SOVEREIGN 3321

Chapter 3321: The Jade Bow Celestial Emperor

The Heavenly Emperor Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven was located in the sky, high above a barren land. It would be almost impossible for someone who had not been to the palace to find it.

However, Meng Hao Xuan was a disciple of the Heavenly Sword Mountain, a heaven-grade force in the Solitary Destructive Heaven. Even if he had not been into the Heavenly Emperor Palace, he had seen it before.

When Duan Ling Tian and Meng Hao Xuan were near the Heavenly Emperor Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven, Meng Hao Xuan grew more and more excited. He said enthusiastically, "There are many people like me who would come to the Heavenly Emperor Palace even if we can't enter it. It's almost like a pilgrimage..."

Most of the sword celestials in the Solitary Destructive Heaven revered and worshiped their Heavenly Emperor. Therefore, the residence of the Heavenly Emperor had become a special place to them.

"I see." Duan Ling Tian nodded in response. When he was still in the Boundless Heaven's Heavenly Pool Palace, he had read up about Feng Qing Yang. He knew that Feng Qing Yang was not only the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, but Feng Qing Yang was also idolized by most sword celestials in the Solitary Destructive Heaven.

In fact, most Heavenly Emperors were not idolized or revered to this extent. Usually, only those who had become gods would receive this level of adulation and reverence. It was rare for Heavenly Emperors to have almost half of the population in their Devata Realms to worship them so much. Perhaps, only a handful of Heavenly Emperors received this kind of adoration.

"Duan Ling Tian, before we arrive, I should remind you that you might not even make it past the gates. Perhaps, at most, you can get someone to help you send a message," Meng Hao Xuan said when they were almost at the Solitary Destructive Heaven's Heavenly Emperor Palace, "Although you have a connection with our Lord Heavenly Emperor, the connection is from your time in the mundane realm. To a Heavenly Emperor, the legacy they left behind in a mundane realm might not mean anything to them. Moreover, such a long time has passed, it's likely that he might not place much importance on things from the mundane realm anymore."

Although Meng Hao Xuan had learned about Duan Ling Tian's connection to the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven during their journey here, he was not optimistic about Duan Ling Tian's chance to meet the Heavenly Emperor.

Nevertheless, Duan Ling Tian was undeterred and wanted to give it a try anyway.

"Don't worry, I know." Duan Ling Tian knew Meng Hao Xuan's intentions were good. Therefore, he responded with a slight smile on his face even though he was feeling troubled. Naturally, he hoped Feng Qing Yang would be willing to help him, but he was also prepared to be turned away. If he failed to obtain Feng Qing Yang's help, he would have to rely on his own strength to save Huan'er's parents.

After some time, Meng Hao Xuan's voice rang in Duan Ling Tian's ears. "That's the Heavenly Emperor Palace!"

Duan Ling Tian regained his senses. He looked in the direction of Meng Hao Xuan's gaze and saw a floating island in the air that was shaped like an upside-down sword. Apart from that, there were many floating islands around the sword-shaped island like the stars around the moon.

"It's said that one of the smaller islands around the main island is the Lord Heavenly Emperor's cultivation ground," Meng Hao Xuan said as he looked at the Heavenly Emperor Palace with a burning gaze. Although he had been here more than once, he was still in awe.

'This aura feels very familiar...' Duan Ling Tian, who was standing next to Meng Hao Xuan, thought to himself when he sensed a faint hint of sword Qi from the main island that was shaped like an upside-down sword. After a moment, he realized why it seemed so familiar.

'This sword Qi is similar to the Sovereign Heart Sword that Senior Feng Qing Yang left behind in the mundane realm. However, the sword Qi here is naturally much more piercing and powerful...' Duan Ling Tian did not even realize that his eyes had begun to shine with anticipation at this moment.

"Let's go to the entrance," Meng Hao Xuan called out to Duan Ling Tian before the duo made their way to the entrance of the Heavenly Emperor Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven.

This was in fact the first time Meng Hao Xuan was so close to the Heavenly Emperor Palace. In the past, he would only stand in the distance and look at the palace like what they were doing earlier.

Swoosh! Swoosh Swoosh!

As soon as Duan Ling Tian and Meng Hao Xuan entered the range of the Heavenly Emperor Palace, a figure swiftly appeared in front of them, blocking their path. Soon after, a few more figures joined the first figure.

"This is the Heavenly Emperor Palace. Only authorized personnel are allowed to enter." The person who blocked their path was a heavenly guard. It was no surprise that his aura was oppressive. After all, the heavenly guards here were all Celestial Emperors.

Duan Ling Tian was rather surprised by this discovery, 'It's true! Even the heavenly guards are Celestial Emperors!'

During their journey, Meng Hao Xuan had told him the Heavenly Emperor Palace was different from ordinary sects that had many members and disciples. The Heavenly Emperor's force was only made up of various titled Celestial Emperors and their disciples, and the heavenly guards.

Most of the heavenly guards willingly volunteered to become part of the Heavenly Emperor's face. Naturally, one would only be accepted if one successfully passed the assessment. Once accepted, one had to stay a heavenly guard for 1,000 years at least.

Many cultivators who were being hunted would volunteer to become heavenly guards as a means to seek refuge. However, in exchange for the protection of the Heavenly Emperor and the other titled Celestial Emperors, these people would have to sign an agreement that bound them to their positions for 10,000 years.

This had always been the way of the world. There was no free lunch in the world. To obtain something, one would have to give up something as well.

"Senior, we're here to see Lord Heavenly Emperor," Meng Hao Xuan said politely. Although the heavenly guards were not Celestial Emperors, they were still stronger than ordinary Celestial Emperors. How could the Heavenly Emperor's guards be ordinary Celestial Emperors?

"You're here to see Lord Heavenly Emperor?"

The heavenly guards seemed taken aback by Meng Hao Xuan's words. They sized Meng Hao Xuan and Duan Ling Tian up before one of them finally stepped forward and said, "Both of you, follow me."

Upon hearing these words, the other heavenly guards left and returned to their duties.

Meanwhile, the heavenly guard who had spoken led Duan Ling Tian and Meng Hao Xuan away. He did not speak as he led the duo to the entrance of the Heavenly Emperor Palace.

After they arrived at the entrance, the heavenly guard said to the four heavenly guards at the entrance before he left, "They said they're here to see the Heavenly Emperor... I'll leave them to you."

After that heavenly guard left, the four heavenly guards guarding the entrance turned to look at Duan Ling Tian and Meng Hao Xuan.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian was looking at the majestic entrance of the Heavenly Emperor Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven. Even the grand Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect in the Jade Emperor Heaven paled in comparison.

"You're here to see Lord Heavenly Emperor?" one of the heavenly guards asked solemnly. In his opinion, since these people were here to see the Heavenly Emperor, they must not be ordinary cultivators. Therefore, he was not rude to the duo.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

The heavenly guard asked, "May I know how you're connected to Lord Heavenly Emperor or what business you have with Lord Heavenly Emperor?"

Upon hearing this question, Meng Hao Xuan turned to look at Duan Ling Tian.

"I inherited Senior Feng Qing Yang's legacy in the mundane realm..." Duan Ling Tian replied honestly.

"Oh?"

The heavenly guards were slightly surprised when they heard this. Based on what they knew, their Heavenly Emperor did not accept any direct disciples and only had two nominal disciples. They did not know their Heavenly Emperor had left his legacy in a mundane realm nor did they hear anything about someone inheriting any legacy.

"May I know your name sir?" the heavenly guard asked respectfully. Although Duan Ling Tian was just someone who inherited Feng Qing Yang's legacy in a mundane realm, he did not dare to make things difficult for Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"May I know why you're looking for Lord Heavenly Emperor?" the heavenly guard asked again.

"It is a long story... Can you announce my arrival to him? If he's willing to see, I'll speak to him myself. If he isn't willing, it's fine as well." Despite his words, Duan Ling Tian was in fact very anxious. He really could not say for sure if Feng Qing Yang would see him. With Feng Qing Yang's current status, would Feng Qing Yang care about some inheritance in a mundane realm?

"Alright, I'll send the word." The heavenly guard nodded. In just a blink of an eye, he disappeared from Duan Ling Tian and Meng Hao Yuan's sight.

The duo waited patiently for the heavenly guard's return.

After roughly 15 minutes, the heavenly guard returned with a green-clad middle-aged man whose appearance and body were average and ordinary.

Despite his average appearance, based on the heavenly guard's attitude, it was apparent that his status was not ordinary.

"This is the Jade Bow Celestial Emperor from our Heaven Emperor Palace," the heavenly guard said respectfully, "He's one of the titled Celestial Emperors who's close to Lord Heavenly Emperor."

The middle-aged man did not beat around the bush and asked, "You said you inherited Lord Heavenly Emperor's legacy in the mundane realm?"

The middle-aged man stared at Duan Ling Tian intently as he waited for Duan Ling Tian's reply. At the same time, an extraordinary aura surged out of his body.

Chapter 3322: Dugu Wu Appears

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian felt pressure from the middle-aged man's aura. He did not know the middle-aged man's precise strength, but he was sure the middle-aged man was much stronger than Dugu Wen whom he had killed in the past. In fact, he was sure the middle-aged man was even stronger than his teacher, Xu Lang, the Verdant Prairie Celestial Emperor. The middle-aged man was, at the very least, on par with the Heavenly Pool Palace's Profound Heaven Celestial Emperor. The Jade Bow Celestial Emperor's strength was likely comparable to the Profound Heaven Celestial Emperor and was weaker than the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace.

"I'm Meng Chuan, the Jade Bow Celestial Emperor. I'm a subordinate of Lord Heavenly Emperor," the middle-aged man said to Duan Ling Tian, "Lord Heavenly Emperor isn't here at the moment. He has left to attend to some matters. What brings you here? Is it urgent?"

"He's not here?" Duan Ling Tian was taken aback. After a moment, he revealed the purpose of his visit. "I'm here to ask for a favor from Senior Feng Qing Yang."

"A favor?" Meng Chuan raised an eyebrow. Then, he looked at Duan Ling Tian meaningfully as he said, "I'll pass your message to Lord Heavenly Emperor, but I'll need to verify your identity first. You said you inherited Lord Heavenly Emperor's legacy in the mundane realm so you shouldn't have a problem proving that, right?"

"Yes, of course." With just a thought, he cast the Sovereign Heart Sword that he had not used for a long time.

In just a moment, the Heart Sword's deadly and terrifying sword intent permeated the air.

