dressed in a fine robe raised an eyebrow and said, "Xiao Tian Ci's opponent... You're talking about Xiao Mu Bai from the God Defying World, right?"

Xiao Mu Bai was the second supreme powerhouse from the God Defying World who became famous in the Outer Boundary after the Sword of Time.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian's heart skipped a beat upon hearing this. At the same time, he could not help but feel proud. After all, he was from the God Defying World. How could he not feel proud that the God Defying World had two geniuses such as the Sword of Time and Xiao Mu Bai?

Chapter 4516 A High Death Rate!

Duan Ling Tian looked at Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion's Golden Dragon Palace who shared the same surname as Xiao Mu Bai, one of the Lords of the God Defying World.

Xiao Tian Ci was a genius who shook the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds, including the God Defying World, before he was defeated by Xiao Mu Bao, who then rose to fame. Although Xiao Tian Ci was defeated by Xiao Mu Bai, Duan Ling Tian knew that the difference between their strength was likely not very big.

At this moment, Xue Ao suddenly cried out, "Palace Master Xiao is coming over!"

Duan Ling Tian looked up and saw Hu Ming Yue leading Xiao Tian Ci over.

"Duan Ling Tian, this is Palace Master Xiao," Hu Ming Yue said, "Palace Master Xiao wants to meet the sword prodigy who comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage."

When the people in the surroundings heard Hu Ming Yue's words, they all turned to look at Duan Ling Tian in disbelief. It was not surprising that they found it hard to believe that a cultivator below the realm of supreme powerhouses had comprehended the Sword Dao to the sixth stage. However, it did not take long for them to dismiss their thoughts. After all, why would Hu Ming Yue, someone from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, lie about this matter?

"Greetings, Palace Master Xiao," Duan Ling Tian said with a slight bow to Xiao Tian Ci.

Xue Ao and the others quickly followed suit and greeted Xiao Tian Ci.

Xiao Tian Ci smiled slightly before he pointed at Duan Ling Tian and asked casually, “Can you show me your Sword Dao?”

In just a blink of an eye, a streak of light shot out of the tip of Xiao Tian Ci’s finger toward Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian could sense that the power in the streak of light was comparable to all the power he had, which meant that the force of the attack was almost comparable to that of a peerless top advanced Supreme God. He was amazed by Xiao Tian Ci’s perfect control over his Divine Energy.

Duan Ling Tian quickly took a deep breath before he flew toward the streak of light with the Seven Orifices Exquisite Sword in hand. At the same time, his Divine Energy, his law of space that has reached the perfect form, and his Sword Dao surged from his body.

Swoosh!

Following that, a seven-colored sword ray shot out and collided with the streak of light, generating a terrifying explosion.

The shockwave of the explosion was just about to hit Duan Ling Tian when Xiao Tian Ci promptly raised his hand.

An invisible force swept out, easily neutralizing the shockwaves that could leave Duan Ling Tian with minor injuries.

“Thank you, Palace Master Xiao,” Duan Ling Tian said when everything was said and done.

“Not bad,” Xiao Tian Ci said with a nod, “Are you interested in joining the Golden Dragon Palace after you come out from the Realm of Origin?”

Everyone was shocked. Even Hu Ming Yue did not expect Xiao Tian Ci to extend an invitation to Duan Ling Tian. Asking Duan Ling Tian to join the Golden Dragon Palace was no different from asking Duan Ling Tian to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Most importantly, up until now, Xiao Tian Ci had only personally invited two peerless top advanced Supreme Gods to join the Golden Dragon Palace.

‘This means that Palace Master Xiao thinks Duan Ling Tian’s value is the same as that of a peerless top advanced Supreme God, right?’

At the same time, the sword prodigies in the surroundings looked at Duan Ling Tian enviously. How could they not be envious when it was clear that Xiao Tian Ci, the strongest person below the realm of Saints in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, had high regard for Duan Ling Tian?

