

SOVEREIGN 1861

Chapter 1861: Everyone Is Dumbfounded!

Rumble!

Rumble!

A loud noise echoed in the air, it seemed as though the sky was being blown apart. As it turned out, it was due to the flapping of the Golden Crow's Wings behind Duan Ling Tian's back. It set off a flurry of hurricanes, causing explosions in the air.

During the uproar, before anyone knew what was going on, Leader Dugu, Mansion Master Duan Ru Feng, and Clan Leader Di Shan had various expressions fleeting across their faces.

Dugu's expression was a knowing one as though he had already expected this.

Duan Ru Feng's expression was one of delight and surprise.

As for Di Shan, he had the most splendid expression on his face! It was one of extreme shock and disbelief!

Whoosh!

In the eyes of these three men, a meteor-like golden figure charged out rapidly toward Di Jue.

His speed was so fast that it was in no way inferior to Di Jue's current speed!

Although currently Di Jue was not using his full speed, it was on par with a Martial or Dao Cultivator at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage. Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian's speed was on par with his!

W-Was he really an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator?

"Impossible!" Whether it was Ku Mi from the Azure Cloud Mansion, the two Deputy Leaders from the Mountainshade Black Market or the few Five-clawed Divine Dragon elders from the dragon clan, all of their expressions were similar to the expression on Di Jue's face when they regained their senses. They were filled with disbelief and confusion.

The scene unfolding before their eyes had overturned their views and knowledge of a powerhouse at the Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse!

An Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator actually possessed speed on par with a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage?

This was a joke, right?!

"It's a Divine Ability!" Dugu, Duan Ru Feng, and Di Shan had already figured things out when Ku Mi and the others regained their senses.

The reason Duan Ling Tian possessed such fast speed was due to an extremely amazing Divine Ability.

As for the aura emitted by the energy surging out of his body, it was equivalent to the energy of a Divine Saint Stage Martial or Dao Cultivator!

With this energy, he had used the Divine Ability to give himself the speed of a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage!

This Divine Ability made a thought pop up in their minds. It's a high-grade movement Divine Ability!

Not only that, but it seemed like Duan Ling Tian had profound knowledge of this high-grade movement Divine Ability as well. Based on how skillful he was, it was apparent that he had already mastered the quintessence of this Divine Ability! Otherwise, it would have been impossible for his speed to rise so quickly.

"Otherworldly Celestial!" With the help from Golden Crow's Wings, Duan Ling Tian quickly arrived near Di Jue.

When Di Jue regained his senses, and horror dawned on his face, Duan Ling Tian's body suddenly moved.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

In the next instant, two solidified figures that were identical to Duan Ling Tian had appeared on either side of him. Not only that, but they also possessed a pair of Golden Crow's Wings as well and were holding a Ten Inscription Saint Sword in their hands respectively.

This was a technique of the high-grade sword-type Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial!

Ever since he first mastered the Elementary Devouring Tactic, he had tried to master the Otherworldly Celestial. Initially, he did not expect much. However, as it turned out, he managed to successfully comprehend the Otherworldly Celestial in a short amount of time.

Naturally, he soon discovered he was able to comprehend the Divine Ability so quickly was all thanks to the Sovereign Heart Sword.

The Sovereign Heart Sword was the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method and the sword profundity contained in it was on par, if not superior, to martial tactics!

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian did not bother cultivating other martial tactics.

During the process of comprehending the high-grade sword-type Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial, he discovered the sword profundity of the Sovereign Heart Sword had many similarities with the Otherworldly Celestial. Since they were both compatible, his process of comprehending the Otherworldly Celestial had progressed at a tremendous pace!

In the end, it had only taken him a fraction of the time he spent comprehending the Elementary Devouring Tactic to comprehend the Otherworldly Celestial.

Although he had comprehended the Otherworldly Celestial, he was only at the Rudiment Stage and could only produce two clones.

Despite the fact that the strength of the clone formed by the Otherworldly Celestial was inferior to the real person, the gap between their strength was negligible.

The Otherworldly Celestial that Duan Ling Tian cast by relying on the profundity of the Sovereign Heart Sword that was close to the third stage could cast attacks that were equivalent to an outstanding Martial Cultivator at the Mastery Divine Saint Stage.

His two clones, on the other hand, possessed strength equivalent to ordinary Martial Cultivators at the Mastery Divine Saint Stage.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The original person, two clones, and three Ten Inscription Saint Swords flashed across the sky and charged toward Di Jue accompanied by the sound of slashing.

The three swords that the three figures wielded were pointed at different directions, leaving no room for Di Jue to escape at all!

‘How is he so powerful?!’ This was the first thought that appeared in Di Jue’s mind when he saw the speed Duan Ling Tian demonstrated.

He was still in disbelief over the scene that had unfolded before his eyes!

An ant whose cultivation base was at the Saint Rudiment Stage five years ago had actually become so powerful now. He felt as though he was dreaming!

Di Jue jolted back to reality as three sharp swords were pointed at him.

‘Although I’m stronger than him, I’ve fallen into a disadvantageous position because I looked down on him from the very start! Even if I use all my strength now, I still won’t be able to gather enough strength to overpower him unless I revert into my true form!’ Di Jue’s mind whirled rapidly at this time at lightning speed.

Due to the reason he had looked down Duan Ling Tian from the start, he had only used strength that was equivalent to a Martial or Dao Cultivator at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian was charging at him at a speed that was not inferior to his speed. It caught him off guard.

Under such circumstances, he did not have time to gather his strength to strike back unless he reverted to his true form!

However, if he reverted to his true form after just one strike from Duan Ling Tian, it would undoubtedly be a great humiliation to him. Due to this reason, he quickly dismissed the idea.

Whoosh!

At the critical moment, faced with Duan Ling Tian’s three swords that blocked his path, Di Jue finally took out an exceptionally heavy broad saber that also had ten Inscriptions on it. It was apparent that this was also a Ten Inscription Saint Weapon.

“Gigantesque Wallop!”

The moment the Ten Inscription Saint Saber appeared in his hand, the aura on Di Jue changed completely in an instant. His entire person seemed to have transformed into a saber that released a sharp aura.

At the same time, his energy at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage had also begun to surge out.

Naturally, in this short window of time, he had no time to gather his full strength at all. All he could do was slash his saber out at the fastest speed possible.

However, apart from being slightly weaker, the saber was extraordinary as well since it contained saber-type martial tactics that Di Jue cultivated. It was a medium-grade saber-type Divine Ability that was known as Gigantesque Wallop!

Swish!

The saber slashed out and a streak of saber ray shot out heading in the direction of Duan Ling Tian's head as though it was going to slice him into two.

Naturally, its target was one of Duan Ling Tian's two clones.

When Di Jue slashed his saber out, his energy at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage that was surging out of his body also gradually began to show itself as he charged toward the clone he had targeted.

Swish!

Whoosh!

A saber slashed down as a sword sliced out.

The saber slashed Duan Ling Tian's clone into two while the sword landed on Di Jue's shoulders, leaving a horrendous and bloody wound behind.

Swoosh!

As fresh blood splattered everywhere and fell from the sky like red roses, Di Jue's body that was covered with blood charged to the distance at an increasing speed. He was fleeing from the attack of Duan Ling Tian and his remaining clone.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

At the instant Di Jue was about to escape, Duan Ling Tian discovered this. He and his clone simultaneously attacked as both their swords landed on Di Jue's back.

However, due to Di Jue being able to use his speed at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage, the swords did not manage to seriously injure him. They merely left him with light injuries. They did not pose any threat to his life at all and did not affect his strength.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Di Jue fled several hundred meters away before he finally came to a halt.

As for Duan Ling Tian, he had already retracted his clone and was hovering with his sword in his hand in the distance.

Everything had happened in just a blink of an eye. It was so fast that most people could not see clearly at all.

However, at this moment, even those who did not see clearly could not help but gasp when they saw how one collision between Duan Ling Tian and Di Jue ended up with Duan Ling Tian unharmed and Di Jue injured.

“H-How is this possible?!” The eyes of a young member of the dragon clan turned as wide as saucers. He had an expression of disbelief on his face.

“I’m not dreaming, right?” Many members of the dragon clan pinched their thighs or slapped themselves. It was only when they felt the pain that they became certain the scene that unfolded before their eyes was not a dream. It was all real!

Duan Ling Tian had gained the upper hand during their first clash!

A young disciple from a quasi third-rate force muttered with a dumbfounded expression on his face, “Isn’t the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator? Not only that, but isn’t Di Jue an Early Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouse? Can somebody please tell me what the hell is going on?!”

“Is this really a battle between an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse and an Early Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouse? You’re joking, right?” Many people expressed their doubts.

Naturally, these people who felt skeptical did not clearly see the collision earlier between Duan Ling Tian and Di Jue.

Those who could see the details and those who could roughly see the details returned to their senses later than the masses. This was because they were shocked by what had just taken place.

A high-ranking official of a quasi third-rate force remarked solemnly, “The speed of the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is equivalent to a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage. His speed far surpassed ordinary Mastery Divine Saint Stage powerhouses.

“But...” As though he was reminded of something, he asked in confusion, “Can anybody tell me why his cultivation base is only at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage when I probed him? Is this even the strength of an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage powerhouse?”

He was not the only confused one. Even the group of dragon clan’s high-ranking officials, including Clan Leader Di Shan, had a grim expression on their faces. This was because they had been deceived.

Chapter 1862: A Draw?

The Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion, Duan Ling Tian, was at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage?

What a joke!

With the strength Duan Ling Tian displayed earlier, it would be strange if he was really an Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage Martial Cultivator!

“Damn it! We’ve been deceived!” Di Shan’s expression was extremely grave. He had calculated meticulously, but this scenario did not cross his mind at all.

Duan Ling Tian’s true strength was equivalent to a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Stage even though his cultivation base was at the Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage when he probed him earlier!

Not only that, but based on his observation, the strength and aura surging out of Duan Ling Tian’s body were no different from a powerhouse at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage. For this reason, he was certain that Duan Ling Tian’s true cultivation base was at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage!

As for the reason why Duan Ling Tian’s strength was equivalent to a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage, this was because he had comprehended two Divine Abilities!

As the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, Di Shan, naturally, could tell the two Divine Abilities Duan Ling Tian mastered were extraordinary!

Put aside the extremely amazing movement Divine Ability that he cast in the beginning, even the sword-type Divine Ability that he cast after that was not something the saber-type Divine Ability, the Gigantesque Wallop, that Di Jue mastered could compare to in terms of grade.

The Gigantesque Wallop that Di Jue comprehended could also be considered as a powerful Divine Ability among all medium-grade Divine Abilities. This was why he was certain the sword-type Divine Ability that Duan Ling Tian cultivated was a high-grade Divine Ability!

“He’s so young yet he has already mastered two high-grade Divine Abilities. The sword-type Divine Ability is still acceptable since it’s only at the Rudiment Stage, but the first movement Divine Ability is far stronger than the Rudiment Stage!” Di Shan’s heart jolted. He was baffled.

“On top of that, he must have mastered some secret tactic that could conceal his cultivation base. Otherwise, his cultivation base would have been exposed under my Divine Consciousness!” Di Shan speculated.

Di Shan’s speculation was similar to the speculation of most people present on the scene.

“Intermediate Eminent Saint Stage? Impossible! Based on the strength the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion displayed earlier, he must be at the Divine Saint Stage at least!”

