

SOVEREIGN 2721

Chapter 2721 Fleeting Time Inn

“Yes, Brother Ling Tian.” Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words, Huan’er instantly turned to look at the old lady who was preparing to kill Duan Ling Tian. Her limpid eyes, hidden by the hat, were brimming with hostility. She had been restraining herself since earlier. The old lady’s cultivation base was relatively profound. She was, at least, an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial. However, an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial was no match for Huan’er.

Whoosh!

A gust of cold and bitter wind appeared as Huan’er casually lifted her hand. The air seemed to have stagnated at this moment, it was as though it was frozen. She waved her hand, and the cold wind blew toward the old lady, shrouding the old lady before she could even reach Duan Ling Tian.

In just a blink of an eye, the old lady was frozen into an ice sculpture before everyone’s eyes. One could still vaguely see the unsightly expression on her face through the layer of ice.

Swoosh!

The old lady that had been turned into an ice block was still flying toward Duan Ling Tian due to inertia, albeit at a slower speed.

“Brother Ling Tian,” Huan’er called out softly. In just a flash, she was back to his side, holding his hand. She effortlessly brought him away from the frozen old lady.

Boom!

The ice sculpture fell to the ground and shattered into pieces. The old lady was dead! In fact, before she had landed on the ground, she had already died when she was frozen. Now that the ice sculpture had shattered, her remains were pieces as well.

Roar!

The commotion had startled the nine-headed Celestial Beast, causing it to become restless. It glared at Duan Ling Tian with its bright red eyes and charged at him, seemingly determined to trample him to death.

Duan Ling Tian was about to make a move to kill the nine-headed Celestial Beast, but Huan’er was a step ahead of him.

Whoosh!

A gust of cold wind swept out and bound the frenzied beast to the ground. The nine-headed Celestial Beast stood frozen on the street like a realistic ice sculpture on display.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian glanced at the stunned Zhou Shu Dong who sat paralyzed on the ground. He said indifferently, “Miss Zhou, I’ll spare your life out of respect for the Zhou clan. I hope you make the best out of it!” Then, he turned to Huan’er and said with a smile, “Huan’er, let’s go.”

“Mm!” Huan’er nodded cutely and left with Duan Ling Tian. At the same time, she asked curiously through Voice Transmission, “Brother Ling Tian, why did you spare her? She wanted to kill me...”

“Huan’er, I didn’t kill her because I don’t want to be forced to leave the capital of Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom so soon after we arrived. You don’t like being constantly on the run, do you? I plan to stay in the kingdom for a while before I plan my next move. This Miss Zhou comes from an extraordinary family. If we kill her, we’ll definitely anger the Zhou clan and the Imperial family. It’s easy to kill her, but it won’t be worth it.”

Although both Duan Ling Tian and Zhou Shu Dong were Blue Sun Golden Celestials, he could easily kill her if he so wished. After all, his strength was much greater than what his cultivation base indicated. He could easily kill an ordinary Great Overarching Golden Celestial without using the Devata Artifact, the Seven Orifices Exquisite Sword, let alone a mere Blue Sun Golden Celestial.

After listening to Duan Ling Tian’s explanation, Huan’er nodded even though she did not fully understand his words.

The busy street was deathly silent as the duo left under everyone’s watchful eyes. When the pedestrians regained their senses, their figures had already disappeared at the end of the street. All of them inhaled sharply and looked at each other in disbelief.

“Remarkable strength!”

“The white-clad lady wearing the veil and the hat is terrifying!”

“She must be an Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial at least!”

“She would have to be an Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial, at least, to display such strength. The old lady she killed was an elder who frequently accompanied the fourth miss of the Zhou clan. She was an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial!”

“Overarching Heaven Supreme Celestial... It seems like their background isn’t simple as well.”

“You don’t say... Look at them strolling around the capital after killing the old lady from the Zhou Clan. It’s clear they have no intention of fleeing. It’s obvious they aren’t afraid of the Zhou Clan.”

“However, it seems like they still have a measure of respect for the Zhou clan since they didn’t kill the fourth miss.”

The onlookers glanced at Zhou Shu Dong furtively as they whispered among themselves. She was still sitting on the ground in a stupor, clearly traumatized by the event.

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Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er continued exploring the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom before they finally chose an inn to settle in. They had specially chosen an inn that belonged to the Nian clan, the enemy of the Zhou clan.

The Nian clan was also one of the top clans in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, comparable to the Zhou Clan. Similar to the Zhou Clan, they were relatives of the Imperial family as well.

The inn was called Fleeting Time Inn. It was an extremely huge inn. There were 999 rooms available. All guest rooms had their own independent courtyards and Noise-Canceling and Spirit Gathering Formations. The cost for a guest room per night was ten prominent Celestial Stones. It was unaffordable for most people.

A pageboy showed them around the inn as they passed through different courtyards.

'999 guest rooms... Moreover, it seems like the occupancy rate is quite high. Even if they only rent out half the rooms a day, their daily income is 5,000 prominent Celestial Stones. Ten days will earn them 50,000 prominent Celestial Stones, a month would earn them 150,000 prominent Celestial Stones, and a year would earn them 1,800,000 prominent Celestial Stones...' Duan Ling Tian calculated inwardly as he marveled at his surroundings. He was astonished by the inn's income. After a while, he asked, "Young man, it's my first time in the Fleeting Time Inn... Can you tell me more about the inn?"

"Yes, of course," the pageboy replied respectfully, "Dear guest, although the cost per night here is high, I guarantee you it's great value for your money... Not only does the inn have one of the best cultivation environments in the city, but there are also many Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Nian Clans overseeing the inn so you won't be disturbed. It's a safe haven here, provided you didn't offend the Imperial family or forces stronger than high-rank Celestial Kingdoms. This is one of the reasons why it's so costly to stay here. Staying here is like having a Life Saving Talisman."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened when he heard the pageboy's words. He had specifically chosen this inn because the Nian Clan and the Zhou Clan were sworn enemies. It would be difficult, if not impossible, for the Zhou clan to cause a ruckus in the Nian clan's territory. However, he did not expect the inn would provide protection for their guests as well. This came as a pleasant surprise to him. "So, even if one has offended the Zhou clan, it's still safe to stay here?"

"The Zhou clan?" The pageboy was taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's question. However, he quickly replied, "Of course! The Zhou clan and Nian clan are enemies, it's impossible for them to act recklessly here. The same goes for the other factions. We're not afraid of them!" Then, he added, "Dear guest, on average, 80% of the guests stay here to avoid their enemies. Hence, you can rest assured it's safe here."

Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Our guest rooms are also equipped with Noise-Canceling Formations and Spirit Gathering Formations. The cultivation environment..." the pageboy continued to say.

However, Duan Ling Tian no longer paid attention to the pageboy's words. Cultivation environment? With Huan'er around and her Divine Crystal, he would still have the best cultivation environment even if he was in the middle of nowhere. He did not choose to stay in the inn for its cultivation environment. He only chose to stay here for the protection it offered.

Realization suddenly dawned on Duan Ling Tian. 'No wonder there were dozens of people waiting outside the Fleeting Time Inn... Those people must be waiting for their enemies to come out.'

When they finally arrived at their room, Duan Ling Tian tipped the pageboy with a prominent Celestial Stone before he asked with a smile, "Young man, what's your name?"

The pageboy's eyes brightened. He reached and took to the prominent Celestial Stone at lightning speed and expressed his gratitude. "Thank you, sir. You can call me Little Six."

"All right," Duan Ling Tian nodded and continued to say, "Little Six, I'll need your help in the future to run some errands for me... What do you think? Is there a way for me to contact you? Don't worry, I'll make it worth your while."

The pageboy routinely took out a strip of red cloth from his pocket and handed it to Duan Ling Tian. He said with a smile, "Dear guest, if there's a need for my service, all you need to do is just hang this strip of red cloth on the door. At that time, I'll come to you."

2722 The Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, Long Xiang Yun!

The pageboy seemed accustomed to receiving such a request. Duan Ling Tian soon came to realize the Fleeting Time Inn must have received a lot of similar requests from their guests. After all, if one had to reside here to avoid the pursuit of one's enemies, one would not be able to recklessly leave the inn. The guests would inevitably need to purchase things like Celestial Pills, ingredients to refine pills or forge weapons, Memory Celestial Talismans, and so on.

"All right." Duan Ling Tian took the strip of red cloth as the pageboy continued to lead them to their room.

The Fleeting Time Inn was truly big. Not only did it have 999 guest rooms, but each room had three rooms and their personal courtyards. Two rooms faced the rear while one was located near the courtyard entrance.

"Welcome, dear guests." A pleasantly sweet voice greeted them as soon as they stepped foot into the courtyard.

A servant girl dressed in servant clothes stood at the side of the main entrance and greeted them. She had delicate features, and her appearance could be considered above average. Even then, it was still a far cry from the beauty of his two wives and Huan'er.

"Dear guests, each guest room comes with a servant... It's her responsibility to take care of your daily meals and comfort. Apart from that, sex is allowed, that is, by the consent of the servant," the pageboy routinely said.

His words embarrassed Duan Ling Tian.

At the same time, the servant girl peeked at Duan Ling Tian. Her cheeks flushed red when she caught a glimpse of his handsome face.

The pageboy looked at Duan Ling Tian meaningfully and said, "Dear guest, the servants here are... all virgins."

"You say the servant has to give consent. What if she refuses?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

"If she refuses, you cannot force her... Otherwise, it'd be seen as provoking the Fleeting Time Inn, and one will be severely punished," the pageboy replied.

Duan Ling Tian looked at the pageboy suspiciously, "Why didn't you say so earlier? Are you trying to set me up?"