“It’s an honor for me to join the Golden Dragon Palace,” Duan Ling Tian replied decisively. It would be foolish of him to refuse Xiao Tian Ci, who was only second to the Saint of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

“Very good,” Xiao Tian Ci said with a smile, “From now on, you’re not only a member of the Golden Dragon Palace, but the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion as well. I, Xiao Tian Ci; the Palace Master of the Golden Dragon Palace, bestow upon you the title the Void Sword. What do you think?”

A title was not very useful, but a title bestowed by Xiao Tian Ci indicated how highly he valued Duan Ling Tian.

“Thank you, Palace Master Xiao,” Duan Ling Tian replied. Although the title did not mean anything to him, he gladly accepted it as a kind gesture from Xiao Tian Ci. Moreover, the title would make his life much easier in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

“The Void Sword... Palace Master Xiao is really good at naming,” Hu Ming Yue said with a smile, trying to flatter Xiao Tian Ci.

Xiao Tian Ci did not respond to Hu Ming Yue. Instead, he said to Duan Ling Tian, “Duan Ling Tian, you’ll enter the Realm of Origin with the third group.”

“Yes, Palace Master Xiao,” Duan Ling Tian replied.

Lan Ming and Xue Ao looked at Duan Ling Tian enviously, thinking that Duan Ling Tian was extremely lucky.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian asked Hu Ming Yue curiously through Voice Transmission, “Senior Hu, what is Palace Master Xiao’s strongest law?”

“Palace Master Xiao’s strongest law is the law of death. He has comprehended it to the paramount stage. His second strongest law is the law of life, which he has also comprehended to the paramount stage. Unfortunately, his comprehension of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth isn’t as good. He only comprehended the Sword Dao to the fifth stage. If he manages to comprehend the Sword Dao to the sixth stage, it’s likely that he’ll break through and become a Saint.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded in understanding as he thought to himself, 'It seems like Palace Master Xiao knows I'm quite young. Geniuses are naturally arrogant, but they'll respect those who are superior to them...'

At this moment, Xiao Tian Ci gestured to Duan Ling Tian to stand next to him.

At the same time, those from the first group finally came out of the Realm of Origin.

Subsequently, someone said, "Palace Master Xiao, a total of 12 people perished in the Realm of Origin this time."

Xiao Tian Ci nodded calmly.

On the contrary, Duan Ling Tian was shocked. Based on the number of people in the second group, he speculated that there should be about 30 to 40 people in the first group. If his speculation was right, then the death rate was too high; more than one-third of the prodigies from the first group had died.

At the same time, the expressions of the sword prodigies in the second group changed drastically when they heard the number of prodigies who died.

Chapter 4517 A Profitable Exchange

The group of sword prodigies was shocked by the high death rate, and many of them considered withdrawing at this moment. Although they had known that the Realm of Origin was fraught with danger, the death rate was really too high. However, when a few of them expressed that they did not wish to enter the Realm of Origin, the supreme powerhouses of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion

leveled an icy gaze at them. It was obvious that withdrawing now was no different from seeking death. As such, many of them could only give up on withdrawing.

At this time, one of the sword prodigies said with a scoff, “What’s wrong with you? Haven’t you heard that fortune favors the bold? It’s only natural that entering the Realm of Origin comes with risks. You won’t be able to become a supreme powerhouse if you’re frightened by these risks...”

These words seemed to sober up those who wanted to withdraw. They began to question if they were cowards who were afraid of death; they were not even willing to enter the Realm of Origin that contained many treasures and fortuitous encounters. At the same time, they thought about their close calls with death in the past.

Meanwhile, just as Duan Ling Tian’s gaze fell on the sword prodigy who had spoken, Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion’s Golden Dragon Palace, said to Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, “This sword prodigy has comprehended the Sword Dao to the fifth stage. However, he’s much older than you. Among all the sword prodigies present, he’s second only to you.”

The sword prodigy was an ordinary-looking young man with a pair of thick eyebrows who was dressed in a long black robe. His back was as straight as a sword, making him look dignified and upright.

!!

At this time, that sword prodigy looked up and met Duan Ling Tian’s gaze. Duan Ling Tian could instantly see the fighting spirit burning in the other party’s eyes. He only nodded and smiled slightly before he looked away.

