

SOVEREIGN 2019

## Chapter 2019: Wen Yan's Background

After Duan Ling Tian left the Central Square, he left the Saint Island as well. After all, he had completed his objective of going to the Saint Island.

"I'll accept the assignment ten days later and serve in the Saint Land Enforcement Hall!" Duan Ling Tian began to make preliminary plans as he left the Saint Island.

His heart was overwhelmed with excitement when he thought of how he might have a chance of serving in the Saint Land Enforcement Hall since it meant he would be able to see Ke'er and his daughter.

The instant he thought of Ke'er and their daughter, he could not help but be reminded of Gan Ru Yan who was also being imprisoned in the Saint Land Enforcement Hall. Gan Ru Yan was Ke'er's twin sister. She was imprisoned by the Enforcement Hall because she had protected Ke'er!

Although Duan Ling Tian had learned the truth of what happened, he did not hate her nor did he feel thankful. In his opinion, if Gan Ru Yan did not take Ke'er away, he and Ke'er would not have been separated. Their daughter would not have been unable to see her father until now!

When he thought about his wife and daughter, he felt a pang of heartache.

"Ke'er, I've already taught that woman who caused you to be imprisoned a lesson! Unfortunately, she's too careful and didn't agree to the Death Duel challenge I issued! Otherwise, she would've died!" Duan Ling Tian felt a little regretful. However, based on this incident, he could tell Wen Yan was someone who knew how to adapt according to a situation.

If he was presented with the chance, it was better for him to kill a person like her. Otherwise, she would only bring trouble to him!

"It's almost impossible for me to kill that woman in the Fire Worship Sect, especially now that she has witnessed my strength!" Duan Ling Tian was certain about this.

'I hope I'll have a chance in the future to kill her outside of the Fire Worship Sect!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

"Although I hate to admit this, Wen Yan is indeed strong! No wonder she's ranked ninth on the True Ranking. She's actually stronger than most powerhouses at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage!" Although Duan Ling Tian managed to knock the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword from Wen Yan's hand off and injured her to kill her idea of looking for a fight with him, it was because he had used the Jasper Celestial Sword! He knew if he did not use the Jasper Celestial Sword, he was no match for Wen Yan!

Based on Wen Yan's sword technique, Duan Ling Tian discovered how terrifying her strength was. It was definitely not something ordinary powerhouses at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage could compare to.

'It's a good thing there was no Silver Flame Elder present on the scene. Otherwise, it would've been inconvenient for me to use the Jasper Celestial Sword.' Duan Ling Tian felt lucky when he thought of this.

Previously, when he walked out of the Fire Remuneration Palace, he already asked Elder Huo who was in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda for help to investigate if there were any Silver Flame Elders watching in the dark.

If there was, he would try his best to block his vision. If there was none, there was nothing for him to fear.

It was impossible for the Saint Land disciples and the few Bronze Flame Elders present on the scene to see the Jasper Celestial Sword that he wielded using the swordplay technique from the third stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, the Sword Warding Heart!

He only made his move when Elder Huo informed him there were no Silver Flame Elders present on the scene. Then, he had used the Jasper Celestial Sword and easily knocked off the Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword from Wen Yan's hand. Then, he had domineeringly overpowered her so she would think twice about fighting him in the future!

"During the next ten days, I'll focus on raising my Divine Abilities." Soon after, Duan Ling Tian returned to his residence.

As soon as he entered his room, he entered the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda and began to further comprehend his Divine Abilities. Although he had comprehended them, he had yet to master them to the highest degree. There was still a lot of room for improvement. If he managed to raise them, his strength would be greatly boosted as well.

Ten days outside were equivalent to 100 days inside the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda. For this reason, Duan Ling Tian had ample time to comprehend his Divine Abilities.

Currently, he was unaware that news of him slapping Wen Yan several times and defeating her in just a move had spread like wildfire through the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land.

It had shocked many Saint Land elders and disciples!

Who was Wen Yan? She was a powerhouse who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking. She was one of the two most outstanding female true disciples among the younger generation in the Fire Worship Sect. Apart from being powerful, her master was also a Golden Flame Elder.

Even before Duan Ling Tian had joined the Fire Worship Sect, Wen Yan was already famous in the Fire Worship Sect.

As for Duan Ling Tian, he was only a new disciple who had recently joined the sect. It took him less than a year to rise from a Black Turtle Sanctum's disciple to a true disciple in the Saint Land. In less than a year, his name had spread in the Fire Worship Sect.

