

Chapter 3461: Gongsun Xuanyuan

The other young geniuses were shocked by the cold and brutal performance of Ling Jue Yun and the young man who was drenched in blood. They did not hesitate to crush their jade token as soon as they felt the slightest sense of danger. Although crushing the jade token meant they would be eliminated from the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, nothing was more important than preserving their lives. Even if they could become famous if they did well in the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, everything would be for naught if they lost their lives. Moreover, since most of them were talented individuals, even if they did not do well in the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, they would still be able to make a name for themselves in different ways.

"I can't take this anymore. I'm leaving!"

"It's too dangerous here. I'll lay low for now and make a comeback during the third round..."

"Three against one? How embarrassing. I'll leave first. If either one of you makes it to the next round, I'll challenge you to a duel and kill you!"

One after another, the young geniuses crushed their jade tokens and left the battle ring when they saw another group that was attacked.

Since there were so many participants, it would naturally take a long time for the set number of participants to be eliminated. However, after Ling Jue Yun and the young man who was drenched in blood made a move, it seemed to cause a chain reaction. In the end, the second round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses ended in less than two hours with 300 people advancing to the next round.

Among the 300 young geniuses, more than 90% of them were comparable to titled Celestial Emperors. Most of them had strength comparable to a Two Star God of War at least.

On the other hand, there was a small number of participants among the 300 who only managed to advance to the third round by bribing stronger participants to help them. Although these few people were not very strong, they came from famous and wealthy clans. Hence, they had many rare treasures that tempted other participants into helping them. Nevertheless, they knew it would be inevitable for them to get eliminated in the third round.

At this time, Xu Kong Hai, the Vice Temple Master of the main Title Temple, made another announcement.

"The second round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses has come to an end... The third round will commence a month later. The Title Temple will release the names of participants who made it to the third round in three days. Meanwhile, those who were eliminated during the second round can decide if they want to challenge the 300 participants who passed the second round. Take this time to study your opponent; you have three chances to challenge your opponents."

The 700 people who were eliminated in the second round would be given a chance to advance to the third round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses if they could defeat any of the 300 participants that passed the second round.

“A month?” Su Li was slightly surprised. “I didn’t expect the third round would only take place after a month.”

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, “In my opinion, this one month is for the sake of the 700 participants who were eliminated today. It’s so they can study the participants they want to challenge...”

At this time, Zhang Tian You and Wan Ting approached Duan Ling Tian to express their gratitude.

“Thank you, Duan Ling Tian.”

The duo knew they would not have been able to advance to the third round if it were not for Duan Ling Tian. Nevertheless, instead of feeling happy, they felt rather pressured after passing the second round. This was because they knew many people would challenge them to a duel after a month.

Duan Ling Tian nodded. “There’s still a month to go. Both of you should prepare yourself to accept the challenges that will come your way...”

The duo smiled bitterly upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words.

After the barrier was removed from the battle ring, the participants left the venue and hurried back to their respective wooden houses to cultivate, unwilling to waste even a minute.

Meanwhile, just as Duan Ling Tian was about to leave with Su Li and Ling Jue Yun, his master, Feng Qing Yang, sent him a Voice Transmission.

“Little Tian, stay back for a moment. I have an old friend who wishes to meet you...”

With that, Duan Ling Tian bade farewell to Su Li and Ling Jue Yun before he left to meet Feng Qing Yang who was with Ding Fu, the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven.

“Master. Senior Uncle Ding,” Duan Ling Tian greeted Feng Qing Yang and Ding Fu as soon as he arrived. Then, he looked at Wei Qi, the Skeletal Dragon Celestial Emperor, who was standing behind Ding Fu and greeted Wei Qi as well. “Senior Wei Qi.

“We meet again,” Wei Qi said with a smile.

“Junior Nephew Duan, your friend was so ruthless and decisive that I didn’t even get to see you perform. It seems like I’ll have to wait until the third round to see you perform...” Ding Fu said with a smile.

The third round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses that will commence after a month gave the 700 participants who were eliminated today a chance to redeem themselves. As the only true disciple of Feng Qing Yang, the legendary Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, there was no doubt Duan Ling Tian would be receiving many challenges.

Although there were some participants who feared Duan Ling Tian, there were also many who felt they were stronger than him. After all, up until now, the strength Duan Ling Tian had displayed was only comparable to that of a Two Star God of War. Nevertheless, for someone who was not even 700 years old to possess the strength of a Two Star God of War was impressive. Even Ding Fu was shocked by this. After all, those participants with strength comparable to a Five Star God of War who were over the age of 900 were not as strong as Duan Ling Tian when they were his age. Perhaps, only those with strength

comparable to a Six Star God of War before reaching the age of 1,000 had strength like Duan Ling Tian at his age.

“Junior Nephew Duan, I look forward to watching your performance in a month,” Ding Fu said. Then, he bade farewell to Feng Qing Yang and left with Wei Qi. He could tell Feng Qing Yang wanted to speak to Duan Ling Tian privately.

Swoosh! Swoosh Swoosh!

Not long after Ding Fu and Wei Qi left, three figures suddenly appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian. One of them was Tong Tu whom Duan Ling Tian had injured with just a strike previously. Although it was his first time meeting the other two people, he knew who they were: Gongsun Xuanyuan, the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, and his third true disciple, Yu Dong Fang.

The tall and burly Tong Tu dwarfed the medium-built Yu Dong Fang when they stood next to each other. However, due to Yu Dong Fang’s extraordinary bearing, he did not look weak when he stood next to Tong Tu.

Gongsun Xuanyuan, the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, was an elegant middle-aged man who was dressed in golden dragon robes. His complexion was jade-like, and he looked valiantly handsome with his sword-like eyebrows. At this moment, he looked at Feng Qing Yang and said with a sigh, “Heavenly Emperor Feng, the strength of your law of earth’s clone has grown stronger...”

Previously, when rumors about Feng Qing Yang attaining godhood had spread after he returned from the Asura Hell, Gongsun Xuanyuan had visited Feng Qing Yang. Although the duo did not spar and only exchanged a blow, Gongsun Xuanyuan could sense how far behind he was compared to Feng Qing Yang. Just Feng Qing Yang’s clone alone was enough to restrain him. In the past, he was evenly matched with Feng Qing Yang even when Feng Qing Yang used the law of destruction that he specialized in. Based on this, one could imagine how strong the Divine Energy of the gods was.

“Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan, you flatter me too much. All I did was learn to fuse the profundities of another law...” Feng Qing Yang said as he shook his head and smiled. Then, he gestured to Gongsun Xuanyuan to take a seat.

At this time, Yu Dong Fang and Tong Tu who had followed Gongsun Xuanyuan here bowed in unison and greeted Feng Qing Yang. “Greetings, Heavenly Emperor Feng Qing Yang.”

Following that, Duan Ling Tian greeted Gongsun Xuanyuan with a bow as well. “Duan Ling Tian greets Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan.”

Gongsun Xuanyuan was better known as Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan instead of Heavenly Emperor Gongsun even though his surname was ‘Gongsun’. In fact, Duan Ling Tian was unaware of this fact and had only followed his master’s example.

“Junior Nephew Duan, your achievements are impressive considering you’re only slightly over 600 years old,” Gongsun Xuanyun said amicably, “Your future achievements will definitely be comparable to your master’s.” He did not wait for Duan Ling Tian’s reply before he asked Feng Qing Yang, “What do you think, Heavenly Emperor Feng?”

Feng Qing Yang laughed and said confidently, "I believe his achievements will surpass mine."

Gongsun Xuanyuan was slightly taken aback by Feng Qing Yang's words. After all, he had expected a modest reply from Feng Qing Yang. Who knew Feng Qing Yang would confidently say his true disciple's achievements would be greater than his?

When Gongsun Xuanyuan regained his senses, he called out tonelessly, "Tong Tu."

Tong Tu obediently stepped forward. A hint of reluctance flashed in his eyes as he cupped his fists together and said apologetically, "Junior Brother Duan, I apologize for being rude to you previously."

Duan Ling Tian could naturally tell Tong Tu's apology was not sincere and that Tong Tu had only apologized out of fear of Gongsun Xuanyuan. He shook his head and looked at Tong Tu meaningfully as he said, "There's no need to apologize. After all, I didn't even have a scratch from our exchange that day..."

"You!" Tong Tu's expression turned unsightly upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's words and seeing Duan Ling Tian's slightly mocking gaze. Just as his Celestial Origin Energy surged out of his body, it suddenly vanished. He recalled Duan Ling Tian's performance during the first round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses that clearly indicated Duan Ling Tian was stronger than him.

Duan Ling Tian ignored Tong Tu who was fuming with anger and shifted his attention to Gongsun Xuanyuan. In fact, he was inwardly excited about being able to meet Gongsun Xuanyuan. After all, the person sitting in front of him was the legendary figure from ancient myths on earth who was known as one of the Three Monarchs and Five Emperors!

Chapter 3462: Yan Huang Entity

Duan Ling Tian could barely conceal the excitement in his eyes when he looked at Gongsun Xuanyuan.

Gongsun Xuanyuan, who could see Duan Ling Tian's excitement, asked curiously, "Junior Nephew Duan, have we met before?"

Gongsun Xuanyuan could see the purple-clad young man looking at him as though they had met before. However, he was certain he had not met the purple-clad young man before.

Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply before he said, "Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan, what I'm about to say sounds fantastical, but it's the truth. Although my current physical body comes from the same mundane realm as my master, my soul is from Planet Yan Huang in Yan Huang Realm. Therefore, I... I grew up listening to stories about you..."

Not only Gongsun Xuanyuan and his two true disciples were surprised by this revelation, but even Feng Qing Yang was shocked. This was especially true for Feng Qing Yang; he did not expect his true disciple to have such a past.

Although it was not unheard of for a soul from a mundane realm to travel to another mundane realm and possess the body of someone who was on the brink of death, it was only a rumor that had not been confirmed.

Feng Qing Yang did not doubt his true disciple's words at all.

“When you were on Planet Yan Huang, were you extraordinary?” Gongsun Xuanyuan asked. Although he had been surprised, he did not seem to have trouble accepting Duan Ling Tian’s words.

“Extraordinary?” Duan Ling Tian pondered on Gongsun Xuanyuan’s question for a moment. He recalled the memories from his past life on earth. Based on his capabilities and his achievements, it was not an exaggeration to say he had been quite distinguished. Nevertheless, he asked, “Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan, what do you mean by extraordinary?”