Following that, the first group of sword prodigies who survived the Realm of Origin handed the things they obtained to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

Subsequently, one of the supreme powerhouses said, “We’ll bring you back to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion now. If you obtained any treasures the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion wants, you can choose something of equal value in exchange from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion’s treasure vault. As for the treasures that the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion doesn’t need, you can keep them.”

After that, the supreme powerhouse led the first group of prodigies back to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

...

Half a day passed after the first group of sword prodigies left before Xiao Tian Ci said tonelessly, “You may enter now.”

Hu Ming Yue and another two supreme powerhouses led the second group of sword prodigies, including Xue Ao and Lan Ming, to the entrance of the Realm of Origin.

Before entering the Realm of Origin, Xue Ao said ingratiatingly through Voice Transmission, “Duan Ling Tian, I’m so envious of you. If I survive the Realm of Origin and manage to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, you mustn’t forget about me.”

After the second group of the sword prodigies entered the Realm of Origin, only six people were left on the scene: Duan Ling Tian, Xiao Tian Ci, a gray-clad old man; who stood quietly behind Xiao Tian Ci, and the three supreme powerhouses; including Hu Ming Yue, who led the second group of sword prodigies here.

“The three of you will wait at the entrance of the Realm of Origin,” Xiao Tian Ci said. Then, he gestured to Duan Ling Tian before he brought Duan Ling Tian and the old man away.

When Duan Ling Tian regained his senses, he found himself in what seemed like a vast and boundless world. He was wondering where he was when he heard Xiao Tian Ci’s voice.

“This is my Little World. Old Kong is an expert of the law of space. He has comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage many years ago. Before the third group of sword prodigies enters the Realm of Origin, you should learn from Old Kong here. When it’s convenient, you can show me your Sword Dao so I can study it. I’m only a step away from entering the sixth stage, but I’ve been stuck at a bottleneck for many years.”

Duan Ling Tian knew that Xiao Tian Ci wanted his help to overcome the bottleneck he faced in his Sword Dao. In exchange, Xiao Tian Ci arranged for him to learn from an expert who had comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage.

Swoosh!

At this time, a gust of wind blew past, and the gray-clad old man who was standing behind Xiao Tian Ci appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian.

‘He’s a supreme powerhouse who comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage!’ Duan Ling Tian exclaimed inwardly.

A supreme powerhouse who had comprehended a law to the paramount stage should be a level-four supreme powerhouse, someone who was close to becoming a demi Saint, at least even if his or her Dao of Heaven and Earth was only mediocre.

“Attack with your might using your law of space and Sword Dao,” the old man said expressionlessly, “I’ll suppress my strength so it matches yours, but I won’t suppress my law of space.”

Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel excited when he heard these words. This was the best chance for him to improve his law of space. Although he had recordings of experts who comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage, it would be much better for him to learn from an expert in real life.

“Thank you, senior,” Duan Ling Tian said as he bowed slightly to the gray-clad old man.

Duan Ling Tian felt grateful even if he knew this was a trade between him and Xiao Tian Ci. In his opinion, he benefited more from this exchange. With Xiao Tian Ci’s high status in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, it would not be difficult for Xiao Tian Ci to study the sixth stage of the Sword Dao with other experts. On the contrary, if it were not for Xiao Tian Ci, it would be impossible for him to personally study the law of space with an expert who had comprehended it to the paramount stage. As such, how could he not feel grateful and excited faced with such an opportunity?

‘My law of space has been stagnant for a while now. This is a good chance for me to break through or at least move closer to the paramount stage...’

With his Sword Dao at the sixth stage, if Duan Ling Tian comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage, he would be considered extraordinary even among peerless top advanced Supreme Gods. Not only that, but if he directly broke through and became a supreme powerhouse, he would be stronger than the current Xiao Tian Ci. After all, Xiao Tian, who comprehended the law of death to the paramount stage and the Sword Dao to the fifth stage, was a demi Saint. As such, with his Sword Dao at the sixth stage, if Duan Ling Tian comprehended the law of space to the paramount stage, he would become a Saint just like how Xiao Tian Ci would become a Saint as soon as his Sword Dao reached the sixth stage.

