

SOVEREIGN 2013

### **Chapter 2013: Duan Ling Tian Came Out of His Closed-door Cultivation**

Inside the pavilion, Yue Wu Ying who was clad entirely in black could not help but shake his head when he heard the conversation between Han Xue Nai and Nangong Yi.

Naturally, he knew who the successor of the Fog Rain Progeny was.

However, due to the Old Prophet's prior instruction, he did not say much in front of the Nangong Brothers.

'I wonder what kind of expression Han Xue Nai would have when she meets that super freak in the future?' The moment Yue Wu Ying thought of this, an evil smile appeared on his alluring face that was also hidden under a black cloth. It was mysterious, giving off a vibe that was neither feminine nor masculine.

It was fortunate Han Xue Nai could not read Yue Wu Ying's current thoughts. Otherwise, she would force her way in and come up with all sorts of ways to make him reveal who the Fog Rain Progeny's successor was!

Time continued to pass. A month had passed in just a blink of an eye.

In the eyes of an ordinary person, a month might be considered long. However, to the people in the Dao Martial Saint Land, it could not be considered long. Just a normal closed-door cultivation would take longer than this.

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At the Fire Worship Sect in the western province.

Numerous standalone floating islands hovered around the Saint Island in the Saint Land. They surrounded the Saint Island like the stars surrounding the moon.

These islands were the residences of the Saint Land's Bronze Flame Elders and true disciples.

Creak!

Suddenly, the faint sound of a door opening rang from one of the floating islands.

It was none other than Duan Ling Tian who had walked out of his room after being in closed-door cultivation for a month. Naturally, this did not mean he had only cultivated for a month. The time flow in the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda was ten times slower than the outside world.

In other words, a month outside meant 300 days had gone by in the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

After a month, Duan Ling Tian's bearing had also undergone a slight transformation. The transformation was so slight that an ordinary person would not notice it.

“It’s time for me to look for Senior Brother Liu Yun and ask about the Enforcement Hall...” Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself as he soared up into the sky, leaving his floating mansion as he headed to another floating mansion.

From the beginning until the end, he did not forget his objective of joining the Fire Worship Sect.

During his journey to look for Liu Yun, he encountered two true disciples. These two true disciples did not know who he was.

“Is there someone like that among the true disciples?” The two true disciples were traveling together. One of them came to a halt and turned to look at Duan Ling Tian. There was a hint of confusion in his eyes. “I’ve seen over 170 of true disciples, but this is my first time seeing that person.”

He asked his companion next to him in bafflement, “Have you seen him before?”

“No.” The other true disciple shook his head. “Perhaps, he has only recently become a true disciple.”

“He has only recently become a true disciple?” When the former true disciple heard this, he widened his eyes in shock as he said, “D-Don’t tell me t-that’s Duan Ling Tian?”

Duan Ling Tian!

The other true disciple instantly widened his eyes as well. “It’s possible! Duan Ling Tian’s the only one who recently became a true disciple!”

The news of Duan Ling Tian killing Yang Wen and becoming a true disciple a month ago had spread in the entire Fire Worship Sect.

Even among the group of true disciples, everyone who was not in closed-door cultivation and was in the sect knew about Duan Ling Tian. However, most of them had not seen Duan Ling Tian before.

“If I have to face Yang Wen who had consumed a forbidden pill, I would probably die! I can’t believe Duan Ling Tian managed to kill Yang Wen even after he had consumed the forbidden pill!” One of the true disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian’s silhouette as he said, “He’s definitely stronger than me!”

“He’s also definitely much stronger than me!” The other true disciple smiled wryly.

Although both of them were true disciples who were ranked on the True Ranking, they were ranked at the bottom. They were only slightly stronger than Yang Wen.

“Huh?” Duan Ling Tian, naturally, noticed the looks that came from behind him. He came to a halt. However, when he realized they harbored no ill intention, he continued to make his way forward.

Soon after, Duan Ling Tian arrived outside a floating island. This floating island also had a mansion, similar to his floating island.

This was Liu Yun’s cultivation place.

When Liu Yun brought Duan Ling Tian to his residence, they happened to pass by Liu Yun’s residence as well, and Liu Yun had pointed it out to him.

“Senior Brother Liu Yun!” Duan Ling Tian called out as he stood outside the floating island. His voice was not loud, but it traveled through the Formation on the floating island and entered the mansion.

Duan Ling Tian had controlled the volume of his voice in case Liu Yun was in closed-door cultivation. In that case, he would not want to disrupt his cultivation. However, if Liu Yun was not in closed-door cultivation, he would be able to hear Duan Ling Tian’s voice.