“I can’t believe that in the Azure Cloud Mansion, not only the Mansion Master has a heaven-defying innate talent and strength, but even the Young Mansion Master is as monstrously talented. With this Young Mansion Master, I think the Azure Cloud Mansion would be able to retain their glory for several hundred years!”

“Don’t speak so fast! We still don’t know whether he’d be able to survive the Death Duel with Di Jue!”

“You have a point!”

The spectators from the other quasi third-rate forces buried their heads together and discussed among themselves. Their eyes never left Duan Ling Tian and Di Jue who were still stuck in a stalemate.

"I can't believe he actually concealed his power!" Qing Yan's expression was grave.

Now that he thought about it, Duan Ling Tian must have intentionally probed him that day with his Eminent Saint Stage Divine Consciousness to mislead them so that Di Jue would be careless during the battle with him.

Naturally, this was all just Qing Yan's speculation. The more he thought about it, the more he felt it was plausible.

Qing Yan was not the only one. Even the dragon clan's Enforcement Elder, Xue Chan, and the Five-clawed Divine Dragon, Elder Zhi Jing, had a grave expression as well.

"Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base is at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage! Didn't Di Jue say he was only a Saint Rudiment Stage Martial Cultivator five years ago?" Zhi Jing asked in a low voice.

"Don't forget that his father is Duan Ru Feng!" A hint of dread flashed across Xue Chan's eyes.

Duan Ru Feng!

Upon hearing this name, even Zhi Jing fell silent.

When she recalled Duan Ru Feng's achievements in the past, it was no longer a surprise that his son was so outstanding.

"I'm n-not dreaming, right?" Gu Li watched Duan Ling Tian from afar with his mouth agape.

He had actually gained the upper hand when he clashed with Di Jue whose cultivation base was at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage? W-Was he really his Junior Brother Ling Tian?!

All this while, although Gu Li knew Duan Ling Tian was strong, he did not expect his junior brother to be even more powerful than him! At the very least, he did not think he would fare this well if he was the one facing Di Jue. In fact, he would most likely be killed by Di Jue in just one blow!

"Young Mansion Master!" Ku Mi's eyes lit up. A rare smile that looked even uglier than a crying face appeared on his skinny face.

"Tian'er is actually so strong? Not only that, but the Divine Ability he used earlier..." Duan Ru Feng stared at Duan Ling Tian in confusion. At this moment, he felt as though his son was a stranger to him. He felt as though he didn't know him at all.

'No wonder Senior Prophet told me to make this five-year pact with the dragon clan... He really has confidence in Tian'er!' The moment Duan Ru Feng thought about this, he felt his heart was slightly more at ease.

Based on the strength Duan Ling Tian had demonstrated earlier, it might not be enough to defeat Di Jue, but it would not be impossible for him to protect himself.

“How’s this possible?!”

“The Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion’s son is actually so strong?” The two Deputy Leaders of Mountainshade Black Market, Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi Shan, looked at each other in disbelief.

Dugu looked at Duan Ling Tian from afar and muttered to himself, “Interesting! Duan Ru Feng’s son is indeed not inferior to him!” He was the calmest person on the scene.

As time passed by, the noise gradually began to die down until it was completely silent. One could even hear the sound of the blowing breeze.

Di Jue spoke first after being locked in a stalemate. He looked at Duan Ling Tian coldly and said in a terrifying voice, “Duan Ling Tian, I can’t believe your strength has risen to such heights in the five years that we’ve not seen each other. However, if you think that you can kill me with your strength, I can only tell you that you’re daydreaming!”

“Daydreaming?” Duan Ling Tian laughed heartily. It was filled with disdain.

“What? You don’t believe me?” Di Jue’s heart surged with anger when he saw the disdainful smile on Duan Ling Tian’s face. “Don’t worry! I’ll instantly show you that your feeble strength is nothing in my eyes! Even if you’re already a Divine Saint Stage Martial Cultivator, it’ll still be easy to kill you like killing an ant!”

The moment his words left his mouth, he made his move. It seemed as though he had transformed into a bolt of lightning as he charged toward Duan Ling Tian.

This time, he did not hold back. His energy at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage surged out without restraint. His speed was much faster than it was before.

A vast energy covered the surface of his body. It was as though flames had ignited on his body.

Whoosh!

The sound of wind howling and deafening explosion sounded in his wake.

“Gigantesque Wallop!” As he moved at lightning speed, the heavy and wide Ten Inscription Saint Saber in his hand began to move as well.

His attack that contained martial tactics along with the medium-grade saber-type Divine Ability that he comprehended charged in the direction of Duan Ling Tian’s head again. It was obvious he was trying to slice him into two.

Swish!

It was the same saber, but it seemed completely different when compared to the previous slash that lacked power.

The saber fell from the sky like a bolt of lightning as though it could cut the sky into two.

The menacing saber did not show any mercy, just like the Grim Reaper’s scythe. It was aiming for Duan Ling Tian’s life!

At this moment, Di Jue was finally using all his strength at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage!

“Elementary Devouring Tactic!” As soon as Di Jue began to make his move and charge at him with a murderous gleam in his eyes, Duan Ling Tian cast the high-grade Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic.

In just a second, ripples began to appear in within 10-meter radius around him. It was as though he was standing in the heart of the whirlpool.

When Duan Ling Tian cast the Elementary Devouring Tactic, a vast amount of Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the within the 10-meter radius rapidly surged into his body and fused with his Sun True Origin after being absorbed by the whirlpool!

The Sun True Origin was also quickly getting more and more powerful.

The Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in within 10-meter radius of Duan Ling Tian could be considered as very rich. It would help raise the Sun True Origin in Duan Ling Tian’s body a stage higher.

However, it was too time-consuming to cast the Elementary Devouring Tactic and absorb all the positive energy from the surroundings.

Whoosh!

When Duan Ling Tian had only managed to absorb a fraction of the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in within a 10-meter radius, Di Jue’s saber was already slashing down at his head, ready to cut him into two.

“Hurmph!” Faced with Di Jue’s attack, Duan Ling Tian snorted disdainfully. At this moment, he stopped absorbing the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the surrounding. Instead, with just a flick of his hand, he wielded his sword and clashed with Di Jue.

Meanwhile, the Sun True Origin in his body that had been greatly strengthened surged out suddenly through his 99 Saint Veins and was infused into the Ten Inscription Saint Sword in his hand that he used to block Di Jue’s Ten Inscription Saint Saber that was crashing down.

‘Otherworldly Celestial!’ With just a thought, Duan Ling Tian once again produced two clones that rose up into the air with him.

The swords in their hands were like poisonous snakes that charged out fiercely toward the saber ray that shot out from the Ten Inscription Saint Saber in Di Jue’s hand.

Whoosh!

One of the swords from the clone clashed with the saber ray, causing it to dim a little. However, the clone was destroyed as well.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian's true body and the remaining clone charged out in unison. The two swords flicked out and the Sun True Origin that was greatly elevated by the Elementary Devouring Tactic surged out with all its might.

Rumble!

Rumble!

A loud explosion sounded in the air, both Duan Ling Tian and Di Jue retreated into the distance in unison.

As for the saber ray that was shot out from the saber in Di Jue's hand, it had destroyed the other clone.

Barf!

Both of their bodies swayed at the same time as they threw up a mouthful of blood. Both of their faces were slightly pale as well.

"Impossible! I've exerted all my strength, and I only manage to come to a draw with him?" Horror dawned on Di Jue's pale face.

The crowd had not even regained their senses.

This outcome was something that did not cross his mind at all.

The young man whom he hated to the core and was so eager to kill was actually so strong that he managed to draw with him after only five years?

It felt as though that incident had taken place a lifetime ago.

Chapter 1863: Regrets

Five years... It was only five years!

Although Di Jue had not reverted to his true form yet, he had already used all his strength in his human form without any mercy! Even so, he still could not defeat Duan Ling Tian!

What did this mean? This meant that Duan Ling Tian's strength was on par with that of an Early Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouse!

"How's this possible? Impossible! Impossible!" Di Jue's eyes were as wide as saucers. His expression was one of confusion. He could not accept this!

"Duan Ling Tian really hid his strength well!" Clan Leader Di Shan had a grave expression on his face.

He had seen what happened clearly. Even under Di Jue's full-force attack in his human form, Duan Ling Tian managed to come to a draw with him. It was inconceivable!

At the same time, a hint of regret began to rise in his heart for the first time.

If he had known Duan Ling Tian was so strong earlier, he would not have allowed Di Jue to accept Duan Ling Tian's Death Duel Invitation! He had only allowed Di Jue to accept the challenge because he had probed Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base and confirmed he did not pose any threat at all.

Although the dragon clan's Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool, was valuable to the dragon clan, Di Jue's life was more important than that. This was because Di Jue was first in line to succeed him.

He would not allow anything to happen to Di Jue!

Now that he had witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength, his heart tightened immediately. "Currently, Di Jue's only option is to revert to his true form to battle with Duan Ling Tian! I hope Duan Ling Tian has already reached his limit. Otherwise, it would be difficult for Di Jue to defeat him, let alone kill him!" Di Shan did not know why, but his heart was overwhelmed with a sense of panic at this moment.

"How's this possible?!" Everyone from the dragon clan, including the high-ranking officials, were all dumbfounded with their mouths agape.

Whether it was those who saw everything clearly or those who did not, all of them began to discover a problem. Di Jue had come to a draw with Duan Ling Tian even though he had used all his strength without any mercy during their second clash!

Gulp—

Gulp—

Gulp—

Gulp—

Gulp—

Gulp—

After a long while, sounds of gulping could be heard one after another.

Based on this, one could see how the members of the dragon clan felt about Duan Ling Tian's strength.

"The Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion is really amazing! During the first clash, we could say Di Jue was careless and did not use his full strength. However, it was obvious Di Jue did not hold back this time, and yet, he still could not defeat him, let alone kill him!"

"As expected of the son of Mansion Master Duan Ru Feng of Azure Cloud Mansion. Both father and son are really amazing!"

"No wonder he dared to issue a Death Duel Invitation to Di Jue. As it turns out, he's not seeking death. He's really confident he could fight Di Jue. However, can he really kill Di Jue?"

"That's right! Di Jue is only in his human form now. Although he came to a draw with Di Jue, it doesn't mean he can defeat Di Jue if Di Jue reverts to his true form. Di Jue is a Five-clawed Golden Dragon from

the Imperial Clan of the dragon clan! Once he reverts to his true form, apart from being stronger, he would be able to use the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability as well!"

"I've heard of the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability. Usually, only those outstanding dragons would be able to master the Divine Ability!"

"If that's the case, Di Jue's true form is going to be so powerful that his human form can't even compare to it!"

The group of people from the various quasi third-rate forces whispered among themselves.

Although Duan Ling's strength was extraordinary, they were uncertain if he would be able to defeat Di Jue if Di Jue reverted to his true form. After all, Di Jue's true form was not an ordinary Five-clawed Divine Dragon but a Five-clawed Golden Dragon!

"Kill!" At this moment, Di Jue made his move again with a terrifying look in his eyes. The Ten Inscription Saint Saber in his hand followed like a shadow.

On the other hand, faced with Di Jue who was charging at him, Duan Ling Tian did not show any fear as he charged at him with the Ten Inscription Saint Sword in his hand.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Every time the Ten Inscription Saint Saber in Di Jue's hand swept out, it was as though it would slice the sky apart as it pointed toward Duan Ling Tian. Unfortunately for him, every time he attacked, Duan Ling Tian would evade his attack.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

As for Duan Ling Tian, while he fought with Di Jue, he mostly evaded the attacks by relying on the Divine Ability, the Golden Crow's Wings.

