

## Chapter 1571: The Ruthless Imperial Family

After hearing Situ Zhuo's Voice Transmission, Duan Ling Tian stared at him before he said with hidden meaning, "I can't believe Second Young Master Zhuo also knows about the Devil Inscription. Looks like you must also know where the Devil Inscription on Young Master Hang came from, right?"

Duan Ling Tian did not use Voice Transmission this time. Instead, he had directly spoken out.

At this moment, Situ Hou's gaze turned sharp immediately as he stared at Situ Zhuo as though he wanted to see if Situ Zhuo would deny it.

"I don't know what you're talking about. What the hell is Devil Inscription? I've never even heard of it before." Situ Zhuo did not expect Duan Ling Tian would speak out. He was instantly enraged. However, he did not dare to show it. He could only pretend as though he did not know anything.

"You don't know anything about the Devil Inscription, Second Young Master Zhuo? That's weird... But you're the one who brought up Devil Inscription to me earlier. Moreover, you even asked me to just stand aside and watch. Could it be that I was mistaken?" Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"Don't slander me!" When Situ Zhuo noticed Situ Hou's gaze that was turning sharper, his face turned grave immediately, and he glared at Duan Ling Tian. "Who are you exactly? What intention do you have? How dare you try and sow discord between Brother Hang and me!"

"Slander you?" Duan Ling Tian smiled. "Second Young Master Zhuo, you keep saying I'm slandering you. How about this? Why don't we both swear on the lightning penalty oath and see who is the one doing the slandering?"

As Duan Ling Tian spoke, he raised his hand, preparing to prick his finger and swear by the lightning penalty oath.

"Who do you think you are? Do you think you're worthy for me to swear on the lightning penalty oath for?!" A hint of panic flashed in depth of Situ Zhuo's eyes, but he maintained his composure on the surface. He only smirked before he turned to leave. He did not even bid farewell to Situ Hou and immediately turned to leave with the masked man.

At this moment, a gust of wind blew past, and Situ Hou disappeared from his spot. When he reappeared, he was blocking Situ Zhuo and the masked man's way.

"Elder Hou, what are you doing?" Situ Zhuo asked with a frown.

"I actually think both of you should swear on the lightning penalty oath to prove your innocence, don't you think so?" Situ Hou said nonchalantly.

The moment Situ Zhuo heard this, his face turned slightly grave. "Elder Hou, who is he for me to have to swear on the lightning penalty oath? Don't forget, this is the Situ Clan! Don't tell me you're actually helping an outsider, old man?"

‘I’m not helping anyone. Even if I want to help, I’m merely helping you to prove your innocence,’ Situ Hou continued saying.

Situ Hou suddenly made his move at the moment Situ Zhuo’s face turned grave and could not come up with a reply.

He directly went past Situ Zhuo and attacked the masked man behind him. The aura of a Saint Stage powerhouse swept out toward the masked man like a dark cloud. Horror instantly dawned on the masked man who was taken by surprise.

Although the masked man was quite powerful since he was at the Imminent Saint Stage, he had not broken through to Saint Stage. Due to this reason, there was a large gap between his strength and that of a Saint Stage powerhouse.

Facing the hostile Situ Hou, the masked man did not dare to slack at all and unleashed all his techniques without restraint.

In his opinion, if he had shown restraint in front of a Saint Stage powerhouse, it was equivalent to him digging his own grave. Due to this reason, the masked man had inadvertently revealed the fact that he was a Devil Cultivator.

When the masked man revealed his strength as a Devil Cultivator, Duan Ling Tian who was standing at the side could sense the agitation of the Deviseal Tablet in his Spatial Ring.

Duan Ling Tian ignored it completely since there was no need for him to make a move at all.

“As expected, you’re really a Devil Cultivator!” After the masked man revealed he was a Devil Cultivator, Situ Hou smirked. His compelling aura turned even stronger. It was obvious he meant business now.

Horror dawned on Situ Zhuo’s face. He crushed a jade token in a panic.

After the jade token was crushed, an extremely fast ray of light flashed across the sky. Like a star, it disappeared the moment it appeared.

“A jade token inscribed with a Warning Saint Inscription?” Duan Ling Tian raised his brows. He was not unfamiliar to this kind of jade token. Back when he was in the Moon Illumination Sect and had participated in the Hunting Assessment, he had also obtained a similar kind of jade token.

However, compared to the jade token he obtained previously, Situ Zhuo’s jade token was obviously more advanced.

At the very least, the warning produced by the crushing of the jade token even took Situ Hou who was a Saint Stage powerhouse by surprise.

Naturally, this was because Situ Hou’s attention was not on him. After Situ Hou discovered the masked man was a Devil Cultivator, he no longer showed any mercy when he attacked. With a turn of his palm, he easily blasted the masked man to death.

“Situ Zhuo! How dare you collude with a Devil Cultivator to kill your senior!” After killing the masked man, Situ Hou looked at Situ Zhuo coldly. His voice was extremely icy when he spoke.

Even at this point, Situ Zhuo still maintained his composure and said nonchalantly, “Elder Hou, I didn’t know he was a Devil Cultivator.”

“You didn’t know he was a Devil Cultivator?” Situ Hou smirked. “It’s better to just leave this matter to the Enforcement Elder then.”

The moment his words left his mouth, he took a step forward and was ready to catch Situ Zhuo and bring him to the Enforcement Hall.

At this moment, a gust of wind swept past, and a middle-aged man with a medium-built body suddenly appeared in front of Situ Zhuo. He looked at Situ Hou calmly as he asked, “Elder Hou, I wonder what kind of mistake my son made to the point that you want to bring him to the Enforcement Elder.”

“Situ Ming, you have a truly good son!” The moment Situ Hou saw this middle-aged man, he frowned before he snorted coldly. “Today, I’ll bring him to the Enforcement Hall no matter what for colluding with a Devil Cultivator to kill his senior! This sin is not small at all!”

“Situ Ming?” When Duan Ling Tian heard the way Situ Hou addressed this man, he could not help but take another glance at him.

He had also heard of this name, Situ Ming, before he came to the Situ Clan. He was Situ Clan’s Second Master. In the Situ Clan, his position was just below the Clan Leader, Situ Hao, and the three Supreme Elders. He was also a Saint Stage powerhouse.

The moment Situ Hou’s words left his mouth, he proceeded to catch Situ Zhuo.

This time, Situ Ming did not stop him. He merely looked on with a calm expression on his face.

When Situ Hou brought Situ Zhuo away, he turned around and took a good look at Duan Ling Tian. After that, he finally followed Situ Hou and went to the Enforcement Hall of Situ Clan.

‘This Situ Ming is not a simple person... I’m afraid Elder Hou won’t be able to deal with Situ Zhuo this time,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

The result was just as Duan Ling Tian had predicted. Although Situ Zhuo was punished, he was only punished with reflecting in the Enforcement Hall for three months.

“Why is his punishment so light?” Duan Ling Tian felt puzzled.

“Situ Zhuo kept insisting he had no idea the masked man was a Devil Cultivator... Not only that, but he pushed all the blame and the things about the Devil Inscription to the masked man I killed. He said he was unaware the Devil Cultivator had inscribed a Devil Inscription. Due to this reason, the Enforcement Hall merely punished him for befriending a Devil Cultivator,” Situ Hou said in a deep voice. A hint of displeasure could be seen in his eyes.

“They should ask him to swear by the lightning penalty oath to prove his innocence. I think he won’t dare to make the oath. If that’s the case, that enough to prove he’s the person pulling the strings from behind the curtain,” Duan Ling Tian chimed in. He felt this would be a good solution to this problem.

“It’s not so simple.” Situ Hou shook his head and smiled wryly.

After that, Duan Ling Tian got a better grasp of the situation.

As it turned out, the Situ Clan was not as united as it seemed. On the surface, the Situ Clan had their Clan Leader, Situ Hao. However, nearly half of the high-ranking officials in their clan were on Situ Clan’s Second Master, Situ Ming’s side.

In reality, there were two forces in the Situ Clan.

Not only that, but there was a total of five Saint Stage powerhouses. Apart from Situ Ming and Situ Hao, there were another three.

Situ Hou was one of them, and he was on Situ Hao’s side.

One of the two other Saint Stage powerhouses was on Situ Ming’s side.

The last one, on the other hand, remained neutral.

The person who remained neutral was also the strongest powerhouse in Situ Clan. He was the person with the highest position in the Situ Clan, even higher than Situ Hou — who was already older than Situ Hao by a generation — by a generation. The Situ Clan’s members addressed him as Ancestor.

According to Situ Hou, the ancestor of their Situ Clan had not shown his face for many years.

The last time he showed himself was when Situ Hao had just succeeded the Clan Leader’s position.

“I can’t believe the Situ Clan’s situation is actually this complicated... In this case, will this matter be swept under the rug just like this?” Duan Ling Tian asked.

“Since nothing happened to Little Hang, I guess that’s how it’ll be. Although the Situ Clan appears wonderful, it has internal and external strife. Even Clan Leader doesn’t dare to simply find fault with Situ Ming and his people. If things go out of control, it’ll definitely sway the foundation of the Situ Clan, and this would give an opportunity for the enemy to invade.” Situ Hou sighed. Although he was unwilling, there was nothing he could do. After all, this was how things were done.

“Enemy? I thought the Situ Clan has the Windfall Nation’s Imperial Family behind them?” Duan Ling Tian frowned. “Don’t tell me there are people who dare to disregard the Imperial Family and go against the Situ Clan?”

“Imperial Family?” When Situ Hou heard this, he shook his head. “Put aside how ruthless the Imperial Family is, the relationship between our Situ Clan and the Imperial family is only built on Imperial Concubine Li alone. Those forces who dare to go against our Situ Clan more or less have a similar relationship with the Imperial family. Some of them are even closer to the Imperial Family than we are. The open and hidden struggles of our clans are also tacitly approved by the Imperial family. Actually, the Imperial family will be even more worried if we get along. If we do get along, the Imperial Family might even purposely sow discord between us.” When Situ Hou reached the end of his sentence, he sighed.

Duan Ling Tian nodded, he could totally understand this.

There was no doubt Windfall Nation's Imperial family would not hope for the seventh-rate forces to get along with each other. If that was the case, these seventh-rate forces might rise to the top quickly and threaten the Imperial Family's position.

In order to eliminate this threat, the Imperial Family, naturally, would be more than happy to watch the little fellows below them fight.

### **Chapter 1572: The Woman Who Came From the Mortal Continent**

Duan Ling Tian was not concerned with solving the internal conflicts in Situ Clan. What he was concerned about were the materials he had asked Situ Hao, the Clan Leader of Situ Clan, to prepare.

The truth was, Duan Ling Tian did not need the materials to get rid of the Devil Inscription on Situ Hang, the Great Young Master of Situ Clan. All he needed to do was activate his Spiritual Energy and spend a few days to completely break it.

The reason he made it complicated was so Situ Clan would gather more common materials for him to repair the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. Apart from that, many materials that Duan Ling Tian asked Situ Hao to gather were also materials to inscribe Three Star Saint Inscriptions.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was already at the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, and his Spiritual Energy had transformed along with it. He could now inscribe Three Star Saint Inscriptions. Although that was the case, he did not have many materials in his hands. Due to this reason, he had no choice but to use the Situ Clan to labor for him.

"Master Duan, the materials you requested are here." One had to say, the Clan Leader of Situ Clan was indeed efficient. Only two weeks had passed, and he had already finished gathering the materials Duan Ling Tian had requested. He placed all of it in a Spatial Ring and passed it to Duan Ling Tian.

Naturally, Situ Hao had found the materials so easily because Duan Ling Tian did not ask for those rare treasures needed to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. Those materials were hard to find. Although the Situ Clan was a sixth-rate clan, it might not be easy for them to obtain it. Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian did not request for things that were beyond his power.

"In a month, I'll return you a healthy son," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile after taking the Spatial Ring.