It started with him offending the Black Turtle Sanctum's First Silver Flame Elder Li An when he just entered the Fire Worship Sect and the Black Turtle Sanctum and how he killed Yang Wen, a true disciple, a month ago. This caused Duan Ling Tian's fame to reach its peak.

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"Hey, did you hear? Wen Yan's who's ranked ninth on the True Ranking was slapped by Duan Ling Tian in the Fire Remuneration Palace today..."

"Duan Ling Tian? That person who killed Yang Wen a month ago? Isn't he too bold? What happened in the end? Senior Sister Wen Yan must have beaten him to a pulp, right?"

"I'm afraid not even in your wildest dreams would it occur to you that Wen Yan had to admit defeat in the end. She was slapped several times by Duan Ling Tian. In the end, she could only keep quiet!"

"How's that possible? Wen Yan's ranked ninth on the True Ranking. How can she endure Duan Ling Tian humiliating her?!"

"It was because Duan Ling Tian knocked off her Hundred Inscriptions Saint Sword and injured her with just a move. In that situation, she had no choice but to admit defeat since Duan Ling Tian is stronger than her!"

"How is that possible? How could it be possible for Duan Ling Tian to be so powerful?!"

"Then, does this mean you don't believe it? You can ask the others. There were almost 1,000 people present at that time. Everyone saw how Wen Yan didn't even dare to breathe loudly when Duan Ling Tian defeated her in the end!"

"How's Duan Ling Tian so absurdly strong?!"

Similar discussions could be heard everywhere in the Fire Worship Sect's Saint Land.

News about Duan Ling Tian humiliating and defeating Wen Yan even spread to the Four Symbols Sanctums, causing an uproar.

"It has only been one month, right? A month ago, Duan Ling Tian has already surprised everyone by killing Yang Wen, the true disciple. However, now, he actually defeated the true disciple, Wen Yan?" Many of the disciples in the Four Symbols Sanctums exclaimed in surprise.

"Despite being a true disciple, Yang Wen is nothing compared to Wen Yan! Wen Yan is ranked ninth on the True Ranking. Her strength is ranked in the top ten among over 170 true disciples!"

"Even a person like that is no match for Duan Ling Tian. He's just insanely strong!"

"How did the Black Turtle Sanctum produce such a monster?!"

Similar statements could be heard in the Azure Dragon Sanctum, White Tiger Sanctum, and the Vermilion Bird Sanctum.

In the Black Turtle Sanctum.

“Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is just too amazing! He actually defeated Wen Yan who’s ranked ninth on the True Ranking! He’s really heaven-defying!”

“Isn’t he always like that? I’ve grown immune to it!”

“Me too!”

Most of the Black Turtle Sanctum’s disciples had experienced it too many times that they had already become immune to it.

Naturally, there were also some Black Turtle Sanctum’s disciples who were excited.

“I can’t believe our Black Turtle Sanctum would produce such a monstrous genius like Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian... No matter where he goes, he always causes a ripple!”

“As expected from my idol! He’s just too cool!”

“The heaven-defying Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian! I look forward to him surprising us again!”

The entire Black Turtle Sanctum had broken into an uproar, the few Silver Flame Elders who had contact with Duan Ling Tian also learned about this. They were also confused and surprised. At the same time, they could not help but feel worried.

“Wen Yan’s the direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. The Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum has two direct disciples. There’s someone else apart from Wen Yan!”

“That great direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of Azure Dragon Sanctum has already broken through to the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage a few years ago. He’s currently ranked second on the True Ranking!”

“If he finds out his only junior sister has been bullied to such an extent, he definitely won’t leave this matter alone!”

The few Silver Flame Elders in the Black Turtle Sanctum thought about the great direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. They felt afraid for Duan Ling Tian.

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Meanwhile, in the Fire Worship Sect’s Saint Land, Liu Yun who had just left his residence and was about to head to the Saint Island also learned about the incident of Duan Ling Tian humiliating and defeating Wen Yan.

Swoosh!

Horror dawned on him immediately as his expression turned ugly.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian is too reckless!” A hint of worry appeared in his eyes. At the same time, he made his way to Duan Ling Tian’s residence.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian!” When Liu Yun arrived outside of Duan Ling Tian’s residence, he called out and transmitted his voice inside.

Duan Ling Tian who was comprehending his Divine Abilities in the fourth level of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda found out that someone was looking for him after Elder Huo informed him of it.