He merely parried twice with Di Jue in a manner that was neither fierce nor mild. He did not injure Di Jue as well.

It was not that Duan Ling Tian did not want to fight with Di Jue but the conditions just did not allow him to!

The reason he managed to come to a draw with Di Jue who was at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage was mostly thanks to the Sun True Origin that was strengthened by the Elementary Devouring Tactic. The Sun True Origin would not remain this powerful at all times.

Once it was depleted, he was only left with the option of raising his Sun True Origin again with the Elementary Devouring Tactic. So far, Duan Ling Tian did not have the chance to use the Elementary Devouring Tactic without restraint. The Elementary Devouring Tactic could devour all the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in within 10-meter radius, but he had only absorbed a fraction of it. Apart from that, he also needed to find the right time to use it.

The toll the Elementary Devouring Tactic had taken on him was far greater than he had expected. His Spiritual Energy was rapidly depleting every second the Elementary Devouring Tactic was being cast.

“Di Jue, I’m warning you. You should revert to your true form. You can’t kill me like this!” Duan Ling Tian flapped his Golden Crow’s Wings as he used a little bit more of his Sun True Origin to increase his speed a notch. It was much faster than Di Jue’s current speed.

Naturally, as his speed increased, his Sun True Origin was also depleting.

Duan Ling Tian’s heart was bleeding.

“How fast!” The spectators who could catch Duan Ling Tian’s movements, including the group of dragon clan’s high-ranking officials, could not help but widen their eyes in disbelief.

They did not think Duan Ling Tian’s speed could turn even faster! The speed Duan Ling Tian had just demonstrated had greatly surpassed an ordinary powerhouse at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage and was close to the speed of a powerhouse at the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage.

Clan Leader Di Shan’s expressions turned even graver. He began to sense a hint of danger.

“Di Jue, revert to your true form and end this quickly!” At this moment, Di Shan quickly said to Di Jue, “Duan Ling Tian is really strange! Revert to your true form and kill him as fast as you possibly can. Otherwise, I’m afraid you’re no match for him!”

Unlike Di Shan who had a grave expression on his face, Mansion Master Duan Ru Feng and the people by his side had a joyful smile on their faces.

Although they were surprised by Duan Ling Tian’s strength, this was the outcome they had hoped for!

Gu Li was already immune to Duan Ling Tian’s multiple leaps in power. He clenched his fists with a solemn expression on his face as he said, “Junior Brother Ling Tian, kill him in a blow!”

As for the three men from the Mountainshade Black Market, apart from Leader Dugu who was staring at Duan Ling Tian with interest, Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi Shan, the two Deputy Leaders, were still dumbfounded.

The strength of the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion actually became so powerful. This really caught them off guard.

Soon after, as though they were reminded of something, they turned to look at their Leader in unison as hints of admiration filled their eyes.

Among the three of them, only their Lord Leader had a high opinion of Duan Ling Tian from the beginning.

“Since you want to die, I’ll fulfill your wish then!” Faced with the sudden increase in Duan Ling Tian speed and the reminder from Clan Leader Di Shan’s Voice Transmission, Di Jue could no longer hold back as he reverted to his true form.

The huge valley was immediately covered by a huge black shadow. It was none other than the shadow of Di Jue's true form, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon.

The spiraling gigantic body that was several hundreds of meters long shone brilliantly with a golden light. It was like an invincible leviathan as it circled around the sky.

Di Jue who had reverted to his true form lifted his head and roar without any warning.

Then, he lowered his dragon head and glared at Duan Ling Tian as he said domineeringly, "Duan Ling Tian, didn't you ask me to revert to my true form? Now that I've reverted to my true form, I'm going to send you to hell!" Di Jue's began to move his gigantic body as soon as he finished speaking.

The body that seemed to be heavy and burdensome was particularly agile when it moved.

The dragon tail swept across the sky toward Duan Ling Tian's direction.

Swish!

The wind howled, and in just a blink of an eye, the dragon tail was fast approaching Duan Ling Tian. If Duan Ling Tian did not evade it now, he would be definitely be sent flying.

At the critical moment, Duan Ling Tian who had cast the Elementary Devouring Tactic unreservedly had just absorbed all the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in within 10-meter radius.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The Golden Crow's Wings flapped without warning, at the critical moment, it brought Duan Ling Tian away and evaded Di Jue's dragon tail. Di Jue failed in his first attack after he had reverted to his true form.

Since Duan Ling Tian had absorbed all the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, the Sun True Origin in his body had undergone several transformations and had already been raised to its limit.

Since he had not fully mastered the Elementary Devouring Tactic to the highest level, there was a limit to how much Heaven and Earth Energy he could absorb. For this reason, his Sun True Origin could only currently transform to this stage.

"Currently, the Sun True Origin I possess should be enough to deal with Di Jue." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and flapped his Golden Crow's Wings and flew out, beating Di Jue's dragon tail that was once again heading in his direction.

The direction Duan Ling Tian was heading in was not an open space. He was headed in the direction of Di Jue's head.

"Do you only know how to run?" Di Jue was getting impatient because he realized Duan Ling Tian's speed seemed to have increased again.

Although he had reverted to his true form and his speed had also increased, it was still slower than Duan Ling Tian's current speed.

At this moment, he felt a pang of regret for accepting Duan Ling Tian's Death Duel Invitation.

Currently, he was no longer certain if he could kill Duan Ling Tian since his speed was just too fast. Di Jue's speed could not compare to his speed at all!

Chapter 1864: The Dragon Clan's Inherited Divine Ability

Upon hearing Di Jue's impatient remark, Duan Ling Tian who easily evaded Di Jue who had transformed into his true form, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon, said mockingly, "Is this the extent of your strength?"

Faced with Duan Ling Tian's provocation, Di Jue began to see red. His strength surged as he growled in his deep voice, "Duan Ling Tian, since you want to die, I'll fulfill your wish!"

At this instant, under the watchful eyes of the others, Di Jue's spiraling body that was several hundreds of meters long began to shine with a bloody light. This bloody light emitted out of Di Jue's body. The moment it appeared, it exuded a terrifying aura that sent chills up people's spines. Moreover, Di Jue's aura had also changed dramatically as he became even more powerful!

Upon seeing this, a high-ranking official from a quasi third-rate force muttered in confusion, "This is the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability? The True Form Beserkification?"

Although his voice was not loud, many people heard his words. Soon after, apart from the members of the dragon clan, almost everyone learned about the technique Di Jue had cast. It was the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Beserkification!

"Tian'er, Di Jue has finally cast the True Form Beserkification, the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability. According to my Divine Consciousness, after his true form underwent the Beserkification, his strength is comparable to an ordinary Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage powerhouse! You must be careful!" Duan Ru Feng's Voice Transmission rang in Duan Ling Tian's ears to warn him.

As soon as Duan Ru Feng finished speaking, Di Jue roared. "Duan Ling Tian, today's date will be your death anniversary next year!" His gigantic True Form moved swiftly toward Duan Ling Tian at a much faster speed than before. At this moment, his speed was no longer inferior to Duan Ling Tian's fastest speed!

"True Form Beserkification? Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage?" Faced with Di Jue's True Form that was shining with a bloody light, Duan Ling Tian's expression contained a hint of dread. He retreated to the distance with much difficulties, gradually putting more distance between him and Di Jue who was charging at him menacingly.

Even then, the wind caused by the movements of Di Jue's True Form smacked against his face, causing him pain.

'I can only raise my speed to the level that's equivalent to an ordinary Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage Martial Cultivator by relying on the two Divine Abilities, the Elementary Devouring Tactic and the Golden Crow's Wings, for a short while. Initially, I thought I'll gain the upper hand first with this speed, but it didn't cross my mind that Di Jue would cast the True Form Beserkification, the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability. Not only is his speed on par with him, but his strength has also risen to the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage!'

Although Duan Ling Tian successfully evaded the first attack by Di Jue after he had cast the True Form Berserkification, there were no signs of joy on his face at all.

Currently, Di Jue's speed was on par with his speed. This meant he no longer held the upper hand in regards to speed. Put aside his speed and only consider their strength, he was far inferior compared to Di Jue!

Duan Ling Tian instantly fell into a disadvantageous position!

"Tian'er, the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Berserkification, has a time limit. Once the time's up, the effect will disappear. Moreover, the dragon that cast the Divine Ability, the True Form Berserkification, will be weakened to a certain level." Meanwhile, Duan Ru Feng continued to transmit his voice to Duan Ling Tian. "Your speed's on par with his speed. If it's possible, put some more distance between both of you and stall for time. When the effect of his Berserkification is gone, you'll be invincible with your speed, and you can kill him!"

Upon hearing Duan Ru Feng's words, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up momentarily before it dimmed again, and he smiled wryly.

Di Jue's Berserkification's effect could only last for a short time. However, was it not similar to his Sun True Origin that had risen in strength through the Elementary Devouring Tactic? Moreover, he had depleted 80% to 90% of his Spiritual Energy. It was impossible for him to cast the Elementary Devouring Tactic again.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you're a man, fight directly with me with honor. It just shows that you're a coward if you keep evading my attacks!" Di Jue began to feel impatient when his attacks failed to land on Duan Ling Tian.

Di Jue had only 15 more minutes at most with the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Berserkification, that he had comprehended. After that, not only would he revert to his original state, but he would be weakened as well. At that time, he would no longer be a match for Duan Ling Tian!

For this reason, he could only goad Duan Ling Tian into action by mocking him. If Duan Ling Tian could not endure his goading, he would definitely fight him directly! If that happened, he would be able to kill him in just one blow!

Di Jue could also see that Duan Ling Tian's current speed was only on par with his speed, and his attack was completely inferior to his!

'What Divine Ability did Duan Ling Tian cast previously? To think he's able to devour the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy so quickly to raise his energy to a level that's close to the Early Divine Saint Stage. If Di Jue's Berserkification's effect is gone, he won't be a match for Duan Ling Tian at all!' The expression of Clan Leader Di Shan of the dragon clan was extremely grim.

If he could reverse time, he would not have allowed Di Jue to accept Duan Ling Tian's Death Duel Invitation.

Whether it's Duan Ling Tian's strength or the Divine Abilities he had successively cast, it made him realize Duan Ling Tian was almost invincible even among Divine Saint Stage Martial Cultivators!

What a joke!

He could even force Di Jue who had broken through to the Exemplary Saint Stage to such a state, who else below the Exemplary Saint Stage could be his match?

At the very least, Di Shan felt that nobody below the Exemplary Saint Stage in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land was a match for Duan Ling Tian.

Even the person widely acknowledged as the most powerful Divine Saint Stage powerhouse in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, Centurion Tong Zhong from the Azure Cloud Mansion's Black Armored Army, was not a match for Duan Ling Tian.

Although Tong Zhong was widely acknowledged as invincible among those below the Exemplary Saint Stage in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, that was before Duan Ling Tian had shown up. Moreover, if he was to battle Di Jue who had broken through to the Early Exemplary Saint Stage, it would be absolutely impossible for him to survive ten moves from Di Jue, let alone defeating him!

"Coward?" Duan Ling Tian chuckled. "Di Jue, I've already gotten bored of you trying to goad me. Do you think I'll fall for it? Do you think I'm an idiot or are you an idiot?" Duan Ling Tian's words that hit the mark angered Di Jue so much he almost threw up blood!

He knew it was impossible to goad Duan Ling Tian into action now.

Just like this, under the watchful gaze of the others, Duan Ling Tian and Di Jue began their chasing game. One was in the lead while the other was behind. It appeared very leisurely.

