

Chapter 3751 The Student Has Surpassed the Teacher

“What?!” Lin Yan was stunned when he heard Duan Ling Tian’s words and saw the serious expression on Duan Ling Tian’s face. He asked, “You, you used the technique I recorded in the Memory Jade Talisman to extract vitality energy?”

“Yes.” Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Lin Yan was speechless. At this time, Duan Ling Tian used his divine energy and the law of life to extract vitality energy from the surrounding Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy. Although the vitality energy he extracted now was nowhere close to the amount of vitality energy he had used earlier from this Little World, Lin Yan was still horrified by this.

Previously, when Duan Ling Tian released the vitality energy in his Little World, he discovered that he could clearly sense the vitality energy in his surroundings and that he could easily extract them all if he so pleased. He also discovered the vitality energy he extracted from the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was not as good as the vitality energy from his Little World. This was only natural since the vitality energy in his Little World came from the Divine Tree of Life. The vitality energy near the Divine Tree of Life was the richest and purest. Hence, he could easily yield twice the results with half the effort.

In this regard, most of the alchemists in the Realms of Gods were inferior to Duan Ling Tian.

Lin Yan finally regained his senses when he felt Linghu Ren Jie staring at him. Then, he said with a wry smile, “Even I can only extract a small amount of vitality energy using that technique. The vitality energy you just extracted is already far more than the one I extracted...”

Indeed, Lin Yan had recorded that technique. However, even if people understood his technique, they would not be able to easily extract vitality energy. After all, they had to learn how to sense the vitality energy in the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy first. Moreover, his technique only allowed one to extract however much vitality energy one sensed.

“No wonder you’re able to refine god-grade Limit Divine Pills! With this amount of vitality energy, all god-grade Divine Pills will turn into Limit Divine Pills. This is truly amazing! Your ability to extract so much vitality energy isn’t inferior to those of top lord-rank divine alchemists. In fact, you’re comparable to ordinary emperor-rank divine alchemists,” Lin Yan said in a low voice. His voice was so low that only Linghu Ren Jie and Duan Ling Tian, who were standing close to him, heard his words.

Even Wang Fu, who was standing nearby, did not hear Lin Yan’s words.

Nonetheless, Lin Yan’s earlier words had already told the crowd what they wanted to know.

“Heavens! So Revered Elder Duan used Revered Elder Lin’s technique?”

“It seems like the student has surpassed the teacher! Revered Elder Lin said that Revered Elder Duan extracted much more vitality energy than he did using that technique!”

“Does this mean Revered Elder Duan is a lord-rank divine alchemist even though he only just began to learn alchemy?”

“I’m not sure about that. However, just his ability to extract vitality energy alone is superior to most top lord-rank divine alchemists!”

“Well, isn’t the ability to extract vitality energy the most difficult part of refining Divine Pills?”

“That’s right. As for the other steps, it’s enough as long as one keeps practicing. However, sensing and extracting vitality energy can’t be taught so easily. It depends on one’s talent as well. This is also the reason why those who have a good comprehension of the law of life have an advantage in this area.”

Duan Ling Tian could not help but smirk inwardly upon hearing these words. Although it was true that those who have a good comprehension of the law of life had an advantage, it was just a slight advantage. As for him, even if his comprehension of the law of life was not good, due to the Divine Tree of Life in his Little World, he was very sensitive toward vitality energy. In this regard, perhaps, only supreme powerhouses with Realms of Gods as their Little Worlds were better than him for now. This was because each Realm of Gods had a Divine Tree of Life. Without a Divine Tree of Life, a Little World would not become a Realm of Gods.

In the past, Duan Ling Tian had wondered where the Divine Trees of Life came from. Then, he wondered if his Little World would become a Realm of Gods with the help of the Divine Tree of Life if he became a supreme powerhouse in the future.

At this moment, Linghu Ren Jie swept his eyes across the crowd before he said, “Please leave us alone for now.”

After listening to Lin Yan’s words, Linghu Ren Jie had a lot of questions. With so many people around, it was inconvenient to ask Duan Ling Tian so many questions.

Linghu Ren Jie was the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan, after all. Now that he had given an order to disperse, the others had no choice but to leave even if they felt reluctant. At the same time, many Voice Transmission rang in Duan Ling Tian’s ears. “Duan Ling Tian, I’m Yuan Yu, an elder of the Linghu clan. My courtyard is just two blocks north of your courtyard. Please do visit when you’re free. We can drink tea and chat.”