"I believe in you, Master Duan." Situ Hao also smiled as he nodded. He did not know he had been cheated of a lot of materials. Naturally, he would not have said anything even if he knew. After all, Duan Ling Tian was the only one who could treat his son now. As the saying went, 'A rare commodity is worth hoarding to corner the market'.

In the next one month, Duan Ling Tian would treat Situ Hang every seven to eight days. As for the remaining time, he would use them to inscribe Three Star Saint Inscriptions... After one month, he was already skilled in inscribing Three Star Saint Inscriptions.

Meanwhile, he had also completely rid Situ Hang of the Devil Inscription.

“Master Duan, I, Situ Hang, will always remember your help for curing me.” After the Devil Inscription had been broken, Situ Hang had, naturally, recovered. He bowed to Duan Ling Tian to express his gratitude.

“Young Master Situ, you’re welcome.” Duan Ling Tian smiled.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian also obtained two Four Star Dao Talismans — the Four Star Divine Strider Talisman and the Four Star Golden Energy Talisman. If he used them, he would have the speed and defense equivalent to a Saint Stage powerhouse for fifteen minutes.

When Situ Hang found out this was Duan Ling Tian’s first time in Windfall Nation and he was unfamiliar with the people and the place, he instantly invited Duan Ling Tian to stay at the Situ Clan.

Situ Hao also agreed to this suggestion. A few days later, when he learned from Situ Hang that Duan Ling Tian was a Three Star Saint Inscription Master, he was even more delighted. Once again, he went to pay Duan Ling Tian a visit to apologize. “Master Duan, I really didn’t know you’re actually a Three Star Saint Inscription Master before this. I’m sorry for my negligence!”

What a joke!

Prior to this, the Situ Clan only had one Three Star Saint Inscription Master in the clan. However, that Saint Inscription Master was on Situ Ming’s side.

Due to the reason that the Three Star Saint Inscriptions business in Situ Clan had been monopolized by Situ Ming, Situ Hao had no choice but to turn a blind eye to many things in regard to Situ Ming. After all, the Situ Clan still needed to rely on the Three Star Saint Inscription Master who was on Situ Ming’s side.

Due to this reason, he instantly came to apologize when he found out Duan Ling Tian was also a Three Star Saint Inscription Master.

At the same time, he also told Duan Ling Tian he could stay as long as he liked in the Situ Clan, and the clan would give him the best treatment they could give.

Duan Ling Tian had deliberately revealed his identity as a Three Star Saint Inscription Master. This was because it was of utmost importance for him to stabilize his position in the capital of Windfall Nation. This identity of a Three Star Saint Inscription Master would also allow him to stabilize his position better in the Situ Clan and the capital of Windfall Nation. Moreover, the identity of a Three Star Saint Inscription could also display his worth.

Just as Duan Ling Tian had expected, a few days later, Situ Hang came to find him and asked for his help to inscribe Three Star Saint Inscriptions on a bunch of Saint Weapons. “Master Duan, these Saint Weapons will be sold under our Situ Clan’s business... Our Situ Clan will provide all the materials needed to inscribe the Saint Inscriptions, and we’ll split the profit 50-50, what do you think?”

“No problem.” Although Duan Ling Tian knew Situ Clan would agree to it even if he had asked for a bigger share, he did not do that at all. He was not lacking in Saint Stones after all.

Moreover, now that he had done the Clan Leader of Situ Clan a favor, he had no need to worry the Clan Leader would not make an effort to deal with his matters in the future. He was not concerned about the Saint Stones but the potential profit.

“Master Duan, you...” When Situ Hang heard Duan Ling Tian agreeing to it immediately, he was stunned. He was expecting Duan Ling Tian to bargain with him. The lowest his father had allowed him to split the profit was 70-30. 70% for Duan Ling Tian, and 30% for the Situ Clan. It did not cross his mind that Duan Ling Tian did not even bargain with him and had agreed to it immediately.

At this moment, Situ Hang began to feel guilty.

“Master Duan, perhaps we should give you a bigger share of the profit?” Situ Hang asked with a wry smile.

“There’s no need. I’m not lacking in Saint Stones,” Duan Ling Tian said bluntly as he shook his head, “However, if it’s possible, I hope the Situ Clan can help find the whereabouts of my senior brother. I want to know if my senior brother has also come to Windfall Nation.”

“This is only a small matter. Master Duan, you only need to draw the portrait of your senior brother, and I’ll ask my father to let his man search for him in every corner of Windfall Nation,” Situ Hang said nonchalantly.

“I’ll have to trouble you with this then. My senior brother is also a Three Star Saint Inscription Master,” Duan Ling Tian said as he nodded. When he reached the end of his sentence, he also emphasized that Bai Li Hong was a Three Star Saint Inscription Master. “Moreover, my senior brother is different from me. I’m used to wandering, sooner or later, I’ll leave the Situ Clan. However, my senior brother might be willing to stay in Situ Clan long term.”

When Situ Hang heard his words, his eyes lit up right away.

After spending some time together, he had also begun to understand Duan Ling Tian more. He learned that Duan Ling Tian was younger than him. At that time, he knew with Duan Ling Tian’s current achievements at his age, his achievements in the future would be boundless. Due to this reason, he did not think he would stay long in Situ Clan.

Situ Hang and his father had been plagued by this matter. However, Duan Ling Tian’s words to him right now were like the sun that dispelled all the dark clouds in their hearts.

“Master Duan, please be rest assured. If your senior brother has come to Windfall Nation, our Situ Clan will definitely find him,” Situ Hang pledged solemnly.

“Also, there’s another matter...” Duan Ling Tian called out to Situ Hang when he saw he was about to leave.

“Is there anything else I can help you with, Master Duan?” Situ Hang asked respectfully.

“Is there any powerhouse who’s ranked in the Heaven Ranking in Windfall Nation?” Duan Ling Tian asked.

“Yes.” Situ Hang nodded. “There’s a total of six people who have made it into the Heaven Ranking in Windfall Nation. The person who’s listed on top is ranked 11th in the Heaven Ranking.”

“Is there any way for us to find that person?” Duan Ling Tian asked again.

“Maybe not for the time being. I heard he’s trying to break through so he might have gone into closed-door cultivation... As a sectless cultivator, his whereabouts are not fixed, and I have no idea where he might have gone for his closed-door cultivation.” Situ Hang shook his head.

“How about the strongest person among the remaining five? Can we find any of them now?” Duan Ling Tian asked again.

“The strongest person among the remaining five is ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking. It’s not difficult to find her since she’s the disciple of another seventh-rate force in Windfall Nation... Master Duan, are you planning to challenge her?” Situ Hang asked curiously.

Situ Hang had already learned from Situ Hou that Duan Ling Tian’s strength was outstanding. Now that he heard Duan Ling Tian wanted to look for powerhouses in the Heaven Ranking, he could instantly guess his intention.

If he succeeded in challenging the Heaven Ranking’s powerhouse, he would replace her while the Heaven Ranking’s powerhouse would be eliminated from the Heaven Ranking.

This Heaven Ranking’s rule was made because they were afraid some of them would intentionally lose to their opponent. This was why they would be eliminated if they lost.

“That’s right.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He really intended to challenge a Heaven Ranking’s powerhouse. Only if he was ranked in the Heaven Ranking would he be able to make a name for himself in Windfall Nation. Moreover, he would also gain fame in the Southern Ridge Yuan Mansion’s district as well.

Duan Ling Tian was not a person who liked to show off. However, he was doing this to find Bai Li Hong and the others as quickly as he could. He believed Bai Li Hong would look for him as soon as he found out Duan Ling Tian was with the Situ Clan.

“Master Duan, although I don’t doubt your strength, it’s a little risky for you to immediately challenge someone who’s ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking. I suspect that person’s current strength is already enough for her to make it into the top ten of the Heaven Ranking!” Situ Hang said with a hint of dread.

“What do you mean?” Duan Ling Tian asked. He was curious why Situ Hang had such a high opinion of the person who ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking.

“Well, she can be considered as a legendary figure in our Windfall Nation... She’s not too old, even younger than you actually, Master Duan. Not only that, but as far as I know, she also came from the distant Mortal Continent. That girl from Mortal Continent actually has an innate talent that far surpasses her peers! That time, it only took her six months to climb from the 95th place to the 23rd place in the Heaven Ranking!” When Situ Hang reached the end of his sentence, he turned solemn. “Currently, it’s been exactly six months since she climbed up to the 23rd place in the Heaven Ranking.”

**Chapter 1573: Drift Blaze Sect, Lady Feng**



“She’s from Mortal Continent? A girl on top of that?” When Duan Ling Tian heard Situ Hang’s words, he was greatly taken aback.

Even if she was a girl from Windfall Nation, her achievement would still shock him. After all, the girl was even younger than him.

Moreover, based on Situ Hang’s words, the fact that her strength had risen so much in just six months was enough to prove her innate talent was high, surpassing the younger generation in Windfall Nation. Such a girl was actually from the Mortal Continent, just like him.

‘Looks like other than Cloud Continent, the other two Mortal Continents has talented people hidden in there as well,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

After all, he was from Cloud Continent. If there was such an outstanding person on Cloud Continent, it would be impossible for him to not have heard about her.

Naturally, he did not completely dismiss the possibility of her coming from Cloud Continent. She could have kept a low profile.

“If I defeat her, my name should be able to spread through Windfall Nation, right?” Duan Ling Tian asked as he looked at Situ Hang.

“Of course!” Situ Hang nodded solemnly. “If you can defeat her, not only will your name spread in Windfall Nation, but it’ll even spread to the Southern Ridge Yuan Mansion. After all, that girl’s also a well-known person in the Southern Ridge Yuan Mansion.”

When Duan Ling Tian heard Situ Hang’s words, he felt at ease and instantly made up his mind. “Then I’ll issue a challenge to her!”

When Situ Hang saw how Duan Ling Tian decided to go through with the challenge even after learning about her background, he was momentarily stunned before he asked, “You’ve made up your mind?”

“Yes, I’ve made up my mind.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. “Help me arrange it.”

“There’s no need to arrange anything. You just need to issue a duel invitation” Situ Hang shook his head. “Just leave the duel invitation to me.”

“Alright, thanks.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. Naturally, he felt more at ease since Situ Hang was the one handling the matter.

After taking Bai Li Hong’s portrait from Duan Ling Tian, Situ Hang left to look for his father, the Clan Leader of Situ Clan.

After Situ Hao learned that Duan Ling Tian’s senior brother was also a Three Star Saint Inscription Master and as long they were able to find him, he might also stay with the Situ Clan, naturally, he would put even more effort into searching for him.

Situ Hao could tell Duan Ling Tian would not stay in the Situ Clan for long so how could he not?

Although he did not have much contact with Duan Ling Tian, he could see Duan Ling Tian was a potential dragon who would soar up into the sky soon. He was not somebody that could fit in their tiny Situ Clan.

This matter had plagued him for some time. After all, once Duan Ling Tian had left, it would mean there would no longer be a Three Star Saint Inscription Master at his side.

However, Duan Ling Tian's senior brother had given him hope even though he had not been found yet.

After passing the portrait in his hand to Situ Hao, Situ Hang said, "Father, I'll leave the matter of helping Master Duan find his Senior Brother to you... I'll help him issue a challenge to the Drift Blaze Sect instead."

"Issue a duel invitation to the Drift Blaze Sect?" When Situ Hao heard Situ Hang's words, he could not help but frown right away. "What's going on? Why are you picking a fight with the Drift Blaze Sect? Why haven't I heard of this before?" When Situ Hao reached the end of his sentence, his face turned grave right away.

The Drift Blaze Sect was a seventh-rate force in Windfall Nation. Their strength was in no way inferior to their Situ Clan.

The first thing he thought of when he heard his son wanted to issue a duel invitation to the Drift Blaze Sect was his son had enmity with the Drift Blaze Sect.

In his opinion, this was not something good.

"Father, you've misunderstood." Situ Hang shook his head. "It isn't me who wants to issue a duel invitation to the Drift Blaze Sect, I'm merely helping Master Duan to issue this challenge."

"Master Duan?" Situ Hao's frown deepened. "Master Duan has enmity with the Drift Blaze Sect?"