"The Sovereign Heart Sword?" Meng Chuan's eyes lit up. Although Duan Ling Tian's Sovereign Heart Sword could not compare to Feng Qing Yang's Sovereign Heart Sword, there was no doubt they were one and the same. With this confirmation, he nodded and said, "It seems like you really inherited Lord Heavenly Emperor's legacy in the mundane realm. Tell me, what's the purpose of your visit?"

After confirming Duan Ling Tian was not lying, Meng Chuan's attitude changed for the better. Since he had a certain understanding of Feng Qing Yang, he knew Feng Qing Yang would treat Duan Ling Tian, his successor, differently even if Duan Ling Tian only inherited Feng Qing Yang's legacy in the mundane realm. Moreover, up until now, Feng Qing Yang did not have a formal direct disciple.

"I'm here because..." Since Feng Qing Yang was absent, he could only reveal everything to Meng Chuan. Moreover, Meng Chuan was close to Feng Qing Yang.

Meng Chuan nodded after he listened to Duan Ling Tian's words. He said, "Rescue two people from the Heavenly Pool Palace? Although the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace is related to the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven, the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven will still have to show our Lord Heavenly Emperor some respect..."

After a brief moment of silence, Meng Chuan said, "I've already sent a message to Lord Heavenly Emperor. Please wait for a moment..."

However, after an hour passed, there was still no reply from Feng Qing Yang. In the end, Meng Chuan had to send a message to his elder brother, Meng Luo.

Meng Luo, the Heavenly Savage Celestial Emperor, was one of Feng Qing Yang's strongest subordinates. He was a top-tier titled Celestial Emperor in all Devata Realms. His strength was not inferior to that of the leaders of heaven-grade forces in all the Devata Realms.

Meng Chuan had sent a message to his elder brother, Meng Luo, because Meng Luo had left with Feng Qing Yang. However, Meng Luo did not reply to Meng Chuan's message as well.

'Lord Heavenly Emperor and my elder brother didn't reply to my messages. It seems like they're busy or in a place where they couldn't receive the messages.'

Meng Chuan shook his head as he said, "Duan Ling Tian, even my elder brother who's with Lord Heavenly Emperor didn't reply to my message. They must be busy or they didn't receive my messages. How about this? Why don't I follow you back to the Heavenly Pool Palace?"

Duan Ling Tian had been disappointed when he heard Feng Qing Yang was absent. He grew even more disappointed when there was no reply from both Feng Qing Yang and Meng Luo. However, his eyes lit up when he heard Meng Chuan's words. He asked tentatively, "Senior Meng Chuan... Are you serious?"

"I, the Jade Bow Celestial Emperor, am a man of my word," Meng Chuan said with a faint smile, "Since you're our Lord Heavenly Emperor's successor in the mundane realm, you can be considered as half his disciple. Since we don't know when Lord Heavenly Emperor will return, I'll follow you back to the Heavenly Pool Palace since I can tell the matter is urgent."

"Thank you, Senior Meng Chuan," Duan Ling Tian expressed his gratitude.

Meng Hao Xuan was also delighted that Meng Chuan was willing to help Duan Ling Tian. After all, one of the people Duan Ling Tian wanted to rescue was his Eldest Senior Brother.

...

Duan Ling Tian had arrived at the Solitary Destructive Heaven alone, but he left with another person.

During their journey, Duan Ling Tian recalled something and asked, "Senior Meng Chuan, is it possible for you to get the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace to release them without revealing my identity?"

Initially, Duan Ling Tian planned to meet the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace with Meng Chuan. However, after giving it some thought, he thought it was not necessary to reveal his identity if Meng Chuan could get the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace to agree to release Huan'er's parents for the sake of Feng Qing Yang. After all, if his identity was revealed, there was no doubt his relationships with Xu Lang and his seniors would be estranged. If his identity was not revealed, he would still be able to maintain a good relationship with Xu Lang and seniors even if he had to leave eventually.

"That's not a problem," Meng Chuan said without any hesitation. He did not care about the reasons Duan Ling Tian wanted to conceal his involvement in the matter. He only cared that Duan Ling Tian was possibly the successor that Feng Qing Yang had mentioned to his elder brother in the past. Even if Duan Ling Tian was not the successor whom Feng Qing Yang had mentioned, Duan Ling Tian was still someone who comprehended and mastered Feng Qing Yang's Sovereign Heart Sword. Even Feng Qing Yang's two nominal disciples did not comprehend or master the Sovereign Heart Sword.

When they were about to arrive at the Heavenly Pool Palace, Duan Ling Tian exchanged Soul Pearls with Meng Chuan.

At this moment, a voice suddenly rang in the air.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

Soon after, a figure appeared near Duan Ling Tian and Meng Chuan. It was an old man.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian saw the old man, he exclaimed in surprise, "Dugu Wu?"

The old man was none other than Dugu Wu, the Indestructible Celestial Emperor. He was one of the two titled Celestial Emperors who was hired to assassinate Duan Ling Tian. His brother, Dugu Wen, the Hundred Variant Celestial Emperor, was killed by Duan Ling Tian during their assassination attempt.

Duan Ling Tian did not expect to meet Dugu Wu at all. 'It's obvious Dugu Wu has been waiting for me here for a long time. How did he know I left the Heavenly Pool Palace's estate?'

It did not take long before the answer came to Duan Ling Tian. His eyes glinted coldly as he thought to himself, 'Lei Jun!'

Apart from Lei Jun, he could not think of anyone who would constantly keep a close watch on him and waited for him to leave the Heavenly Pool Palace. Moreover, Lei Jun was the one who had gotten Dugu Wu involved by hiring him and his brother to assassinate him.

"Senior Meng Chuan." Duan Ling Tian wasted no time in sending Meng Chuan a Voice Transmission. "This old man is a titled Celestial Emperor. His name is Dugu Wu, and he's known as the Indestructible Celestial Emperor. He's an assassin in the Boundless Heaven, and he was previously hired to kill me."

Meng Chuan's eyes flashed coldly upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words. A sword appeared in his hand as he stepped forward. In just a second, his formidable aura permeated the entire place. At the same time, countless energy swords appeared around him.

"His aura..." Duan Ling Tian was taken aback when he sensed Meng Chuan's aura. It was as though Meng Chuan had turned into a different person. With this, he also realized he had underestimated Meng Chuan's strength. Although he was not wrong when he assumed Meng Chuan was weaker than You Feng Yu, the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace, he was wrong in his assumptions that Meng Chuan's strength was on par with the Profound Heaven Celestial Emperor. In fact, Meng Chuan was stronger than the Profound Heaven Celestial Emperor and only slightly weaker than You Feng Yu.

"Who are you?" Dugu Wu's eyes narrowed when he saw Meng Chuan stepping forward with an Emperor Grade Celestial Sword in hand to protect Duan Ling Tian.

"Someone who'll stop you from killing him," Meng Chuan replied indifferently.

Dugu Wu's expression turned unsightly as he said coldly, "Heed my advice and stay out of this matter. Duan Ling Tian killed my brother, and I'll kill him today to avenge my brother!"

"We'll see if you're capable of that." As soon as Meng Chuan finished speaking, blue energy surged from his body and shrouded him. Based on this, it was obvious he had comprehended the law of water. When the energy swords were boosted by the law of water, they turned turquoise under the sun. In just a moment, the dazzling bow-like energy swords shot out.

Duan Ling Tian finally understood Meng Chuan's title, the Jade Bow Celestial Emperor. When he had first heard Meng Chuan's title, he thought it was more suited for a moment. However, at this moment, he thought this title suited Meng Chuan perfectly.

Chapter 3323: Mixed Elemental Sword

"So you insist on interfering in this matter?" Dugu Wu's expression turned even more unsightly when he saw Meng Chuan preparing to fight. He was certain Duan Ling Tian had told Meng Chuan he was a titled Celestial Emperor, and yet, Meng Chuan was undeterred. Based on this, he knew his opponent had to be a titled Celestial Emperor as well.

This made Dugu Wu reconsider his plan for a moment. Put Meng Chuan aside, Duan Ling Tian was likely not any weaker than a titled Celestial Emperor. Otherwise, how could Duan Ling Tian kill his brother, Dugu Wen? Moreover, Dugu Wen, the Hundred Variant Celestial Emperor, was not weak. Even if Duan Ling Tian used tricks or other means to kill Dugu Wen, there was no doubt Duan Ling Tian was not simple.

At this moment, Meng Chuan scoffed. Following that, he swept toward Dugu Wu like a tide of waves as tens of thousands of turquoise energy swords shot out as well.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Meng Chuan's aura was so domineering that Dugu Wu's expression changed immediately. He could tell Meng Chuan's strength was at least on par with his. Not only did Meng Chuan manage to fuse three profundities from the law of water, but Meng Chuan had also fused two other profundities from the law of water. With the two fusion profundities and individual profundities, Meng Chuan was on par with him.

"Senior, if you don't intervene in my conflict with Duan Ling Tian, I promise I'll owe you a favor!" Dugu Wu said. His heart sank when he discovered Meng Chuan's strength. He had assumed Meng Chuan was weaker than him earlier. At this moment, killing Duan Ling Tian had become his second priority. The most important thing was to leave unharmed. After all, even if he did not kill Duan Ling Tian now, he was not certain Meng Chuan would let him go.

Swoosh!

As soon as Dugu Wu's words fell, Duan Ling Tian teleported and appeared behind Dugu Wu. In just a second, he released the two Ning Dragons in his Little Word. He had spoken to the World Cleansing Divine Water earlier and requested it to ask the Ning Dragons to attack as soon as they were released.

The Ning Dragons roared and jointly attacked Dugu Wu as soon as they appeared.

Swoosh!

A terrifying energy that caused the void to quake in its wake shot toward Dugu Wu's back. This joint attack by the Ning Dragons was not weaker than that of an ordinary titled Celestial Emperor.

Dugu Wu narrowed his eyes and instantly reverted to a towering bamboo tree in just an instant to defend against the Ning Dragons and Meng Chuan's frontal and back attacks respectively.

Boom!

A loud noise rang in the air as the towering green bamboo rooted itself in the ground, sitting up dust. The earth quaked violently at the same time.

"So this is the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo?" Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow as he looked at Dugu Wu's original form.

"A Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo?" Meng Chuan said in an even tone, "I've heard that the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboos' defenses are almost indestructible. Let me see if that's true!"

Meng Chuan's body flickered as he shot out again with his sword in hand. At the same, the turquoise energy swords he manifested fell like torrential rain.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

At this time, the surging waves beneath Meng Chuan's feet and the Ning Dragon's joint attack landed on the towering bamboo. It swayed and bent low as it got caught in the two attacks. At one point, it was bent so far back that it seemed like it was going to snap into two. However, green energy surged out at the critical moment and seemed to boost its strength.

