

## Chapter 2791: Horrible Pill Refining Technique

The three prominent Celestial Alchemists felt that Duan Ling Tian's feeding technique was too clumsy and crude, and they could not help but feel anxious.

"Out of the first four steps of the pill refinement process, it can be seen that he doesn't place much importance in the way he retrieves the ingredients. His positioning of the pill cauldron and feeding the ingredients to the pill cauldron are unsightly as well. As for the heating of the pill cauldron, it remains to be seen if it's successful. After all, in my opinion, it's impossible to heat a pill cauldron in half an hour."

"Let's continue observing..." Situ Ming said as he shook his head.

Yu Zhong Jing nodded. At the same time, after Duan Ling Tian was done feeding the ingredients to the pill cauldron, he extended his Divine Consciousness into the pill cauldron to have a look at the situation inside. However, he discovered his Divine Consciousness could not approach the pill cauldron at all.

"What's going on?! How powerful is his Celestial Fire? Even my Divine Consciousness can't go near it?"

He was amazed to discover an aura from the pill cauldron had blocked his Divine Consciousness. He could barely catch a glimpse of what's happening in the pill cauldron. However, at this moment, his attention was fully focused on Duan Ling Tian's Celestial Fire.

"What kind of prominent Celestial Fire does he own? It managed to block my Divine Consciousness from such a distance!" Yang Chong exclaimed in surprise.

"You're also blocked?" Situ Ming asked as he looked at Yang Chong in disbelief.

"So it's the same for both of you as well..." Yu Zhong Jing was quick to realize that he was not the only one whose Divine Consciousness was blocked. Through what little his Divine Consciousness managed to glean, he suddenly said, "He's beginning to refine the pills!"

"He has begun to refine the pill?"

"Let's see his pill refining techniques..."

The three prominent Celestial Alchemists shifted their attention back to Duan Ling Tian as Duan Ling Tian carried out the fifth step, which was the refining process. All three men watched unblinkingly as they tried to use their Divine Consciousness to glean what little they could as well. Their expression turned from solemn to strange suddenly when they saw Duan Ling Tian refining the pills. Indeed, Duan Ling Tian seemed quite skilled in refining pills, but it was clear to them that most of his skills came from his Celestial Fire. Without the Celestial Fire, his refining techniques were rather weak.

Yang Chong thought to himself, 'Although his refining techniques are weak, with the help of his prominent Celestial Fire, his efficiency is way higher than mine.'

'It's truly terrible to make comparisons... How did he obtain such an extraordinary prominent Celestial Fire? Is it even a prominent Celestial Fire? Even supreme Celestial Alchemists with their supreme Celestial Fires wouldn't be as efficient as him, right?' Situ Ming thought to himself.

Yu Zhong Jing shared the same thoughts as well.

After three hours, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists discovered Duan Ling Tian had completed refining the pill. They were amazed by his remarkable speed.

“This prominent Celestial Fire is truly remarkable!”

“If I have this prominent Celestial Fire, with my refining techniques, I’d need two hours at most to complete the refining of the pills.”

“Me too.”

The three prominent Celestial Alchemists’ attention was on how extraordinary Duan Ling Tian’s Celestial Fire was. They completely disregarded his skills and techniques. It was clear they were envious of his Celestial Fire. Fortunately, Celestial Fire could not be stolen by another person. Otherwise, they would have already attacked Duan Ling Tian to steal his Celestial Fire.

“He’s starting to dissolve the pill!”

As soon as Duan Ling Tian had completed the fifth step, he immediately proceeded with the sixth step, the pill dissolving step. The pill refining step was to refine the medicinal ingredients. The next step, the pill dissolving step was to turn the refined ingredients into liquid. This process also fully relied on the power of the Celestial Fire. Therefore, it did not take long for Duan Ling Tian to complete this step as well.

“Even his pill dissolving technique is terrible!”

“Well, it seems like he’s truly capable of refining the Overarching Heaven Pill... However, his techniques and skills are weak. He’s not worthy of his Celestial Fire.”

“I don’t understand how a weak prominent Celestial Alchemist like him managed to obtain such a remarkable prominent Celestial Fire.”

After spending some time to dissolve the ingredients, Duan Ling Tian continued to the seventh step, the spirit gathering step. The spirit gathering step required the help of the Celestial Fire as well even though it was not as much as the previous steps. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian had to spend significantly more time on this step.

“Well, his spirit gathering techniques are not bad, it’s not so crude... However, it’s still a far cry from us.”

“Without the help of his powerful prominent Celestial Fire, this step will not be successful... His spirit gathering step is successful only because of his prominent Celestial Fire!”

“Based on what I’ve seen so far, I can confidently say his techniques are only mediocre.”

“I agree.”

Soon, Duan Ling Tian continued on to the eighth step, the pill forming step.

Just as the three prominent Celestial Alchemists had predicted, Duan Ling Tian's pill forming technique was crude as well. Duan Ling Tian would have undoubtedly failed if it were not for his remarkable prominent Celestial Fire!

Finally, Duan Ling Tian arrived at the ninth step, the pill harvesting. It was an easy step.

"Hmm, not too bad... I managed to harvest five pills this time!" Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself. He was fully focused on refining the pills that he had completely forgotten there were four other people observing him.

"Five pills?"

"He harvested five pills?"

"Unbelievable! Based on his techniques and level, he's at most at the early stage of a prominent Celestial Alchemist. However, he managed to successfully refine five Overarching Heaven Pill?"

The three Prominent Celestial Alchemists communicated through Voice Transmission as they looked at each other in disbelief.

"Although it's hard to accept, there's no doubt he has proven himself. Don't forget, he's not even 100 years old!" Yang Chong said through Voice Transmission to Situ Ming and Yu Zhong Jing.

Not even a 100 years old! How rare was it for someone who was not even 100 years old to be able to master pill refining techniques regardless of how crude they were? Moreover, when the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were Duan Ling Tian's age, they were far inferior to him.

"Five Overarching Heaven Pills?" Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, was relieved and overjoyed when he saw Duan Ling Tian successfully refining the Overarching Heaven Pills. Moreover, Duan Ling Tian had managed to refine five Overarching Heaven Pills! He was not stingy with his praise. "Five Overarching Heaven Pills! Master Duan, your pill refining techniques are truly remarkable! Brilliant!"

In Bai Ping's opinion, Duan Ling Tian's skill was far superior to the three prominent Celestial Alchemists in his sect.

Naturally, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were displeased when they heard Bai Ping's words. However, there was nothing they could say. After all, Celestial Fires played a big part in refining pills and could also be counted as one's skill. Although Duan Ling Tian's pill refining technique was only average, they could not say anything since the result spoke for itself.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian said, "Three masters, the purpose of me refining the Overarching Heaven Pills and to become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect is to deal with the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect..."

Duan Ling Tian could brag about his success in refining the Overarching Heaven Pill, and yet, he did not. He looked at the three prominent Celestial Alchemists and said, "Guardian Tie had killed two men from the other two major Celestial Sect since they'd offended me, the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. If I weren't the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the sect, I'm afraid they would make things difficult for Guardian Tie and the sect. I know my pill refining technique is only average, and the reason

for my success is largely due to my prominent Celestial Fire. Indeed, with my skills, without the Celestial Fire, I'm not qualified to be the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the sect. However, I hope all of you will cooperate and make it known to the public that I'm the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the sect to avoid trouble. However, I don't mind it being an empty title as long as no one knows about it!"

Duan Ling Tian clearly knew of his skills, and he knew the three prominent Celestial Alchemists could see through his skills as well. They must know his success was largely due to his remarkable Celestial Fire.

"Hm?" Bai Ping and the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were truly shocked by Duan Ling Tian's humble words.

### **Chapter 2792: Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke?!**

Seeing how humble Duan Ling Tian was, the three men felt a little embarrassed. After all, they had been criticizing Duan Ling Tian's alchemy skills just a moment ago. At the same time, their impression of Duan Ling Tian rose.

Although Duan Ling Tian owned such a remarkable prominent Celestial Fire and managed to become a prominent Celestial Alchemist at such a young age, despite his lacking refinement in techniques, it was still a great feat. Instead of being arrogant, he still maintained a humble attitude.

"Master Duan, I, Situ Ming, am a man of my words... From now on, you'll be known as the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect to the public and to the people in the sect. I acknowledge you!" Situ Ming was the first to speak.

"That's right!" Yang Chong said, "Master Duan, although your alchemy methods rely more on your prominent Celestial Fire, prominent Celestial Fire is also part of your skill. Perhaps, your techniques are not as refined as mine, but you're far more efficient than me. Therefore, I'm also willing to acknowledge you as the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect!" His eyes shone brightly as he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"I agree." Yu Zhong Jing was the last to speak up. He was also willing to acknowledge Duan Ling Tian as the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect.

"What are you guys talking about?" Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, was slightly confused. He did not understand their words. It seemed like the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of his sect did not think highly of Duan Ling Tian's techniques. However, if Duan Ling Tian's techniques were lacking, how could he refine the Overarching Heaven Pill? Moreover, Duan Ling Tian even managed to refine five Overarching Heaven Pills at one go!

Realization finally dawned on Bai Ping after Yang Chong explained the matter to him.

"The reason Master Duan's is so skilled and efficient is largely due to his prominent Celestial Fire? Moreover, his level is only comparable to early-stage prominent Celestial Alchemists..."

Yang Chong looked at Duan Ling Tian and sighed before he continued to say, "However, it's undeniable that Master Duan is a genius in the field of alchemy. After all, he's not even 100 years of age. The youngest of the three of us is already more than 10,000 years old! Even Master Yu, who was the last to become a prominent Celestial Alchemist among the three of us, has already been a prominent Celestial Alchemist for 3,000 years. With time and hard work, even someone with no talent would improve. This

is probably why our skills are better than Master Duan for now. For all these reasons, I willingly acknowledge him as the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect!”

