

### Chapter 3621: Fourth Leader Zhong

The crowd in the auction house was not surprised that Han Li Gang, the second elder of the 10,000 Devils Sect, yielded. After all, Han Li Gang was no match for Murong Sui Feng.

Although Han Li Gang was also an advanced King of Gods, he was only slightly stronger than an ordinary King of Gods. How could he compare to Murong Sui Feng who was close to becoming a Lord of Gods?

The crowd was more surprised that the members of the 10,000 Devils Sect attended the auction.

"I can't believe the 10,000 Devils Sect that are rivals with the Hidden Fog Sect came to Skywind City as well!"

"That's right! Skywind City is one of the cities under the Hidden Fog Sect's control, after all. Aren't the members of the 10,000 Devils Sect afraid they won't be able to leave alive after entering the city?"

"Despite their conflicts, the Hidden Fog Sect won't rashly move against the 10,000 Devils Sect. After all, it's not to their advantage to start a war with the 10,000 Devils Sect for no good reason..."

"Nevertheless, the fact that the 10,000 Devils Sect took the risk to come to Skywind City only proves how coveted the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique is!"

The conflict between Murong Siu Feng and Han Li Gang was just a trivial matter. Hence, it did not take long for the crowd to return their attention to the stage.

At this time, the first item was finally brought out for bidding.

"Ladies and gentlemen, this is the first item up for bidding," Zhou Yun said with a smile as she brought out a bottle of pills, "The three pills in this bottle are known as the Primary Divine Pill, Secondary Divine Pill, and Tertiary Divine Pill respectively. The effects aren't that extraordinary if ingested separately. However, if they're ingested together, it's able to boost one's cultivation tremendously. Not only that, but they're even more beneficial if one has high-grade cultivation methods. For example, an emperor-grade cultivation technique coupled with the three pills can help someone who has just attained godhood break through and become an intermediate god in just a short time. With a supreme cultivation method, a rudimentary god can even become an advanced god after ingesting the three pills. However, even without extraordinary cultivation methods, the pills will still greatly boost one's cultivation. The pills are also a very suitable gift for the younger generation."

The eyes of the people present, including the Kings of Gods, lit up as soon as they heard Zhou Yu's words.

"The Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills are hard to refine and have a low success rate. Even a king-rank force would have a tough time obtaining all three pills. This is a great opportunity for you to obtain all three divine pills. The starting bid for these three pills is 3,000 taels of divine rocks. Every increment has to be at least 1,000 taels of divine rocks," Zhou said as she raised the bottle of pills in her hand.

As soon as Zhou Yu's voice fell, someone cried out, "3,000 taels of divine rocks!"

Before Zhou Yu could speak again, another person called out, “4,000 taels of divine rocks!”

After a breath, someone called out, “5,000 taels of divine rocks!”

5,000 taels of divine rocks were about the price of the divine rocks. They were rather costly due to their rarity. Apart from that, they were also in high demand. After all, to these people, it was much more difficult to obtain high-grade cultivation methods to help with their breakthroughs. For this reason, how could they not want the pills that could help raise their cultivation bases?

“This gentleman here has offered 5,000 taels of divine rocks for the divine pills. Is there anyone who still wants to bid for them? To the guests on the first floor, it’s still not too late for you to bid on these pills,” Zhou Yun asked before she said, “5,000 taels of divine rocks, going once...”

The three divine pills would be sold at 5,000 taels of divine rocks if no one bid for it after the count of three.

The crowd raised their heads to look at the windows on the first floor.

At this moment, a high-pitch voice rang out from one of the rooms on the first floor.

“6,000 taels of divine rocks!”

It did not take long for the crowd to identify the owner of the voice.

“That’s the Fourth Leader of the Zhong clan!”

The Zhong clan was a king-rank clan comparable to the Zhou clan in Skywind City. It was easy for people to identify Zhong Si, the Fourth Leader of the Zhong clan since he was in charge of managing the restaurants under the Zhong clan located in the Zhong Clan’s trading zone. He frequently appeared in the restaurants so many people recognized his voice immediately.

At this moment, Zhong Si said, “It seems like many people recognized my voice. I feel flattered. I hope the gentleman who bid for the pills previously will let me have the pills. My useless son needs them, after all.”

Upon hearing Zhong Si’s words, Zhou Yu furrowed her brows and said, “Fourth Leader Zhong, are you trying to provoke the Zhou clan? It’s against the rules to make such a request during an auction. Would the Zhong clan allow this kind of behavior during their auctions?”

Zhou Yun, naturally, knew that Zhong Si’s words would intimidate people, causing them to stop bidding for the divine pills. Most of the people with higher status than Zhong Si, naturally would not bid for these divine pills while those who were interested would not bid for it in fear of offending the Zhong clan. The Zhong clan aside, Zhong Si was an extraordinary advanced god, and his comprehension of the law was the deepest among his peers in the Zhong clan.

Zhong Si laughed before he said, “Elder Zhou Yun, you misunderstand me. I don’t intend to violate the rules of the auction. I only spoke earlier because I was surprised people could recognize my voice.” After a brief pause, he said, ‘Gentleman, please disregard my earlier words. Everyone who’s interested in the

divine pills, please continue to bid for them. I'm a fair person, after all. Are you satisfied, Elder Zhou Yun?"

Despite his words, Zhong Si's expression and tone were frosty. Everyone could sense the threat hidden behind his words.

"You!" Zhou Yun was furious. However, before she could say more, a youthful voice rang from one of the rooms.

"7,000 taels of divine rocks!"

The smile on the face of Zhong Shi, who was in room six, vanished immediately. He smacked the table, destroying it. He said in a low voice so only those in the room could hear him, "Who has the audacity to act against my wishes?"

"Fourth Leader, the voice seemed to have come from room nine," an old man standing behind Zhong Si said in a low voice as he stepped forward.

"Room nine?" Zhong Si's eyes glinted coldly as he asked, "I supposed those in room nine aren't from any lord-rank forces, right?"

"No. The members of lord-rank forces occupied room one to room five," the old man replied.

"Very good," Zhong Si said with a nod, "They're really bold."

After a moment, Zhong Si called out in an icy voice, "8,000 taels of divine rocks!"

As soon as Zhong Si's voice fell, a commotion broke out among the crowd again.

"It seems like Fourth Leader Zhong Si is furious..."

"I wonder who's in room nine. Even if Fourth Leader manages to obtain the pills, he likely won't let the person who bid against him go."

"Whoever's in room nine must be crazy for bidding against Fourth Leader Zhong Si!"

While the crowd was busy discussing among themselves again, they kept looking at the window of room nine as well.

"10,000 taels of divine rocks!" Duan Ling Tian decisively raised the price by two times. He did not pay any attention to Zhong Si, at all..

### **Chapter 3622: Duan Ling Tian Doesn't Lack Divine Stones**

When Duan Ling Tian was still in Descent Mountain City, he had already heard of the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills. Normally, one of the pills went for 1,000 taels of divine rocks. Collectively, they usually fetched about 3,000 to 5,000 taels of divine rocks. Under normal circumstances, no one would usually pay more than 5,000 taels of divine rocks for it.

Duan Ling Tian was determined to obtain the pills since it would help him become an intermediate or possibly, an advanced god. Moreover, he had the supreme cultivation method, the Thousand Changes

Illusory Technique, that his master taught him, which he then used to upgrade the Nine Dragons War Sovereign technique. With his supreme cultivation method, the pills were even more beneficial to him. Hence, even if the three pills cost 20,000 or 30,000 taels of rocks, he would still be willing to buy them.

In room nine.

“Brother,” Duan Qiao Yu, who was sitting next to Duan Ling Tian and holding his arm, called out with a frown on her face. Then, she said, “Brother, don’t you believe me? I don’t have them with me now, but I know where to get the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Pills. There’s no need to compete with him for the pills here. Let him have them for 8,000 taels of divine rocks.”

“It’s fine. I have a lot of divine rocks anyway,” Duan Ling Tian said with a smile as he shook his head.

Earlier, Duan Qiao Yu had already tried to stop him when he bade for the pills with 7,000 taels of divine rocks. After all, she could get the pills at a much cheaper price outside. The caveat was they had to wait for three months. However, Duan Ling Tian did not wish to wait. Moreover, he did not lack divine rocks. With more than 190,000 divine rocks, he did not mind even if he had to spend tens of thousands of taels of divine rocks. After all, he was sure he would be able to get more divine rocks once he grew stronger.

Silence descended as soon as Duan Ling Tian raised the price to 10,000 taels of divine rocks.

Zhou Yun and the others shifted their eyes to the window of room nine immediately.

When Zhou Yun regained her senses, she hastily said, “The gentleman in room nine is determined to obtain these pills. Does anyone plan to raise the bid?”

A hint of mockery could be heard in Zhou Yun’s voice nearing the end of her words.

Zhong Si, the Fourth Leader of the Zhong clan, scoffed. However, he did not bid for the pills again nor did he say anything. After all, it would be even more embarrassing if he were to speak up at this moment. Then, he said to his subordinate, “Find out who’s in room nine.”

“Yes, Fourth Leader.” Zhong Si’s subordinate left after responding to him.

At the same time, Zhou Yun counted down. With no one else bidding for the pills, Duan Ling Tian successfully obtained the three pills.

A faint smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian’s face. He was clearly pleased even if he had to pay 10,000 taels of divine rocks for the three pills.

At this time, Zhou Yun continued with the auction. She said, “Ladies and gentlemen, for the next item, we have a prominent cultivation method. The bidding price will start 5,000 taels of divine rocks, and each increment has to be at least 1,000 taels of divine rocks.”