Following that, the energy swords fell on the bamboo. The force was so strong and terrifying when the energy swords landed on the bamboo that it seemed capable of eliminating everything that stood in its way.

After the dust settled, Duan Ling Tian saw the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo remained unharmed.

Dugu Wu's confident voice rang from within the bamboo. "Senior, if we fight, it'd only end in a tie. Even if you and Duan Ling Tian work together, it'll still be difficult for you to kill me due to my original form."

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes when he heard Dugu Wu's words. He had been shocked when he saw how sturdy the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo was. 'No wonder he dares to use the title Indestructible Celestial Emperor. It's indeed a fitting title...'

Duan Ling Tian's eyes shone with killing intent. He knew this was the best chance for him to kill Dugu Wu. With Meng Chuan around, he was confident both of them would be able to kill Dugu Wu. However, that was only if he used the Five Divine Elements' strength. How could he risk exposing the existence of the Five Divine Elements in his body?

Although Meng Chuan was a member of the Heavenly Emperor's force in the Solitary Destructive Heaven and he had been nothing but nice to Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian was not sure if Meng Chuan would covet the Five Divine Elements. Therefore, to err on the side of caution, he decided not to take the risk.

"You think I can kill you?" Meng Chuan looked at the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo from afar. As his robes fluttered in the air, he said with a faint smile, "Take this!"

The blue energy suddenly surged and formed a seemingly translucent humanoid figure around Meng Chuan.

Meanwhile, Meng Chuan wielded the sword with both hands and pointed the tip at the sky. In the next moment, a turquoise energy sword shot out of the Emperor Grade Celestial Sword and shot into the sky.

The gigantic figure followed suit after a sword formed in its hand. Similar to Meng Chuan, a turquoise energy sword ray shot out as well.

"Our Lord Heavenly Emperor taught me a method to merge two techniques from a fused Profundity. It's called the Mixed Elemental Sword... Let's see if the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo will remain indestructible faced with my Mixed Elemental Sword!" Meng Chuan said nonchalantly as he brandished his swords.

Swoosh!

Following that, the giant figure's sword imitated Meng Chuan's move.

"The Mixed Elemental Sword?!" Dugu Wu's expression changed drastically when he heard Meng Chuan's words. He exclaimed in shock, "Y-you're from the Heavenly Emperor's force in the Solitary Destructive Heaven?"

The Mixed Elemental Sword was a technique created by Feng Qing Yang, the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven. It drew on the strength of fused profundities and was incredibly effective in taking down strong defenses. It could even take down the defenses of an opponent who was stronger, let alone Dugu Wu whose strength was on par with Meng Chuan's strength.

This was a perfect situation for the Mixed Elemental Sword to display its power.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

At this moment, the turquoise energy sword landed on the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo despite the bamboo's attempt to avoid the attack. It was cleanly cleaved into two from the top to the bottom.

As soon as the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo was cleaved into two, the ground where the bamboo was rooted suddenly split open and formed a wide chasm.

"Trying to recover?" Meng Chuan said contemptuously when he saw the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo trying to heal itself.

At the same time, blue energy exploded around the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo, reducing it to ashes.

"No!" Dugu Wu's cry of despair rang loudly in the air.

"It seems like the Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo's defenses are just average," Meng Chuan said nonchalantly as he put his sword away.

At the same time, the translucent humanoid figure and its sword vanished as well.

"So powerful!" Duan Ling Tian thought he would need to borrow the Ning Dragons and the Five Divine Elements' strength to kill Dugu Wu even if he worked together with Meng Chuan. He did not expect Meng Chuan to kill Dugu Wu so easily with just a strike from the Mixed Elemental Sword. The Mixed Elemental Sword's offensive power was weaker than the offensive power of Meng Chuan's previous attacks. However, the Mixed Elemental Sword specialized in destroying defenses.

"The Mixed Elemental Sword?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened as his heart raced in his chest. "Senior Feng Qing Yang created this technique?"

Chapter 3324: I Can't Wait That Long

'Even those titled Celestial Emperors on the third floor of the Thousand Chains Prison whom the Heavenly Pool Palace can't kill due to their high defenses won't be able to do anything faced with the Mixed Elemental Sword!' Duan Ling Tian mused inwardly.

"You can summon Ning Dragons?" Meng Chuan had been surprised earlier when he saw Duan Ling Tian summoning the two Ning Dragons. Initially, he had been confused when he saw Duan Ling Tian teleporting behind Dugu Wu. After all, he did not think Duan Ling Tian was strong enough to hurt, let alone kill, Dugu Wu. It was when he sensed the power of the joint attack from the Ning Dragons that was comparable to that of an ordinary titled Celestial Emperor that he realized he had underestimated Duan Ling Tian.

'It seems like Lord Heavenly Emperor's successor isn't simple,' Meng Chuan thought to himself, 'As expected of someone who inherited Lord Heavenly Emperor's legacy in the mundane realm. Moreover, his Ning Dragons even know how to combine their strength...'

Meng Chuan looked at Duan Ling Tian curiously. "The Tenacious Heavenly Bamboo is very sturdy. Without the Mixed Elemental Sword taught by Lord Heavenly Emperor, we couldn't have taken him down even if both of us joined forces with your Ning Dragons. How did you provoke this titled Celestial Emperor? His ability is above average among second-tier titled Celestial Emperors..."

In the Devata Realms, titled Celestial Emperors were divided into three tiers according to their strength. Meng Chuan was a second-tier titled Celestial Emperor while his eldest brother, Meng Luo, the Heavenly Savage Celestial Emperor, was among first-tier titled Celestial Emperors.

"In fact, we had no enmity between us initially," Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, "Like I told you earlier, he was an assassin. Someone in the Heavenly Pool Palace hired him and his brother to assassinate me. During the assassination attempt, I managed to kill his brother so he was even more determined to kill to avenge his brother. Someone must have told him that I left the Heavenly Pool Palace's estate, and he must have been waiting here ever since."

'Lei Jun...' If it were not for the fact that he had to rescue Huan'er's parents, he would have looked for Lei Jun to settle the scores immediately.

"It's best to kill the one behind this matter as soon as possible," Meng Chuan said, "Those who deal with you directly aren't dangerous. It's those that lurk in the dark, waiting for a chance to strike you like a venomous snake, who are dangerous."

Duan Ling Tian nodded. His eyes glinted coldly. "Don't worry. His days are numbered." After that, he said, "Senior Meng Chuan, we'll part ways here. I'll return to my cultivation ground while you meet the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace."

. . .

As Duan Ling Tian made his way back to Xu Lang's cultivation place, he could not help but sigh in relief. Based on the current situation, it seemed like there was no need to resort to force to free Huan'er's parents.

'The Palace Master should acquiesce to releasing Huan'er's parents, right? Senior Meng Chuan is powerful. Most importantly, he's a titled Celestial Emperor in the Heavenly Emperor's force in the Solitary Destructive Realm. Since Senior Meng Chuan is representing Senior Feng Qing Yang to ask for Huan'er's parents' release, there shouldn't be a problem. With Senior Feng Qing Yang's status, strength, and reputation, I don't think the Palace Master will refuse Senior Meng Chuan...'

With these thoughts in mind, Duan Ling Tian managed to calm down. If it was possible, he really did not want to have any conflict with Xu Lang and his seniors. All of them treated him sincerely after all and made him feel at home.

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at his cultivation ground, he decided to cultivate while he waited for news from Meng Chuan. However, he found that he could not focus at all. In the end, he could only wait as the time passed...

...

After two hours, Duan Ling Tian finally heard from Meng Chuan.

"I've met with the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace Master and spoke to him about this matter. However, he refused to oblige unless Lord Heavenly Emperor personally attends to this matter. Based on his behavior, it seems like even if my elder brother is here, he'd still refuse us...'

Duan Ling Tian could sense the anger in Meng Chuan's voice when he listened to the message.

Even when the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace refused Meng Chuan, Meng Chuan did not bring up Duan Ling Tian's name. After all, Duan Ling Tian had only obtained Feng Qing Yang's legacy in the mundane realm. Without an official acknowledgment from Feng Qing Yang, Duan Ling Tian had no official connection to Feng Qing Yang at all. It was useless even if Meng Chuan brought up Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, it seems like we can only wait for Lord Heavenly Emperor's return. I'll convey your message to him," Meng Chuan said to Duan Ling Tian. There was nothing he could do now. Based on his understanding of Feng Qing Yang, he was certain Feng Qing Yang would help Duan Ling Tian since Duan Ling Tian was the person who inherited his legacy in the mundane realm. He knew Feng Qing Yang was someone who believed in fate.

"Wait for Senior Feng Qing Yang?" Duan Ling Tian's heart sank when he heard Meng Chuan's words. He had been surprised when Meng Chuan agreed to help him. He was not sure Feng Qing Yang, who was now the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, would be willing to help him. Moreover, no one knew Feng Qing Yang's whereabouts, and Meng Chuang was unable to contact him. How long would it be before Feng Qing Yang returned? 100 years? 1,000 years?

After taking a deep breath, Duan Ling Tian asked, "Senior Meng Chuan... In your opinion, how long will it take before we hear from Senior Feng Qing Yang?"

"It's hard to tell," Meng Chuan replied, "It could be today, tomorrow, or even 100 years. There's even a chance we have to wait 1,000 years..."

Meng Chuan had learned from his elder brother, Meng Luo, that Meng Luo and Feng Qing Yang had gone to the Asura Hell, one of the seven deadliest places in all Devata Realms. It was difficult to communicate with the duo since they were in the Asura Hell.

"That's too long... I can't wait for that long," Duan Ling Tian said with a bitter smile on his face.

Soon after, a thought suddenly appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind. His eyes shone with determination as he asked, "Senior. If I plan to rescue them by force, can you help me fend off some of the titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Pool Palace? I have at least six other titled Celestial Emperors who have comprehended the law of earth to help me fend off the titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Pool Palace as well. However, the number isn't enough since the Heavenly Pool Palace has nine titled Celestial Emperors."

After a brief pause, Meng Chuan said, "Although You Feng Yu is slightly stronger than I am, I'll be able to delay him for a while. However, I can only deal with him alone. The six titled Celestial Emperors you mentioned are unlikely to be able to hold up against the remaining eight titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Pool Palace. I can ask the titled Celestial Emperors in the Solitary Destructive Heaven's Heavenly Palace if they're willing to help us, but it's unlikely that they'll agree since they'll be risking their lives. I'm different from them in that sense. If I were just a titled Celestial Emperor from the Heavenly Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven like them, You Feng Yu would not hesitate to kill me if he were given the chance. However, because Meng Luo, the Heavenly Savage Celestial Emperor, who's the right-hand man of our Lord Heavenly Emperor is my elder brother, You Feng Yu won't dare to kill me..."