Chapter 4518 The Threshold of the Seventh Stage of the Sword Dao

When Old Kong; the gray-clad old man, made a move, the void shook; making him look terrifying. In just a blink of an eye, he appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian.

‘How terrifying! This is the strength of the law of space at the paramount stage?!’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself in shock. He almost teleported away, but then he remembered that Old Kong had likely disrupted the space to prevent him from escaping.

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian mobilized his Divine Energy and law of space. His body shone as he shot toward Old Kong like a dazzling sword ray, which made his surroundings pale in comparison. He looked domineering as though he could crush everything that stood in his way.

“What a powerful Sword Dao!” Old Kong exclaimed when he saw Duan Ling Tian who had become one with the sword. However, he flashed away very quickly and easily before Duan Ling Tian struck, causing Duan Ling Tian to feel pressured.

‘The law of space at the paramount stage is really terrifying... He has already suppressed his Divine Energy to that of an advanced Supreme God, but he’s still slightly stronger than me by virtue of his law of space alone. His strength now is comparable to that of a peerless top advanced Supreme God!’

Duan Ling Tian felt overwhelmed by Old Kong’s strength. He could not help but curse inwardly when he recalled Old Kong saying he would try to suppress his strength to a level similar to his. He was only close to breaking through the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods; unless he had a breakthrough in his law of space or his Sword Dao, it would be impossible for him to enter the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods.

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian attacked again. A blindingly bright sword ray shot out and made a sudden turn before it shot toward Old Kong at top speed.

Duan Ling Tian grunted when his attack landed, and he discovered he had only struck an illusion.

“You can see the full strength of the law of space after comprehending it to the paramount stage. I’m invincible in this space because I can summon the energy in my surroundings,” Old Kong said as his voice echoed from all directions, “You’re very strong. If I didn’t maintain my Divine Energy at that of a peerless top advanced Supreme God and suppress it more, I would’ve been defeated by you.”

With this, Duan Ling Tian finally understood that Old Kong intentionally suppressed his Divine Energy to that of a peerless top advanced Supreme God instead of matching him so he could learn better. After all, how was he going to learn if he easily defeated Old Kong?

Old Kong continued to say, “You can only stop me now if your Divine Energy is strong enough to subdue mine and stop me from using the spatial energy in the surroundings...”

There was a reason why peerless top advanced Supreme Gods were the strongest among advanced Supreme Gods, after all. However, even if they were invincible among those below the realm of supreme powerhouses, they would still not be a match for even the weakest supreme powerhouse.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Old Kong made a move again. He appeared above Duan Ling Tian and struck with his hand.

A huge palm print descended on Duan Ling Tian as fast as the wind.

Duan Ling Tian grunted as he dodged to the side. Alas, no matter where he ran, a new huge palm print would appear above him. In just a blink of an eye, thousands of palm prints could be seen in the air.

‘Alright, it’s time to try another tactic...’

When Duan Ling Tian realized he could not escape the palm prints, he quickly mobilized his Divine Energy and law of space before he formed a sword ray in his hand. Following that, he sent the sword ray out, causing the void to shake violently in its wake.

Boom!

The sword ray shot through the huge palm prints, and the collisions generated terrifying shockwaves that swept through the entire place.

When the shockwaves swept past Duan Ling Tian, he felt as though his internal organs had been crushed, and he spat out a mouthful of blood.

At this time, Xiao Tian Ci said through Voice Transmission, “Old Kong, go easy on him.”

Old Kong was about to withdraw his attack when the eyes of Duan Ling Tian, who seemed to be in a daze just a moment ago, suddenly widened as he muttered to himself, “So that’s why my Sword Dao hasn’t been improving! The sword isn’t limited to the sword in my hand or the sword rays formed by my Divine Energy. The spatial energy can also be a sword. The law of space, the law of time, and the law of life can also be a sword!”

Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian’s doppelgangers from his laws appeared. Subsequently, dazzling sword rays appeared around them as their auras grew stronger and stronger.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses. When he saw Old Kong was about to withdraw his attack, he quickly said, “Senior, please continue!”

“Very well,” Old Kong replied with a nod. He knew that Duan Ling Tian must have been enlightened and did not hesitate to continue with his attack.