Whoosh!

As soon as Duan Ling Tian called out, a figure soared into the sky from the mansion. He seemed like a gust of wind as he appeared next to Duan Ling Tian in just a blink of an eye.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian.” The person was none other than Liu Yun. He greeted Duan Ling Tian with a smile before he invited him into his mansion.

The mansion was exactly identical outside. Even the environment inside was the same.

This time, Liu Yun was the one who motioned for Duan Ling Tian to sit in the pergola in the courtyard.

After sitting in front of the stone table in the pergola, Liu Yun asked Duan Ling Tian, “Junior Brother Ling Tian, is there any urgent matter for you to come looking for me?”

Duan Ling Tian came up with a random excuse and replied at a neither hurried nor slow pace, “Actually, it’s not an urgent matter. I’m merely curious about it.”

“What matter is it?” Liu Yun asked again.

“Senior Brother Liu Yun, how much do you know about the Enforcement Hall of our Fire Worship Sect’s Saint Land?” Duan Ling Tian asked without beating around the bush.

“The Enforcement Hall?” Liu Yun was stunned when he heard this question. He asked in return, “Junior Brother Ling Tian, why are you interested in the Enforcement Hall?”

Duan Ling Tian did not answer Liu Yun’s question. Instead, he asked, “Senior Brother Liu Yun, I’m sure you must have heard about a Saint Land’s Bronze Flame Elder being sentenced to death by the Enforcement Hall not too long ago, right?”

“Yes, I heard about it. That Saint Land’s Bronze Flame Elder was called Wei He. He was the Great Direct Disciple of the Black Turtle Sanctum’s First Silver Flame Elder Li An. Speaking of, his execution is related to you as well.” Liu Yun nodded.

The incident of the Saint Land’s Bronze Flame Elder being executed was also huge news in the Fire Worship Sect. As a true disciple, it was only natural Liu Yun had heard about it.

“Due to that matter, I’ve become interested in the Enforcement Hall. Senior Brother Liu Yun, is it okay for you to tell me about the Enforcement Hall?” Duan Ling Tian looked at Liu Yun with a curious expression.

Liu Yun nodded before replying, “I’m not going to tell you about the duties of the Enforcement Hall since I’m sure you know about it as well. I’ll tell you about the people in the Enforcement Hall.”

Upon hearing Liu Yun's words, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up. This was exactly what he wanted to know.

"In the Enforcement Hall, the Hall Master has the highest authority and is in charge of liaising with the Sect Leader. Under the Enforcement Hall's Hall Master are three Vice Hall Masters. Further under them are some Silver Flame Elders, Bronze Flame Elders, and some true disciples who are on duty in the Enforcement Hall," Liu Yun explained.

True disciples who were on duty in the Enforcement Hall?

Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted in surprise when he heard Liu Yun's words.

Since the Enforcement Hall had true disciples on duty, did it not mean he would have a chance to infiltrate the Enforcement Hall?

His mind began to turn active.

If he could infiltrate the Enforcement Hall, it would mean he would be able to see Ke'er and their daughter.

The moment he thought of this, his heart beat rapidly out of excitement.

It had been a very long time since he and Ke'er had met. Moreover, there was also Ke'er and his daughter. Until now, he had never seen her before. 'I wonder if that girl looks like Ke'er or me...' Duan Ling Tian's eyes turned gentle as soon as he thought of this.

Since Duan Ling Tian quickly regained his senses, Liu Yun did not notice the changes in Duan Ling Tian's eyes.

"Senior Brother Liu Yun, as far as I know, the Golden Flame Elders in the Fire Worship Sect would either be Sanctum Leaders of the Four Symbols Sanctums or be in charge of the mines in the Four Symbols Sanctums. However, based on your words, the Enforcement Hall has a Hall Master and three Vice Hall Masters whose positions are higher than Silver Flame Elders?" Duan Ling Tian did not understand this.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, you have no idea. Ever since our Fire Worship Sect was formed, the Enforcement Hall's Hall Master and the three Vice Hall Masters have stood apart from the ranks of elders in the Fire Worship Sect," Liu Yun said, "The Enforcement Hall is a standalone and exclusive place in the Fire Worship Sect that only deals with the Sect Leader. In terms of strength, the Enforcement Hall's Hall Master is in no way inferior to the two Vice Sect Leaders of our Fire Worship Sect! As for the three Vice Hall Masters, their strength is on par with the Golden Flame Elders guarding the Four Symbols Sanctums!"