In Skywind City and the areas in its vicinity, prominent cultivation methods could be considered rare as well. With a high innate talent, one could become an advanced god with it. One of the easier ways to cultivate the prominent cultivation method was to borrow them from the three major king-rank forces in Skywind City. However, the borrowing fee was rather high.

There were many people present who wanted the prominent cultivation method for their own use, and there were equally as many who wanted to lend them to others for a fee. Hence, as soon as Zhou Yun's voice fell, many people began to bid for it.

"5,000 divine rocks!"

"6,000 divine rocks!"

"7,000 divine rocks!"

"8,000 divine rocks!"

It did not take long for the price to surpass 10,000 taels of divine rocks. Eventually, the prominent cultivation method was sold at 15,000 taels of divine rocks to someone on the ground floor.

After the auction for the second item ended, a knock rang in Duan Ling Tian's room.

"Sir, I'm a member of the Zhou clan. I'm here to hand you the three divine pills."

One of the perks of paying for a room was that the item would be personally delivered rather quickly.

"Enter," Duan Ling Tian called out.

The door opened, revealing a middle-aged man with a medium build. The bottle of pills was placed on a red cloth that was draped over an ornate tray in his hand. He said with a smile, "Sir, please examine the item. If there's no problem, you can hand the divine rocks over to me."

Duan Ling Tian nodded. Then, his eyes shifted to an old man who had come into the room after the middle-aged man entered the room. He saw the old man looking at him, Yu Qiu Xuan, and Duan Qiao Yu furtively, but he did not pay attention to the old man. Instead, he handed 10,000 taels of divine rocks to the middle-aged man and said, "Thank you."

"Thank you, sir," the middle-aged man said before he left the room and closed the door behind him.

After the middle-aged man and the old man left the room, they walked a distance away before they finally came to a stop at a corner of the corridor. Following that, the old man handed a few divine rocks to the middle-aged man as he said, "I'm sure you know Fourth Leader Zhong dislikes those who can't keep a secret. Pretend you don't know anything. Otherwise, your family will be in danger."

The middle-aged man was, in fact, not a member of the Zhou clan. Instead, he was a member of a small clan under the Zhou clan. Zhong Si's subordinate had blocked his path earlier and threatened him while he was on the way to deliver the pills to Duan Ling Tian. The old man had threatened to harm his family if he refused to cooperate.

"Rest assured, my lord. I won't say a word about this," the middle-aged man said respectfully as he put away the divine rocks.

"Very well." The old man nodded, satisfied, before he returned to room six.

As soon as Zhong Si saw the old man, he asked with a hint of impatience, "So? Did you find out who is in room nine?"

"There are three people there, and I've never seen them before," the old man replied.

Zhong Si's eyes flashed coldly. "They must not be from around here. No one in or around Skywind City would've dared to cross me unless they're members of king-rank forces themselves. Do you remember their faces?"

The old man nodded. "Yes, I did. There's a purple-clad young man, a woman, and a teenage girl. However... They don't seem like ordinary people, Fourth Leader. Perhaps, we shouldn't act rashly before we investigate their backgrounds."

"I know." Zhong Si was experienced, after all. How could he be the Fourth Leader of the Zhong clan or manage so many restaurants if he was an impetuous person?

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The auction continued; items were auctioned off one after another.

After obtaining the three pills, Duan Ling Tian did not bid for any other items since none of them were useful to him..

### **Chapter 3623: The Highlight of the Auction**

In just a blink of an eye, the Zhou clan's auction was drawing to a close. Up until now, many rare treasures had been auctioned off, including Floating Image Pearls that contained battles between Kings of Gods and Lords of Gods and weapons.

Duan Ling Tian had no interest in those things at all so he only watched as people bid for the items. He was also not one to stir up trouble by deliberately raising up the price for items with no intention of purchasing the items. Moreover, that action came with the risk of accidentally buying the items, in turn, wasting his divine rocks.

"Isn't there anything you want to bid for?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously as he glanced at Duan Qiao Yu and Yu Qiu Xuan.

"Brother," Duan Qiao Yu replied before Yu Qiu Xuan could speak, "The auction is really boring. There's nothing good at all. Do you want that lord-grade cultivation method, Brother? I can get it for you if you want it." Then, a frown appeared on her face as she continued to say, "It's unfortunate that I'm prohibited from disclosing our clan's cultivation method. Otherwise, I'd teach them to you."

Upon hearing Yu Qiu Xuan coughed a few times before she deliberately changed the subject. "Young Miss, the highlight of the auction is about to begin."

Duan Ling Tian looked at Duan Qiao Yu. She was so cute that he could not help but pat her head. When he regained his senses, he hurriedly withdrew his hand. He thought his action was rather weird and abrupt. However, to his surprise, not only was Duan Qian Yu not bothered, but she was looking at him happily. Upon seeing this, he no longer held back and patted her head again.

Duan Qiao Yu blinked her limpid eyes and complained coquettishly, "Brother, you're messing up my hair."

Duan Ling Tian asked with her smile, "Did your brother pat your head like that as well?"

Duan Qiao Yu's eyes lit up at the mention of her brother. She nodded and said, "That's right! My brother patted my head all the time in the past."

...

Meanwhile, silence descended in the auction house.

Everyone's eyes were focused on Zhou Yu who was standing on the stage. To be precise, their eyes were trained on the Spatial Ring she held in her hands. As soon as she brought them out, their eyes were glued to it. After all, the ring held the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, a lord-grade cultivation method.

Under everyone's eyes, Zhou Yu said loudly, "Ladies and gentleman, the lord-rank Ke Clan's clan-guarding cultivation method, the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, is stored in this Spatial Ring. One has to be a Lord of Gods to unseal this cultivation method. Although the Zhou clan didn't unseal the cultivation method, through various means and our clan's experts' Divine Consciousness, we've verified that it's indeed the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique."

After performing the Blood Ownership on the ring, Zhou Yu brought out a dark jade slip that glowed strangely and alternatingly with a green, red, and blue light.

"If one forcefully unseals the cultivation method, one risks destroying the jade slip and the cultivation method within it. Now, I invited all of you to probe it with your Divine Consciousness to check its authenticity."

Everyone, including Duan Ling Tian, extended their Divine Consciousness into the jade slip to verify its content.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian's Divine Consciousness entered the jade slip, he obtained a brief introduction of the lord-grade cultivation method, the way to unseal the cultivation method, and the consequences of forcefully unsealing it. It was just as Zhou Yu had said, one had to be a Lord of God at least to unseal the cultivation method. It would be destroyed if one tried to forcefully unseal it.

'Celestials in the Devata Realms really can't compare to the inhabitants of Realms of Gods. Even a Lord of Gods is capable of casting such a formidable Formation. I can't imagine how terrifyingly strong Emperors of Gods and Supreme Gods are...'

Even before coming to the Realm of Gods, Duan Ling Tian had already met a few inhabitants of the Realms of Gods such as Ke'er's third uncle, Xia Jie; Yun Qing Yan, the Young Master of the Yun clan; and the servant from the Yun clan who was sent to kill his master, Feng Qing Yang. However, these people were not at their full strength when Duan Ling Tian met them due to the restraints imposed on them once they left the Realms of Gods. The more pure one's blood was, the less the restraint would affect one.

For example, Xia Jie and Yun Qing Yan were considered to be pure-blood inhabitants. Hence, the duo could exert more than half of their strength after leaving the Realm of Gods. On the other hand, the servant on the Yun clan's strength was greatly restrained that his cultivation base was suppressed to that of a rudimentary god.

The Yun clan's servant's comprehension of the law was not as good as Feng Qing Yang's. Moreover, Feng Qing Yang had also formed and comprehended the Sword Dao, one of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth. These were all reasons why he had failed to kill Feng Qing Yang and only managed to force Feng Qing Yang to escape to the Asura Hell, one of the seven deadliest places in the Devata Realms.

This restraint was imposed on them by the supreme powerhouses. This was because the supreme powerhouses had foreseen the inhabitants of the Realms of Gods going to the Devata Realms and killing indiscriminately or starting a massacre. If the Devata Realms were destroyed, there would be a chain of reactions. Even the mundane realms might cease to exist if the Devata Realms were destroyed.

On the other hand, those from the mundane realms or Devata Realms were not affected by the restraint at all unless they were specifically targeted by the supreme powerhouses. Moreover, due to the inhabitants of the Realms of Gods possessing blood of the supreme powerhouses, it was easier for the supreme powerhouses to track them and restrain them.

Duan Ling Tian who was lost in his thoughts was pulled back to his senses by the conversation in his surroundings.

By now, most people had already withdrawn their Divine Consciousness and were discussing among themselves.

"This must be another reason the Zhou clan didn't keep the cultivation method for themselves. As it turns out, only a Lord of Gods or someone stronger can unseal it."

"Even if the Zhou clan was afraid of the trouble that would surely come with possessing a lord-grade cultivation method, I thought they would at least let a few of their members master it first before auctioning off. As it turns out, they didn't do so because they can't unseal the cultivation method."

"That's right! After all, if the Zhou clan seeks help from a Lord of Gods to unseal the cultivation method, it's likely that they would be robbed of the cultivation method."

"A lord-grade cultivation method, huh? I bet it's going to be sold for an astronomical price!"

Duan Ling Tian watched with great interest. After all, this was the highlight of the auction.

At this moment, someone called out impatiently, "Hurry up and start the auction!"

Zhou Yu smiled in satisfaction when she saw the crowd's reaction. She glanced at the jade slip before she said, "The opening bid for this lord-grade cultivation method, the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, is 100,000 taels of divine rocks."