A Five-clawed Golden Dragon that was several hundreds of meters long, body gleaming with a bloody light, was chasing a human that was ant-like in size comparatively. Not only was it visually impactful, but it looked comical as well.

"Coward!"

"Duan Ling Tian, you coward!"

"Fight honorably with Big Brother Di Jue if you dare. How long do you plan to evade his attacks?"

"Exactly! You might be able to evade for now, but do you think you can do it forever?"

The members of the dragon clan present on the scene were scolding Duan Ling Tian. As members of the dragon clan, they were, naturally, aware of the limitations of the inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Beserkification. Due to this reason, they felt anxious on behalf of Di Jue.

If the Beserkification's effect disappeared, Di Jue would be like meat on a chopping board. Duan Ling Tian would be able to kill him as he pleased.

Naturally, this was not something they were willing to see. All of them wished for Di Jue to kill Duan Ling Tian and obtain the chance to enter the dragon clan's Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool. They knew Di Jue would be able to rise to the sky once he came out of the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

With that, under Di Jue's lead, the dragon clan would definitely be able to become the most elite force in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land. They would not have to fear the Mountainshade Black Market or the Azure Cloud Mansion!

At that time, they would be able to lift their prideful heads again, unlike how they currently had to lower their heads when they encounter people from the Mountainshade Black Market and the Azure Cloud Mansion.

"Huh? The bloody light on Di Jue's body seems to be getting dimmer."

"It's not just the bloody light that's dimming. Even the aura on his body seems to be getting weaker as well. Although the changes are minuscule, you'll be able to see it if you pay close attention."

"You're right! It looks like there are limitations to the Divine Ability that Di Jue had cast."

"It's the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Beserkification, that Di Jue cast. The duration of the Beserkification depends on his comprehension of that Divine Ability. Based on the situation so far, Di Jue's Beserkification will probably last for only another 15 minutes at most!"

The people from the various quasi third-rate forces began to whisper among themselves. Those who did not have any expectations for Duan Ling Tian gradually began to see hope of Duan Ling Tian's victory.

"Di Jue's speed is slowing down!"

"Wait a minute! It's not only Di Jue's speed, but even Duan Ling Tian's speed is slowing down!"

"What's going on?"

"Isn't it obvious? The True Form Beserkification, the Divine Ability Di Jue had cast has its limitations and so does the Divine Ability that could quickly devour the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy that was cast by Duan Ling Tian. Judging by the current situation, Duan Ling Tian might not be able to win after all!"

"The situation really changes from minute to minute. We really have no idea who the winner will be until the very last moment! Wait a minute! I should say it's hard to guess who will live and who will die!"

As time went by, the people who had gradually become confident of Duan Ling Tian's victory began to lose their confidence in him when they discovered he seemed to be losing strength.

'Junior Brother Ling Tian...' Gu Li's expression was glum as he thought to himself, 'You can do it, you can do it! You can definitely do it!'

"Tian'er." Duan Ru Feng's expression began to turn grave as well.

Ku Mi, as usual, had a long face. One was unable to tell what his thoughts were.

"Leader Dugu, between both of them, who do you think will die in the end?" Feng Bu Yi asked as he looked at Dugu.

"I have confidence in Duan Ling Tian," Dugu answered nonchalantly.

Zhong Qi Shan who was standing at the side asked in confusion, "Why?"

"Because he's more pleasing to the eyes." Dugu's answer rendered Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi Shan speechless. Was this even a valid reason?

"Duan Ling Tian, I thought you're very powerful, but as it turns out, your Divine Abilities have limitations as well!" Di Jue also discovered the decrease in Duan Ling Tian's strength.

In his opinion, the Divine Ability that Duan Ling Tian had cast earlier must be a Divine Ability that was similar to the True Form Beserkification that he had cast.

Chapter 1865: Di Jue's Death

For the True Form Beserkification, the dragon clan's inherited Divine Ability, the stage of comprehension decided the time limit of the Beserkification's effect.

Once the time was over, the Beserkification effect would disappear. After the effect of the Beserkification was over, the caster would fall into a weakened state. This was the aftereffect of the True Form Beserkification!

Due to the aftereffect, Di Jue thought he would be killed by Duan Ling Tian, someone whom he had regarded as an ant previously. Naturally, he felt extremely unresigned.

However, so what if he was unresigned? Nobody could win against the circumstances!

He only had himself to blame for being careless and let Duan Ling Tian escape from his nose previously.

At the moment when Di Jue had lost all hope as his strength and speed decreased, he discovered that Duan Ling Tian's strength and speed had decreased as well. He realized the Divine Ability Duan Ling Tian had cast earlier must have limitations as well.

A ray of hope began to shine in his heart.

Although he had fallen into a weakened state, he did not have to fear Duan Ling Tian who had also fallen into a weakened state. After all, his foundation was obviously much more powerful than Duan Ling Tian.

He was at the Early Exemplary Saint Stage while Duan Ling Tian was only at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage. If both of them are similarly weakened, he would still be stronger than Duan Ling Tian!

However, at this moment, Di Jue seemed to have forgotten a problem. Although the Divine Abilities he and Duan Ling Tian had cast had aftereffects, the aftereffects were, naturally, different since they were two different Divine Abilities. Due to this slight miscalculation on Di Jue's part, he was destined to die with a belly full of regrets!

Swish! Swish! Swish!

...

As three streaks of sword rays swept out, Di Jue who was weakened and whose strength had fallen a stage lower to the Early Divine Saint Stage, for the time being, was instantly killed.

The three sword rays that killed him came from none other than Duan Ling Tian. To be more precise, it came from Duan Ling Tian and his two clones.

The two clones had appeared when he cast the Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial again.

Rumble!

It was only until when Di Jue's gigantic body had fallen to the ground, causing a thunderous noise, that everyone regained their senses after the shock of seeing Duan Ling Tian killing Di Jue.

However, when they shifted eyes to Di Jue's body, they were shocked again.

'Di Jue actually thought the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, that I cast have an aftereffect! What a joke! It's apparent the Elementary Devouring Tactic is much more amazing compared to his True Form Berserkfication! As expected of the Elementary Devouring Tactic, it's indeed a powerful Divine Ability worthy of Elder Huo's praise!' The moment Duan Ling Tian thought of the scene from earlier, he mocked Di Jue inwardly.

At the same time, he could not help but sigh emotionally. Earlier, after 15 minutes had passed, and Di Jue's Berserkfication's effect had disappeared, his Sun True Origin that was raised by the Elementary Devouring Tactic had also returned to its original state. Even then, he still possessed Sun True Origin that was equivalent to a powerhouse at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage.

Along with many abilities that he had, including the Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial, his strength was not much weaker than before.

As for Di Jue, after the Berserkfication's effect was gone, his strength had suffered a major decline! Due to the great disparity between their strength, he was killed by Duan Ling Tian even though he had a tough body!

"Oh, yes... The dragon orb!" As the crowd was still in shock, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have recalled something. His eyes lit up as he descended with the intention to extract the dragon orb from Di Jue's body.

The dragon orb was a good item that could be used to repair the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda!

'With Di Jue's strength, his dragon orb must be able to greatly help the repairing of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he descended.

However, just as Duan Ling Tian had approached Di Jue's gigantic True Form and was about to cut his body open...

Boom!

A powerful energy crashed against him, sending him flying.

The energy was powerful but gentle. It was as though the person was trying to send him away as gently as he could.

“Di Shan!” At the same time, a figure appeared next to Duan Ling Tian at lightning speed. It was none other than Duan Ru Feng.

At this moment, Duan Ru Feng was staring solemnly at Di Shan who had just made a move.

“Mansion Master Duan, no tampering is allowed on the body of a dragon from the dragon clan!” Faced with Duan Ru Feng, Di Shan looked at him fearlessly. “It’s the same even in the dragon clan in the Upper Province!”

The Upper Province’s dragon clan!

It was apparent Di Shan had intentionally mentioned the Upper Province’s dragon clan to pressure Duan Ru Feng. “The fact that Di Jue is killed by your son means Di Jue was useless. Our dragon clan will keep our promise and give your son the chance to enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool! However, nobody is allowed to defile Di Jue’s body! This is our dragon clan’s bottom line!” Di Shan said determinedly. His tone brooked no argument.

“Bottomline!”

“Bottomline!”

At once, many members of the dragon clan began to chant loudly.

They finally had an outlet to vent their frustration caused by Di Jue’s death and the chance of entering the Dragon Cleansing Pool being given away.

“Hurmph!” Duan Ru Feng snorted coldly and ignored Di Shan before he looked and Duan Ling Tian and transmitted his voice over. “Tian’er, although Di Jue’s body is a treasure trove, based on the current situation, it’s better to just forget about it. The most important thing for you is to enter the dragon clan’s Dragon Cleansing Pool and use this opportunity that only comes by every few thousand years in the Lower Province.”

“Sure.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He was not reckless nor obtuse. He could see the determination in Di Shan and the other members of the dragon clan’s eyes. Although he knew the dragon orb in Di Jue’s body was good, it was impossible for him to extract it based on how determined the members of the dragon clan were.

Due to this reason, he instantly dismissed the idea and did not persist with it.

Meanwhile, the eyes in the surroundings landed on Duan Ling Tian one by one. Some of them contained shock, some were filled with disbelief while others contained fear and dread.

“Young Mansion Master Duan Ling Tian of Azure Cloud Mansion actually killed the dragon clan’s Five-clawed Golden Dragon, Di Jue! His innate talent doesn’t seem to be inferior to his father!”

“The Azure Cloud Mansion is really born under a lucky star! First, they have Duan Ru Feng, and now, they have Duan Ling Tian!”

“With him around, it won’t be a problem for the Azure Cloud Mansion to maintain their glory for another 800 to 1,000 years!”

The group of high-ranking officials and disciples from various quasi third-rate forces looked at Duan Ling Tian with complicated gazes.

If such an outstanding young talent appeared in the sect they were in, he would definitely be able to lead their sects to a higher level. Given enough time, they would even be on par with the Mountainshade Black Market and Azure Cloud Mansion. Just like how Duan Ru Feng had led the Azure Cloud Mansion to glory with his strength alone!

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

At the same time, the group of dragon clan’s high-ranking officials had also arrived by Di Shan’s side.

Apart from Di Shan who could contain his anger, the group of dragon clan’s high-ranking officials, including the dragon clan’s Enforcement Elder, the Five-clawed Blood Dragon, Xue Chan, were staring at Duan Ling Tian with killing intent.

Duan Ling Tian had killed Di Jue and made the dragon clan lose its most suitable candidate for the next Clan Leader.

There was no doubt the dragon clan would have to spend a very long time and a tremendous amount of resources to wait for a Five-clawed Golden Dragon to appear again and nurture him to Di Jue’s level!

The moment they thought of this, they could not help but feel irritated. They hated Duan Ling Tian to the core!

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, congratulations!” Gu Li had appeared next to Duan Ling Tian to congratulate him for obtaining the chance to enter the dragon clan’s Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

Ku Mi had also appeared by Duan Ru Feng’s side. Although he remained silent, there was a hint of respect in his eyes when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

If the reason he was respectful to Duan Ling Tian previously was due to Mansion Master Duan Ru Feng, now, he was respectful due to the strength Duan Ling Tian had displayed. His strength was at the Exemplary Saint Stage even though his cultivation base was at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage!

Duan Ling Tian’s strength had shocked him.

He believed if this Young Mansion Master would not be inferior to the current Mansion Master in the future.