Although Duan Ling Tian knew that his techniques were average, he did not expect the three prominent Celestial Alchemists would rate him as an early-stage prominent Celestial Alchemist. After all, he had studied alchemy for a long time, even when he was still in the mundane realm.

‘It seems like there’s a difference in techniques in the Devata Realms and the mundane realms. Moreover, my knowledge of alchemy is gained through the memories of the Rebirth Martial Emperor in the mundane realm. This is probably why I can only be considered as an early-stage prominent Celestial Alchemist. As expected, I still have a long way to go to become a full-fledged prominent Celestial Alchemist.’ With this, Duan Ling Tian was made aware of his shortcomings. Based on Yang Chong’s words, he discovered he was only considered outstanding due to his third form Chaos Divine Flame. What he needed to improve was experiences and guidance from his seniors.

“All three of you are my seniors... I’m fortunate enough to obtain a remarkable prominent Celestial Fire that allowed me to refine the Overarching Heaven Pill, but my techniques are still lacking. I’d like to request the three of you to guide me in the future!” Duan Ling Tian said to the three prominent Celestial Alchemists.

Most people liked modest people. Due to how humble he was, Situ Ming and the other two took a liking to Duan Ling Tian. They had no objection to guiding him.

The atmosphere in the hall was good. Duan Ling Tian and three prominent Celestial Alchemists seemed to get along well. Upon seeing this, Bai Ping felt relieved. At least, he was certain the three prominent Celestial Alchemists would not leave the sect when he made Duan Ling Tian the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. Moreover, he noticed the three men looked at Duan Ling Tian affectionately, like an elder looking at a youngster with a bright future.

‘It seems like Master Situ, Master Yang, and Master Yu think Master Duan has great potential.’ Bai Ping could discern this much. ‘According to Master Yang and Master Duan’s words, it seems like Master Duan is only so skilled now because of his prominent Celestial Fire.’ He also realized there was still room for improvement in regard to Duan Ling Tian’s alchemy techniques.

At this moment, Situ Ming looked at Duan Ling Tian and said with a sigh, “Master Duan, with your prominent Celestial Fire, young age, and high potential... Sooner or later you’ll be one of the top Celestial Alchemists in the Spirit Overarching Heaven as long as you don’t die young.”

“I agree!” Yu Zhong Jing nodded in agreement.

Compared with Situ Ming and Yang Chong, he had not spoken much. However, he shared the same thoughts with the other two.

“Master Duan, the three of us are definitely ranked in the top five in the Wasteland in terms of alchemy. If you have any questions in the future, you can look for us,” Yang Chong said.

Duan Ling Tian who was standing at the side nodded.

“Master Situ, it seems you regard Master Duan highly? You said he’ll be one of the top Celestial Alchemists in the Spirit Overarching Heaven sooner or later?” Bai Ping was stunned by Yang Chong’s high praise of Duan Ling Tian. The way he looked at Duan Ling Tian had changed as well. In the end, seeing the four people chatting intimately, he did not want to disturb them so he silently left.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who was chatting with Situ Ming, Yang Chong, and Yu Zhong Jing learned many new things. For example, he learned about the supreme Celestial Pills and supreme Celestial Alchemists.

As it turned out, supreme Celestial Alchemists were divided into grades like supreme Celestial Weapons Craftsmen.

Above the prominent Celestial Alchemists were Duke Celestial Alchemists. Above the Duke Celestial Alchemists were King Celestial Celestial Alchemists. Above the King Celestial Alchemists were Royal Celestial Alchemists. Above Royal Celestial Alchemists were Emperor Celestial Alchemists.

Supreme Celestial Pills were also divided into grades similar to how Celestial Alchemists were divided.

‘Supreme Celestial Weapons Craftsmen and Supreme Celestial Weapons are also divided into multiple levels... I suspected it’s the same for Celestial Alchemists and Celestial Pills. As it turns out, I’m right.’

Duan Ling Tian sighed. As the saying went, ‘A single conversation with a wise man is worth a month of studying of books’. After speaking to the three experienced prominent Celestial Alchemists from the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, he felt his horizon had broadened.

The four of them chatted until night fell before they finally decided to leave.

“Master Duan, if you have any questions about alchemy in the future, you can come to me... I’ll try my best to help you to the best of my abilities!” Situ Ming said to Duan Ling Tian before he left. After talking to Duan Ling Tian, Situ Ming also had a better grasp of Duan Ling Tian’s character. He could tell that Duan Ling Tian was humble and intelligent. Duan Ling Tian was someone worth teaching.

“Same for me.”

“Me too.”

Yang Chong and Yu Zhong Jing also made the same promise.

In the three prominent Celestial Alchemists’ eyes, Duan Ling Tian was a promising and highly talented Celestial Alchemist. It was destined that he would surpass them in the future whether it was in regard to cultivation base or alchemy. Therefore, they all cherished the opportunity to get along with Duan Ling Tian as equals now. After all, they all could only look up to him in the future when he matured. At that time, it would be difficult for them to treat him as an equal. They believed the relationship they formed with Duan Ling Tian today would be beneficial to them for life!

“You can also look for me if you have any questions outside of alchemy, Master Duan... In addition to being a prominent Celestial Alchemist, I have also achieved a breakthrough in my cultivation in recent years,” Situ Ming said again as he paused in his steps. “As long as I can solve the problem, I will help you

out, Master Duan... If I can't solve it, I will ask the Sect Leader and the Supreme Elders to help you. If all else fails, I'll go to the Tai Yi's Patriarch!"

The Tai Yi's Patriarch!

Duan Ling Tian was shocked. This was the first time he had heard about the Patriarch of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. Based on Situ Ming's words, the patriarch seemed to be even stronger than Bai Ping and the Supreme Elders of the sect.

'It's no secret that the Sect Leader and the Supreme Elders of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect are Seven Star Celestial Dukes... Does this mean the patriarch is the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke that Brother Pei mentioned?!

### **Chapter 2793: Time Flies**

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had learned from the mysterious Brother Pei that there were one Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke in each of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland. However, everyone in the Wasteland thought Seven Star Celestial Dukes were the strongest existence in the Wasteland. For this reason, he knew the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland had kept the presence of their Eight Trigrams Celestial Dukes a secret. With Situ Ming mentioning the Tai Yi Celestial Sect's Patriarch, he confirmed Brother Pei's words. Moreover, Situ Ming's eyes were different when he spoke about the patriarch, it was completely different from when he spoke about the sect leaders of the supreme elders. Therefore, Duan Ling Tian knew the Patriarch of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect was an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke!

"That's right... Master Duan, if you need any help in the future, you can speak up. I will try my best to help you if I can!" Yang Chong chimed in.

Then, Yu Zhong Jing also nodded and said, "Me too."

The three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect could see that Duan Ling Tian would reach great heights in the future, therefore, they knew it was important to maintain a good relationship with Duan Ling Tian. They knew this was the best opportunity for them to help Duan Ling Tian. In the future, Duan Ling Tian might not even need their help at all. Moreover, there would be many people clamoring to help him.

"Thank you." Duan Ling Tian was slightly flattered by the three people's enthusiasm. Unlike the other three, he did not think that far into the future. He was polite to the three men since it was better to befriend them to make an enemy out of them for no good reason. Moreover, he did have many questions regarding alchemy that he wanted to ask the prominent Celestial Alchemists. Now that they were in the same sect, it would be easy for him to ask them questions.

'Since I've gotten the approval from the sect leader, the left guardian, and the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, I'll have a firm foothold in the sect,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

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News of a Chief Celestial Alchemist in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect continued to spread like a wildfire. Even people in the distant land in the Wasteland heard about it.

“Duan Ling Tian is the Chief Celestial Alchemist in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?”

“Heavens! That young man, Duan Ling Tian, actually became the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?”

“I thought Tie Tai He, the Left Guardian of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, was just making an empty promise in order to entice Duan Ling Tian to join the Tai Yi Celestial Sect... I didn't think he was serious!”

“Rumor has it that Duan Ling Tian is younger than 100 years old. How can they appoint someone so young as the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect? Did the high-ranking officials of the sect consider the feelings of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?”

“The three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect are all highly-skilled prominent Celestial Alchemists... However, a young man is now their chief. I bet they'll leave the sect in a fit of anger.”

“If that's the case, the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect will be able to benefit greatly from this... They might be able to recruit the three prominent Celestial Alchemists into their sects.”

Similar discussions could be heard all over Tai Yi City.

Everyone felt that the high-ranking officials of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect had unwisely disregarded the three prominent Celestial Alchemists in favor of a young and untried prominent Celestial Alchemist.

“He... he really became the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?”

“Are the high-ranking officials of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect crazy? They're really disregarding the three senior prominent Celestial Alchemists for a prominent Celestial Alchemist who's not even 100 years old? How foolish! They're penny wise but pound foolish!”

“I really can't figure out what the high-ranking officials of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect are thinking... Is it worth it?”

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In the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom's residence in Tai Yi City.

The people were in disbelief when they heard the news. At the same time, they were relieved. They felt increasingly convinced that the emperor made the right choice by appointing Long Fei Yun, the Thirteenth of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, as the Crown Prince.

Long Fei Yun, naturally, heard about the news as well. “Brother Duan really became the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?” Although he had been mentally prepared for this, he was still a little stunned when he heard this.



“What a surprise. He has become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect in just a blink of an eye.” Qiu Ling stood behind Long Fei Yun, sighing emotionally.

“Brother Duan is my benefactor... Since I met him, my path to the throne has been smooth. I’ve become the Crown Prince because of him. This is something I didn’t even dare to imagine before!” Long Fei Yun said with a sigh. His eyes were brimming gratitude when he spoke. He was extremely grateful to Duan Ling Tian.