“Were you outstanding and stood out from the ordinary?” Gongsun Xuanyuan said.

“I... I don’t know if I can be considered outstanding...” Duan Ling Tian said before he explained his background and the era he came from. He also revealed his achievements and his job on earth before his death.

“If you’re telling the truth, then it’s an understatement to call you extraordinary. You were peerless...” Gongsun Xuanyuan said with a sigh, “I thought you died in the Divine Land and your soul traveled to another mundane realm. I didn’t expect your soul to be able to travel even though you didn’t die in the Divine Land... This only happens if someone is considered peerless...”

Duan Ling Tian did not understand Gongsun Xuanyuan’s words at all. He asked, “Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan, it seems you know why my soul traveled to another mundane realm after my death?”

Gongsun Xuanyuan’s eyes glinted with excitement as he said, “I’m not 100% sure, but my theory probably isn’t too far off. You have 99 Heavenly Veins, right?”

Not only Gongsun Xuanyuan’s two true disciples were stunned, but Feng Qing Yang was stunned as well.

Feng Qing Yang instinctively turned to look at Duan Ling Tian. He was unaware that Duan Ling Tian possessed 99 Heavenly Veins until now.

“H-how do you know this?” Duan Ling Tian asked, surprised. No one would be able to prove him with their Divine Consciousness unless they were gods. Could there be a god who had probed him earlier and informed Gongsun Xuanyuan about his 99 Heavenly Veins? No, it did not seem likely. After all, his master had left a mark on him. Although the mark could not stop a god from probing him, it could stop the god for a while, and his master would also be alerted.

Gongsun Xuanyuan laughed happily. Then, he said, “Junior Nephew Duan, please wait for a moment, I’ll invite the two old men over before I explain how I guessed you possessed 99 Heavenly Veins after you revealed your soul traveled to a different mundane realm...”

It did not take long before two figures appeared. They were Yu Hao Tian, the Heavenly Emperor of the Jade Emperor Heaven, and Ru Lai, the Temple Master of the Title Temple in the Pavilion Shaft Heaven.

Despite being familiar with the duo, this was Duan Ling Tian’s first time meeting them.

After everyone exchanged greetings with the two newcomers, Gongsun Xuanyuan called out, “Hao Tian, Shi Jia.”

Ru Lai was also known as Shi Jia Mou Ni. Before Gongsun Xuanyuan ascended to the Devata Realm, he had also addressed Ru Lai as Shi Jia. Perhaps, only those from Planet Yan Huang knew Ru Lai’s full name was Shi Jia Mou Ni.

Gongsun Xuanyuan turned to look at Duan Ling Tian and continued to say, "I think Heavenly Emperor Feng's only true disciple is the Yan Huang Entity from our Planet Yan Huang..."

Duan Ling Tian, Feng Qing Yang, and Gongsun Xuanyuan's two true disciples were confused by these words.

On the other hand, Yu Hao Tian and Ru Lai did not seem confused. Instead, a hint of surprise could be seen in their eyes as they shifted their gaze to Duan Ling Tian. Earlier, when Gongsun Xuanyuan sent them a message, he had only said he wanted them to meet someone urgently.

"Xuanyuan, are you sure?" Yu Hao Tian asked solemnly.

"There's no mistake," Gongsun Xuanyuan said, "His experiences are that of the Yan Huang Entity. Moreover, he has also confirmed that he possesses 99 Heavenly Veins. I didn't think I'd be able to meet the Yan Huang Entity after so many years have passed. To think, he's already comparable to a titled Celestial Emperor at such a young age..."

Gongsun Xuanyuan's eyes shone brightly whenever he looked at Duan Ling Tian after confirming Duan Ling Tian possessed 99 Heavenly Veins; it was as though he was looking at a rare treasure. Duan Ling Tian could not help the chills that ran up his spine when he saw Gongsun Xuanyuan's burning gaze. He even began to regret revealing the fact that his soul came from Yan Huang Planet in the Yan Huang Realm. He had easily revealed the past since he did not think it was something he had to keep a secret. After all, many strange and wonderful things such as reincarnations and possessions happened in the Devata Realms all the time. He did not expect Gongsun Xuanyuan, Yu Hao Tian, and Ru Lai would find his past shocking. Most importantly, it seemed like the trio was aware of something that he was unaware of. An ominous feeling rose in his heart; he felt it was not good to catch the trio's attention.

"The Yan Huang Entity..." Ru Lai murmured to himself before he shifted his gaze to Feng Qing Yang and asked, "Heavenly Emperor Feng, I, Ru Lai, have accepted various disciples in my life, but I have yet to accept a true disciple. I want to accept your true disciple as mine; are you willing to part with him?"

Feng Qing Yang glanced at Ru Lai and answered lightly, "You'll have to ask for disciple's opinion..."

At the same time, Feng Qing Yang said to Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission, "Although I have no idea what the Yan Huang Entity is, there's no doubt it's special. Otherwise, they wouldn't show so much interest. Since Ru Lai has attained godhood, it's best if you stay away from him for your safety. I've heard of many special physiques in the Devata Realms, but I've never heard about the Yan Huang Entity. Based on what I know, many Heavenly Emperors and titled Celestial Emperors covet those with special physiques. After all, these people with special physiques would certainly grow to become gods as long as they don't prematurely. I've heard of a rumor in the past about how humans with 99 Heavenly Veins and special physiques have potential comparable to that of a Divine Beast."

Previously, Feng Qing Yang did not mention this matter to Duan Ling Tian because he was worried Duan Ling Tian would slack off in his cultivation after learning about his high potential of becoming a god. After all, there were many who would not cultivate as diligently after finding out they had high chances of becoming a god.

Feng Qing Yang explained, "I didn't mention this previously because I was afraid you'd grow complacent..."

"Master, I understand." Duan Ling Tian nodded. After listening to his master's words, he knew what he needed to do. Before Ru Lai spoke again, he said, "Temple Master Ru Lai, I, Duan Ling Tian, only acknowledged one master in my life, and he's my current master, Feng Qing Yang. Even if I encounter gods or supreme powerhouses in the future, I won't acknowledge them as masters as well..."

Duan Ling Tian did not hesitate to kill all of Ru Lai's thoughts of accepting him as a disciple.

Ru Lai's eyes flashed briefly, but his expression remained calm upon hearing Duan Ling Tian's reply. He said, "Since you've made up your mind, I won't force you." Then, he said to Feng Qing Yang, "Heavenly Emperor Feng, 10 years after the end of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, I'll head to the Heavenly Palace of the Solitary Destructive Heaven to challenge you to a duel. If you lose, you'll have to step down as the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven." An imperceptible hint of killing intent flashed in his eyes as he spoke.

Chapter 3463: The Reason Behind Duan Ling Tian's Transmigration

"You can come whenever you like," Feng Qing Yang said as he raised his head lazily and glanced at Ru Lai.

"Farewell." Ru Lai nodded at Duan Ling Tian after he shifted his gaze away from Feng Qing Yang and left.

As soon as Ru Lai left, Duan Ling Tian felt a formidable Divine Consciousness sweeping over him before shrouding him. He felt like a lonely boat being tossed by the waves in the middle of the ocean. The next moment, he felt a heat on his glabella before a grey sword mark suddenly appeared. This was the mark his master had left on him. Following that, countless divine energy swords shot out belatedly from the sword mark.

The Divine Consciousness seemed to have deliberately avoided the sword mark. Therefore, it had entered Duan Ling Tian's body and roughly probed him, discovering the 99 Heavenly Veins, before the sword mark appeared.

"He's truly the Yan Huang Entity." Ru Lai's voice echoed from the distance.

Duan Ling Tian's expression darkened.

Gongsun Xuanyuan and Yu Hao Tian, the Heavenly Emperors of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven and the Jade Emperor respectively, looked slightly embarrassed by Ru Lai's actions as well. Clearly, they did not expect Ru Lai would act so impetuously. Did he forget Duan Ling Tian's master, the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, Feng Qing Yang, was also a god?

A scoff rang in the air as a grey Divine Consciousness shot out of Feng Qing Yang's glabella and formed a sword before shooting toward Ru Lai's Divine Consciousness.

Swoosh!

The sword formed by the Divine Consciousness looked invincible, as though it could destroy everything that stood in its path.

Shortly afterward, a low voice that contained a hint of anger rang from afar.

“Feng Qing Yang, I’ll see you at the Heavenly Palace of the Solitary Destructive Heaven in 100 years!”

Duan Ling Tian was puzzled. Earlier, did Ru Lai, the Great Sun Celestial Emperor, not say that he would challenge his master to a duel at the Heavenly Palace of the Solitary Destructive Heaven ten years after the end of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses? Why did Ru Lai suddenly change it to 100 years?

On the other hand, Gongsun Xuanyuan and Yu Hao Tian inhaled sharply when they heard these words. They knew Feng Qing Yang’s Divine Consciousness must have injured Ru Lai heavily, causing him to delay his duel with Feng Qing Yang. At the very least, Feng Qing Yang must have injured Ru Lai’s divine soul. Otherwise, there was no need to push the duel 100 years back.

“If you dare to show up after 100 years, I’ll still cut you down like I did today,” Feng Qing Yang replied indifferently.

Ru Lai no longer responded; he had already left.

Subsequently, Feng Qing Yang stared at Gongsun Xuanyuan intently and asked, “Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan, can you tell us more about the Yan Huang Entity you mentioned?”

Gongsun Xuanyuan smiled wryly; how could he not tell that Feng Qing Yang was displeased. He said, “Heavenly Emperor Feng, I didn’t expect Ru Lai to act in such a manner. Otherwise, I wouldn’t have invited him over.”

The grave expression on Feng Qing Yang’s face eased when he heard Gongsun Xuanyuan’s words.

Gongsun Xuanyuan continued to say, “After many years of researching special physiques in Devata Realms, we, powerhouses who came from the Yan Huang Planet, discovered what we called the Yan Huang Entity. We discovered those with special physiques shared many similarities. As we researched, we discovered some of these humans had been affected by some Formations. After many years of research, we returned to our home planet, Yan Huang Planet, in the Yan Huang Realm. At that time, we laid a Formation that would bring about a Yan Huang Entity. However, since we only have partial knowledge of the entire matter, we did not know when or how the Yan Huang Entity would be born. There were various humans who became Yan Huang Entities in the past, who possessed incredibly strong souls, through different ways. However, after ascending to the Devata Realms, most of them could not move past the Great Overarching Golden Celestial stage. They died in the Celestial Ascension Pool after they ascended. They weren’t attacked. It was as though the energy from the Celestial Ascension Pool repudiated their bodies and souls, reducing them into ashes immediately. Even those we brought to the Devata Realm ahead of time suffered the same death once they became Great Overarching Golden Celestials.”

