

SOVEREIGN 1999

## Chapter 1999: Warming Up

Boom!

With the blood energy suffusing its body, the mountain-like gigantopithecus that was holding on to the long spear took one step forward, causing the air to tremble and setting off a deafening sound.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

In the next instant, the gigantopithecus charged toward Duan Ling Tian at a fast speed. Every step it took caused an air explosion.

The air explosions shook the Saint Land disciples seated around the Death Arena so much that their expression began to turn grave. It was as though each step the gigantopithecus took landed on their chests.

“What great timing!” Faced with the menacing gigantopithecus, Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes. At this moment, an earth-shattering transformation also happened to him.

From what the Saint Land disciples could see, the things that had been transformed were Duan Ling Tian’s hands and legs that were revealed from the Saint Land disciples’ uniform. At this moment, his hands and legs had transformed into dragon claws.

After a while, as the dragon scales appearing on Duan Ling Tian’s skin began to thicken, the uniform exclusive to Saint Land disciples on his body began to tear. Shiny black dragon scales were exposed to the crowd, allowing them to see the transformation of a Dragon Warrior.

All of these happened in just a blink of an eye, it was so fast that the crowd had a hard time catching what was happening.

Their eyes were glued to Duan Ling Tian’s dragon claws. Each of his hands and legs had nine claws that were gleaming brilliantly.

The humanoid dragon body with nine claws revealed his extraordinary identity as a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior.

“Golden Crow’s Wings!” As soon as Duan Ling Tian transformed into a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior, a pair of flaming wings sprouted out of his back.

Whoosh!

A sword also appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s right dragon claw.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian took the sword out, Yang Wen narrowed his eyes as he suddenly yelled, “Duan Ling Tian!” His voice was filled with rage and hatred.

This was because he recognized the sword in Duan Ling Tian’s hand. The sword was the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword that used to belong to his younger brother, Yang Wu!

In the next moment, Yang Wen's face turned red as both his arms and legs began to move rapidly.

That gigantopithecus that was pouncing toward Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, also began to mimic Yang Wen's movements. It seemed like he was controlling the gigantopithecus at this instant.

"Die!" Under the watchful gaze of the others, the gigantopithecus opened his mouth and actually spoke before it roared with anger and hatred.

This voice clearly belonged to Yang Wen!

At this second, Yang Wen seemed to have possessed the gigantopithecus as it charged toward Duan Ling Tian while holding the spear.

At once, the bloodshot eyes of the gigantopithecus that was being controlled by Yang Wen gleamed even more intensely. At the same time, the muscles on the gigantopithecus' right arm also began to swell up to an absurd proportion. It was twice the size of what it was before.

Swish!

The thick arm swept out as the 30 meters long spear in the gigantopithecus' hand transformed into a bolt of thick lightning that was shrouded in blood energy as it charged toward Duan Ling Tian.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

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The lightning that was shrouded by blood energy was extremely thick. It was as thick as a human's thigh. The air vibrated and there was a deafening sound in its wake. It was as though the sky was going to split open.

Upon seeing this, the group of Saint Land disciples who were still dumbfounded by Duan Ling Tian's transformation could not help but hold their breaths. They were watching everything intently as though they were afraid they would miss out on this interesting show.

"What good timing!" Faced with the spear from the gigantopithecus' hand that had transformed into a bolt of lightning, battle intent rose in Duan Ling Tian's eyes. As he hollered loudly, he tightly gripped the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword in his hand. Apart from that, the pair of flaming Golden Crow's Wings on his back seemed to have frozen at this moment.

All of a sudden, he flapped the Golden Crow's Wings. Two balls of flames instantly shot out.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

A series of deafening explosions instantly reverberated in the air. Its force even overpowered the commotion caused by the spear the gigantopithecus that was controlled by Yang Wen wielded.

Swoosh!

As the Golden Crow's Wings flapped, Duan Ling Tian's entire being seemed to have transformed into a gigantic fireball. He looked like a meteor falling from the sky as he charged toward the menacing gigantopithecus.

The gigantopithecus' spear swept swiftly. However, Duan Ling Tian's speed was even faster!

When Duan Ling Tian's body was fast approaching the gigantopithecus, he brushed past the spear. He could even hear the sound of friction between the spear and the air as he brushed past it.

"Get away!" The gigantopithecus yelled. Its long spear swept horizontally toward Duan Ling Tian who was just next to it. It was trying to send Duan Ling Tian flying back.

Duan Ling Tian who was only slightly over 1.8 meters tall appeared particularly tiny in front of the 30 meters long spear. If he was hit by the spear, he would definitely be sent flying back violently.