However, after Zhou Yu finished speaking, no one made a bid at all.

A few people looked at each other in confusion before they began to whisper among themselves.



“What’s going on? How come no one’s bidding for it? Although 100,000 taels of divine rocks are a lot for us, it’s nothing but mere change for those lord-rank forces, right?”

“Let alone a lord-rank force, just a high-ranking official from a lord-rank force possesses hundreds of thousands of divine rocks!”

“So what’s going on? Didn’t you say there are five lord-rank forces present today, including the Hidden Fog Sect?”

The atmosphere was a little awkward now. After all, quite some time had passed since the item was brought out, but no one had yet to bid for it. It was rather strange that no one was bidding for it.

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At this time, Zhong Si, the Fourth Leader of the Zhong clan, and the other members of the king-rank forces were tempted to bid for the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique.

In room twelve.

A burly old man asked the middle-aged man sitting next to him, “Aren’t you going to bid for it? Didn’t we come to the auction for the lord-grade cultivation method?”

The middle-aged man had an angry-looking scar on the left side of his face, making him look very fierce. Upon hearing the old man’s words, he sighed and said with a helpless expression, “I really want to bid for it, but I can’t..”

### **Chapter 3624: Duan Qiao Yu Bids**

Upon hearing the scarred middle-aged man’s words, the old man narrowed his eyes and said indignantly, “Leader, did a lord-rank force threaten you and force you to give up on the cultivation method? Which lord-rank force is it? Aren’t they afraid that their disciples or descendants will suffer the wrath of our Bloody Saber Alliance as soon as they leave their sect or clan? Do they think they’d be able to protect their members forever? Can their members stay within the gates of their estate forever?”

The Bloody Saber Alliance was a king-rank bandit group that had moved into the vicinity of Skywind City. Most of the king-rank forces in Skywind City left them alone, afraid of provoking them. Even some lord-rank forces were careful not to provoke them unnecessarily. After all, these bandits were like nomads, moving from one place to another. On the contrary, most forces were restrained since they had put down roots. This meant that if they carelessly provoked others, they would be easily found. Even if they were powerful, their weaker disciples and members would be in danger. Hence, due to the nomadic nature of bandit groups, they did not think twice about offending forces stronger than them.

The scarred middle-aged man shook his head when he heard the old man’s words. Then, he said, “It’s not just one lord-rank force that prohibited me from bidding. All the lord-rank forces have prohibited me from bidding. If I bid for it, there’s no doubt you and I won’t be able to leave Skywind City alive.”

The old man’s expression soured upon hearing these words. Then, a hint of fear could be seen in his eyes as he asked, “Does that include Murong Sui Feng?”

Murong Sui Feng was the Vice Sect Leader of the lord-rank Hidden Fog Sect and the dean of the Hidden Fog Academy. It was not an exaggeration to say he had the highest status among everyone present today, especially in Skywind City.

With all this, how could the old man not be fearful of Murong Sui Feng?

“That’s right.” The scarred middle-aged man nodded. “The Hidden Fog Sect and the Hidden Fog Academy are among those who threatened me.”

“D\*mn it!” the old man cursed, “These lord-rank forces are too shameless!”

No wonder the leader of the Bloody Saber Alliance did not bid on the lord-grade cultivation method. As it turned out, the lord-rank forces had joined forces and forbade others from bidding. Moreover, based on how silent it was, it was clear that the other king-rank bandit groups had also been threatened.

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Meanwhile, Zhou Yu’s expression changed slightly. She wondered if it was really possible that no one would bid for the lord-grade cultivation method today. After all, apart from being unable to unseal the cultivation method, they really wanted to get rid of this ‘ticking time bomb’ as soon as they could. If they failed to sell it today, everyone would know the lord-grade cultivation method was still with the Zhou clan. At that time, disaster would surely befall the Zhou clan.

Zhou Yun inhaled deeply before she sent a Voice Transmission to the King of Guard guarding the Zhou clan’s trading zone today. The King of Gods was also one of the ancestors of the Zhou clan in Skywind City.

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The Zhou clan’s King of Gods was a very old man who looked as though he already had one foot in the grave. When he received the message, he was in the midst of fishing in a pond near the Zhou clan’s trading zone.

His eyes that were flashing coldly narrowed slightly upon hearing Zhao Yu’s message. “Clearly, the lord-rank forces are working together to intimidate the others. Otherwise, even if the king-rank forces don’t dare to bid for it, the king-rank bandit groups would’ve definitely bid for it!”

After a moment, he sent a reply to Zhao Yun.

“Lower the starting bid to 10,000 taels of divine rocks!”

After sending the message, his fishing rod broke with a loud crack. Although he looked calm at this moment, a freezing energy began to sweep out from his body. In just a second, the entire pond was frozen. Based on this, it was clear he had comprehended the law of ice.

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Back in the Zhou clan’s auction house.

After Zhou Yun received the message from the clan’s King of Gods, she hurriedly said, “Since there’s no bid for the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, our ancestor has instructed me to lower

the starting bid. Currently, the opening bid for the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique is 10,000 taels of divine rocks.”

An uproar broke out in the auction house as soon as Zhou Yun’s voice fell.

It seems like the Zhou clan was really determined to auction off the lord-grade cultivation method today. Even their ancestor, a King of God, had gotten involved. More shockingly, the Zhou clan decided to lower the starting bid from 100,000 taels of divine rocks to 10,000 taels of divine rocks. After all, even those who were seated on the ground floor could afford to bid for it. For this reason, many people were greatly tempted to bid for it. However, after thinking about and hearing the conversation in their surroundings, they quickly gave up on that idea.

“How strange. I don’t understand why no one’s bidding.”

“It’s clear that the lord-rank forces have something to do with this.”

“That’s right. Members of the lord-rank forces aside, I bet they threaten to kill those who dare to bid for it. Moreover, look at the Zhou clan. They’re so desperate to get rid of the lord-grade cultivation method that they’re even lowering the starting bid from 100,000 taels of divine rocks to 10,000 taels of divine rocks! It’s clear the cultivation method is like a ticking time bomb!”

“That’s obvious! I bet the Zhou clan won’t even be able to hold on to it for three days before it’s taken away from them!”

After hearing such words, those who were greatly tempted to bid for the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique instantly dismissed that idea. After all, even the Zhou clan did not dare to keep it for themselves.

For this reason, even after the starting bid had been lowered, no one bid for the item at all.

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In room nine.

Duan Ling Tian was watching everything with great interest. Unlike himself, he knew everyone coveted the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique. However, based on the current situation, it was very clear everyone valued their lives more than the lord-grade cultivation method. After all, what was the use of obtaining the cultivation method if they were going to lose their lives?

Although the king-rank forces in Skywind City, like the Zhou clan and Zhong clan, would not bid for the item, under normal circumstances, the king-rank bandit groups would definitely bid for it. However, with the lord-rank forces working together, even the king-rank bandit groups did not dare to act recklessly.

Duan Ling Tian was naturally aware that the lord-rank forces had something to do with the lack of bidders.

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Just as everyone had speculated, the lord-rank forces, including the Hidden Fog Sect and the 10,000 Devils Sect, had already come to an agreement regarding the lord-grade Six God Profound Shadow

Technique. Then, they banded together to intimidate the king-rank bandit groups. They planned to obtain the cultivation method without spending their divine rocks.

It was advantageous for them to work together, after all. There could only be one force that obtained the lord-grade cultivation method if they went with the conventional route. Moreover, the winner would also have to pay a high price for it. With their plan, not only all of them would have a turn with the lord-grade cultivation method, but they also would not have to pay for it.

...

At this time, Duan Qiao Yu who was sitting next to Duan Ling Tian exclaimed in disbelief, "No one's bidding for the lord-grade cultivation method?! The starting bid has even been lowered to 10,000 taels of divine rocks, but still no one's interested?"

After a moment, she laughed before she said, "Alright, since no one wants it, I'll bid for it then! After buying it for 10,000 taels of divine rocks, I can sell it for hundreds of thousands of taels of divine rocks!"

With this, Duan Qiao Yu no longer wasted time and instantly called out, "10,000 divine rocks!"

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Duan Qiao Yu's voice was amplified due to the silence in the auction house. Her words caused a huge commotion immediately like a pebble that gave rise to thousands of waves.

"Someone actually bid for it!"

"It's room nine! They didn't bid for anything after winning the three pills! Why would they bid now?"

"Heavens! Are they deliberately trying to provoke the lord-rank forces?"

"Earlier, based on the voice, it was a young man who bid for the pills. This voice now clearly belongs to a young girl..."

...

Duan Ling Tian looked at Duan Qian Yu when he heard the commotion outside. Then, he shifted his gaze to Yu Qiu Xuan who seemed very calm and did not show any signs of stopping Duan Qiao Yu at all. With this, he realized Duan Qian Yu and Yu Qiu Xuan were clearly unafraid of the various lord-rank forces.

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"Room nine started with 10,000 taels of divine rocks!" Zhou Yun said excitedly. She sighed in relief inwardly now that someone had bid for the lord-grade cultivation method. Then, she continued to say, "Are there any more bids? I'm going to start the countdown soon..."

For Zhou Yu, her task today was to sell the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique. It did not matter to whom, and now, the Zhou clan did not care about how much they sold it for as long as it was sold. If they failed to sell it, disaster would certainly befall the Zhou clan.

Then, as though she was worried Duan Qiao Yu would change her mind, she hurriedly began the countdown. “10,000 taels of divine rocks going once!”

Meanwhile, when the crowd regained their senses, they began to discuss among themselves.

“Heavens! Someone dares to bid for it!”

