

Chapter 2025: Not Qualified

“If even a commoner with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root can enter the Enforcement Hall, outsiders might think the Enforcement Hall would just accept anyone if news of this spread out!” Dong Lin said in front of the Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace as he looked at Duan Ling Tian contemptuously, “We can’t allow the reputation of the Enforcement Hall to be tarnished by a commoner with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. If we accept you, people might think there’s no one talented left in the Fire Worship Sect!” Dong Lin’s words clearly implied the reason for his actions was to safeguard the reputation of the Enforcement Hall and the Fire Worship Sect!

‘Yellow Innate Spiritual Root? Commoner?’ Duan Ling Tian had wondered what kind of excuse Dong Lin would come up with, but it did not cross his mind that Dong Lin would give this excuse.

Was this Dong Lin really an elder of the Enforcement Hall? The people from the Saint Land Enforcement Hall should know he possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root, right?

Duan Ling Tian was baffled.

Based on the current situation, it was obvious Dong Lin did not know Duan Ling Tian possessed the blue Innate Spiritual Root. Otherwise, he would not have come up with this excuse to make things difficult for him.

Then, Duan Ling Tian looked at Chen Peng who was standing close to Dong Lin. He saw killing intent in Chen Peng’s eyes. Apart from that, he could see Chen Peng was obviously delighted over his misfortune.

‘Chen Peng doesn’t know I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root as well?’ Duan Ling Tian was surprised.

Previously, Wei He, Li An’s great direct disciple, did not believe Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root, and he had gone to the Enforcement Hall to accuse the Black Turtle Sanctum’s Enforcement Elder Guan Xiu of abusing his power. In the end, he was sentenced to death for violating the sanctity of the Enforcement Hall! Wei He’s death had undoubtedly revealed to Li An that Duan Ling Tian indeed possessed the blue Innate Spiritual Root!

‘It seems like Chen Peng did not discuss this matter with Li An before he came looking for trouble with me. Otherwise, he wouldn’t have let Dong Lin use such a poor excuse to make things difficult for me!’ It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to figure this out. ‘It’s obvious Dong Lin doesn’t know I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root. It seems like he didn’t pay much attention to the matter of Wei He, Chen Peng’s senior brother, being sentenced to death by the Enforcement Hall. Otherwise, he would’ve known I have a blue Innate Spiritual Root.’

The truth was exactly like what Duan Ling Tian had speculated.

Whether it was Dong Lin or Chen Peng, both of them did not know Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root.

Dong Lin did not know Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root because he was not in the Fire Worship Sect previously and had only returned a few days ago. He did not pay attention to the details of what had happened to Chen Peng's senior brother, Wei He. If he had paid more attention, he would have found out from the dossier in the Enforcement Hall that Duan Ling Tian possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root.

As for Chen Peng, he had only come out of closed-door cultivation recently. As soon as he came out of closed-door cultivation, he learned that his great Senior Brother Wei He had died because of Duan Ling Tian.

At that time, Duan Ling Tian had just arrived at the Saint Land and killed the true disciple, Yang Wen, and ruthlessly humiliated another true disciple, Wen Yan, who was much stronger than him. That was when Chen Peng realized it would be difficult for him to seek revenge for his senior brother if he had to rely on his own strength. Then, he coincidentally heard that Duan Ling Tian wanted to serve in the Enforcement Hall. That was when he went to the Enforcement Hall to look for Dong Lin who had just returned to the Fire Worship Sect and ask Dong Lin to ban Duan Ling Tian from serving in the Enforcement Hall. He had even come up with the idea of using Duan Ling Tian's yellow Innate Spiritual Root as an excuse to ban him! All this led to the current situation in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

"Elder Dong Lin's words make sense. Since ancient times, there's no one in the Enforcement Hall who possessed only a yellow Innate Spiritual Root!" Many Saint Land disciples muttered to themselves in the Fire Remuneration Palace.

They knew Dong Lin was only using this as an excuse, but they found his excuse reasonable. It was acceptable in the Fire Worship Sect since everyone in the sect knew how strong Duan Ling Tian was. They did not find it strange for him to serve in the Enforcement Hall even though they knew he only possessed a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. However, outsiders did not know Duan Ling Tian. If they found out the Enforcement Hall had accepted a commoner with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root, they would think the Fire Worship Sect did not have any talented people left in the sect. This would undoubtedly be a great humiliation to the Fire Worship Sect!