Duan Ling Tian realized Meng Chuan was able to help him because Meng Chuan knew You Feng Yu would not dare to kill him. However, the most Meng Chuan could do was stall You Feng Yu. There were still eight titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Pool Palace that he had to deal with, and the six imprisoned titled Celestial Emperors would not be enough to deal with them.

Similar to Meng Chuan, Duan Ling Tian did not think the titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Palace of the Solitary Destructive Heaven would help him since they would risk deaths. Even if You Feng Yu could not kill them, they risked incurring the wrath of the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven. The Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven was You Feng Yu's maternal grandfather after all.

Meng Chuan was relatively safe since his elder brother was highly valued by Feng Qing Yang. If Meng Chuan died, it was highly likely that Feng Qing Yang would disregard diplomatic relations with the Boundless Heaven to avenge his trusted subordinate's brother.

"To succeed, we need at least one or two more titled Celestial Emperors to help us... Unless not all eight titled Celestial Emperors are present in the Heavenly Pool Palace when we make a move," Meng Chuan said. Although he had a few close friends who were also titled Celestial Emperors and were likely to help him out, he did not want them to risk dying because of him. They were his friends after all. Moreover, if his friends died, he was not even sure Feng Qing Yang would avenge them. Apart from that, he was not even certain if Duan Ling Tian was the successor whom Feng Qing Yang had been searching for after he returned from the Asura Hell; he could not risk the lives of his friends over an uncertain matter.

Meng Chuan thought to himself, 'If I can confirm he's the person Lord Heavenly Emperor has been searching for, all the titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Palace would probably volunteer to help. At that time, there's no need for us to be afraid even if the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven were present.'

"Another one or two titled Celestial Emperors?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. Where was he supposed to look for titled Celestial Emperors?

'Zhuge Feng? Zhuge Yun? No, although they're strong, they can only kill ordinary titled Celestial Emperors if they join forces. They won't be a match for any of the stronger Heavenly Pool Palace's titled Celestial Emperors.' Duan Ling Tian thought about the leaders of the Gan Jiang Progeny and the Mo Xie Progeny and the Ning Dragons, 'Similarly, the Ning Dragons' joint attack is only enough to deal with the weakest titled Celestial Emperor in the Heavenly Pool Palace. Moreover, there's a possibility that

teacher might not even bother with the other titled Celestial Emperors and come after me instead. After all, I'm his student. Freeing the prisoners is no different from betraying the Heavenly Pool Palace...'

Chapter 3325: The Grand Elder of the Dragon Clan

'What should I do? I don't have enough people on my side, and I don't know when Senior Feng Qing Yang will receive Senior Meng Chuan's message. Even if he received it, he might not help me. I can't wait any longer. Huan'er's mother is being tortured every once in a while; as a result, her father is suffering as well. Huan'er's still waiting for me in the Saint Province Realm, and she'd told me not to take the risk if I'm not confident. Otherwise, she'd take her life. Must I disappoint her then?'

Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply. He racked his brain for a solution. After 15 minutes, his eyes glinted like the stars in the night sky. "It seems like I'm only left with this choice!"

Following that, Duan Ling Tian hurriedly sent a message to Meng Chuan. "Senior, is it possible for you to stay near the Heavenly Pool Palace's estate for a period of time? I hope you'll be able to help me stall Palace Master You in half a year's time."

"I wouldn't have asked this of you if I weren't confident," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"Alright. I won't leave the Boundless Heaven for now, and I'll wait for you near the Heavenly Pool Palace's estate for half a year," Meng Chuan responded without hesitation. This was because he thought it was likely that Feng Qing Yang would accept Duan Ling Tian as his direct disciple. After all, from what he knew, Feng Qing Yang did not leave many legacies in both the mundane realm and the Devata Realm. Apart from that, there was a chance that Duan Ling Tian was the successor that Feng Qing Yang had been searching for. If Duan Ling Tian was indeed the person Feng Qing Yang was looking for, it would be beneficial to have Duan Ling Tian owe him a favor. Moreover, he would not suffer any loss by agreeing to help Duan Ling Tian. After all, he knew You Feng Yu would not dare to kill him even if he was not a match for You Feng Yu. Even if the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven was present, he still would not dare to recklessly kill him.

...

In the Ten Thousand Beasts Heaven.

The Ten Thousand Beasts Heaven was mostly inhabited by Celestial Beasts. The dragon clan and the Blood Dragon clan were both heaven-grade forces in the Ten Thousand Beasts Heaven.

The Blood Moon Ridge was also one of the heaven-grade forces in the Ten Thousand Beasts Heaven. It was located in a remote area in the Ten Thousand Beast Heaven where it was shrouded in a blood mist all year round. At night, the sky here was illuminated by a blood-red moon. From this, one could easily guess how the name came to be.

At this moment, a pretty golden-clad young woman with a mischievous glint in her eyes looked at a grey-clad old man and asked excitedly, "Elder Jiu, are you sure this information is true?"

"Little Gold, why are you doubting my words? Little girl, I'm in charge of the Blood Moon Ridge's intelligence network; how's it possible that my information is wrong?" The old man shook his head helplessly and said helplessly, "The information is 100% true. Everybody in the Jade Emperor Heaven's

Nan Dou Territory has heard of Duan Ling Tian. He's always dressed in purple and very handsome. I even obtained a portrait of him. Take a look! Is he the person you're looking for?"

The grey-clad old man raised his hand and handed a scroll to the golden-clad young woman.

The young man in the portrait was handsome and had an extraordinary bearing.

Although the portrait was crudely drawn, the golden-clad young woman recognized the person in the portrait immediately!

"I-it's true... It's Brother Ling Tian! It's Brother Ling Tian! I finally found Brother Ling Tian! Little Black and Little White are really unreliable! In the end, I'm the one who found Brother Ling Tian." The golden-clad young woman laughed happily.

Meanwhile, the old man only shook his head when he saw the young woman's reaction. He did not understand why their Grand Elder was so fond of this crazy girl that he even adopted her as his foster daughter. Was it really just because they were both Jade-eyed Heavenly Mice?

On the other hand, after the young woman regained her senses, she hurriedly sent a message to her friends in the dragon clan. "Little Black! Little White! I have news of Brother Ling Tian!"

...

When a black-clad young man and a white-clad young woman in the dragon clan received the golden-clad young woman's messages, they instantly left their respective cultivation ground to meet each other.

"Little Gold said she has news of Brother Ling Tian and told me to meet her at the Blood Moon Ridge."

"I received the same message as well," the cold and aloof black-clad young man replied. There was a hint of warmth of tenderness in his eyes when he looked at the white-clad young woman. After a moment, he said, "You should inform the Fourth Elder about this. She'll understand since she knows of our relationship with Brother Ling Tian."

The white-clad young woman nodded. She did not waste time and left in the direction of a mountain peak in a corner of the dragon clan's estate.

...

After some time had passed, the black-clad young man was surprised when he saw the white-clad young woman returning with an extra person.

It was a beautiful woman dressed in a white robe. She was none other than Ji Ning Yun, the Fourth Elder of the dragon clan.

"Fourth Elder." The black-clad young man bowed immediately when he saw the beautiful woman.

"Little Black, I heard that you've received news about your Brother Ling Tian... Are both of you prepared to meet him?" Ji Ning Yun asked with a faint smile on her face.

"Yes." Little Black nodded.

"I have plenty of time on my hands recently... I'll follow you and Little White if you don't mind. I'd like to meet the human both of you think so highly of. I can treat this trip like a vacation as well..." Ji Ning Yun said with a smile.

Little White nodded and chimed in, "That's right. Little Black, we won't need to be afraid of encountering humans with bad intentions if Aunt Yun comes with us!" Although Ji Ning Yun was her master, she preferred to address Ji Ning Yun as Aunt Yun since it sounded more affectionate.

Little White and Little Black were Nine-clawed Divine Dragons. Every part of their bodies was valuable and had its own uses. If their identities were discovered, those with bad intentions might kill them.

Little Black nodded. He knew it was useless for him to refuse since Ji Ning Yun would not let them go alone because she was concerned about their safety.

"That old man hasn't left the dragon clan in years as well. This is a good opportunity for us to take him out for a trip," Ji Ning Yun said with a smile.

Little Black and Little White were taken aback when they heard these words. They, naturally, knew the 'old man' that Ji Ning Yun mentioned. He was the Grand Elder of the dragon clan. His strength was ranked in the top three among the 16 titled Celestial Emperors in the dragon clan.

Soon after, before Little Black and Little White regained their senses, a tall and muscular middle-aged man dressed in a dark golden long robe appeared next to Ji Ning Yun, seemingly out of thin air. His facial features were sharp, and he had a pair of thick eyebrows. Apart from that, he carried a dignified air about him. When he looked at Ji Ning Yun, a rare smile appeared on his face as he asked, "Ning Yun, what's the matter?"

"Little White, Little Black, and their friend from the Blood Moon Ridge are going to the Jade Emperor Heaven. I'll be joining them as well. Since you have time recently, why don't you join us as well," Ji Ning Yun said.

"Alright."

Ji Yu Nian, the Grand Elder of the dragon clan, was a rather famous figure in the Thousand Beasts Heaven.

"Grand Elder." Little White and Little Black bowed in unison. The Grand Elder's status in the Dragon Clan was comparable to the clan leader.

"Let's go." Ji Yu Nian nodded as he looked at Little Black and Little White. With a wave of his hand, Ji Ning Yun, Little White, Little Black, and he vanished into thin air. He had cast the law of space's Teleportation Profundity. As it turned out, he had mastered the law of space, one of the Four Supreme Laws.

...

In the Blood Moon Ridge.

Little Gold was shocked when she saw Ji Yu Nian, the Grand Elder of the dragon clan. She said to Little Black and Little White through Voice Transmission, "Little Black, Little White, both of you are really amazing! The Grand Elder of the dragon clan even came just protect both of you!"

Little Black ignored Little Gold while Little While replied, "Little Gold, it's Aunt Yun who invited the Grand Elder to join us."

"The old man has been worrying about my safety. Now that the Grand Elder of the dragon clan is accompanying us, he must feel relieved!"

Little Gold laughed as she led the group of people to the Blood Moon Ridge's Devata Realm Transportation Formation.