“That was the voice of a young girl... Perhaps, she’s just a kid who’s simply imitating others?”

“Impossible. If she was a kid playing around, the adults with her would have stopped her and explained themselves.”

At this time, Zhou Yu finally said, “10,000 taels going thrice... Sold!”

...

Han Li Gang, the second elder of the 10,000 Devils Sect, scoffed.

“Little girl, you’re bringing disaster to your family and the force you belong to by doing this...”

### **Chapter 3625: It’s Just For Fun**

Following that, Han Gang Li began to bid as well.

“20,000 taels of divine rocks!”

Han Li Gang’s voice was icy. Clearly, he was trying to intimidate Duan Qiao Yu who was in room nine.

...

At the same time, in room nine, Duan Qiao Yu smiled upon hearing Han Li Gang’s words. Clearly, she did not feel threatened by him at all.

“How dare this old man threaten me?!” Duan Qiao Yu muttered to herself before she called out loudly, “100,000 taels of divine rocks!”

100,000 taels of divine rocks were the previous starting bid that the Zhou clan had set for the lord-grade cultivation method, the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique.

...

“What should we do now, my lord?”

Han Li Gang’s expression turned unsightly when he saw that the other party was not only unafraid of his threats, but she had also raised the price to 100,000 taels of divine rocks.

Subsequently, he hurriedly contacted the people from the other four lord-rank forces who were present today.

“We’ve agreed to obtain the cultivation method without having to pay for it. However, a little girl suddenly appeared and bid for it. Should we let her have the cultivation method for now and rob it from her later?”

Murong Sui Feng, the Vice Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect and the dean of the Hidden Fog Academy, replied, "Do you think she's unaware that we're pulling the strings from behind the scene after seeing no bid for the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique? Since she dares to bid for it, it means she's not afraid of us."

Han Li Gang asked with a frown on his face, "Then, are you saying that we should bid against her to obtain the cultivation method?"

Another reply came soon after. "I think Dean Murong has a point. Since the little girl dares to bid for the item, it means she's not afraid of having to deal with us..."

"Alright, let's bid for it. The five of us will split the cost evenly later. Similar to our previous agreement, we'll all have a turn with the cultivation method."

The other three agreed with Murong Sui Feng. Clearly, they shared the same thought with him.

Han Li Gang asked, "What if she's calling our bluff?"

"After the auction, we can investigate her," someone replied.

With this, Han Li Gang no longer protested. Indeed, they should not act rashly. They should at least investigate her background first. If she was truly from a prominent force, then they would have no choice but to let this matter go. However, if she was found to be from an ordinary force, it was still not too late to deal with her. If she were found to be an ordinary cultivator, let alone him, even the 10,000 Devils Sect would not let her get away with this.

At this moment, another message arrived.

"Old Han, you should take the lead and bid against her first. The most important thing now is to obtain the lord-grade cultivation method."

The other three members of the lord-rank forces chimed in in agreement as well. Although Murong Sui Feng did not speak, he did not disapprove either. This meant that he had acquiesced to their words.

After listening to the message, Han Li Gang said through gritted teeth, "Alright, I'll bid against her first." Then, he called out icily, "110,000 taels of divine rocks!"

Silence descended again.

Everyone had been shocked earlier when they heard the person in room nine offering 100,000 taels of divine rocks for the lord-grade cultivation method.

...

In room six.

"Room nine again?"

Zhong Si, the fourth Leader of the Zhong clan, frowned slightly. "Who's in room nine? How dare she bid for the lord-grade cultivation method. Does she have a death wish?"

The old man standing behind Zhong Si smiled wryly before he said, "Fourth Leader, there's a possibility she's only calling our bluff."

Zhong Si nodded. "Let's wait and see. Perhaps, she was just hired by the Zhou clan to bring up the price of the lord-grade cultivation method."

"Is the Zhou clan really so bold? If what you said is true, isn't the Zhou clan afraid of the retribution from the other lord-rank forces?"

"She must have been prepared to lose her life. She definitely won't confess or mention the Zhou clan... Moreover, the Zhou clan usually trusted those who would put their lives on the line for the sake of the clan. These people's family members would be cared for and provided for if something were to happen to them. Who knows? The Zhou Clan might have already prepared for her funeral before she even began her mission."

Since this was just his speculation, Zhong Si decided to wait and see for now.

...

"One million taels of divine rocks!" The slightly childish voice rang in the air again.

The people who had just become chatty again fell silent immediately as soon as they heard these words.

...

In room nine.

Duan Ling Tian was also taken aback by Duan Qiao Yu's bid. Even he only possessed 180,000 divine rocks with him now. It was not even 20% of the number of divine rocks that the girl had offered. He did not expect her to possess so many divine rocks. However, he thought it was a good sign. It was likely that Duan Qiao Yun and the beautiful woman next to her were stronger than a King of Gods. Moreover, if she had high status as he had suspected, it was very normal for her to have a million taels of divine rocks.

...

Meanwhile, Zhou Yun, an elder of the Zhou clan, who was standing on the stage was also dumbfounded at this moment. In fact, she had also thought that the Zhou clan must have forgotten to remind her that they had hired someone to raise the price of the lord-grade cultivation method.

However, this idea quickly vanished when she heard Duan Qiao Yu bidding with a million taels of divine docks. If Duan Qiao Yu was truly hired by the Zhou clan, she would not have dared to bid with so many divine rocks. There were hardly any people in Skywind City who had this many divine rocks.

Although the Zhou clan could secretly sell the cultivation method outside. It came with a lot of risks. There were many lord-rank forces away from Skywind City who were much stronger than the ones in the city. The lord-rank forces in and near the city were usually just ordinary lord-rank forces, far inferior to the other stronger lord-rank forces.

...

The crowd gasped.

“A million taels of divine rocks?!”

...

Room 6.

Zhong Si, the Fourth Leader of the Zhou clan, suddenly rose to his feet. At the same time, a hint of fear could be seen in his eyes. Similar to others, when Duan Qiao Yu bid with a million taels of divine rocks, he knew for sure she was not hired by the Zhou clan.

“It seems like I won’t be able to seek revenge from that brat.” Zhong Si felt really uncomfortable in his heart when he recalled the person who had taken the three divine pills from him.

Based on what he had learned, the girl who had bid for the lord-grade cultivation method was holding onto the young man. The duo clearly had a good relationship. For this reason, he thought it would not be wise to seek revenge from the young man now.

...

When the crowd regained their senses, they looked in the direction of room nine. All of them were curious about the person in there. They wondered if she was from a lord-rank force as well.

...

In the Bloody Saber Alliance’s room.

The scarred middle-aged man, the leader of the Bloody Saber Alliance, which was a king-rank bandit group, scoffed loudly before he said with a smile, “The lord-rank forces overestimate themselves, thinking they have everything under control. They deserve this for trying to play dirty.”

In fact, it was not just the Bloody Saber Alliance, many of the other king-rank bandit groups were also delighted. They thought the lord-rank forces deserved this for threatening them.

...

“Who’s in room nine? The first item was bought by someone in room nine as well. At that time, we had wondered if Fourth Leader Zhong Si would seek revenge from him...”

“We’ve underestimated those in room nine. Someone who’s bold enough to bid against the lord-rank forces and also capable of bringing out a million taels of divine rocks is certainly not afraid of Fourth Leader Zhong Si.”

“That’s right. If anything, Fourth Leader Zhong Si is probably cowering in fear now!”

“I guess room nine will compete with the lord-rank forces for the lord-grade cultivation method now...”

Those who had assumed the auction for the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, which had a low starting bid earlier, would end without any fanfare. However, now, they grew excited again. It seemed like they would have a show to watch.

...



Room one and room five were silent.

After a long time, Han Li Gang, an elder from the 10,000 Devils Sect, asked the other four from the lord-rank forces, "What should I do now? Give up or continue bidding?"

"Continue bidding!" Murong Sui Feng said before the others could reply, "We should try to obtain the cultivation method now. We'll send someone to investigate the matter after the auction ends."

The others agreed with Murong Sui Feng.

"We'll deal with the other party later!"

With that, Han Li Gang called out, "1,100,000 taels of divine rocks!"

Initially, Han Li Gang had wanted to bid with 1,010,000 taels of divine rocks, but before he could do so, Murong Sui Feng had sent him a message telling him not to be stingy since he represented all of them.

...

The crowd grew excited. Some people's faces even turned red from the excitement.

"We're really lucky to be able to witness this auction!"

All of them waited in anticipation for the next move. They were waiting for the person in room nine to further raise the price.

However...

A playful laughter rang from room nine before a childish voice said, "Old man, wouldn't it be better if you honestly bid for it in the beginning? You could've saved a million divine rocks. By the way, you should know now that I'm only bidding for fun, right? After all, how could I be interested in a mere lord-grade cultivation method? Alright, I'll stop playing with you now. You can have this lord-grade cultivation method.."

### **Chapter 3626: A Lord of Gods?!**

The burst of laughter reverberated in the Zhou clan's auction house.

"She did it just for fun?"

"Where is she from?"

Many people looked at each other in confusion when they regained their senses. None of them knew who the bold little girl was.

The other party was Han Li Gang, an elder from the lord-rank 10,000 Devils Sect and an advanced King of Gods. The Hidden Fog Sect and the Hidden Fog Academy notwithstanding, he alone was enough to destroy most of the forces in Skywind City. And yet, the little girl dared to toy with such a person?

The entire place was as silent as a graveyard.

Even Zhou Yun, the elder from the Zhou clan, who was standing on the stage looked in the direction of room nine with anxiety and doubt in her eyes. She was not all happy that the Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique, a lord-grade cultivation method, was being sold for 1,100,000 taels of divine rocks. After all, the Zhou clan would not dare to receive this payment.