Following that, the huge palm prints rained down on Duan Ling Tian again.

“Sword ascension!” Duan Ling Tian muttered.

Then, the countless sword rays around Duan Ling Tian and his doppelgangers shot up into the sky and collided with the huge palm prints.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Terrifying shockwaves swept out in all directions, but this time, Duan Ling Tian remained unaffected. His robe fluttered as he stood steadily, looking as straight as a sword.

“Remarkable!” Old Kong exclaimed.

The huge palm prints were destroyed by the sword rays, and they both fought to a draw.

At the same time, Xiao Tian Ci suddenly appeared in front of Duan Ling and exclaimed, “Duan Ling Tian, your Sword Dao has reached the threshold of the seventh stage! An advanced Supreme God who comprehended a law to the perfect form and a Dao of Heaven of Earth to the threshold of the seventh stage is undoubtedly a peerless top advanced Supreme God!”

“A peerless top advanced Supreme God?!” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes brightened immediately. He knew that he had grown stronger after he further comprehended the Sword Dao, but he was not sure exactly how strong he had become. It was only natural that he was excited after listening to Xiao Tian Ci’s words. With his breakthrough, the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion would value him even more. With this, it was not impossible for him to ask the Saint of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion to release Ke’er from the soul imprisonment technique.

Chapter 4519 The Yao Brothers

Duan Ling Tian suppressed his excitement before he cupped his fists together at Xiao Tian Ci and Old Kong and said, “Thank you, Palace Master Xiao. Thank you, senior.”

Although Duan Ling Tian knew that he would eventually have a breakthrough like this, it would take time and luck. It was thanks to Xiao Tian Ci that he was able to improve so quickly. He knew Xiao Tian Ci gave him such an opportunity because Xiao Tian Ci wanted to study his Sword Dao; after all, Xiao Tian Ci had said as much. However, his feeling that he had benefited more from this exchange grew even stronger after his improvement.

“Once your Sword Dao reaches the seventh stage, there are likely not many peerless top advanced Supreme Gods who’ll be a match for you,” the usually taciturn Old Kong said.

Xiao Tian Ci nodded in agreement before he said, “Duan Ling Tian, after you take that step, you’ll truly be in the elite inner circle of the Outer Boundary and the Myriad Worlds. A peerless top advanced Supreme Gods are highly coveted by saint-rank forces. They’re even more precious than ordinary supreme powerhouses.”

After a brief pause, Xiao Tian Ci continued to say, “When you break into this realm, I’ll get better benefits for you from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Apart from that, if you stay in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion for a period of time and make contributions, you can even ask for one favor from the Saint of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.”

Duan Ling Tian was calm when he heard the first half of Xiao Tian Ci’s words, but he could not suppress his excitement at all when he heard the second half of Xiao Tian Ci’s words. Although his expression did not change much, his eyes that shone brightly had already given him away.

At this time, Xiao Tian Ci’s majestic aura became slightly diminished. Perhaps, it was due to the slightly sheepish expression on his face as he said, “Duan Ling Tian, when I studied your Sword Dao earlier, I had a lot of questions. Do you mind answering my questions?”

Xiao Tian Ci was the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heaven’s Golden Dragon Palace after all. It was only normal that he felt slightly embarrassed about asking for help from somebody so much younger than him.

“Palace Master Xiao, it’s an honor for me to answer your questions,” Duan Ling Tian replied. In fact, even before Xiao Tian Ci spoke up, he had already planned to ask Xiao Tian Ci if he needed help with the Sword Dao. Now that Xiao Tian Ci brought it up, he naturally would not turn down the chance to return the favor.

...

Despite the death of many sword prodigies from the first group that the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion sent into the Realm of Origin, the second group still had to enter the Realm of Origin to search for treasures for the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. At the same time, the second group was also paving the way for the third group, which the sword prodigies from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion were part of.

In the Jade Waves Heavenly Mansion, there were quite a few cultivators who were close to becoming peerless top advanced Supreme Gods who comprehended the Sword Dao to the fourth stage and their laws to the perfect form.