“Lord Leader guessed correctly!” In the distance, the two Deputy Leaders of Mountainshade Black Market, Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi Shan, exchanged a look. They could see the shock in each other’s eyes.

“Congratulations!” A faintly familiar voice resonated in Duan Ling Tian’s ear, taking him by surprise. He turned around and looked at the source of the voice. With just one glance, he saw the Leader of Mountainshade Black Market, Dugu.

“Thank you!” Although he had no idea why his father’s rival would congratulate him, he still expressed his thanks politely.

No matter what, this person had been quite polite to him from the very start. As the saying went, ‘It’s difficult to slap a smiling face!’

“Mansion Master Duan, please wait for one more day. After I’ve dealt with Di Jue’s matter, I’ll bring the Sun Key out and send the Young Mansion Master into the Dragon Cleansing Pool!” Di Shan said as he raised his head to look at Duan Ru Feng.

After saying that, without waiting for Duan Ru Feng’s response, he led the group of dragon clan’s high-ranking officials to deal with the matter at hand.

Di Shan was the dragon clan’s Five-clawed Golden Dragon. He was from the dragon clan’s Imperial Clan. He had been killed. Moreover, he was killed in the dragon clan’s lair. Naturally, the dragon clan would have to arrange his funeral.

Duan Ling Tian and the other three left as well. On the way back to the little valley, he came to a halt and looked in the direction where the Cloud Continent was located and murmured in a low voice, ‘Did all of you see it? I, this incompetent Sect Leader, have finally taken revenge for all of you. I’ve finally killed him!’

Although his voice was not loud, Duan Ru Feng and the other two heard his words clearly.

Duan Ru Feng and Ku Mi knew what Duan Ling Tian’s words meant, but Gu Li could only guess there was enmity between his junior brother and Di Jue prior to this. He did not know the details of what had happened so he became curious.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, you have enmity with Di Jue before this?” Gu Li asked curiously as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. After that, he quickly added, “You don’t have to tell me if you don’t want to talk about it or if it’s inconvenient. I completely understand.”

“There’s nothing that I can’t talk about.” Duan Ling Tian shook his head and recounted how Di Jue had annihilated the Ling Tian Sect that he had built on the Mortal Continent previously.

Gu Li finally understood Duan Ling Tian’s hatred toward Di Jue.

Chapter 1866: Entering the Dragon Cleansing Pool!

Finally, Gu Li discovered the reason for the five-year pact. As it turned out, everything had happened for a reason. This included the conflict between Mansion Master Duan Ru Feng from the Azure Cloud Mansion and the dragon clan five years ago. In order to resolve the conflict, he had made a five-year pact with the dragon clan.

‘The dragon clan has suffered double losses this time around... If they had handover Di Jue over to Uncle Duan five years ago, the only loss they suffered would be Di Jue. Currently, not only did they lose Di Jue, but they have even lost the chance to enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool!’ Gu Li thought to himself as he lamented how fickle fate was.

He believed if Clan Leader Di Shan of the dragon clan could predict the future, he would not have protected Di Jue five years ago!

'The Dragon Cleansing Pool is the dragon clan's saint land that can grant strength and tremendously advance the progress of the members of the dragon clan who enter it... Come to think of it, Junior Brother Ling Tian should be able to make a tremendous leap in his progress after entering it!' Gu Li thought to himself, feeling slightly envious of Duan Ling Tian.

Naturally, he was just envious. There were no feelings of malice in his envy toward Duan Ling Tian.

He would not be unhappy or jealous if Duan Ling Tian was doing well, he would only be happy for him.

The five-year pact had finally ended with Di Shan's death.

While people from other quasi third-rate forces left one after another, apart from the people from the Azure Cloud Mansion, none of the people from the Mountainshade Black Market left at all.

Not long after Duan Ling Tian and the other three returned to the little valley where flowers flourished and the birds were chirping, Leader Dugu of Mountainshade Black Market brought Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi back to the little valley and their respective wooden houses.

Duan Ling Tian and the others eased up when they saw Dugu and the other two did not act up.

One day passed in just a blink of an eye.

On the second day, a green figure appeared above the small valley and said loudly, "Mansion Master Duan, the Clan Leader has invited all of you over!"

The green figure was none other than one of the Five-Clawed Divine Dragon Elders of the dragon clan, the Five-Clawed Green Dragon, Qing Yan!

It had only been a day since Di Jue was killed. It was only natural that his expression was unfriendly. When he saw Duan Ling Tian, the killing intent gleaming in his eyes intensified as though he wanted to avenge Di Jue. Nevertheless, he managed to keep a lid on his impulse.

After Duan Ling Tian and the others came out, the people from Mountainshade Black Market came out as well. One of the Deputy Leaders, Feng Bu Yi, looked at Qing Yan and asked, "Elder Qing Yan, I've long heard of the dragon clan's Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool. It should be alright for us to tag along and join in the fun, right?"

"Sure." Qing Yan seemed to have expected the people from Mountainshade Black Market would not leave yet, therefore, he was not surprised when he heard Feng Bu Yi's words. He nodded in response to his question.

He had agreed so quickly due to the order of the Clan Leader of the dragon clan.

When Duan Ling Tian met with Clan Leader Di Shan of the Dragon Clan again, he was at the innermost valley in the dragon clan's lair.

The entrance to the valley was narrow, but it seemed like a whole new world inside!

Deep in the valley, there was a grand door hovering in the air. The door was tightly shut. It was unknown where the door led to.

The grand door had two panels and each panel had a different keyhole. The one on the left was round while the other had the shape of a crescent. It had a very peculiar appearance. It was unknown what the door was made of, but as it hovered in the air, it gave off an ancient aura. It was as though it had existed for a long time and had seen the rise and fall of the world

The group of people led by Clan Leader Di Shan finally arrived before the door. Di Shan looked at the door and said, "This is the entrance to the Dragon Cleansing Pool!"

Duan Ling Tian instantly studied the door the moment he heard Di Shan's words.

He discovered the door before him seemed to hover in the air on its own accord. There was no trace of Illusion Formations at all. The door seemed as though it was embedded in that space, giving it a mysterious aura.

"The Dragon Cleansing Pool is inside?" Duan Ling Tian was eager to enter it. He was thrilled by the unknown even though he was also feeling wary. He was feeling very conflicted at this moment.

"Young Mansion Master!"

Without knowing when, Di Shan's eyes landed on Duan Ling Tian as he said calmly, "Based on what I know, there haven't been any other race, apart from the dragons, who have entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool... Therefore, I have no idea what would happen once you enter. If you decide to enter, we won't be responsible for the consequences... It has nothing to do with the dragon clan if you die in there." There was a hint of warning in Di Shan's words.

Nevertheless, he did not intentionally say these words to scare Duan Ling Tian away, he was merely telling the truth.

"Clan Leader Di Shan, did you wish that I wouldn't dare to enter it?" Duan Ling Tian asked coldly after listening to Di Shan's words.

"It did cross my mind, but what I said is true... I don't know what will happen when a human enters the Dragon Cleansing Pool," Di Shan said honestly as he nodded.

"Naturally, I won't stop you even if you insist on entering... After all, you've won the five-year pact!!" When Di Shan mentioned the five-year pact, he had an expression of regret on his face.

He did not expect Di Jue whom he had insisted on protecting five years ago would die five years later. Not only did Di Jue die, but the dragon clan had lost the chance to enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool that only opened once every few thousand years as well.

All of it happened because of two things. First, it was because he had made the wrong decision back then. Second, it was all due to the young man standing before him.

This young man had defied his expectation and killed Di Jue, winning the five-year pact!

"Since I'm here, naturally, I'll enter!" Duan Ling Tian said bluntly after hearing Di Shan's words.

Di Shan nodded and no longer said anything else. He turned to look at Duan Ru Feng. "Mansion Master Duan, bring out the Lunar Key you have with you, and we'll open the door to the Dragon Cleansing Pool together... Additionally, if anything happens to the Young Mansion Master inside, it has nothing to do with the dragon clan!"

"What? Does Clan Leader Di Shan think I'm an unreasonable person?" Duan Ru Feng responded with a question.

At the same time, a key appeared in his hands. It was the Lunar Key that he had taken from Di Shan previously. Meanwhile, Di Shan had the Sun Key in his possession.

The door to the Dragon Cleansing Pool could only be opened with both keys present.

'The round-shaped and crescent-shaped hole are most likely the keyholes,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he studied the door hovering in the air. The two holes were very obvious.

As it turned out, Duan Ling Tian was right. Duan Ling Tian was not wrong. When Duan Ru Feng and Clan Leader Di Shan stood before the door, both of them used their energies to guide the keys into the keyholes.

At this moment, not only Duan Ling Tian, Gu Li, and Ku Mi were staring intently at the door, but even the people from the Mountainshade Black Market led by Dugu were also staring at it intently.

Under everyone's watchful eyes, the Sun Key and the Lunar Key emitted an inexplicable energy that was visible to the eyes. It shrouded the whole door in just a blink of an eye.

A few moments later, the door emitted a light as bright as the sun. Everyone present on the scene instinctively squinted their eyes.

Boom!

At this moment, a thunderous noise sounded. Meanwhile, the light that was as bright as the blazing sun slowly dimmed as the tightly shut door began to open inwardly by an invisible force.

Rumble!

Soon after, the door was completely opened.

At that instant when the door opened, everyone, including Duan Ling Tian, looked inside in unison. All of them wanted to see what was behind the door. However, in the next instant, they were all disappointed.

It was because nothing could be seen apart from a thin and translucent barrier that was formed by an unknown energy.

In their eyes, the barrier was like a sheet of glass. Behind the barrier, all they could see was the valley they were in.

"In theory, there's no time limit in the Dragon Cleansing Pool... When it's time to leave, the formation inside the Dragon Cleansing Pool will send you out," Di Shan said as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

As the Clan Leader of the Dragon Clan, he was a man of his word despite the fact that he was upset.

Since they had lost the five-year pact, they, naturally, had to keep their words and give up the chance to enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool to the Young Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion.

“Alright.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He felt a hint of admiration for Di Shan who spoke to him a calm manner.

He knew if he was in Di Shan’s position, it would impossible for him to maintain his calm while he spoke to the person who killed Di Jue, the Five-clawed Golden Dragon.

“Father, I’m going in.” Duan Ling Tian looked at Duan Ru Feng

“Be careful.” Duan Ru Feng nodded and reminded him to be careful again when he recalled Di Shan’s words.

“Don’t worry.” After giving Duan Ru Feng a reassuring look, Duan Ling Tian also nodded at Gu Li and Ku Mi. He seemed to have transformed into a bolt of lightning as he charged toward the door that led to the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

Under everyone’s watchful eyes, Duan Ling Tian collided with the barrier that was made by an unknown force. Subsequently, it seemed as though he had been swallowed by the barrier as he disappeared from their sights.

Duan Ling Tian had finally entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool!

“Mansion Master Duan.”

At this moment, Leader Dugu of the Mountainshade Black Market who had remained silent since they had entered this valley turned to Duan Ru Feng and asked, “Is there a secret you know about the Dragon Cleansing Pool that you would risk your son entering it?”

Chapter 1867: Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon?!

“Leader Dugu, did you stay back just to ask this question?” Duan Ru Feng said coldly when he heard his long-time rival’s words. He narrowed his eyes as he said, “You heard what Clan Leader Di Shan said. Even he doesn’t know what will happen if a human enters the Dragon Cleansing Pool... Do you think I’ll know?”

“If you didn’t know, would you have let your son take such a risk?” Dugu asked as he stared at Duan Ru Feng intently.