From the beginning until now, apart from room nine, only the 10,000 Devils Sect had been bidding. From this alone, it was clear the few lord-rank forces had come to some agreement. It was likely they had agreed to share the lord-grade cultivation method. Moreover, it was abundantly clear that it was not in their plan to pay for the lord-grade cultivation method at all. Currently, not only did they have to pay for the lord-grade cultivation method, but they even had to pay the exorbitant price of 1,100,000 divine rocks due to someone's mischief. Under such circumstances, how could the Zhou clan dare to collect the payment?

"You brat! How dare you!"

Han Li Gang's expression darkened immediately as soon as he heard Duan Qiao Yu's words. Unable to hold back his anger, he flew out of the window, breaking it in the process.

The window shattered, and shards of glass began to fall in the air. Upon seeing the shards of glass were about to fall on the crowd, Zhou Yun hurriedly waved her hand, reducing the shards of glass to motes of dust.

Meanwhile, Han Li Gang flew toward room nine and arrived in front of room nine's window. He had lost his reason and composure in front of everyone. He glared at Duan Qian Yu, who was sitting next to Duan Ling Tian, through the window. After looking at the three people in the room, it was not difficult to figure out which of them had toyed with him earlier.

At this time, the other members of the 10,000 Devils Sect finally regained their senses. Their expressions changed drastically before they hastily flew out of the window to stop Han Li Gang.

"Second Elder!"

As for those from the other lord-rank forces, apart from Murong Sui Feng from the Hidden Fog Sect who was only frowning, the others had also tried to dissuade Han Li Gang from acting rashly through Voice Transmission.

"Elder Han, don't act rashly!"

"Elder Han, you can't be impulsive! Before you take action, you have to investigate the other party's background first!"

"That's right! Earlier, she said she's not interested in a 'mere' lord-grade cultivation method. Based on this, there's a chance she's from some shockingly powerful force!"

Upon hearing all these words, Han Li Gang gradually calmed down. He looked at Duan Qiao Yu coldly.

Just as Han Li Gang was about to leave, an indifferent female voice rang from the room.

"Han Li Gang? Your actions have frightened the Young Miss. It's best if you kneel down and apologize for scaring her..."

This was the first time everyone had heard this voice from room nine. Prior to this, this person had not spoken at all. They could easily tell the other two voices earlier were different from this one. They gasped when they heard the woman's words. Who was the Young Miss? Did she really ask Han Li Gang to kneel and apologize in front of everyone? Why was this woman so bold?

Han Li Gang was stunned. When he regained his senses, he looked at the beautiful woman and pointed at Duan Qiao Yu as he asked in disbelief, "You want me to kneel down and apologize to this little girl?"

Duan Qiao Yu frowned slightly when Han Li Gang pointed at her.

Swoosh!

A soft noise suddenly rang in the air.

In the next second, everyone saw the arm that Han Li Gang had lifted when he was pointing at Duan Qiao Yu had been severed. Then, the arm slowly vanished as though it was being devoured by the void.

In room four, Murong Sui Feng's eyes widened in horror as he exclaimed, "She's a Lord of Gods!" Then, he muttered to himself, "She's at least an intermediate Lord of Gods. It's possible that she's stronger!"

It was only natural that Murong Sui Feng was frightened. After all, in the entire Hidden Fog Sect, there were only two intermediate Lords of Gods, and they were the strongest in the sect.

Back in room nine, Duan Ling Tian looked at Yu Qiu Xuan in surprise. He had guessed that Yu Qiu Xuan and Duan Qiao Yu were both stronger than Kings of Gods, but he was still surprised.

'Yu Qiu Xuan is likely stronger than Ye Bei Yuan,' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he assessed Yu Qiu Xuan. He could tell when she had attacked earlier that her strength was more terrifying than Ye Bei Yuan, the intermediate Lord of Gods from the lord-rank Glorious Heaven Sect.

At this moment, Yu Qiu Xuan said, slightly impatient, "I don't want to repeat myself again. Kneel down and apologize or die."

"Second Elder!" a member of the 10,000 Devils Sect cried out fearfully.

All of them could tell Yu Qiu Xuan was a Lord of Gods at least when she had made a move earlier. Hence, all of them hurriedly reminded Han Li Gang to do as asked.

After the demonstration of strength by Yu Qiu Xuan, Han Li Gang naturally did not dare to act arrogantly anymore. His expression was solemn as he kneeled in the air in front of Duan Qiao Yu and said through gritted teeth, "Miss, I was wrong earlier. Please forgive me."

"Do you feel resentful and unwilling?" Duan Qiao Yu asked with a smile as she narrowed her eyes.

"N-not at all," Han Li Gang stammered. Duan Qiao Yu might not be his opponent, but there was a Lord of Gods, who was stronger than the ancestor of the 10,000 Devils Sect, guarding her. Let alone him, even the entire 10,000 Devils Sect would not dare to provoke such a person.

After hearing Han Li Gang's reply, Duan Qiao Yu said with a smile, "Very well. Now, I want to hear you bark like a dog."

'Bark like a dog?' Han Li Gang's expression changed slightly. He could feel the scorching gaze on his body, waiting for him to humiliate himself. However, what could he do? He could not refuse.

Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Han Li Gang, the second elder of the 10,000 Devils Sect, barked like a dog. Moreover, he did not dare to stop barking without Duan Qiao Yu's permission. At this moment, he really regretted acting impulsively. Why did he charge over here recklessly? It did not cross his mind that there was such a terrifying person in room nine. If he had known there was a Lord of Gods in this room, who was even stronger than the ancestor of the 10,000 Devils Sect, he would not have dared to take a step out of his room at all.

"Alright, you're forgiven," Duan Qiao Yu said with a satisfied smile on her face.

Han Li Gang stopped barking and sighed in relief. Then, he quietly excused himself before he left the Zhou clan's auction house with a dark expression on his face. He no longer cared about the lord-grade Six Gods Profound Shadow Technique. If it were possible, he wished he could kill everyone in the auction house who bore witness to his humiliation. He knew that after today, he would become a laughingstock in Skywind City and the areas around it.

Not long after Han Li Gang left, Yu Qiu Xuan moved to Duan Qiao Yu's side and said, "Young Miss, we should leave as well."

Then, without waiting for Duan Qiao Yu's response, Yu Qiu Xuan grabbed Duan Qiao Yu's arm and left through the window of room nine.

Duan Qiao Yu was about to bid Duan Ling Tian farewell, but before she had a chance to, she was already brought out of the Zhou clan's auction house by Yu Qiu Xuan.

"Young Master Duan, we'll meet again in the future. We need to attend to an urgent matter so we have no choice but to leave so abruptly."

'Urgent matter to attend to?' Duan Ling Tian did not believe Yu Qiu Xuan. If it was truly urgent, Yu Qiu Xuan likely would not even have time to send him a Voice Transmission. It was clear to him that Yu Qiu Xuan had only decided to bring Duan Qiao Yu away at the last minute. Even Duan Qiao Yu had been unaware of Yu Qiao Yu's intention.

'What a mysterious woman...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he shook his head. Then, he rose to his feet to leave as well. Instead of leaving through the window, he left through the door.

When Duan Ling Tian left, he did not run into anyone in the corridor. Clearly, everyone was still stunned by what had happened that they had forgotten the auction had come to an end.

...

At this time, Murong Sui Feng who was standing sat down again with a sigh. He murmured, "I wanted to speak to that Lord of Gods and the Young Miss she mentioned..."

The two women clearly had an extraordinary background so Murong Sui Feng wanted to meet them to forge a connection. It was a pity that the duo left so quickly.

In fact, Murong Sui Feng was not the only one with these thoughts. The other representatives from the other lord-rank forces shared similar thoughts as well.

...

Meanwhile, in room six.

Zhong Si looked as pale as a sheet of paper. Beads of sweat could be seen on his forehead as well. At this time, he muttered to himself, "A Lord of Gods? That beautiful woman is a Lord of Gods?"

The old man standing behind Zhong Si who had spied on room nine earlier was trembling with fright as well.. Similar to Zhong Si, his face was ashen.

### **Chapter 3627: That 'Young Master'**

Fear struck Zhong Si's heart when he recalled how he had been intent on seeking revenge from those in room nine earlier.

"Fourth Leader, we're really lucky we didn't act yet. Otherwise, it's not just us, but the entire Zhong clan will likely fall as well!" the old man said fearfully. He was a member of the Zhong clan as well.

"You're right. I didn't expect there to be such terrifying figures here," Zhong Si said as he wiped the sweat off his forehead.

"Fourth Leader, although the two women have left, the young man didn't leave with them. That young man seems to have a very close relationship with the Young Miss whom the Lord of Gods mentioned earlier. When I was in their room, I saw that Young Miss holding onto that young man's arm..." the old man said, puzzled.

Upon hearing the old man's words, Zhong Si's eyes lit up. He immediately said, "Let's go! Let's go! Let's go and greet the Young Master!"

...

Apart from Zhong Si, the representatives of the four lord-rank forces in the Zhou clan's auction house had long recalled that apart from the two women, there was a young man as well.

Alas, when they went to room nine, they discovered the room was empty.

Since they did not see Duan Ling Tian leave, they began to speculate among themselves.

"Could it be that the young man's voice was faked by one of the two women?"

"Could it be that the voice of the young man was also faked by one of the two women?"

Not many people thought this was the case. After all, there was no need for such prominent figures to disguise their voices. Moreover, they had even openly spoken and appeared in front of everyone toward the end of the auction without any signs of trying to hide their identities.