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Although the residence arranged by Tai Yi Celestial Sect for the Cloudy Rock Celestial Kingdom was not as good as the one arranged for the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, many people felt emotional about the news as well there.

One of them was, naturally, Qin Yu.

“I didn’t expect Duan Ling Tian to become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect... I’m really happy for him. However, the gap between me and him is getting wider and wider.” Qin Yu was happy for Duan Ling Tian, but at the same time, he lamented the fact that the gap between him and Duan Ling Tian was getting bigger and bigger. Therefore, he became even more motivated. ‘It’s impossible to catch up to Duan Ling Tian... I just hope that I can get closer to him in the future.’ He was well aware of it.

Meanwhile, King Qin, the former ruler of King Qin’s Mansion and the current Emperor of the Cloudy Rock Celestial Kingdom, sighed when he heard the news. “What a surprise that the purple-clad young man who escaped from the Celestial Duke of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect has such a lofty status now.”

At that time, the purple-clad young man had to rely on a Celestial Talisman to escape from the Celestial Duke of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. Currently, he had become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, one of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland.

‘If I have the opportunity, I must personally visit and thank him. If it weren’t for him, Yu’er wouldn’t have been able to join the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, and I wouldn’t be the Emperor of the Cloudy Rock Celestial Kingdom,’ King Qin thought to himself.

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As news about Duan Ling Tian becoming the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect spread, the incident of the elder of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, Teng Qing, and the Guardian of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, Xue Lang, being killed by the Left Guardian of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, Tie Tai He, had long been forgotten.

Although the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect had no good reasons to make a fuss, they were secretly scheming. This was also due to Duan Ling Tian becoming the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. When they learned that Duan Ling Tian was not even 100 years old, they thought that he was only an ordinary prominent Celestial Alchemist. For this reason, they

were rather certain the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of Tai Yi Celestial Sect would definitely feel dissatisfied about Duan Ling Tian becoming the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect.

As long as the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were dissatisfied, they would be able to entice the three of them to join their respective sect with just a little effort.

However, reality was truly cruel. No matter what the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect did, the three Prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect refused them. Their refusal would get harsher and harsher as time passed!

Back then, the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect had tried to win over the three prominent Celestial Alchemists. However, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were still polite when rejecting them. However, now, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists were no longer polite.

“What’s going on?”

The people from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect were dumbfounded. What the hell was going on? It did not make sense at all.

However, they did not know the reason the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect were so stubborn and adamant about not leaving the Tai Yi Sect was due to the new Chief Celestial Alchemist.

In the eyes of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists, it was far better to stay in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect and maintain a good relationship with Duan Ling Tian than to defect to the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect or the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. Previously, it did not matter to them much which sect they belonged to. However, now, they wanted to stay in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect due to the extraordinarily talented Chief Celestial Alchemist.

This was something the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect would not expect even in their wildest dreams.

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Time flew by quickly, and soon the Wasteland Grand Contest was just right around the corner.

A group of figures swiftly rushed out from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect’s estate, heading in the direction of Tai Yi City.

Among these people, there were disciples and high-ranking officials of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect.

“Duan Ling Tian is the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?”

“This... How’s this possible?!”

After returning from the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom, Zhou Shu Qiu had been cultivating in seclusion so she was not aware of the matters of the outside world. She had only come out of closed-door cultivation today to head to Tai Yi City with the people from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect to watch the Wasteland Grand Contest when she heard the shocking news.

## Chapter 2794: The Golden Buddha, Teng Yun Shan

Meanwhile, Zhou Shu Qiu was shocked when she learned that Duan Ling Tian was a prominent Celestial Alchemist. 'He's a prominent Celestial Alchemist?' Many of her questions were answered as well. 'That's why Long Fei Yun, the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom's Thirteenth Prince, was willing to exchange a Duke Grade Celestial Weapon for a prominent Celestial Pill Cauldron!' Her gaze was extremely complicated at this moment. A Great Overarching Golden Celestial and a prominent Celestial Alchemist who was younger than 100 years old. It was her first time meeting such a genius. Duan Ling Tian was the only man she knew who was both a Great Overarching Golden Celestial and a prominent Celestial Alchemist before he reached the age of 100.

Zhou Shu Qiu continued thinking to herself, 'He's now instated as the Chief Celestial Alchemist in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. Based on what I heard from master and senior sister, those three prominent Celestial Alchemists from the Tai Yi Celestial Sect are stubborn and have a fiery temper. Would they be willing to submit to a prominent Celestial Alchemist?'

Soon after, Zhou Shu Qiu learned from another about the actions that the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect had made in the dark.

The person was a young lady with a plain appearance who was also plainly-dressed. However, she had a charming aura about her that made people feel comfortable around her. The plainly-dressed lady said, "Qiu'er, your senior sister has repeatedly sent people to privately contact the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect to take advantage of their dissatisfaction with Duan Ling Tian so we can recruit him into our sect. However, they've harshly rejected us. Your senior sister even personally reached out to them but was also rejected. Although it had to be said, they weren't as harsh to her."

"That's strange. I wonder what happened?" Zhou Shu Qiu was curious. Why did the attitude of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect completely different from what she had imagined?

"We're curious as well. Initially, we thought the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect took action faster than we did so they rejected our offer harshly. However, we found out later they're not working with the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect either," the plainly-dressed lady said with a gloomy expression, "Your senior sister and I have many speculations. In the end, we concluded that those three must have rejected us due to the Chief Celestial Alchemist."

"H-how's that possible? With the addition of Chief Celestial Alchemist, shouldn't they be thinking of leaving the Tai Yi Celestial Sect due to dissatisfaction?" Zhou Shu Qiu could not understand what was going on.

"That's what it seems like on the surface. However, if those three prominent Celestial Alchemists have something to gain from the Chief Celestial Alchemist such as rare pill formulas, it'd make sense why they rejected us," the plainly-dressed lady explained.

"Yes, that's possible." Zhou Shu Qiu nodded after mulling over it for a moment.

"Qiu'er, I heard that you're acquainted with the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect?" the plainly-dressed lady asked.

“Yes, junior aunt.” Zhou Shu Qiu nodded.

The plainly-dressed lady was one of the two Seven Stars Celestial Dukes in the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. The other Seven Stars Celestial Duke was the former sect leader. The current sect leader was merely a Six Combination Celestial Duke. The senior sister that the plainly-dressed lady kept mentioning was the current Sect Leader of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect.

The Wasteland Grand Contest that was organized by the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland was to recruit young powerhouses below the age of 100 to enter the Little World left behind by a Celestial King to search for treasures. Therefore, the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect took the matter very seriously. Hence, they sent out the plainly-dressed lady who was a Seven Star Celestial Dukes.

“I heard that he bullied your fourth sister but you didn’t seek revenge from him?” the plainly-dressed lady asked.

“Yes.” Zhou Shu Qiu nodded.

“Rumors are flying outside that you know he has an extraordinary background. However, from what I know, you didn’t even investigate his background at all. Moreover, I found out he was chased by an elder from the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect and used a Shadow Void Escaping Talisman to escape. It’s normal for you to assume he has an extraordinary background since he possessed a Shadow Void Escaping Talisman. However, it would still be easy for you to avenge your sister without implicating our sect or yourself. All you needed to do is to inform the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, and they would, naturally, deal with him. You didn’t do that though. From what I know, you and that genius disciple of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, Murong Bing, are good friends, right? I don’t know why the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect wants to kill him. However, since they sent out a core elder to kill him, it’s clear he’s on their blacklist. If you report his location to Murong Bing, she would definitely inform her sect leader about it. With that, she would even gain merits. I’m really curious why you didn’t do any of that?” The plainly-dressed lady looked at Zhou Shu Qiu with a sharp gaze as though she could read Zhou Shu Qiu’s mind.

“Junior aunt, I truly have no idea about his origin.” Zhou Shu Qiu felt guilty when faced with the plain-clad lady’s penetrating gaze. In the end, she revealed the reason why she did not avenge her fourth sister. “As you know, Murong Bing is a good friend of mine. I didn’t deal with him because she has asked a favor from me. She asked me to keep an eye on him and help him out if he’s faced with any danger if possible.”

“Murong Bing asked you to keep an eye on him? Isn’t he being hunted by a core elder of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect?” the plainly-dressed lady asked.

“I’m not sure as well. However, this is the reason I didn’t do anything to him and didn’t reveal his whereabouts to the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect,” Zhou Shu Qiu said. Although she was being frank, she did not reveal all things. For example, she did not reveal the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and Murong Bing. After all, she cared about Murong Bing’s reputation.

...

As the Wasteland Grand Contest drew close, the Tai Yi City became even livelier.

On this day, silence suddenly descended on the east gate of Tai Yi City. Even the passersby stopped moving.

“Isn’t that... the members of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect?” The onlookers looked at the group of people approaching the eastern gate from outside Tai Yi City.

The group of people was too ostentatious. There were about twenty of them, and they walked with their noses pointed at the sky. Moreover, all of them were shrouded by a golden light. Upon closer inspection, one would be able to see that the golden light that shrouded their bodies collectively formed the figure of a golden Buddha. The aura from the golden Buddha was terrifying, causing many of the onlooker’s hearts to race.

A monk led the group. The monk was tall and burly with nine precept scars on his head. He was wearing a golden robe and had a precept knife and a wine gourd hanging from his waist. The most eye-catching thing about the monk was his ugly and ferocious face. With just a slight change in his expression, he would be able to make a child cry. It was obvious that the golden light that shrouded the group of people and formed a golden Buddha came from this monk.

Suddenly, someone exclaimed, “I-is he Teng Yun Shan, the Golden Buddha?”

Upon hearing this, some people were confused. However, they were also some who were frightened and were in disbelief.

“G-golden Buddha... Teng Yun Shan?!”

“The Golden Buddha, Teng Yun Shan, is the former Sect Leader of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, right? I thought he died 3,000 years ago?”