"You can't speak like this!" Naturally, there were also many Saint Land disciples who defended Duan Ling Tian against the injustice.

"Elder Dong Lin's words are reasonable, but an exception should be made for Duan Ling Tian. Although he only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root, he's stronger than most of the Bronze Flame Elders and true disciples in our Fire Worship Sect!"

"If someone like that is not even qualified to serve in the Enforcement Hall, then who else is qualified?"

Many Saint Land disciples looked at Dong Lin with hints of displeasure and resentment. They felt that he had crossed a line.

"Even then, it's a fact that Duan Ling Tian only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. Naturally, the people in the sect wouldn't doubt Duan Ling Tian's strength. However, if news of this spread out, outsiders who are not familiar with him would think less of the sect!" A Saint Land disciple chimed in.

"That's right! Even if words of Duan Ling Tian's deeds in the sect spread out, outsiders might not believe it. They might think it's something the sect comes up with as an excuse!"

“You’re right. For this reason, the Enforcement Hall might not do anything even if Duan Ling Tian goes there to lodge a complaint against Elder Dong Lin for abusing his power!”

“Elder Dong Lin’s excuse is irrefutable. It’s true that everyone can see he’s only trying to make things difficult for Duan Ling Tian, but so what? Duan Ling Tian really is a commoner with a yellow Innate Spiritual Root.”

“If Duan Ling Tian doesn’t have a yellow Innate Spiritual Root, this incident wouldn’t have happened. No matter how you look at it, all this happened because of his low-grade Innate Spiritual Root!”

The group of Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves in the Fire Remuneration Palace. When they looked at Duan Ling Tian, they shook their heads as though they found the entire matter to be a pity.

“Although Duan Ling Tian only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root, he’s still very strong. There’s no one like him in the history of the Fire Worship Sect!” A Saint Land disciple could not help but marvel.

“It’s not just the Fire Worship Sect! Even in the history of the Dao Martial Saint Land, I don’t think there’s anyone like Duan Ling Tian!”

“Duan Ling Tian only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root, and his cultivation base is only at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage. However, he’s strong enough to kill a powerhouse at the First Form of the Saint Celestial Stage and defeat an elite powerhouse at the Second Form of the Saint Celestial Stage. His strength is definitely unprecedented in the Dao Martial Saint Land!”

“It’s indeed true that Heaven is jealous of geniuses! God has given Duan Ling Tian the peerless ability to comprehend Divine Abilities, but at the same time, He only gave him a yellow Innate Spiritual Root!”

“The yellow Innate Spiritual Roots are considered pretty good outside of the Fire Worship Sect. There are just too many people with yellow Innate Spiritual Roots in the sect that’s why it’s not worth mentioning at all here!”

Many Saint Land disciples still marveled at Duan Ling Tian’s current strength even though he only possessed a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. Although that might be the case, none of them thought he would have great achievements in the future. Moreover, they even thought his cultivation base would remain at the peak of the Exemplary Saint Stage forever!

“Duan Ling Tian!” At the same time, Dong Lin looked at Duan Ling Tian again and said with a mocking smile, “Do you still think I’m abusing power after listening to my reason?” Dong Lin acted self-righteously. It was as though he regarded Duan Ling Tian as an ant he could step on.

“Don’t tell me you’re not even sure if you’re abusing your power or not that you have to ask me this?” Duan Ling Tian smiled coldly.

“What? Don’t tell me you’re unwilling to accept this?” The mocking smile on Dong Lin’s face became even more apparent. “Could it be that I wasn’t clear enough with my words? You’re a mere commoner who possesses a yellow Spiritual Root. If you enter our Enforcement Hall, not only would you embarrass the Enforcement Hall, but you’d also embarrass the Fire Worship Sect! Don’t tell me you’re willing to

tarnish the reputation of the Fire Worship Sect for your own selfish purpose?” Dong Lin even accused Duan Ling Tian of being selfish and not caring about the reputation of the Fire Worship Sect!

“Are you done?” Duan Ling Tian’s expression remained calm regardless of what Dong Lin said. It was as though Dong Lin’s words did not affect him at all.