Gongsun Xuanyuan glanced at Duan Ling Tian before he said again, “The Yan Huang Entities have remarkable innate talents, comprehension skills, and possess the 99 Heavenly Veins. Strangely, all of them died as soon as they became Great Overarching Golden Celestials. We concluded that there must be something wrong with the Formation we cast. After all, it was only a duplicate of an incredibly complex Formation. In the end, we had no choice but to give up on this matter. In just a blink of an eye, a few thousand years have passed since then. I didn’t expect I’d meet a Yan Huang entity here. This is also the first time I heard of a soul of a Yan Huang Entity transmigrating to another mundane realm.

Perhaps, there are precedents, but I know nothing about it. Who knows? Perhaps, such a person died or is somewhere in the Jade Emperor Heaven now...”

After Gongsun Xuanyuan finished speaking, he instinctively turned to look at Yu Hao Tian, who was also one of the minds behind the creation of the Formation that would bring about Yan Huang Entities. Needless to say, Ru Lai was one of them as well.

“Transmigration...” Duan Ling Tian had been wondering for a long time about how and why his soul left earth and transmigrated to the Saint Province Realm. He asked, “Those Yan Huang Entities who were created through the Formation you duplicated... Their souls transmigrated as well?”

“There were a few.” Gongsun Xuanyuan nodded slightly. “However, their souls did not transmigrate to another mundane realm. There seems to be a specific place that the Formation we left behind would send the souls to. It’s completely different from your situation. My guess is your transmigration to another mundane realm was also caused by the defective Formation we left behind.” He looked somewhat sheepish at the end of his sentence.

As it turned out, the transmigration of Duan Ling Tian’s soul was caused by the Formation Gongsun Xuanyuan and his friends left behind on earth. However, it was an accident and an anomaly that he was sent to another mundane realm.

“When you spoke about your soul traveling to another mundane realm earlier, I was reminded of the Formation we left behind. That was why I asked if you possess 99 Heavenly Veins to verify if you’re the Yan Huang Entity...” Gongsun Xuanyuan continued to say.

The corners of Duan Ling Tian’s lips twitched. He did not expect that his miraculous transmigration was a result of Gongsun Xuanyuan’s faulty experiment.

“However, this is a blessing in disguise for you.” Gongsun Xuanyuan looked at Duan Ling Tian and sighed, “Since you’re a Yan Huang Entity, as long as you don’t slack in your cultivation, you’ll definitely attain godhood... It’s not easy for celestials to attain godhood; there’s a threshold to cross. However, that doesn’t apply to you. As long as you continue to cultivate after becoming a Ten Directions Celestial Emperor, it’s only a matter of time before you become a god. In fact, you might even attain godhood before Yu Tian and me.”

Gongsun Xuanyuan looked at the Heavenly Emperor of the Jade Emperor Heaven, Yu Hao Tian after he finished speaking.

A hint of envy flashed in Yu Hao Tian’s eyes when he looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Gongsun Xuanyuan’s fourth disciple, Tong Tu, was green with envy as well.

As for Yu Dong Fang, Gongsun Xuanyuan’s third disciple, he barely concealed the shock in his eyes.

As though he had just recalled something, a hint of fear flashed in Gongsun Xuanyuan’s eyes as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, “Duan Ling Tian, although you’re a result of our experiment, we won’t request anything of you. After all, it’s your own efforts that brought you so far. I just hope if there’s a

day when we need your help, you'll lend us a helping hand to return the favor..." He seemed to hesitate slightly when he was nearing the end of the sentence.

"That's naturally not a problem." Duan Ling Tian nodded. Although he was only a product of Gongsun Xuanyuan and his friends' failed experiment, it remained a fact that he would have died on earth back then if it were not for them. Since he never liked being indebted to people and Gongsun Xuanyuan had taken the initiative to bring the matter up, he would naturally not refuse.

"Thank you."

Following that, Gongsun Xuanyuan and his two disciples, Yu Dong Fang and Tong Tu, and Yu Hao Tian bade farewell to Feng Qing Yang and Duan Ling Tian before they left.

As Duan Ling Tian watched Gongsun Xuanyuan and Yu Hao Tian's retreating backs, he muttered to himself, "How can these prominent figures in the Devata Realms carry out such experiments for the sake of researching special physiques..."

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On the other hand, after Yu Dong Fang and Tong Tu parted ways with their master and returned to their respective wooden houses, Yu Hao Tian looked at the Gongsun Xuanyuan and asked, "Xuanyuan, why did you ask for a favor? Are you afraid that Old Baldy will lose to him?"

Chapter 3464: The World of the Undead

"Or are you afraid he'll lose to the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven?" Yu Hao Tian asked.

"Both." Gongsun Xuanyuan sighed. His gaze was complex at this moment. "You and I know Ru Lai isn't the same as before. His mind is under the control of that old monk we met in the World of the Undead that's also one of the seven deadliest places in the Devata Realms. That old monk is evil by nature. After he forcibly merged with Ru Lai's soul, Ru Lai became more temperamental and violent. I think... I think he probed Duan Ling Tian earlier to confirm that Duan Ling Tian is a Yan Huang Entity because he wants to possess Duan Ling Tian's body. After all, he doesn't have complete control over Ru Lai; he has about 60% control over Ru Lai. I feel that if the chance arises, he'll leave Ru Lai's body for a body that he would have complete control over."

"It seems like the temptation of the Yan Huang Entity we created is so great; even that Baldy, who seems to be a god in his past life, wants to possess Duan Ling Tian," Yu Hao Tian said with a sigh. Then, as though he had just recalled something, he asked, "If he leaves Ru Lai's body, doesn't that mean Ru Lai's soul will be able to heal?"

Gongsun Xuanyuan nodded. "Yes. However, it'll take thousands or even 10,000 years for him to recover. After all, his soul was gravely injured by a divine soul. Moreover, since he also has a divine soul, it'll take a long time for him to recover."

"Why didn't you explain the situation to them and ask them to be merciful?" Yu Hao Tian asked.

"How can I explain this to them?" Gongsun Xuanyuan shook his head. "I can't tell them that Ru Lai isn't the same as before, can I? If... If that old monk successfully possesses Duan Ling Tian, it means Ru Lai will

regain his freedom. Moreover, if Feng Qing Yang decides to act against the old monk, Ru Lai will be affected as well. No one will be able to dispose of that old monk or extricate his soul from Ru Lai's body without harming Ru Lai as well except for supreme powerhouses..."

Ru Lai and Gongsun Xuanyuan were old friends. He naturally could not bear to watch his good friend come to harm. Therefore, he chose to conceal the truth from Feng Qing Yang and Duan Ling Tian. Although he had a rather good relationship with Feng Qing Yang, it was not comparable to his and Ru Lai's friendship. As for Duan Ling Tian, it was only his first time meeting Duan Ling Tian today.

"So, in case things go south for that Old Baldy, you plan to call in the favor from Duan Ling Tian to save Ru Lai. You didn't tell them about Ru Lai being possessed because you hoped Ru Lai would be able to regain his freedom..." Yu Hao Tian nodded as realization dawned on him. If he were in Gongsun Xuanyuan shoes, he would have done the same as well.

"I don't wish to hurt anyone, but I'm left with no choice in this situation," Gongsun Xuanyuan said as a hint of guilt flashed in his eyes.

"Let's just go with the flow. If that old monk fails, we'll ask Duan Ling Tian to spare him for Ru Lai's sake. It's really unfortunate his life and death are tightly intertwined with Ru Lai's now. As Ru Lai's friends, we can only try our best to help him as much as we can. If the old monk succeeds in possessing Duan Ling Tian, we'll have to bear the responsibility and make sure his family and friends are well taken care of in the future and let them live a carefree life. This is the only way we can redeem ourselves..." Yu Hao Tian said with a sigh.

"I agree." Gongsun Xuanyuan nodded.

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Duan Ling Tian was naturally unaware of the two Heavenly Emperors' private conversation.

After Gongsun Xuanyuan and Yu Hao Tian left, Duan Ling Tian did not leave immediately. This was because Feng Qing Yang would have to leave another divine mark on him since the energy of the previous one had been depleted.

"I have a feeling that Ru Lai wants something from you even though I don't know what it is he wants. However, don't worry. With the divine mark, I'll be alerted as soon as he attacks you. It'll help me stall for time, giving me enough time to protect you. Moreover, it's unlikely he'll attack you while we're in the Heavenly Palace of the Primeval Heaven. After all, if a Temple Master of a Title Temple branch attacks a young genius during the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, the consequences would be heavy," Feng Qing Yang said to Duan Ling Tian. Then, his eyes glinted coldly as he continued to say, "Moreover, the attack from my Divine Consciousness earlier had gravely injured his divine soul. Even with the help of rare treasures, it'll still take him at least 100 years to recover. As long as I'm around, he's unlikely to attack you. The divine mark is just a precaution."

...

When Duan Ling Tian returned to the area where the young geniuses were staying, he saw a group of young geniuses gathering outside of the wooden houses, engrossed in a heated discussion. Their eyes lit up when they saw Duan Ling Tian.

“Hey, how strong is the legendary Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven’s only true disciple? A lot of people said he’s on par with a Two Star God of War...”

“I’m not sure. However, the grey-clad young man with him earlier who comprehended the law of death is definitely comparable to a Three Star God of War at least.”

“That grey-clad young man’s name is Ling Jue Yun. He came with the members of the Title Temple in Wind Prop Heaven... According to some of the participants who came with him, he’s stronger than a Three Star God of War.”

“Doesn’t that mean he’s comparable to a Four Star God of War?”

The discussion grew livelier as soon as Duan Ling Tian appeared. Even after he returned to his wooden house, they were still discussing him.

“During the third round of the Battle of the Geniuses, there’ll be many people who want to challenge him. At that time, we’ll have a clearer grasp of his strength.”

“I heard even those with strength of a Three Star God of War are keen on challenging him...”

“I can’t wait to watch that! I wonder if Duan Ling Tian is a match for a Three Star God of War?”

...

Three days later.

The name list of the participants who advanced to the third room appeared in the sky. It was naturally powered by a special Formation.

Many people left their houses to look at the names in the sky.

These are the names of the participants who passed the second round; their names were arranged in no particular order for now. Accompanying the names of the participants were the Devata Realms they came from and the forces they belonged to. Even their level of strength was on display.