“Yes, I heard that when he went out 3,000 years ago, he battled with a sectless cultivator and died together with his opponent. At that time, the incident had caused an uproar in the Wasteland for quite a long time.”

“So he didn’t die?”

“Teng Yun Shan was already a Seven Star Celestial Duke 3,000 years ago. If he didn’t die, doesn’t that mean that the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect also has a third Seven Star Celestial Duke?”

As the discussion went on, more and more people had a horrified expression on their faces when they looked at the ugly and fierce monk.

“There’s no doubt he’s Teng Yun Shan, the Golden Buddha! I saw him from afar 5,000 years ago. It’s him!” An old man confirmed the identity of the monk.

“If he’s the Golden Buddha, even if he’s still a Seven Star Celestial Duke now, he should be far stronger than the other two Seven Star Celestial Dukes of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect. He used to defeat those two even when those two joined forces against him!”

The onlookers had guessed the monk's identity correctly. However, they were unaware that the monk was now an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke! After all, if they thought if the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect had an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke, they would have taken over the Tai Yi Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect a long time ago.

### **Chapter 2795: Liu Yan Jun, the Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect!**

"The Golden Buddha, Teng Yun Shan?!"

"D-didn't he die 3,000 years ago? How can he still be alive? Did he fake his death?"

"Of course. Otherwise, how's he here in Tai Yi City?"

"It looks like the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect takes the Wasteland Grand Contest very seriously. Otherwise, why would the Golden Buddha, Teng Yun Shan, who has been in hiding for so many years, personally make a visit here?"

News of the members from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect being led by Teng Yun Shan, the Golden Buddha, to Tai Yi City spread like a wildfire. This, naturally, caused a huge commotion. After all, many people had assumed Teng Yun Shan had died many years ago? How could they not be shocked when someone whom they had assumed was dead suddenly showed up alive and well?

...

Unlike most people in Tai Yi City who were shocked by this news, the high-ranking officials of the Tai Yi Celestial Sects and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect were not shocked that Teng Yun Shan was alive. Not only that, but they also knew he was an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke and the strongest person in the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect. On the contrary, they were more shocked that Teng Yun Shan had personally come to Tai Yi City.

In the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect.

"Teng Yun Shan? He actually came?"

"What's happening? Although the contest is related to the Little World left behind by a Celestial King, there's no need for him to personally make the trip here, right?"

...

In the Tai Yi Celestial Sect.

"Teng Yun Shan? He personally led the members of his sect here?" Tie Tai He, the Left Guardian of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, was extremely shocked when he learned of the news from a Communication Celestial Talisman.

"Teng Yun Shan?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Tie Tai He in confusion.

Coincidentally, Tie Tai He had come looking for Duan Ling Tian today. When he regained his senses and saw Duan Ling Tian looking at him in confusion, he explained, "He's an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect!"

"Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke?!" Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and continued asking, "Guardian Tie, why do you think the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect personally led the members of his sect here?"

"Isn't the Wasteland Grand Contest about to start? After the arrival of the group from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, the group from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect has also arrived..." Tie Tai He paused, he did not answer Duan Ling Tian's question, before he muttered, "Who knew Teng Yun Shan would lead the group here?"

"An Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke leading the group here..." Duan Ling Tian could not help feel shocked. "Is it possible that the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect thinks they have a higher chance of recruiting excellent powerhouses with the presence of an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke?"

"Impossible!" Tie Tai He shook his head. "The Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland had long come to an agreement that we would fairly share the best participants of the Wasteland Grand Contest that we'll send into the Little World." After a while, he added, "So what if the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect has an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke leading their group? Do you think that our Tai Yi Celestial Sect and the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect have no Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke? Moreover, the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke in our sect possesses a King Grade Celestial Weapon. With the Celestial Weapon, Teng Yun Shan is no match for our patriarch at all!" A hint of scorn could be heard in his voice when he was approaching the end of his words. His eyes were brimming with extreme confidence when he spoke about the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect who was also the patriarch.

Duan Ling Tian said skeptically, "Then, why would he personally come?"

"I find it strange as well." Tie Tai He frowned. "Teng Yun Shan, the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, is the former sect leader. However, the outside world began to spread rumors 3,000 years ago that he had died. Only a handful of high-ranking members of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland knew the truth of the matter. By revealing himself this time, he seems to want the world to know that he didn't die. He must be up to something!" He seemed sure of it.

"I agree. Teng Yun Shan must be planning something for him to show up after all this time." Duan Ling Tian nodded. It was not difficult to guess that Teng Yun Shan was probably scheming something when he suddenly chose to reveal himself after hiding away for 3,000 years.

"Regardless of the reason why Teng Yun Shan chose to reveal himself, he won't be able to do as he pleases in Tai Yi Celestial Sect's territory!" Tie Tai He was clearly very confident about the Tai Yi Celestial Sect's strength.

"Hmm." Duan Ling Tian could understand Tie Tai He's confidence. After all, the Tai Yi Celestial Sect did not only have an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke but also a King Grade Celestial Weapon that the other Two Major Celestial Sects in the Wasteland did not have.

“Hmm?” All of a sudden, Tie Tai He raised his hand at lightning speed and grabbed something in the air.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian could clearly see that a Celestial Talisman that slowly turned into dust in Tie Tai He’s hand. He knew it was a Communication Celestial Talisman with just a glance.

After Tie Tai He read the Communication Celestial Talisman, he immediately looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, “Alchemist Duan, this Communication Celestial Talisman is sent by our sect leader. He said that the Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect wants to meet you.”

“The Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect? Is she that Seven Stars Celestial Duke who led the members of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect here?” Duan Ling Tian cocked an eyebrow when he heard Tie Tai He’s words.

“Yes, it’s her!” Tie Tai He nodded. “Other than her, there’s another person who came to visit the Tai Yi Celestial Sect as well. I think you’re familiar with that person.”

“Who’s it?” Duan Ling Tian asked. He did not seem to register that Tie Tai He said he was familiar with that person.

“Zhou Shu Qiu!” Tie Tai He replied.

“Zhou Shu Qiu?” Duan Ling Tian slightly frowned when he heard the name. He had met that woman twice. The first time he met her, they were on a street in the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. At that time, she told him about how the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect had arranged a marriage for Murong Bing, forcing him to go to that mysterious young man with the surname Pei and ask him to stop that marriage. The second time was in the Imperial palace of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. At that time, she even expressed her intention to recruit him into the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect.

“Why are they looking for me?” Duan Ling Tian asked. He believed that Zhou Shu Qiu must have already learned that he was a prominent Celestial Alchemist and the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. Was it possible that she still had not given up on recruiting him?

“Sect leader didn’t say much in the Communication Celestial Talisman. He only told me to ask you if you’re willing to meet them? If you aren’t, he will reject them on your behalf,” Tie Tai He said.

“It’s fine, I’ll meet them. I’m also interested to know what they want from me,” Duan Ling Tian said. Although he could choose not to meet them, he could not help but feel curious.

There was only one place where the high-ranking officials of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect would meet their guests. The place was close to the main island where Duan Ling Tian resided. It was located on one of the prominent Celestial Islands. A sprawling and beautiful mansion could be seen on this island. The mansion was sparsely decorated and only had a huge hall. Regardless, it did not detract from its beauty.

When Duan Ling Tian and Tie Tai He entered the hall, Duan Ling Tian saw three figures instantly. One of them was Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, and Zhou Shu Qiu. He was not familiar with the third figure. She had an ordinary appearance and was plainly dressed. However, she had an extraordinary bearing that made her seem attractive. People would definitely take a few glances at her. Moreover, there was something about her that made people feel comfortable around her. All in all, she was pleasing to the eyes.



It was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to guess the identity of the third figure. ‘She must be Liu Yan Jun, the other Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect...’

Prior to this, he had learned that there were two Supreme Elders in the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. They were both Seven Stars Celestial Dukes. Rumor had it that the current sect leader was only a Six Combination Celestial Duke. This meant that word on the street was the Sect Leader of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect was weaker than the Sect Leaders of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect and the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect who were Seven Stars Celestial Dukes.

However, with his current status, he had become privy to information that not many people knew. For example, Teng Yun Shan, the Golden Buddha, the former Sect Leader of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, who faked his death 3,000 years ago was now an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke. Apart from that, he also learned that the Sect Leader of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect whom many thought was a Six Combination Celestial Duke had broken through and became a Seven Star Celestial Duke. And her master, one of the Supreme Elders, who was also Zhou Shu Qiu’s master, had long become an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke.

### **Chapter 2796: The Truth**

When Duan Ling Tian and Tie Tai He walked into the hall, Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, walked away from Liu Yan Jun, a guest from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, to greet Duan Ling Tian. A bright smile could be seen on his face as he said, “Master Duan.”

Duan Ling Tian smiled faintly as he nodded and greeted Bai Ping. “Sect Leader.”

Meanwhile, Zhou Shu Qiu, who was standing behind Liu Yan Jun, the elder from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, had, naturally, seen Duan Ling Tian as soon as he walked in. She was in a daze when she saw the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect walking away from them and taking the initiative to greet Duan Ling Tian enthusiastically. For a time, she felt that she really had been cut off from the affairs of the world for a long time. The purple-clad young man who was unknown in the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom previously had become a guest of honor whom even the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, one of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland, greeted with such enthusiasm.

After Bai Ping greeted Duan Ling Tian and Tie Tai He, he led them to Liu Yan Jun and Zhou Shu Qiu before he said with a smile on his face, “Master Duan, this is the Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, Elder Liu. As for this woman, I don’t think there’s a need for me to make introductions, right?” He only introduced Liu Yan Jun and did not introduce Zhou Shu Qiu.

