

### Chapter 2003: Yang Wen's Death

Based on Yang Wen's words, he had successfully comprehended this high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis, after he had consumed the forbidden pill.

'Another person who comprehended a high-grade Divine Ability at the last minute because of me?' The corner of Duan Ling Tian's mouth twitched for a moment as he recalled the incident with Sun De.

At that time in the Four Symbols Sanctums' First Mine, it was due to Duan Ling Tian's pressure that Sun De successfully comprehended the Black Turtle Sanctum's most treasured Divine Ability, the Black Turtle's Barrier.

Today, Yang Wen was in the same situation as Sun De as well. Faced with his pressure, Yang Wen had successfully comprehended a high-grade Divine Ability after he consumed the forbidden pill.

Duan Ling Tian felt a little speechless.

"My goodness!"

"It's the Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis!"

"I've long heard that Senior Brother Yang Wen has been comprehending this high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis, for a few years now. I can't believe that he would successfully comprehend it during this crucial moment!"

"As it turns out, Senior Brother Yang Wen did not go crazy. He was laughing so excitedly because he has successfully comprehended the Spear Emperor Genesis!"

"I'm sure Duan Ling Tian must be furious now. If it wasn't for his continuous pressure, Senior Brother Yang Wen wouldn't have consumed the forbidden pill, leading him to successfully comprehending this high-grade Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis!"

...

As soon as Yang Wen cast the high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis, after he finished speaking, the eyes of the Saint Land disciples who thought he had gone insane lit up immediately. Each of them seemed re-energized!

At the same time, many Saint Land disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian mockingly.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian..." Sun De smiled wryly at his seat.

He did not expect someone else would also successfully comprehend a high-grade Divine Ability at the last minute due to Duan Ling Tian's pressure just like him.

Now that Yang Wen had successfully comprehended the high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis, this meant his strength was greater as well. Combined with the medicinal efficacy of the forbidden pill, it would be easy for him to kill Duan Ling Tian!

One could say that Duan Ling Tian had dropped a stone on his own foot this time.

Meanwhile, the expressions of Guan Xiu, the two Liu Brothers, Liu Yun and Liu Mu, had turned grave as well.

Even Liu Mu who was very confident in Duan Ling Tian before this could not help but feel nervous. He had a worried expression on his face when he looked at Duan Ling Tian,

“He actually successfully comprehended the Spear Emperor Genesis at this moment?” Even the Palace Of Death’s custodian, Nie Zui, was taken aback when he saw Yang Wen successfully comprehending a high-grade offensive Divine Ability at this moment.

The three Palace Of Death’s Bronze Flame Elders were now standing silently in tribute to Duan Ling Tian.

“Yang Wen has consumed a forbidden pill and even comprehended the high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis, at the very last minute. In such a situation, Duan Ling Tian doesn’t stand a chance to win this Death Duel!”

“Duan Ling Tian, today’s going to be your death anniversary a year later!” Yang Wen shouted suddenly.

At the same time, he strode forward and flicked the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Spear in his hands.

Swoosh!

It swept toward Duan Ling Tian.

His spear-type martial tactic was completely revealed!

Naturally, to the others, Yang Wen was merely flicking his spear. His spear was far away from Duan Ling Tian so it was impossible for it to touch Duan Ling Tian.

However, just because his spear could not touch Duan Ling Tian, it did not mean that the long spear that was hundreds of meters long in the hand of the Spear Emperor Phantom he consolidated through his Divine Ability could not touch Duan Ling Tian.

As Yang Wen made his move, the Spear Emperor Phantom that was as huge as a towering mountain finally made its move.

It mimicked Yang Wen and strode forward as well.

Boom!

As it strode forward, it caused air turbulence that turned into hurricanes.

Whenever it walked, it felt as though its feet had landed on everyone’s chest. It made the people panicked as though they were the target.

Swoosh!

The Spear Emperor Phantom finally made its move. The Hundred Inscriptions Saint Spear in his hand swept out as though it had transformed into a huge Wyrm dragon that was charging toward Duan Ling Tian.