He instantly left the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda for the time being.

“Senior Brother Liu Yun?” When Duan Ling Tian walked out, he saw Liu Yun hovering in the air.

### **Chapter 2020: Wen Yan’s Senior Brother**

“Senior Brother Liu Yun, is there a reason you came looking for me?” Duan Ling Tian asked curiously after he rose into the air and hovered near Liu Yun. At the same time, he discovered that Liu Yun who seemed to have come in a hurry had a grave expression on his face. He knew there must be something urgent for Liu Yun to visit him. His expression turned tensed immediately.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, I heard that you publicly slapped Wen Yan a few times?” Liu Yun asked solemnly as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

“Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. His tensed expression gradually eased up after he heard Liu Yun’s question. “Senior Brother Liu Yun, you came here looking for me in regards to this matter?” His expression had turned calm as though the matter regarding Wen Yan was not important enough for him to be concerned about it.

“Junior Brother Ling Tian, Wen Yan’s not as simple as just a true disciple!” Liu Yun realized he was even more worried than Duan Ling Tian when he saw how indifferent Duan Ling Tian was. He could not help but smile wryly. “Her master is a Golden Flame Elder in our Fire Worship Sect. He’s also the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum!”

“The Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum?” Duan Ling Tian was slightly astonished as well when he heard this. However, that was all to it. He did not feel fear even after learning that Wen Yan’s master was the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. His expression was still calm apart from the slight astonishment he felt earlier.

“Senior Brother Liu Yun, you came to look for me to tell me that Wen Yan’s the direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum?” Duan Ling Tian asked as he looked at Liu Yun.

Liu Yun felt a little speechless when he saw how calm Duan Ling Tian was, apart from his slight astonishment earlier, after learning about the identity of Wen Yan’s master. “He’s the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. He’s also a Golden Flame Elder in the Fire Worship Sect! Why do I feel like you’re not worried at all?”

“Why do I need to be worried? Don’t tell me he’s going to come looking for me and kill me just because I slapped Wen Yan a few times?” Duan Ling Tian answered Liu Yun emotionlessly.

In fact, before he made the decision to block Wen Yan’s path and slap her, he had already guessed she must have a master with an outstanding position in the Fire Worship Sect. After all, Wen Yan was still a true disciple who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking. There must be a high-ranking official in the Fire Worship Sect who accepted her as a direct disciple. Due to this reason, he was not afraid even after

learning from Liu Yun that Wen Yan's master was a Golden Flame Elder. He was not surprised that Wen Yan's master was a Golden Flame Elder. He was just slightly surprised her master turned out to be the Sanctum Leader of the Four Symbols Sanctums' Azure Dragon Sanctum!

"You..." Liu Yun was speechless when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words.

"Senior Brother Liu Yun, I know you're worried about my safety, but no matter what, Wen Yan's master is still a Golden Flame Elder. I don't think he's so petty as to look for trouble with me over this incident," Duan Ling Tian reassured Liu Yun since he knew Liu Yun had come here with good intention.

"Junior Brother Ling Tian, it's true that Wen Yan's master is the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum, and he might not look for trouble with you over such a small incident. However, he has another direct disciple! The Azure Dragon Sanctum's Sanctum Leader only has two direct disciples. His other direct disciple dotes on Wen Yan a lot and treats her like his biological sister," Liu Yun said. His expression turned graver when he mentioned the other direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. "If he finds out about what you did to Wen Yan, he won't let the matter go!" He looked at Duan Ling Tian worriedly when he finished speaking.

"Oh?" Duan Ling Tian who had a calm expression on his face could not help but raise an eyebrow when he heard Liu Yun's words. He asked, "How strong is the other direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum?"

It was just as Liu Yun said. Wen Yan's master might not look for trouble with him over such a small matter. However, Wen Yan's senior brother was a different matter altogether.

For this reason, Duan Ling Tian felt slightly bothered as well when he learned that Wen Yan had a senior brother. He instantly asked about her senior brother's strength. If her senior brother was stronger than him, he would have to be more cautious in the future!

He did not want to be tortured for no reason even though he was confident he would be able to avenge himself in the future!

"Wen Yan's senior brother is also a true disciple, and he's ranked second on the True Ranking. His cultivation base has already broken through to the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage a few years back so he's quite strong!" Liu Yun's expression turned even graver when he spoke about Wen Yan's senior brother. It was as though he was some sort of raging beast.

"Second on the True Ranking? Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage?" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes slightly when he heard this.