“Duan Ling Tian, I am...”

“Duan Ling Tian, I...”

Many people did not miss the chance to curry favor with Duan Ling Tian. Apart from his strength, his ability to refine Limit Divine Pills had made his future even brighter than before.

Before this, when Duan Ling Tian had just joined the Linghu clan, he was already known as a monstrous talent. Based on how he was able to extract vitality energy when he had just learned alchemy, it was clear his future was even brighter.

Hence, these people knew if they did not try to get acquainted with him now, it would only be more difficult in the future.

Meanwhile, when Duan Ling Tian first received the Voice Transmissions, he had replied to them. However, as the number of the Voice Transmissions grew, it became impossible for him to reply to all of them. Hence, he gave up in the end and ignored the Voice Transmissions.

When everyone left, silence descended again.

In the courtyard, Wang Fu led the helpers away while Duan Ling Tian, Linghu Ren Jie, and Lin Yan sat around a wooden table in a pavilion in the courtyard.

After Lin Yan sat down, he asked, "Revered Elder Duan, you already have a foundation in alchemy, right? Did you refine pills in the Devata Realms before coming here?"

Duan Ling Tian nodded. "That's right. Even before I went to the Devata Realms, I was already dabbling in alchemy when I was in the mundane realm. However, after I went to the Devata Realms, I hardly refined pills..."

Those from the mundane realms would have known how much of an understatement Duan Ling Tian's words were. After all, in the mundane realms, Duan Ling Tian was one of the top alchemists.

"No wonder," Lin Yan said as he nodded, "I was thinking earlier that it was impossible for you to turn the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills into Limit Divine Pill during your second try even if you're highly gifted in sensing vitality energy in Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy. Moreover, prior to extracting vitality energy, you can't make any mistakes with the other steps as well. It's impossible for you to not make any mistakes at all if it were truly your second try. However, since you'd refined pills in the mundane realms and the Devata Realms, it's not surprising you didn't make any mistakes earlier. Moreover, the technique to refine pills in Realms of Gods isn't difficult. The most important part is the purification of the pills." Then, Lin Yan looked at Duan Ling Tian with bright eyes as he continued to say, "Revered Elder Duan, based on what you did today, you definitely have the potential to become an emperor-rank divine alchemist or a supreme divine alchemist!"

Duan Ling Tian remained calm upon hearing Lin Yan's words.

On the contrary, Linghu Ren Jie was shocked. After all, even the divine alchemist from the Flying Dragon Sect who was highly sought after by emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion was just an ordinary emperor-rank divine alchemist. How could he remain calm when he heard Lin Yan say Duan Ling Tian had the potential to become a supreme-rank divine alchemist?

Linghu Ren Jie knew Lin Yan very well. He was certain Lin Yan would not say such words if he did not mean it. In other words, Lin Yan was very optimistic about Duan Ling Tian's future in alchemy. "Revered Elder Lin, you're overpraising me," Duan Ling Tian replied as he shook his head, "I'm still a beginner so I still have a long way to go. Revered Elder Lin, I hope you'll guide me in the future."

In fact, Duan Ling Tian was not deliberately being modest. He truly felt that he was still lacking in regard to alchemy. For example, there were many formulas for king-grade Divine Pills that he could not understand. In fact, there were many things he could not understand when he looked through the records in the Linghu clan's library.

As for the god-grade Divine Pills he had refined, Duan Ling Tian had relied on his past experience to understand the techniques and formula. He only managed to do so because they were less complicated compared to those of higher-grade pills.

Chapter 3752 Supreme Elder Lei's Decision

Upon seeing the unnatural expression on Lin Yan's face, Duan Ling Tian explained the problems he was facing.

Lin Yan's expression eased immediately. He said with a smile, "Revered Elder Duan, the things you don't understand are just basic things. If you're interested, I can teach you!"

At this moment, Lin Yan finally believed the purple-clad young man in front of him was not lying when he said he was a beginner. After all, the other party did not even understand some of the basic things about alchemy. However, this was not surprising. Many of the basic information was not recorded and was passed on verbally.

"Thank you, Revered Elder Lin," Duan Ling Tian gratefully.

Lin Yan looked at Linghu Ren Jie and said, "You really picked up a treasure this time! With Revered Elder Duan's foundation in alchemy, once he understands the basics, he'll definitely become an emperor-rank divine alchemist in no time. At that time, he'll be able to refine those Divine Pills you want. With his talent, they might even turn into Limit Divine Pills. Once he masters the basics, I'll give him the ingredients to refine the pills."