For example, the following words were written behind Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, and Ling Jue Yun’s names respectively:

Over 600 years old, from the Solitary Destructive Heaven, the only true disciple of the Heavenly Emperor of the Solitary Destructive Heaven, not affected during the first round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses, and is suspected to be stronger than a Two Star God of War.

Over 600 years old, from the Jade Emperor Heaven, a disciple of the Thousand Tribulations Sword Sect, not affected during the first round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses, and is suspected to be stronger than a Two Star God of War.

From the Wind Prop Heaven and is suspected to be stronger than a Three Star God of War based on the second round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses.

The descriptions of the 300 participants varied in length.

“The descriptions are quite lengthy. It seems like the Title Temple paid quite a lot of attention to the participants and recorded everything...” Su Li, who had called Duan Ling Tian over, was taken aback by the detailed and lengthy description.

Duan Ling Tian nodded. “You’re right...”

“Look!”

Duan Ling Tian looked in the direction where Su Li pointed and saw the description for Yu Dong Fang, the third true disciple of the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven.

Yu Dong Fang’s description read as follow:

From the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, the third true disciple of the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, killed a Three Star War of God in the past, suspected to be stronger than a Four Star God of War but has only revealed the strength of a Two Star God of War so far.

Below Yu Dong Fang’s name were Tong Tu’s name and description. The description was:

From the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, the fourth disciple of the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, was previously gravely injured with a single blow by Duan Ling Tian’s sudden attack, and his strength is slightly below that of a Two Star God of War.

After reading Tong Tu’s description, Su Li said teasingly, “They even listed how Tong Tu was injured by you... The members of the Title Temple are making more foes for you.”

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. He did not expect the Title Temple would even list out such a trivial thing.

Soon after, the sound of laughter rang in the air when a few young geniuses read Tong Tu’s description.

All of a sudden, Duan Ling Tian felt a cold and hostile gaze on him. He instinctively turned around and saw a burly young man staring at him with a darkened expression from afar. The burly young man was none other than Tong Tu.

Standing next to Tong Tu was Yu Dong Fang who was as calm as usual. He nodded and smiled when he saw Duan Ling Tian looking in their direction.

Chapter 3465: The Third Round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses

“Tang San Pao is from the Profound Mystery Heaven?”

Duan Ling Tian shifted his eyes away from the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven’s two true disciples when he heard Su Li’s exclamation. He looked in the direction of Su Li’s gaze and read Tang San Pao’s description.

The description read:

From the Profound Mystery Heaven, based on his performance during the first round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses, he’s speculated to be stronger than a Two Star God of War.

There were many among the 300 participants whose descriptions were very brief, making them seem rather mysterious.

Duan Ling Tian did not expect the young man who struck up a conversation with him during his first day here was pretty extraordinary. After briefly glancing through the 300 names and descriptions, he also discovered there were at least a dozen participants who were speculated to have strength comparable to a Four Star God of War. However, there was no mention of participants with strength comparable to a Five Star God of War or stronger.

Naturally, Su Li realized this as well. "There doesn't seem to be anyone who has strength comparable to a Five Star God of War. However, since the strength of the participants in the descriptions is just speculations, it's likely that some of those who have strength comparable to a Four Star God of War are hiding their strength and have strength comparable to a Five Star God of War..."

Duan Ling Tian nodded. "Those who know their true strength are probably dead or helping them keep it a secret..."

While Duan Ling Tian and Su Li were conversing, the others were fervently discussing among themselves as more and more people began to gather around the list of names in the sky.

As it grew more crowded, Duan Ling Tian gestured to Su Li to leave. On the way back, they ran into Tang San Pao who looked upset.

Tang San Pao asked unhappily, "Why didn't you ask me to come along to look at the list of names?"

"You didn't say anything about it..." Su Li replied with a perfunctory smile on his face.

Tang San Pao did not say anything else and left after he glared at Su Li.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian and Su Li returned to their respective wooden houses and waited 27 days for the third round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, which would last much longer than the first and second rounds, to begin.

...

A month passed in just a blink of an eye.

The third round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses would begin as scheduled.

During the third round, those who passed the second round would be challenged by 700 participants who were eliminated. Needless to say, during the past month, there were some participants who were eliminated in the second round who had been carefully studying the list of 300 participants provided by the Title Temple. Most of them did not have much confidence in themselves, hence, they spent a lot of time studying the list of names.

During the third round, not only participants who were eliminated would be given a chance to challenge the 300 participants who passed the second round, but the 300 participants who lost a challenge could also challenge others if they were defeated. The number of people who would advance to the next round would still be 300, but there was no guarantee which 300 participants would advance to the next round. The round would only end once no more challenges were issued.

“10 duels will take place simultaneously during the third round, and yet, it’ll like take a few days before it ends...” Tang San Pao muttered to himself.

Duan Ling Tian and the others returned to the same seats they had chosen a month ago. Even He Jian Yi, who had been eliminated, was present. He Jian Yi had mentally prepared himself; he knew he would not go far in the competition. Therefore, he decided to treat this as a way to gain experience and observe the extraordinary young geniuses from various Devata Realms. Moreover, he knew this was a rare opportunity; not everyone was allowed to watch the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses.

Naturally, He Jian Yi was not the only one with such a thought. There were many geniuses who were here to watch and learn as well.

At this moment, Xu Kong Hai, the Vice Temple Master of the main Title Temple appeared in the air above the venue. After surveying his surroundings, he said, “The third round of the Battle of the Geniuses will begin today. 300 participants will be selected to advance to the fourth round. Unlike the second round, you can only depend on your own strength during the third round. Those who relied on others’ strength to pass the second round won’t pass this round since it’ll be a one-on-one battle. I believe all of you are already familiar with the rules so I won’t mention them anymore...”

Xu Kong Hai raised his hand after he finished speaking.

The list of 300 names appeared immediately in the sky.

The young geniuses shifted their eyes to the list of names immediately.

Xu Kong Hai continued to say, “This list of names is conjured by the members of the Title Temple using the Mirror Image Formation. The names on the list will change every moment, depending on the results of the duels. Everyone can issue a challenge thrice. Those who lost all three challenges won’t advance to the fourth round of the Battle of the Geniuses.”

Meanwhile, the Heavenly Emperors of various Devata Realm and the high-ranking officials of the Title Temple branches, who had yet to see the list of names, were looking through the list as well.

“There’s no one who’s suspected to have strength on par with a Five Star God of War?”

“It seems like these kids are quite skilled at hiding their strength...”

“Based on the previous Battles of the Geniuses, this one should be interesting as well. These kids who hid their strength will definitely show their true strength now.”

“The duels will be exciting to watch!”

Most of the Heavenly Emperors of the Devata Realms had participated in the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses when they were young. Most of them were rather excited to watch the third round.

At this time, Xu Kong Hai’s voice rang in the air again.

“10 participants may now make their way to the battle ring and call out the participants they want to challenge.”

As soon as Xu Kong Hai finished speaking, one of the young geniuses flew out. His lips were curled up in a sneer as he looked at a group of three participants sitting in the spectator seats.

"I, Huang Bin, from the Spirit Overarching Heaven, challenge Qiu Yun Jin from the Wandering Heaven to a duel."

The three young men's expressions darkened immediately.

When Qiu Yun Jin did not respond, Huang Bin scoffed and said, "Weren't you very brave when you ganged up on me? Are you afraid now?"

At this time, one of the participants exclaimed, "I remember those three people! One of them is slightly weaker than a titled Celestial Emperor while two of them are comparable to an ordinary One Star God of War! On the other hand, Huang Bin is comparable to a top One Star God of War if I'm not mistaken."

The other participants began to discuss among themselves upon hearing those words.

"That's right. During the second round, the trio joined forces and eliminated him!"

"It seems like he can't wait to seek revenge. Which one is Qiu Yun Jin? Is he the one whose strength is slightly weaker than a titled Celestial Emperor or is he one of the two who have strength comparable to an ordinary One Star God of War?"

"If I were him, I'd definitely challenge the weakest one among the trio!"

While the participants were discussing among themselves, Xu Kong Hai said loudly, "Once a challenge has been issued, the participants who're challenged have 10 breaths to enter the battle ring. Otherwise, they'll be considered forfeiting the duel. Qiu Yun Jin, you have five breaths left to make up your mind."

One of the three young men scoffed and said, "How shameless for someone with strength comparable to a titled Celestial Emperor to challenge someone who's weaker!"

Huang Bin sneered. "What a hypocrite! Were you not being shameless when you ganged up on me previously?"

In the end, Qiu Yun Jin forfeited and Huang Bin took over Qiu Yun Jin's place on the list of 300 names in the sky.

Before Huang Bin returned to his seat, he looked at the trio and said icily, "If it weren't for the rules, I would have eliminated all three of you. Of course, if you have the guts, you can challenge me after this!"

The trio could only fume in anger.

After returning to his seat, Huang Bin said to the participants around, "Hey, guys, you can challenge them. Their strength is only that of an ordinary One Star God of War."

The trio was further infuriated upon hearing Huang Bin's words. As expected, the remaining two were challenged and defeated soon after.

The two participants who defeated the two participants with strength on par with an ordinary One Star God of War smiled at Huang Bin and expressed their gratitude.

“Thank you, Brother Huang Bin.”

“Brother, thank you.”

Once a duel ended, another would start immediately. There would always be 10 duels going on simultaneously.

After 15 minutes, a young man in a dark yellow long robe flew out and pointed in the direction where Duan Ling Tian and the others were seated as he said, “I, Sikong Yu Fang from the Swift Blessing Heaven, challenge Wang Ting from the Solitary Destructive Heaven to a duel!”

Wang Ting who was sitting behind Duan Ling Tian remained calm but her gaze was solemn. It looked like she was prepared for this. When she flew out, more and more people recognized her.

“Wan Ting? She’s that woman who achieved a breakthrough during the first round, right?”

“That’s right!”

Chapter 3466: Challenging Duan Ling Tian

During the first round of the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses, there were a few who had a breakthrough under the pressure. Therefore, they were eyed by many participants.

“Ah! Why didn’t I think of challenging these fellows?!”

A young participant who had just won a duel said regretfully, “I forgot about them! If I had challenged any one of them earlier, I wouldn’t have struggled so bitterly during my duel. Even if they just had a breakthrough and gained the strength of a titled Celestial Lord, they still aren’t too strong!”