Moreover, they learned from one of the staff members in the Zhou clan's auction house that there was indeed a young man in room nine.

“If I came to room nine earlier, I would’ve been able to meet the Young Master,” Murong Sui Feng, the Vice Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect and the dean of the Hidden Fog Academy, muttered to himself regretfully.

The other three representatives from the lord-rank forces sighed regretfully as well.

From what they had gathered from the staff member that served those in room nine, the Young Miss was very close to the young man and had addressed the young man as ‘brother’. Whether the two were related or not, they were sure the young man must also have a powerful background.

...

Duan Ling Tian was naturally unaware that many people went to room nine to meet him after he left the Zhou clan’s auction house. After leaving the auction house, he returned to the inn immediately.

Duan Ling Tian had picked an inconspicuous inn that belonged to a small clan, which was a branch of a king-grade force in Skywind City. For this reason, when the Zhou clan and the Zhong clan tried to look for Duan Ling Tian in the inns they owned and the other inns owned by other king-rank forces, they could not find Duan Ling Tian at all.

In the end, they could only give up on looking for Duan Ling Tian. After all, none of them had thought that a noble ‘Young Master’ would deign to stay in a small inn in Skywind City.

Duan Ling Tian had chosen to stay in the small inn because he liked the environment. Moreover, the inn was located in a quiet and remote area, which was suitable for his cultivation.

He was naturally unaware that people were looking for him. After he returned to the inn, he brought out the three divine pills he had obtained from the Zhou clan’s auction. He planned to break through to an intermediate god as soon as he could. After all, there was only half a month left before the commencement of the Hidden Fog Academy’s recruitment.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, ‘An intermediate god who’s younger than 2,700 years old should be enough for me to stand out without attracting trouble even if I don’t take my comprehension of the law into account, right?’

In the Realms of Gods, those below the age of 3,000 were considered very young.

Let alone an intermediate god younger than 3,000 years old, there were quite many advanced gods and Kings of Gods younger than 3,000 years old in emperor-rank forces. However, in a place like Skywind City, an intermediate god who had yet to reach the age of 3,000 was quite rare. With this, he would definitely attract attention, but his achievement was not outstanding enough that he would attract trouble. After all, although rare, he was not the only one in and around Skywind City who became an intermediate god before reaching the age of 3,000.

In fact, among the current students of the Hidden Fog Academy, there was a Ten Stars student who had yet to reach 3,000 years old. That person had already been accepted as a direct disciple of a high-ranking official from the Hidden Fog Sect before he even graduated from the academy. After entering the sect in the future, he would be directly under the care of the high-ranking official.

Duan Ling Tian and the others in Skywind City were not aware of this because this young genius had only broken through and become an intermediate god not too long ago.

...

While Duan Ling Tian was in closed-door cultivation, it was very lively in parts of Skywind City.

Everyone was fervently discussing the shocking and exciting event that happened in the Zhou clan's auction house.

"Did you hear? A Lord of Gods attended the Zhou clan's auction!"

"I did! I even heard that the Lord of Gods is a very beautiful woman! I heard she's guarding a little girl whom she referred to as Young Miss!"

"I wonder who's that little girl? She even has a Lord of Gods protecting her! Not even the daughter of the Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect, the most powerful lord-rank force near Skywind City, is afforded such a treatment!"

"That young girl must have come from a top lord-rank force at least. There's even a possibility that she's from an emperor-rank force!"

"I heard the young girl's brother accompanied her to the auction as well. When she left with the Lord of Gods, her brother didn't leave! There's a chance he's still in Skywind City!"

"Is that so? I wish I could meet him! If I'm able to befriend him, my status in Skywind City would rise crazily!"

Even those in the small inn where Duan Ling Tian was staying were discussing this matter.

However, since Duan Ling Tian only stayed in his room, he was unaware of this matter.

Apart from Yu Qiu Xuan, Duan Qiao Yu, and Duan Ling Tian, Han Li Gang also became a topic for many people's conversations.

"I heard that Han Li Gang, the second elder of the 10,000 Devils Sect, kneeled and apologized to that Young Miss in the Zhou clan's auction house! Not only is he a second elder of a lord-rank sect, but he's also an advanced god. How could he disregard his dignity? What an embarrassment!"

"You're all talk! If you were in his shoes, do you think you'd be able to maintain your pride and dignity when faced with a Lord of Gods? Are pride and dignity more important than your life?"

"That's right! I think Han Li Gang is a wise man who knows how to adapt to the situation. He had worked hard his entire life to cultivate and become an advanced god. If he loses his life, all his hard work would've been in vain!"

"I agree!"

Although Han Li Gang's actions were embarrassing, most people in Skywind City were rather understanding.

...

As the days passed, fewer and fewer people spoke about the events during the Zhou clan's auction. Since the day of the Hidden Fog Academy's recruitment was drawing closer, most people's attention had shifted to the academy.

"I heard that many disciples from top king-grade forces will be participating in the Hidden Fog Academy's recruitment this time."

"How's that surprising? It's the same every year. However, very few of them were admitted."

"This year, a junior from my clan will be participating in the recruitment as well. However, I don't hold much hope of him being admitted. I only hope he doesn't embarrass himself too much..."

"Thousands of people participated in the academy's recruitment last year, but only seven people were admitted!"

"I'm afraid things aren't going to change and that it'll be the same this year."

The Hidden Fog Academy was very prestigious in Skywind City since it was founded by the lord-rank Hidden Fog Sect, which was the strongest lord-rank force closest to Skywind City. Naturally, there was no lack of people who wanted to join the academy. After all, if they performed well, they would be granted entry into the Hidden Fog Sect after graduation. Moreover, there were also a few who rose to rather high ranks after joining the sect.

For all these reasons, the king-rank forces in Skywind City placed great importance on their younger generation entering the Hidden Fog Academy. Moreover, they placed a lot of pressure on the younger generation to do well too. After all, the future of their respective forces hinged on the performance of the younger generation.

For example, if someone from the Zhou clan became an elder in the Hidden Fog Sect while someone from the Zhong clan did not, it would put the Zhou clan in a precarious position. The Zhou clan could easily destroy the Zhong clan if they so wished.

Although there were many lord-rank forces of equal strength with the Hidden Fog Sect around Skywind City, the Hidden Fog Sect was located closest to the city. For this reason, Skywind City was under its control.

...

Half a month passed by in just a blink of an eye.

On this day, the doors of the Hidden Fog Academy were officially opened early in the morning.

Anyone whose bone age was younger than 2,800 years old could participate in the recruitment. After verifying their bone ages, they would be led to an assessment area. Only participants were allowed in the assessment area.

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at the entrance of the Hidden Fog Academy, he saw many parents sending their children off. It reminded him of his previous life on earth when he was taking his college entrance exams. However, since he was an orphan, there was no one to send him off. At that time, his heart had



been filled with envy when he saw people of the same age being sent off by their parents at the school gates.

As Duan Ling Tian walked, half immersed in his memories, he could hear the conversations in his surroundings.

Duan Ling Tian heard an elderly man encouraging his daughter at the entrance of the academy at this moment.

“My daughter, you can do it! Strive for a good ranking! However, it doesn’t matter if you fail this year; we still have next year! What’s important is that your rank keeps rising. With that, you’ll definitely be able to enter the academy one day!”

“Son, if you successfully enter the Hidden Fog Academy, I’ll die without regrets!”

“Long’er, good luck!”

### **Chapter 3628: Ten Stars Assessment**

In the past, Duan Ling Tian would be filled with jealousy when seeing these scenes. However, he was content now. In this life, he had his parents, wives, and children. He had a happy family. He only felt regretful that his wife, Ke’er, was not with the family.

Ke’er was the reason he had risked his life to travel through the Realm Battlefield from the Nine Serenities Battlefield to get to the Profound Energy Land, a Realm of Gods. He wanted to bring Ke’er back so their family would be reunited.

Duan Ling Tian shook his head, clearing the thoughts in his mind, as he walked toward the bone age testing area. There were quite a few people in the area, and they were all dressed in silver and white uniforms with emblems on their chests that read ‘Hidden Fog’. Stars could also be seen around the words ‘Hidden Fog’.

A row of tables and chairs had been neatly arranged. Based on their numbers, five people could be tested for their bone ages at the same time.

Duan Ling Tian took a closer look at the people around him. Among the twenty or so people, the highest number of stars he had seen on an emblem was seven stars while the lowest number of stars was four stars. With their uniforms and emblems, it was clear they were students of the Hidden Fog Academy. Judging from their emblems, they were Four to Seven Stars students.

As Duan Ling Tian drew closer to the bone age testing area, he heard another elder encouraging his child.

“Look at them. Their students of the Hidden Fog Academy. If you’re able to don that uniform, your name will be forever famous in the clan!”

At this time, five long lines had already formed.

Duan Ling Tian randomly picked a line and stood at the back, waiting for his turn. After getting their bone ages verified, the participants were allowed to walk past the gates of the academy.

It did not take long for the number of people in front of the line to decrease. After all, it was a simple process to test one's bone age. One would only need to place one's hand on a square formation compass. After activating the formation, one's bone age would be revealed.

"Next."

It was finally Duan Ling Tian's turn.

"Put your hand there," the student said brusquely without asking for Duan Ling Tian's name. When Duan Ling Tian's bone age was revealed, he glanced at Duan Ling Tian and said, "Since you're almost 2,700 years old, you can only participate in the Ten Star assessment."

"I understand." Duan Ling Tian nodded. He had long known about this.

In the Hidden Fog Academy, when nearing the age of 3,000, the students would either successfully graduate or they would be expelled depending on their ranks. There were also students who were expelled before the time was up due to them not rising in the star ranking.