In just a moment, they arrived at the Jade Emperor Heaven's Nan Dou Territory. They did not waste time and immediately made their way to the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect.

"Based on the information, Brother Ling Tian has joined the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect and became a disciple of the Gan Jiang Progeny," Little Gold said when they arrived at the entrance of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect's estate.

The Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect's estate was heavily guarded. Ji Yu Nian did not barge in even though he was capable of doing so. It was impolite after all. Moreover, they were here for a friendly visit, not to start a war.

"This Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect is only a mere grade-one force but their Sect Guarding Formations are so powerful," Little White said with a sigh.

"Little White, although the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect is just a grade-one force, its strength is comparable to heaven-grade forces... In the past, they were a heaven-grade force," Ji Ningyun explained with a smile, "The Sect Guarding Formations in the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect is comparable to our Dragon Clan's Sect Guarding Formations."

"They used to be a heaven-grade force? That makes sense." Little White nodded.

"Moreover, although they're only a grade-one force now, it's said that they have a Celestial Emperor who's comparable to a titled Celestial Emperor... Apart from that, it's also said that the combined strength of the leaders of the Gan Jiang Progeny and the Mo Xie Progeny is capable of killing ordinary titled Celestials." Based on Ji Ning Yun's explanation, it was clear she had some knowledge of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect.

Chapter 3326: Entering the Thousand Chains Prison Again

At the entrance of Thousand Chains Prison.

'This day has finally come...' Duan Ling Tian hovered in the air as he looked at the Thousand Chains Prison's entrance coldly.

Previously, he had made a few preparations. For example, he had arranged for a Voice Transmission in his voice to be sent after he entered the prison to Xu Lang, his teacher, and Sun Xing. His Voice Transmissions informed them of a place that had traces of a Divine Element and that he was on the way there.

Duan Ling Tian was certain Xu Lang would not doubt the veracity of the Voice Transmission. As for Sun Xing, he was certain Sun Xing would not doubt his words either. At that time, Sun Xing would definitely inform his master, the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor. With this, the trio would definitely leave the Heavenly Pool Palace to head to the place he mentioned in the Voice Transmission.

With Xu Lang and the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor's speed, it would take them ten days for a round trip. By the time the two titled Celestial Emperors returned after discovering they had been lied to, he should have already rescued Huan'er's parents.

'Teacher, Senior Brother Sun Xing, although I don't have any malicious intentions, there's no doubt that I'm still tricking both of you. If there's a chance in the future, I'll definitely apologize and make it up to both of you.' Duan Ling Tian sighed inwardly as he flew toward the Thousand Chains Prison.

Once Duan Ling Tian entered the Thousand Chains Prison, he would be completely cut off from the outside world. Therefore, before he entered the prison, he brought out two Communication Talismans.

Duan Ling Tian used one to send a message to Meng Chuan, the Jade Bow Celestial Emperor. "Senior Meng Chuan, once I free the others and leave the prison, I'll contact you immediately. At that time, I'll have to rely on you!"

"Alright." Meng Chuan's reply was short and direct.

Following that, Duan Ling Tian sent another message using the second Communication Talisman. "I'm about to enter the Thousand Chains Prison. Imitate my voice and send it to the two owners of the Soul Pearls that I gave you in an hour. Make sure you imitate me properly. Don't screw it up!"

The second person was a voice-imitation expert whom Duan Ling Tian found. In order to get the person to help him, he had used a lot of Royal Grade Celestial Crystals.

"Don't worry, my lord. I'll make sure to complete this mission without any problem."

After he received this reply, Duan Ling Tian walked up to the entrance of the Thousand Chains Prison and showed his warden token. After entering the prison, he made his way to the Internal Affairs Pavilion immediately.

• • •

In a small town not far from the Heavenly Pool Palace's estate, a black-clad young man who looked like a ruffian walked out of a restaurant, whistling happily. Although he could not be considered handsome, his appearance was quite pleasing to the eyes. At this moment, he mumbled to himself with a smile on his face, "As it turns out, I'll be able to earn so many Celestial Crystals just by imitating someone's voice! Perhaps, I should consider developing into a business in the future..."

All of a sudden...

"There!"

"It's him! Li Yu Jie!"

"As it turns out, he's right under our nose! We finally found him. I didn't expect him to hide in this small town!"

Upon hearing these voices, the young man's expression changed drastically. After all, the person they mentioned, Li Yu Jie, was him!

'How did they find me here?' Li Yu Jie did not have to look to guess the identities of the people behind him. In just a second, Celestial Origin Energy surged out of his body as he took off at the speed of lightning.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Alas, although Li Yu Jie's speed was not slow, his pursuers' speed was faster than his. It did not take long before a few men appeared in front of him, blocking his path. A few of them stood behind him to prevent him from escaping in the other direction.

These men watched Li Yu Jie like a tiger watching its prey.

"Gentlemen, I..." Li Yu Jie said with a gloomy expression on his face. He had to think of a way to talk himself out of this.

Alas, before Li Yu Jie could even finish his words, the leader of the group interjected, "Kill!"

The men charged at Li Yu Jie immediately. In just a blink of an eye, they killed him.

After Li Yu Jie's death, the leader, a middle-aged man, claimed ownership of Li Yu Jie's Spatial Ring. After checking its content, he nodded slightly. "It's here..."

Following that, the middle-aged man threw away the dozen or so Soul Pearls in Li Yu Jie's Spatial Ring. After all, the Soul Pearls were of no use to him. Two of the Soul Pearls belonged to Xu Lang and Sun Xing, which Duan Ling Tian had given Li Yu Jie two days ago.

After a moment, the middle-aged man said, "Let's go."

...

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was, naturally, unaware that the person he had hired to imitate his voice had already died. This meant that his plan to lure Xu Lang and the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor away had failed.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was with five others who were on duty in the Thousand Chains Prison.

Including Duan Ling Tian, there were four prodigious disciples and two elders from the Thousand Chains Prison who were in charge of patrolling the Thousand Chains Prison.

Duan Ling Tian was acquainted with one of the elders. It was none other than Elder Xie who had shown him and Huan'er around the prison during their first visit.

"Duan Ling Tian, how come you're here alone? Where's Miss Huan'er?" Elder Xie asked curiously when he saw Duan Ling Tian was alone. Based on what he knew, the white-clad woman almost never left Duan Ling Tian's side.

"She's close to a breakthrough so she didn't come," Duan Ling Tian replied with a smile on his face.

Elder Xie did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's words and nodded faintly in response before he introduced the elder next to him. "Duan Ling Tian, this is Elder Hong. Elder Hong, this is Duan Ling Tian. He's the prodigious disciple who's become famous in our Heavenly Pool Palace recently."

While Duan Ling Tian and Elder Hong greeted each other, one of the prodigious disciples frowned deeply as he thought to himself. 'Junior Sister Huan'er isn't here?'

The prodigious disciple was none other than Lei Jun, the only son of Lei Ying, the Merciless Celestial Emperor.

When Duan Ling Tian had seen Lei Jun earlier, he had been rather surprised. After all, Lei Jun did not comprehend the law of death as far as he knew. However, seeing Lei Jun here, he knew Lei Jun must have found out about his and Huan'er's visit to the Thousand Chains Prison previously. It was not difficult to guess that Lei Jun had come for Huan'er.

'He sure is persistent.' Duan Ling Tian sneered inwardly. At the same time, he wondered how he could get paired with Lei Jun when he had to patrol the third floor. When he released the six titled Celestial Emperors, he could seize the opportunity to deal with Lei Jun as well. With how chaotic it would be at that time, it would be easy for him to kill Lei Jun.

Alas, to Duan Ling Tian's disappointment, things did not develop in the direction he hoped for. When he revealed his intention to be paired with Lei Jun, Lei Jun refused him immediately.

Lei Jun said righteously, "It's my first time here so I'm not familiar with how things work here. It's best for me to be paired with one of the elders. If I'm not mistaken, it's your first time here as well, right? I advise you to follow an elder as well..."

"Duan Ling Tian, why don't you come with me?" Elder Xie said when he heard Lei Jun's words.

Seeing that Lei Jun had refused him, Duan Ling Tian did not insist. He glanced at the other two prodigious disciples before he nodded in Elder Xie's direction.

After everyone had paired up, Duan Ling Tian asked with a faint smile on his face, "Elder Xie, can we choose the floor we want to be assigned to? I feel like I'm close to a breakthrough recently so I hope that I'd be able to choose a floor that has left work."

Although Duan Ling Tian did not directly state the floor he wanted to be assigned to, everyone knew he was referring to the third floor.

Elder Xie replied helpfully, "The Internal Affairs Pavilion will assign the floors to us. However, we can work it out among ourselves and switch floors if no one has any objections. I don't mind going to the third floor with you first if the other four have no issue with it."

"I've no issue with that." Elder Hong agreed immediately. Put aside that Duan Ling Tian was a prodigious disciple who had recently rose to fame in the Heavenly Pool Palace, Duan Ling Tian was the little junior brother of Head Warden Xu. How could he refuse Duan Ling Tian's simple request?

As for the other two prodigy disciples, they did not object either. After all, even among the prodigious disciples, Duan Ling Tian was extraordinarily talented. In their opinion, it was not a bad thing to build a good relationship with him.

As for Lei Jun, despite hating Duan Ling Tian, he did not think it was a big deal as well. Therefore, he did not object to it either.

With this, it was decided that Duan Ling Tian and Elder Xie would patrol the third floor first.

As Duan Ling Tian and Elder Xie made their way to the prison area to assume their posts, Duan Ling Tian said to the World Cleansing Divine Water in his Little World, "Sister Water, I'm about to head to the third floor. Once I'm there, I'll look for an opportunity to free the six titled Celestial Emperors."

The World Cleansing Divine Water replied, "Alright. Let me know when you arrive. At that time, I'll teach you how to break the formations in the prison and the square. Otherwise, you won't be able to break the formations at all with your strength. Even among those six titled Celestial Emperors, at least three or four of them would have to work together to break the formations..."

Chapter 3327: Arrangements

To go to the third floor, one, naturally, had to go through the second floor. Hence, Duan Ling Tian once again passed by the cells where Huan'er's parents were held. Du Xuan, Huan'er's mother, was still unconscious. The injuries on her body were different from last time, making it clear that she had suffered another round of torture. Upon seeing this, his eyes glinted coldly and his expression turned grim.

While Duan Ling Tian was passing by the cell where Huan'er's father, Lian Qiu, was held, he sent a Voice Transmission to Lian Qiu. "Senior."