If that happened, he would definitely be heavily injured, if not dead.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

At the instant when the long spear in the gigantopithecus' hand swept out, in just a flash, Duan Ling Tian made his move as well. He flapped his Golden Crow's Wings as he flew toward the long spear that was aimed at him.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

As three faint sounds resonated in the air, Duan Ling Tian had already drawn close to the spear. Three of his sharp dragon claws were embedded into the spear like nails while the remaining claws held on to the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword.

Although Duan Ling Tian voluntarily chose to face the spear head-on before it could land on him directly, causing even more damage, he still felt an intense pain spreading in his body.

The force of the spear that was almost nullified by the brute body of a Nine-clawed Dragon Warrior still made his internal organs rattled.

Barf!

Duan Ling Tian threw up a mouthful of blood, causing his face to turn pale.

"Die!" The gigantopithecus yelled furiously out of humiliation when it saw Duan Ling Tian had decided to face the spear head-on. Then, it swiftly flew down to the Death Arena.

When it was approaching the Death Arena, it flicked the long spear in its hand. As it turned out, it was trying to smash the Death Arena.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian was holding on to the spear, it was trying to smash the spear on the ground in hopes of crushing Duan Ling Tian to death.

"Golden Crow's Wings!" Naturally, Duan Ling Tian would not resign himself to death.

When the gigantopithecus swung its long spear on the ground, Duan Ling Tian cast his movement Divine Ability to dodge the attack.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian moved away, the spear in the gigantopithecus' hand slammed violently on the ground of the Death Arena.

Bang!

A thunderous sound reverberated in the air as a deep crack appeared on the ground of the Death Arena. The crack was particularly deep where the tip of the spear had landed.

"How powerful!"

"The Death Arena is made from a special material! Even if a powerhouse at the peak of the Quintessential Saint Stage strike at it unreservedly, it would be difficult for him to even leave a dent on it. However, Senior Brother Yang Wen's strike has left a deep crack on it!"

"As expected from a powerhouse at the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. Senior Brother Yang Wen is just too powerful!"

The Saint Land disciples seated around the Death Arena finally began to speak. They were all in awe of Yang Wen's strength.

"However, Duan Ling Tian's speed is not slow!"

"That's right! He could even dodge the spear that the gigantopithecus that's controlled by Senior Brother Yang Wen wielded. His speed is invincible among those below the Saint Celestial Stage!"

"I've long heard that the movement Divine Ability that Duan Ling Tian mastered is far more powerful than the most treasured movement Divine Ability in the Vermilion Bird Sanctum. Now that I've finally witnessed it today, it does indeed live up to its fame!"

After a while, many of the Saint Land disciples marveled at the movement Divine Ability, the Golden Crow's Wings, that Duan Ling Tian had cast.

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"Duan Ling Tian is really quite strong!" Liu Yun could not help but praise.

"Brother Yun, I've told you before that he's not a simple person." Liu Mu who was sitting next to Liu Yun raised his brow. He was slightly happy since Liu Yun did not regard Duan Ling Tian very highly earlier.

"It's too early for you to feel happy!" However, Liu Yun soon splashed a bucket of cold water on Liu Mu.

"So far, Yang Wen has only cast a medium-grade offensive Divine Ability. Although his medium-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Three Flowers Unification is top-tier among medium-grade offensive Divine Abilities, as far as I know, he has also mastered another high-grade movement Divine Ability! However, only he can use this high-grade movement Divine Ability. The gigantopithecus is merely a clone consolidated by his medium-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Three Flowers Unification. Although its force is strong, this is not his true strength!" Liu Yun spoke the truth in just one breath.

Although Liu Mu had confidence in Duan Ling Tian's ability, upon hearing Liu Yun's words, his expression turned solemn immediately.

"Not only that, but Yang Wen is a true disciple after all. Who knows, he might have some hidden techniques up his sleeve. As the son of the fifth elder of the Northern Plethora Sect, he must have something to protect his life at the crucial moment. Something like a forbidden pill!" Liu Yun continued to say.

Earlier, Liu Yun had also learned about Yang Wen's identity from the Saint Land disciples seated around him.

The son of Yang Chong, the fifth elder of the Northern Plethora Sect.

"Forbidden pill?!" Upon hearing Liu Yun's words, horror dawned on Liu Mu.

If Yang Wen who was at the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage consumed a forbidden pill, would his strength be raised to the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage?

Liu Mu believed Yang Wen's strength would be greatly raised if it was a forbidden pill given by Yang Chong, the fifth elder of the Northern Plethora Sect!

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'If Duan Ling Tian only has these few techniques, he's no match for Yang Wen at all! However, when he pawned this bow to me, I could faintly feel the confidence he emitted!' The custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui, looked at the shabby bow in his hand before he looked at Duan Ling Tian as he thought to himself, "Where did he get his confidence from?"

### **Chapter 2000: Duan Ling Tian's Swordplay Technique**

When Nie Zui was lost in his own thoughts, Duan Ling Tian began to make his move.