"No." Situ Hang shook his head. Without waiting for Situ Hao's question, he explained, "Master Duan wants to challenge the Drift Blaze Sect's female disciple who ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking... The duel invitation I'm helping him to issue is to challenge Lady Feng from the Drift Blaze Sect."

"Challenge Lady Feng?" After learning Duan Ling Tian did not have any enmity with the Drift Blaze Sect, Situ Hao also heaved a sigh of relief. However, when he heard the latter half of Situ Hang's sentence, a hint of confusion could be seen in his eyes. "Although we don't have many Heaven Ranking's powerhouses, we still have a few, right? Why would Master Duan want to challenge Lady Feng? Lady Feng is not a simple person." When he reached the end of his sentence, his face was solemn.

Whether it was Situ Hao or Situ Hang or most of the people in Windfall Nation, they all only knew this Drift Blaze Sect's female disciple who recently rose to the top had the surname 'Feng'. They usually referred to her as Lady Feng. No one knew what her full name was. In fact, not many people in the Drift Blaze Sect even knew her full name.

In the Drift Blaze Sect, even the sect's elders and disciples also referred her as Lady Feng. She was also the direct disciple of the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect. A few years after she entered the sect, she had already occupied the seat of an honorable disciple and cowed all of the younger generations in the Drift Blaze Sect into submission.

A year ago, she had already been acknowledged as the strongest person in the Drift Blaze Sect, apart from the few Saint Stage powerhouses.

“Father, it’s true Lady Feng is not a simple person, but do you think Master Duan is a simple person?” When Situ Hang heard Situ Hao’s words, he refrained from making any comment.

“Of course, Master Duan is not simple. According to Elder Hou, his strength is enough for him to enter the Heaven Ranking! However, even if he’s qualified to enter the Heaven Ranking, he might not be able to defeat Lady Feng from Drift Blaze Sect. Six months have gone by, I’m afraid Lady Feng’s current strength is enough for her to enter the top ten of the Heaven Ranking.” Based on Situ Hao’s words, it seemed as though he did not have much confidence in Duan Ling Tian in regard to this.

“Father, I’ve also mentioned these things to Master Duan. However, he seems confident even after learning about this. I believe Master Duan is not the kind of person who speaks without thinking.” Based on Situ Hang’s words, it was obvious he had confidence in Duan Ling Tian.

Naturally, this was also because Duan Ling Tian had pulled him back from heaven’s gate. His life was rescued by Duan Ling Tian, it was only natural for him to side Duan Ling Tian.

“Since Master Duan Ling Tian is confident, then help him issue the duel invitation. After issuing the duel invitation, I’ll let Elder Hou accompany you and Master Duan to the Drift Blaze Sect to challenge Lady Feng. If it’s not because there’s some matter in the sect I need to personally deal with, I’d also like to see Lady Feng’s graceful bearing,” Situ Hao replied, his tone filled with regret.

Although the Drift Blaze Sect’s Lady Feng’s fame had spread far and wide in Windfall Nation, he had never seen her before.

“I’ve long heard that Lady Feng is an extremely beautiful woman with looks that can topple a nation. I’ll be able to feast my eyes to my heart’s content since I’ll be following Master Duan to the Drift Blaze Sect.” Situ Hang chuckled.

“Go now. After Master Duan’s matter is settled. You should also follow me to the palace to meet His Highness to discuss the marriage between you and Princess Qiu Ming,” Situ Hao urged. When he reached the end of his sentence, a smile appeared on his face.

Situ Hang blushed immediately when he heard his words and left immediately as though he was fleeing.

“This boy is blushing, huh.” Watching Situ Hang’s silhouette disappearing before his eyes, Situ Hao shook his head with a smile that was filled with love.

One must admit that Situ Hang was highly efficient.

It only took two days before the duel invitation he had asked a Situ Clan’s member to send out reached the Drift Blaze Sect, or to be more precise, reached the hands of the Drift Blaze Sect’s disciple who was guarding the monastery gate of Drift Blaze Sect’s estate.

“Situ Clan’s Interim Advisor, Master Duan, wants to challenge Lady Feng who’s ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking?” After the Drift Blaze Sect’s disciple saw the content of the duel invitation, he was

stunned. "There's no name. What Master Duan... How haughty can this person be? Does he really think he's in the same league as Lady Feng? Looks like he's just another masochist!"

As the disciple responsible for guarding the monastery gate of Drift Blaze Sect, he had already received not fewer than ten duel invitations in this one year even though he was not on shift every day.

All of the contents of the duel invitations were to challenge their Drift Blaze Sect's Lady Feng.

Although there were many challengers, the outcome was all the same. They were all defeated by Lady Feng in just one fell swoop.

As Lady Feng's name spread even more, nobody dared to send a duel invitation anymore in this one month. He did not expect there was another masochist who would issue a duel invitation after a month. Moreover, this masochist seemed quite pompous as well. He did not even reveal his full name and only referred to himself as Master Duan.

If Duan Ling Tian knew the thoughts of this Drift Blaze Sect's disciple, he would definitely feel wronged. He did not even know the content written in the duel invitation. If he had personally written the duel invitation, there was no doubt he would have written his full name.

However, since Situ Hang was the one who had written the duel invitation, due to his respect for Duan Ling Tian, it was only natural he did not use his full name.

In Situ Hang's opinion, Master Duan was an honorific title, representing his respect toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Situ Clan? The Situ Clan from the capital?" When another Drift Blaze Sect's disciple heard the news, he was taken by surprise as well.

"It seems like it." The former nodded.

"Tsk tsk... The challenger is the Situ Clan's Interim Advisor! If he's defeated, isn't Situ Clan worried their name would fall?" Another Drift Blaze Sect's disciple mocked.

"Even if the Interim Advisor of Situ Clan fails, I don't think it'll impact Situ Clan much. After all, our Drift Blaze Sect's Lady Feng is known as the strongest Saint Rudiment Stage powerhouse in Windfall Nation! If it wasn't for the fact that that fellow who's ranked 11th in the Heaven Ranking refuses to see us, our Lady Feng would have long defeated him and be ranked 11th in the Heaven Ranking."

"I've heard from an inner court elder that Lady Feng's current strength is enough to enter the top ten in the Heaven Ranking!"

...

Each of the Drift Blaze Sect's disciples words were filled with admiration toward Lady Feng.

#### **Chapter 1574: Duan Ru Feng, Rising Abruptly Like a Rocket**

The estate of Drift Blaze Sect was situated in a range of volcanoes.

Naturally, in the range of volcanoes, other than a few volcanoes in the middle that were still active, the other volcanoes had been dormant for a long time.

The inner court and outer court of the Drift Blaze Sect were also separately situated at the active and dormant volcanoes.

The Drift Blaze Sect's inner court was near the most active volcanoes, it was also the Drift Blaze Sect's forbidden area. This was because the people who cultivated here were all the Saint Stage powerhouses of Drift Blaze Sect. They were the guardians Drift Blaze Sect.

Usually, only those with positions higher than inner court elders could enter if they had matters to attend to. However, a few years ago, the forbidden law of Drift Blaze Sect was changed just to accommodate someone.

This was the first person who had not entered the Saint Stage but was allowed to cultivate in the Drift Blaze Sect's forbidden area. She was also the only direct disciple of the Clan Leader of Drift Blaze Sect. She was known as Lady Feng by everyone in the sect.

A few of them could still remember when Lady Feng had just arrived at the Drift Blaze Sect. Many people were inwardly jealous of her and bad-mouthed her. They said she was only lucky she had the Clan Leader as her Master. Moreover, they also said she was good at flattering the Clan Leader, that was why she was allowed to cultivate in the forbidden area of the sect, a place with the richest Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the sect.

In fact, before this, the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect had two other disciples, but none of them was qualified to cultivate in the sect's forbidden area. However, now that a few years had gone by, nobody dared to say Lady Feng did not possess the qualification of cultivating in the forbidden area anymore.

What a joke!

With Lady Feng's achievements at her age, she was certainly destined to break through to the Saint Stage. Moreover, her achievements in the future would not be inferior to the Sect Leader and the few Supreme Elders in the sect. This was because even the Sect Leader and Supreme Elders were not as outstanding as she was at her age. Due to this reason, there was no one in the Drift Blaze Sect that did not admire her.

In the Drift Blaze Sect's forbidden area, there was a vast courtyard in the middle of the mountain.

In the vast courtyard, the plants were lush, giving off a refreshing and tranquil feeling.

At this moment, a seductive and sexy woman stood in the courtyard. She was dressed in a fiery red robe, making her look like a fire elf.

Her long hair that reached down to her waist was like a waterfall, complementing her face that was almost perfect. She looked just like a fairy that had descended from heaven.

Arched eyebrows, bright eyes, tall nose, and a cherry-like little mouth. All of them were created perfectly by the creator. It was not an exaggeration to say this lady in a fiery red robe had looks that could topple a nation.

“I’m still a step away.” The woman just walked out of her room. She heaved a long sigh as she muttered to herself, “Big Brother Duan, Tian Wu will be able to meet you soon... Master has also said that as long as I break through to the Saint Stage, she’s willing to let me leave the Dao Martial Saint Land and return to Cloud Continent. Don’t worry. It won’t take me long to break through to the Saint Stage!” The woman stared at the horizon in a daze, lost in her thoughts.

After a while, someone arrived, and she snapped out of her reverie. The person who had just arrived was none other than Zi Yun, the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect.

Zi Yun was a dignified and graceful beauty. Looking at her almost perfect face, one could see that her beauty — when she was young — was not much different from that woman named Tian Wu.

“Tian Wu.” The moment Zi Yun arrived, she instantly appeared next to the red-clad woman, shocking her.

“Master.” The woman was very polite in front of Zi Yun. It was all thanks to the sincere nurturing of her master that she was able to achieve so much today.

“Get ready... The Interim Advisor of Situ Clan will come to our Drift Blaze Sect in two weeks. He wants to challenge you.” With a raise of her hand, Zi Yun passed the duel invitation to the woman.

“Situ Clan? That Situ Clan from the capital?” The woman took the duel invitation.

“Yes, it’s the Situ Clan from the capital... The people from Situ Clan are not simple. I’ve never even heard of this Master Duan, Situ Clan’s Interim Advisor, before. It’s better that you don’t underestimate him when you fight him,” Zi Yun reminded her.

“Alright.” The woman nodded as she opened the duel invitation. When she saw the word ‘Duan’, she could not help but feel a little dazed.

“Master Duan? He didn’t even state his full name. Seems like he’s quite pompous,” the woman commented.

“No matter who he is, and no matter how pompous he is, I have faith in you,” Zi Yun said.

Meanwhile, at the capital of Windfall Nation far away, inside the Situ Clan’s mansion, Situ Hang, the Great Young Master of Situ Clan, came to look for Duan Ling Tian again.

“Master Duan, I’ve already sent out a duel invitation on your behalf to the Drift Blaze Sect... The official date of your duel with Lady Feng is set to take place in two weeks,” Situ Hang said without beating around the bush after he saw Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded. His glinted as he asked, “The female disciple from Drift Blaze Sect has the surname Feng?”

“Yes.” Situ Hang nodded.

“She has the surname Feng, and she’s from the Mortal Continent... Could it be Tian Wu?” This thought inexplicably appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s mind.

Taking a deep breath, Duan Ling Tian looked at Situ Hang and asked, “Do you know the full name of Lady Feng?”

“Sorry, I don’t.” Situ Hang shook his head. “Even the majority of people in Windfall Nation don’t know her name, let alone me. Moreover, only a few people in the Drift Blaze Sect knows her name.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded again. He shook his head and dismissed the thought that his opponent might be Tian Wu.

‘It’s impossible that she’s Tian Wu! Although Tian Wu’s innate talent is remarkable, it’s still restricted to Cloud Continent. Even if she has a good foundation and is stronger than other ordinary Martial Cultivators here in the Dao Martial Saint Land, it’s still impossible for her to be so ridiculously strong!’ When Duan Ling Tian recalled the achievement of the Drift Blaze Sect’s Lady Feng in just a year, he completely dismissed his suspicion of Tian Wu being Lady Feng.