Qian Lu was currently resting with his eyes closed. When he received Duan Ling Tian's Voice Transmission, his eyebrows moved imperceptibly. Although he had heard people arriving earlier, he did not know it was Duan Ling Tian since the restriction from the Formation prevented him from sensing people's auras. Since Duan Ling Tian was here, he assumed his daughter was here as well. However, when he opened his eyes, he discovered his daughter was absent.

Before Lian Qiu could ask about Huan'er's whereabouts, Duan Ling Tian's voice rang in his mind. "I plan to save you and Senior Du Xuan today."

Lian Qiu fell into a daze when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words. When he regained his senses, he hurriedly replied through Voice Transmission, "Don't do anything stupid. If something happens to you, who's going to look after Huan'er?"

Although Qian Liu had only seen his daughter once, he could clearly see his daughter's reliance and affection for the young man in front of him. With his experience, how could he not see that his daughter was completely in love with the young man? It was the kind of love that one would not regret even if one died.

"Senior, I'm confident." Duan Ling Tian only said these words when Lian Qiu tried to dissuade him. Following that, he said solemnly, "I'll teach you the way to break the Formation in Senior Du Xuan and your cells. Although it's the same Formation, breaking it from the outside and the inside are completely different matters. With your strength, it won't be difficult for you to break the inside of the Formation, but it'll be difficult for you to break it from the outside. Therefore, I'll break the outside of the formation when the time is right."

Following that, Duan Ling Tian taught Lian Qiu the technique to break the Formation, which the World Cleansing Divine Water taught him, before Lian Qiu could even reply. After that, he explained his plan in detail that included freeing the six titled Celestial Emperors on the third floor and how there would be someone helping them after they escaped from the Heavenly Pool Palace.

Lian Qiu did not expect the man whom his daughter loved had made such arrangements; he even planned to exploit the six titled Celestial Emperors imprisoned on the third floor.

"I understand." Lian Qiu's eyes shone brightly after he listened to the entirety of Duan Ling Tian's plan. He, naturally, hoped he could leave this place as well. However, since his face was lowered, even if someone were close to him, they would not have been able to see the changes in his expression.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian and Elder Xie finally climbed the stairs to the third floor.

On the third floor, one could not absorb the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy nor could one comprehend profundities from a law near the cells where the six titled Celestial Emperors were held. One could only do so near the stairs.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you're in a hurry to cultivate, you can start now. In the meantime, I'll have a look to make sure there's nothing abnormal with Formation here..." Elder Xie said at this moment.

The most important task for those guarding the third floor was to check there was nothing wrong with the Formation. If they found any abnormalities with the Formation, they would have to report them immediately to the Heavenly Pool Palace. At that time, a Formation master would be sent here to repair the Formation.

"It's fine. I'm not in a hurry," Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, "I should come with you to learn how to check the Formation..."

Duan Ling Tian, naturally, had no wish of cultivating near the stairs. What he had to do now was talk to the six titled Celestial Emperors through Voice Transmission and teach them how to break the Formation that would allow them to escape.

"Alright." Elder Xie did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's words. As he led Duan Ling Tian away, he taught Duan Ling Tian how to check for abnormalities in the Formation.

Duan Ling Tian replied perfunctorily to Elder Xie while he surreptitiously sized up the three individuals in the cells. These three people were among the four he had seen previously. Previously, he had seen a muscular man, an old man, an old woman, and a young man. However, the young man was nowhere to be seen at this moment.

Duan Ling Tian decided to send a Voice Transmission to the old woman first. "Senior, I have a way to free you. However, I'll need the cooperation from the other five seniors..."

The old woman who was sitting with her eyes closed opened her eyes immediately. Her eyes, voice, and words were dripping with contempt as she said, "Just you alone?"

"Senior, why don't you hear me out?" Duan Ling Tian asked before he explained the method to break the Formation that had been taught to him by the World Cleansing Divine Water earlier.

Although the old woman was not a Formation master, as a titled Celestial Emperor, it was only natural that her knowledge about Formation was more than ordinary people. After listening to Duan Ling Tian's words, she discovered that his plan was rather feasible. Following that, she asked curiously, "Why do you want to free us?"

The old woman naturally knew there was no such thing as a free lunch in the world. She would not believe it even if Duan Ling Tian said he had no motive for freeing them.

Duan Ling Tian did not beat around the bush and replied honestly, "Senior, there's naturally a reason I'm helping all of you. However, it won't affect you and the others. I want to save two people from the second floor, but it's impossible if I rely on my strength alone. Therefore, I can only ask for senior's help. I wish all of you will be able to stall the titled Celestial Emperors in the Heavenly Pool Palace. Otherwise, even if I manage to free those two people, I won't be able to escape the Heavenly Pool Palace's pursuit."

"We only have six people on our side while the Heavenly Pool Palace has nine titled Celestial Emperors on their side. Moreover, a few of them are stronger than us... If nine of them act together, six of us are simply no match for them. Just You Feng Yu alone can suppress two to three of us..." the old woman said after listening to Duan Ling Tian's words. A hint of fear flashed in her eyes when she mentioned You Feng Yu, the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace.

Duan Ling Tian said reassuringly, "Don't worry. I've arranged for someone to keep him occupied."

"Hmm?" The old lady was surprised when she heard Duan Ling Tian had found someone to deal with You Feng Yu. She asked curiously, "Whom did you find to deal with him. You should know that ordinary titled Celestial Emperors aren't a match for him at all..."

"Senior, you might not have heard of him since he's from the Solitary Destructive Heaven. To be precise, he's from the Heavenly Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven..." Duan Ling Tian replied.

"The Heavenly Palace in the Solitary Destructive Heaven?" The old lady was briefly taken aback by Duan Ling Tian's words. When she recovered her senses, she chuckled before she said, "What a coincidence! I'm also from the Solitary Destructive Heaven. When I came to the Boundless Heaven, I killed some people from the Heavenly Pool Palace. That's why I'm imprisoned here. Unless they've just joined recently, I know all of the titled Celestial Emperors in the Solitary Destructive Heaven's Heavenly Emperor Palace. Whom did you find to help you?"

"The Jade Bow Celestial Emperor, Meng Chuan," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"Meng Chuan?" The old woman's eyes widened imperceptibly upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's reply. "Kid, you're not lying to me, right? You really managed to get Meng Chuan to help you?"

"Senior, why would I lie to you?" Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly. "There's no reason for me to lie to you, and I'm not so bored to create such elaborate lies..."

"If Meng Chuan is helping you, your plan might work. Even if Meng Chuan is weaker than You Feng You, You Feng Yu won't dare to kill Meng Chuan. Meng Chuan's brother is Meng Luo, the Heavenly Sage Celestial Emperor, and he's not a simple character. If You Feng Yu dares to harm Meng Chuan, Meng Luo will definitely turn the Heavenly Pool Palace upside-down. Although You Feng Yu is quite strong, he's

nothing compared to Meng Luo. Although You Feng Yu has the support of the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven, Meng Luo has the support of the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven. It's no secret that the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven is stronger than the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven. After all, there are rumors that the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven has already attained godhood." The old woman grew more and more enthusiastic as she spoke.

Duan Ling Tian was taken aback. "Senior, you're saying Feng Qing Yang, the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, has attained godhood?"

"That's right," the old woman said, "It's said that after he returned from the Asura Hell, he easily killed Chen Qiu Bo who had recently become a Heavenly Emperor. Although there's no confirmation that he has attained godhood, I think it's not impossible since he killed Chen Qiu Bo so easily..."

"Senior, since you're aware of this matter, it seems like you've not been imprisoned here for long..."

Duan Ling Tian did not expect the old woman would be privy to matters that happened about 100 or 200 years ago.

"In any case, kid, even if you found someone to deal with You Feng Yu, the remaining eight titled Celestial Emperors aren't easy to deal with as well..."

"Senior, don't worry," Duan Ling Tian said confidently, "Before I entered the Thousand Chains Prison, I'd already made other arrangements. At this moment, the Verdant Prairie Celestial Emperor and the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor should've already left the Heavenly Pool Palace..." Then, he added, "Senior, can you speak to the others? If it's possible, we should act in five days and break free from this place..."

Chapter 3328: An Old Friend

Duan Ling Tian decided to act after five days had passed because he estimated that the Verdant Prairie Celestial Emperor and the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor would arrive at the location he lured them to at that time. Once they arrived at the place he designated, it would take them at least five or six days to rush back to the Heavenly Pool Palace.

"Alright, I'll convey your message to them and speak to them. They'll definitely cooperate since this is a golden opportunity for all of us," the old woman replied as her eyes flashed near the end of her words. This was the best chance for them to regain their freedom. After all, even if they failed, they would only be thrown back into prison.

"That's great." Duan Ling Tian sighed in relief inwardly when the old woman agreed to speak to the other five titled Celestial Emperor. Otherwise, if he had to speak to them individually and teach them the way to break the Formation, he would have to expend a lot of effort and waste a lot of time. After a moment, his expression turned solemn as he reminded the old woman, "Senior, when you convey my message to the others, please tell them to be patient. The reason we need to wait five days is to make sure the Verdant Prairie Celestial Emperor and the Howling Heaven Celestial Emperor won't be able to rush back in time to help the Heavenly Pool Palace."

"Don't worry," the old woman replied, "Those five have been imprisoned here much longer compared to me. If I can wait for five days, I'm sure they'll be able to wait as well."

Following that, Duan Ling Tian no longer spoke to the old woman through Voice Transmission.

After inspecting the third floor, Elder Xie said with a smile, "The Formation here is working as it should. We'll spend the next four months here before we switch to a different floor... Since there's nothing much to do for now, we can use the time to cultivate..."

After the old man finished speaking, he walked to the area near the stairs before he sat down cross-legged and began to cultivate.

Duan Ling Tian followed suit and took a seat next to the old man before he closed his eyes as though he was cultivating. After a few moments, he opened his eyes that flashed with complex emotions as he thought to himself, 'Five days...'

In five days, the six titled Celestial Emperors would break the Formation here and escape. The Formation in the square would also be broken at that time. During the chaos, he would bring Huan'er's parents away from this place.

'When the time comes, I should release the other prisoners as well if it's possible. After all, the more chaotic it is, the higher the chances of us escaping.'

At the end of his thought, Duan Ling Tian sent another Voice Transmission to the old woman. "Senior, have you conveyed my message to the others?"

"Have a look."

Duan Ling Tian instinctively turned to look. He saw five titled Celestial Emperors had come out from the depths of their cells and were staring at him at this moment. Even the aloof young man who had been missing earlier was present. There was a slightly obese old man whom he had not seen prior to this as well. Only one of them was missing at this moment.