Linghu Ren Jie nodded.

Earlier, Duan Ling Tian had learned from Lin Yan that Linghu Ren Jie had asked Lin Yan to help him refine some Divine Pills that would help boost his cultivation. Linghu Ren Jie said to Lin Yan teasingly, "It seems like before Duan Ling Tian leaves the clan, we don't need an old fellow like you to refine Divine Pills. You're just wasting our ingredients anyway. It's better to let Duan Ling Tian use them."

Lin Yan was not angered by Linghu Ren Jie's words. He said tonelessly, "Very well. Since that's the case, I'll leave the clan and wander the world..."

Linghu Ren Jie's teasing smile vanished from his face immediately as he hastily said, "I'm just joking, just joking!"

Duan Ling Tian might be highly talented in alchemy, but he would leave the Linghu clan sooner or later. After all, he had made it clear he would be leaving the Linghu clan for the Flying Dragon Sect after 20 years.

Duan Ling Tian was highly talented. If he stayed in the Linghu clan, his future would be dim.

How could Linghu Ren Jie be willing to let Lin Yan go? Duan Ling Tian might be able to refine Divine Pills for him in the coming 20 years, but what happened after 20 years had passed?

Over the next period of time, Lin Yan would frequently visit Duan Ling Tian and vice versa.

It did not take long for Duan Ling Tian to master the unfamiliar basics of alchemy in the Realms of Gods.

During this time, news about the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills that Duan Ling Tian refined becoming Limit Divine Pills had also spread throughout the Linghu clan. With that, it did not take long for news to spread to the entire Linghu city.

In the history of the Linghu Clan, no one had ever refined Limit Divine Pills, not even god-grade Limit Divine Pills. Hence, the news caused a huge commotion in Linghu City.

“Heavens! Duan Ling Tian really can do it all! Not only is he a cultivation genius, but he’s also a genius in alchemy! He became a rudimentary King of Gods at such a young age and is able to defeat ordinary advanced Kings of Gods, and now, he’s an expert who’s able to refine Limit Divine Pills!”

“The Hidden Fog Sect truly suffered a loss this time!”

“On the contrary, the Linghu clan obtained a treasure! The Hidden Fog Sect is probably feeling regretful now.”

“If I were the Hidden Fog Sect, I’d slam my head against the wall out of regret!”

Before joining the Linghu clan, Duan Ling Tian’s achievements in the Hidden Fog Sect had long spread to Linghu City. Everyone knew he was the first advanced god to become a core disciple of the Hidden Fog Sect in 10,000 years. Then, he was not even 3,000 years old before he became a rudimentary King of Gods. He was someone comparable to Xue Hai Chuan, the first advanced god in the history of the Hidden Fog Sect to become a core disciple.

The inhabitants of Linghu City also knew that Duan Ling Tian managed to kill Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao, two core disciples of the Hidden Fog Sect despite having a lower cultivation base than the duo.

The two inner disciples whom Duan Ling Tian killed in the Extreme Martial were not famous, but Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao were different. They were famous and were known to be among the five strongest core disciples in the Hidden Fog Sect. The duo was even capable of defeating most of the inner elders of the Hidden Fog Sect who were advanced Kings of Gods despite only being intermediate Kings of Gods themselves. How could everyone not be shocked that Duan Ling Tian who had only become a rudimentary King of Gods recently managed to kill the duo?

Initially, when the people of Linghu City heard about Duan Ling Tian killing the duo, they were rather skeptical. However, after he joined the Linghu clan, no one doubted him anymore. After all, if the news was untrue, why would Duan Ling Tian leave the Hidden Fog Sect and join the Linghu clan?

Only those from the Hidden Fog Sect were angered by Duan Ling Tian’s perceived betrayal. On the contrary, when outsiders heard about it, they thought Duan Ling Tian had made the right choice. Would it not be foolish if Duan Ling Tian continued to stay in the Hidden Fog Sect and wait for Supreme Elder Lei and Supreme Elder Feng to kill him?

Now that news about Duan Ling Tian’s talent in alchemy spread out, the people of Linghu City were naturally shocked again.

In a private room of a restaurant in Linghu City.

“He refined the Limit Divine Pills?”

A solemn-looking old man sitting at a table tightened his grip around the teacup in his hand. The teacup shattered, and with a wave of his hand, the fragments shot out like arrows, piercing through the wall. A young man sitting at the table stood up in a hurry upon seeing this. Then, he said worriedly, “Master, calm down.”