However, now that he was reminded of Tian Wu by Lady Feng from the Drift Blaze Sect, his heart was overwhelmed with disappointment. “Tian Wu, where are you exactly?”

Situ Hang left knowingly as though he could see Duan Ling Tian’s heavy mood even though he had no idea why. He knew it was best to leave Duan Ling Tian alone for now.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, the dragon clan.

Perhaps, to an ordinary Martial or Dao Cultivator, the mountain range the dragon clan inhabited was a mysterious place. Although they knew its location, it was difficult for them to break in.

However, to some people, entering the dragon clan’s hideaway was as easy as walking into an uninhabited area.

A middle-aged man brought along a skinny black-clad old man with him as they swaggered into the dragon clan’s hideaway. As they made their way in, they did not deliberately conceal their presence, and yet, they were not discovered by the dragons patrolling around.

Naturally, this was because their speed was too fast, and the dragons with a lower cultivation base were just unaware of what was happening.

The two travel-weary people who had journeyed a long distance were none other than Duan Ru Feng, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, and Ku Mi, one of his competent subordinates.

Originally, with Duan Ru Feng and his subordinate’s speed, they should have long arrived at the dragon clan’s hideaway after leaving the Moon Illumination Sect. However, they had met with some issue halfway through their journey.

“I can’t believe some people from the Fire Worship Sect have long left the Upper Province and came to the Lower Province... If I’m not mistaken, the person whom they’re publicly and secretly seeking is my daughter-in-law, Ke’er.” Although they had entered the dragon clan’s hideaway, Duan Ru Feng’s heart was focused on another matter.

His mind was completely focused on the few people from the Fire Worship Sect he had met halfway through their journey. Those people were so powerful that they were barely weaker than Ku Mi... If the few of them had joined forces, Ku Mi might not even be able to defeat them.

He had killed all of them except one whom he had cast the Soul Searching Tactic on. He learned that those few people were not of any import in the sect. They were merely some inconspicuous people from the sect.

Since those people did not hold any important position in the Fire Worship Sect, Duan Ru Feng, naturally, did not manage to obtain any useful information. He only found out they came to the Lower Province to find someone. The person they were looking for was someone the Fire Worship Sect regarded as the Saint Girl.

After piecing together all the clues Duan Ling Tian had left behind on Cloud Continent, he could kind of guess the person that the Fire Worship Sect was looking for must be Ke'er who had been kidnapped by someone claiming to be from the Fire Worship Sect.

Although he had never seen Ke'er before, she was not unfamiliar to him since his wife had always mentioned her name. Ke'er was his wife most beloved daughter-in-law since she had watched her grow up. Although he had never seen Ke'er before, she was not unfamiliar to him.

Whoosh!

The sound of wind whistling accompanied the appearance of an old man dressed in a long blood-red robe as he blocked Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi's path.

Duan Ru Feng had already noticed the presence of this old man and had instantly put a stop to his wandering mind.

"I was wondering who dared to trespass into the dragon clan's hideaway... As it turns out it's you, Old Man Ku." The old man who was dressed in a long blood-red robe shifted his attention to Ku Mi immediately. It was obvious he knew Ku Mi.

In the next moment, he shifted his attention to Duan Ru Feng who was standing in front of Ku Mi. Although he was not familiar with Duan Ru Feng, it was not difficult for him to guess his identity after he saw how Ku Mi stood behind him.

"Good day, Mansion Master." After he guessed Duan Ru Feng's identity, the old man gasped inwardly before he carefully bowed at him.

Duan Ru Feng, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, did not even take 40 years to rise to his current position.

40 years was just like a nap for the dragons.

However, in such a short period of time, such a remarkable person had appeared in the Dao Martial Saint Land. This person was none other than Duan Ru Feng!

It did not take Duan Ru Feng more than 40 years to control the powerful Azure Cloud Mansion that was not inferior to the dragon clan in the dark to ruling it out in the open.



Although Duan Ru Feng's age was nothing compared to him, he did not dare to slack in front of him. He knew he was not as powerful as him. In fact, his strength was comparable to their Clan Leader.

In terms of identity and position, Duan Ru Feng was someone who was on equal footing with the Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

### **Chapter 1575: Azure Cloud Mansion? Ku Mi?**

"Lord Mansion Master, he's the Five-clawed Blood Dragon of the dragon clan, Xue Chan." Ku Mi transmitted his voice to Duan Ru Feng as the blood-red robed old man bowed at him respectfully. "He's also the current Enforcement Elder of the dragon clan."

Duan Ru Feng glanced at Xue Chan indifferently as he said calmly, "I'm here to look for Di Jue,"

Di Jue?

Xue Chan would not be surprised if Duan Ru Feng had said that he was here to look for the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. He was shocked to find out it was Di Jue he was looking for.

Although Di Jue was a Five-clawed Golden Dragon like the Clan Leader, he was still not fully grown. Let alone the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, he was far from being a match for Xue Chan even though he was strong.

"Mansion Master Duan, may I know the reason you're looking for Di Jue?" Xue Chan asked hesitantly. He could tell the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion did not come with friendly intention.

"Xue Chan, must the Lord Mansion Master report to you when he comes looking for someone in the dragon clan?" Ku Mi smirked as he stared at Xue Chan coldly.

Although Xue Chan was a Five-clawed Golden Dragon, Ku Mi did not fear him at all. To a certain extent, he and Xue Chan were old rivals. Although it was difficult to for Ku Mi to defeat Xue Chan, the same goes for Xue Chan as well.

"That's not what I mean." If Ku Mi was alone, Xue Chan would not have been afraid. However, since Duan Ru Feng was here, it would not do for him to lose his temper.

Ku Mi alone as enough to restrain him. Let alone Duan Ru Feng who could easily defeat him.

In the next moment, Duan Ru Feng completely ignored Xue Chan and immediately walked deeper into the dragon clan's estate.

At the same time, a powerful Divine Consciousness swept out from Duan Ru Feng and enveloped more than half of the dragon clan's estate. It was as though he was turning the dragon clan inside out.

Xue Chan also felt heavy pressure from the Divine Consciousness. Although it was not aimed at him, he felt breathless since he was close to it.

'I heard that Mansion Master Duan's strength is not inferior to all the sect leaders of the sects that are on par with the Azure Cloud Mansion even though he only rose up to his position not long ago... It

seems like the rumor is not baseless. He's stronger than I thought.' Xue Chan's heart jolted, he was on guard against Duan Ru Feng.

However, when he remembered how Duan Ru Feng had acted so wantonly in the dragon clan's estate, anger rose up in his heart immediately. "Mansion Master Duan, you..."

As soon Xue Chan opened his mouth to stop Duan Ru Feng, he was interrupted by a black figure who had appeared out of nowhere to block his path. "Xue Chan, I'd like to see if you've improved in these few years." The black figure was none other than Ku Mi.

Ku Mi's skinny body was dressed entirely in black. His hand that was holding on to his cane was trembling with high frequency, and his eyes were shining brightly. It was as though he was prepared to make his move against Xue Chan at any moment now.

If it was Ku Mi alone, Xue Chan would have long made his move. He did not fear Ku Mi even though he was blocking his path. However, it was impossible for him to block Duan Ru Feng. Due to this reason, he did not make a move at all.

"Go look for Clan Leader." This was the only solution Xue Chan could come up with at the moment. In the dragon clan, the only person who could possibly stop Duan Ru Feng was the Clan Leader.

As soon as Xue Chan thought of this, he transformed into a streak of blood-red light and sailed across the sky, disappearing before Ku Mi's eyes.

Ku Mi did not pursue him. Instead, he followed behind Duan Ru Feng as they headed deeper into the dragon clan's estate.

"Ku Mi, you've met Di Jue before. Search for him!" Although Duan Ru Feng appeared calm, a murderous intent gleamed in the depth of his eyes.

The Five-clawed Golden Dragon called Di Jue had almost killed his son. Naturally, he felt enraged about it.

In this world, there were two people who were completely irreplaceable to him. They were his wife, Li Rou, and his son, Duan Ling Tian.

The reason he left Duan Ling Tian behind on Cloud Continent was so he could strengthen his foundation there, and when he came to the Dao Martial Saint Land, his strength would rise greatly. If it was not for this, he would have long brought Duan Ling Tian to the Azure Cloud Mansion.

"Yes." Ku Mi quickly nodded as his eyes shone coldly.

After he found out the Young Mansion Master had almost been killed by Di Jue, his heart had been filled with remorse.

After all, he knew about Di Jue passing by the district of the southern district of the Dao Martial Saint Land. Moreover, he had even spoken to Di Jue. However, he did not expect that Di Jue's target was Young Mansion Master. Due to this reason, he did not stop Di Jue. If he had known Di Jue's target was

Young Mansion Master, he would not have allowed him to continue his way south. Due to remorse he felt, Ku Mi used his Divine Consciousness without restraint to search for Di Jue with all his might.

Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi searched with all their might at the places they passed through with their Divine Consciousness. Naturally, this alerted many of the clansmen from the dragon clan. Initially, they were all furious, wanting to teach Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi a lesson. However, their tempers subsided after Ku Mi easily defeated them even after they reverted to their Four-clawed Divine Dragon forms.

“Who’re they?”

“They’re treating our dragon clan’s estate like they’re strolling around their own courtyard.”

“Don’t concede defeat. Go defeat them if you’re capable of it.”

“It’s obvious the black-clad man is the subordinate of that middle-aged man, and yet he’s able to defeat the Four-clawed Divine Dragons in our clan...”

“Unless the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders make their move, I’m afraid none of us is able to defeat him.”

...

Seeing how Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi were getting more and more unrestrained, the clansmen from the dragon clan could only watch at the side as a sense of helplessness rose in their hearts. At the same time, they were praying for the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders in their clan to make an appearance as soon as possible.

“Who are you?! How dare you trespass into our dragon clan!” Perhaps, the voices of the clansmen from the dragon clan was heard by God because soon after, a sturdy figure appeared before Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi accompanied by a thunderous voice. It was a sturdy old man dressed in green.

As the sturdy old man hovered in the air, his eyes shone majestically, there was no hint of anger at all.

“It’s Elder Qing Yan!”

“Elder Qing Yan is a Five-clawed Divine Dragon in our dragon clan! If he attacks, he’ll be able to defeat the black-clad old man!”

“Elder Qing Yan!”

...

After the sturdy green-clad old man made his appearance, the eyes of the group of clansmen from the dragon clan who had feared Ku Mi’s strength earlier lit up immediately.

Duan Ru Feng instantly frowned when the green-clad old man, Qing Yan, blocked his way. He had a furious expression on his face.

“Scram!” Ku Mi was even more direct since he instantly snarled loudly as he raised his hand. The air seemed to have frozen as dried branches appeared out of thin air in within a hundred-meter radius.

Similar to vines, the dried branched bound Qing Yan entirely in just a blink of an eye before tossing him aside as though he was just a toy.

After Qing Yan had been bound by the vine-like dried branches, he struggled as he tried to free himself. However, he could not break free of the restraint since he did not revert to his true form.

“Dried Woods Territory! D-Don’t tell me you’re Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion?” When Qing Yan was about to revert to his true form, the Territory that restrained him reminded him of something.

However, Ku Mi merely ignored him. After tossing him aside, he no longer bothered with him. He stood at the side, allowing Duan Ru Feng to continue on his journey.

As a Five-clawed Divine Dragon, it was only natural that Qing Yan was prideful. He flew into a rage when he saw Ku Mi ignoring him.

ROAR!

Along with an earth-shattering dragon’s roar, Qing Yan reverted to his true form. A writhing green divine dragon that was several hundreds of meters long emerged. Based on the five sharp claws on each of his paw, it was obvious he was a Five-clawed Green Dragon.

As the Five-clawed Green Dragon hovered in the sky, its body that was several hundreds of meters long almost covered the entire sky. It seemed as though dark clouds had gathered above the city. It was threateningly overwhelming.