Duan Ling Tian's gaze turned cold before he activated the Golden Crow's Wings to charge at the gigantopithecus after he saw how Yang Wen controlled it to smash the spear violently on the Death Arena as energy surged out.

This moment was also when the gigantopithecus' defense was at its weakest.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Duan Ling Tian suddenly flapped the Golden Crow's Wings, causing air turbulence and setting off air explosions.

However, the Saint Land disciples seated around the Death Arena did not pay any attention to the commotion created by the Golden Crow's Wings. Instead, their eyes were glued on Duan Ling Tian.

"Otherworldly Celestial!" Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian flew close to the gigantopithecus at an extremely fast speed. With just a flash, four clones that were indistinguishable suddenly appeared.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

Coupled with the real Duan Ling Tian, there was a total of five Duan Ling Tians wielding their swords as they charged at the gigantopithecus domineeringly.

Apart from possessing the high-grade Divine Ability, the Otherworldly Celestial, the five swords also contained the profundity of the Sovereign Heart Sword that Duan Ling Tian comprehended.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian had already comprehended the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword. For this reason, the force he wielded the sword with was much stronger than before.

The five swords slashed across the sky. When the gigantopithecus raised his hand, trying to withdraw the long spear to counter-attack, all of them landed on the gigantopithecus.

Five holes immediately appeared on the gigantopithecus.

“You want to destroy my gigantopithecus clone just by using just five swords? How ludicrous!” Despite the five wounds on the gigantopithecus, its movement and energy were not affected at all. Not only that, but the gigantopithecus even had time to taunt Duan Ling Tian. Naturally, the one who had actually spoken was Yang Wen.

“Who told you there are only five swords?” Five Duan Ling Tians smirked in unison as soon as Yang Wen finished speaking.

Due to Duan Ling Tian’s confident smirk that took Yang Wen by surprise, his control of the gigantopithecus slipped a little causing the gigantopithecus’ movements to slow down. However, it soon recovered and took a defensive stance.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

At this moment, under the gaze of the crowds, the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Swords in the hands of five Duan Ling Tians disappeared without warning as though he had put them away.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

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However, the sounds of swords whistling in the air told them that Duan Ling Tian did not put the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Swords away.

“They’re gone?!” As soon as they heard the sound of swords whistling in the air, the Saint Land disciples were so startled that some of them stood up immediately.

This was because although they could hear the sound of swords whistling in the air, they could not even see the shadow of a sword at all.

Even Liu Yun could not help but narrow his eyes. “What a fearsome swordplay!”

Apart from the few Palace of Death’s elders, Liu Yun was the strongest person among the Saint Land disciples who were present.

Just because the Saint Land disciples present on the scene could only hear the sound of swords whistling in the air and could not see it did not mean Liu Yun could not see it.

However, he could only faintly see the afterimages of the swords. The speed of the swords sent chills up his spine. The speed was just too fast! Even if he used all his might, it would be impossible for him to unleash an attack at such a fast speed.

“This swordplay technique...” Meanwhile, the custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui, and the three Bronze Flame Elders could not help but narrow their eyes.

The three Bronze Flame Elders could more or less see what Liu Yun saw since their strength was about the same.

However, what Nie Zui could see was completely different.

In Nie Zui’s sight, the five Hundred Inscriptions Saint Swords that were controlled by the five Duan Ling Tians with his swordplay technique weaved a dense sword net as they swept out toward the gigantopithecus clone that Yang Wen was controlling.

The speed of the swords forming the sword net was so fast that even Nie Zui could not help but feel chills running up his spine.

A Martial Cultivator whose cultivation base was only at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage could already cast such a formidable attack. Would it not be heaven-defying when he broke through to the Quintessential Saint Stage or the Saint Celestial Stage?

‘It’s unfortunate he only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. God must envy those who are talented!’ Nie Zui found the situation regrettable.

“SH\*T!” At the same time, horror dawned on Yang Wen. He urgently controlled the gigantopithecus to evade the sword net Duan Ling Tian had weaved with his swordplay technique.

Although the Saint Land disciples could not see Duan Ling Tian’s swordplay technique, it did not mean that Yang Wen could not see the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword controlled by Duan Ling Tian’s swordplay technique clearly. Moreover, due to how close they were, what he saw was even clearer than what Liu Yun and three Bronze Flame Elders saw.

Due to this reason, he chose to evade the attack immediately.

“Trying to evade? It’s too late!” Duan Ling Tian’s cold voice resonated in the air at this moment.

In the next instant, the sword net that was weaved by the swordplay technique shrouded the mountain-like gigantopithecus before slicing it into thousands of pieces.

The gigantopithecus was formed by Yang Wen’s Saint Origin. Now that it was cut into thousands of pieces, the energy inside had also dispersed.