"Dear guest, it's not that I deliberately didn't remind you. I just didn't think it's necessary. The servants are lucky if they get to spend a night with you. Moreover, I don't think any of the servants will refuse you," the pageboy said in an attempt to flatter Duan Ling Tian. Then, he turned to look at the maiden before he added, "If you don't believe me... Ask her."

Duan Ling Tian instinctively turned to look at the servant girl.

The servant girl felt butterflies fluttering in her stomach when Duan Ling Tian looked at her. "Dear guest, if you want me to spend the night with you... I-I'm willing..." Her voice turned soft when she reached the end of her sentence.

Duan Ling Tian coughed in embarrassment when he heard the servant girl's reply. He hastily turned to the pageboy and said, "Xiao Liu, if there's nothing else, you can take your leave."

"Yes, sir." The pageboy thought Duan Ling Tian was impatient to get things started so he looked at Duan Ling Tian meaningfully before he left.

"What is your name?" Duan Ling Tian asked the servant girl.

"Dear guest, m-my name is Cheng'er," the servant girl replied shyly.

"Cheng'er, there's no need to feel awkward... I won't be asking you to spend the night with me. Just do your duty and don't interrupt our cultivation..." Duan Ling Tian bluntly said.

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, the servant girl knew she had been daydreaming and was a fool for love. She could not help but feel disheartened.

At this moment, a melodious voice rang in the air, catching the servant girl's attention. The voice was so charming and sounded like music to one's ears that it could even catch the attention of women.

"Brother Ling Tian... Xiao Liu said you can have sex. What is sex? And, he said this elder sister is a virgin, what's a virgin?"

Cheng'er lamented inwardly, 'So, he has a partner...' It seemed like the guest she had a crush on already had a partner by his side. Although Huan'er's appearance was hidden by the veil and hat, she could tell Huan'er was much more beautiful than her.

Duan Ling Tian said, "Huan'er, you're still too young to know about this... You'll learn about it when you're older..."

"Brother Ling Tian, I'm already 13 years old. I'm not too young!" Huan'er said, clearly displeased.

"13 years old?!"

Duan Ling Tian and the servant girl were thoroughly shocked.

The servant girl looked at the white-clad lady's voluptuous figure that put hers to shame. How could a 13-year-old possess this type of figure?

When Duan Ling Tian finally regained his senses, he looked at Huan'er in bewilderment as he asked, "13 years old? Huan'er, you're only 13 years old?"

"Yes." Huan'er nodded innocently.

"Th-th-the people from your clan, they mature so early?" Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly. Then, he remembered Huan'er was not an ordinary human. She was half human and half Phantom Fox. In Devata Realms, Phantom Foxes were Celestial Beasts with sentience.

"Huan'er, let's go in." Since it was inconvenient to continue the conversation in the presence of an outsider, both of them entered the room, and he quickly closed the door.

Seeing this, Cheng'er completely gave up her hopes on Duan Ling Tian.

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Meanwhile, Zhou Shu Dong, the fourth miss of the Zhou clan, returned to the clan.

The incident today had spread like a wildfire in the capital. It did not take long for everyone to find out that the fourth miss of the Zhou clan had propositioned a young man to be her boy toy but was ruthlessly rejected. Moreover, after killing her subordinate, the young man remained alive and well.

Zhou Shu Dong muttered to herself in anger, "Who the heck is he?! He said he spared me because of the Zhou clan. This means he has a certain measure of fear of the Zhou clan. No! I won't let this matter slide. I've been greatly humiliated today!"

She had only returned to the Zhou clan's estate for a short moment before she hastily made her way to the Imperial Palace. Although the Zhou clan's estate occupied a vast land, it could not compare to the Imperial Palace of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. The palace occupied nearly half the eastern area of the capital. It was surrounded by a river, separating it from the masses.

When she arrived at the entrance of the palace, a group of guards recognized her and greeted her respectfully. "Greeting, Miss Zhou!"

She was impatient to enter the palace so she paid no mind to the guards, making her way into the palace.

Alas, she was stopped by the guards. "Miss Zhou, although we know you, you still need to show us your entry token. Rules are rules after all." The head of the guards bowed in respect.

"Here you go." Zhou Shu Dong took out a silver token from her Spatial Ring and showed it to the guards, clearly annoyed by the request.

After inspecting the authenticity of her entry token, the guards stepped aside and allowed her entry into the Imperial Palace.

After Zhou Shu Dong left, the guards discussed among themselves.

“I’ve been guarding the entrance of the Imperial Palace for so long, this is my first time seeing Miss Zhou in such a hurry. It seems like she’s in trouble?”

“Isn’t it obvious? If it’s not important, how could she have forgotten to show us her entry token?”

...

After entering the Imperial Palace, Zhou Shu Dong went to look for her elder cousin brother with whom she had the closest relationship with. He was her father’s nephew, the son of her father’s sister and the Emperor of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. He was also the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. He was the most outstanding among the Emperor’s sons. Naturally, the most outstanding prince had the highest chance of succeeding the throne of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom.

In the front courtyard of the pavilion that belonged to the Fourth Prince, a young man in green robes with golden trimmings sat inside a pergola. He sat in front of a granite table across Zhou Shu Dong. He asked with a smile, “Dong’er, why are you in such a hurry to look for me? Are you in trouble?” A knowing look appeared on his face. This young man was tall and strong. He was handsome with strong features and an outstanding bearing. The young man was none other than Long Xiang Yun, the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Long was the surname of the Imperial family.

“Cousin brother, can you help me investigate a person? I won’t be satisfied until I learn about him!” Zhou Shu Dong said with an unsightly expression on her face. Although the purple-clad young man she met might come from an extraordinary family, the Zhou clan was a force to be reckoned with. However, there was a chance that he was a nobody. Hence, she wanted to investigate him. She would easily let the matter go.

“Who do you want to investigate?” Long Xiang Yun asked curiously. It was his first time seeing such an unsightly expression on his cousin sister’s face. He was intrigued by the person who was capable of making his cousin sister look this way.

Chapter 2723 Inherited Memory

In a room in the Fleeting Time Inn. In one of the rooms, Huan’er, who had taken off her veil and hat, sat cross-legged on a bed. Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the air that seemed to have liquified flowed into her body at an extreme speed before it turned into Celestial Origin Energy.

The pendant of the necklace hanging from her beautiful neck was on display. The round contraption that concealed the pendant, a Divine Crystal, had been opened at some point in time. It continued to release a steady flow of seemingly liquified Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, filling up the entire room. The room, at this moment, seemed to have turned into a cultivation saint land.

Duan Ling Tian and Huan’er were sitting back-to-back. As he sensed and absorbed the seemingly liquified Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the room, he thought to himself, ‘With such a cultivation environment, it’d be humiliating if I can’t break through and become an Indigo Sun Golden Celestial in a short time.’ After that, he quickly dismissed his thoughts and focused on cultivating.

The cultivation environment was so good that there was no need for Duan Ling Tian to use Celestial Stones. The only thing that could hasten his cultivation speed was Celestial Pills. He was so immersed in

cultivation and trying to break through the final bottleneck in his cultivation base as a Blue Sun Golden Celestial that he had completely forgotten about the passage of time.

It felt like a brief moment and a century had passed at the same time when Duan Ling Tian suddenly opened his eyes. "I've broken through!" He had successfully become an Indigo Sun Golden Celestial!

Swoosh!

Celestial Origin Energy rippled out of Duan Ling Tian's body, intermingling with the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in his surroundings.

Hearing Duan Ling Tian's excited voice, Huan'er asked in surprise, "Brother Ling Tian, you've broken through in such a short time?"

"Huan'er, how long did I cultivate?" Duan Ling Tian asked although he was not sure if she knew the answer.

"Brother Ling Tian, you only cultivated for three days," Huan'er replied.

"Three days?" Duan Ling Tian was startled. Although he did not think it would take long for him to break through with such a good cultivation environment, he did not expect it would only take him three days to break through.

"This is too fast, isn't it?" When he regained his senses, he silently thanked the Divine Crystal.

All of a sudden, Huan'er asked, "Brother Ling Tian, why is the grade of your cultivation method so low?"

Duan Ling Tian was taken aback. "Huan'er, you can discern my cultivation method?"

"Yes," Huan'er nodded as she replied, "I can also tell you have 99 Heavenly Veins just like me. However, due to your physique being inferior to mine, you're slightly less talented than me. With your talent, your cultivation speed should be much faster if you have a high-grade cultivation method."

Indeed, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation method was of a very low grade. In fact, it was the lowest grade; the yellow grade.

"Brother Ling Tian, should I teach you my cultivation method?" Huan'er suggested.

Upon hearing Huan'er's words, Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened. For someone who possessed a rare treasure like the Divine Crystal, how could her cultivation method be inferior? He felt his breathing quickened. However, after a moment, he seemed to recall something. He sobered up immediately, as though a cold bucket of water had been poured on him. "Huan'er, did your mother warn you against teaching others your cultivation method? If she did, then, let's just forget about it. I can always look for a higher grade cultivation method later." It was probable that it was taboo for her to pass on her cultivation method.

"Brother Ling Tian, my cultivation method is innate and has existed in my memories since I was born. My mom said it is an inherited memory. In our Phantom Fox Clan, this would only occur to Thousand Phantom Ice Foxes that are born once every 1,000,000 years. My mom didn't warn me against teaching

it to others. In fact, I tried teaching it to my mom, but she was unable to use it for some unknown reasons.”

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. “In that case, it’s likely I won’t be able to cultivate it as well. After all, it’s innate, and it’s probably suited only to you.”

“My mom is a pure Celestial Beast so she can’t use the cultivation method. However, Brother Ling Tian, you’re a human. There’s a possibility that you might be able to cultivate it,” Huan’er said.

Instantly, rays of hope shone in Duan Ling Tian’s eyes. Her words made sense after all. Her mother was a Celestial Beast so that might be why she could not cultivate the cultivation method. Who knew if a human could cultivate it?