“Elder Qing Yan is getting serious!” Many clansmen of the dragon clan’s eyes lit up immediately as they watched with utmost concentration.

“Who’s this black-clad old man? He’s actually able to force Elder Qing Yan to revert to his true form in such a short time! It really isn’t easy!” Some of the clansmen of the dragon clan were more perceptive.

“Did Elder Qing Yan say this black-clad old man is Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion?” One of the clansmen from the dragon clan asked skeptically.

“Azure Cloud Mansion? Ku Mi?” Many clansmen from the dragon clan shook their heads. Most of them rarely venture out of the estate so it was their first time hearing this name.

“I hope he’s not that Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion. Otherwise, I’m afraid the outcome of Elder Qing Yan is going to be grim.” Some of the Four-clawed Divine Dragons who had heard of Ku Mi had hints of dread on their faces.

“Elder, is Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion really that powerful?” Many younger dragons asked instantly, confused.

“Ku Mi of Azure Cloud Mansion is someone who’s as famous as our dragon clan’s Enforcement Elder, Elder Xue! Over several hundreds of years, Elder Xue and he fought more than ten times. However, the results are always the same. It’s a draw!” One of the Four-clawed Divine Dragons elders said with a glum expression.

“What?!” His words had shocked the young dragons in the surroundings.

As members of the dragon clan, they knew how powerful Elder Xue was. His strength was ranked in the top three in the clan. Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion actually fought to a draw with Elder Xue repeatedly.

'Let's hope that he's not Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion.' Many of the clansmen from the dragon clan immediately prayed inwardly.

Unfortunately, their prayers were destined to go unanswered.

Meanwhile, the elder of the dragon clan who had reverted to his true form, a Five-Clawed Green Dragon, had already exchanged ten moves with Ku Mi.

Bang!

A loud noise reverberated in the air. The skinny black-clad old man hovered in the air, still in the same spot. On the other hand, Elder Qing Yan in his huge true form had been slammed down by the blast, causing the mountain range in the surroundings to shake as though there was a violent earthquake.

### **Chapter 1576: Misunderstanding?**

"You can cast the Dried Woods Territory, and you're so powerful... You must be Ku Mi!" At this moment, the Five-clawed Green Dragon that had fallen and suffered heavy injuries rose up into the air again. When he looked at that skinny figure who was dressed completely in black, a hint of dread appeared in his eyes.

"Qing Yan, let's join forces! I don't believe we won't be able to defeat just one Ku Mi!" Before Ku Mi could reply Qing Yan the Five-clawed Green Dragon, an ancient voice reverberated in the air.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, a grey-clad woman appeared and stared coldly at Ku Mi.

Before the others had a chance to take a good look at her appearance, her human form had disappeared and was replaced by a writhing Five-clawed Divine Dragon that was also several hundreds of meters long. However, unlike the Five-clawed Green Dragon, she was purple in color. She was a Five-clawed Purple Dragon. Moreover, looking at the length of her body, she was obviously longer than the Five-clawed Green Dragon.

In the dragon clan, the longer their true forms were, the more powerful they were.

"It's Elder Zi Jing!"

"In our dragon clan, Elder Zi Jing's strength is only inferior to Elder Xue who's a Five-clawed Blood Dragon. Now that she and Elder Qing Yan are joining forces, they'll be able to defeat Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion!"

"The Azure Cloud Mansion's Ku Mi is very powerful and does indeed live up to his fame. However, he won't be able to defeat Elder Zi Jing and Elder Qing Yan if they join forces!"

...

After the Five-clawed Purple Dragon appeared, the group of clansmen from the dragon clan who were watching by the side were hopeful now. They were watching the scene unfolding before them with rapt attention.

Two Five-clawed Divine Dragons fighting Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion. This was not something they could witness anytime.

Ku Mi's expression had also turned glum after the Five-clawed Purple Dragon made her appearance.

"Hurmph!" At this moment, when the group of clansmen from the dragon clan were anticipating the fight between Ku Mi and the two Five-clawed Divine Dragons, Duan Ru Feng who had been temporarily forgotten snorted coldly.

This cold snort alone seemed to contain a powerful force, sending chills up the spines of all the clansmen present.

In the next instant, they witnessed a scene they would never be able to forget in their entire lives.

As the middle-aged man who came with Ku Mi casually raised his hand, the sky trembled and space seemed like it was about to rip open.

At the same time, along with two loud noises that reverberated in the air, the group of clansmen from the dragon clan were shocked to see the two Five-clawed Divine Dragons who looked majestic initially had been slammed down in just an instant as though they were crushed by a mountain.

When the two Five-clawed Divine Dragons were slammed down into the mountain range, it, naturally, caused a huge commotion as though an earthquake had taken place.

The Five-clawed Green Dragon, in particular, who had been injured twice in such a short time, suffered even greater injuries. He could not help but throw up blood over and over again.

The Five-clawed Purple Dragon's condition was not any better as well.

Seeing how Ku Mi respectfully followed behind the middle-aged man who had just attacked them, a hint of panic flashed in the Five-clawed Purple Dragon's eyes as she asked in a trembling voice, "Y-You're the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?"

In her opinion, Ku Mi would only respectfully follow the current Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion even though she had no idea why the Azure Cloud Mansion's Mansion Master would appear in their dragon clan bearing ill intention.

"If you dare to move about again in front of me, you'll die!" Duan Ru Feng's expression remained calm. However, when he looked at the Five-clawed Purple Dragon, a sharp and cold look in his eyes appeared, causing the Five-clawed Purple Dragon's heart to tremble. She did not doubt his words at all. Thus, she remained there obediently without moving.

"The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?" When the Five-clawed Green Dragon who was already severely injured heard the Five-clawed Purple Dragon's words, he was so afraid that his sight went dark for a moment. He had almost fainted.

The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion was as powerful as the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. However, he had the audacity to display his incompetence before this master? He felt so remorseful that he wanted to dig a hole to bury himself in it.

“The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion!” At the same time, horror also dawned on the group of clansmen from the dragon clan.

Even the group of young dragons who rarely went out and did not know who Ku Mi or the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion had heard of the Azure Cloud Mansion. It was an extremely powerful force that was on par with their dragon clan.

The Azure Cloud Mansion was a colossal force, naturally, the Mansion Master was not inferior to the Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

The moment they thought of the person they encountered whose strength was not inferior to their Clan Leader, the knees of the group of clansmen from the dragon clan instantly went weak. Some of the Four-clawed Divine Dragons who were crying out had also obediently kept quiet.

What a joke!

The person before them was the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion after all!

Even if they were killed, their dragon clan might not have the power to avenge them at all.

With just one move from Duan Ru Feng, the two Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders of the dragon clan immediately turned obedient, let alone the other clansmen.

Just like this, Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi continued to charge forward into dragon clan’s hideaway.

“We made such a huge commotion, why did Clan Leader not show up?”

“Not only the Clan Leader... Even Elder Xue and the few other Five-clawed Divine Dragons are also not here as well.”

The group of clansmen from the dragon clan began to feel restless and uneasy.

The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion had come with ill intention. However, the Clan Leader of the dragon clan and the few other Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders still did not make an appearance after so long.

The Five-clawed Green Dragon, Qing Yan, who had changed into his human form watched Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi’s disappearing silhouette. He reassured the others as well. “There’s no need to panic, I’m sure the Clan Leader and the few elders are not here yet is because they’re busy with something... They’ll definitely come.”

Zi Jing the Five-clawed Purple Dragon had also changed into her human form — an old woman — and said in her hoarse voice, “Although the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is powerful, with Clan Leader’s strength, I’m sure he doesn’t fear him as well!”

After the two of the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders reassured the group of clansmen from the dragon clan, they began to calm down.

...

"I found him!"

Meanwhile, Ku Mi who was heading deeper into the hideaway and probing for Di Jue's whereabouts with his Divine Consciousness finally found him.

When he found him, Di Jue was in the midst of closed-door cultivation.

It was because he was in closed-door cultivation that he did not make an appearance even though there was such a huge commotion outside.

The poor Di Jue was at a critical juncture while he was in closed-door cultivation was suddenly interrupted by Ku Mi who barged in without warning and brought him out immediately.

Although he was a Five-clawed Golden Dragon, a prominent figure among the Five-clawed Divine Dragons and part of the dragon clan's Imperial Family, he was not fully grown yet. His strength was only on par with Qing Yan, the Five-clawed Green Dragon, who was ranked at the bottom of the group of the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders in the dragon clan. Naturally, he was no match for Ku Mi at all. He did not even possess much strength to resist Ku Mi.

Di Jue who was abruptly woken up and whose cultivation was interrupted was, naturally, furious. However, when he saw the culprit was Ku Mi, he tried his best to suppress his rage. He asked in his deep voice, "Senior Ku Mi, what are you doing?"

"Shouldn't you know about the good deeds you've done?" Ku Mi snorted and raised his hand to slap Di Jue repeatedly until his mind turned blank.

"Ku Mi!" As a member of the dragon clan's Imperial Family, Di Jue, naturally, was more prideful compared to the other Five-clawed Divine Dragons. It seemed as though he had completely forgotten Ku Mi was stronger than him as he became furious to the extent that he reverted into his true form, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon. However, how could he possibly be a match for Ku Mi with his current strength?

With a turn of his palm, Ku Mi defeated him immediately. After forcing him to transform back into his human form, Ku Mi carried him like a dead dog to Duan Ru Feng.

During the entire time, Di Jue was powerless to fight back. His eyes were round as he glared angrily at him. This was the first time in his life that he had been so greatly humiliated. He inwardly swore if he did not kill Ku Mi, he would not be a dragon anymore.

"You're Di Jue?" Duan Ru Feng asked nonchalantly as he watched Ku Mi carried Di Jue like a dead dog.

Di Jue decided to endure it after he had been defeated by Ku Mi. However, when someone else questioned him, he asked coldly, "Who are you?" It was as though he wanted to vent the anger he had suppressed on Duan Ru Feng.

Slap!



When Di Jue's words left his mouth, it was as though a fuse had been lit. Ku Mi who respected Duan Ru Feng like he respected God raised his hand to slap Di Jue again. "Di Jue, how brave of you! How dare you act so rudely in front of the Lord Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion! You really don't want to live anymore, huh?!"

"The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?" Di Jue who was once again humiliated by Ku Mi was about to retaliate when Ku Mi's words finally dawned on him. He was extremely shocked.

The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion was as powerful as the Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

Even if Di Jue had grown into his power in the future, he might not even be a match for the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, let alone the current him.

What was most important was he had also heard of the Azure Cloud Mansion Master's deeds. He knew the current Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion was truly powerful. He was much more powerful than the previous Mansion Masters of Azure Cloud Mansion.

Rumor had it that the current Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion had not even reached the age of 100 years old yet! He was not even 100 years old, but he possessed strength on par with the Clan Leader of the dragon clan! Di Jue knew very well what this meant.

"L-Lord Mansion Master, y-you're looking for me?" Di Jue had also temporarily calmed down after he took a deep breath and cleared his mind.

When Di Jue noticed the coldness in the eyes of the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, his heart turned cold. He could also faintly guess the reason for Ku Mi's rough treatment was due to the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion.

However, Di Jue found it strange since he had never offended the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion. Why was the Mansion Master looking at him as though he was an enemy of his?

"Lord Mansion Master, is there any misunderstanding between us?" Di Jue began to panic even more when he saw Duan Ru Feng keeping quiet.

He was not afraid of Ku Mi. At that time when he had grown strong, he believed he could defeat and kill Ku Mi. As the saying went, 'One should bide one's time and wait for the right opportunity to seek revenge.' However, he had no confidence when faced with the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion.

"Misunderstanding?" Duan Ru Feng chuckled coldly. "You almost killed my son... Do you think it's still a misunderstanding?"

Boom!

When Duan Ru Feng's words entered Di Jue's ears, he was so stunned as though lightning had struck him.

**Chapter 1577: The Dragon Clan's Clan Leader, Di Shan!**

Duan Ru Feng's words were like a bolt of lightning to Di Jue.