The old woman sent Duan Ling Tian a message at this moment. "Boy, what's your name?"

Duan Ling Tian replied, "Senior, my name is Duan Ling Tian."

Following that, the old woman introduced herself. "I'm Xue Jin Hua, the Golden Flower Celestial Emperor."

Following that, the old woman began to introduce the others to Duan Ling Tian. She started with the old man with disheveled white hair. "The old man on the left is Ke Bai Lu. He's not human but a Celestial Beast. Despite his title, the White Deer Celestial Emperor, his true form is actually that of a wolf."

Then, the old woman introduced the other titled Celestial Emperors. "That muscular baldy is Teng Xiong Ba, the Swirling Cloud Celestial Emperor. As for that fat old man, he's Ma Chi, the Thunder Hurricane Celestial Emperor. Due to his title, most people are under the assumption that he comprehended the law of thunder, but just like the rest of us, he comprehended the law of earth. If he didn't comprehend the law of earth, he would've been killed by You Feng Yu."

The old woman paused briefly as she looked at the aloof young man.

The young man's aura was so cold that Duan Ling Tian felt as though he was in an ice cave.

The old woman's voice rang in Duan Ling Tian's mind at this moment. "Similar to Ke Bai Lu, the young man isn't human. His name is Xuan Bing, the Profound Ice Celestial Emperor. He's a Profound Ice Flower that lived in the frost for 1,000,000 years. His strength is only second to that person who has yet to emerge from the depths of his cell. Not only did he master the law of earth, but he has also mastered the law of ice. His comprehension of the law of ice is higher than his comprehension of the law of earth, but it's the law of earth that allowed him to live."

When Duan Ling Tian instinctively turned to look at the young man, the young man nodded slightly before he smiled awkwardly.

After Duan Ling Tian shifted his gaze away from the young man, he asked curiously, "Senior, how does the strongest person among the six of you fare against You Feng Yu?"

The old woman replied, "You Feng Yu... isn't a match for the person..."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes widened imperceptibly. He asked in confusion, "You Feng Yu isn't a match for him? Then, how did he end up being imprisoned in the Thousand Chains Prison?"

"He's highly skilled in defense while You Feng Yu is skilled in offense. However, his offensive strength isn't bad. If both of them fought fairly, he'd only need a day and a night to defeat You Feng Yu. Alas, at that time, before he could defeat You Feng Yu, the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven arrived just in a nick of time to help You Feng Yu. Since the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless had intervened, he was captured in the end."

"He's so powerful?" Duan Ling Tian inhaled sharply. He did not expect the person who had yet to show himself was stronger than You Feng Yu, the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace.

The old woman continued to say, "Speaking of which, both of you are rather similar..."

"Why do you say that?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

"He had come to the Heavenly Pool Palace to rescue people as well. He had tried persuading Heavenly Pool Palace to release the prisoner, but the Heavenly Pool Palace refused him. Therefore, he was left with no choice but to use force. When You Feng Yu discovered he was no match for him, You Feng Yu asked the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven for help. Even with the help from the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven, it took a lot of effort just to capture and imprison him here in the Thousand Chains Prison," the woman said as she shook her head, "It's too bad he only comprehended the law of earth. If he had comprehended an offensive law as well, he would've been able to break free from this place."

The law of earth's defenses were so strong that even the Four Supreme Laws could not compare to it. However, its offensive power and speed were really lacking compared to the other laws.

The woman continued to say, "He's much stronger than Meng Chuan. In fact, his strength is comparable to Meng Chuan's older brother, Meng Luo, the Heavenly Savage Celestial Emperor."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed with curiosity when he heard the old woman's words.

At this moment, the old woman suddenly said, "He's coming out now..."

Duan Ling Tian instinctively turned to look at the cell that held the mysterious titled Celestial Emperor. Soon enough, he saw a young man dressed in a white long robe. His bearing was extraordinary, and his sword-like brows made him look heroic.

Duan Ling Tian was stunned when he saw the young man's appearance. He was acquainted with the young man after all.

"B-brother Pei?!"

The young man was none other than Pei Yuan Ji, the person who had loaned him the Mystical Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring in the past!

Chapter 3329: Breaking the Formation

Duan Ling Tian did not expect to meet Pei Yuan Ji in the Thousand Chains Prison at all. In the past, he had met Pei Yuan Ji to obtain the Concealment Pendant for Huan'er. At that time, he had asked Pei Yuan Ji if Pei Yuan Ji was a Celestial Lord, but Pei Yuan Ji had said no. Therefore, at that time, like a frog at the bottom of a well, he had assumed Pei Yuan Ji was a Celestial King or a Celestial Duke. It was beyond his expectations that Pei Yuan Ji was not only a Celestial Emperor but a titled Celestial Emperor!

"Duan Ling Tian?" Pei Yuan Ji was similarly shocked when he saw Duan Ling Tian. Although it had been 200 years since the last time they met, he recognized Duan Ling Tian immediately. He remembered the young man he had met in the Spirit Overarching Heaven and the Mystical Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring, a Royal Grade Celestial Weapon, he had loaned to Duan Ling Tian so that Duan Ling Tian could help him obtain the Mystical Yin Nine Water Chestnut Ring in a Little World.

At that time, he had left the Spirit Overarching Heaven because of Duan Ling Tian. During his journey, he had overheard a Heavenly Pool Palace disciple talking about a woman who was captured and imprisoned in the Heavenly Pool Palace's Thousand Chains Prison. What caught his attention was the woman's name Du Xuan and her being a Phantom Fox.

Pei Yuan Ji had heard this name countless times from Du Fei so he knew that Dua Xuan was Du Fei's niece. In the past when he used to wander the Devata Realms, he had met Du Fei. Both of them grew incomparably close during that time. At some point, he realized she had left a lasting mark on his heart and discovered that he had fallen in love with her. Alas, it was too late. At that time, he had tasked Duan Ling Tian with obtaining Du Fei's Mystical Yin Nine Water Chestnut Ring because he wanted it as a keepsake.

Due to his feelings for Du Fei, when Pei Yuan Ji heard Du Fei's niece was imprisoned in the Heavenly Pool Palace, he decided to save Du Xuan.

The rest was just as the old woman had said. When You Feng Yu discovered he was no match for Pei Yuan Ji, You Feng Yu had sought help from the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven. In the end, not only did Pei Yuan Ji fail to rescue Du Fei's niece, but he was captured and imprisoned in the Thousand Chains Prison as well ever since then. He did not even know if Duan Ling Tian managed to obtain the Mystical Yin Nine Water Chestnut Ring in the end. He did not expect to meet Duan Ling Tian 200 years later in the Heavenly Pool Palace's Thousand Chains Prison. Moreover, based on the situation, it seemed like Duan Ling Tian was now a warden in the Thousand Chains Prison. With this, he deduced that Duan Ling Tian was a prodigious disciple in the Heavenly Pool Palace.

"Duan Ling Tian, why are you here? Did you join the Heavenly Pool Palace?" Pei Yuan Ji asked in shock through Voice Transmission.

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian replied.

"The Golden Flower Celestial Emperor told me someone is going to help us escape from prison. Are you that person?" The old woman had told Pei Yuan Ji that a prodigious disciple from the Heavenly Pool Palace was going to help them escape from prison. Since there was only Elder Xie, whom he knew was an elder, and Duan Ling Tian on the third floor, it was not difficult for him to figure out that Duan Ling Tian was the person who intended to free them.

"That's right, Brother Pei," Duan Ling Tian replied. After that, he asked curiously, "Brother Pei, how did you end up here? The Golden Flower Celestial Emperor told me you came here to rescue someone but was captured by the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven during your battle with You Feng Yu..."

"That's right," Pei Yuan Ji said, "It's because I was imprisoned here that I didn't manage to meet up with you. In fact, I didn't even have time to carry out the matter you entrusted me with..." A hint of guilt could be heard in his voice nearing the end of his words.

Duan Ling Tian asked curiously, "Brother Pei, who did you come to rescue?" In his opinion, the person must be important to Pei Yuan Ji since Pei Yuan Ji left the Overarching Spirit Heaven for the Boundless Heaven just to rescue that person. Moreover, the Heavenly Pool Palace was a heaven-grade force. Even if Pei Yuan Ji was strong, it still would not be beneficial for him to provoke a heaven-grade force.

"I'm here to rescue an old friend's niece," Pei Yuan Ji said with a sigh.

"An old friend's niece?" A thought appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind immediately when he heard Pei Yuan Ji's words. "Brother Pei, the old friend you mentioned... Is it Senior Du Fei?"

Pei Yuan Ji's eyes widened imperceptibly as he asked anxiously, "How do you know Du Fei? Did she leave behind her memories in that Little World?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "After you gave me the Mystical Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring to look for the Mystical Yin Nine Water Chestnut Ring in that Little World... I managed to find it. The Mystical Yin Nine Water Chestnut Ring was with the remnant of her soul. After giving the ring to me, she asked to tell you to look after Huan'er."

"Huan'er?" Pei Yuan Ji knitted his brows together. "That woman by your side is also a Phantom Fox?"

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian responded.

"Based on what I know, Du Fei wouldn't ask me to look after someone who has no relations with her. What's Du Fei's connection to Huan'er?" Pei Yuan Ji asked.

"Huan'er calls her grandaunt," Duan Ling Tian wryly smiled as he said, "Brother Pei, if I'm not mistaken, you're here to rescue Senior Du Fei's niece, Du Xuan, right?"

"Yes." Pei Yuan Ji glanced at Duan Ling Tian. A hint of surprise could be seen in his eyes as he asked, "Could it be that the person you're here to rescue is Du Xuan as well?"

"That's right. Senior Du Xuan is Huan'er's mother. Apart from Senior Du Xuan, I'm also here to rescue Senior Lian Qiu. Brother Pei, you should know that Senior Du Xuan is imprisoned here because she tried to save Senior Lian Qiu."

"What a coincidence..." Pei Yuan Ji said with a sigh, "Young man, what have you been doing over the past 200 years? You've grown so much that you even know how to break the Formations in the Thousand Chains Prison. What's your cultivation base now?"

"I just became a Six Combos Celestial Lord," Duan Ling Tian answered.

"A Six Combo Celestial Lord?" Pei Yuan Ji was shocked by Duan Ling Tian's answer. After all, the last time he met Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian was just an Overarching Heavenly Supreme Celestial!