“Golden Crow’s Wings!” At this moment, it was useless even if Duan Ling Tian cast the Golden Crow’s Wings to dodge the attack.

The spear that the Spear Emperor Phantom had thrust out was targeted at him. No matter how he tried to evade it, he was unable to escape it. It followed him like a shadow. It seemed as though it would not rest until it killed him.

“Black Turtle’s Barrier!” The Saint Energy on Duan Ling Tian’s body surged and spread out, forming a protective barrier around his body.

This protective barrier was in the shape of a gigantic Black Turtle. It appeared around Duan Ling Tian and protected Duan Ling Tian safely inside as though it could withstand all sorts of attacks.

“It’s the Black Turtle Sanctum’s most treasured Divine Ability, the Black Turtle’s Barrier!” Many Saint Land disciple’s eyes lit up when they saw the Divine Ability Duan Ling Tian had cast.

However, the instant the Black Turtle’s silhouette appeared, it was instantly destroyed by the spear of the Spear Emperor Phantom. From the beginning until the end, Duan Ling Tian was powerless to stop it.

Put aside the fact that Duan Ling Tian had only just mastered the Black Turtle’s Barrier and did not have a deep comprehension of it yet, his strength that he used to consolidate the Black Turtle’s Barrier could not be compared to the strength of the Spear Emperor Phantom at all!

One was the Saint Energy at the Intermediate Quintessential Saint Stage while the other was the Saint Origin at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

Two of them were at completely different levels. It could not be compared at all.

After the Spear Emperor Phantom that followed Yang Wen’s movement charged toward Duan Ling Tian and destroyed the defensive Divine Ability, the Black Turtle’s Barrier, that Duan Ling Tian had cast, it moved toward him again with the same momentum.

It was obvious it planned to pierce Duan Ling Tian’s body to kill him!

“Otherworldly Celestial!” Duan Ling Tian who had merged with his clones summoned his four clones again.

Five Duan Ling Tians charged out in different directions.

“Crush them all!” Yang Wen cried out as he narrowed his eyes when he saw this. His body began to move as he made his move again.

Swoosh!

A the same time, the long spear that was hundreds of meters long in the hand of the Spear Emperor Phantom that also contained formidable Saint Origin caught up to one of Duan Ling Tian’s clones before it pierced it.

Whoosh!

As fast as a gust of wind, Duan Ling Tian's clone that had been pierced vanished into thin air.

Swoosh!

Yang Wen's attack was unfruitful so he made his move once again. The Spear Emperor Phantom made its move as well. The spear once again pierced another Duan Ling Tian.

As it turned out, it was a clone as well.

"The next one!" Yang Wen thrust his spear out again as the Spear Emperor Phantom mimicked his movements.

This spear was like a spear descending from heaven. It seemed as though it would be able to pierce through anything.

This time, Duan Ling Tian did not stay idle and wait for his death.

After he was targeted by Yang Wen and the Spear Emperor Phantom's aura, he instantly turned around and faced Yang Wen. He hovered in the air as he wielded his sword.

This immediately revealed that he was the real Duan Ling Tian.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

At the same time, the other two clones came to a halt and turned around in unison to glare at Yang Wen.

All of these happened at lightning speed!

Currently, if one paid close attention, one would discover that Duan Ling Tian had his back facing the custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui!

As it happened, Duan Ling Tian, Nie Zui, and Yang Wen were standing in a straight line. It seemed like it was a deliberate move.

When he made his way over here he had continuously cast his movement Divine Ability, the Golden Crow's Wings, before he finally reached his destination.

Whoosh!

The Spear Emperor Phantom's spear thrust forward. In just a blink of an eye, it drew close to Duan Ling Tian.

The horrifying Saint Origin that was enhanced by the forbidden pill exploded as though it could destroy everything!

At this instant, under the watchful eyes of the others, the three Hundred Inscriptions Saint Swords in the three Duan Ling Tians' hands disappeared.