After listening to Dugu, Di Shan could not help but look at Duan Ru Feng suspiciously. He was the Clan Leader of the dragon clan, and it was true he did not know what would happen if a human entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

However, just like what the Leader of the Mountainshade Black Market had said, would the Mansion Master of Azure Cloud Mansion allow his son to take such a risk if he did not know what would happen if a human entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool?

“Leader Dugu, in any case, you’re the Leader of Mountainshade Black Market, haven’t you heard that fortune favors the bold? The Dragon Cleansing Pool is the dragon clan’s Saint Land and had helped countless outstanding members of the dragon clan to rise to the top. These are known facts. I believe this will definitely be a fortuitous encounter for my son as long as he comes out alive!” Duan Ru Feng said unhurriedly.

Naturally, he did not reveal the most important part. He could not say it was the elusive Old Prophet who had suggested his son enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool. He trusted the Old Prophet!

Fortune favored the bold?

Seeing that Duan Ru Feng’s words made some sense, Dugu and Di Shan did not continue to question him even though they could tell he was not telling the whole truth. This was because they knew it would be pointless even if they persisted in questioning him.

“Clan Leader Di Shan, we’ve bothered you enough for the past few days. We’ll take our leave now!” After failing to get the answer he desired, Dugu did not plan to stay on any longer. After he bade farewell to Di Shan, he left together with Feng Bu Yi and Zhong Qi Shan.

In just an instant, only the people led by Di Shan and Duan Ru Feng were left in the valley with the opened the door that was hovering in the air.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who had entered the door to the Dragon Cleansing Pool felt as though he was submerged in water.

After Duan Ling Tian passed through the door, he suddenly discovered he could not feel his body. He tried but failed to take control of his body. He even tried to observe his surroundings through his Divine Consciousness but to no avail!

At this moment, all he was left with was his consciousness that seemed to be trapped in this place.

In the beginning, Duan Ling Tian did not feel bothered by it. However, as time continued to pass, he began to feel uneasy.

‘What’s going on? Isn’t this the dragon clan’s Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool? Why is it so strange?’

‘Unless... Clan Leader Di Shan of the dragon clan lied to us?’ Duan Ling Tian began to make guesses. However, he quickly dismissed this thought since he felt that it was impossible.

Based on the strength of the dragon clan in the Lower Province, they had yet to possess the ability to build such a realistic door to the Dragon Cleansing Pool. The door was clearly a creation of a powerful being. Such beings only existed in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land or the Devata Realms.

Apart from possessing his consciousness that allowed him to think, imagine, and recall his memories, he could not do anything else.

Duan Ling Tian was uncertain of what kind of situation he was in. Moreover, he did not know if he was even in the Dragon Cleansing Pool since the pool was unfamiliar territory to him. He did not even know what lay behind the door nor did he know what would happen to him once he entered it.

‘Now what?’

As time passed, Duan Ling Tian became more and more frustrated because he really did not know what to do. He only possessed the ability to think. He could not control his Divine Consciousness nor his body. To be more precise, he could not even feel his body.

Duan Ling Tian did not know how long had passed, but he was getting more and more frustrated. It was as though he was about to go insane. ‘Where the hell is this? What happened to the dragon clan’s Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool?’

Duan Ling Tian finally managed to calm himself down when he realized it was pointless getting frustrated. After he calmed down, he instantly thought of Duan Ru Feng and the others who were waiting for him outside. ‘I don’t even know how much time has passed... Are father and Senior Brother Gu Li getting impatient?’

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian’s thoughts drifted to his mother, Li Rou, and his fiancée, Li Fei, along with their son, Duan Nian Tian. Then, he thought of Ke’Er and Feng Tian Wu.

Without knowing when, his thoughts drifted to the battle between him and Di Jue. ‘The Elementary Devouring Tactic helped the most in the battle between Di Jue and me!’

He was able to kill Di Jue so easily because Di Jue had cast the dragon clan’s inherited Divine Ability, the True Form Berserkfication. The aftereffect of the Berserkfication was the main reason Di Jue died!

The True Form Berserkfication was an inherited Divine Ability of the dragon clan that could greatly increase the user’s strength in a short period of time. However, once the effect ended, the user would fall to a weakened state.

Di Jue’s strength had fallen to the Early Divine Saint Stage during his weakened state.

On the other hand, although Duan Ling Tian could not cast the Elementary Devouring Tactic again after its effect had disappeared, the Elementary Devouring Tactic did not have any aftereffects.

Although his Sun True Origin had reverted to its original level, his strength was still comparable to a powerhouse at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage!

With the strength of a powerhouse at the Intermediate Divine Saint Stage, in addition to Divine Abilities such as the Golden Crow’s Wings, the Otherworldly Celestial, and the Sovereign Heart Sword, it was very simple for him to kill an Early Divine Saint Stage powerhouse. Hence, after Di Jue had fallen to a weakened state, Duan Ling Tian struck as fast as lightning and easily killed Di Jue!

Duan Ling Tian thought the Elementary Devouring Tactic helped the most during the battle because if it was not for the Elementary Devouring Tactic that could devour the Heaven and Earth Energy in the surroundings for a short time, he would not have been able to possess speed comparable to an ordinary powerhouse at the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage after casting the Golden Crow’s Wings.

If he did not possess the speed of an ordinary powerhouse at the Intermediate Exemplary Saint Stage, it would be impossible for him to evade Di Jue's attack after he had gone through the Beserkfication process.

If the Elementary Devouring Tactic had aftereffects, it would be impossible for him to kill Di Jue so easily.

Although the Elementary Devouring Tactic helped a lot, the Golden Crow's Wings could not be dismissed as well! Both Divine Abilities were indispensable!

'Di Jue...' When Duan Ling Tian remembered Di Jue whom he had killed, Duan Ling Tian's thoughts began to drift to the time when he first met him.

At that time, he was like an ant in Di Jue's eyes. Di Jue could crush him as he pleased! Indeed, his cultivation base that was at the Saint Rudiment Stage was like an ant compared to Di Jue whose cultivation base was at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage. Di Jue merely needed to use a finger to kill him!

However, he managed to improve during the five years to the point where he was able to fight Di Jue on even ground!

Duan Ling Tian had mixed feelings when he thought about this. 'I think Di Jue didn't think, even in his death, that someone whom he had regarded as an ant five years ago would be able to send him to hell!'

'However, Clan Leader Di Shan seems like a man of his words. Initially, I thought he would make things difficult for us after I killed Di Jue. However, he's been nothing but cooperative. Naturally, that might be due to his fear of father.'

Duan Ling Tian's thoughts drifted all over the place until he did not know what else to think about.

In a world where only his consciousness existed, where he could not feel his body, he felt he was going crazy as time continued to pass!

However, Duan Ling Tian was still a weapon specialist on Earth in his past life. For a mission, he once had to stay undercover where there was no sun for a few months. If he was an ordinary person, he would have broken down mentally!

Due to his experience in his past life, Duan Ling Tian managed to stay sane under such circumstances.

'Those members from the dragon clan who entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool in the past definitely didn't experience this... Otherwise, it would've been impossible for them to leave so easily. How can an ordinary person suffer such a tedious torment,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian began to calm down again. In the end, he even managed to grin and bear with it.

"You're undoubtedly the successor of Sword Saint Feng Qing Yang of the Seven Absolutes Sect, the First Absolute, the Fog Rain Progeny... Little one, you've passed my test. I'll keep my words to Feng Qing Yang and grant you Dragonization!"

Just as Duan Ling Tian's consciousness had quieted down, a voice resonated suddenly. It had a majestic and captivating quality to it.

Although Duan Ling Tian was shocked, he was also ecstatic. This was because he could finally feel his body and his Divine Consciousness.

Before he even began to observe his surroundings, he instinctively looked toward the source of the voice.

He discovered a huge silhouette that spanned several thousands of meters above the sky. It was a Divine Dragon. In comparison, Di Jue's True Form was completely inferior!

Di Jue's True Form was only several hundreds of meters long, it was not even a thousand meter long. However, the Divine Dragon before him was at least five to six thousand meters long.

This Divine Dragon emitted an oppressive aura. Duan Ling Tian found it difficult to breathe that he almost suffocated.

'This dragon has... eight claws!' Soon after, Duan Ling Tian discovered that the Divine Dragon's figure that was several thousands of meters long possessed eight sharp claws on each of its hands!

Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon?!

Duan Ling Tian gasped.

At this moment, his breathing had almost stopped completely.

Chapter 1868: Dragon Warrior

Oh, God!

The Divine Dragon that appeared before him was actually an Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon!

"Elder Huo." After taking a deep breath to calm down, Duan Ling Tian took the initiative to call out to Elder Huo who was in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda to inform him of the predicament he was in.

"Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon?" Soon after, Elder Huo also saw the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon in front of Duan Ling Tian. "This Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon isn't real but merely a projection... Such a projection is generally found in inheritances. How did you find such an inheritance? The inheritance of an Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon would certainly be remarkable!"

"Elder Huo, this is no inheritance but..." Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly, he knew Elder Huo had misunderstood the situation. He recounted everything to Elder Huo and repeated the Divine Dragon's words from earlier.

After hearing what Duan Ling Tian say, Elder Huo asked, "Dragonization? He really said that he'll bestow upon you Dragonization?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "First, it said that I've passed the test, and he'll keep his words to my master, Feng Qing Yang, and bestow upon me Dragonization...Elder Huo, what's Dragonization?"

“Do you still remember the enlightenment I’ve given you previously?” Elder Huo asked. He did not answer Duan Ling Tian’s question.

“Of course, I remember.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. “My True Origin transformed into the Sun True Origin because of your enlightenment. Moreover, according to what you’ve said, every Three-legged Golden Crow could only enlighten someone once in their entire life.”

In that regards, Duan Ling Tian had always been grateful because it was a secret technique that Elder Huo could only use once in his life. For Elder Huo to bestow that favor on him, that favor was higher than the sky and deeper than the ocean to him!

“Elder Huo, why do you ask? Does it have something to do with Dragonization?” Duan Ling Tian asked after he regained his senses.

“Yes,” Elder Huo answered, “For the Dragon Clan, all dragons with seven or more claws could gift a human Dragonization ... The process of gifting a human Dragonization is similar to the enlightenment I’ve given you. Every Divine Dragon that has more than seven claws can also only gift a human Dragonization once in their whole life.”

“Similar to how you gave me the Flame of Sun?” Duan Ling Tian asked in surprise as his eyes lit up.

His True Origin had transformed into the Sun True Origin due to the Flame of Sun Elder Huo had given him. Naturally, the full potential of the Flame of Sun had yet to be revealed since it would improve as his cultivation base improved.

“Yes,” Elder Huo responded again.

“Elder Huo, what’s Dragonization?” Duan Ling Tian asked again.

“Dragonization means the ability to morph into a dragon... Naturally, it doesn’t mean you’ll transform into a Divine Dragon. Humans will stay human. The gift of Dragonization is merely another technique. Moreover, after humans receive the gift of Dragonization, although they would be able to transform into a dragon, they wouldn’t transform into a dragon per se. They would transform into a humanoid Dragon Warrior!” Elder Huo continued saying “After humans are gifted with Dragonization, they would be able to grow dragon scales or control their limbs and grow dragon claws... Furthermore, they could even grow a dragon tail if they want to.”

“Dragon Warrior?” Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows as he heaved a sigh of relief. He was worried the Dragonization would turn him into a Divine Dragon. He was human after all. He could not accept transforming into a Divine Dragon! He, naturally, felt relieved after listening to Elder Huo’s words.