When Nine Stars students reached the age of 2,800, it was compulsory for them to take the Ten Stars assessment. If they failed the assessment, they would be expelled from the Hidden Fog Academy.

Students were divided into ten star rankings, from one star to ten stars. One Star students' requirements were the lowest while Ten Stars students' requirements were the highest.

One Stars student could not be older than 1,000 years old. Their cultivation bases had to be that of a Six Combos Celestial Emperor, at least. They must also comprehend two profundities of a law to the mastery stage.

Two Stars students could not be older than 1,200 years old. Their cultivation bases' requirements were naturally higher than that of One Star students. The requirements would progressively become higher. For example, Three Stars students could not be older than 1,400 years old, Nine Stars students could not be older than 2,600 years old, and Ten Stars students could not be older than 2,800 years old.

With the effect of the Bone Aging Pills, Duan Ling Tian's bone age was now close to 2,700 years old. For this reason, he could only participate in the Ten Stars assessment.

The Ten Star assessment was naturally the most difficult. The requirements were high as well. One had to be a god and comprehend all profundities from a law to the mastery stage. Apart from that, one must have also fused at least two double Fused Profundities. However, if one comprehended one of the Four Supreme Laws, an exception would be made: one only had to comprehend one double Fused Profundity.

The Ten Stars assessment was the same for new recruits and Nine Stars students taking the test to become Ten Stars students.

The number of Ten Stars students in the Hidden Fog Academy had always been small. In the past ten years, Nine Stars students aside, no one had taken the Ten Star assessment to join the academy.

For this reason, the student verifying Duan Ling Tian's bone age was slightly surprised when he saw Duan Ling Tian was nearly 2,700 years old.

When word of this spread, it generated a small amount of interest. After all, the Nine Stars students notwithstanding, there had been no one who had taken the Ten Stars assessment to join the academy.

"He's almost 2,700 years old... With his age, he can only participate in the Ten Stars assessment. There's no way for him to join the academy if he fails the assessment."

"It's been more than ten years since someone had taken the Ten Stars assessment to join the academy, right?"

"Do you think he'll be able to pass the assessment?"

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Duan Ling Tian walked past the gates of the Hidden Fog Academy, slowly vanishing from everyone's sight.

Duan Ling Tian could see students holding up signs, guiding them to the assessment area when he stepped into the academy ground.

In fact, generally, the Hidden Fog Academy's assessments were not impossibly difficult to pass. As long as one met the requirements according to one's star ranking, one should be able to pass the corresponding assessment.

Apart from that, the Hidden Fog Academy was not rigid or inflexible as well. If one was talented, if one was very close to meeting the requirements but did not completely meet all the requirements, one would also be admitted into the academy. There were also cases where one was only required to show one's comprehension of the law and one's cultivation base before being admitted without the need of taking any tests. For cases like that, it was when participants were obviously very strong.

Duan Ling Tian followed the signs and soon arrived at the testing ground.

Many people were gathered at an open space. There were ten paths leading to ten different directions. These paths clearly led to the different test grounds for the assessment. They were marked accordingly with signs such as One Star Assessment's Testing Ground, Two Stars Assessment's Testing Ground, Three Stars Assessment's Testing Ground, and so on.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian arrived, he heard a young man talking.

"Does this mean we're allowed to choose which assessment we want to take? I hope that's the case! I'm not sure if I can pass the Seven Stars assessment, but I'm sure I'll be able to pass the Six Stars assessment. I wonder if our bone ages will be verified again before the assessment?"

"Keep dreaming! Your bone age will be tested again later. If you're not the right age, you won't be able to take the assessment."

"That's right. So many people want to join the academy. Do you think there'll be a loophole like this for people like you to exploit?"

“You should be honest. I heard that there are people like you who wanted to cheat or cheated in the past. They were all blacklisted by the Hidden Fog Academy. With that, they can never participate in the Hidden Fog Academy’s recruitment.”

The dreams of those with the intention to cheat were ruthlessly crushed by some of the more well-informed people.

Duan Ling Tian did not dally. He directly walked onto the path that led to the Ten Stars assessment’s testing ground.

Many people had also begun to make their way to the testing grounds, but Duan Ling Tian was the only one who took the path that led to the Ten Stars assessment’s testing. For this reason, he caught many people’s attention.

“Look! Someone’s taking the Ten Stars assessment!”

“Over the past ten years, barring the Nine Stars students, no one has taken the Ten Stars assessment to join the academy! I didn’t expect there to be someone taking the Ten Stars assessment this time!”

“I don’t know if he’s strong enough to pass the assessment, but he’s definitely very brave!”

“I heard that the Ten Stars assessment is so dangerous that one risks losing one’s life!”

Although Duan Ling Tian heard the discussions behind him, he paid them no mind. After all, he could easily pass the Ten Stars assessment half a month ago before he had obtained the three divine pills, let alone now that he had broken through.

‘Although the resources I can get from the Hidden Fog Academy aren’t bad, they can’t compare to the Hidden Fog Sect. After I’m admitted to the academy, my next step is to join the Hidden Fog Sect.’

Duan Ling Tian began to think of his next step as he made his way to the testing ground. Everything he was doing was to ensure he grew stronger as quickly as possible. Naturally, he knew to maintain a low profile. After all, he would only attract disaster if he stood out too much. Moreover, he was alone without help in the Profound Energy Land.

Perhaps, he might be able to ask for help from a girl he had met half a month ago who had mistaken him for her brother. The girl clearly had an extraordinary background based on the fact that she was protected by a Lord of Gods. However, he was not sure if they would meet again. Moreover, he rather relied on himself.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian was so immersed in his thoughts that he failed to discover the presence of two figures that were hovering high in the sky.

“Young Miss, we should go...”

If Duan Ling Tian had seen the duo, he would have recognized them immediately. They were none other than Duan Qiao Yu and Yu Qiu Xuan whom he had met half a month ago.

“Aunt Xuan, are we really not going to do anything?” Duan Qiao Yu looked at the purple figure on the ground with a strange expression on her face.

## Chapter 3629: Three-Story Tower of Trials

Duan Ling Tian was unaware of the two people hovering in the sky since the difference between their cultivation bases was too vast. After walking for a while, he saw a quiet and pleasant yard filled with flowers, plants, and trees. He also saw a green-clad old man standing in the yard with his hands on his back and his eyes closed. Both the yard and the old man gave off an otherworldly feeling.

Despite his age, the old man looked energetic, and his posture was as graceful as a swan. He possessed the profound aura of a scholar as well.

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at the periphery of the yard, the old man suddenly opened his eyes.

When the old man's eyes landed on Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian felt as though all his thoughts, secrets, and weaknesses were laid bare before the old man. However, he knew this was just his imagination. After all, he was very guarded and cautious. Let alone Kings of Gods and Lords of Gods, even Emperors of Gods and Supreme Gods would not be able to pry into his mind.

Duan Ling Tian did not step into the yard. Instead, he said loudly, "Senior, I'm here to take part in the Ten Stars assessment."

"It has been over ten years since any outsiders have participated in the Ten Stars assessment." The old man looked at Duan Ling Tian with his piercing gaze as though he could read Duan Ling Tian's mind. "Lad, I wish you luck."

As soon as the old man's voice fell, he flicked his sleeve.

A small three-story tower flew out, increasing in size rapidly, toward Duan Ling Tian. In just a blink of an eye, it went from a miniature tower to a full-sized tower. It hovered above him as though it was going to smash down on him.

Duan Ling Tian did not dodge; he knew the old man would not attack him. After all, he had no conflict with the old man, and this place was the Hidden Fog Academy's testing ground. In fact, as soon as he saw the tower, he knew it had to be related to the Hidden Fog Academy's Ten Stars assessment.

Just as Duan Ling Tian had expected, the old man's voice rang in his ears.

"This is the Three-Story Tower of Trials that the Hidden Fog Academy prepared for the Ten Stars assessment. If you pass the trials in there, you'll become a Ten Stars student of the Hidden Fog Academy."

Needless to say, each assessment was different. For the Ten Stars assessment, the Hidden Fog Academy had even prepared an artifact, which was the tower.

The Tower of Trials was forged by an expert from the Hidden Fog Sect, which established the Hidden Fog Academy. The expert was a weapon craftsman, but since he was able to forge artifacts as well, he was also known as an artifact expert.

Similar to alchemists, there were artifact experts and weapon craftsmen with varying skills. For example, in the Realms of Gods, not all alchemists could refine divine pills. Those capable of refining divine pills were considered experts and were known as divine pills alchemists.

“You may lose your life if you’re not careful in the Tower of Trials. If you want to surrender, just call out, and I’ll bring you out. Don’t wait until the last minute to call out for help. I might not be able to save you in time,” the old man said, “The Tower of Trials will pull you in after this so don’t resist it. The trials start as soon as you’re in there.”

As soon as the old man’s voice fell, Duan Ling Tian felt a strong force from the Tower of Trials, pulling him into it. He knew if he wanted to, he could easily break free of this force.

Swoosh!

After Duan Ling Tian was brought into the tower, the tower hovered in midair as the windows lit up one after another.

The old man looked at the tower and murmured, “I wonder if he can even pass the trial on the second floor.”

After that, the old man closed his eyes again.

...

After entering the Tower of Trials, after passing the trials on the first and second floors, one only needed to get on the third floor to pass the Ten Stars assessment. Naturally, it was easier said than done.

As soon as Duan Ling Tian entered the tower, the first floor lit up with a dim light; it was a sign that someone had entered the first floor. The light would grow brighter and brighter as Duan Ling Tian passed the trials on the first floor. When the light was at its brightest, it meant that Duan Ling Tian had passed all the trials on the first floor. This applied to the second floor as well.