“Heh, this person is quite cunning. Out of all of them, he picked the only woman!”

“He probably thinks Wang Ting is a pushover.”

As the discussion continued to spread, many began to scour the list of names for the participants who had just had a breakthrough recently.

Naturally, there were also those who were already prepared to challenge Wang Ting and the others but had yet to have a chance to.

Swoosh!

As soon as one of the ten duels ended, a participant swiftly flew into the battle ring and called out the name of one of the participants who had only recently broken through.

“Damn it! He’s fast! Now there’s one fewer person to challenge!”

Many participants began to curse.

Wang Ting had just stepped into the battle ring when another duel ended. With this, dozens of figures hastily flew out of their seats like bolts of lightning toward the battle ring. All of them rushed to the

battle ring, hoping to challenge the remaining few who had only recently broken through. There was a sense of urgency since two of those people had already been challenged.

As soon as the fastest participant entered the battle ring, the remaining participants were sent flying back with a wave of Xu Kong Hai's hand. However, the energy that swept them away was rather gentle, like a gentle wave carrying them unhurriedly back to their seats. All of their expressions were rather unsightly.

"Damn it! I lost!"

"How's that kid so fast?"

The participant who beat the others and entered the battle ring first was a young man dressed in blue robes. Needless to say, he challenged one of those who had just broken through during the first round with a triumphant expression on his face.

All of a sudden...

Bang!

A loud noise attracted everyone's attention. They saw the participant who had challenged Wang Ting flying out of the battle ring after exchanging a dozen moves with Wang Ting; he seemed to be heavily injured.

"Damn you! You were holding back earlier!" the young genius who had been injured by Wang Ting cursed with an unsightly expression on his face. Earlier, Wang Ting had been at a complete disadvantage the entire time. After seeing how weak she was, he grew complacent, assuming that she had used her full strength. He did not expect she would erupt with strength at the crucial moment and injure him! Although he was no longer careless after being injured, he was still defeated in the end. After all, that strike had injured him heavily. If he was not injured, even if he could not defeat Wang Ting, Wang Ting would not be able to defeat him as well! At the very least, it would end in a draw.

"You're too cunning!" The young man glared at Wang Ting with hatred flashing in his eyes before he stormed off.

On the other hand, Wang Ting did not seem affected by her opponent's attitude at all. She kept to herself and unhurriedly returned to her seat near Duan Ling Tian.

At this time, the other participants regained their senses and began to discuss among themselves again as they looked at Wang Ting.

Someone sighed. "She just had a breakthrough, but she's already this strong. She's not as simple as she seems to be..."

"That guy underestimated her and thought she was a pushover."

Situ Yufang is too careless as well. If he wasn't injured, at least he could've fought to a draw with her instead of being eliminated!"

Most people were shocked by Wang Ting's strength. Even Duan Ling Tian did not expect her to be so strong when she had only broken through recently. She was a lot stronger than ordinary One Star Gods of War despite her recent breakthrough.

He Jian Yi laughed happily when Wan Ting returned to her seat. He said excitedly, "You're amazing, Wang Ting! Your strength is really surprising considering you've just broken through recently. It seems like you won't have a problem advancing to the fourth round."

"I think it'll be difficult," Wang Ting said as she shook her head, clearly not confident despite her win. After all, there were many highly talented participants who hid their strength. Despite the amazing feat of achieving such strength when she just had a breakthrough, with her strength that was only comparable to an ordinary One Star God of War, it would be exceptionally difficult, if not impossible, for her to advance to the fourth round.

"Wang Ting, I didn't expect your strength to be on par with mine when you've just broken through so recently," Zhang Tian You said with a sigh. After Wang Ting's duel, he knew their strength was similar. If they fought now, it would probably end in a tie.

At this moment, Tang San Pao said, "With Wang Ting serving as an example, you can see the other two challengers are no longer complacent and aren't holding back their strength anymore."

Upon hearing these words, Duan Ling Tian and the others looked at the two battle rings.

Indeed, the two challengers no longer dared to underestimate their opponents now. One defeated his opponent after exchanging ten or so moves while the other defeated his opponent after exchanging thirty or so moves. Both of them won their respective duels.

Amongst the three who had a breakthrough during the first round, only Wang Ting won her duel. Naturally, Wang Ting knew there would be others challenging her again.

After a few more duels ended, a scholarly young man gazed at Duan Ling Tian from afar and loudly said, "I, Sima Zhonghing from the Wandering Heaven, challenge the Solitary Destructive Heaven's Duan Ling Tian to a duel!"

These words immediately attracted everyone's attention. They shifted their gaze to Duan Ling Tian immediately; all of them were interested to see Duan Ling Tian's fight. Up until now, the strongest challenger only had strength comparable to top a One Star God of War, hence, the duels so far were not really exciting.

"Somebody actually challenged Duan Ling Tian!"

"Since he dares to challenge Duan Ling Tian, he has to be as strong as a Two Star God of War at least!"

"Finally someone with the strength of a Two Star God of War has issued a challenge?!"

Based on the first round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses, one could tell those who passed without any change in their expression had strength comparable to a Two Star God of War at least.

Tang San Pao laughed as though he could not wait to see the excitement. “Duan Ling Tian, who would have thought that you’d be challenged first among all of us.”

...

Meanwhile, the Heavenly Emperors of the Devata Realms and high-ranking officials of the Title Temple branches were mostly chatting with each other and occasionally glancing at the battle rings. After all, the duels were too boring. However, at this moment, all of their attention was now focused on one of the battle rings since someone finally challenged Duan Ling Tian.

“Brother Feng, I didn’t expect someone to challenge Junior Nephew Duan so soon!” Ding Fu, the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, said to Feng Qing Yang, who was sitting across from him, and said with a faint smile, “It seems like this person is trying to probe Junior Nephew Duan’s strength...”

Feng Qing Yang faintly nodded. He picked up a cup of tea and took a sip before putting the teacup down. His head was lowered as though he was lost in his thoughts.

Ding Fu no longer bothered Feng Qing Yang and turned his attention to Duan Ling Tian who had just flown out of his seat into the battle ring.

Under everyone’s watchful eyes, Duan Ling Tian, who was hovering in the air, looked at the scholarly young man indifferently and said, “Let’s start.”

“Duan Ling Tian, I know you’re also a Two Star God of War. I only challenged you today because I’m curious about the ability of the legendary Heavenly Emperor’s only true disciple!”

As soon as Sima Zhongjing finished speaking, flames surged out of his body immediately. Obviously, he had comprehended the law of fire.

Whoosh!

Sima Zhongjing seemed to have turned into a ball of flames as he shot toward Duan Ling Tian. At the same time, he cast his Fused Profundity. His Celestial Origin Energy looked like a flaming dragon as it flew toward Duan Ling Tian.

Bang!

Just as Sima Zhongjing’s attacks were about to land, Duan Ling Tian vanished into thin air.

Teleportation Profundity!

Swoosh!

When Duan Ling Tian reappeared behind Sima Zhongjing, a sword cry rang in everyone’s ears. Following that, they saw blood dripping from Sima Zhongjing’s neck to the ground.

As for Sima Zhongjing, his body had broken out in cold sweat, and he was frozen to his spot. When he discovered he had only suffered a superficial wound to his neck, he almost collapsed from the relief that threatened to overwhelm him. A look of delight appeared on his face upon discovering he was alive; he looked at Duan Ling Tian gratefully and said with a bow, “Thank you for showing mercy!”

Sima Zhongjing's voice trembled slightly when he spoke. After all, fear still lingered in his heart when he thought about how there were no restrictions about killing during the duels. Even if Duan Ling Tian had decapitated him earlier, no one would say a word.

"Hm." Duan Ling Tian nodded faintly with an indifferent expression on his face before he returned to his seat under everyone's terrified gazes.

Chapter 3467: The Space Sword Dao

After Duan Ling Tian returned to his seat, the crowd finally broke into an uproar.

"His speed was really fast!"

"I didn't even see his swords; I only heard the sword cry!"

"That's right! His sword's movement is too fast. No matter what, I'm a Two Star God of War, but I couldn't even catch the sword's movement!"

At the same time, Yu Dong Fang, the third true disciple of Gongsun Xuanyuan; the Heavenly Emperor of the Pavilion Shaft Heaven, wore a grave expression on his face. He could not see Duan Ling Tian's sword as well.

As for Tong Tu, his body had broken out in cold sweat. He finally realized how much Duan Ling Tian had restrained himself previously. If Duan Ling Tian intended to kill him, Duan Ling Tian did not even need to launch a sneak attack to do so. Not only could he not see Duan Ling Tian's sword, but he could catch Duan Ling Tian's Teleportation Profundity as well. Based on all this, he could tell Duan Ling Tian's cultivation base was significantly higher than his. He was only a Six Combos Celestial Emperor, but based on Duan Ling Tian's Celestial Origin Energy, Duan Ling Tian was at least an Eight Trigrams Celestial Emperor or Nine Palaces Celestial Emperor like his Third Senior Brother, Yu Dong Fang!

Yu Dong Fang muttered to himself, "He did not use any fused profundity from the law of space..."

Upon hearing this, Tong Tu's expression changed drastically.

After all, Duan Ling Tian's opponent had used a Fused Profundity from the law of fire earlier; Tong Tu had witnessed this with his own eyes earlier. How could he not be shocked to find out Duan Ling Tian did not even need to use the law of space's Fused Profundity to deal with his opponent's Fused Profundity? He found this difficult to accept. Although the law of space was one of the Four Supreme Laws, it could not have been so heaven-defying that Duan Ling Tian could seriously injure his opponent without using a Fused Profundity! For Duan Ling Tian to be capable of such a feat only meant that there was a huge gap between Duan Ling Tian and his opponent's cultivation bases.

"There's such a big difference in their cultivation bases?" Tong Tu asked grimly.

"Their cultivation bases play a part as well, but the gap shouldn't be too big. If I'm not mistaken Duan Ling Tian is a Nine Palaces Celestial Emperor while his opponent is an Eight Trigrams Celestial Emperor. Even with the law of space, he shouldn't be able to injure his opponent to this extent since there's only a level of difference between them..." Yu Dong Fang analyzed the earlier battle.

"Then, what's the reason for it?" Tong Tu asked, bewildered. No matter how much he racked his brain, he could not figure out the reason for Duan Ling Tian's domineering performance.

“Don’t tell me that you’ve already forgotten that whenever master speaks about Heavenly Emperor Feng Qing Yang of the Solitary Destructive Heavenly, what is it that he admires the most?” Yu Dong Fang asked as he looked at Tong Tu meaningfully.