At this moment, the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon spoke again, “My projection won’t be able to last long... Now, relax, and don’t resist no matter what happens to your body.”

“Do as he said... He’s going to gift you Dragonization soon.” Elder Huo’s voice was transmitted into Duan Ling Tian’s ears following that.

Duan Ling Tian instinctively relaxed his body and shut his eyes before he said, “Senior, I’m ready.”

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, he discovered an extremely terrifying aura rushing in his direction. He was completely shrouded by that aura in just a blink of an eye.

Following that, Duan Ling Tian could clearly sense waves of mysterious energies fusing with his body after they entered through his pores.

In the beginning, the energies were fairly gentle. However, when they entered his body, they began to move about in a frenzy.

If it was not for the reminder by the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon, Duan Ling Tian would have used his Sun True Origin to resist. Currently, he had to endure even if he felt it was intolerable.

As time passed, more and more powerful energies entered his body, making him feel that it was even more unbearable.

Sweat began to appear on Duan Ling Tian's forehead.

The pain in Duan Ling Tian's body made him tremble violently. He could not help it.

Due to the immense pain, he almost cracked his teeth from how hard he was clenching them. His sweat dripped down and soaked his clothes in just a blink of an eye.

'It's not over?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself after half an hour had passed.

Although only half an hour had passed, it felt like half a century to him due to the pain.

One hour passed.

Two hours passed.

Three hours passed.

...

Ten hours had passed as Duan Ling Tian suffered from pain in his body. At this point, he was already mentally numb.

A day had finally passed before Duan Ling Tian realized all the pain in his body had disappeared.

"Alright, I've gifted you with Dragonization. With this, it can be considered that I've kept my promise to Feng Qing Yang... My projection is going to disappear soon, I'll transmit all the information regarding Dragonization to you now. Keep your Divine Consciousness open," the Eight-clawed Divine Dragon said.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian discovered a wave of information had appeared in his mind.

Due to the reminder from the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon, Duan Ling Tian did not reject the information.

About 15 minutes later, the transmission of information finally ended.

"Little one, soar to the Devata Realm as soon as possible... We'll meet again sooner or later! At that time, you'll have to buy me a drink." Those were the words of the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon before it disappeared.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned when he saw the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon vanishing without a trace, Then, he began to process the information about Dragonization that the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon had given him.

“It’s exactly like what Elder Huo said...” Soon after, Duan Ling Tian realized the information he received was similar to what Elder Huo had told him.

However, there was additional information. It taught him how to transform into a Dragon Warrior!

“It’s actually quite complicated... Let’s try transforming my left arm into a dragon’s arm.” After processing all the information he received, Duan Ling Tian discovered that it was quite complicated to use the Dragon Energy gifted to him by the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon to transform into a Dragon Warrior.

After studying it for some time, he was barely able to mobilize the Dragon Energy to transform his left arm.

Following that, with one thought, the Dragon Energy stirred and eventually transformed his left arm into a Divine Dragon’s arm. His fingers had also, accordingly, turned into dragon claws. There was a total of eight claws on his hand.

“Eight-Clawed Dragon Warrior!”

At the same time, Elder Huo’s voice sounded in a timely manner. “You’re quite lucky to be given the gift of Dragonization by an Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon... You should know that an Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon is also an extremely rare existence in the Devata Realm!”

“It did not cross my mind there would be one in this world. Moreover, he seems friendly with your master, Feng Qing Yang. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have given you the gift of Dragonization that he could only gift once. When you meet your master in the future, be sure to thank him properly,” Elder Huo said.

Duan Ling Tian regained his senses at once after hearing that. He then recalled what the Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon had said at the very beginning.

He had said that he was only gifting Duan Ling Tian with the gift of Dragonization due to the promise he made to his master, Feng Qing Yang.

“My arm...” Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian discovered that his left arm seemed to possess an explosive force after transforming into a dragon arm.

Sou!

He lifted his dragon arm and clenched his dragon claws before he punched outward.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

The air stirred and exploded in the wake of his fists immediately.

“So strong!”

The strength of that punch made Duan Ling Tian realized how big an improvement the Dragonization had given his strength.

“A Dragon Warrior’s strength lies with body combat... When you’re in close proximity with your opponents, weapons aren’t as useful as fists and punches,” Elder Huo said, “Currently, your Sun True Origin is comparable to the strength of an Intermediate Divine Saint Stage Martial Cultivator... When you use your Sun True Origin to mobilize the Dragon Energy and transform into a Dragon Warrior, even a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage wouldn’t dare to engage you in body combat without other techniques to rely on! After transforming into a Dragon Warrior, not only would your strength increase, but even your defense would be stronger... Although it’s far inferior to a real Eight-Clawed Divine Dragon, it’s still a lot stronger than ordinary Six-clawed Divine Dragons. It’s on par with a Seven-Clawed Divine Dragon.”

After hearing that, Duan Ling Tian nodded. He vaguely understood what Elder Huo was trying to say.

“I need to further master the correct method to fully transform into a Dragon Warrior... However, it’s not important now.”

Duan Ling Tian did not forget where he was at the moment. He looked straight ahead at the lake before him as though he had sensed something, and his eyes lit up immediately.

‘Such dense aura... It’s coming from the bottom of the lake! It seems that the dragon clan’s Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool, is under this lake!’ With that thought in mind, Duan Ling Tian moved and disappeared from where he was like a ghost.

Splash!

In the next instant, the sound of water splashing could be heard as Duan Ling Tian dove into the lake.

Chapter 1869: The Mysterious Force within Dragon Cleansing Pool

After entering the lake, Duan Ling Tian realized that aura was even denser.

‘It’s at the bottom of the lake!’ Duan Ling Tian dove to the bottom of the lake before he straightened his body with his feet on the ground. He walked around as though he was walking on dry land. The water was not an obstacle to him.

At the bottom of the lake, not a single fish could be seen. There was only seaweed everywhere.

‘There!’ With the almost magnetic pull of the aura, coupled with his sensitivity, he soon pinpointed the place and made his way to a growth of seaweed.

However, when Duan Ling Tian saw there was nothing else apart from the seaweed, he was baffled. “What’s going on? The aura obviously came from here!”

With a raise of his hand, Duan Ling Tian used his Sun True Origin and removed the seaweed. After he removed the seaweed, his eyes immediately lit up. A palace was located beneath the seaweed.

At this moment, he was hovering above the palace. There was a layer of translucent veil that kept him and the water in the lake out.

'I should be able to enter...' Duan Ling Tian tried to pass through the translucent barrier. His feet touched the barrier, and he discovered the barrier did not repel him.

"Just as I expected! There's no problem with entering!" A few moments later, Duan Ling Tian walked through the barrier and appeared above the ancient and magnificent palace.

Duan Ling Tian looked at the opening. Behind the opening, he saw the bottom of the lake where he was at previously.

"Could the Dragon Cleansing Pool be in the palace?" Duan Ling Tian shifted his attention to the palace as he descended and made his way to the palace door. He studied the palace before him intently.

The palace was not very big, but it emitted an ancient aura. It was this aura that had caught Duan Ling Tian's attention earlier.

"The Dragon Cleansing Pool is in there?" Duan Ling Tian did not linger outside the palace, his mind was entirely focused on the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

After pushing open the palace door open and entering it, he realized it was misty inside.

There was a gigantic pool under the mist. It was filled with milky-white liquid that emitted an enticing aura. The aura had more than the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, it seemed to contain something else as well.

"This is the Dragon Cleansing Pool?"

After Duan Ling Tian activated the Strange Pupil, he could see through the mist, allowing him a clear view of the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

The Dragon Cleansing Pool looked like an ordinary pool, but it was surrounded by nine Divine Dragon statues with long bodies.

The tails of these Divine Dragons statues went straight into the Dragon Cleansing Pool while their head rested all over the place with their mouths open. The faint Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was devoured by them before it was infused into the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

Duan Ling Tian tentatively put his hand into the Dragon Cleansing Pool after he arrived by its side.

The milky-white liquid in the Dragon Cleansing Pool was cool to the touch and a dense Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy flowed into Duan Ling Tian through his hand. Along with it, a mysterious force also flowed into his body.

After the latter flowed in, the Sun True Origin in his body instinctively circulated it through his body using the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

Moreover, even the Dragon Energy that allowed him to transform into a Dragon Warrior that was given to him by an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon was also affected by the force. It became agitated before it went into a frenzy. Duan Ling Tian could not control it at all.

“What’s this?!” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes widened as he quickly withdrew his hand. The Sun True Origin and Dragon Energy in his body quietened down immediately.

“Go in... There shouldn’t be a problem.” At the same time, Elder Huo’s voice rang in his ears.

“Elder Huo, earlier I...” Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly after he heard Elder Huo’s words.

Although he trusted Elder Huo a lot, his earlier experience with the pool left him with fear in his heart. He quickly recounted what had happened to Elder Huo.

“Don’t worry... It’s just the Dragon Energy in your body resonating with the force in the Dragon Cleansing Pool. If I’m not mistaken, not only will your cultivation base increase tremendously after you enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool, but you’ll probably benefit in other ways as well. You said your Sun True Origin circulated the force with your cultivation method... This means your cultivation method is also compatible with that force,” Elder Huo said, “It seems like this Dragon Cleansing Pool is very suitable for you. At this moment, I can’t tell you how you’ll benefit from entering the Dragon Cleansing Pool. However, I’m certain it’ll only benefit you and won’t harm you.”

“The mysterious force resonates with the Dragon Energy in my body and is compatible with my cultivation method?” Duan Ling Tian was surprised.

He was not surprised the force resonated with the Dragon Energy in his body since he had obtained it from this place and from an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon.

However, he was surprised that his cultivation method was also compatible with that force. “My cultivation method, the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, is created on Cloud Continent by the Rebirth Martial Emperor. Even the Rebirth Martial Emperor didn’t cultivate it. When I came to the Dao Martial Saint Land, the nine Divine Dragons’ silhouettes would appear when I mobilize the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy and True Origin when I cultivate using the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique... It seems impossible for the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique that was created by the Rebirth Martial Emperor to have anything to do with the force in the dragon clan’s Saint Land, the Dragon Cleansing Pool! What’s going on?” Duan Ling Tian was puzzled.

The Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique was created by the Rebirth Martial Emperor who once stood at the peak on Cloud Continent. However, even the Rebirth Martial Emperor in his prime was nothing compared to the current Duan Ling Tian!

Regardless of how strong the Rebirth Martial Emperor was, he was merely the best on Cloud Continent.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian could be considered as an elite in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

The Dragon Cleansing Pool was the Saint Land of the Dao Martial Saint Land’s Lower Province’s dragon clan.

No matter how he thought about it, he could not find any connection between the two of them.

“So be it... Since I can't figure it out, I'll just stop thinking about it. Since Elder Huo said there's no problem with the Dragon Cleansing Pool, I'm sure it's fine.”

Duan Ling Tian stopped thinking about the matter after he regained his senses. In just a move, he dove into the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

Splash!

At the instant Duan Ling Tian entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool, he discovered the milky-white liquid in the Dragon Cleansing Pool was cooling. His clothes evaporated as soon as it came in contact with the milky-white liquid.

“If I'd known this was going to happen, I would've removed my clothes before coming in.” Duan Ling Tian shook his head when he saw this.

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes when he sensed something. Following that, his body seemed to have frozen like a statue as he fell into the Dragon Cleansing Pool.

“What's happening?” Duan Ling Tian discovered he no longer had control of his body the moment his body fell.