Liu Yun's explanation helped Duan Ling Tian gain a deeper understanding of the Enforcement Hall in the Fire Worship Sect.

"I see." Duan Ling Tian had a knowing expression on his face as he asked, "Senior Brother Liu Yun, you mentioned earlier there are true disciples on duty in the Enforcement Hall. What should a true disciple do if he wants to serve in the Enforcement Hall?"

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An eager look could be seen in Duan Ling Tian's eyes when he asked this question.

"Why? You want to serve in the Enforcement Hall, Junior Brother Ling Tian?"

"I want to have a look there." Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"This is easy. Due to how restrictive the Enforcement Hall is, they'll change the group of true disciples on duty every month. As long as you want to, any true disciples can serve in the Enforcement Hall," Liu Yun explained, "Moreover, the rewards of serving in the Enforcement Hall is pretty good as well. However, I don't think the Contributions Points they give out will interest you, Junior Brother Ling Tian." It was obvious the reward Liu Yun mentioned referred to Contribution Points.

Currently, Duan Ling Tian had a million Contribution Points. Naturally, he would not be interested in the little stipend that the Enforcement Hall gave.

Upon hearing Liu Yun's words, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up immediately. He quickly asked, "Senior Brother Liu Yun, how long before the Enforcement Hall changes the group of true disciples again?"

"I've never paid any attention to it before so I have no idea as well. If you want to know, I'll make a trip to the Fire Remuneration Palace in the Central Square to inquire about it, Junior Brother Ling Tian," Liu Yun replied, "Every time the Enforcement Hall changes the group of true disciples, they'll put up a notice in the Fire Remuneration Palace. As long as you're a true disciple, and you've not served in the Enforcement Hall in the past three months, you can accept the assignment and serve in the Enforcement Hall."

Duan Ling Tian had gone to the Fire Remuneration Palace once after he came out from the Palace Of Death so he was not completely unfamiliar with it. It was one of the numerous palaces in the Central Square. The Fire Remuneration Palace was a place where one could put up notices for assignments or accept assignments.

No matter who it was, one would be able to put up a notice in the Fire Remuneration Palace as long as one had Contribution Points.

Those who had accepted and completed the assignments would then look for the person who put up the assignment to claim their Contribution Points.

"The Fire Remuneration Palace?" Duan Ling Tian nodded before telling Liu Yun, "There's no need to trouble you to go to the Fire Remuneration Palace, Senior Brother Liu Yun. I can go on my own. Apart from this, there's no other matter. I'll take my leave and leave you to your business, Senior Brother Liu Yun."

After expressing his gratitude to Liu Yun, Duan Ling Tian instantly bade farewell to Liu Yun.

Currently, all he could think about was the Enforcement Hall.

As long as he could serve in the Enforcement Hall, he might have a chance to meet Ke'er and their daughter.

The instant he thought of this, he became a little impatient.

After leaving Liu Yun's residence, Duan Ling Tian immediately went to the Saint Island. He soon arrived at the Central Square. He knew the place quite well so he quickly made his way to the Fire Remuneration Palace.

"It's Duan Ling Tian!" The instant Duan Ling Tian entered the Fire Remuneration Palace, many Saint Land disciples recognized him.

He became the center of attention in the Fire Remuneration Palace. He attracted the attention of more than half of the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

"He's Duan Ling Tian? He doesn't look that special," a Saint Land disciple said with a frown as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"He's the one who killed Yang Wen, the true disciple, in the Palace of Death a month ago and took over his place as a true disciple?"

"It's him!"

"Don't look down on him! I was present at that time in the Palace Of Death. He's terrifyingly strong. Even Yang Wen whose cultivation base had already broken through to the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and consumed a forbidden pill wasn't a match for him!"

"The last sword technique he cast was just too formidable. Even the two Palace Of Death's Bronze Flame Elders did not see it clearly!"

"I was there as well! I placed a bet on Yang Wen and lost a total of 3,000 Contribution Points!"

"You only lost 3,000, but I lost 5,000, okay?!"

As the group of Saint Land disciples looked at Duan Ling Tian, they began to discuss among themselves.

In the end, more and more Saint Land disciples cursed Yang Wen for being useless, causing them to lose a lot of Contribution Points.

Right now, every counter in the Fire Remuneration Palace was filled with people. They were either here to put up assignments or to accept assignments.

Duan Ling Tian chose a counter and walked over.

As Duan Ling Tian walked toward that counter, more than ten Saint Land disciples who were queuing in front of that counter immediately gave way to Duan Ling Tian out of fear.