‘Although I know nothing about Huan’er’s true form, the Thousand Phantom Ice Fox, since they’re so rare, they must be very special. It stands to reason the inherited cultivation method is special as well...’ Duan Ling Tian was quite certain Huan’er’s cultivation method was extraordinary. Otherwise, how could she become an Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial in just 10 years? Who knew if her cultivation method was superior to heaven-grade cultivation methods? There was certainly a possibility of that.

Huan’er was a 13-year-old Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. Such an existence should be rare even in the Devata Realms, let alone just the Spirit Overarching Heaven. How could he stay calm now that she said she was going to teach him her cultivation method?

Alas, Duan Ling Tian discovered that he could not use Huan’er’s cultivation method. He was greatly disappointed.

Upon seeing this, Huan’er felt anxious and guilty. She quickly suggested, “Brother Ling Tian, why don’t I snatch a higher grade cultivation method for you?”

“Huan’er, just concentrate on your cultivation. Don’t worry about my cultivation method. I can solve this on my own,” Duan Ling Tian said with a smile as he patted her head. Seeing that she was still quite anxious, he added, “Don’t worry. Focus on improving your strength. That way, you’ll be able to help me if I encounter a powerful enemy, right? Take this for example, we have to stay in the inn now because we’re weaker than the Zhou clan. However, if we’re stronger, there won’t be any need for us to be afraid. No one would dare to provoke us.”

A hint of determination flashed in Huan’er’s eyes when she heard Duan Ling Tian’s words. She quickly closed her eyes and began to cultivate again.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian left the room. When he opened the door, some of the seemingly liquified Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy leaked out. However, it quickly dispersed.

At this moment, Cheng’er, the servant girl, was gardening, taking care of the vegetation in the courtyard. When she saw Duan Ling Tian, she hastily rose to her feet and bowed at him. “Sir.” She looked at him with extremely bright eyes as though she was telling him she would obey him as long as he gave the word!

“You can continue with your task,” Duan Ling Tian said with a smile. Then, he hung the red cloth that Xiao Liu, the pageboy, had given him.

“Cheng’er, please inform me when Xiao Liu comes,” Duan Ling Tian said before he entered another room

“Yes, sir,” Cheng’er replied respectfully.

...

Inside the room, Duan Ling Tian sat on the bed and called out a small grey flame. It was the Chaos Divine Flame that he had mistaken as a primitive Celestial Fire.

‘It seems like I can draw out and control a bigger flame from the defective metal piece whenever my cultivation base improves. At this rate, when I become a Great Overarching Golden Celestial, I can completely draw the grey flame out and gain full control of it.’ Duan Ling Tian’s eyes were as bright as the stars in the night sky when he thought about this.

Chapter 2724 The Uninvited Guests

When Duan Ling Tian became a Blue Sun Golden Celestial level, he discovered that he could control a larger portion of the grey flame. Judging by the current situation, when he became a Great Overarching Golden Celestial, he should be able to draw out all of the grey flames from the defective metal piece. ‘The day I become a Great Overarching Golden Celestial will be the day I can control a mediocre Celestial Fire!’ Duan Ling Tian was quite certain of this. His eyes shone brightly as he thought to himself, ‘At that time, I’ll be a mediocre Celestial Alchemist!’ After taking a glance at the grey flame again, he quickly dispersed it with just a thought.

‘Huan’er can actually see that I have 99 Heavenly Veins. I wonder if that’s the special power of the Phantom Fox Clan or if it’s the exclusive power of a Thousand Phantom Ice Fox.’ Duan Ling Tian was still shocked by Huan’er’s ability. ‘According to Elder Huo, the pagoda spirit of the Seven Treasures Exquisite Pagoda, even Heavenly Emperors can’t discern one’s Heavenly Veins. Apart from Huan’er, the only other person who’s able to discern the number of my Heavenly Veins is Xia Jie, Ke’er’s third uncle from the Divine Offering Land!’

Xia Jie was undoubtedly stronger than Heavenly Emperor in the Devata Realms, but Huan’er was far weaker than them. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian felt Huan’er was able to discern his 99 Heavenly Veins was due to her ability as a member of the Phantom Fox Clan or her special ability as a Thousand Phantom Ice Fox.

‘Huan’er is really mysterious.’ Duan Ling Tian became even more certain that Huan’er was extraordinary. Moreover, she also said she possessed 99 Heavenly Veins just like him.

Duan Ling Tian was still lost in thoughts about Huan’er and the incidents that occurred after meeting her when Cheng’er’s voice rang from outside. “Sir, Brother Xiao Liu is here.”

The rooms in the Fleeting Time Inn all had a Noise-Canceling formation. Only when someone knocked on the door would there be a gap in the Formation. Otherwise, Duan Ling Tian would not have been able to hear Cheng’er’s voice.

Duan Ling Tian exited the room and went to the courtyard's entrance.

"Sir." Xiao Liu, the servant boy, greeted Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian could keenly feel the change in Xiao Liu's behavior. Xiao Liu was even more respectful to him now. He said teasingly, "Why do I feel that you've become more polite after not seeing you for a few days?"

"Sir, please don't tease me. In the entire Capital of Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, who doesn't know what you and the other lady have done? I did not expect that both of you to kill an elder of the Zhou clan in front of the fourth miss of the Zhou clan! Fortunately, both of you didn't kill the fourth miss of the Zhou Clan. Otherwise, even our Fleeting Time Inn might not be able to protect both of you," Xiao Liu said, clearly delighted.

"Why do you say so?" Duan Ling Tian asked, surprised. When he arrived at the Fleeting Time Inn three days ago and learned that the inn was not afraid of the Zhou clan, he felt rather regretful that he did not kill the main culprit, Zhou Shu Dong, the fourth miss of the Zhou Clan. He had spared her, at that time, because he did not want to have to leave the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom after offending the Zhou clan.

"Sir, it's still alright to kill ordinary members of the Zhou clan. However, it's different when it comes to the children of the Clan Leader of the Zhou clan! After all, they're the direct cousins of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom's Fourth Prince. Moreover, they have a close relationship," Xiao Liu replied.

"The Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. He did not expect Zhou Shu Dong would have a close relationship with a prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom.

When he was in the restaurant three days ago, he had heard about the three most outstanding princes of the kingdom. Out of the three most outstanding princes, the Fourth Prince was the best. Apart from that, he had also learned that out of three outstanding princes, the Fourth Prince had the highest chances of becoming the next emperor.

"Yes. The Fourth Prince's mother is the sister of the current Clan Leader of the Zhou Clan. She's the fourth miss' aunt," Xiao Liu explained.

Duan Ling Tian was surprised.

Then, Xiao Liu asked, "Sir, may I know what you would like me to do since you called me here?"

"The Nian clan that owns the Fleeting Time Inn should have an auction house, right?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

"Yes." Xiao Liu nodded. Then, he asked with a smile, "Are you interested in the auction?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"The Nian clan's auction house organizes a small-scale auction every month and a large-scale auction every year. In five days, there'll be a small-scale auction," Xiao Liu said, "The auction house is located

near the inn. If you plan to participate, I'll arrange for you to go to the auction house with our other guests under the protection of the powerhouses from the Nian clan."

"What kind of items does a small-scale auction usually have?" Duan Ling Tian asked. He needed to know if it was worth participating. After all, a small-scale auction was unlikely to have rare items. However, high-grade cultivation methods should not be considered rare in a place like the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Moreover, cultivation methods could be imprinted on Memory Celestial Talismans in Devata Realms.

When Xiao Liu told Duan Ling Tian about the items that will be put on auction, Duan Ling Tian sighed in relief. 'Just as I thought. High-grade cultivation methods aren't rare in the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Moreover, there will be seven profound cultivation methods during the auction.' He said to Xiao Liu, "Xiao Liu, please help me to arrange so that I can participate in the auction in five days."

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Not long after Xiao Liu had left, Duan Ling Tian who had lingered in the courtyard was about to return to his room when a loud and energetic voice rang out. "Sir, the Fourth Prince wants to meet you." It seemed like he had uninvited guests.

Cheng'er looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, "Sir, that's the voice of the innkeeper."

"The innkeeper of Fleeting Time Inn?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. Then, he turned to Cheng'er and said, "Cheng'er, please open the door." He walked to a stone table in the courtyard and calmly sat down.

After Cheng'er opened the door, she respectfully greeted the people outside.

Four individuals immediately entered the courtyard. One of them was Zhou Shu Dong, the fourth miss of the Zhou clan.

As the saying went, 'When enemies encounter each other, their eyes would blaze with hatred'.

Zhou Shu Dong glared at Duan Ling Tian and gritted her teeth as soon as she entered the courtyard. It seemed like she could not wait to kill him and tear him into pieces before burning him into ashes.

Walking at the lead with Zhou Shu Dong was a young man dressed in green robes with golden trimmings. An ordinary-looking old man who radiated a mysterious air walked behind them. Apart from that, there was also a luxuriously dressed middle-aged man.

Based on Cheng'er's words earlier, Duan Ling Tian could tell the luxuriously dressed middle-aged man was the innkeeper. The young man dressed in green robes with golden trimmings who was tall and handsome with an outstanding bearing must be Long Xiang Yun, the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. As for the old man, he must be the Fourth Prince's bodyguard. Someone who was a guard of the Fourth Prince must not be weak.

Duan Ling Tian remained seated even after the four people walked in. It was clear he had no intention of rising to his feet.

“How dare you!” Zhou Shu Dong exclaimed as she glared at Duan Ling Tian. Emboldened by the Fourth Prince’s presence, she said angrily, “How dare you not rise to your feet to greet the Fourth Prince?”