However, his current situation was still a lot better compared to the situation he was in when he first came in.

Apart from not being able to control his body, Duan Ling Tian could still control his Divine Consciousness at least and observed his surroundings.

“Eh? I've regained control of my body.” A few moments later, Duan Ling Tian discovered he had control of his body again.

After he regained control of his body, he was shocked to discover the chaotic situation in his body.

Firstly, the liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy and the mysterious force in the Dragon Cleansing Pool had entered his body. It was fine if that was it.

The problem was his Sun True Origin, the Dragon Energy, and the energies from the Dragon Cleansing Pool had already begun to circulate in his body according to the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique. From the beginning until now, Duan Ling Tian did not do anything at all. It had circulated on its own.

In fact, there was nothing he could do at all. He could only stand idly as it circulated on its own.

“Is this still my body?” Duan Ling Tian felt bitter when he felt the four different energies in his body circulating through his 99 Saint Veins. He felt as though his body was no longer his own.

Fortunately, everything seemed to be progressing smoothly. His cultivation base was also progressing at an extremely terrifying speed.

The liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the Dragon Cleansing Pool was in a different league compared to the Spirit Pool in the Mystical Sky Mansion.

The latter would be completely absorbed by Duan Ling Tian with his current cultivation base. However, the former seemed to have an endless supply.

“Based on the current speed, it won’t take long for me to enter the Mastery Divine Saint Stage!” Duan Ling Tian could clearly feel the improvement in his cultivation base. If nothing changed, and the speed of his progress remained the same, it would take him 15 days at most to successfully break through to the Mastery Divine Saint Stage.

“Hm? What’s going on?” When Duan Ling Tian calmed down, he discovered two of the four forces in his body was acting abnormally.

The liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy and the Sun True Origin in his body were fine. However, the mysterious force had led the Dragon Energy astray as the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique stopped circulating suddenly.

Duan Ling Tian immediately circulated the energies using the Nine Dragons War Sovereign on his own.

“The Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique is indeed related to the mysterious force... However, what is it trying to do now?”

Duan Ling Tian realized that the mysterious force had actually led the Dragon Energy to each part of his body. After a few moments, he discovered his skin had begun to change. Dragon scales began to appear on his body. Furthermore, his hands and legs had also morphed into dragon hands and legs.

Each of his hand and leg had eight claws, and they gleamed sharply in the light. It was as though they were able to tear anything apart.

Wh-what’s happening? I haven’t even fully mastered the method to transform into a Dragon Warrior. It’s just directly helping me to transform into a Dragon Warrior!” Duan Ling Tian was dumbfounded.

Chapter 1870: Eight-Clawed to Nine-Clawed!

What was even more shocking had yet to happen!

Duan Ling Tian discovered when the mysterious force fused with the dragon scales and dragon claws on his body, it changed dramatically.

Firstly, not only did the dragon scales became tougher, but it also became as dark as ink. As for his dragon claws, he previously had eight claws on each of his hand and leg. Currently, a ninth claw had appeared.

Did this not mean he was similar to Nine-clawed Divine Dragon?

“Nine claws?” Duan Ling Tian stared at his dragon claws with his mouth agape. His face was filled with surprise and amazement.

Based on what he knew, the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon was the most powerful in the dragon clan. Even in the Devata Realm, a fully grown Nine-clawed Divine Dragon was an elite and powerful presence on par with a Heaven Emperor.

Previously, he was given the ability to Dragonize into an Eight-clawed Dragon Warrior by the Eight-clawed Divine Dragon. He would have been considered an extremely powerful Dragon Warrior. However, he seemed to have transformed into a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior!

“An Eight-clawed Divine Warrior is a Dragon Warrior whose Dragonization is given by an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon... A Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior would have to be given the gift of Dragonization by a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon! However, the mysterious force in the Dragon Cleansing Pool has given me nine claws and made me a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior?” Duan Ling Tian could clearly feel the explosive power contained within a Dragon Warrior’s body when he slightly clenched his fists and stretched his body.

For example, his left arm with nine claws was much stronger compared to when it had eight claws! Apart from that, the dragon scales on his body had also become tougher.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the changes, he immediately called out, “Elder Huo!”

“You... How did you do that?”

When Elder Huo discovered Duan Ling Tian had turned into a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon, his voice was trembling when he spoke, “Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior... It’s a rarity even in the Devata Realm! You... How did you become a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior?”

Duan Ling Tian had known Elder Huo for quite a long time, but this was his first time seeing him losing his composure.

Based on Elder Huo’s reaction, Duan Ling Tian was certain he had indeed transformed into a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon!

“Elder Huo, the mysterious force I told you about earlier did this...” Duan Ling Tian explained, “Just like you said, the force resonated with the Dragon Energy in my body and is compatible with my cultivation method.”

“Eh!”

Before Elder Huo could react, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have sensed something as his face changed drastically. “It... It... The force has disappeared! What’s going on?”

“If I’m not mistaken, the mysterious force you mentioned should be related to a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon... It seems that a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon had once appeared in this mundane realm! If a Divine Dragon with less than eight claws encounters that force, it would merely cleanse his meridians that will help increase his innate talent. Once it encounters an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon, he would obtain the chance to transform into a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon!” Elder Huo’s voice was solemn as he said, “Naturally, even if an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon enters this place, the chance to transform into a Nine-clawed Dragon is extremely slim. However, the conditions for transformation are not as strict since you’re an Eight-clawed Dragon Warrior. This is why you easily transformed into a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior!”

“Although the strength of a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior is not comparable to a real Nine-clawed Divine Dragon, it’s comparable to a real Eight-clawed Divine Dragon! With your Sun True Origin that’s comparable to an Intermediate Divine Saint Stage powerhouse, after you activate the Dragon Energy

and transform into a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior, you'll be able to easily defeat ordinary powerhouses at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage even if you don't rely on other techniques!" Elder Huo's contained traces of shock and admiration.

"So strong?!" Duan Ling Tian gasped.

It should be noted that previously Elder Huo had said even a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage would not dare to fight him in body combat without utilizing other techniques.

Currently, Elder Huo had said that he could easily defeat an ordinary powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage without using any other techniques!

What a huge difference!

"If I'm not mistaken... Since that force is compatible with your cultivation method, I'm sure your cultivation method will go through some changes as well," Elder Huo said, "The benefits left behind by a Nine-clawed Divine Dragon is definitely not going to be simple."

Changes in his cultivation method?

After Duan Ling Tian heard Elder Huo's words, he began to take note of the circulation route of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique...

In the beginning, it was fine. As time passed, shock and amazement were apparent on his face. "It really changed!"

Duan Ling Tian discovered that even though the circulation route of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique did not deviate much, there were a lot of small changes. It was all these small changes that would increase the efficiency of his cultivation speed by another fold!

'That... That's the benefit left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon?' With that thought in mind, Duan Ling Tian's breathing quickened. He really felt the trip into the Dragon Cleansing Pool was well worth it even if there was no improvement in his cultivation base!

Whether it was his transformation into a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior or the changes in the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, both would have a huge impact in the future.

"I don't know if there's still any of the mysterious force left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon in the Dragon Cleansing Pool..."

Following that, Duan Ling Tian's Divine Consciousness began to search the Dragon Cleansing Pool. In the end, he realized he could no longer detect the mysterious force left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon.

"Elder Huo, the force seemed to have disappeared... Will it still appear in the future?" Duan Ling Tian asked Elder Huo.

"It would no longer appear," Elder Huo said, "At the same time, the members of the dragon clan who enter the Dragon Cleansing Pool 5,000 years later will no longer be able to improve their innate talent.

They'll only be able to improve their cultivation base in a short time at most by relying on the liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy... This is because the force left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon has completely been absorbed by you."

Duan Ling Tian was dumbstruck when he heard Elder Huo's words.

That actually happened?

If people from the dragon clan knew his entrance to the Dragon Cleansing Pool would lead to such consequences, they would probably want to kill him, grind his bones to dust and scatter it.

After all, the Dragon Cleansing Pool was of great significance to the dragon clan not only because it contained 5,000 years worth of Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, but it was also due to the unique force left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon.

After taking a deep breath, Duan Ling Tian calmed himself down.

'People from the dragon clan must never learn of what happened here... Otherwise, they would never let it go!'" Duan Ling Tian was very cautious in this regard.

'Right! The dragon tail! Elder Huo said that I'll be able to grow a dragon tail in my Dragon Warrior form,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he turned around to look behind him.

Sou!

As soon as the thought appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind, and he turned around to look behind him, a shadow shot out from behind him like a bolt of lightning. After a short moment, a long tail appeared before him.

It was a dragon tail covered with black dragon scales.

Unlike the tail of an ordinary Divine Dragon, the end of the tail did not have the mane that Divine Dragons had. The end of Duan Ling Tian's tail was extremely sharp. It gleamed sharply in the light.

As a human who had suddenly grown a tail, Duan Ling Tian, naturally, felt uncomfortable.

Sou! Sou! Sou!

...

However, after spending some time getting used to it, not only could he control the tail as he pleased, but he could even attack with his tail. Whether it was by whipping or stabbing, it was both powerful and terrifying!

Moreover, Duan Ling Tian realized he could now freely transform into a Dragon Warrior!

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian liked his Dragon Warrior form since it was comparable to an Eight-clawed Divine Dragon. The powerful body of an Eight-clawed dragon was not something human bodies could compare to!

Although his body was far superior compared to ordinary humans even before this, the gap had widened even more when he was in the Dragon Warrior form!

Eventually, Duan Ling Tian simply stayed in the Dragon Cleansing Pool in the Dragon Warrior state and freely absorbed the liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the Dragon Cleansing Pool to cultivate.

With the changes in the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Duan Ling Tian's current cultivation speed was one time faster than it was compared to before!

"In ten days at most, I'll be able to break through to the Mastery Divine Saint Stage. At that time, with the Sun True Origin, my strength will be comparable to a powerhouse at the peak of the Divine Saint Stage!" Duan Ling Tian felt very confident due to the environment in the Dragon Cleansing Pool and the changes in the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique.

As the liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy surged into Duan Ling Tian's body continuously, the Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique transformed the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy into Sun True Origin efficiently.

Time passed quietly.

Duan Ling Tian who was enjoying the liquid Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the Dragon Cleansing Pool seemed to have forgotten about time.

Duan Ru Feng and the other two were still waiting at the entrance of the Dragon Cleansing Pool. As for Clan Leader Di Shan, his whereabouts were unknown.

"It's almost three months... Why isn't Tian'er out yet?" Duan Ru Feng who was sitting cross-legged opened his eyes and looked at the door that led to the Dragon Cleansing Pool with a slight frown on his face.

If it was not for his son's Soul Pearl that remained unshattered in his hands, he would have assumed that his son met with an accident inside the Dragon Cleansing Pool. After all, almost three months had passed.

Based on what he knew, even members from the dragon clan who entered the Dragon Cleansing Pool previously only stayed inside for two months. Naturally, he had also heard this from Di Shan.

According to Di Shan, the member from the dragon clan would be sent out as soon as their innate talent and cultivation base had improved to a certain level. The time one spent inside depended on one's potential!

However, Duan Ru Feng did not know the reason the members from the dragon clan were sent out early was due to the interference of the force left behind by the Nine-clawed Divine Dragon.

Since its existence relied on the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, therefore, it did not want the members from the dragon clan to absorb too much Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy.

However, currently, the force had been completely absorbed into Duan Ling Tian's body and no longer existed!