Tong Tu inhaled sharply upon hearing these words. His eyes widened as he said, “Third Senior Brother, you mean to say Duan Ling Tian has already created his own Dao like Heavenly Emperor Feng Qing Yang?”

Whenever Gongsun Xuanyuan mentioned Feng Qing Yang to his true disciples, even more so than Feng Qing Yang’s feat of attaining godhood, Gongsun Xuanyuan admired Feng Qing Yang’s feat of creating his own Dao the most. After all, he wished more than anything to successfully create his own Dao; he was also very close to creating his own Dao. How could he not admire Feng Qing Yang who had already successfully created his own Dao?

“Master once said that if he could successfully create his own Dao, it won’t be long before he attains godhood as well,” Yu Dong Fang said as he looked at Duan Ling Tian with bright eyes, “It’s said that Duan Ling Tian only met Feng Qing Yang about 100 years ago. To think his Sword Dao has already reached such a high level. His achievements in the Sword Dao aren’t inferior to master’s...”

Yu Dong Fang knew that for Duan Ling Tian to be so powerful, Duan Ling Tian must have learned how to create his own Dao from Feng Qing Yang. Although Duan Ling Tian had obtained Feng Qing Yang’s legacy back in the mundane realm, which helped him build a stable foundation, Duan Ling Tian’s progress was still terrifying. With this serving as an example, he realized how important it was to walk on the right path. Although his master was also a genius in his own right, he had wasted a lot of time due to several mistakes in his cultivation. Nevertheless, he believed his master would be able to successfully create his own Dao given more time.

Similar to Yu Dong Fang, many Heavenly Emperors and high-ranking officials from the Title Temple branches were also analyzing Duan Ling Tian’s performance.

“Is that Feng Qing Yang’s Destruction Sword Dao? No, it seems different... Duan Ling Tian’s Dao contains the law of space instead of the law of destruction...”

“Now I finally see why Feng Qing Yang accepted Duan Ling Tian as his true disciple. Duan Ling Tian is simply a sword genius. How old is he? To think he’s already so close to creating his own Space Sword Dao after studying Feng Qing Yang’s Destruction Sword Dao!”

“All he needs is time to completely master his Sword Dao. At that time, he’ll be like another Feng Qing Yang!”

“No. Based on his untraceable attack alone, if he masters his Space Sword Dao, it’s likely he’ll even surpass Feng Qing Yang...”

The Heavenly Emperors looked at Duan Ling Tian with a burning gaze as they discussed among themselves. This was especially true for Ru Lai.

‘Feng Qing Yang actually taught his own Sword Dao to Duan Ling Tian. Does this mean once I possess Duan Ling Tian, I’ll be able to grasp Feng Qing Yang’s Sword Dao as well and create my own Dao? Duan Ling Tian is just a mere Celestial Emperor, it’d be as easy as flipping a coin to possess his body, right? His

strength is far weaker than Ru Lai's as well. I can't completely destroy Ru Lai's soul, but I should have no problem destroying Duan Ling Tian's soul after possessing Duan Ling Tian's body. Duan Ling Tian will definitely help me to progress in my journey to become a supreme powerhouse!' Ru Lai's gaze grew even more intense with these thoughts in his mind.

Meanwhile, Ding Fu, the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, looked at Feng Qing Yang in shock. A complicated expression could be seen on his face as he said, "Heavenly Emperor Feng, you actually taught him your Destructive Sword Dao? Most importantly, he's already grasped the essence and begun to create his own Space Sword Dao?"

Feng Qing Yang nodded slightly in response. The corners of his lips curled up into a small smile as he said, "I supposed his Space Sword Dao is passable for now..."

"You consider it passable for now?" Ding Fu felt like vomiting blood upon hearing Feng Qing Yang's words. Then, he glared at Wei Qi, who was standing next to him, and said unhappily, "Do you see this? Your Junior Uncle Feng's disciple is so outstanding. When you were his age, if you were to fight him, he would have easily defeated you..."

Wei Qi only smiled bitterly in response to his master's words. He, the Skeletal Dragon Celestial Emperor, was made to sound so weak by his master. He did not dare to retort since he treated his master like his father. Moreover, although his master's words sounded hurtful, his master was telling the truth. If he had faced Duan Ling Tian when he was Duan Ling Tian's age, let alone one move, it was likely he would be unable to withstand half a move from Duan Ling Tian.

At the same time, the high-ranking officials from the Title Temple branches were also looking at Duan Ling Tian in shock.

"To have mastered the rudimentary stage of his own Sword Dao through studying Feng Qing Yang's Destructive Sword Dao, this Duan Ling Tian is truly a monstrous genius!"

"In my opinion, he should be able to catch up to Feng Qing Yang in just a few thousand years..."

"That might not be the case. After all, while he's improving, Feng Qing Yang will continue to improve as well. Don't forget that Feng Qing Yang has already attained godhood..."

"Well, at the very least, Duan Ling Tian will possess Feng Qing Yang's current strength in a few thousand years..."

Needless to say, compared to the young geniuses, the powerhouses could glean more details from Duan Ling Tian's performance. Most of the young geniuses were rather clueless; only a small number of them could vaguely figure out Duan Ling Tian's strength.

"When did the law of space become so heaven-defying? My friend also comprehended the law of space, but he's only slightly stronger than me... Isn't Duan Ling Tian's law of space too exaggerated?"

"What tricks did he use? How could he defeat a Two Star God of War without using any Fused Profundity?"

"That's right! His opponent is a Two Star God of War, not some rookie!"

Out of everyone present on the scene, perhaps, the person who was most shocked was Ling Jue Yun. As someone from the Divine Offering Land, a Realm of Gods, he had heard his elders talk about the laws and creating one's own Dao. Everyone was capable of comprehending a law, but not everyone was capable of creating their own Dao. Just like possessing the Five Divine Elements could help one become a supreme powerhouse, creating one's own Dao also helped in the journey of becoming a supreme powerhouse. Naturally, if one failed to complete the creation of one's own Dao or evolve one's Five Divine Elements to their highest form, one would still fail to become a supreme powerhouse.

"I didn't expect you to have begun creating your own Dao... Did you learn it on your own?" Ling Jue Yun asked solemnly with a gleam in his eyes. If Duan Ling Tian truly learned to create his own Dao without any help, he would be a peerless genius in all Devata Realms, considering his age. Even supreme powerhouses would want to accept a disciple like Duan Ling Tian if that were the case.

Chapter 3468: The Third Round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses Comes to an End

"It's half and half," Duan Ling Tian replied to Ling Jue Yun.

Ling Jue Yun was bewildered by Duan Ling Tian's reply. "Half and half?"

"I only learned to create my own Space Sword Dao by studying the basics of my master's Destructive Sword Dao. It'd be impossible for me to create my own Sword Dao if my master didn't teach me his Destructive Sword Dao..." Duan Ling Tian replied truthfully.

"Your master is quite amazing... A person who's able to create his own Dao in the Devata Realms, and even in the Realms of Gods, is as rare as a phoenix's feather... As long as he doesn't die prematurely, he's definitely become a supreme powerhouse. Moreover, only half of the supreme powerhouses are like your master..." Ling Jue Yun said as he turned to look at Feng Qing Yang who was seated next to Ding Fu, the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, with a hint of admiration. At the same, a hint of relief could be seen in his eyes when he heard Duan Ling Tian did not learn to create his own Dao without any help.

In the Devata Realms, perhaps, no one knew the gods and supreme powerhouses more than Ling Jue Yun did. After all, he was born and raised in the Divine Offering Land, a Realm of Gods. He only came to the Devata Realms to seek refuge.

Ling Jue Yun continued to say, "If your master manages to persevere to the end, his future will be incomparably bright..."

"I think so too." Upon hearing Ling Jue Yun's words, Duan Ling Tian glanced at his master, Feng Qing Yang.

When Duan Ling Tian first ran into Feng Qing Yang's legacy, the Sovereign Heart Sword, in the mundane realm, he had been thoroughly shocked by its superiority in comparison to other techniques in the mundane realm. It was comparable to celestial methods in the Devata Realms. His journey in the mundane realm had been rather smooth thanks to the Sovereign Heart Sword; he could defeat most of his opponents easily except for those with a significantly higher cultivation than his. He was undoubtedly unrivaled among his peers and even those whose cultivation bases were a few levels higher than his. All this was thanks to the Sovereign Heart Sword. Although cultivating in the Heavenly Palace of the Solitary

Destruction's Sword Mark Canyon for 100 years helped, it was mostly thanks to the foundation he built with the Sovereign Heart Sword that he was able to create the Space Sword Dao.

The Sovereign Heart Sword was invented by Feng Qing Yang, hence, even the Destructive Sword Dao was created using the fundamentals of the Sovereign Heart Sword. For this reason, after Duan Ling Tian familiarized himself with the Sovereign Heart Sword again, his progress of comprehending the Destructive Sword Dao was swift.

With the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity that a supreme powerhouse left behind, Duan Ling Tian was also able to comprehend the law of space smoothly. Combined with the Destructive Sword Dao, he was able to create the Space Sword Dao. That was why he was now able to incorporate many profundities from the law of space into his sword technique, significantly improving the force of his attacks.

"I thought you'd be slightly weaker than me. After watching your performance, I'm even more motivated now..." Ling Jue Yun said. His fighting spirit soared as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. He was not jealous of Duan Ling Tian's creation of the Space Sword Dao. He only grew more motivated and determined to improve himself as well.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes brightened as well when he sensed Ling Jue Yun's confidence and determination. "Your strength has improved greatly over the years as well. We should have a sparring session soon..."

"Alright," Ling Jue Yun said as a rare smile appeared on his face.

Meanwhile, Tang San Pao, who was usually a chatterbox, remained strangely silent as he stared at Duan Ling Tian's back. His fighting spirit burned in his eyes after he witnessed Duan Ling Tian's performance.

At this time, the voice of Xu Kong Hai, the Vice Temple Master of the main Title Temple who was also in charge of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses this time around, suddenly rang in Duan Ling Tian's ears.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you're willing to share Feng Qing Yang's Destructive Sword Dao with the Title Temple, the Title Temple will spare no efforts in giving you the best resources to cultivate. With that, your future is guaranteed to be incomparably bright!"

Xu Kong Hai continued to say through Voice Transmission, "Apart from that, I can also guarantee that you'll be given access to the Title Temple's secret room where only Vice Temple Masters or those with similar or higher positions are able to access..."