“Why? Don’t tell me you still have something to say? What is it? Do you want to say that you’re stronger than most true disciples?” Dong Lin was, naturally, angry when he saw how calm Duan Ling Tian was. He smirked. “Don’t forget that outsiders are different from the people in the sect. They won’t believe that a commoner who only has a yellow Innate Spiritual Root is strong enough to be ranked in the top ten of the Fire Worship Sect’s True Ranking!”

Dong Lin’s excuse seemed flawless. However, that would only be the case if Duan Ling Tian really possessed a yellow Innate Spiritual Root.

Chapter 2026: Duan Ling Tian’s Innate Spiritual Root!

Faced with Dong Lin’s domineering attitude, Duan Ling Tian merely glanced at him indifferently before he shifted his gaze to the Fire Remuneration Palace’s Bronze Flame Elder standing behind the counter. Duan Ling Tian finally said, “Elder, you should have a Spiritual Pearl with you, right?”

The entire place fell silent immediately before it broke into an uproar.

“Duan Ling Tian wants a Spiritual Pearl from the Fire Remuneration Palace’s elder? Does he plan to check his Innate Spiritual Root in front of everyone?”

“That seems to be the case.”

“Doesn’t he possess a yellow Innate Spiritual Root? Rumor has it that he was even tested twice when he first came to the Fire Worship Sect. However, the result was the same!”

“Don’t tell me he thinks his Innate Spiritual Root will change?”

“That’s ridiculous!”

The Saint Land disciples discussed among themselves, mocking Duan Ling Tian for being naive.

Meanwhile, Dong Lin laughed out loud. After he stopped laughing, he looked at Duan Ling Tian with disdain and said mockingly, “Duan Ling Tian, don’t tell me you think your Innate Spiritual Root is going to change just because you got stronger? How funny!”

Chen Peng who was standing behind Dong Lin also smiled mockingly at Duan Ling Tian for being foolish.

“Elder,” Duan Ling Tian called out to the Fire Remuneration Palace’s elder who was in a daze. It seemed as though he did not hear Dong Lin and Chen Peng’s words.

At this instant, the Fire Remuneration Palace’s elder standing behind the counter finally regained his senses. He instantly took out a glittering and translucent Spiritual Pearl from his personal Spatial Ring.

As the Fire Remuneration Palace's elder standing behind the counter handed the Spiritual Pearl in his hand to Duan Ling Tian, he could not help but ask, "Duan Ling Tian, are you really going to do this? Is it necessary?" He thought it was impossible for one to change one's Innate Spiritual Root.

Rumor had it that if one had the help of a powerhouse who had undergone Transcendence and could ascend to the Devata Realm, one would be able to improve one's Innate Spiritual Root. However, that was only a myth! Nobody had ever heard of anyone who returned from Devata Realm after their ascension. Based on this, many people thought it was only a myth. Even if it was true, it was impossible to achieve!

"Is it necessary?" Apart from the Fire Remuneration Palace's elder, many Saint Land disciples said the same thing.

"Duan Ling Tian's crazy!"

"Ridiculous! Don't tell me he thinks he has improved his Innate Spiritual Root?"

"Hurmph! Just let him try if he wants to! Anyway, it's an undeniable fact that he only possesses a yellow Innate Spiritual Root."

The group of Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace whispered among themselves. They all thought Duan Ling Tian's action was unnecessary.

Duan Ling Tian ignored all the whisperings in his surroundings.

After Duan Ling Tian took the Spiritual Pearl from the Fire Remuneration Palace's elder, he was not in a hurry to check his Innate Spiritual Root. Instead, he walked and stopped before Dong Lin.

Dong Lin's expression changed immediately as he unconsciously took a step back in panic when he saw Duan Ling Tian approaching him. Although he had only returned to the sect, he had heard of the rumors surrounding Duan Ling Tian. He knew Duan Ling Tian was strong enough to defeat Wen Yan who was ranked ninth on the True Ranking. He knew he was not a match for Wen Yan, let alone Duan Ling Tian! However, after he unconsciously took a step back, he saw Duan Ling Tian only stood before him motionlessly. His face paled immediately when he felt the disdainful gazes from the people in the surroundings. This made him feel humiliated and infuriated him.

"Tsk ts... Elder Dong Lin seems afraid of Duan Ling Tian!"