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian sighed inwardly after learning the reason behind Pei Yuan Ji's imprisonment in the Heavenly Pool Palace's Thousand Chains Prison. The world was truly small. After conversing with Pei Yuan Ji a little longer, he also learned of Pei Yuan Ji's relationship with Du Fei. Therefore, he said, "Brother Pei, the Yin Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring is with Huan'er... After rescuing Senior Du Xuan and Senior Lian Qiu, I'll bring them to meet Huan'er. At that time, I'll tell Huan'er to return the Yin Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring to you."

"There's no need for that," Pei Yuan Ji said with a smile, "Since Huan'er is Du Fei's grandniece, she can have the Yin Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring... The Yin Yang Nine Water Chestnut Ring are just Celestial Weapons that Du Fei and I used in the past. At that time, she hadn't even become a Celestial Lord."

A hint of nostalgia could be seen in Pei Yuan Ji's eyes when he spoke. It was as though he was transported back to the time when he was with Du Fei.

After meeting Pei Yuan Ji, Duan Ling Tian felt even more confident about rescuing Huan'er's parents. The other titled Celestial Emperors might not care about him after they were freed, but he knew Pei Yuan Ji would definitely stay by his side and help him to free Huan'er's parents. After all, the reason Pei Yuan Ji was imprisoned here was due to him wanting to save Du Fei's niece, Du Xuan.

After a moment, Duan Ling Tian asked curiously, "Brother Pei, what's your title?"

"The Nirvanic Celestial Emperor," Pei Yuan Ji replied.

"The Nirvanic Celestial Emperor? The title suits you..." Duan Ling Tian said.

Pei Yuan Ji asked in return with a smile on his face. "What about you? Did you obtain a title from the Title Temple?"

"I just obtained it not long ago." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"What's your title?"

"The Fog Rain Celestial Lord."

...

Duan Ling Tian, who did not expect to meet Pei Yuan Ji here and to also share the same objective, conversed with Pei Yuan Ji frequently over the next five days. He would also occasionally chat with the other five titled Celestial Emperors. Apart from that, when Xie Jin Hua, the Golden Flower Celestial Emperor, found out he was acquainted with Pei Yuan Ji, her attitude toward him grew even better.

Although Pei Yuan Ji was only imprisoned relatively recently compared to the others, they all respected him since he was the strongest among them. He was a top-tier titled Celestial Emperor after all. In this world, the strong were always revered.

...

In just a blink of an eye, five days had passed.

At this moment, Pei Yuan Ji said to the other five titled Celestial Emperors, "Let's begin!"

Subsequently, the six titled Celestial Emperors began to break the Formation in the prison.

Boom! Boom! Boom!!

Soon enough, the Formation on the third floor of the Thousand Chains Prison was broken.

Chapter 3330: Leaving the Thousand Chains Prison

"No!" Elder Xie who was sitting with his legs crossed and cultivating next to Duan Ling Tian widened his eyes. His eyes brimmed with horror when he felt the Formation break. "How's this possible? How did they break the Formation?"

"H-he escaped as well!" Elder Xie's face turned ashen when he saw Pei Yuan Ji, the Nirvanic Celestial Emperor. He was familiar with Pei Yuan Ji since the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless had to intervene to catch Pei Yuan Ji, after all. Even the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace was no match for Pei Yuan Ji. If the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless did not intervene, the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace would have been defeated. How could he not be horrified now that he saw Pei Yuan Ji, along with the other five titled Celestial Emperors, was free?

Elder Xie did not even bother to put up resistance at this moment. In his mind, he thought death was imminent.

However, to Elder Xie's surprise, Pei Yuan Ji and the others did not seem like they intended to kill him at all. Pei Yuan Ji only smiled at Duan Ling Tian, who was standing next to him, and said, "Let's go."

'What's going on?' Elder Xie's expression changed drastically as he turned to look at the person next to him, the student of Xu Lang, the Verdant Prairie Celestial Emperor, and the junior of their Head Warden. He would have lived for so long in vain if he still could not figure out what was going on at this moment. It was clear that the purple-clad young man was the one who released the titled Celestial Emperors.

Upon seeing the complex expression on Elder Xie's face, Duan Ling Tian said with a faint smile on his face, "Elder Xie, it's best for you to stay here. It's too dangerous outside."

Following that, Duan Ling Tian and Pei Yuan Ji left the third floor of the Thousand Chains Prison.

The other five titled Celestial Emperors, despite their arrogant and prideful nature, followed after the Pei Yuan Ji obediently.

Before leaving, the fat old man, Ma Chi, the Thunder Hurricane Celestial Emperor, patted Elder Xie's shoulder and said with a grin, "Little Xie, you should thank that boy, Duan Ling Tian. If he didn't ask us to spare your life, you would've died."

Elder Xie was left dumbfounded as he watched the titled Celestial Emperors leave. He smiled bitterly. "I didn't expect Duan Ling Tian to have such a scheme..."

Nevertheless, Elder Xie was not angry after being tricked by Duan Ling Tian. Instead, he felt rather grateful. He knew the Thunder Hurricane Celestial Emperor did not lie and that he was only alive because of Duan Ling Tian. After all, there was no need for Duan Ling Tian to spare his life. Even if Duan Ling Tian used and deceived him, nothing was more important to him than preserving his life.

"It seems like chaos is about to descend on the Thousand Chains Prison. happen in the Thousand Chains Prison... I should stay here for a while since it's safer here." Elder Xie recalled Ma Chi's reminder and decided to stay put even though he felt restless.

...

Meanwhile, as soon as they left the third floor, Duan Ling Tian and Pei Yuan Ji rushed to Lian Qiu and Du Xuan's cells.

The two prodigious disciples who were guarding the second floor were puzzled when they saw Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian?"

"Why are you here? Shouldn't you be guarding the third floor?"

"Who is he?" Soon enough, they noticed Pei Yuan Ji who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian.

This was not the first time these two prodigious disciples were assigned to the Thousand Chains Prison. Although they had guarded the third floor before, they had never seen Pei Yuan Ji who remained hidden in the depths of his cell. Nevertheless, their expressions changed drastically when they saw the other five titled Celestial Emperors coming down the stairs. Their faces paled, and their legs weakened immediately as realization dawned on them.

"H-how did they break free?"

"Did they break the Formation on the third floor?"

"T-this means the white-clad young man is the mysterious Pei Yuan Ji, the Nirvanic Celestial Emperor, right?"

"All six titled Celestial Emperors have broken free of their cells!"

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian moved with a flash and caught the shocked prodigious disciples off guard. Before they could react, he quickly knocked them out and moved them to a corner.

Soon enough, Duan Ling Tian and Pei Yuan Ji were standing in front of Lian Qiu's cell.

Lian Qiu had opened his eyes as soon as he heard the heavy footsteps approaching his cell. It did not take long before he saw seven people standing in front of him. One of the two people standing in the lead was none other than the young man his daughter was in love with.

"Brother Pei." Duan Ling Tian nodded at Pei Yuan Ji.

Pei Yuan Ji did not hesitate and began to use the technique that Duan Ling Tian taught him and easily broke the Formation along with the cell.

"Thank you, my lord." Lian Qiu could tell Pei Yuan Ji was a titled Celestial Emperor. He rose to his feet and cupped his fists together at Pei Yuan Ji to express his gratitude.

"A man who failed to protect his woman isn't a good man," Pei Yuan Ji said harshly before he broke the Formation and cell that held Du Xuan.

Lian Qiu was confused by Pei Yuan Ji's hostility.

Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian said through Voice Transmission, "Senior Lian Qiu, Brother Pei and Senior Du Fei, who was Senior Du Xuan's aunt, were lovers. She can be considered as Senior Du Xuan's uncle. Brother Pei was imprisoned here because he tried to rescue Senior Du Xuan."

Upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words, Lian Qiu's eyes widened. "He's Pei Yuan Ji, the Nirvanic Celestial Emperor, whom the Heavenly Emperor of the Boundless Heaven personally captured?"

200 years ago, Lian Qiu had learned that a prominent figure was imprisoned in the Thousand Chains Prison through the conversations between the wardens. The prominent figure was none other than Pei Yuan Ji, the Nirvanic Celestial Emperor.

"Lord Pei Yuan Ji was imprisoned because he tried to save Xuan'er? He's Xuan'er's uncle?"

"What are you waiting for? Why aren't you rescuing your woman?"

Lian Qiu was pulled back to his senses when Pei Yuan Ji's voice rang in the air. He hurriedly entered the cell that was destroyed by Pei Yuan Ji and carried the bloodstained white Phantom Fox out. Hints of distress could be seen in his eyes when he looked at the Phantom Fox.

"If you let her suffer again, I'll never forgive you." Pei Yuan Ji was filled with remorse because of Du Fei's incident, to begin with. Now that he saw Du Fei's niece in such a state because of Lian Qiu, his expression was incredibly dark.

"Rest assured, senior," Lian Qiu replied as he looked at the Phantom Fox in his arm, "I'll use my life to protect Xuan'er. No one will ever lay a finger on her again."

Pei Yuan Ji did not respond to Lian Qiu. Instead, he addressed the prisoners on the second floor in a low voice, "Everyone, listen up. I'll free you from this prison. After leaving the Thousand Chains Prison, you're free to do whatever you want. However, before we leave, stay behind us! I'll kill those who dare to act recklessly!"

Following that, Pei Yuan Ji stomped on the ground, and a mustard energy surged out from the ground before it split into thousands of energy swords, destroying all the prison cells on the second floor.

"Thank you, my lord," the prisoners on the second floor said in unison after being released.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian, Pei Yuan Ji, and the others made their way to the first floor.

Since each floor had a Noise Canceling Formation, those on the first floor were unaware of the commotions on the third floor and the second floor.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian came face to face with Lei Jun on the first floor of the Thousand Chains Prison.

"Duan Ling Tian?" Lei Jun frowned when he saw Duan Ling Tian on the first floor.

On the contrary, the elder next to Lei Jun gasped, and a horrified expression appeared on his face immediately. "Y-you! W-why are you here?"

Since he was an elder of the Thousand Chains Prison like Elder Xie, he naturally recognized Pei Yuan Ji, unlike the prodigious on the second floor.

"Elder, who is he?" Lei Jun asked curiously.

"The Nirvanic Celestial Emperor, Pei Yuan Ji," the old man said bitterly.

"What?!"

"The N-nirvanic Celestial Emperor?!" Needless to say, Lei Jun was shocked by the elder's reply. This was not the first time he had heard of Pei Yuan Ji, the Nirvanic Celestial Emperor. He had heard about Pei Yuan Ji from his mother, Lei Ying, the Merciless Celestial Emperor. Therefore, he was aware that even You Feng Yu, the Palace Master of the Heavenly Pool Palace, was no match for Pei Yuan Ji.