Di Jue immediately regained his senses and smiled wryly at Duan Ru Feng. "Lord Mansion Master, is there any misunderstanding? I've never even met your son. How could I possibly attack him to the point of killing him?"

At this moment, Di Jue felt wronged as though he was a young girl that had been taking advantage of.

The middle-aged man before him was the Mansion Master of the Azure Cloud Mansion, a powerful force that was in no way inferior to their dragon clan. His strength was not inferior to the Clan Leader as well.

Even if he was 100 times braver, he still would not dare to offend such a person.

"Looks like you refuse to give up until all hope is gone, huh?" Duan Ru Feng snorted coldly. He could not be bothered to explain more. However, the light in his eyes turned sharper as time went by.

"Di Jue, open up your ears and listen carefully... Duan Ling Tian is the Young Mansion Master of our Azure Cloud Mansion!" Ku Mi said in a deep voice as killing intent gleamed in his eyes.

Duan Ling Tian!

Ku Mi's words entered Di Jue's ears. It was as though a big stone had been thrown into a pool of still water, setting off splashes and ripples. Di Jue was once again shocked.

Naturally, he was not unfamiliar with the name Duan Ling Tian. The moment he recalled how Duan Ling Tian had forced him into a disadvantageous position, his flame of anger did not subside at all. He was eager to catch Duan Ling Tian and crush him until he turned into ashes. Moreover, he also suspected that his son had died in Duan Ling Tian's hands. Due to this reason, he regarded Duan Ling Tian as his mortal enemy.

From the beginning until the end, he did not take Duan Ling Tian seriously. In his eyes, Duan Ling Tian was just a slick and malicious little fellow. If he had not been careless, he would not have fallen for his trick.

In his opinion, that incident was completely humiliating. That humiliation could only be washed away by Duan Ling Tian's blood.

"Elder Ku, are you mistaken? Your Azure Cloud Mansion is a powerful force that's on par with our dragon clan in the Dao Martial Saint Land. That Duan Ling Tian is merely a lad from the Mortal Continent. It's impossible for him to have any connections with the Azure Cloud Mansion." Di Jue tried his luck as he took a deep breath.

"Di Jue, it seems like you're still unaware. Not only is our Young Mansion Master from the Mortal Continent, but even our Mansion Master is from the Mortal Continent!" Ku Mi smirked as soon as he heard Di Jue's words.

Ku Mi's words had also completely crushed the tiny bit of hope left in Di Jue's heart. Horror dawned on Di Jue, an expression of terror appeared on his face.

Duan Ling Tian whom he hated to the core was the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion?!

How was this possible?!

Even until now, Di Jue still found it hard to believe even though the facts had been laid out in front of his eyes.

“You almost killed my son. I’m not qualified to be a father if I don’t do anything about this.” Duan Ru Feng glanced indifferently at Di Jue. His voice was calm, but it was laced with a terrifying coldness. “However, I won’t bully you... I’ll lower my cultivation base to your level, and if you can endure ten blows from me, I won’t kill you.” Duan Ru Feng’s words brimmed with confidence.

Lowering his level to his level? Ten blows?

Di Jue’s eyes lit up immediately when he heard Duan Ru Feng’s words since he thought there was no way for him to avoid this disaster. In his opinion, he was 100% confident he would be able to defeat a human Martial Cultivator at the same level.

Unfortunately, dreams were always more beautiful than reality.

Duan Ru Feng was not someone who could be compared to ordinary human Martial Cultivators.

Di Jue had reverted into his true form, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon, and he endured eight blows from Duan Ru Feng. However, when Duan Ru Feng’s ninth blow landed, it severely injured Di Jue. The initially majestic Five-clawed Gold Dragon looked completely wretched like a loach.

“Impossible!” Di Jue who was severely injured by Duan Ru Feng found it hard to accept this.

He was certain Duan Ru Feng had lowered his cultivation base to his level. However, in front of Duan Ru Feng, it felt as though both his hands were bound. He could not attack at all.

In his eyes, Duan Ru Feng was like a tall, huge, and insurmountable mountain.

Each and every move of Duan Ru Feng seemed as though it could conquer heaven, pressuring him. Moreover, not only did he feel the pressure externally, but he felt it internally as well. It exhausted him, causing him to be on the verge of passing out.

At this moment, he finally realized how terrifying the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion was.

“To think he has lowered his cultivation base to my level... If he didn’t do that, just how terrifying is his strength? Even the Clan Leader is not this strong, right?” At that moment, Di Jue was completely shocked by how powerful Duan Ru Feng was that he had completely forgotten about Duan Ru Feng’s earlier words.

However, just as Duan Ru Feng stopped attacking, his eyes gleaming murderously, Di Jue was hit with a pang of realization and instantly regained his senses. Horror dawned on his face right away.

“Mansion Master Duan, I admit that I did indeed almost kill Duan Ling Tian! However, I wanted to kill him because he played a trick on me. Moreover, it’s very likely he had killed my son!” On the verge of death, Di Jue felt like he had nothing to lose anymore. He shouted, “Don’t tell me your son is a son,

Mansion Master Duan, but my, Di Jue's son is not a son? He killed my son so are you trying to tell me that I shouldn't seek revenge? How is this fair?"

"Fair?" When Duan Ru Feng heard Di Jue's words, he smirked immediately. "Di Jue, I'm afraid I'm not even a quarter of your age. In the Dao Martial Saint Land, it has always been the strong ones who rule, remember? In the face of someone powerful, there's no such thing as fairness! I'm sure you know about this, right?! If you want to talk about fairness, alright then. Tell me, have you heard the members of my son's sect talk about fairness when you killed all of them? If you really want fairness, let me tell you then. I, Duan Ru Feng, am fair!" In a rare moment, Duan Ru Feng spilled all these words out. Perhaps, he would be happy only if Di Jue died, or perhaps, there was another reason.

The moment the words left his mouth, the aura on his body changed completely. The air in the surroundings trembled as though the apocalypse was coming. The moment his words left his mouth, the aura on his body had completely changed.

The terrifying aura on Duan Ru Feng intensified in just a blink of an eye, transforming into a black flame that surged up into the sky as though it was going to set the sky on fire.

Whoosh!

As the black flame skyrocketed, half of the sky was enveloped by the black flame. Whether it was Duan Ru Feng, Ku Mi who was standing behind him or Di Jue who was standing in front of him, all of them were shrouded in that black flame as well.

An aura of destruction wafted out in the wake of the black flame as it soared up. Even the group of clansmen in the distance could sense the destructive aura.

Horror immediately dawned on the clansmen of the dragon clan with a lower cultivation base. Blood spurted out of their seven orifices, it was obvious they all suffered from quite a heavy injury. This happened to them even though they were all standing quite a distance away.

There was no doubt Di Jue who was standing in the middle of the black flame suffered the most.

In Ku Mi's opinion, there was no doubt Di Jue would die now that the Mansion Master had made his move.

However, at this moment, Duan Ru Feng did not seem to derive joy from killing Di Jue at all. He furrowed his brows as he snarled coldly, "Di Shan, you finally came!"

Di Shan!

When Ku Mi heard his Mansion Master's words, his heart jolted.

Naturally, he was not unfamiliar with the name Di Shan. It was the name of the current Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

If there was anybody in the dragon clan that he dreaded the most, it was undoubtedly Di Shan.

As the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, Di Shan was someone who was comparable to his Mansion Master. He was not someone Ku Mi could compare to.

As the black flame in the air dissipated just like the dark night turning into day, Di Jue who should have died was covered in a layer of golden light. It even had solidified streaks of light moving non-stop like tiny dragons.

Inside this huge golden layer of light, apart from Di Jue, a sturdy old man was also standing in it.

Dressed in a long golden robe, the old man seemed to have blended into the background as he stood there, emitting a heavy pressure.

Naturally, Duan Ru Feng was unaffected by the pressure. However, Ku Mi was not unaffected. His face was glum, it was obvious he was trying his best to resist the pressure.

This old man was none other than the current Clan Leader of the dragon clan, Di Shan!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

At this moment, five figures appeared behind Di Shan in unison, including Qing Yan the Five-clawed Green Dragon and Zi Jing the Five-clawed Purple Dragon who was easily defeated by Duan Ru Feng. They all shielded Di Jue like the stars surrounding the moon.

Among the five figures, apart from Qing Yan, Zi Jing, and Xue Chan, there were another two old men.

From the aura the two old men emanated, it was apparent that although their strength was not on par with Xue Chan, they were not inferior to Zi Jing.

They were the two of the three Five-clawed Divine Dragons in the dragon clan. In the dragon clan, there had always been five Five-clawed Divine Dragons.

This year, the emergence of Di Yong, the Five-clawed Devil Dragon, had occupied one slot so the dragon clan only had four Five-clawed Divine Dragons.

At this moment, apart from one Five-clawed Divine Dragon who was not in the clan, all them were gathered and glaring viciously at Duan Ru Feng.

However, even when faced with the Five-clawed Divine Dragons, Duan Ru Feng's expression did not falter. It was as though he was facing ordinary humans instead of Five-clawed Divine Dragons.

One of the two Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders who did not make an appearance earlier stepped out and stared at Duan Ru Feng coldly as he asked in a deep voice, "Mansion Master Duan, I don't mind if you trespass into my dragon clan, but you actually want to kill the next Clan Leader of my dragon clan? Do you really think there's no one powerful in the dragon clan?"

When Duan Ru Feng ignored this Five-clawed Divine Dragon, Ku Mi stepped out and glared at the other party before asking coldly, "Who are you to take that tone with my Mansion Master?"

**Chapter 1578: The Truth Has Finally Been Brought Into Light**

The old man was so angry that his face turned completely red. His eyes shone coldly as he said in his deep voice, "Ku Mi, this is the dragon clan, not your Azure Cloud Mansion!"

Just as Ku Mi was about to speak again, Di Shan opened his mouth and said to the old man, "Retreat."

Although the old man was a Five-clawed Divine Dragon elder, he still did not dare to overstep the boundary in front of the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. He retreated obediently. However, he still looked at Ku Mi coldly.

"What? Do you want to fight?" Ku Mi mocked when he noticed the cold gleam in the old man's eyes. "It's not that I look down on you, but there are only three people I dread in your dragon clan, and you're not one of them."

When the old man heard this, his face turned red again, but he had no comeback at all. This was something he could not refute.

Although he was glaring angrily at Ku Mi, he knew very well in his heart he was no match for Ku Mi.

In their dragon clan, only two people could defeat Ku Mi, and one was on par with him. The remaining others were no match for him at all.

Ku Mi retreated to stand behind Duan Ru Feng when he saw the old man no longer dared to say anything.

Looking at Duan Ru Feng, Di Shan asked calmly, "Mansion Master Duan, I wonder how Di Jue had offended you?" It was as though he was not affected by the fact that Di Jue had almost been killed.

"Di Shan, if somebody almost killed your son, what would you do?" Duan Ru Feng mocked as he looked at Di Shan indifferently.

"Huh?" When Di Shan heard his words, he could not help but frown. He had just arrived so he was not privy to the matter that had transpired. He instantly turned to look at Di Jue.

"His son is Duan Ling Tian." Di Jue who had escaped death appeared much more at ease now. When he saw Clan Leader Di Shan had shifted his focus to him, he instantly transmitted his voice to explain. His voice was filled with a hint of bitterness and helplessness.

Although he did not let go of his hatred toward Duan Ling Tian, his father was the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion. Thus, at this moment, he could only yield since he was no match for the Mansion Master. If he had blindly fought him, it would just be like a mantis trying to block a chariot.

"Duan Ling Tian?" When Di Shan heard Di Jue's words, he furrowed his brows immediately.

Naturally, this name was not unfamiliar to him. This was the person whom Di Jue had asked him to find. He was Di Jue's enemy, and he had claimed that this person had killed his son.

He did not expect the lad from the Mortal Continent would turn out to be the son of Duan Ru Feng, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion.