The strongest among them had comprehended the law of destruction to the paramount stage. Coupled with his bloodline power and his Sword Dao at the fourth stage, it was not surprising that he was the strongest among those below the realm of peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. According to Hu Ming Yue, who brought Duan Ling Tian to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, he was also one of the few top prodigies in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion who could rival Duan Ling Tian. His name was Yao Xing Chen.

Unsurprisingly, Yao Xing Chen was among the people from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion who would be entering the Realm of Origin as well.

However, Yao Xing Chen was not the strongest person from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion to enter the Realm of Origin this time. This was because the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion found a peerless top advanced Supreme God outside who had comprehended the law of metal to the paramount stage and the Sword Dao to the fourth stage. He was just the external help whom the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion found and was not an official member of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion.

In fact, there were a few peerless top advanced Supreme Gods in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. However, they did not comprehend the Sword Dao so they did not meet the requirement to enter the Realm of Origin this time.

If one only counted the official member of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion who would be entering the Realm of Origin, Yao Xing Chen was still the strongest.

...

In a quiet courtyard in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion...

A stern black-clad young man sat in front of a stone table as he looked at a green-clad young man coldly and asked, "What are you here?"

The black-clad young man was none other than Yao Xing Chen. As for the green-clad young man, he was Yao Tian Chen; Yao Xing Chen's half-brother

Yao Tian Chen was also the peerless top advanced Supreme God whom the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion found to help them.

"Do you think you're qualified to be my elder brother?" Yao Xing Chen said with a sneer, "Yao Tian Chen, we've been strangers for a long time now. Don't start acting like we're brothers now. Back then, if I hadn't been lucky, I would've been indirectly killed by you!"

Although Yao Tian Chen was Yao Xing Chen's half-brother, they were estranged. In the past, Yao Tian Chen was jealous of Yao Xing Chen due to the latter's talent. In hopes of obtaining his father's

favor, Yao Tian Chen plotted to kill Yao Xing Chen. Unfortunately, Yao Xing Chen had no evidence and was forced to let the matter go because their father did not believe him.

At that time, the seeds of resentment were planted in Yao Xing Chen's heart. As they sprouted, he finally ran away from the Yao clan and joined the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, which was stronger than the Yao clan; a demi-saint-rank force.

Although the Yao clan was a demi-saint-rank force, it was considered one of the strongest demi-saint-rank forces in the Sacred Lightning Realm. This was because the Yao clan's demi Saint was much stronger than ordinary demi Saints and could kill ordinary demi Saints. For this reason, it was second only to the saint-rank forces.

"My dear brother, I only plotted against you because you were stronger than me..." Yao Tian Chen chuckled as he said, "It's different now. My law of metal has reached the paramount stage, and I have surpassed you. I became a peerless top advanced Supreme God first. Father and the elders of the clan have also chosen me to be the next Clan Leader of the Yao clan. You're no longer a threat to me. As such, we brothers should live in harmony like we did in the past. What do you think?"

Yao Tian Chen was clearly a wolf in sheep's clothing, pretending to be harmless.

Yao Xing Chen sneered. "Yao Tian Chen, don't think I don't know what you're thinking. You just don't want to make an enemy out of me now. Let me tell you clearly now; we're not brothers, we're strangers. For the sake of our father and our blood relation, I'll let go of that matter in the past. From now on, please act like you don't know when we meet. Now, please leave."

Yao Xing Chen did not mince his words and directly drove Yao Tian Chen away.

Yao Tian Chen rose to his feet and said with a slight smile, "Since you don't want to see me, I'll take my leave first. I'll see you again in the Realm of Origin."

When Yao Tian Chen turned around to leave, the smile on his face vanished, and his eyes glinted coldly. A hint of killing intent could be seen in the depths of his eyes as he thought to himself, ‘Yao Xing Chen, I gave you a chance due to our blood relation. Since you don’t appreciate it, I can only kill you to avoid future troubles. You can’t do anything to me now. You’re weaker than me, and your status isn’t that high in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. However, if you grow stronger and your status rises in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion in the future, it’ll be very troublesome if our position is reversed. At that time, do you think you’ll still be able to say that you’ll let the matter from back then go?’