Duan Ling Tian was taken aback when he heard Xu Kong Hai's sudden proposal, but he was not tempted by it. His expression darkened slightly as he replied through Voice Transmission, "Vice Temple Master Xu, I hope you won't bring this matter up again after this. I, Duan Ling Tian, will never reveal the Destructive Sword Dao my master taught me even if it means losing my life."

The Destructive Sword Dao was Feng Qing Yang's precious fruit of labor after many trials and errors. It was created with much difficulty and contained his master's blood, sweat, and tears. Although it was likely that most people would not be able to comprehend the Destructive Sword Dao even if Duan Ling Tian were to reveal it, Duan Ling Tian still had no intention of revealing it to outsiders.

"Feng Qing Yang truly found himself a good disciple," Xu Kong Hai said with a sigh through Voice Transmission, "The Title Temple naturally won't force you if you're unwilling"

Following that, Xu Kong Hai shifted his gaze to the other young geniuses who were battling in the battle ring.

...

After half an hour...

Zhang Tian You, who was sitting behind Duan Ling Tian, was challenged by a One Star God of War. His opponent was rather good, and the duel ended in a draw. Although the duel ended in a draw, he was not eliminated.

Alas, Zhang Tian You had revealed all of his strength during his first challenge so the other participants managed to grasp the extent of his strength. Therefore, after an hour, he was defeated by his second challenger. Although his name had dropped in the ranking, he was still in the running to advance to the next round.

After Zhang Tian You lost his second challenge, more and more participants with strength comparable to Two Star Gods of War began to appear.

It did not take long before someone with the strength of a Two Star God of War challenged Su Li to a duel. However, Su Li's opponent was no match for him. With just a strike of his sword, he defeated his opponent.

"Su Li is at least a Three Star God of War!"

Although Su Li's opponent was just an ordinary Two Star God of War, many people could tell even a top Two Star God of War would not be capable of dominating his opponent so thoroughly.

"Su Li, you're amazing!" Tang San Pao said happily as he gave Su Li a thumbs-up. His expression turned crestfallen as he said, "Why isn't anyone challenging me? Do they think I'm a pushover?"

Upon hearing these words, Su Li said with a smile, "Up until now, you and Ling Jue Yun have yet to be challenged. No one dares to challenge Ling Jue Yun because they've seen what he's capable of. It should be easy for him to advance to the fourth round. Those who are confident of challenging him won't make an appearance now. They'll likely challenge him toward the end of the third round. Those who are capable of challenging him are likely among those who passed the third round, and they're likely to have strength comparable to a Three Star God of War at least. As for you, the Title Temple has assessed that you're likely stronger than a Two Star God of War. It's only natural that not many people dare to challenge you. If you ask me, those who challenge you likely only want to test your strength. Moreover, your challenger will likely be strong as well."

Tang San Pao's origin was a mystery. Even the description about him by the Title Temple was very brief. All that was said was that he was stronger than a Two Star God of War. This naturally made the other participants wary of him.

"Well, they should challenge me quickly! They've already challenged you and Duan Ling Tian; what else are they waiting for? It's too boring to just watch others duel!" Tang San Pao said.

Alas, even after a long time had passed, no one stepped forward to challenge Tang San Pao.

...

The third round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses continued on for more than 10 days.

During this time, some of the young geniuses who were eliminated during the previous round managed to make a comeback and entered the list of 300 participants who would be advancing to the fourth round. Needless to say, there were also those who managed to make it in the previous round who failed to make the list of 300 who would be advancing to the fourth round.

After Duan Ling Tian and Su Li were challenged during the first day of the third round, no one else had dared to challenge them after witnessing their performance. No one stepped forward to challenge Ling Jue Yun and Tang San Pao as well.

Zhang Tian You managed to defeat his third challenger but was ultimately kicked off the list of 300 participants who would be advancing to the fourth round. The same goes for Wang Ting.

Since the third round tested the individual strength of the participants, those who managed to advance to the fourth round were those who were rather strong. In the end, among the 300 participants who would advance to the fourth room, only a small number had strength comparable to a top One Star God of War; these people were also the weakest among the 300 participants.

Wang Ting said with a sigh to Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, Ling Jue Yun, and Tang San Pao, "Now that we've been eliminated, I hope all of you will go far in the Battle of the Geniuses..."

All of them had gotten quite close during the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses.

Zhang Tian You looked at a burly young man who had just left his seat and said with a chuckle, "Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan's fourth true disciple didn't make it to the next round. I wonder where he got his courage to challenge Duan Ling Tian previously."

Based on Zhang Tian You's words, it seemed like he had forgotten he was similar to Tong Tu, Gongsun Xuanyuan's fourth true disciple, before the start of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses. At that time, he had underestimated Duan Ling Tian as well and had told Wang Ting that he wanted to challenge Duan Ling Tian to a duel.

Chapter 3469: The Despicable Title Temple

After the third round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses came to an end, the young geniuses would be given a month to recuperate before the start of the fourth round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses. During the fourth round, only 100 out of 300 participants would be selected. However, not all of the 100 selected participants would be granted entry to the Title Temple's secret room. Only those who were ranked in the top 30 would be given access to the secret room. Nevertheless, those who made it into the top 100 but not the top 30 would still be handsomely rewarded.

The top 30 young geniuses would be determined during the fifth round of the Devata Realms' Battle of the Geniuses while the top 10 young geniuses would be selected during the sixth and seventh rounds.

The Devata Realm's Battle of the Geniuses had seven rounds in total. With each round, the number of geniuses would decrease accordingly.

When the third round ended, many participants began to leave the venue.

Although Feng Qing Yang did not ask Duan Ling Tian to stay behind, he bade farewell to Su Li and Ling Jue Yun, who were returning to their respective wooden houses, before he went to meet Feng Qing Yang. He had already sent a message to Feng Qing Yang, asking Feng Qing Yang to wait for him.

Hence, Feng Qing Yang did not leave with Ding Fu, Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, and waited for Duan Ling Tian instead.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian saw Feng Qing Yang, he said honestly, "Master, the Vice Temple Master, Xu Kong Hai, sent me a message earlier, asking me to share your Destructive Sword Dao with them."

Duan Ling Tian knew this was a sensitive matter, and it was best to inform Feng Qing Yang about it. After all, he would not have been able to come so far without Feng Qing Yang's help. No matter the consequences, he had to tell Feng Qing Yang about this matter. However, he was quite surprised when he saw Feng Qing Yang's calm expression after he had spoken.

Instead, Feng Qing Yang asked knowingly, "What did he promise you in exchange for revealing the Destructive Sword Dao?"

Duan Ling Tian replied truthfully, "He promised that the Title Temple would treat me the same as they treat Vice Temple Masters or those with equal or higher positions and grant me access to their secret room."

"How generous." A faint smile appeared on Feng Qing Yang's face.

"Master, why don't you seem surprised by this?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

"There's nothing to be surprised about," Feng Qing Yang shook his head and said, "Perhaps, I would've been surprised before I entered the Asura Hell, one of the deadliest places in the Devata Realms... However, after my stint in the Asura Hell, I've gained a deeper understanding of the Title Temple."

Duan Ling Tian looked at Feng Qing Yang curiously, unable to figure out what Feng Qing Yang meant.

"Let's return to my place, and I'll explain the matter to you," Feng Qing Yang said before leading Duan Ling Tian to the place where Ding Fu had arranged for him to stay.

Feng Qing Yang's accommodation was located halfway up a mountain in a quiet valley. The only noises that could be heard were the sounds of birds chirping.

Duan Ling Tian took a seat after Feng Qing Yang gestured to him to take a seat. Then, he looked at Feng Qing Yang silently, waiting for Feng Qing Yang to speak.

After a moment, Feng Qing Yang said, "I believe you must've guessed that I had a fortuitous encounter while I was in the Asura Hell... I happened to encounter a place that contained the message of a late powerhouse who had created and begun to comprehend his own Dao."

Duan Ling Tian's heart skipped a beat upon hearing Feng Qing Yang's words. The Asura Hell was indeed worthy of its reputation as one of the deadliest places in the Devata Realms. Even someone who had created his own Dao perished there. He could not help but wonder about the cultivation base of that

person. Even if he was halfway to becoming a god, meaning his strength was comparable to a Nine Star God of War, he would still have a difficult time in the Asura Hell.

“In his message, that person said that he was forced to enter the Asura Hell because he was being hunted by the gods in the Title Temple,” Feng Qing Yang said, “I was lucky that the person who chased after me back then did not follow me into the Asura Hell. Alas, the gods of the Title Temple chased that person into the Asura Hell. The Title Temple was hunting him because they wanted to obtain the Dao that he had created. When I found out about this, I knew the Title Temple covets the Daos that the others created. They hoped that their members would be able to create their own Daos by studying other people’s Daos.”

Upon hearing Feng Qing Yang’s words, Duan Ling Tian finally understood why his master was not surprised at all. As it turned out, his master had long coveted other people’s Daos.”

Feng Qing Yang continued to say, “Normally, the Dao one created is unique and almost impossible for someone who duplicated the Dao to surpass the person they copied the Dao from. One can only learn to create one’s own Dao by understanding the basics of another person’s Dao. A good example of this is you. You managed to create the Space Sword Dao after grasping the basics of my Destructive Sword Dao. Those who have fought with me or saw me in action through a Floating Image Pearl would definitely sense the Destructive Sword Dao. Naturally, those who witnessed your performance earlier could tell you’ve only begun trying to comprehend through the fundamentals of my own Dao. How can the Title Temple remain unmoved? They’re likely more interested in your Space Sword Dao compared to my Destructive Sword Dao. After all, it’d be much more difficult for them to duplicate my Sword Path. It’s much easier for them to understand your Sword Dao since you’ve only created it recently. Therefore, I think the Title Temple only approached you for your Dao, not mine. If you had already mastered your own Dao, it’s likely they won’t show so much interest in you.”

Duan Ling Tian was drenched in cold sweat after hearing Feng Qing Yang’s words. He had assumed Xu Kong Hai coveted his master’s Destructive Sword Dao; it did not cross his mind that Xu Kong Hai was after his Space Sword Dao. He could imagine the consequences if he had betrayed his master at that time. If he had betrayed his master, the Title Temple would never let him off easily. Without Feng Qing Yang’s support, he would have died in the Title Temple’s hands.