“Ah, I was wondering who my visitors are... As it turns out, it’s the fourth miss of the Zhou clan...” Duan Ling Tian said indifferently as he glanced at Zhou Shu Dong. His expression remained calm as he shifted his gaze to Long Xiang Yun, the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom.

Chapter 2725 An Actor With Great Acting Skills

“Dong’er, don’t be rude,” Long Xiang Yun, the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, said after he and Duan Ling Tian sized each other up. Without waiting for Zhou Shu Dong, who wore an aggrieved expression on her face, to reply, he looked at Duan Ling Tian again and said, “Sir, you’re not going to make us stand since we’re guests, right?” “Guests?” Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly and slowly replied, “Fourth Prince, if you’re truly a guest, I’ll definitely welcome you. However, I’m afraid you didn’t come as a guest, did you?” He glanced at Zhou Shu Dong indifferently before he turned to look at Long Xiang Yun meaningfully.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, an ancient-sounding voice rang in Long Xiang Yun’s ear via Voice Transmission. It belonged to the old man who stood behind him. “Your Royal Highness, I just probed this man. Based on his physical body, he’s younger than 100 years old!” As soon as he heard this, his eyes widened imperceptibly. His cousin was a Blue Sun Golden Celestial, but the person standing in front of him managed to send his cousin flying and injure her with just a wave of his hand without using any Celestial Weapon. It was obvious the young man was far stronger than his cousin. This meant the purple-clad young man was at least an Indigo Sun Golden Celestial, if not a Violet Sun Golden Celestial. He would much prefer it if the purple-clad young man was a Violet Sun Golden Celestial. After all, if the purple-clad young man had a lower cultivation base and still managed to exert strength comparable to a Violet Sun Golden Celestial, it meant the young man had mastered extraordinary Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities. Usually, extraordinary Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities were only available in powerful forces. It would be better if the young man did not come from a powerful force. After a while, he asked through Voice Transmission, “What about his cultivation base?”

“I can’t seem to determine his cultivation base. I think he used certain techniques to conceal his cultivation base,” the old man replied through Voice Transmission.

When Long Xiang Yun heard the old man’s reply, he felt the purple-clad young man in front of him became even more mysterious. He studied Duan Ling Tian again and discovered that Duan Ling Tian seemed calm and unafraid. In the end, he looked at Zhou Shu Dong and said in a commanding tone, “Dong’er, apologize.”

Zhou Shu Dong’s expression changed slightly, and she was about to protest when she heard Long Xiang Yun’s Voice Transmission. “Dong’er, before I find out about his background, you’ll have to play along even if you feel wronged. Once I confirm he doesn’t have a strong background, I promise you that I won’t let him walk out of the capital alive!”

Upon hearing Long Xiang Yun’s words, she relaxed. It seemed like her cousin did not mean for her to sincerely apologize. Her cousin only wanted to investigate the purple-clad young man’s background before taking any action. She no longer felt unwilling and turned to look at Duan Ling Tian before she said, “I’m sorry.”

“Have a seat, Fourth Prince.” As the saying went, ‘An angry fist does not hit a smiling face’. Since the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom was being considerate, it would not do for Duan Ling Tian to put on airs. He nodded and gestured for the fourth prince to take a seat.

Long Xiang Yun took a seat with a smile on his face. As soon as he sat down, he put his hand on the stone table, causing the stone table to shake along with Duan Ling Tian’s hands that were also placed on the table.

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes. He did not sense any hostility from Long Xiang Yun, but it seemed like Long Xiang Yun wanted to probe him.

Long Xiang Yun had sent an energy comparable to a yellow-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial through the table. Naturally, Duan Ling Tian could tell it was only a casual release of power. It was far from Long Xiang Yun’s true strength. After taking a deep breath, he also released an energy comparable to the strength Long Xiang Yun had released.

Long Xiang Yun narrowed his eyes for a brief moment before he withdrew his energy. ‘Great Overarching Golden Celestial?’

Upon sensing Long Xiang Yun had withdrawn his power, Duan Ling Tian followed suit.

After that, Long Xiang Yun said with a smile, “How should I address you, brother?” His tone was extremely friendly. It was as though he was speaking to a good friend.

Upon hearing the way Long Xiang Yun addressed Duan Ling Tian as ‘brother’ instead of ‘sir’, the old man standing behind him, Zhou Shu Dong, the innkeeper of Fleeting Time Inn, and Cheng’er were stunned. How could they not feel stunned? Long Xiang Yun was the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom after all, and he had just addressed someone he had just met as ‘brother’.

Long Xiang Yun said to the old man behind him and Zhou Shu Dong through Voice Transmission, “He’s at least a yellow-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial.”

Upon hearing Long Xiang Yun’s words, Zhou Shu Dong was shocked.

Meanwhile, the old man narrowed his eyes as he looked at Duan Ling Tian in shock and wariness. A Great Overarching Golden Celestial who was not even 100 years old? There was no one like this in the entire Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Such a person was rare even in other high-rank Celestial Kingdoms. And yet, a Great Overarching Golden Celestial who was not even 100 years old stood before him now.

“Dong’er, he’s not even 100 years old.” Zhou Shu Dong, who was shocked when she found out that Duan Ling Tian was a Great Overarching Golden Celestial, became even more shocked when she heard her cousin’s words. The man she had wanted to keep as a boy toy was actually a Great Overarching Golden Celestial who was not even 100 years old? There were Great Overarching Golden Celestials everywhere in the kingdom, but there were no Great Overarching Golden Celestials younger than the age of 100!

"I don't have the habit of revealing my name to strangers," Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently.

If Duan Ling Tian had spoken so boldly before the revelation, the old man and Zhou Shu Dong would have thought Duan Ling Tian was seeking death. However, now they both felt it was only natural for Duan Ling Tian to behave in such a manner.

"Then, I'll ask for your name again once we're familiar with each other," Long Xiang Yun said with a smile even though a hint of displeasure flickered in the depths of his eyes. Since Duan Ling Tian was unwilling to disclose his name, he did not ask about Duan Ling Tian's background. Instead, he took the initiative to chat about other things. With this, he learned that Duan Ling Tian had just arrived in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. After chatting about various trivial matters, he asked genially as though he was speaking to a good friend, "Brother, you came to the capital with a companion, right? I heard my cousin said that she's your sister?"

"She's not my biological sister, she's my junior sister." Duan Ling Tian nodded. Then, he continued to say with a hint of helplessness, "I only came to the territories in the Wasteland because of my junior sister. She insisted that I accompany her out, she wouldn't stop bothering me about it. I didn't plan to agree to her request, but since I'm weaker than her, she knocked me out and brought me out with her. She even evaded capture by the sect elders sent by the sect leader. When I woke up, I'm already here."

Upon hearing this small piece of information, Long Xiang Yun's eyes slightly brightened. Based on Duan Ling Tian's words, it was clear that Duan Ling Tian did not come from a sect in the territories of the Wasteland. Outside of the Wasteland, although rare, there were places with far superior cultivation environments and resources and many stronger powerhouses. He continued to probe for more information. "So, she's only your junior sister because she joined the sect later than you did?"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "Well, that's only part of the reason. She's also younger than me, that's why she's my junior sister." He feigned an expression of envy as he said, "As soon as she joined the sect, the sect leader chose her to be his last disciple!"

Since it was Duan Ling Tian's intention, Long Xiang Yun, naturally, saw the expression of envy that flitted across Duan Ling Tian's face. He said, "It seems like your junior sister's innate talent is higher than yours..." Although he looked calm, inwardly, he was slightly panicking. Based on what he knew, the purple-clad young man and white-clad woman were strong enough to kill the Zhou clan's elder who was tasked to protect his cousin. That elder was an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial. After speaking to the old man behind him through Voice Transmission, he deduced that the white-clad woman had to be a peak Great Overarching Golden Celestial at least. Naturally, if they came from a powerful sect, it was possible to be as powerful as a peak Great Overarching Golden Celestial even if one was just a heaven-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial with the help of extraordinary Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities.

"Of course. Otherwise, why would the sect leader select her to be his last disciple?" Duan Ling Tian nodded. When he spoke, he had an earnest expression on his face. There was no trace of deceit that could be seen in his expression of all. If he was still on earth, he would definitely be awarded with the title of best actor for his acting skills.

Meanwhile, the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn was panicking as well. Although he knew Duan Ling Tian was strong, he did not know how strong Duan Ling Tian was. Most importantly, Duan Ling Tian was

not even 100 years old. How could he not panic when he heard that Duan Ling Tian's junior sister was even more powerful than him? His junior sister was even younger than him but was capable of easily killing the Zhou clan's elder who was an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial!

Chapter 2726 The Thirteenth Prince

"Brother, regarding the matter where my brash cousin has offended you, as her elder cousin, I apologize on her behalf. I hope you won't take it to heart and that you'll forgive her," Long Xiang Yun said with a smile. "Fourth Prince, you're being too polite. In any case, my junior sister and I had only wasted some time regarding that matter. There's no need to mention it." Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly.

"I'm glad you think that way. Please do visit me in the palace when you have the time," Long Xiang Yun said before he handed Duan Ling Tian a token. The token was an entry token to enter and exit the Imperial Palace of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom.

"Sure." Duan Ling Tian kept the token even though he had no intention of visiting Long Xiang Yun in the palace. He had no intention of forming any kind of relationship with Long Xiang Yun after all. Although Long Xiang Yun seemed as though he had bought his act, he could see Long Xiang Yun was still skeptical. He knew Long Xiang Yun was playing it safe and did not openly offend him because Long Xiang Yun still had not verified his background. Otherwise, Long Xiang Yun would not have been so courteous. He thought to himself, 'Indeed, the Fourth Prince deserves to be the leading candidate to inherit the throne of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Not only is he wise, but he also has forbearance. In any case, it's good that he won't recklessly attack me without thoroughly confirming my background. He might even warn the Zhou clan to not recklessly make a move.'