“Yes.” Indeed. There was no need for Bai Ping to introduce Zhou Shu Qiu since Duan Ling Tian knew who she was. She was the third miss of the Zhou clan in the capital of the Soaring Dragon Celestial Kingdom. Most importantly, she was the last disciple of the former Sect Leader of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect and the junior sister of the current sect leader.

When Duan Ling Tian appeared, Liu Yan Jun had used her Divine Consciousness to probe him and verify he was, indeed, younger than 100 years old. She was shocked by this discovery even though she had heard of his achievements before. After all, seeing is believing. “Master Duan, I heard that you have a profound cultivation base and are skilled in alchemy even though you’re not even 100 years old. You’ve

even become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect now... You're truly an extraordinary man."

"Elder Liu, you flatter me," Duan Ling Tian calmly replied. Then, he asked bluntly, "Elder Liu, is there a reason you asked to meet me?"

"I'm not the one who's looking for you," Liu Yan Jun said before she looked at Zhou Shu Qiu. "My niece wanted to meet you. According to her, you're both old acquaintances..."

Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhou Shu Qiu. A hint of skepticism could be seen in his eyes. Why did Zhou Shu Qiu want to meet him? Was she still trying to recruit him to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect? "Indeed. We're old acquaintances."

Zhou Shu Qiu looked at Duan Ling Tian. "Duan Ling Tian, I have something to tell you... It's related to Murong Bing. Shall we talk in private?"

"Murong Bing?" If it were some other matter, Duan Ling Tian definitely would not be interested. However, since it was related to Murong Bing, how could he refuse Zhou Shu Qiu?

"Let's go out and talk," Duan Ling Tian said to Zhou Shu Qiu before he walked out.

Zhou Shu Qiu followed closely behind.

At this moment, only Bai Ping, Tie Tai He, and Liu Yan Jun were left in the hall.

...

Outside the hall.

"What happened to Murong Bing?" Duan Ling Tian asked in a deep voice as he looked at Zhou Shu Qiu. Although outwardly he appeared calm, one could still see a hint of worry in the depths of his eyes.

"She is fine for the time being," Zhou Shu Qiu shook her head and said, "I came to you this time mainly to tell you that I lied to you previously when I told you that the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect wanted to marry her away. She's not marrying anyone."

"What?!" Upon hearing Zhou Shu Qiu's words, Duan Ling Tian's expression changed drastically. A hint of displeasure could be seen in his eyes as he said, "So it was all a lie?"

Faced with Duan Ling Tian's displeasure, Zhou Shu Qiu braced herself and responded, "Yes."

"Why did you do that?" Duan Ling Tian asked with a gloomy expression, "Do you think it's funny?" He did not expect Zhou Shu Qiu to lie about the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect forcing Murong Bing to marry. He had been so worried when he had heard about this. He had even asked the young man with the surname Pei for help to stop the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect from marrying Murong Bing off. In the end, he discovered it was all a big fat lie!

Seeing how furious Duan Ling Tian was, Zhou Shu Qiu quickly apologized and explained herself, "Sorry. I just wanted to see how important Murong Bing is to you. I wanted to see how much you value her in your heart."

“Why do you care so much about her importance or value to me?” Duan Ling Tian asked coldly.

“Murong Bing is my best friend. She had asked me to look out for you and save you when you were being hunted by the powerhouses from the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect... This is the first time I’ve seen her care about someone so much. Moreover, it’s a man at that. I was, naturally, curious about the kind of person you are.” She did not seem to notice the coldness in Duan Ling Tian’s tone as she continued to say with a sigh, “When I met you, I wanted to see if you truly love and cherish her so I made up a lie to see your reaction. I didn’t expect you to react so strongly. You turned around and left immediately... I didn’t even have a chance to tell you it was all a lie.”

“She really asked you to look out for me and save me when I was being hunted by the powerhouses of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect?” Although Zhou Shu Qiu said many things, this sentence caught Duan Ling Tian’s attention

Was Murong Bing worried about him?

“I have no need to lie to you about such a thing,” Zhou Shu Qiu said.

“Is she... okay?” After learning that Zhou Shu Qiu was Murong Bing’s best friend, Duan Ling Tian was much more polite to Zhou Shu Qiu.

“Not really,” Zhou Shu Qiu shook her head and said, “You took her virginity. Because of that, she’ll never be the next Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect... Her goal has always been to become the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. Since she was young, her master had trained her as the future Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. Her master is still unaware that she has lost her virginity. If her master finds out, her master would destroy her cultivation base even if she’s not executed.”

Zhou Shu Qiu’s voice turned grim as she continued to say, “Although the current Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect cares about her very much, nobody would be able to stop her master if her master insists on punishing her!”

Duan Ling Tian found it difficult to understand. “Even a vicious tiger will not eat its cubs... She has been raised by her master since she was a child. How can her master be so heartless and treat her in such a manner?”

“You don’t know her master... Previously, her master had an outstanding disciple as well. At that time, her master also trained that disciple as the future Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. However, that disciple fell in love with a man and lost her virginity. In the end, she was executed by her master! At that time, the Sect Leader and many high-ranking officials of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect tried to stop her master but to no avail. Her master did not hesitate to kill the disciple she had personally raised and trained.” A hint of worry clouded Zhou Shu Qiu’s eyes as she spoke. It was obvious that she was afraid Murong Bing would meet the same fate as her predecessor.

Duan Ling Tian asked in a deep voice, “Why doesn’t she leave the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect before her master finds out? Aren’t you her best friend? You can ask her to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect.”

“Naturally, I’ve thought about this as well. However, it’s impossible for her to leave the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. She treats her master like a mother. The last time I met her, she was considering if she should come clean to her master. Before I left, I warned her many times to not say anything to her master.”

“Thank you.” Duan Ling Tian expressed his gratitude to Zhou Shu Qiu. It was clear Zhou Shu Qiu had Murong Bing’s wellbeing in mind.

“There’s no need for you to thank me. You’ve not even met her when we became friends. I did what I did because I don’t want any harm to come to her. It has nothing to do with you,” Zhou Shu Qiu said as she shook her head, “However, even if she doesn’t tell her master about it, and the sect leader helps her to conceal the matter, it would still be exposed in a few years. Although the current sect leader can delay the selection of the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect for a while, she can’t delay it forever...”

Zhou Shu Qiu’s expression turned grim again as she said, “What I’m most worried about is her master’s reaction when her master finds out about the matter. After all, her senior sister serves as a good example of what would happen if her master finds out...”

Duan Ling Tian’s expression darkened when he heard Zhou Shu Qiu’s words.

Zhou Shu Qiu looked at Duan Ling Tian and continued to say, “I didn’t think it would be possible for you to bring her away from the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect... However, I finally saw hope when I arrived in Tai Yi City and learned that you’ve become the Chief Celestial Alchemist of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. I can see that you care about her very much. Therefore, I hope you’ll bring her away from the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect and her unreasonable master.”

## **Chapter 2797: Teng Yun Shan is Here!**

Duan Ling Tian’s expression turned grim. Initially, he had felt a surge of relief when he discovered Murong Bing was not being forced to marry by the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, and it was a lie that Zhou Shu Qiu made up. However, his relief did not last long when he found out Murong Bing was in a precarious situation. She was at risk of being killed by her unreasonable master. How could he not worry about Murong Bing? ‘Her master had killed a disciple whom she had raised and trained from young. It won’t be a stretch to say that she’d do the same to Murong Bing as well...’

Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhou Shu Qiu and asked, “How long can the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect delay the selection of the next Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect?”

“Roughly eight to ten years,” Zhou Shu Qiu said with a sigh, “This is because the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect places great importance on selecting the next sect leader at a specific time. Even if the sect leader stalls for time, the other high-ranking officials won’t agree to it for long...”

“Are you certain the sect leader will help stall for time?” Duan Ling Tian asked as he narrowed his eyes.

“Definitely!” Zhou Shu Qiu said confidently, “Before she told me anything, she had first told the sect leader about her losing her virginity to you. The sect leader has begun to delay the selection of the next

Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. Although she and the sect leader aren't master and disciple, the sect leader treats her like a daughter. Bing'er told me that she also regards the sect leader like a mother..."

"If that's the case, why can't the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect stop her master from harming her?" Duan Ling Tian asked in a deep voice. In his opinion, the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect should have the highest status in the sect, so there should not be any problem for the sect leader to stop others from harming Murong Bing.

"The sect leader can't do anything," Zhou Shu Qiu shook his head and said grimly, "The cultivation base of Bing'er's master is not any weaker than that of the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect... Not to mention there's a Ten Direction Celestial Duke in the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. The Ten Direction Celestial Duke is the biological father of Bing'er's master. With this, the matter should be clear to you..."

Ten Direction Celestial Duke!

When Zhou Shu Qiu mentioned Ten Direction Celestial Duke, Duan Ling Tian could not help but shudder. A Ten Direction Celestial Duke was the strongest among all Celestial Dukes. It was just a level away from a Celestial King!

Previously, when Duan Ling Tian had spoken to the young man with the surname Pei, he had heard that there was at least one Ten Direction Celestial Duke in sects such as the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. These sects were far stronger than the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland.

"How many Ten Direction Celestial Dukes are there in the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

"Only one," Zhou Shu Qiu replied.

"One?" Duan Ling Tian's expression changed slightly. He did not expect that not only was Murong Bing's master so strong, but her master's father was also a Ten Direction Celestial Duke in the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect! The Ten Direction Celestial Duke was the strongest person in the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. Since Murong Bing's master was the biological daughter of the strongest person in the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, it was only natural that even the Sect Leader of the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect could not do much to protect Murong Bing from her master. With these thoughts in his mind, a strong sense of crisis rose in his heart.