At this moment, nobody thought Duan Ling Tian had put his sword away.

Swish! Swish! Swish!

Just as expected, as soon as the three Hundred Inscriptions Saint Swords disappeared, the sound of swords whistling in the air began to ring in the air. The noise was particularly piercing to the ears.

Swish!

At the time when the sound of swords whistling rang in the air, a crisp and extraordinary sound of a sword whistling in the air that was pleasing to ears sounded. It sounded like the cry of a phoenix. At the same time, it emitted a cold killing intent.

In the next instant, under the watchful gaze of the others, before the long spear that was hundreds of meters long in the hand of the Spear Emperor Phantom could touch Duan Ling Tian, it was destroyed by a wave of invisible energy. The Spear Emperor Phantom was destroyed as well.

Everyone did not know what had just happened. They were confused. All they heard was the sound of a sword that sounded like a phoenix cry, but they did not see anything at all.

Even Liu Yun and the three Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders could not catch a trace of the sword's shadow that sounded like a phoenix's cry.

Spurt!

Almost as soon as the Spear Emperor Phantom was destroyed, a faint sound could be heard.

When the crowd shifted their gaze toward the direction of the sound, they discovered a gruesome and bloody wound had appeared in between Yang Wen's brows even though he was standing in the distance. His eyes were still glaring at Duan Ling Tian and a smug smile was still on his face. It was as though he could already envision Duan Ling Tian's death.

Perhaps, he did not even know what had taken place until the moment he was killed.

Whoosh!

At the same time, the sound of a breeze sounded as the custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui, flew up into the sky. His sight had been blocked by Duan Ling Tian earlier. However, his reaction was still too slow.

Yang Wen was dead. He had been killed by the sword that sounded like a phoenix's cry.

From the beginning until the end, Nie Zui did not see anything at all during the crucial moment.

Even the four most powerful people present on the scene, other than Nie Zui, Liu Yun and the three Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders, could not even catch a trace of the sword that had killed Yang Wen.

"What a fast sword!"

"How could it be so fast!"

Four of them narrowed their eyes with an expression of confusion and disbelief on their faces.

**Chapter 2004: On Purpose? Or Coincidental?**

“He’s dead?”

“W-what happened?”

“How’s this possible?! Apart from consuming the forbidden pill, Senior Brother Yang Wen has even mastered the high-grade offensive Divine Ability, the Spear Emperor Genesis at the very last minute! Wouldn’t it be easy for him to kill Duan Ling Tian with such strength? How’s it that he’s killed by Duan Ling Tian instead?”

“What’s that sound of a sword whistling in the air earlier? Not only did it overpower the cacophonous sound of the other swords whistling in the air, but it even destroyed Senior Brother Yang Wen’s attack domineeringly the moment it sounded. Even the gruesome wound between the brows of Senior Brother Yang Wen might be caused by the sword technique that sounded like a phoenix’s cry!”

“How’s Duan Ling Tian so powerful?!”

Liu Yun and the three Bronze Flame Elders from the Palace of Death were still shocked when 90% of the Saint Land disciples seated around the Death Arena stood up immediately with an expression of disbelief and confusion on their faces.

“I must be dreaming! I must be dreaming!” A Saint Land disciple cried out in surprise before slapping himself on the face.

Slap!

The sharp pain spreading on his face shocked him instead. “It’s not a dream... To think it’s actually not a dream! How’s this possible?!”

“What kind of sword technique did Duan Ling Tian cast? From the beginning until the end, I couldn’t even see his sword when he cast his sword techniques!”

“To think that his sword is actually so terrifyingly fast. I’m afraid only a powerhouse at the Saint Celestial Stage and above can see his sword technique clearly.”

The Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves as they looked at the custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui, and the three Bronze Flame Elder.

Four of them were at the Saint Celestial Stage and above.

Many people shifted their gaze to Liu Yun as well.