Finally, Long Xiang Yun rose to his feet. He smiled amiably as he said, "Brother, I've something else to attend to so I'll take my leave. I hope to see you in the palace. At that time, we can drink until we're drunk!"

"Sure." Duan Ling Tian nodded, but he did not rise to his feet.

However, Long Xiang Yun did not seem to take offense. He beckoned Zhou Shu Dong and the old man to leave. He did not even deign to speak to the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn.

After Long Xiang Yun left with his two companions, the middle-aged innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn immediately apologized. "Sir, I'm Wang Peng, the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn. I apologize for being unable to stop the fourth prince from looking for you." Although he was not completely certain if the young man before him had an extraordinary background, based on how bold the young man had acted in front of the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, it was better to play it safe and apologize. After all, even the fourth prince was courteous to the young man. For this reason, he decided it was better to treat the young man as though he came from a formidable sect.

"Hm." Duan Ling Tian nodded indifferently. Without sparing another glance at Wang Peng, he entered his room before shutting the door.

Naturally, Wang Peng was not angered. The young man's behavior was only normal if he really came from a formidable force.

"Take good care of this guest." Wang Peng reminded Cheng'er, the servant girl.

“Yes,” Cheng’er replied. After Wang Peng left, she glanced at the room where Duan Ling Tian had just entered. It was also the room where Huan’er was cultivating. A hint of shock and amazement could be seen in her eyes. She did not expect the guests she was serving would be treated with such courtesy by the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. After all, the fourth prince was one of the three most brilliant princes in the kingdom and one of the Emperor’s two most beloved sons. She could not help but feel the guests she was serving were extremely extraordinary.

...

Meanwhile, after returning to the palace, Long Xiang Yun, the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, solemnly warned Zhou Shu Dong. “Dong’er, don’t provoke that man anymore.”

“Cousin, you believe his words?” Zhou Shu Dong asked.

“Not completely. However, it’s better to be safe than sorry. It’d be fine for me to kill him if he’s just putting on a front. However, on the off chance that he’s not pretending, killing him would only lead to more troubles. Unless we can confirm his background, it’s better not to provoke him. I’ve probed his strength earlier, there’s no doubt he’s a Great Overarching Golden Celestial and younger than 100 years old. Unless he had some extremely fortuitous encounter, it’s likely that he’s from a formidable force that’s no weaker than the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom’s Imperial family!” Long Xiang Yun said in a low voice.

There were about 20 princes in the Imperial family of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Since Long Xiang Yun was able to stand out among the princes, it was obvious he was not a simple person. He would not attack Duan Ling Tian unless he was completely certain there would be no repercussion. Based on this, one could see how intelligent he was.

Zhou Shu Dong remained silent when she heard Long Xiang Yun’s words.

“Dong’er, I’m not trying to scare you. However, unless we can verify his background, I don’t think it’s wise for me or the Zhou clan to act rashly,” Long Xiang Yun continued to say, “For the time being, we can only confirm that he’s not a citizen of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. According to him, he comes from a sect outside the Wasteland. For this reason, it’ll be difficult for me, the Imperial family, and the Zhou clan to verify his words... Unless...” He trailed off mid-sentence.

“Unless what?” Zhou Shu Dong asked with a hint of urgency.

“Unless you ask your third elder sister to verify his words through the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. After all, the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect is one of the three largest Celestial Sects in the Wasteland. Their information network is definitely superior to the Zhou clan and the Imperial family,” Long Xiang Yun said.

“Third elder sister?” Zhou Shu Dong’s eyes lit up for a moment but they soon dimmed. “She... she left the Wasteland with her master a few years ago.”

“I heard she has returned last month.” Long Xiang Yun smiled.

“Third elder sister returned last month?” Zhou Shu Dong’s eyes lit up again like two dazzling stars.
“Then, I’ll look for her now!”

Zhou Shu Dong’s third elder sister was one of the daughters of the Clan Leader of the Zhou clan. The clan leader had four children; two sons and two daughters. Zhou Shu Dong was the youngest of the clan leader’s children. The third child of the Zhou clan was known as the Third Miss of the Zhou clan. She was also the pride of the Zhou clan and the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. She was a rarely seen talent who appeared once in 1,000 years. Due to her talent, she successfully joined the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect and became the last disciple of the sect’s former sect leader. Since the current sect leader was also a disciple of the former sect leader, she was also the junior sister of the current sect leader. The current Sect Leader of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect doted on her as well.

...

In the Imperial family of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, there were three outstanding princes. However, only two were loved by the emperor. Hence, most people thought the two princes had the highest chances of ascending the throne.

The reason the remaining outstanding prince was not favored by the emperor was due to his mysterious and complicated birth. The emperor was not certain if this prince was his biological son. For this reason, the emperor treated this prince differently from the other princes regardless if he was just as outstanding as the emperor’s two favored sons, the fourth prince and the seventh prince. This prince was the thirteenth prince, Long Fei Yun.

...

In the Thirteenth Prince’s Imperial residence that was located in the palace, a handsome young man dressed in a white robe with gold trimmings could be seen sitting in a pavilion in a courtyard that was surrounded by flowers and lush greeneries. As he looked at a middle-aged man standing outside of the pavilion, he muttered to himself, “He claims to be from a sect located outside the Wasteland, and he’s younger than 100 years old. His junior sister is strong enough to effortlessly kill the Zhou clan’s elder who was an earth-rank Great Overarching Golden Celestial.”

Suddenly, the handsome young man lifted his head, revealing his fair and handsome face, as he looked at the middle-aged man standing outside the pavilion. He asked, “Even fourth brother is wary of him and doesn’t dare to act rashly?” The handsome young man’s skin was so fair that it was akin to a woman’s skin. However, his features were masculine. The contrast only served to make him more charming and unforgettable.

“Yes, Your Royal Highness, the Thirteenth Prince,” the middle-aged man, who was standing outside the pavilion, replied respectfully.

If Duan Ling Tian were present, he would be able to recognize the middle-aged man. He was none other than Wang Peng, the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn!

Wang Peng continued to say, “That guest also told my subordinate that he plans to participate in the Nian clan’s auction that will be held in five days.”

“He’s interested in such a small-scale auction?” The thirteenth prince was puzzled.

“Well, I’m not sure...” Wang Peng said.

“Make the arrangement... I want to meet this mysterious man who’s able to scare my fourth brother with just a few words,” the thirteenth prince ordered.

“Yes, Your Royal Highness,” Wang Peng replied reverently.

“You may leave,” the thirteenth prince said.

Wang Peng retreated and left the Thirteenth Prince’s Imperial residence before returning to the Fleeting Time Inn.

Chapter 2727 If Heaven Doesn’t Punish You, I Will!

Time passed by quickly. Soon enough, the day of the small-scale auction organized by the Nian clan had arrived. A group of people could be seen leaving the main entrance of the Fleeting Time Inn at this moment. They were surrounded by powerhouses from the inn and from the Nian clan’s auction house on all four sides. These powerhouses, young and old, served as protection for this group of people. They expressionlessly escorted the guests of the inn to the Nian clan’s small-scale auction. Most of the guests of the inn stayed in the inn for the protection the inn offered after all.

Duan Ling Tian silently walked behind the group when a young man slowed down and asked him curiously, “Brother, who did you offend?”

“I didn’t offend anyone,” Duan Ling Tian replied indifferently.

“You didn’t offend anyone, but you’re staying in the Fleeting Time Inn? Brother, isn’t it a waste of money to stay in the inn then?” The young man was surprised by Duan Ling Tian’s words. A hint of skepticism could be seen in his eyes. It was obvious he did not believe Duan Ling Tian.

“It’s fine,” Duan Ling Tian continued to say indifferently.

The young man chuckled before he said with a smug expression on his face, “Brother, do you know why I’m staying in the Fleeting Time Inn?”

“Why?” Duan Ling Tian asked. In fact, he was not really interested in the young man’s reason for staying in the Fleeting Time Inn. However, since there was nothing to do during the journey to the auction house, he might as well listen to the young man’s story to pass time.

“I’m staying in the inn because a few months ago, I forcibly took the virginity of the Chi clan’s Eldest Miss and killed her after that. Naturally, the Chi clan can’t wait to kill me. I’m staying in the Fleeting Time Inn and paying for it with the Celestial Stones I found in her Spatial Ring,” the young man said with a proud expression on his face. He pointed in a certain direction and said, “You see that old man over there? He’s the Clan Leader of the Chi clan. He’s been guarding the entrance of the inn with his men ever since that incident, hoping to seek revenge from me.”

Duan Ling Tian looked over and saw an old man and a few middle-aged men dressed in mourning garments. The old man was glaring at the young man next to him with reddened eyes. He could see the hatred in the old man’s eyes. The old man’s eyes flashed with hostility as well when their eyes briefly

met. He asked, "Why did you take the virginity of the Chi Clan's Eldest Miss? Did she or the Chi Clan offend you?"

Eight days had passed since Duan Ling Tian arrived in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. He had spent the first three days in closed-door cultivation and successfully became an Indigo Sun Golden Celestial. After that, he no longer cultivated. Instead, he left the Fleeting Time Inn and spent a few days in several restaurants in the capital.

Ever since the fourth prince's visit five days ago, Duan Ling Tian was no longer worried about retaliation from the fourth prince or the Zhou clan. He was certain they would not dare to act recklessly until they were able to confirm his background. For this reason, he had left the Fleeting Time Inn without any worries.

After spending a few days outside, Duan Ling Tian had gained more information about the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, its capital, and the major forces in the capital. However, he had not heard about the Chi Clan. For this reason, he was certain the Chi clan was not a major force in the capital or the kingdom.