After entering the tower, Duan Ling Tian discovered he was in a vast and foggy place.

“He... didn’t tell me what I should do to pass the Ten Stars assessment... I guess I’ll have to figure it out myself. Clearly, I have to pass through the trials on all three floors to pass the assessment.”

Swoosh!

Duan Ling Tian could clearly sense the fluctuations of energy from a Formation. Shortly after, through the fog, he saw figures appearing one after another. He knew these were Formation spirits with the strength of rudimentary gods.

“There are ten of them...”

In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian was surrounded by the ten humanoid Formation spirits.

Swoosh!

One of the Formation spirits summoned a flaming sword before casting the profundities from the law of fire that were at the mastery stage.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

With that, the remaining nine Formation spirits attacked as well. Despite comprehending different laws, their profundities had been comprehended to the mastery stage. None of them had mastered Fused Profundities.

“As expected, the first trial on the first floor is easy,” Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself. Naturally, he knew this only applied to himself. It would still pose a slight difficulty to others since they need to use a certain amount of Divine Energy to pass this trial.

“It’s time to destroy them...” Duan Ling Tian glanced at the ten Formation spirits that besieged him. In just a moment, spatial energy surged out, looking like a small storm, destroying the ten Formation spirits and their attacks.

Following that, the second trial began. Similar to before, he still had to fight Formation spirits. The only difference was the Formation spirits were no longer humanoid but were in the forms of beasts and monsters. Needless to say, they were much stronger and their number was much higher. However, to Duan Ling Tian, it was no different from the first trial.

...

Outside the Tower of Trials.

The old man could not help but open his eyes and looked at the tower curiously. He was shocked when he discovered the light on the first floor was brightening rapidly. He was not surprised if the speed was rapid in the beginning, but as time passed, the speed showed no sign of slowing down.

“It seems like the first outsider to participate in the Ten Stars assessment after more than ten years is rather extraordinary...” A hint of anticipation could be seen on the old man’s face at this moment.

Although ten years were nothing to cultivators, to him who was in charge of the Ten Stars assessment, this was quite momentous.

“Let’s see if he can kill all the Formation spirits in the last few trials on the first floor. If he kills them just as easily, he has a high chance of passing all the trials on the second floor...” The old man grew even more curious about the result of this assessment.

Every year, he would wait for outsiders to participate in the Ten Stars assessment, but he only waited in vain. He waited for over ten years, but no one came. He had grown bored. Now that someone finally appeared, especially someone who seemed rather extraordinary, he could not help but pay attention.

“Hm? Not bad.” The old man’s expression brightened along with the light on the first floor. He smiled and nodded as he looked at the light that was increasing in brightness.

However, he grew even more surprised when the light continued to brighten at the same speed.

“He’s facing the last trial on the first floor now!”

The old man was rooting for Duan Ling Tian. He hoped Duan Ling Tian would be able to pass the final trial on the first floor and enter the second floor. He hoped Duan Ling Tian would pass the trials on the second floor as well and go on to the third floor. With that, Duan Ling Tian would pass the assessment and officially become a Ten Stars student of the Hidden Fog Academy.

“I hope that lad will be able to do it! There’s not been a Ten Stars student in the Hidden Fog Academy for 30 years now, not even through internal promotion..” The old man was filled with hope and anticipation at this moment.

### **Chapter 3630: Duan Ling Tian Cries For Help!**

There were not many Ten Stars students in the Hidden Fog Academy; they had fewer than Ten Stars students. Moreover, students were required to leave the academy after reaching the age of 3,000.

Needless to say, Ten Stars students would become inner disciples of the Hidden Fog Sect after graduating from the Hidden Fog Academy. Unlike ordinary disciples, they did not need to take the tests to become inner disciples.

Over the past 30 years, the Hidden Fog Academy did not produce a single Ten Stars student. The outsiders were not qualified to take the Ten Stars assessment while the Nine Stars students failed the Ten Stars assessment. The latter could choose to enter the Hidden Fog Sect as outer disciples if they so wished.

Needless to say, only Ten Stars students were provided with rare resources from the Hidden Fog Academy such as king-grade cultivation methods and techniques and treasures that could help one deepen one’s comprehension of the law.

...

Duan Ling Tian was naturally unaware of the old man’s thoughts. At this moment, he was making his way to the stairs that would bring him to the second floor of the Tower of Trials. The stairs had only appeared after he had passed the ten trials on the first floor.

“The trials on the first floor shouldn’t pose much of a difficulty to anyone who meets the requirements of a Ten Stars student...”

When Duan Ling Tian arrived at the top of the stairs, darkness descended immediately. It was as though he had fallen into an abyss. He calmly mobilized his Divine Energy and conjured a small orb of energy to light up his surroundings. Since he was conserving his energy, the light he conjured only illuminated a small area, which was enough for him to guard against sneak attacks. He had speculated that the Formation spirits on the second floor would launch sneak attacks. His Mastery Dao could effectively deal with sneak attacks, but he naturally would not use it since he might be exposed. He did not think it was wise to reveal he had comprehended the Mastery Dao, one of the Four Daos of Heaven and Earth. At the very least, he did not plan to reveal it while he was in the Hidden Fog Sect.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!



Duan Ling Tian could hear movements from all directions as a gentle breeze blew past. It was just as he had speculated; the Formation spirits on the second floor were launching sneak attacks. In just a moment, a dozen humanoids attacked him from every direction.

'They're no different from the ones on the first floor...'

Duan Ling Tian cast a Fused Profundity from the law of space, killing all the Formation spirits with just a strike.

Duan Ling Tian passed the trials with ease. It was only when he was facing the sixth trial on the second floor that he discovered the Formation spirits had gotten significantly stronger. Although they were still rudimentary gods, they had mastered double Fused Profundities.

'I have to keep a low profile...'

Duan Ling Tian reminded himself. With his true strength, he could easily kill the three Formation spirits in seconds. However, he deliberately slowed down and took his time killing the Formation spirits. He only killed them after a dozen breaths had passed.

'A dozen breaths should be okay, right?'

Duan Ling Tian wondered inwardly. He had held back his strength and slowed his speed before ending the trial.

...

Outside the tower.

'It took him only 15 breaths to pass the sixth trial on the second floor?'

The old man who was already shocked by Duan Ling Tian's performance on the first floor was further shocked when he saw Duan Ling Tian passing the sixth trial in 15 breaths. After all, the sixth trial on the second floor was the turning point. In the past, many people took fewer than 10 breaths to pass the fifth trial, but when facing the sixth trial, even the fastest among them took 50 breaths to pass the trial. How he not be shocked that it only took Duan Ling Tian 15 breaths to pass the sixth trial?

'Is there something wrong with the Tower of Trials?'

The old man extended his Divine Consciousness to check if the tower was faulty. After running a few tests, he confirmed that there was nothing wrong with the Formation in the tower.

When he returned his gaze to the tower, he discovered the light on the second floor had brightened again.

'H-he already completed the trials on the second floor?!'

The old man was dumbfounded. In the time it took him to check the Tower of Trials, Duan Ling Tian had passed four trials!

'I took about 50 breaths at most to check the tower, right?'

The old man was continuously shocked by Duan Ling Tian. Most people's speed would slow down as time passed, but Duan Ling Tian showed no sign of slowing down at all.

'Based on his strength, he shouldn't have any problem passing the first five trials on the third floor,' the old man thought to himself.

...

While the old man was lost in his thoughts, Duan Ling Tian was already facing the first trial on the third floor.

Duan Ling Tian felt slightly pressured. One can only imagine how difficult it would be for those who only met the bare requirements of a Ten Stars student.

Duan Ling Tian teleported to avoid the attacks from the Formation spirits. He deliberately stalled for time and did not attack.

...

'Almost 15 minutes have passed... Why isn't there any movement? Is he stopping because he knows he'll still become a Ten Stars student as long as he goes on the third floor?'

Based on Duan Ling Tian's performance on the second floor, the old man was certain Duan Ling Tian would not have any difficulties with the first five trials on the third floor. In fact, Duan Ling Tian should have long passed the first trial by now.

At this time, the light on the third floor brightened, indicating that Duan Ling Tian had passed the first trial on the third floor.

'I wonder if he'll choose to face the sixth trial... I wonder what his expression would be like when facing the sixth trial'

The old man smiled. He really hoped Duan Ling Tian would face the sixth trial. After all, Duan Ling Tian could opt to stop, and he would still pass the assessment. As long as one managed to enter the third floor, one would pass the assessment.

In the history of the Hidden Fog Academy, no student had successfully passed the sixth trial on the third floor. In the Hidden Fog Sect, no disciple under the age of 3,000 managed to pass the sixth trial as well. For this reason, the sixth trial was also known as the death trial.

While the old man was lost in his thoughts, Duan Ling Tian had already begun to face the second trial on the third floor.

...

Time continued to pass.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian had just passed the fifth trial on the third floor. He knew he could not pass more than five trials on the third floor since it would attract too much attention. He was certain no student from the Hidden Fog Academy had passed the sixth trial. After all, to pass the sixth trial, not only did he have to expend all his effort, but he also needed to use an ordinary divine artifact. The difference between the fifth and sixth trials was like heaven and earth.

After facing the sixth trial for a while, Duan Ling Tian suddenly cried out, "Help!"

He pretended to block the attacks from the Formation spirits with great difficulty. He felt rather embarrassed, but this was the only way to get the old man to help him.

Duan Ling Tian sighed inwardly. 'It's really troublesome to maintain a low profile...'