A minority of people turned to look at Cha Jin as well since he was the elite disciple with the highest chance of becoming a true disciple.

“Senior Brother Cha Jin, did you see Duan Ling Tian’s sword techniques clearly?” One Saint Land disciple could not help but ask.

“I couldn’t see it clearly,” Cha Jin said as he shook his head with a glum expression on his face, “A person whose cultivation base has not entered the Saint Celestial Stage shouldn’t be able to see Duan Ling Tian’s sword techniques clearly. His sword techniques are terrifyingly fast!”

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

Although they knew this, they still could not help but gasp when they heard Cha Jin's reply.

"A sword technique cast by him who's only a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage can only be clearly seen clearly by powerhouses at the Saint Celestial Stage or above? If I didn't witness this with my own eyes, I won't be able to believe it!" Many Saint Land disciples exclaimed in surprise.

"Then, does this mean only the four elders from the Palace Of Death and Senior Brother Liu Yun saw Duan Ling Tian's sword techniques clearly?" Many of the Saint Land disciples shifted their gaze to Nie Zui, Liu Yun, and the three Bronze Flame Elders.

"The expressions on Senior Brother Liu Yun and the three Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders don't seem right..."

"I've long noticed that! Something's wrong with their expressions since earlier."

"D-Don't tell me they didn't see Duan Ling Tian's sword techniques like us?!"

"How's this possible?!"

As the group of Saint Land disciples was whispering among themselves, one of the Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders said, "Initially, I could still see the sword technique that Duan Ling Tian cast. However, I couldn't even catch a trace of the sword that emitted a phoenix's cry!"

"Me too!"

"The same goes for me as well!"

The other two Bronze Flame Elders nodded as well.

"Me too." Even Liu Yun whom many people were staring at nodded solemnly.

Now that the Palace Of Death's three Bronze Flame Elders and Liu Yun had spoken up, the entire place fell silent. It was so silent that if a needle dropped to the ground, the sound of it could be heard.

Everybody present on the scene, including the Palace Of Death's custodian, Nie Zui, was stunned.

Nie Zui did not expect his three Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders and the true disciple, Liu Yun, could not see Duan Ling Tian's sword techniques clearly as well.

He, on the other hand, had his sight coincidentally blocked by Duan Ling Tian's body. Due to this reason, he was not able to see the last sword that ended Yang Wen's life.

On top of killing Yang Wen in just a flash, that sword had directly destroyed the attack of the Spear Emperor Phantom and the Spear Emperor Phantom itself.

From the smile plastered on Yang Wen's face when he died, one could tell he could not react in time at all. In fact, he probably did not realize what was going on. Based on this, one could see how fast Duan Ling Tian's sword was!

Whoosh!

The people in the Palace of Death were still shocked when Duan Ling Tian descended on the Death Arena and landed next to Yang Wen's body. He finally sighed in relief when he made sure that Yang Wen's soul had been destroyed as well.

When he was still in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, Xu Jing, the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, did not die even after he was pierced between the brows by Duan Ling Tian's sword.

Based on his previous experience, Duan Ling Tian, naturally, was more cautious since he did not want an incident like that to happen again.

'What a pity there are so many Saint Celestial Stage powerhouses present on the scene. I can't block their field of vision even if I consolidate my 10,000 Swords Territory.' Duan Ling Tian who was standing next to Yang Wen's body really wanted to devour his Innate Spiritual Root that had not completely disappeared. However, he held himself back.

If he did that, it would definitely create a commotion and attract the attention of those few Saint Celestial Stage powerhouses. Nie Zui, the custodian of the Palace of Death, in particular, would be able to see through what he was doing!

Although the 10,000 Swords Territory was consolidated by the Sun Saint Energy, and once it was consolidated, it would form a fireball burning with golden flames with a hundred-meter radius that could block people's visions, it could only block the visions of people below the Saint Celestial Stage.

The 10,000 Swords Territory that he consolidated now still could not block the visions of those powerhouses at the Saint Celestial Stage and above.