If Duan Ling Tian exhausted all his Sun Saint Energy that had been raised by the Divine Ability, the Elementary Devouring Tactic, and wielded the Jasper Celestial Sword unreservedly, he was confident he could kill a powerhouse at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not dare to kill Wen Yan's senior brother in the Fire Worship Sect unless they had signed a Death Pact in the Death Palace. If he had recklessly killed in the sect, he would not be able to escape the punishment from the sect.

Wen Yan's senior brother was not like Yuan Hong, the grand disciple of the Black Turtle Sanctums' First Silver Flame Elder Li An, whom he had killed in the Vermilion Bird Sanctum. As a true disciple ranked second on the True Ranking, his innate talent had to be very high as well! Moreover, he was the great direct disciple of the Sanctum Leader of the Azure Dragon Sanctum. If Duan Ling Tian violated the Fire Worship Sect's rule and killed him, the Fire Worship Sect's Enforcement Hall would not show mercy like they did before even if they already knew about his Innate Spiritual Root and strength. After all, Wen Yan's senior brother was not someone that Yuan Hong could compare to.

However, if Duan Ling Tian wanted to kill Wen Yan's senior brother, a person at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, he would be able to see the Jasper Celestial Sword. At that time, the existence of the sword might be exposed. It would certainly cause others to covet it.

This was not something that he wanted to see.

'In other words, even if Wen Yan's senior brother is willing to enter the Palace Of Death and sign the Death Pact with me, I can't simply use the Jasper Celestial Sword. The Palace Of Death's custodian, Elder Nie Zui, wouldn't be careless again. It would be difficult for me to block his vision like I did before!' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. In the end, he could only come to a conclusion. He had to restrain himself in front of Wen Yan's senior brother. Even if he was tortured, he had to endure it.

When Liu Yun saw a hint of dread on Duan Ling Tian's face, he quickly said, "Junior Brother Ling Tian, as long as you stay in your residence, Wen Yan's senior brother won't be able to do anything to you... He won't dare to force his way into your residence! I'll go to his residence and have a look. If he's not in closed-door cultivation or has gone out, it's better if you don't leave your residence for the time being. Leave your residence when you're confident that you can defeat him!" Liu Yun left in a flash as soon as he finished speaking. He did not wait for Duan Ling Tian to reply.

Upon seeing this, a warm feeling rose in Duan Ling Tian's heart. At the same time, he returned to his residence through the Formation. As long as he stayed within the Formation, Wen Yan's senior brother would not be able to do anything to him even if he came.

"This feeling is really infuriating..." Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself with a sigh as his eyes flashed coldly.

Currently, he had no choice but to hide if Wen Yan's senior brother came looking for him unless he wanted to be tortured. This was because he could not use the Jasper Celestial Sword to deal with her senior brother.

"I hope Wen Yan's senior brother is in closed-door cultivation or has gone out. Otherwise, I can only wait until my cultivation base makes another breakthrough so that I can use the Jasper Celestial Sword to defeat him and kill his thoughts of avenging Wen Yan!" Duan Ling Tian knew very well that with his current strength, he was not completely invincible in front of a powerhouse at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage even if he wielded the Jasper Celestial Sword!

"Elder Huo, how high does my cultivation base has to be in order to wield the Jasper Celestial Sword unreservedly in front of a powerhouse at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage without him being able to see the sword?" Duan Ling Tian asked Elder Huo who was in the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda.

“If you want to prevent an ordinary powerhouse at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage from seeing you wielding the Jasper Celestial Sword unreservedly, you’ll have to raise your cultivation base to the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage at the very least!” Elder Huo replied.

Elder Huo had been with Duan Ling Tian for a long time. Coupled with how he had been extending his Divine Consciousness out every so often, he had a certain understanding of cultivators on the Dao Martial Saint Land.

“An ordinary powerhouse at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage?” Duan Ling Tian frowned when he heard this. “Elder Huo, based on your words, do you mean even if my cultivation base is at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage, I might not be able to hide the Jasper Celestial Sword in front of those outstanding powerhouses at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage?”

“Yes,” Elder Huo replied, “When cultivators in this world entered the Saint Celestial Stage, in addition to being a lot stronger than they were previously, there’s a huge gap in strength between every Form. If you want to hide the Jasper Celestial Sword from all powerhouses at the Third Form of the Saint Celestial Stage, you’ll have to raise your cultivation base to the Quintessential Saint Stage!”