"Elder, I'll put up my assignment later." The Saint Land disciple at the front of the counter who was about to put up his assignment immediately said to the Fire Remuneration Palace's elder behind the counter in a panic when he saw Duan Ling Tian walking toward the counter he was at as though he feared he would be beaten up by Duan Ling Tian if he was slightly slower.

At once, the line in front of the counter disappeared. Duan Ling Tian was not surprised when he saw this.

Previously, when he came here with Liu Yun, he had witnessed a similar scene. He knew this was part of the privilege of becoming a true disciple.

Although this was a world where the strong ones were revered, one still could not simply use strength every single time, right?

“You’re Duan Ling Tian?” When Duan Ling Tian came to the counter, the eyes of the Bronze Flame Elder behind the counter brightened immediately. He studied Duan Ling Tian intently from top to bottom.

No matter what, the name that was most often mentioned in the Fire Worship Sect was Duan Ling Tian.

For this reason, it was no surprise the Fire Remuneration Palace’s elder would lose his composure when he saw Duan Ling Tian.

“Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded expressionlessly.

“Are you here to put up or to accept an assignment?” The Remuneration Palace’s elder behind the counter asked as he regained his senses.

“Elder, I’d like to ask when will the Enforcement Hall change the group of true disciples on duty?” Duan Ling Tian asked without beating around the bush.

“Duan Ling Tian wants to serve in the Enforcement Hall?” Many Saint Land disciples were astonished when they heard his words.

“Usually, the true disciples who serve in the Enforcement Hall are there for the Contribution Points. However, didn’t Duan Ling Tian win a million Contribution Points a month ago? Why’s he interested in serving at the Enforcement Hall?”

“I can’t figure it out.”

“I really have no idea what’s going through his mind. If I have a million Contribution Points, I won’t be bothered to serve at the Enforcement Hall!”

“Even if you want to serve there, you’ll have to become a true disciple first. You’re not a true disciple, even if you pay the Enforcement Hall with Contribution Points, the Enforcement Hall still won’t accept you!”

In the Fire Remuneration Palace, the Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves. None of them could figure out why Duan Ling Tian wanted to serve in the Enforcement Hall.

It was widely acknowledged in the Fire Worship Sect that serving in the Enforcement Hall was an arduous task. Otherwise, the Enforcement Hall would not give such a hefty reward.

“Ten days later.” Although the Fire Remuneration Palace’s elder did not know why Duan Ling Tian would be interested to serve in the Enforcement Hall, he still replied, “At that time, the Enforcement Hall will put up an assignment in the Fire Remuneration Palace. You can come by at that time to accept the assignment if you’re interested.”

“Thanks for the information, Elder.” Duan Ling Tian nodded and turned around to leave.

As he was about to leave, he heard a commotion outside the Fire Remuneration Palace that caused him to come to a halt.

“Huh?” At the same time, Duan Ling Tian saw a graceful and beautiful figure walking into the Fire Remuneration Palace in the midst of the commotion, attracting the gaze of many Saint Land disciples inside the Fire Remuneration Palace.

“A female true disciple?” Duan Ling Tian’s gaze immediately shifted to the newcomer’s uniform. He could tell it was the exclusive uniform of a true disciple.

Most importantly, this was a female true disciple!

As he continued to look upward, he finally saw the other party’s appearance.

She looked beautiful enough to be called a beauty. However, compared to his wives, Li Fei and Ke’er, she was lacking a lot.

“It’s Senior Sister Wen Yan!”

“Senior Sister Wen Yan!”

As Duan Ling Tian was studying the female true disciple, he heard the respectful cries of many Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

“Wen Yan?” Upon hearing this name, Duan Ling Tian was stunned. He found the name familiar. He was sure he had heard it somewhere before.

Wen Yan merely ignored the respectful greetings of the Saint Land disciples. She raised her head arrogantly as she walked to one of the counters in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

“I remember now!” Right at this moment, Duan Ling Tian finally recalled from whom he had heard this name. He had heard Liu Yun mentioning this name a month ago.

It had left a deep impression on him because Liu Yun had told him that due to this woman, the Saint Girl who was brought back and hidden by Gan Ru Yan in her own residence for two to three years was reported by Wen Yan to the Enforcement Hall. Due to this reason, Gan Ru Yan, the Saint Girl, and her daughter who was slightly over the age of two were taken away and imprisoned in the Enforcement Hall until now.

It was all the fault of this true disciple, Wen Yan.

“She’s Wen Yan?” Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes as it flashed coldly. He walked until he was blocking Wen Yan’s path.

Wen Yan was obviously caught off guard when someone blocked her path. She instinctively came to halt.