"Duan Ling Tian," Zhou Shu Qiu looked at Duan Ling Tian and solemnly said, "Although I don't know how you made the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect acknowledge you as the Chief Celestial Alchemist, I'm sure you have your means. With this, I hope you'll be able to take Bing'er away before her master finds out about the matter of her losing her virginity." A hint of expectation could be seen in her eyes as she looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"Even if you don't ask me, I'll still do it," Duan Ling Tian said.

"I'm relieved to hear that." Zhou Shu Qiu heaved a sigh of relief. Something flashed in her mind before she said, "There's one more thing... I was able to pressure my junior aunt to bring me here to meet you

today because I told her I will try to persuade you to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. When we return to the great hall, if my junior aunt mentions this matter, I hope you'll tell her that I've tried to recruit you..."

Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhou Shu Qiu curiously and asked, "Since you said that to your junior aunt, why didn't you try and persuade me to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect?"

"Even if I try, will you agree to it?" Zhou Shu Qiu asked in return.

Duan Ling Tian had no retort for the question. Indeed. He would not agree if Zhou Shu Qiu tried to persuade him to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect. After all, there were too many things for him to take into consideration. Most importantly, he had given his word to the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. He was not someone who would go back on his words.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian and Zhou Shu Qiu finally returned to the hall. As soon as they entered, he could see the excited and expectant look in the eyes of Liu Yan Jun, the Supreme Elder of the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, when she looked at Zhou Shu Qiu. He saw Zhou Shu Qiu shaking her head slightly when she met Liu Yan Jun's gaze. The look of disappointment in Liu Yan Jun's eyes after that did not escape his notice as well.

After Zhou Shu Qiu returned to Liu Yan Jun's side, Liu Yan Jun bade the three people from the Tai Yi Celestial Sect farewell. "Sect Leader Bai, Guardian Tie, Master Duan... I apologize for bothering all of you." Then, she turned around and prepared to leave with Zhou Shu Qiu.

Tie Tai He followed behind to send Liu Yan Jun off.

Duan Ling Tian and Bai Ping, who were left in the hall, chatted for a while.

Then, Duan Ling Tian suddenly asked, "Sect Leader, aren't you curious about my conversation with Zhou Shu Qiu?"

Bai Ping said with a smile, "She tried to persuade you to join the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect, right?" Bai Ping asked with a smile.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "That's the main reason..."

A thought occurred to Bai Ping at this moment, and he asked, "Master Duan, the woman Zhou Shu Qiu mentioned earlier, Murong Bing... If I'm not mistaken she's the talented disciple from the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, right?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian was not surprised that Bai Ping knew about the Murong Bing and the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect. After all, Bai Ping was the Sect Leader of Tai Yi Celestial Sect. Although the Tai Yi Celestial Sect was not as powerful as the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect, there were still matters about the Compassionate Celestial Traveler Sect that the Tai Yi Celestial Sect were privy to.

Bai Ping wanted to ask Duan Ling Tian what his relationship with Murong Bing was since he could see Duan Ling Tian was eager to speak to Zhou Shu Qiu as soon as Zhou Shu Qiu mentioned Murong Bing.

However, at this moment, a voice rang from outside the hall. "Sect Leader!" It was none other than Tie Tai He.

Tie Tai He's sudden return surprised Bai Ping and Duan Ling Tian. When they walked out of the hall, they learned that as soon as the two guests from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect left, the people from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect had come.

One of the three people who had come was the leader of the group of people from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect who came to Tai Yi City this time. He was also the former sect leader and the only Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke of the sect. He was none other than Teng Yun Shan, widely known as the Golden Buddha.

"Guardian Tie, come with me to greet Senior Yun Shan." Bai Ping prepared to personally meet Teng Yun Shan as soon as he discovered that Teng Yun Shan had come. He did not forget to ask Duan Ling Tian, "Master Duan, do you want to come with us?"

"Let's meet him together." Something flashed in Duan Ling Tian's eyes as he nodded. "I want to see the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect..."

There was an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke in each of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland. However, the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect was rumored to have died more than 3,000 years ago. For this reason, his appearance in Tai Yi City, naturally, caused an uproar.

In just a short moment, Duan Ling Tian, Bai Ping, and Tie Tai He left the prominent Celestial Island they were on and headed out to meet Teng Yun Shan, the Eight Diagrams Celestial Duke of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect.

"Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, pays respect to Senior Yun Shan."

"Tie Tai He, the Left Guardian of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, pays respect to Senior Yun Shan."

When Bai Ping and Tie Tai He met Teng Yun Shan, they treated him respectfully. After all, they were only Seven Star Celestial Dukes while the other person was an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke. Moreover, the other person held a higher seniority as well.

While Bai Ping and Tie Tai He greeted Teng Yun Shan, Duan Ling Tian observed him.

Teng Yun Shan was a bald and burly monk who was dressed in golden robes. Unlike most monks who looked kind, his chubby face looked fierce. Ordinary people would have a hard time meeting his gaze. At this moment, he looked at Tie Tai He and coldly asked, "You're Tie Tai He?"

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian cupped his fists together and greeted Teng Yun Shan. "Duan Ling Tian pays respect to Senior Teng."

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's greetings, Teng Yun Shan shifted his attention from Tie Tai He to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian felt as though he was being stared at by a venomous snake. He saw Teng Yun Shan glaring at him with eyes that were brimming with killing intent as though Duan Ling Tian was his archenemy.

## Chapter 2798: Forbearance And The Martial Dragon Celestial Sect's Plan?

'Why is the Eight Diagrams Celestial Duke of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect looking at me with so much hostility? Isn't this our first meeting?' Duan Ling Tian was confused when he saw Teng Yun Shan's cold and murderous gaze. However, in just a short moment, the killing intent and pressure he felt from Teng Yun Shan disappeared. He inwardly sighed in relief. Teng Yun Shan was an Eight Diagrams Celestial Duke after all. How could he bear the pressure and killing intent of an Eight Diagrams Celestial Duke when he was just a Great Overarching Golden Celestial?

At the same time, Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial, and Tie Tai He, the Left Guardian of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, straightened their backs after they respectfully bowed and greeted Teng Yun Shan. They were unaware of the killing intent in Teng Yun Shan's eyes when he looked at Duan Ling Tian earlier. Although they could tell Teng Yun Shan's tone was slightly cold, they just assumed that was the way Teng Yun Shan spoke. Therefore, they did not dwell on it.

On the other hand, Duan Ling Tian was still confused by Teng Yun Shan's killing intent. 'Why is Teng Yun Shan, the strongest person in the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, so hostile toward me even though it's our first meeting? I don't think I've offended him. Did he confuse me for someone else?'

Although Teng Yun Shan had quickly retracted the killing intent in his eyes, Duan Ling Tian felt suffocated as though a huge mountain was pressing down on his chest when Teng Yun Shan glared at him and exerted pressure.

At this moment, Teng Yun Shan's expression and eyes had returned to normal. However, inwardly, he thought to himself, 'Qing'er, my child, I didn't know about your existence in the past so I failed to fulfill my responsibilities as a father. It's my fault... However, I promise to kill Duan Ling Tian, Tie Tai He, and that troublesome woman to avenge you!'

Both Duan Ling Tian or Tie Tai He would never expect that Teng Qing, the elder from the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, whom Tie Tai He had killed, was the biological son of Teng Yun Shan!

Tie Tai He seemed unaware of Teng Yun Shan's hostility, but it did not escape Duan Ling Tian's notice. Even then, Duan Ling Tian would never be able to guess that the reason Teng Yun Shan was so hostile to him and Tie Tai He was due to Tie Tai He killing Teng Qing.

If Tie Tai He had known that Teng Qing was Teng Yun Shan's biological son, he would not have dared to kill Teng Qing no matter what. However, who could blame him for being unaware of this fact? Even Teng Yun Shan had just recently learned that Teng Qing was his biological son a few days ago!

About 5,000 years ago, Teng Yun Shan had relations with a maid who was serving him in the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect. When the maid became pregnant, she was too afraid to tell him about it. After all, with his status, Teng Yun Shan would become a laughingstock in the Wasteland if it were made known that he and a maid had an illegitimate child! Additionally, Teng Yun Shan had a wife who was easily jealous. If his wife had known that Teng Yun Shan had an illegitimate child, she would not have stayed idle and let the matter slide. Thus, the maid left the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect and secretly gave birth to a son.

Teng Qing inherited Teng Yun Shan's talent. When he grew up, he quickly rose to prominence and joined the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect under his mother's instructions. He continued to rise in ranks until he



became an elder in the sect. He was privy to a lot of matters in the sect so he knew that the former sect leader was not really dead and was secretly guarding the sect. However, he was completely unaware that the old ancestor and patron of the sect was his biological father even until the moment he died.

A few days ago, after Teng Qing's mother learned that Teng Qing had died, she fell into despair. She did everything she could to get in touch with Teng Yun Shan to tell him about Teng Qing. She had committed suicide to prove her words were true.

However, as the Old Ancestor of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, Teng Yun Shan, naturally, would not easily believe her words. Only after he had secretly investigated the matter did he find out that Teng Qing was indeed his son! In the early years, he had married the daughter of a high-ranking official of the sect. However, his wife was unable to bear him children and stopped him from remarrying. Therefore, he did not have any children. He was not in a hurry to have children so he did not mind his wife stopping him from remarrying. After all, he still had a long life in this world. However, when he learned that he had a biological son, and his son had been killed, he was furious!

Teng Yun Shan looked at the three people from the Tai Yi Celestial Sect one last time before he said, "Let's go!" He turned around and left with the two people who had come with him. He left as soon as he had arrived.

Duan Ling Tian, Bai Ping, and Tie Tai He looked at each other in shock and confusion when they saw Teng Yun Shan's sudden departure.

"Did something suddenly happen so he had to leave?"

"What did he come here for anyway?"