Clearly, Yao Tian Chen had already made up his mind to kill Yao Xing Chen.

‘The Realm of Origin can only be your burial ground. My dear brother, you should cherish your remaining time. After all, you won’t be coming out of the Realm of Origin...’

Yao Tian Chen knew about Yao Xing Chen’s capability very well.

Both their Sword Daos were at the fourth stage, but Yao Xing Chen had only broken through recently. On the contrary, Yao Xing Chen had been in the fourth stage for many years and might enter the fifth stage soon.

As for the laws they comprehended, if Yao Xing Chen, who comprehended the law of destruction, were to comprehend one of the Five Elemental Laws, his law would have already reached the paramount stage. In fact, it would have reached the paramount stage before that of Yao Tian Chen.

Due to Yao Xing Chen’s talent, Yao Tian Chen tried to attempt to murder his younger brother in the past. In his opinion, if he allowed Yao Xing Chen to grow stronger, he would only be seeking trouble.

Thinking about Yao Xing Chen's talent and the fact that Yao Xing Chen now belonged to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, Yao Tian Chen became even more determined to get rid of Yao Xing Chen.

Chapter 4520 The Yao Clan, a Clan of Sword Cultivators

In just a blink of an eye, a year had passed.

The second group of people came out from the Realm of Origin one after another.

Excluding Duan Ling Tian, among the two people from the Duan clan whom Hu Ming Yue brought to the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, only Lan Ming came out. Xue Ao, the friendly young man, did not come out.

Lan Ming, who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian, said in a low voice, "Xue Ao must have died..."

Before leaving, Lan Ming said again, "Don't force yourself if you're not confident about passing some of the tests left there by the creator of the Realm of Origin. If you push yourself, you might get injured. Once you're injured, you won't be able to deal with the subsequent danger..."

Lan Ming was usually taciturn. It was rare for him to speak so much, reminding Duan Ling Tian about the danger in the Realm of Origin.

"I understand," Duan Ling Tian said with a nod. His expression was solemn as he asked, "Are you planning to return, or are you going to try and join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion?"

“I’ll try to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion,” Lan Ming said with a wry smile, “I’m not a monstrous prodigy like you who obtained the favor of the Palace Master of the Golden Dragon Palace as soon as you arrived. I can only depend on my luck if I want to join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. However, many people who came this time have this thought as well...”

Most of the people recruited by various forces in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion’s territories were sectless cultivators, and it would naturally be great if they could join the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, one of the strongest forces in the Outer Boundary.

When Lan Ming and the others left, the people from the third group all arrived as well.

The death rate of the second group was lower than that of the first group. Clearly, the experience of the first group had helped with the survival of the second group.

Duan Ling Tian already knew beforehand that the people representing the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion would be in the third group. Due to the requirements of comprehending the Sword Dao and being below the realm of supreme powerhouses, there were only about a dozen of them.

Even among the hundreds of prodigies in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion, it was difficult to find many people who comprehended the Sword Dao to the fourth stage, after all. After all, there were Four Daos of Heaven and Earth, and the Sword Dao was just one of the many branches of the Weapon Dao.

While Duan Ling Tian was looking at the people from the third group, quite a few of them were looking at Duan Ling Tian enviously when they found out that Xiao Tian Ci, the Palace Master of the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion’s Golden Dragon Palace, had invited Duan Ling Tian to join the Golden Dragon Palace. Some of them even looked dissatisfied. Hints of envy, jealousy, and hatred could be seen in their eyes when they looked at him.

Duan Ling Tian naturally did not care about these people. He had never been one to care about what people thought of him.

‘Hmm?’

While Duan Ling Tian was looking around, he noticed two young men who resembled each other slightly. However, the duo did not stand together and were standing quite far apart from each other.

‘They look like brothers... However, based on the distance between them, they look more like strangers... Perhaps, it’s just a coincidence that they look alike. The world is so big after all. How interesting. The Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion actually found two strangers who not only comprehend the Sword Dao to at least the fourth stage, but they even look alike...’