"No, neither the Chi Clan's Eldest Miss nor the Chi Clan had offended me. I raped her just because she looked good and was still a virgin. I daren't offend the major clans, but I'm not afraid of the Chi clan. However, I, alone, am not capable of standing up to the Chi clan so I can only hide in the Fleeting Time Inn for the time being. After two weeks, my brother will come with a few men to pick me up. With my brother and his men's protection, the Chi clan can only watch as I swagger out of the inn and the capital." The young man's expression turned prouder. He was clearly extremely pleased with himself.

The young man turned to look at the Clan Leader of the Chi clan with a self-satisfied expression on his face as he continued to speak, "The Celestial Stones I'm using to stay in the inn belongs to the Chi clan's Eldest Miss... When I leave the inn, I'll still be left with quite a large number of Celestial Stones. There's no doubt the Clan Leader of the Chi clan would be enraged to death when my brother and his men bring me safely out of the capital!"

"B*stard!" The Clan Leader of the Chi Clan was so angered by the young man's expression that he wanted to rush forward and attack the young man. However, he was stopped by his men. He could only glare at the young man with reddened eyes, clearly unable to wait to tear the young man into pieces, gnaw on his bones, and drink his blood.

Upon seeing the maddened appearance and the red eyes of the Clan Leader of the Chi clan, Duan Ling Tian felt an uncontrollable anger surging in his heart. He asked in a low voice, "Don't you think you've crossed the line?"

"Crossed the line?" The young man was temporarily taken aback. Then, he laughed as he said, "Brother, so what if I did? At the end of the day, I'm still the winner. Look, it seems like the heavens have no plan of punishing me. Frankly, before I acted, I'd already planned it all out. To me, this is like a game." His grin grew wider as he spoke.

"If the heavens have no plans of punishing you, then, I will!" Duan Ling Tian barked, no longer able to control his anger. His Celestial Origin Energy surged along with his anger and converged in his hands.

Swoosh!

A scorching sword ray swept past as Duan Ling Tian raised his hand. A sword appeared in his hand before he beheaded the young man. The young man had no time to react at all.

Swoosh!

With just a thought, Duan Ling Tian sent the young man's head and body flying before it landed in front of the Clan Leader of the Chi clan.

The passersby were confused by this scene. It took them a moment to regain their senses. None of them had expected to witness such a scene.

Boom! Boom!

Two thunderous explosions rang in the air as the two Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Nian clan's auction house mobilized their Celestial Origin Energies. In just a blink of an eye, they appeared before Duan Ling Tian.

Boom! Boom!

When the two Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the auction house were about to attack Duan Ling Tian, two Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Fleeting Time Inn also made their moves.

Everyone thought the powerhouses from the Fleeting Time Inn were about to join in the attack. They were thoroughly shocked when they saw the two powerhouses from the inn appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian, shielding him.

"What's the meaning of this?" The two powerhouses from the Nian Clan's auction house frowned.

"The person who died is no longer under the Fleeting Time Inn's protection the moment he stepped out of the inn since he had checked out beforehand," one of the Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Fleeting Time Inn replied. He stood closest to Duan Ling Tian so he had overheard the conversation between Duan Ling Tian and the young man. He could have easily stopped Duan Ling Tian before Duan Ling Tian killed the young man, but he stayed his hand. He thought the young man deserved to die. Moreover, the innkeeper had already informed him that Duan Ling Tian was not an ordinary guest. Duan Ling Tian was someone even the fourth prince did not dare to provoke.

"Checked out?" The two powerhouses from the Nian Clan's auction house frowned. They clearly did not believe the other party's words. If the young man had checked out beforehand, why was he included in the group that was protected by the inn as they journeyed to the Nian clan's auction house?

At this moment, another Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial from the Fleeting Time Inn sent a Voice Transmission to the two powerhouses from the auction house. "This purple-clad young man isn't a simple person. Even the fourth prince doesn't dare to provoke him."

Upon hearing this, the two powerhouses from the auction house widened their eyes in surprise. A hint of fear could be seen in the depths of their eyes. They quickly sent a Voice Transmission to thank the

powerhouse from the Fleeting Time Inn. If they had acted rashly earlier, they would have landed themselves in trouble. How could they afford to offend someone whom even the fourth prince was wary of provoking?

After a short moment, the four powerhouses from the Nian clan's auction house and Fleeting Time Inn exchanged a look before all of them resumed their positions and continued escorting the group to the Nian clan's auction house.

Meanwhile, in the distance, the people from the Chi clan finally regained their senses. Following the lead of the clan leader, all of them kneeled on the ground and kowtowed as they expressed their gratitude. "Thank you, benefactor! Thank you!"

At the same time, the other guests of the Fleeting Time Inn looked at Duan Ling Tian fearfully and guardedly. Naturally, none of them believed the young man had checked out beforehand. For this reason, they were certain Duan Ling Tian was not a simple man!

Chapter 2728 The Nian Clan's Auction House

With his hands placed on his back, Duan Ling Tian walked with the group of people with an indifferent expression on his face. From the beginning until the end, even when the two powerhouses from the Nian clan's auction house made their moves, his expression remained unchanged. He remained calm not because he was confident about defeating the two Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Nian clan's auction house, it was because he was confident the Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Fleeting Time Inn would not allow harm to come to him. Before he killed the young man, Duan Ling Tian knew he would not succeed if the Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Fleeting Time Inn did not allow it. However, since the powerhouses from the Fleeting Time Inn did not intervene, he took the powerhouses' silence as a tacit agreement to his action. For this reason, he knew he did not have to worry about the consequences of killing that young man. Just as he had expected, the powerhouses from the inn stepped forward to protect him as soon as the two Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the Nian clan's auction house made a move.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'To make the powerhouses from the Nian clan's auction house retreat, the powerhouses from the inn must have mentioned the fourth prince.' It was not difficult for him to come to this conclusion. Five days ago, the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn had personally witnessed his interaction with the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Since even the fourth prince was being courteous to him, the innkeeper would, naturally, think he had a formidable background. As long as this was made known to the powerhouses from the Nian clan's auction house, they would definitely not make a move. How could they offend someone whom even the fourth prince was wary of?

During the journey, Duan Ling Tian could feel the fearful and wary gazes from the guests of Fleeting Time Inn. He did not find it surprising. After all, he had just killed a guest of the inn without any consequences. Moreover, the Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the inn were clearly protecting him.

Fifteen minutes later, one of the Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials from the auction house loudly said, "We've arrived!"

Duan Ling Tian and the others looked ahead.

An ornate building that occupied a vast piece of land stood before them. The decorations on the buildings were so detailed and enchanting that it was clear they were carefully selected.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'So this is the Nian Clan's auction house? It looks impressive.' A slight frown appeared on his face as he continued thinking to himself, 'However, this doesn't seem like the main entrance of the auction house.'

Duan Ling Tian had discovered that there was no one around near this entrance of the Nian clan's auction house. Moreover, the entrance did not seem to fit the grand decorations of the building. It was likely that the entrance before him was just a side entrance.

"Welcome, and please enter."

After the two Overarching Heaven Supreme Celestials from the Nian Clan's auction house entered the building, a few servants came forward to welcome Duan Ling Tian's group into the auction house. Each of them was led to a room.

There were three types of rooms in the Nian clan's auction house. Duan Ling Tian and the others were brought to the second type of room.

It was unknown if it was a coincidence, but Duan Ling Tian was brought to the First Earth Room, which was also one of the rooms with the best view and location among the second type of rooms. The window of his room directly faced the stage where the auction would take place.

Seated in front of the window, Duan Ling Tian surveyed his surroundings and saw the rows and rows of seats in the main hall. He exclaimed inwardly, 'The Nian clan's auction house is really big! It's bigger than any auction house I've been to!'

A fancy table stood before Duan Ling Tian's seat. A set of teacups and a teapot was placed on top of the table.

At this moment, a pretty servant girl was pouring him tea. She smiled sweetly as she asked, "How should I address you, young sir?"

"My last name is Duan." Duan Ling Tian sipped on the tea the servant girl served. Then, his eyes lit up as he exclaimed, "This is good tea!"

As soon as Duan Ling Tian drank the tea, he could feel a gentle energy flowing through his 99 Heavenly Veins. Although it did not do much to improve his cultivation base, it gave him a warm and comfortable feeling.

"Young Master Duan, the tea leaves were created and cultivated by our Nian clan's Third Master when he was young. It's called the Warm Spring Tea. Although it's not like Celestial Tea that's able to improve one's cultivation base, it makes the drinkers feel comfortable and puts them at ease," the servant girl explained.

“Warm Spring Tea? That’s a good name, and it suits the tea as well.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. After that, he continued chatting with the servant girl and learned that there were three types of rooms in the Nian clan’s auction house; they were Human Rooms, Earth Rooms, and Heaven Rooms. The Heaven Rooms were usually reserved for the Imperial family. This included Imperial families from other high-rank Celestial Kingdoms.

‘Apart from the Heaven Rooms reserved for the Imperial families of high-rank Celestial Kingdoms, the First Earth Room is the best room. An emperor of an intermediate-rank Celestial Kingdom would be given a First Earth Room if they attend the auction in the Nian clan’s auction house. I didn’t expect the Nian clan’s auction house would give me this room,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. He was certain the person in charge of the Nian clan’s auction house must have known even the fourth prince was wary of him. Otherwise, he was certain he would not be given the First Earth Room. He mocked himself inwardly, ‘If the person in charge finds out that I’m not from a formidable sect, he’d definitely be angered and chase me out of this First Earth Room!’

Duan Ling Tian truly did not expect to receive such a benefit just from putting a front before the Fourth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Nevertheless, he enjoyed the benefits it brought.

Shortly after, the auction started.