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

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For this reason, as the sword net controlled by Duan Ling Tian moved, the Saint Origin shattered directly, disappearing from this world.

After Yang Wen's gigantopithecus' clone was destroyed, he seemed to have suffered from the backlash. His body trembled before he threw up a mouthful of blood. Colors drained from his face immediately. He appeared a little wretched.

Clamor!

Upon seeing this, everyone was in an uproar!

"Senior Brother Yang Wen's gigantopithecus clone is destroyed just like this?"

"What kind of technique did Duan Ling Tian cast? How's it so fast? I can't even catch a shadow of it!"

"Me too! The speed is just too fast!"

As the Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves, their voices were filled with confusion. From the beginning until the end, they did not see how the gigantopithecus clone was destroyed.

They only saw the gigantopithecus clone was suddenly cut into thousands of pieces. After the pieces remained in the air for a few moments, they vanished entirely. It was as though they were destroyed by some invisible energy.

"Brother Yun, what's going on?" Liu Mu gasped. He could not see clearly what was going on earlier.

"Duan Ling Tian has mastered a terrifying swordplay technique. I don't even know whether it's a Divine Ability or a martial tactic. When he wielded his sword, the speed of his sword is so fast that even I can barely catch the afterimages of the sword as well!" Liu Yun said with a sullen expression.

"What? Even you can barely catch a trace of it?" Liu Mu was dumbfounded.

Liu Yun was his cousin. Naturally, he knew how strong his cousin was. Due to this reason, he was shocked.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, it seems like I've underestimated you." Liu Mu stared at Duan Ling Tian with a complex expression. Although he had faith in Duan Ling Tian, he did not expect Duan Ling Tian knew such a formidable swordplay technique.

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"What kind of swordplay technique is that?" Yang Wen asked in a deep voice as he looked at Duan Ling Tian after he regained his senses.

"Why do you care? You're destined to die in my hands today if you only have that little strength, Yang Wen!" Duan Ling Tian said coldly as he looked at Yang Wen indifferently.

"Do you really think you can kill me just because you've mastered that swordplay technique? How naive!" Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, a contemptuous expression appeared on Yang Wen's face.

“I’m merely warming up in the earlier battle. The true battle will start now. I’d like to see if your swordplay technique can catch up to the real me!”

The moment Yang Wen finished speaking, his body moved and only his afterimage was left behind. He had already moved to a distant spot.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Every time Yang Wen moved, a solidified afterimage of him would be left standing at where he was. It did not disappear for a long time.

“Phantasmal Imprint!” Many Saint Land disciples exclaimed when they saw this.

“The Phantasmal Imprint is a movement technique at the Heaven Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic... Judging from the Phantasmal Imprint cast by Senior Brother Yang Wen, it’s obvious he has already mastered it to the highest stage!”

“It’s too fast! Not only is his speed fast, but he even leaves behind a solidified afterimage that blocks his opponent’s line of sight!”

“It’s said that Senior Brother Yang Wen has even comprehended a high-grade movement Divine Ability. The speed of the high-grade movement Divine Ability, coupled with the Phantasmal Imprint, is not something Duan Ling Tian can compare to!”

“That’s right! At that time, even if Duan Ling Tian casts that whatever swordplay technique he had cast earlier, he still might not be able to catch up to Senior Brother Yang Wen!”

“As long as Senior Brother Yang Wen utilizes the advantage of his speed to stall for time until the effect of Duan Ling Tian’s assist-type Divine Ability is gone, Duan Ling Tian is going to be the meat on Senior Brother Yang Wen’s chopping board at that time!”

The Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves. Although Duan Ling Tian had destroyed the gigantopithecus clone that Yang Wen consolidated through his medium-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Three Flowers Unification, they still felt that it was impossible for Duan Ling Tian to defeat Yang Wen.

“As you wish!” The five Duan Ling Tians said in unison. The instant their words left their mouths, they surrounded Yang Wen and charged at him.

If it was only a movement tactic, Yang Wen’s speed would not be faster than Duan Ling Tian, let alone comparing to the speed of the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword that was controlled by Duan Ling Tian with the help of the Sovereign Heart Sword’s third stage, the Sword Warding Heart.

For this reason, when Duan Ling Tian encircled him, Yang Wen instantly cast his movement Divine Ability.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

The movement Divine Ability that Yang Wen mastered was called Wind Spirit Possession. Once it was cast, it would seem as though the caster was possessed by a wind spirit. It would seem like he was the wind itself.

In just a blink of an eye, hundreds of Yang Wen's afterimages appeared in the sky above the Death Arena.

Not only that, but as five Duan Ling Tians charged out, the number of these afterimages continued to increase.

In just a blink of an eye, several hundreds of afterimages appeared.

A few moments later, several thousands of afterimages had appeared.