If that was not the case, he would have cast his 10,000 Swords Territory and envelop himself and Yang Wen from the very start. On top of that, he would have been able to cast his Sovereign Heart Sword's third stage's swordplay technique and kill Yang Wen in a flash by using the Jasper Celestial Sword! There would not be a need for him to expend so much effort if that was the case.

Today, there was only one reason the battle between him and Yang Wen was dragged out for a long time. It was to make Nie Zui, the custodian of the Palace of Death, let down his guard.

This was because he had long learned from Elder Huo that with his current strength, only those who were at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage or above could catch traces of the Jasper Celestial Sword when he used it with the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword.

As for Liu Yun and the three Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders, perhaps they could catch the traces of the swordplay technique of the Sovereign Heart Sword's third stage when he wielded the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword, but it was definitely impossible for them to catch a trace of the Jasper Celestial Sword.



‘However, just that one sword alone has almost depleted all my energy.’ At this moment, a feeling of emptiness overwhelmed Duan Ling Tian. His Sun Saint Energy was almost completely depleted. Moreover, he was also exhausted spiritually due to the aftereffects of the Elementary Devouring Tactic.

Currently, even an ordinary Quintessential Saint Stage Martial Cultivator would be able to kill Duan Ling Tian easily!

One could say that from the beginning until the end, Duan Ling Tian had set up an elaborate plan to kill Yang Wen.

Naturally, this was all for the custodian of the Palace of Death, Nie Zui, since he did not want him to discover the existence of the Jasper Celestial Sword. If its existence was exposed, it would only bring calamity to him.

Due to this reason, from the beginning until the end, Duan Ling Tian did not pay much attention to Yang Wen. After all, he was merely a Martial Cultivator at the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

If he wielded the Jasper Celestial Sword with the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, he could even kill a powerhouse at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!

For this reason, despite having consumed the forbidden pill and having his strength raised to the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, Yang Wen was still killed by Duan Ling Tian!

‘Although it’s mostly thanks to the Jasper Celestial Sword that I could kill Yang Wen today, the swordplay technique, the Sword Warding Heart, the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, played a huge part as well,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

One could say that Duan Ling Tian was confident he would be able to kill Yang Wen from the very start was due to the Sovereign Heart Sword’s third stage, the Sword Warding Heart, and the Celestial Supreme Treasure, the Jasper Celestial Sword.

“Elder Nie Zui!” Duan Ling Tian used his remaining Sun Saint Energy to fly up into the sky and approach the custodian of the Palace Of Death, Nie Zui, before handing over his crystal card. “After you deduct 400,000 Contribution Points from the card, please transfer the Contribution Points that I earned into the card before returning it to me.”

Upon hearing his words, Nie Zui finally regained his senses as he studied Duan Ling Tian intently.

He was not in a hurry to take the crystal card Duan Ling Tian had taken out neither was he in a hurry to return the Sun Shooting Bow in his possession back to Duan Ling Tian. Instead, he asked Duan Ling Tian meaningfully, “Duan Ling Tian, you didn’t deliberately block my field of vision when you cast that final sword technique, right?”

It was only natural Nie Zui would think so. Duan Ling Tian and Yang Wen were fighting for so long, but his sight was never once blocked. It was only during the critical moment that Duan Ling Tian just so happened to block his vision, causing him to be unable to see the last sword technique.

He found this to be too coincidental.

“Elder Nie Zui, what do you mean? Are you saying I deliberately blocked your field of vision? Where did you get this idea from?” Although Duan Ling Tian was shocked by Nie Zui’s words, he still managed to put on a confused expression on his face flawlessly.

Nie Zui stared at Duan Ling Tian intently, trying to find a crack or flaw, but it was all in vain,

‘Could it be that I’ve thought too much?’ Nie Zui thought to himself. As soon as he thought about this, he no longer bothered thinking about it.

He returned the Sun Shooting Bow to Duan Ling Tian and took Duan Ling Tian’s crystal card.