An auctioneer appeared on the stage. It was an elegant and curvaceous lady. Not only was her voice pleasant, but it was enchanting as well. As soon as she spoke, one after another, auction items were brought on the stage and auctioned off.

An hour passed, and Duan Ling Tian had yet to make a bid. This was because he had not seen anything that caught his attention. He kept drinking the tea as the servant girl kept serving him tea.

...

The First Heaven Room was resplendent and luxuriously decorated. It was far superior to the First Earth Room in terms of size and decorations. The room was reserved for the Imperial family of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. If there were members of Imperial families from high-rank Celestial Kingdoms who chose to come here, they would be given this room as well. However, up until now, there were no such visitors in the auction house.

Currently, a handsome young man was seated before a jade table in the room. He wore a white robe with golden trimmings. His complexion was so fair and rosy that it would make women jealous. However, his features were masculine. The contrast made him even more attractive.

The two servant girls that waited by the jade tables kept stealing looks at the young man, causing their cheeks to redden.

The person in charge of the Nian clan’s auction house, an old man, said respectfully to the young man, “Your Royal Highness, the Thirteenth Prince, I’m sure there’s nothing that will interest you in this small-scale auction. Do you want to come again when there’s a large-scale auction?”

“I only came to see the fun. I have no intention of bidding on anything,” the handsome young man replied indifferently. From the beginning until the end, he did not spare the old man a glance at all.

It should be noted that the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house was a profound-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. Profound-stage Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials were far stronger than the yellow-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials who were tasked with guarding the guests of Fleeting Time Inn. Even so, he did not seem angered by the handsome young man's disregard for him.

"But..." the old man in charge of the Nian clan's auction house began to say, but he swallowed his words immediately when he saw the middle-aged man who stood behind the handsome young man suddenly opened his eyes and looked at him pointedly. He felt chills running up his spine when he met the middle-aged man's gaze. In the end, he only said, "Your highness, if there's anything else you need, please send a servant girl to get me." He feared the handsome young man due to his status, but he feared the middle-aged man due to his strength. 'I didn't expect the man waiting on the thirteenth prince is a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial! I've only felt such an aura from the old ancestor...' He was drenched in cold sweat as he exited the First Heaven Room.

Chapter 2729 - The Guest in the First Earth Room

It should be noted that there were only two peak Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. They were, naturally, the two strongest powerhouses in the kingdom. Below that, there were not more than ten heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials in the Imperial family of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom.

'I know the fourth prince and the seventh prince each have a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial as their personal guards. I didn't expect the thirteenth prince to have a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial as a guard as well. Logically speaking, that should be impossible...' The person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house was lost in his thoughts after exiting the First Heaven Room. He was puzzled.

Although the thirteenth prince was as remarkable as the fourth prince and the seventh prince and was in the running to succeed the throne, many people, including the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house, did not really think he had a chance to succeed. After all, the thirteenth prince was not favored, and the emperor had always suspected his birth, wondering if the thirteenth prince was his biological son. He only doted on the fourth and seventh princes, assigning them a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial to guard them. As for the thirteenth prince, only an earth-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial was assigned to guard him.

In the past, whenever the person in charge of the Nian clan met the thirteenth prince, the thirteenth prince had always been accompanied by the earth-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. He was surprised to find the earth-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial missing today and was replaced by a new face instead. 'The man next to the thirteenth prince isn't among the other seven heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom's Imperial family.'

The person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house was also an elder of the Nian clan. Through the Nian clan, he possessed certain knowledge and understanding of the heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom's Imperial family. Based on his knowledge, he was certain the man following the thirteenth prince was not one of them.

'This man... The thirteenth prince must have recruited him from outside.' In the end, this was the conclusion the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house arrived at. He was stunned by this discovery. After all, heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials were not ordinary people. In the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial could do almost whatever they liked as long as they did not offend the Imperial family.

Even in the top clans of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom like the Nian clan, there was only one heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. Based on this, one could see the rarity of heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. For this reason, they enjoy a lofty status in the kingdom. How could the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house not feel surprised seeing a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial respectfully following the thirteenth prince like a humble servant?

All of a sudden, the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house felt that he had underestimated the thirteenth prince. 'All along, I've always felt the thirteenth prince is a remarkable man. In certain aspects, it has to be said that he's much more competent compared to the fourth and seventh princes. I finally witnessed it with my own eyes. Put everything else aside, just the fact that he managed to make a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial submit to him is more than enough to show his competence. The fourth and seventh princes would never be able to achieve such a feat.'

'I must report this to the clan and ask the clan leader to inform the seventh prince about this... The fact that the thirteenth prince has a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial next to him who's not assigned by His Majesty is definitely worth the seventh prince's attention,' the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house continued thinking to himself. Then, he took out a Communication Celestial Talisman and sent word back to the Nian clan.

Similar to how the fourth prince had a close relationship with the Zhou clan, the Nian clan had a close relationship with the seventh prince as well. The seventh prince's biological mother was the sister of the current Clan Leader of the Nian clan. If the fourth prince's path to the throne was paved by the Zhou clan as his support, then, the seventh prince's path was paved by the Nian clan as his support. As for the thirteenth prince, his mother was an outsider who was brought back to the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, she was not from any top clans in the kingdom. For this reason, the thirteenth prince had no support from any of the major clans and could only rely on himself.

Since the Emperor of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom questioned if the thirteenth prince was his biological son, he had always treated the thirteenth prince coldly. This was a huge obstacle in the path of the thirteenth prince to the throne.

...

Meanwhile, the auction continued in the Nian clan's auction house.

After some time had passed, the moment that Duan Ling Tian had been waiting for finally arrived. The auction house was finally putting up profound-grade cultivation methods for auction!

On the stage, the elegant and beautiful lady's captivating voice rang out. "Ladies and gentlemen, this is a profound-grade cultivation method known as the Cloudy Dream Celestial Technique..." Her voice

resounded through every room in the auction house. After giving a brief introduction of the Cloudy Dream Celestial Technique, she raised her voice and said, "The starting price of the Cloudy Dream Celestial Technique is 10,000 supreme Celestial Stones. Every bid increment must be 5,000 supreme Celestial Stones at least!"

Duan Ling Tian who was seated near the window in the First Earth Room refrained from bidding. He watched as the price of the profound-grade cultivation method, the Cloudy Dream Celestial Technique, rose as a few others engaged in a bidding war. Eventually, the profound-grade cultivation method was won by someone in one of the Earth Rooms at the price of 90,000 supreme Celestial Stones.

"Congratulations to the guest in the Sixth Earth Room for obtaining the profound-grade cultivation method, the Cloudy Dream Celestial Technique... Next, we will proceed with the auction of the second profound-grade cultivation method," the beautiful lady said.

In just a moment, the second profound-grade cultivation method was introduced to everyone in the auction house. In the end, the profound-grade cultivation method was also sold for 90,000 supreme Celestial Stones.

In the First Earth Room, after watching the auction for the first two profound-grade cultivation methods, Duan Ling Tian remained unconcerned. He looked so calm that it was as though he would not bat an eyelid even if Mount Tai were to collapse in front of him. "90,000 supreme Celestial Stones for a profound-grade cultivation method isn't too expensive..."

Duan Ling Tian had not made a bid because there were five profound-grade cultivation methods up for auction altogether. Moreover, he was not particularly interested in the first two profound-grade cultivation methods. Although profound-grade cultivation methods were largely the same, they had minor differences. For instance, the first profound-grade cultivation method that had been auctioned off would subtly change one's Celestial Origin Energy to be more gentle. It was suited for those who cultivated a more gentle Dao. The second profound-grade cultivation was on the other end of the spectrum, it was more suited to those who cultivated a tougher Dao. Both were not suited to Duan Ling Tian. He preferred a cultivation method that was a balance between the gentle and the tough.

Two more profound-grade cultivation methods were sold before the fifth profound-grade cultivation method, which was also the one that caught Duan Ling Tian's interest, was presented. Then, he began to make a bid for it. In fact, he was the first one to bid for it.

"10,000 supreme Celestial Stones!"

Duan Ling Tian waited for the others to bid as well before he increased his bid. After all, among the previous profound-grade cultivation methods that had been sold, the first two were sold for 90,000 supreme Celestial Stones while the third and fourth were sold at 80,000 supreme Celestial Stones each. Therefore, he knew he would not be able to acquire the profound-grade cultivation method with just 10,000 supreme Celestial Stones.

After a few moments, someone in the main hall bid for the profound-grade cultivation method. "15,000 supreme Celestial Stones!"

...

Meanwhile, all the guests from the Fleeting Time Inn who were seated in the Earth Rooms shuddered when they heard Duan Ling Tian bidding for the fifth profound-grade cultivation method.

“That voice... The person in the First Earth Room seems to be the person who killed that guest from the inn during our journey here.”

“The Fleeting Time Inn continued to protect him even after he killed a guest of the inn... He must have an extraordinary background. Otherwise, the inn wouldn’t risk their reputation and protect him.”

“We can’t afford to offend him.”

“This is someone we can’t provoke!”

Since the guests of the Fleeting Time Inn had witnessed Duan Ling Tian killing a fellow guest of the inn and continued to receive protection from the inn, all of them concluded that Duan Ling Tian was not someone they could afford to offend. For this reason, none of them engaged in a bidding war for the profound-grade cultivation method that Duan Ling Tian was bidding for.

...

“30,000 supreme grade celestial stones!” After Duan Ling Tian’s third bid, no one else spoke up. After all, the people in the main hall were not as wealthy and could not afford to raise the price.

Most of the people in the main hall looked at the Earth Rooms, waiting for the people in the rooms to bid for the profound-grade cultivation method. However, even after a while, no one bid for the profound-grade cultivation method. It was as though everyone in the Earth Rooms had left.