Coincidentally, Duan Ling Tian received a Voice Transmission from Xiao Tian Ci at this moment.

“Duan Ling Tian, do you see those two young men who resemble each other?”

“I just received a message from one of my senior brothers from the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. He asked if you could lend a helping hand to the young man on the left if you see the young man on the right making a move against the former in the Realm of Origin. My senior brother said he’ll repay you for this favor. My senior brother is also a demi Saint in the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion,” Xiao Tian Ci said.

“Of course, but why, Palace Master Xiao?” Duan Ling Tian asked, puzzled. They were on the same side, and there was no benefit to killing each other in this situation after all.

“The young man on the left is Yao Xing Chen. He’s my senior brother’s last disciple. Before your improvement a few months ago, he was not any weaker than you. His Sword Dao will soon reach the fifth stage, and his law of destruction is also close to the paramount stage,” Xiao Tian Ci replied.

Upon hearing Xiao Tian Ci’s words, Duan Ling Tian glanced at Yao Xing Chen. He did not expect the other party to be so strong. However, since Yao Xing Chen was so strong, why was Xiao Tian Ci’s senior brother worried about the young man on the right?

‘Could it be...’

A thought suddenly appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s mind. If the other party was a peerless top advanced Supreme God, then Xiao Tian Ci’s words would make sense.

At this time, Xiao Tian Ci said, “The young man on the right is Yao Tian Chen. He’s the external help that the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion found. He’s from the Yao clan on Mount Sword. He’s a peerless top advanced Supreme God. His law of metal has reached the paramount stage, and his Sword Dao is at the fourth stage. He’s Yao Xing Chen’s half-brother. All members of the Yao clan are sword cultivators so they comprehend the Sword Dao. According to my senior brother, Yao Tian Chen once tried to kill Yao Xing Chen to remove Yao Xing Chen from the competition for the position of the next Clan Leader of the Yao clan. Fortunately, Yao Xing Chen was very lucky, and he survived. Later, he joined the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. My senior brother took a liking to him and accepted him as his last disciple.”

“Before this, my senior brother deliberately excluded Yao Tian Chen from the recruitment. However, Yao Tian Chen heard about the matter, and he took the initiative to volunteer to help the Jade Tide Heavenly Mansion. Needless to say, the high-ranking officials won’t refuse such an offer. However, my senior brother feels that Yao Tian Chen harbors ill intentions. He suspects that Yao Tian Chen might make an attempt on Yao Xing Chen’s life in the Realm of Origin. After all, Yao Xing Chen is very talented, which threatens Yao Tian Chen. If Yao Xing Chen doesn’t die prematurely, it won’t be long before his law of destruction reaches the paramount stage, and his Sword Dao reaches the fifth stage, making him stronger than Yao Tian Chen...”

Realization dawned on Duan Ling Tian after he listened to Xiao Tian Ci's words. At the same time, his gaze turned cold when he looked at Yao Tian Chen again. After all, just to be the next clan leader, Yao Tian Chen could even try to kill his younger brother. This kind of behavior disgusted him.

'If I have a younger brother, I won't even be able to bear troubling him, let alone hurt him for my own interest,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Xiao Tian Ci continued to say, "My senior brother and I didn't tell Yao Xing Chen we asked for your help because Yao Xing Chen is proud by nature. If he knew that we asked you to look after him, he'd definitely protest. He might even deliberately avoid you after entering the Realm of Origin."

Duan Ling Tian was rendered speechless upon hearing Xiao Tian Ci's words.

'He's not just proud. He's also courting death! Does he think he's a match for a peerless top advanced Supreme God? He must know his limits, right?'

After a while, Xiao Tian Ci finally told the third group of sword prodigies to enter the Realm of Origin.

After everyone handed in their personal spatial rings, Xiao Tian Ci ordered his men to distribute new spatial rings to them. These spatial rings must be returned after they came out from the Realm of Origin. This was to prevent people from keeping the treasures they found to themselves in the Realm of Origin.

Everyone knew about this for a long time now so no one objected.

“Alright, you can go in now.”

After Xiao Tian Ci’s voice fell, the group of people, including Duan Ling Tian, entered the Realm of Origin one after another.