Bai Ping and Tie Tai He voiced out their confusion before they looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Bai Ping asked, "Master Duan, I'm guessing that Teng Yun Shan came because of you... Did he send you a Voice Transmission to ask you to join the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect just now? If I'm not mistaken, you must have refused him, right?" In his opinion, that must be the reason why Teng Yun Shan had come and left so suddenly.

Tie Tai He looked at Duan Ling Tian, he shared the same opinion as Bai Ping.

"No," Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, "We didn't communicate at all. He didn't send me any Voice Transmission."

"Didn't communicate at all?"

Bai Ping and Tie Tai He looked at each other in confusion when they heard Duan Ling Tian's reply. If that was the case, what was the reason for Teng Yun Shan's visit?

"Did he come to see our patriarch?" Tie Tai He guessed.

“Impossible!” Bai Ping shook his head. “If he’s here to see the patriarch, he would’ve gone directly to the patriarch. Eight Trigrams Celestial Dukes can easily communicate through the Communication Celestial Talismans.”

“Then, why did he come here? To see us? Perhaps, to see Master Duan?” Tie Tai He grew more and more confused.

“That’s possible... After all, a Great Overarching Golden Celestial and a prominent Celestial Alchemist who’s younger than 100 years old is unheard of in the Wasteland.” Bai Ping nodded.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian, who had fallen deep in thought as he stared at the direction where Teng Yun Shan had left, looked at Bai Ping and Tie Tai He before he asked, “Sect Leader, Guardian Tie... Teng Yun Shan, the Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, and Teng Qing, the elder whom Guardian Tie killed, have the same surname... Are they related?” This thought occurred to him because when Teng Yun Shan had turned around earlier, his side profile looked familiar to Duan Ling Tian. After thinking about it for a moment, he discovered Teng Yun Shan’s side profile was similar to Teng Ting, the elder of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, whom Tie Tai He had killed.

“Master Duan, why would you ask this?” Bai Ping and Tie Tai He were taken aback and confused. They did not understand why Duan Ling Tian would ask such a seemingly random question.

“Apart from having the same surname, I find their side profiles resemble each other,” Duan Ling Tian replied honestly. If Teng Qing and Teng Yun Shan were related, it would explain Teng Yun Shan’s hostility toward him and Tie Tai He. After all, Tie Tai He had killed Teng Qing because of him.

“Master Duan, you’re overthinking things.” Tie Tai He shook his head. “It’s impossible for them to be related. If they were, I wouldn’t have killed Teng Qing that day! After all, not only is Teng Yun Shan the Old Ancestor of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect, but he’s an Eight Trigrams Celestial Duke as well!”

“That’s right.” Bai Ping nodded in agreement. “Moreover, if Teng Qing and Teng Yun Shan were related, we would’ve known about it... If Teng Qing was really related to Teng Yun Shan, Teng Yun Shan wouldn’t have just left after taking a look. He would definitely pursue the matter. He’s infamous for his short temper.”

“Maybe it’s a coincidence, then.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. He felt that Bai Ping and Tie Tai He’s words made sense.

...

Meanwhile, outside the Tai Yi Celestial Sect’s estate.

“Old ancestor, we thank you for your forbearance on behalf of the sect!” The two men who had followed Teng Yun Shan here bowed and thanked him. It was clear they knew bits and pieces of the truth.

Teng Yun Shan calmly replied, “There’s no need to thank me... I’m a member of the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect as well. Moreover, I’m the former sect leader. Although I want to avenge my son badly, I’ll never risk the sect and act hastily for the sake of revenge.”

“Old ancestor, rest assured. When our plans come to fruition, you’ll be able to kill Duan Ling Tian and Tie Tai He!” One of the two men promised Teng Yun Shan.

“They’re not the only ones I want to kill, I want to kill that white-clad siren who’s the cause of this incident as well!” Teng Yun Shan said as the killing intent in his eyes intensified.

### **Chapter 2799: The Wasteland Grand Contest Ends**

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was unaware of Teng Yun Shan’s ‘forbearance’. After Teng Yun Shan’s visit, he spent time refining pills before the start of the Wasteland Grand Contest. Not only did he refine Overarching Heaven Pills using the medicinal ingredients given by Tie Tai He for the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, but he also had discussions at length with the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect about alchemy. After their discussion, he discovered many of his past shortcomings, and with the advice of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists, his alchemy skill continuously improved.

“Master Duan, your talent in alchemy is like a rare gem in the world!” Initially, upon seeing how exaggeratedly fast Duan Ling Tian was progressing, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect were all shocked. However, as time passed, they became used to it.

During their interaction with Duan Ling Tian, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect gradually got to know Duan Ling Tian. They discovered that not only was he humble, but he was also a grateful man. Therefore, when they gave him advice, they did not hold back and taught him everything they knew.

As time passed, the day of the Wasteland Grand Contest finally arrived.

However, Duan Ling Tian who was completely immersed in alchemy did not attend the Wasteland Grand Contest. Instead, he stayed in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect and discussed alchemy with the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. He became skilled and could learn with just one example. It had to be said that his rapid improvement was also partly thanks to the memories of the Rebirth Martial Emperor in the mundane realm.

In the beginning, the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect saw Duan Ling Tian as their junior and guided him. They felt that forming a good relationship with Duan Ling Tian would benefit them in the future. However, later, through their discussions with him, they discovered they learned a lot from him as well. Their skills in alchemy had more or less improved as well. They were pleasantly surprised by this.

...

On this day, two of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, Yang Chong and Yu Zhong Jing, were not around. Only Situ Ming was around. Duan Ling Tian who was in Situ Ming’s residence was about to leave after discussing the Medicine Dao with three people in Situ Ming’s residence.

“Master Duan!” Situ Ming called out just as Duan Ling Tian was about to leave.

Duan Ling Tian stopped in his tracks and looked at Situ Ming with a puzzled expression. "Master Situ, what's the matter?" He discovered Situ Ming had an extremely solemn expression on his face.

"Master Duan, the Wasteland Grand Contest is going to end as soon... I'm sure you know that the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland are selecting the best candidates from the contest so they can send the candidates into the Little World left by the Celestial King after the contest, right?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Situ Ming continued speaking, "Master Duan, you're younger than 100 years old, and you're a Great Overarching Golden Celestial... I'm sure the sect leader will definitely ask you to enter the Little World to seek for treasures left behind by a Celestial King on behalf of the sect." He paused for a moment before he finally said, "A word of advice from me, Master Duan, you must refuse if the sect leader asks you to go... It's too dangerous! Although there's a saying that riches come with risks, based on what I know, those who entered the Little World were killed by the Formations there when they entered or died not long after entering it. No one survived after entering that place."

Situ Ming's expression remained solemn as he said, "As long as you refuse, Master Duan, I believe the sect leader wouldn't force you to enter the Little World."

"As far as I know, only people younger than 100 years old can enter the Little World. So far, the strongest person who entered the Little World was an Indigo Sun Celestial, right?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

"Yes." Situ Ming nodded. "However, the Violet Sun Golden Celestial didn't survive. We don't know if Great Overarching Golden Celestials would be strong enough to survive in there..."

Duan Ling Tian asked with a smile, "Is Master Situ worried I'll enter the Little World and die in there?"

"Master Duan, you're the first person I've ever encountered with such great talent in alchemy. You're a true genius. I truly don't want you to risk your life and enter the Little World. Indeed, you might find treasure in the Little World, but it comes with the risk of losing your life," Situ Ming said grimly, "And with your skills in alchemy, your future is limitless, Master Duan. As you grow more skilled, you'll have the chance to meet Celestial Kings, Celestial Lords, and even Celestial Emperors. In contrast, the Little World left behind by a Celestial King is nothing at all..." It was obvious Situ Ming did not want Duan Ling Tian to enter the Little World.

Duan Ling Tian felt a sense of warmth in his heart. He could see Situ Ming sincerely cared about his wellbeing. He said reassuringly, "Master Situ, don't worry... I'm aware of all this."

"That's good." Situ Ming nodded in relief when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words. He really did not want any harm to come to Duan Ling Tian. His reason was simple. He did not want a genius like Duan Ling Tian to die in vain in the Little World left behind by a Celestial King.

After bidding farewell to Situ Ming, Duan Ling Tian left and returned to one of the nine prominent Celestial Islands in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect where his residence that was arranged by Tie Tai He was located.

"Huan'er has been in closed-door cultivation for a long time... I wonder if she has had a breakthrough?" Duan Ling Tian glanced at Huan'er's room with bright eyes.

Currently, Huan'er was an earth-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. Although she had not fully mastered the Celestial Methods and the Divine Abilities that she inherently possessed, there were not many earth-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials who were a match for her. Needless to say, if she further mastered her Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities, her strength would greatly improve. At that time, it would not be difficult for her to defeat Celestials who had higher cultivation bases.

'If Huan'er breaks through again, she'll become a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial... Even if she hasn't completely mastered her Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities, her strength alone is enough to make her superior to most heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials!' Duan Ling Tian grew excited when he thought about this. He was looking forward to Huan'er breaking through and becoming a heaven-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial. He continued thinking to himself, 'Moreover, Huan'er's only a teenager now. It's only natural that she hasn't mastered her Celestial Methods and Divine Abilities to perfection. In another decade or so, she'll be able to fully master them. At that time, her strength would be far above her peers... In fact, she could even defeat those with higher cultivation bases...' He really could not imagine how powerful she would be in the future.

"In two days' time, the Wasteland Grand Contest will end... After that, the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland will send people into the Little World left by the Celestial King. At that time, I'll enter the Little World with Huan'er."

If Duan Ling Tian did not meet the mysterious young man with the surname Pei, he would not risk his life and enter the Little World. He would not even allow Huan'er to enter the Little World despite the fact that she was a powerful Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial! However, after meeting the young man with the surname Pei and learning about the Little World, he was more confident about entering the place. In any case, he had already given his promise to the young man with the surname Pei to enter the Little World to help him search for the Royal Grade Celestial Weapon, so after the end of the Wasteland Grand Contest, he would enter the place with Huan'er.