Although Duan Ru Feng's age was barely a fraction of his age, he knew how terrifying this Mansion Master Duan was. Rumor had it that the previous Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion who was just slightly weaker than him was killed by Duan Ru Feng. It was due to this reason that Duan Ru Feng rose up to become the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion.

Although he had not fought Duan Ru Feng before, he knew he might not win if they fought.

"Di Shan, regarding today's matter, I'll leave if he dies," Duan Ru Feng said nonchalantly. His voice brooked no argument.

After hearing Duan Ru Feng's words, the group of Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders, including Xue Chan, turned grave immediately. In the end, it was still Xue Chan who stepped out and asked in a deep voice, "Mansion Master Duan, I wonder how did Di Jue offend you to the point that you want to kill him?"

"Xue Chan, I'm warning you. It's better for you to stay out of this matter," Ku Mi said coldly when he saw Duan Ru Feng had no intention of replying Ku Mi, "Even if Lord Mansion Master kills this Di Jue from your dragon clan, he only has himself to blame! Do you know he almost killed our Young Mansion Master? Young Mansion Master is our Lord Mansion Master's only son!"

"What?!" The moment Ku Mi's words left his mouth, apart from Di Jue and Di Shan who already knew about this matter, the other five Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders, including Xue Chan, was horrified.

All their attention shifted to Di Jue at once.

"Di Jue, is this true?" Xue Chan asked in a deep voice.

Seeing Di Jue did not deny it, the few Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders turned grave immediately, scolding Di Jue inwardly for acting so recklessly and bringing such a terrifying enemy to the dragon clan.

Although they felt that Di Jue was at fault, this was still the dragon clan after all. They were the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders of the dragon clan, naturally, their top priority was the welfare of their clan. They would not reveal their internal conflict to outsiders.

"Ku Mi, is there some sort of misunderstanding?" Xue Chan asked in a deep voice as he looked at Ku Mi.

"Misunderstanding?" Ku Mi snorted. "If we really want to talk about misunderstandings, then it should be your dragon clan's Di Jue who misunderstood our Young Mansion Master, right? Let alone the fact that Young Mansion Master might not have even killed his son, even if he did, it seems like he had only helped your dragon clan to get rid of its scourge, right? Don't tell me your dragon clan intends to let that Five-clawed Devil Dragon grow?"

Five-clawed Devil Dragon!

The moment Ku Mi's words left his mouth, Di Jue's expression changed immediately. He did not expect Ku Mi to reveal this.

Five-clawed Devil Dragons were taboo in the dragon clan. His son, Di Yong, should have been killed. He had used deception and saved Di Yong's life.

Although he had saved Di Yong's life, he did not dare to let him remain in the Dao Martial Saint Land. Instead, he sent Di Jue to the Half Moon Island near the Mortal Continent, Cloud Continent. Only he alone knew about this matter.

Although many people in the clan suspected his son, Di Yong, was still alive, they could not do anything at all since they had no proof and could not find Di Yong.

However, now that Ku Mi had revealed this matter, an ominous feeling rose up in his heart.

Di Shan, the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, stared at Ku Mi calmly. However, at this moment, a cold glint flashed in his eyes. It was obvious he was unhappy that Ku Mi had revealed this matter about the Five-clawed Devil Dragon.

However, Ku Mi who had Duan Ru Feng's support did not seem to fear Di Shan at all. Instead, he continued to mock as he said to the group of Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders, "What? All of you didn't know Di Jue's son, that Five-clawed Devil Dragon, had died a few years ago? I must say, your dragon clan's really lucky. Although that five-clawed Devil Dragon managed to survive the first time, he still died in the end... Otherwise, if he had grown strong, he would definitely bring disaster to your dragon clan. All of you must not have forgotten the ancestral lesson of your dragon clan, right?"

The ancestral lesson of the dragon clan stated that one must kill a Five-clawed Devil Dragon immediately to avoid future trouble.

"Di Jue, your son was actually alive!" Zi Jing's face was ashen as she looked at Di Jue.

The other Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders did not have a good expression on their faces either.

"Tsk tsk... Looks like all of you were kept in the dark, huh?" Ku Mi shook his head and clicked his tongue. "Then I'm sure all of you must not know that the young man, Duan Ling Tian, that your dragon clan has been searching for without any restraint recently might even be a great benefactor of your dragon clan! Moreover, he's also my Young Mansion Master."

Ku Mi's words were like an atomic bomb.

Naturally, they all knew the clan had been searching for someone called Duan Ling Tian recently. However, they had thought the Clan Leader wanted to look for him, not Di Jue.

All of the Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders, including Xue Chan, shifted their attention to the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. They looked at him in confusion as though waiting for a clear answer from Di Shan.

Di Shan nodded.

Since the matter had developed to this extent, he knew he could no longer keep it a secret.

Xue Chan and the others' faces turned grave immediately. After such a long time, as it turned out, Di Jue was the one who was causing trouble.

The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion coming here to kill Di Jue was not without reason as well.

Their dragon clan was really in the wrong.



When Duan Ru Feng and the seven Five-clawed Divine Dragons of the dragon clans were locked in a stalemate, at the faraway Windfall Nation's capital, Duan Ling Tian had also left the capital with Situ Hang, the Great Young Master of Situ Clan, and Situ Hou, the Supreme Elder of Situ Clan, to head to the Drift Blaze Sect to challenge the Drift Blaze Sect's disciple who was ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking — Lady Feng!

### **Chapter 1579: Master Duan**

At this moment, it had been almost two weeks since the Situ Clan issued a duel invitation to Lady Feng from the Drift Blaze Sect on behalf of Master Duan.

During these two weeks, the news of the upcoming battle had also been spread out by some Drift Blaze Sect's disciples. It did not take too long before more than half of the people in Windfall Nation found out about this. This battle immediately became one of the hottest news, catching the interest of more than half of the people of Windfall Nation.

It was to the point that many people from different forces sent out visitation letters, stating their intent to visit Drift Blaze Sect to witness the battle.

Almost everybody in Windfall Nation knew who Lady Feng of Drift Blaze Sect was. She rose to fame a year ago when she entered the Heaven Ranking. Ever since then, her name had spread far and wide. Half a year later, she became even more famous. Her name became a household name. Moreover, her fame had even spread to the Southern Ridge Yuan Mansion.

This was because six months after Lady Feng had entered the bottom of the Heaven Ranking, she made a move and defeated the person who was ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking and took over his ranking.

At this moment, another six months had passed since she ranked 23rd in the Heaven Ranking.

Based on the improvement Lady Feng had demonstrated from the past six months, most people were certain she possessed the ability to enter the top ten of the Heaven Ranking.

Naturally, she would have to leave Windfall Nation if she wanted to enter the top ten of the Heaven Ranking. This was because none of the powerhouses at the peak of the Saint Rudiment Stage who ranked in the top ten was in Windfall Nation.

Not many people knew about that Interim Advisor of Situ Clan, Master Duan, who issued the duel invitation. In fact, nobody had heard of this name at all in Windfall Nation.

During these two weeks, some people had deliberately inquired about Master Duan, the Interim Advisor of Situ Clan.

Master Duan appeared two months ago in the Situ Clan. As soon as he appeared, he had cured the Situ Clan's Great Young Master, Situ Hang's weird illness.

Prior to this, everyone was certain Situ Hang would die.

After all, even the Four Star Saint Inscription Masters in Windfall Nation's Imperial family were confounded by the illness. Moreover, they even said he was not ill but was bewitched and cursed with some 'dirty' things.

When the Four Star Saint Inscription Masters of the Imperial Family announced that Situ Hang could not be cured and everyone thought there was no chance for him to survive, Master Duan made his appearance.

The moment he appeared, he pulled Situ Hang out of hell's gate in just a month and a half. Situ Hang was completely healed as though he had never been sick at all.

Moreover, people also heard that Situ Hang, the Great Young Master of Situ Clan, would accompany Master Duan to the Drift Blaze Sect on the day of the battle with Lady Feng.

Everyone was shocked.

Who was Master Duan exactly? He could even cure the strange illness that Four Star Saint Inscription Masters who excelled in Medicine Refining Dao could not! This was completely miraculous!

Some people even tried to dig up more information about the Interim Advisor, Master Duan of Situ Clan, but they could not even find out his name. They only knew the people in Situ Clan, including the Clan Leader, addressed him as Master Duan.

This Master Duan seemed to have appeared out of thin air in Windfall Nation, and nobody could find out about where he came from.

In the eyes of the people of Windfall Nation, Duan Ling Tian, the Interim Advisor of Situ Clan, was veiled in mystery. In fact, many of those people from various sects who had issued visitation letters to the Drift Blaze Sect to watch the Heaven Ranking's battle actually wanted to see the mysterious Interim Advisor of Situ Clan, Master Duan, more. They wanted to know who he was.

Among all the sects, those that were most restless were those that had conflicts with the Situ Clan.

They had been fighting with each other, covertly and overtly, for many years. They all knew the Situ Clan very well. Now that this Master Duan appeared, it gave them a sense of pressure.

Naturally, this was not because of Master Duan's strength. The fact that he issued a challenge to a Heaven Ranking's powerhouse was enough to show that he was only a Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator. It was not a big threat to them.

The pressure they felt was mostly from the mystery surrounding Master Duan.

After all, he had actually healed a strange illness that confused Four Star Saint Inscription Masters and a group of Saint Stage powerhouses. This was not something Saint Rudiment Stage Martial or Dao Cultivators were capable of.

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian's fame had begun to spread in Windfall Nation even before the day of the battle with Lady Feng from Drift Blaze Sect.

The reason for his fame was, naturally, due to him curing Situ Hang.

Prior to this, Situ Hang's strange illness had also spread out in all of Windfall Nation. Many people came from afar to the capital to try and cure the strange illness and obtain the reward. However, none of them succeeded.

When Duan Ling Tian learned about this from Situ Hang, he was surprised.

"Master Duan, your name is spreading in Windfall Nation now... Even if you lose to Drift Blaze Sect's Lady Feng, your name will sweep through the entire Windfall Nation like a typhoon! At that time, if your Senior Brother is in Windfall Nation, he'll find out you're in Situ Clan and come here to find you," Situ Hang said with a smile.

When Duan Ling Tian heard Situ Hang's words, he shook his head and smiled before he teasingly asked, "What? You don't have much faith in me, do you, Young Master Hang?"

Upon hearing that, Situ Hang smiled awkwardly before he quickly added, "Of course not. I'm just voicing out one of the possibilities."

Although he indeed felt that it was impossible for Duan Ling Tian to defeat Lady Feng from Drift Blaze Sect, he did not dare to say it out loud in fear of angering him.

However, he had underestimated Duan Ling Tian's wit.

When the words had accidentally left his mouth earlier, Duan Ling Tian already knew what he was thinking. However, he was not bothered by it.

This was because Duan Ling Tian knew very well that even if he had a silver tongue, it would still be hard to convince people of some matters. There was only one way to convince them and it was to prove it with action!

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian did not continue on this topic after listening to Situ Hang's explanation. Instead, he changed the topic. He looked at Situ Hang and asked, "Young Master Hang, there's another month to go before Situ Zhuo completes his punishment of reflecting for three months. At that time, he'll be able to leave the Enforcement Hall. Who knows what kind of method he'll use next to harm you. What are your plans?"

When Situ Hang heard the name Situ Zhuo, a layer of frost seemed to appear on his face. Situ Zhuo was the one who had almost caused his death.

Since he and his father could not afford to be hostile toward Situ Ming's side due to certain reasons, they could only downplay the matter and close the case with the death of the Devil Cultivator.

However, he still found it impossible to let go of it in his heart. He had almost died after all!

If he died, he could easily imagine how the Situ Clan would fall into Situ Ming's hands in the future.

If Situ Zhuo became the Clan Leader of Situ Clan, with his ruthlessness, he did not have to guess the outcome of his and his father's men. They would undoubtedly meet a horrible end.