“The Title Temple won’t give up so easily,” Feng Qing Yang said, “When the time comes for you to enter the secret room, I’ll accompany you to the Title Temple. Otherwise, you might not be able to return. They might imprison you and torture you in order to make you talk since they can’t kill you. However, once they obtain your Space Sword Dao, they definitely won’t hesitate to kill you. They’ll probably slander you at the time, saying you betrayed me and revealed my Dao, so they can justify killing you. They’ll even send someone who has mastered your Dao to make their words more convincing...”

Duan Ling Tian was further shocked by Feng Qing Yang’s words. He asked as his eyes glinted coldly, “The Title Temple is really despicable. They would even stoop so low?”

“Otherwise, how else do you think they withstood the test of time in the Devata Realms until now? If they were compassionate, they wouldn’t have lasted until now...” Feng Qing Yang said.

Duan Ling Tian nodded. Based on what he knew, the Title Temple existed since the dawn of Devata Realms. There were no forces that had a longer history than the Title Temple. There was even a saying in

the Devata Realms about how the history of the Title Temple was like the history of all Devata Realms. Indeed, it was not an exaggeration.

“This time, there must be an outstanding young genius representing the Title Temple during the Devata Realms’ Battle of the Geniuses. I suspect that young genius is at least as strong as a Six Star God of War since the Title Temple is willing to offer the Exploding Element Celestial Fruit as a reward. However, I have no idea who that young genius is. Apart from you, Ling Jue Yun, and a few other young geniuses, none have displayed strength stronger than that of a Three Star God of War. Even Heavenly Emperor Xuanyuan’s third true disciple, Yu Dong Fang, only displayed the strength of a Two Star God of War so far when he’s suspected to be stronger than a Four Star God of War. I’m saying this to remind you that what we’ve seen from the young geniuses so far is only the tip of the iceberg; everyone is still carefully hiding their strength. Although you’re strong, you mustn’t be careless. Otherwise, it’ll be your downfall...” Feng Qing Yang said solemnly. Although he was confident about Duan Ling Tian’s strength, he was worried Duan Ling Tian would be careless.

“Master, I understand.” Duan Ling Tian nodded sincerely. At the same time, his blood began to boil as he thought about the young genius representing the Title Temple who was as strong as a Six Star God of War at least...

Chapter 3470: The Four Daos of Heaven and Earth

After learning the true nature of the Title Temple, Duan Ling Tian could not help but feel worried as he made his way back to his wooden house.

When he recalled the promises Xu Kong Hai, the Vice Temple Master of the main Title Temple, had made earlier, he realized it was all an empty promise to lure him into betraying his master and joining the Title Temple. As soon as he revealed his master’s Destructive Sword Dao and his Space Sword Dao to the Title Temple, they would kill him and lie to the public that they had only done so for his master’s sake. All they had to do was send one of their members to display his or Feng Qing Yang’s Dao to convince the masses of their lies. There was nothing Feng Qing Yang could do to avenge him at that time even if Feng Qing Yang was privy to the truth. On the other hand, if he did not give in to the Title Temple, they would imprison him and torture him. With a force whose history was as long as that of the Devata Realms, it was not impossible for them to hide him from the world. Even his master, Feng Qing Yang, would not be able to find him. Even if Feng Qing Yang found him, unless Feng Qing Yang had absolute proof they were imprisoning him, Feng Qing Yang could not easily make a move against the Title Temple.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, ‘Until I’m strong enough, I can’t go to the Title Temple unless master accompanies me there...’

...

Duan Ling Tian did not stay in his wooden house. He had sent a message to Wei Qi, the true disciple of Ding Fu; the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, asking Wei Qi to find him a secluded and vast place where he could practice his Space Sword Dao.

“Junior Brother Duan, nobody will disturb you here,” Wei Qi smiled at Duan Ling Tian and said, “Feel free to contact me if there’s anything else you need help with. I’ll take my leave now if there’s nothing else...”

“Thank you, Senior Brother Wei Qi,” Duan Ling Tian said gratefully.

Duan Ling Tian had informed Feng Qing Yang of his whereabouts as well. Although Feng Qing Yang had left a divine mark on him, he was not sure if the Title Temple knew of a method to render the divine mark useless.

When Feng Qing Yang heard about Duan Ling Tian’s worries, he replied, amused, “You’re thinking too much. I’ve placed a small part of my divine soul into the divine mark. If anything happens, I’ll be instantly alerted. Even supreme powerhouses can’t disrupt or nullify the effect of the divine mark. Although there are some ancient Formations and divine Formations that are capable of interfering with the divine mark, they can’t affect the Interlink Divine Pebble I gave you as a precaution...”

Before leaving the Solitary Destructive Heaven, Feng Qing Yang had given Duan Ling Tian a jet black thumb-sized pebble. The pebble was carved with intricate patterns and looked mysterious. At that time, Feng Qing Yang had only told him they could communicate through the pebble just like Soul Pearl; Feng Qing Yang did not say the pebble’s name was the Interlink Divine Pebble. Based on its name, it was clear the pebble was no ordinary item.

Duan Ling Tian brought the pebble out and asked, “Master, the Interlink Divine Pebble must be extraordinary, right?”

“I obtained it from the Asura Hell. It belonged to a dead god... He had many Interlink Divine Pebbles, but this pair that I obtained is the only one that’s working,” Feng Qing Yang said.

“He had other pebbles?” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes lit up. “Doesn’t this mean those that can’t be used belong to his family or friends? Can’t we build a good relationship with those from a Realm of Gods then?”

“It’s likely.” Feng Qing Yang nodded. “The Interlink Divine Pebbles are similar to the Communication Celestial Talismans. They only work when both sides are in the same realm. In order for us to contact his family or friends, we’ll have to be in the same realm. However, even if I have a chance to use the pebbles, I wouldn’t try to build a relationship with those gods. There’s a possibility it’ll end in a disaster instead. It’s best to rely on ourselves for success instead of constantly relying on others. If you rely on others too much, it’ll only lead to your downfall.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded. He naturally understood Feng Qing Yang’s words. Even if he could contact the dead god’s family or friends, he would not do such a thing. Who knew what kind of powerhouse he might encounter. It would not be a problem if they were good people, but it would be disastrous if he met those with ill intentions. There was also the possibility that the dead god’s family and friends might not listen to his explanation and blame him for the death of the god.

“Thank you, master,” Duan Ling Tian finally said. He felt warmth suffuse his heart after listening to Feng Qing Yang’s explanation. After all, Feng Qing Yang had given him one half of the Interlink Divine Pebble.

“Continue to comprehend your Space Sword Dao... I hope to see great improvements in your strength during the upcoming round...” Feng Qing Yang replied. He no longer replied to Duan Ling Tian’s messages after saying these words.

Following that, Duan Ling Tian emptied his mind of distracting thoughts and began to practice and study his Space Sword Dao.

At times, he could be seen moving as swiftly as the wind as he practiced his sword technique. However, most of the time, he could be seen sleeping as he comprehended the law of space through the Supreme Powerhouse Divinity to better incorporate the profundities into his sword technique.

In the end, his progress over this one month greatly surpassed his progress when he was in the Solitary Destructive Heaven. He could not help but wonder if it was due to pressure from the Title Temple that he progressed so quickly. Regardless of the reason, being able to progress was a good thing.

‘The fourth round of the Battle of the Geniuses will start tomorrow; I should return to the wooden house today...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

When he returned to his wooden house, he did not continue to cultivate. Instead, he brought the Formation compass to hide his aura before he opened up his Little World to communicate with the World Cleansing Divine Water, which was one of the Five Divine Elements.

“Sister Water, since I can incorporate the profundities of the law of space into my sword technique to create my own Sword Dao, is it possible to also create other Daos using the same method?”

Over the last month, when Duan Ling Tian was comprehending his Space Sword Dao, he discovered his comprehension of the law of space had improved greatly as well. Although he did not manage to fuse any more profundities, he had the feeling like he could control the space in his surroundings.

“Of course, you can.”

Duan Ling Tian had decided to speak to the World Cleansing Divine Water about this matter because it was the most knowledgeable among the Five Divine Elements. After all, its previous host was the Tree of Life in a Realm of the Gods. If that Realm of God had not been destroyed, it would not have come to the Devata Realms.

“I’m sure you know there are various Daos; they’re not only restricted to Sword Daos, Saber Daos, or Spear Daos. In the Realms of Gods and the Devata Realms, Weapon Dao is only one of many Daos. There are the Mastery Dao, the Limitless Dao, and the Devouring Dao,” the World Cleansing Divine Water said, “Collectively, they’re known as the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth...”

“The Four Daos of Heaven and Earth? What’s the Devouring Dao?” Duan Ling Tian instinctively asked as his eyes brightened. He recalled the Elementary Devouring Tactic that he had mastered in the past and the Advanced Devouring Tactic, which the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven mastered. Based on his master’s words, not only could the Advanced Devouring Tactic devour Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy, but it could also devour its opponent’s Celestial Origin Energy and the energy from the laws as well.

“The Devouring Dao is terrifyingly powerful. It can devour any kind of energy and transform it into attacks,” the World Cleansing Divine Water said, “Those who’ve mastered or created a Devouring Dao are extremely strong. You must be extra cautious when battling with this kind of opponent. Otherwise, your energy would be used against you if you’re careless. Needless to say, the Devouring Dao is difficult to master...”

Duan Ling Tian could not help but wonder if the Heavenly Emperor of the Primeval Heaven, Ding Fu, had comprehended or created any Devouring Dao.

“What about the Limitless Dao?” Duan Ling Tian asked.

“The Limitless Dao signifies infinite energy. Not only does one’s Celestial Origin Energy seem limitless, but even one’s Soul Energy seems limitless. The Limitless Dao also boosts one’s energy, pressuring the opponents. One can easily overwhelm one’s opponents after exhausting time. Naturally, this is just an illusion; how can energy be limitless? However, the illusion of the pressure from the Limitless Dao is more terrifying than any Illusory Formation. Otherwise, it wouldn’t be part of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth...” the World Cleansing Divine Water explained.

Duan Ling Tian nodded. It seemed like the Limitless Dao was like an Illusory Dao. However, even if one knew it was an Illusion, it would still be difficult to escape from its effects.

“What about the Mastery Dao?” Duan Ling Tian asked as his heart began to thump wildly in his chest. After all, based on his recent experience where he felt as though he could do anything according to his will within a certain radius, he had a feeling he would eventually be led to the Mastery Dao.

“There are many types of Mastery Dao that are closely related to the major laws...”

Upon hearing these words, Duan Ling Tian was further convinced that he had a chance of creating a Mastery Dao.