Duan Ling Tian's expression turned solemn when he recalled the words of the young man with the surname Pei. 'According to Brother Pei, only those who are Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestials or stronger would be able to survive in the Little World. A yellow-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial can only protect himself while a profound-rank Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial can protect himself and an additional person.'

'I'll have to try and prevent as many people from going into the Little World when the time comes...' Duan Ling Tian did not think he was a particularly kind person. However, he could not stand idly and watch a group of people being sent to their deaths. 'I must hurry and think of a way... Time is running out.'

...

Over the next few days, as Duan Ling Tian refined pills and cultivated, he did not forget to think of a way to prevent people from entering the Little World.

On the day the Wasteland Grand Contest ended, an idea occurred to him even though he could not be sure of how effective it would be.

“That’s it! If I do this, I can minimize the casualty!”

...

After the Wasteland Grand Contest ended, Bai Ping, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, who had gone to watch the contest returned to the sect. Since the Wasteland Grand Contest was hosted in Tai Yi City that was under the control of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, Bai Ping, as the sect leader, naturally, had to show his face and entertain the guests from the Thousand Spiders Celestial Sect and the Martial Dragon Celestial Sect.

Duan Ling Tian went to look for Bai Ping as soon as Bai Ping returned. “Sect leader!”

“Master Duan, what’s the matter? If it’s an emergency, you can always ask someone to send me a message instead of waiting for me...”

### **Chapter 2800: I’ve Already Made up My Mind!**

“It’s nothing urgent,” Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, “I came to look for you because there’s something I want to ask.”

“What is it?” Bai Ping asked with an amiable expression on his face as though he would answer Duan Ling Tian’s question unreservedly.

“Previously, when the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland sent people into the Little World, how long did the Indigo Sun Golden Celestials last in there before they died?” Duan Ling Tian asked bluntly. There was something he wanted to confirm. He wanted to know if he would encounter danger as soon as he entered the Little World or not. If it were the former, the idea he had thought of would not work.

“The person who managed to survive the longest in there held on for ten days. From the day he entered to the day his Soul Pearl shattered, exactly ten days had passed. Apart from that, he was one of the strongest Indigo Sun Golden Celestials younger than 100 years old who entered the Little World,” Bai Ping replied immediately even though he did not know why Duan Ling Tian would suddenly ask such a question, “The weakest among the Indigo Sun Golden Celestials lasted eight days in there. As for those who were weaker than that, none of them managed to survive for more than eight days. Clearly, the stronger the person, the longer they would survive in there.”

Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow. “That’s just a theory, right?”

Bai Ping nodded.

Duan Ling Tian asked, “In that case... When the time comes for the three major Celestial Sects to send people into the Little World, can we just send in one or two people from each sect in there to scout the place first? If those people die, then those who have similar strength or weaker shouldn’t be allowed to enter the place, right?”

Duan Ling Tian continued to say, “Those people are all highly talented. It’d be a great loss for the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland if all of them die.”

“That’s true.” Bai Ping nodded again. “The Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland have long thought about this before the start of the Wasteland Grand Contest... When the time is right, we will first send out strong Violet Sun Golden Celestials to scout the place. If they die soon after they enter the place, then there would be no need for other Violet Sun Golden Celestials to enter. In this way, we can also leave some talented new blood for our sects.”

Bai Ping continued to say, “If the Violet Sun Golden Celestials die, we have no choice but to send in Great Overarching Golden Celestials younger than 100 years old. However, there are only a few Great Overarching Golden Celestials younger than 100 years old so we’ll send all of them in at once.” He shook his head. “I only hope that the young Great Overarching Golden Celestials will be able to explore the Little World unharmed. Otherwise, not only will we lose a group of talented people in the Wasteland, but the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland would no longer have any means to explore the Little World left by a Celestial King...”

There was an age limit to enter the Little World left by a Celestial King after all. Only those below the age of 100 could enter the place. This rule restricted many strong powerhouses in the Wasteland from entering the place. With the lack of strong powerhouses below the age of 100, how were the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland going to explore the Little World? To be precise, how would they get their hands on the treasures in the Little World? It was highly likely that there were King Grade Celestial Weapons and many other precious treasures in the Little World left by a Celestial King.

“How many Great Overarching Golden Celestials who are younger than 100 participated in the Wasteland Grand Contest this time?” Duan Ling Tian asked. Since the contest had just ended, he had not had a chance to enquire about the results of the contest. He could not help but feel curious when Bai Ping mentioned there were Great Overarching Golden Celestials younger than 100 years old this time around.

“There are six of them... They’re equally divided among the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland. Two of them joined the Tai Yi Celestial Sect,” Bai Ping said.

“Six...” Duan Ling Tian finally understood why Bai Ping said they would have to send all of the young Great Overarching Golden Celestials in at once. There were only six of them. Moreover, it was unwise to send them in one by one.

“Sect leader, when do the three major Celestial Sects plan to send the young powerhouses into the Little World? Has a specific date been decided on?” Duan Ling Tian asked.

“The date has already been set before the Wasteland Grand Contest even began.” Bai Ping nodded. “It’s set one month after the end of the Wasteland Grand Contest... At that time, the sect leaders will personally lead the team to the Little World and send the young powerhouses in there...”

All of a sudden, Bai Ping’s eyes brightened as a thought appeared in his mind. “Master Duan, you seem interested in this matter... Do you plan to enter the Little World as well?” Naturally, he hoped that Duan Ling Tian would enter the Little World. After all, Duan Ling Tian was also a Great Overarching Golden Celestial younger than the age of 100. If Duan Ling Tian decided to enter the Little World, the Tai Yi Celestial Sect would have three Great Overarching Golden Celestials representing them to enter that

place. This would definitely be beneficial to the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. However, he did not intend to force Duan Ling Tian to enter the place if Duan Ling Tian was unwilling.

“Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded. “After careful consideration, I decided to join the fun and enter the Little World left by a Celestial King.”

Bai Ping smiled. “Master Duan, with your strength, you’re bound to gain something in the Little World.” Up until now, he did not think there was any danger for Great Overarching Golden Celestials to enter the Little World. In his opinion, since there was an age restriction to enter the place, the strength required to stay alive in that place should not be ridiculously high. A Great Overarching Golden Celestial younger than 100 years old was extremely rare in the Wasteland and was considered a great talent after all. If even Great Overarching Golden Celestials died in the Little World, then, no one would be able to survive the place. This meant the Little World was just a trick left behind by a Celestial King. It would be like an unsolvable puzzle.

However, Bai Ping and most people thought that it was unlikely for the Little World to be just a trick. After all, a Celestial King had to expend a lot of energy to construct a Little World. Why would a Celestial King deliberately construct a Little World just to cheat people? Therefore, Bai Ping thought the Little World was of no danger to Great Overarching Golden Celestials. At best, it was slightly more dangerous for those Violet Sun Golden Celestials.

...

News of Duan Ling Tian’s intention to enter the Little World quickly spread to three prominent Celestial Alchemists of the Tai Yi Celestial Sect. The three of them became restless and took turns to dissuade Duan Ling Tian from entering the place.

“Master Duan, there’s no need for you to enter that place and risk your life...” Situ Ming said imploringly. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian would insist on entering the Little World after the discussion they had.

“Master Duan!” Yang Chong looked at Duan Ling Tian solemnly as he said persuasively, “Master Situ is right. There’s no need to risk your life and enter the Little World. With your skills in alchemy, as long as you are lucky enough to encounter and subdue a supreme Celestial Fire, it’s not impossible for you to become a supreme Celestial Alchemist after 10,000 years! At that time, everyone would be scrambling to give you all the Royal Grade Celestial Weapons you want, let alone King Grade Celestial Weapons.” In his opinion, King Grade Weapons were the biggest draw of the Little World.

After Yang Chong shot a meaningful look at Yu Zhong Jing, Yu Zhong Jing chimed in, “Master Duan, it’s just as Master Situ and Master Yang had said, there’s no need for you to take such risks!”

Upon listening to the words of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists in the Tai Yi Celestial Sect, Duan Ling Tian replied, “I know three of you have kind intentions... However, I’ve already made up my mind regarding this matter!”

Seeing how determined Duan Ling Tian was, Situ Ming, Yang Chong, and Yu Zhong Jing exchanged a look. After a round of discussion through Voice Transmission, they bade farewell to Duan Ling Tian. They



intended to look for Bai Ping in hopes that Bai Ping would be able to dissuade Duan Ling Tian from entering the Little World.

Under the combined pressure of the three prominent Celestial Alchemists, Bai Ping had no choice but to find Duan Ling Tian and dissuade him from entering the Little World despite his opinion that the Little World posed no danger to Great Overarching Golden Celestials.

Bai Ping, who was forced by three people, smiled wryly as he said, "Master Duan, I think... what the three alchemists said is right. You're very talented in alchemy. There's no doubt your future is bright. Even if you don't enter the Little World, it wouldn't affect your future at all."

However, Duan Ling Tian did not waver at all.

Feeling helpless, Situ Ming, Yang Chong, and Yu Zhong Jing took out some of their collections of offensive and defensive Duke Grade Celestial Weapons so that Duan Ling Tian could pick a few. The only thing they could do now was to increase Duan Ling Tian's ability to protect himself in the Little World.

"I appreciate your kindness... However, the sect leader told me that the Great Overarching Golden Celestials representing the Tai Yi Celestial Sect would be given two Duke Grade Celestial Weapons each before we enter the Little World." Although Duan Ling Tian was touched by their kindness, he refused them.

As one of the Three Major Celestial Sects of the Wasteland, the Tai Yi Celestial Sect possessed many Duke Grade Celestial Weapons. Moreover, the Tai Yi Celestial Sect was also the only sect in the Wasteland to possess a King Grade Celestial Weapon.