“Master Duan, although I’ve heard about some of the things Situ Zhuo had done, I didn’t think he would act so viciously toward me... Now that I’ve fallen for it once, I’ll not fall for it the second time!” After taking a deep breath, Situ Hang replied in a tone that was neither hurried nor slow. His voice also turned cold, giving the listener a feeling as though they had fallen into a thaw hole.

“It’s good that you realized this.” Duan Ling Tian smiled nonchalantly. He had quite a good opinion of Situ Hang.

As for that Situ Zhuo, he did not have any favorable impression of him at all.

“Just let me know if you need any favor from me,” Duan Ling Tian added again.

“Thank you, Master Duan,” When Situ Hang’s heard Duan Ling Tian’s words, his eyes lit up immediately. He quickly bowed to express his gratitude. His posture was one reserved for respecting seniors.

Although Duan Ling Tian might be a year or two younger than him, he regarded Duan Ling Tian highly in his heart. Due to this reason, he had never thought of him as his junior.

Glancing at the blazing sun by the horizon, Duan Ling Tian smiled as he asked, “Based on our speed, we should be able to arrive at the Drift Blaze Sect this afternoon, right?”

“Yes, we’ll able to arrive in the afternoon.” Situ Hang nodded. “After we’ve arrived, we’ll rest in Drift Blaze Sect for one night... Tomorrow, we’ll stroll around the sect’s estate to familiarize ourselves with the environment as guests. The battle between you and Lady Feng is set for the day after tomorrow.”

“Alright, I’ll follow your arrangement.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. Although Situ Hang was not much older than him, Duan Ling Tian could not compare to him in regards to handling trivial matters.

The saying, ‘One is a master in one’s own field’ must have referred to this.

Naturally, Situ Hang and Situ Hou was not the only one who left the capital of Windfall Nation with him. There were another five people who had gone into hiding, tailing them. If it was not for his anti-tracking experience in his past life, he might not have discovered these five men.

These five men hid in the dark. Like several torpid poisonous snakes, they might strike to wound or kill at any time.

“Five Imminent Saint Stage powerhouses... Moreover, they must have cultivated some secret tactic to conceal themselves. Apart from me, nobody below the Saint Stage would be able to detect their presence.” After Duan Ling Tian activated his Divine Eye, he could clearly sense the powerful aura faintly emanating out of the five men hidden in the dark.

Although they had concealed themselves, they were still unable to escape Duan Ling Tian’s Divine Eye and were completely exposed before him.

### **Chapter 1580: Zi Yun, the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect**

Duan Ling Tian was certain they were at the Imminent Saint Stage because their auras were similar to the aura of the Vice Sect Leaders of Moon Illumination Sect.

Now that Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base had risen to the Paramount Saint Rudiment Stage, his perception had gotten even sharper and keener.

He was certain these five men had been following them since they left the Situ Clan.

'Don't tell me they're five of the eighteen Shadow Guards from the Situ Clan?' When Duan Ling Tian recalled some of the things that he had heard while he was in the Situ Clan, he speculated inwardly.

During the time he was in the Situ Clan, he had vaguely overheard some secrets from the Situ Clan's lineal disciples. One of them was the Situ Clan's eighteen Shadow Guards.

It was said that the eighteen Shadow Guards of Situ Clan were mostly at the Imminent Saint Stage.

Perhaps, all of them could not be compared to the powerhouses on the Heaven Ranking. However, due to how well they had concealed themselves, even the powerhouses from the Heaven Ranking could not do anything to them. Moreover, if the powerhouses from the Heaven Ranking were careless, the eighteen Shadow Guards might be able to kill them as well. This was how terrifying the Shadow Guards were. They were all under the direct control of the Sect Leader.

Due to this reason, he thought these five men were Shadow Guards sent by Situ Hao, the Clan Leader of Situ Clan.

'The Clan Leader of Situ Clan really had put in a lot of thoughts and efforts into this. We don't need to worry about any sudden emergency during the journey with the Shadow Guards guarding us,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

"However, Situ Clan's really terrifying. The Moon Illumination Sect is also a seventh-rate force, but it's far from being comparable to the Situ Clan." The number of Saint Stage powerhouses might be the same in both the Situ Clan and Moon Illumination Sect. However, the Moon Illumination Sect was clearly lacking in Imminent Saint Stage powerhouses in comparison to the Situ Clan.

In the Moon Illumination Sect, only the few Vice Sect Leaders were at the Imminent Saint Stage. However, in the Situ Clan, put aside those Imminent Saint Stage elders, most of the eighteen Shadow Guards were at the Imminent Saint Stage.

The Moon Illumination Sect could not compete with the Situ Clan at all in this regard.

Now that they had five Shadow Guards hiding in the dark to guard them, Duan Ling Tian, Situ Hang, and Situ Hou did not meet with any obstacles during their journey. They successfully arrived at the Drift Blaze Sect without any incidents.

The Drift Blaze Sect was similar to the Moon Illumination Sect, it was hidden in a range of mountains. However, the Drift Blaze Sect's estate was situated in between a group of dormant and active volcanoes so they seemed more outstanding compared to the Moon Illumination Sect.

During their journey, Duan Ling Tian had learned about the Drift Blaze Sect from Situ Hang. He found out that the Drift Blaze Sect was a seventh-rate force that was even more powerful than the Situ Clan. This was due to the Sect Leader of the sect.

The Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect was a female powerhouse called Zi Yun. She was so powerful that she was known as being invincible among the seventh-rate forces in Windfall Nation. Moreover, this was also publicly acknowledged by many Saint Stage powerhouses from various sects.

Even the Imperial Family avoided offending the Drift Blaze Sect due to Zi Yun. Moreover, rumor had it that very few people from the Imperial Family of Windfall Nation were able to defeat her.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned when he learned about how powerful Zi Yun, the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect, was. It did not cross his mind that a female powerhouse would be able to rise to such a level in the vast Windfall Nation. It was really mind-boggling.

Moreover, he also learned that Lady Feng who was ranked 23rd on the Heaven Ranking and whom he had challenged was Zi Yun's direct disciple.

Duan Ling Tian could not help but muse to himself, "Like teacher like pupil!"

Duan Ling Tian knew with Lady Feng's potential, it was not impossible for her to surpass her master, Zi Yun, in the future if her cultivation progressed smoothly.

Duan Ling Tian was curious about Zi Yun, the Sect Leader of Drift Blaze Sect, after learning about her from Situ Hang. He was curious about what kind of woman she was to be able to lead a seventh-rate force into becoming a force that was acknowledged by everyone under the Windfall Nation's Imperial Family.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, it was always the strong one who ruled.

Perhaps the Drift Blaze Sect could not even compare to other seventh-rate forces if it was not for Zi Yun. It was her existence that made the sect surpass the other seventh-rate forces.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, it was not impossible for one person to hold up a sect all on their own if they were powerful enough.

When they arrived at the Drift Blaze Sect, a sect disciple welcomed and greeted them perfunctorily.

However, Duan Ling Tian noticed that after the Drift Blaze Sect's disciple who welcomed the three of them found out that he was the Interim Advisor of Situ Clan, Master Duan, there was a hint of pity in his eyes.

"It seems like they have full confidence in Lady Feng." It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to figure out what that look meant. He was very curious about what kind of woman Lady Feng was to have such extraordinary achievements in such a short time. At this moment, he could not wait to meet her. However, he learned from Situ Hang that he would have to wait until the day after tomorrow, the day of the battle, to see her. It was almost impossible for him to meet her before then.

This was not because Lady Feng was preparing for the duel, it was just that she was always in the sect's forbidden area. Even many of the inner and outer court disciples rarely saw her. Even the disciple who had seen her the most times in this past year had only seen her a few times.

All of this made Lady Feng seemed even more mysterious, causing Duan Ling Tian to feel even more curious.

Although the attitude of the Drift Blaze Sect's disciples toward Duan Ling Tian and the others were not really good, they still arranged accommodations for them. It was a mansion located in the middle of a mountain among the dormant volcanoes in the outer court. The place was very clean. It was obvious the Drift Blaze Sect had made preparation beforehand.

"This place will be the residence for the three of you. Please have a good rest tonight... Early in the morning tomorrow, our grand elder will come to look for you," the Drift Blaze Sect's disciple said to Duan Ling Tian and the other two men before he left. It was as though he was unwilling to stay a second longer.

Duan Ling Tian exchanged glances with the other two before they shook their heads and chuckled. Then, all of them entered the mansion and found a room to stay in.

...

Meanwhile, at the dragon clan, Duan Ru Feng began to feel impatient.

Ever since Ku Mi revealed the truth of the matter, the five Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders from the dragon clan were clearly unhappy with Di Jue.

At this moment, Di Shan, the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, motioned to Duan Ru Feng and suggested a discussion to come up with a solution that would satisfy him.

Duan Ru Feng had waited the entire afternoon. If it was not for the fact that he was somewhat cautious of Di Shan, it would be impossible for Duan Ru Feng, the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, to have waited this long.

However, a whole afternoon had gone by and Duan Ru Feng could no longer stand it. "All of you have discussed for an entire afternoon, and you still haven't come up with a solution?"

Duan Ru Feng's tone was filled with annoyance, causing Di Shan and the others to regain their senses.

Apart from Di Jue who was standing at the side, not participating in the discussion, the five Five-clawed Divine Dragons with Xue Chan as the leader, transmitted their voices to Di Shan, the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, as they discussed how to solve this problem.

After all, it was indeed their dragon clan who was in the wrong.

Let alone the fact that the son of the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion might not have killed Di Jue's son, even if he did, he was helping their dragon clan to get rid of its scourge.

Just imagining the danger of a Five-clawed Devil Dragon terrified the five Five-clawed Divine Dragons, including Xue Chan.

They believed if news of this spread to the clansmen in the dragon clan, Di Jue would definitely become a target. As for the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, although he was rude when he trespassed

into the dragon clan by force, none of the clansmen would blame him for it if they found out about this. In their opinion, he was innocent. Moreover, he might even be the father of their benefactor.

Although the dragons clan was very prideful, they were still a clan that knew how to feel grateful. They were not ingrates nor were they treacherous. They would remember it for life if somebody had helped them.

As the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, Di Shan had a say in many things, and he did not have to consider the feelings of the other clansmen or the few Five-clawed Divine Dragons. However, he was wrong in the matter regarding Di Jue. After all, he had long known Di Jue's son was still alive before he was killed.

In the end, he even helped Di Jue and ordered his clansmen who were scattered all over the Dao Martial Saint Land to search for Duan Ling Tian with all their might.

Due to this reason, Di Jue knew he could not ignore the opinions of this few Five-clawed Divine Dragons regarding this matter.

However, during the entire course of the discussion, Di Shan had stood firmly by his decision. Di Jue must not die!

Di Jue was not only a Five-clawed Divine Dragon, but he was also a Five-clawed Golden Dragon as well! He was to become the next Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

If he died, the dragon clan would lose their successor.

In the dragon clan, all of the candidates for the Clan Leader's position were Five-clawed Golden Dragons. This was also a law the clan had abided by since ancient times.

If a clansman was not a Five-clawed Golden Dragon, it was impossible for him to become the Clan Leader no matter how outstanding he was.

The Five-clawed Golden Dragon represented the dragon clan, it was irreplaceable by other Five-clawed Divine Dragons.

"Mansion Master Duan," Di San said in a deep voice as he looked at Duan Ru Feng, "Our dragon clan will compensate you regarding this matter."

"It's good that you're willing to compensate me.... Tell me, what do you plan to do? Should I bring him away from your sight and kill him or should I just kill him in front of all of you?" Duan Ru Feng asked as he looked at Di Shan indifferently.

Upon hearing Duan Ru Feng's words, horror dawned on Di Jue's face immediately. He quickly turned to look at Di Shan anxiously. He was really afraid Di Shan would forsake him.

The proverb, 'Concern is disorderly' undoubtedly described Di Jue's current situation.

At this moment, Di Jue seemed to have forgotten he was the only Five-clawed Golden Dragon apart from Di Shan, the Clan Leader of the dragon clan. No matter how many mistakes he made, it was impossible for the clan to forsake the legacy of the dragon clan and kill him.