“What’s going on? Why isn’t anyone from the Earth Rooms bidding for it?”

“This is a profound-grade cultivation method... The black market price for this is about 60,000 to 70,000 supreme Celestial Stones. Those in the Earth Rooms can buy this and make a profit in the black market.”

“That’s right... However, no one seems to be bidding for it? It is free money!”

The main hall was filled with furtive whispers. Most of them were confused as to why no one from the Earth Rooms was making a bid for the profound-grade cultivation method.

Soon after, word began circulating that the person in the First Earth Room must be an important personage. At the very least, he scared the others so much that they did not even dare to engage in a bidding war with him.

“It seems like the person in the First Earth Room is not simple.”

“That’s obvious. If the person in the First Earth Room is ordinary, the others in the Earth Room would have made a bid for the profound-grade cultivation method. It should be noted that as soon as the person from the First Earth Room made a bid, no one in the Earth Rooms made a bid for it.”

Upon hearing this, the two people in the main hall who had bid for the profound-grade cultivation method regretted their actions immediately. Their faces turned pale from fear as they listened to conversations in their surroundings.

Chapter 2730 A Visit from the Thirteenth Prince

After Duan Ling Tian's bid of 10,000 supreme Celestial Stones, someone made a bid of 15,000 supreme Celestial Stones. When Duan Ling Tian made a bid of 20,000 supreme Celestial Stones, another person made a bid for 25,000 supreme Celestial Stones. Upon realizing that no one from the Earth Rooms was making a bid for the profound-grade cultivation method, the expressions of the two people in the main hall who had made a bid changed drastically. Hints of regrets flashed in their eyes as waves of anxieties rose in their hearts. They were truly afraid the person in the First Earth Room would look for trouble with them. After all, it was obvious now that the person in the First Earth Room was not a simple person. If he was just an ordinary person, would everyone in the Earth Rooms stay their hands?

...

Meanwhile, those in the Human Rooms who planned to bid as well changed their minds. No one dared to rock the boat.

Those in the Human Rooms might have a relatively better background compared to those in the main hall, but they still could not compare to those in the Earth Rooms.

Anyone with a position or status would be seated in the Earth Rooms after all. When the people in the Human Rooms did not see any signs of movement from the people in the Earth Rooms, they followed the cue and did not make a bid for the profound-grade cultivation method as well.

...

On the stage, the beautiful lady's enchanting voice rang out again. "The profound-grade cultivation method, the Dark Nether Fuse Profundity Technique, the current bid is 30,000 supreme Celestial Stones from the guest in the First Earth Room. Do we have any other offer?"

Seeing no one was making a bid, the beautiful lady began to say, "30,000 supreme Celestial Stones, going once... going twice..."

The beautiful lady was about to finish the count and announce Duan Ling Tian as the winner of the profound-grade cultivation method, the Dark Nether Fuse Profundity Technique, when everyone began to whisper among themselves...

"There's someone in the First Heaven Room!"

"The window is open. Someone must be in there! I wonder which prince or old prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom is in there?"

"The old princes of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom rarely come to the Nian clan's auction house... I think it should be one of the princes."

"I guess only those average princes would attend a small-scale auction in the Nian clan's auction house... Nevertheless, whoever is in the First Heaven Room has no need to fear the person in the First Earth Room."

"I wonder if the person in the First Heaven Room would bid for this profound-grade cultivation method?"

As they whispered among themselves, they looked up at the First Heaven Room, trying to catch a glimpse of whoever was in the room.

...

“The First Heaven Room? A small-scale auction in the Nian clan’s auction house managed to attract someone from the Imperial family?” Duan Ling Tian who was in the First Earth Room was slightly surprised. He was not worried about the person bidding against him. He was determined to obtain the profound-grade cultivation method, the Dark Nether Fuse Profundity Technique. However, he would only pay 100,000 supreme Celestial Stones at most for the profound-grade cultivation method, any more than that would not be worth it. He wondered if the person in the First Heaven Room would bid against him.

“Nonetheless, I didn’t expect the other guests in the Fleeting Time Inn would be afraid of bidding against me just because I killed a fellow guest without any consequences...”

...

After some time had passed, no one made a bid on the profound-grade cultivation method. Upon seeing this, the beautiful lady no longer stalled for time. She quickly announced the winner of the profound-grade cultivation method, the Dark Nether Fuse Profundity Technique. “30,000 supreme Celestial Stones, sold! Congratulations to the guest in the First Earth Room for acquiring the Dark Nether Fuse Profundity Technique with 30,000 supreme Celestial Stones.”

30,000 supreme Celestial Stones for a profound-grade cultivation method was an extremely great deal!

Upon seeing this, many people in the auction house were puzzled.

“The person in the First Heaven Room didn’t make a bid?”

“How is that surprising? The guest in the First Heaven Room is definitely a member of the Imperial family. Would someone from the Imperial family be lacking in profound-grade cultivation methods? Apart from that, the Imperial family isn’t lacking in money as well so there’s no need for them to bid for the cultivation method to sell it at a profit.”

“That’s true.”

“I wonder which prince is in the First Heaven Room?”

...

While people in the auction house were discussing the person in the First Heaven Room, the person they were discussing, Long Fei Yun, the Thirteenth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, was in shock. “H-he... He’s interested in a profound-grade cultivation method?”

Long Fei Yun tapped the jade bracelet on his wrist as he thought to himself, ‘A disciple from a powerful sect outside of the Wasteland is interested in a profound-grade cultivation method? Impossible. I wonder... could it be that he’s not a disciple from a powerful sect outside of the Wasteland?’

Long Fei Yun had attended the small-scale auction in the Nian clan's auction house not because he was interested in the auction. He had only come because of Duan Ling Tian.

Although the Nian clan supported the seventh prince, the innkeeper of the Fleeting Time Inn was one of his men. For this reason, he had learned about the confrontation between the fourth prince and Duan Ling Tian before the seventh prince heard about it.

...

The auction continued. There was nothing else that caught Duan Ling Tian's attention. He had achieved what he came here to do.

As time passed, the auction was drawing to a close as well. As such, Duan Ling Tian prepared to return to the Fleeting Time Inn along with the other guests.

All of a sudden, a voice rang from outside the First Earth Room. "Sir."

When Duan Ling Tian turned to look at the door, the servant girl standing next to him quickly said, "Young Master Duan, the voice belongs to Elder Yu, the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house."

"The person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house?" Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow. He was curious as to why the person in charge of the auction house would look for him. He said to the servant girl, "Open the door."

The servant girl did not waste any time and opened the door. Then, she bowed respectfully at the old man standing at the entrance. "Elder Yu."

The old man walked into the room and slightly bowed at Duan Ling Tian. "Sir, I'm the person in charge of the Nian clan's auction house. His Highness, the Thirteenth Prince, would like to meet you. Would you be agreeable to that?"

'The thirteenth prince? So the person in the First Heaven Room is the thirteenth prince.' Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed briefly. He knew a little about the Thirteenth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. He knew the thirteenth prince was as outstanding as the fourth and seventh princes. In fact, it could be said that the thirteenth prince was even more outstanding than the fourth and seventh princes. If it were not for the fact that the Emperor of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom did not favor the thirteenth prince, he would be the most likely candidate to ascend the throne. Finally, he nodded and replied to the old man, "Okay."

After Duan Ling Tian agreed to the request, the old man stepped out of the room and respectfully gestured to Duan Ling Tian to walk ahead. When they arrived at the First Heaven Room, he said, "His Highness, the Thirteenth Prince, is inside. Please enter."

When Duan Ling Tian entered the room, he finally saw the Thirteenth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. 'The rumor is true. The thirteenth prince is indeed very handsome. His appearance and features are a perfect balance of masculinity and femininity.' Soon after, his attention was drawn to the middle-aged man who stood behind the thirteenth prince. Although the middle-aged man had an

average appearance, he had a dependable air about him. Moreover, he also noticed the middle-aged man had a distinct aura about him even though it was very subtle. The reason he had noticed the subtle aura was due to him encountering an almost similar aura in the past. The aura had left a lasting impression on him.

‘This aura... It feels similar to Murong Bing’s aura.’ The aura that left a lasting impression on Duan Ling Tian belonged to Murong Bing who had an intimate encounter with him. He was certain one would only emit that aura after one’s cultivation base had reached a certain stage. Moreover, he was certain they unconsciously emitted the aura because they could not completely conceal it.

Long Fei Yun, the Thirteenth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, greeted Duan Ling Tian with a smile as soon as Duan Ling Tian entered the room. “I’m Long Fei Yun, the Thirteenth Prince of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom... How should I address you, brother?”

“My last name is Duan.” Duan Ling Tian nodded at Long Fei Yun before he pointed to the seats. “Please take a seat, Thirteenth Prince.”

Long Fei Yun took a seat before he said to the person in charge of the Nian clan’s auction house in an indifferent tone, “Bring your men out. I have some things to discuss with Brother Duan.”

“Yes, Your Highness,” Elder Yu, the person in charge of the Nian clan’s auction house, replied respectfully before he brought his men and the servant girl in the First Heaven Room out.

Long Fei Yun turned his attention back to Duan Ling Tian. When he spoke to Duan Ling Tian, he spoke with a tone that one would use with one’s close acquaintance. “Brother Duan, I heard about you a few days ago... I have to say, you’re probably the first person in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom who’s bold enough to openly oppose the Zhou clan’s fourth miss.”

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow and said, “It seems like someone in the Fleeting Time Inn works for you.” Although the conflict between him and Zhou Shu Dong was no secret in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, not many people knew he was staying in the Fleeting Time Inn, let alone recognize him. For example, there was quite a large number of guests from the inn who came to the auction house with him. They did not recognize him even though they heard about the conflict between him and Zhou Shu Dong.