"How can he not be afraid? Although Elder Dong Lin is strong, he's no match for Senior Sister Wen Yan, let alone Duan Ling Tian!"

"However, he's still an elder from the Enforcement Hall. The cowardly way he's acting isn't suitable with his position. It completely ruins his image."

"That's right! It feels as though he's in a lower position compared to Duan Ling Tian."

Many Saint Land disciples whispered among themselves when they saw Dong Lin took a step backward when Duan Ling Tian approached him.

However, despite their low voices, how many of them had a poor hearing?

When Dong Lin heard these words, he was so furious that he almost threw up blood. He vented his anger on Duan Ling Tian as he said coldly, "Duan Ling Tian, what are you trying to do?!"

"What am I trying to do? What can I do? Don't tell me you're worried that I'll kill you in front of so many people, Elder Dong Lin?" Duan Ling Tian answered mockingly with a smirk, "If you really think so, I'm afraid you'll be disappointed, Elder Dong Lin. In my eyes, my life is much more valuable than yours! You want me to use my life in exchange for yours? I can't bring myself to do such a thing!" Duan Ling Tian's words clearly implied Dong Lin's life was worthless, causing Dong Lin's face to turn green.

Initially, Dong Lin had only looked for trouble with Duan Ling Tian due to Chen Peng. However, now he completely regarded Duan Ling Tian as his mortal enemy! No matter what, he was still the only son of a Vice Hall Master in the Enforcement Hall. In the Fire Worship Sect, even the top three true disciples on the True Ranking did not dare to offend him openly!

"Elder Dong Lin, have a good look at this!" Duan Ling Tian said in a low voice with a solemn expression. At the same time, he raised his hand that was holding in the Spiritual Pearl in front of Dong Lin's eyes and infused his Sun Saint Energy into the Spiritual Pearl. After ten breaths, the Spiritual Pearl would change and reveal his Innate Spiritual Root!

"It's a widely known fact in the Fire Worship Sect that you only have a yellow Innate Spiritual Root. Even if I don't look, I know what the results are going to be!" After Dong Lin regained his senses, he had an expression of contempt on his face. He turned away arrogantly, not even sparing a glance at the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian's hand.

On the other hand, Chen Peng who was standing behind Dong Ling was also smiling disdainfully. However, his eyes were trained on the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian's hand.

At the same time, the few Fire Remuneration Palace's elders standing behind the counters and the group of Saint Land disciples in the Fire Remuneration Palace were also staring intently at the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian's hand too. Although they all felt they knew what the outcome would be like, they could not help but look at the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian's hand.

Time continued to pass by slowly.

The span of a breath soon passed by.

The span of two breaths soon passed by as well.

Soon after, the span of ten breaths had passed.

The Spiritual Pearl that Duan Ling Tian was holding began to show some changes. It began to shine slowly, looking like a miniature sun in the end.

When they saw the color of the light shining from the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian's hand —

"This..." Apart from Dong Lin who had turned away arrogantly, the people in the Fire Remuneration Palace, including Chen Peng, could not help but widen their eyes in shock and confusion.

Many people even rubbed their eyes, thinking there was something wrong with their eyesight. There were even people who pinched their own thighs to make sure they were not dreaming.

“Impossible! Impossible!” Soon after, a voice filled with disbelief rang in the air. It belonged to Chen Peng who was standing behind Dong Lin. He stared at the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian’s hand with disbelief. Although he kept muttering to himself that it was impossible, the truth was staring at him straight in the eyes.

Although Dong Lin had arrogantly and contemptuously looked away in the beginning, he was actually secretly paying attention to the result. Even then, he was 100% certain Duan Ling Tian only possessed a yellow Innate Spiritual Root.

After the span of ten breaths went by, the sound of jeering that he expected to hear did not ring in the air. His heart jolted when he realized something was wrong. His heart jolted again when he heard Chen Peng’s words. He instantly turned to look at the Spiritual Pearl in Duan Ling Tian’s hand. The Spiritual Pearl was shining with blue light, revealing that Duan Ling Tian undoubtedly possessed a blue Innate Spiritual Root instead of a yellow Innate Spiritual Root!

“How’s this possible?!” When Dong Lin saw the Spiritual Pearl that was shining with blue light, his eyes widened in shock as though he had just seen a ghost!