The young man was none other than Shi Tong Ming. He was the core disciple who came to invite Duan Ling Tian to join his master, Supreme Elder Lei, after Duan Ling Tian killed Tu Feng in the Extreme Martial Arena. After Duan Ling Tian rejected Shi Tong Ming’s invitation, Shi Tong Ming thought that would be the end of the matter. Who knew it was just the beginning. He did not expect his senior brother, Long Xiao, would hold a grudge against Duan Ling Tian because of that matter. His senior brother even roped Shangguan Xiong Feng in to cause trouble for Duan Ling Tian by robbing Duan Ling Tian of his two Auspicious Pills. Unfortunately, the duo who sought trouble with Duan Ling Tian was killed by Duan Ling Tian in the end.

“Tong Min,” the old man, Supreme Elder Lei, called out. He asked gloomily, “Do you think your senior brother will resent me and blame me if I give up on avenging him?”

“Master,” Shi Tong Ming said with a bitter smile, “Senior brother definitely won’t blame or resent you. Master, I’ve always told you that we shouldn’t make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian. He’s a monstrous genius. Moreover, if the news is to be believed, his backer is likely an emperor-rank force. Although it’s said that he’s from the Devata Realm, can someone from a Devata Realm have such heaven-defying talents? He’s not even 3,000 years old, but he’s already a rudimentary King of Gods. Most importantly, with that cultivation base, he’s strong enough to kill advanced Kings of Gods. Now, it’s said he’s a genius in alchemy as well. Even the most outstanding members his age in emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion aren’t as outstanding as him. Master, I know you’re furious and sad about senior brother’s death. However, think about this. If senior brother didn’t deliberately target Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian wouldn’t have made a move against senior brother.”

Shi Tong Ming sincerely persuaded his master. He really did not want his master to make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian. When he first met Duan Ling Tian, he could tell Duan Ling

Tian was extraordinary. He did not pursue the matter as well when Duan Ling Tian rejected his invitation. At that time, he could see there was no changing Duan Ling Tian’s mind.

When Shi Tong Ming found out Duan Ling Tian had returned to the Hidden Fog Sect after becoming a rudimentary King of Gods and killed his senior brother, Long Xiao, and Shangguan Xiong Feng, he realized how terrifying Duan Ling Tian truly was. Now that he found out Duan Ling Tian had refined Limit Divine Pills, once again, he thought Duan Ling Tian was really terrifying. Even if the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills were only god-grade pills, only extraordinary lord-grade divine alchemists could refine them into Limit Divine Pills. The lord-grade divine alchemists on the Hidden Fog Sect were far from being able to refine Limit Divine Pills.

Supreme Elder Lei sighed. He looked as though he had aged in just an instant. Then, he said, “Tong Ming, go to the Linghu clan on my behalf. Tell Duan Ling Tian that I will not pursue the matter of him killing Long Xiao since he only acted to defend himself against Long Xiao.”

Supreme Elder Lei finally decided to let the matter go due to Duan Ling Tian's mysterious background and heaven-defying talents.

Originally, he had come to Linghu City to look for a chance to capture Duan Ling Tian to avenge his disciple, Long Xiao. However, he decided to let the matter go. He had a very strong feeling that if he continued to antagonize Duan Ling Tian, not only him and his disciples, but even the Hidden Fog Sect would suffer in the end.

Chapter 3753 Supreme Elder Feng's Forbearance

Long Xiao was just one of Supreme Elder Lei's many disciples. Although Long Xiao was his favorite disciple, Long Xiao's absence did not affect him, who had lived for tens of thousands of years, at all. In fact, he had mostly been determined to avenge Long Xiao because of his reputation. How could he not do anything if someone killed his disciple? It would be embarrassing if word of it spread out.

However, the more Supreme Elder Lei heard about Duan Ling Tian, the warier he became. After weighing the pros and the cons, he decided it would be bad to make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian. It no longer mattered to him even if it would be embarrassing.

"Yes, master," Shi Tong Ming replied. His eyes lit up as soon as he heard his master's words, and he heaved a sigh of relief. He had been worried his master would stubbornly insist on antagonizing Duan Ling Tian. After all, who knew if he would also be targeted because of his master? Even his senior brother, who was much stronger than him, was not a match for Duan Ling Tian. If Duan Ling Tian targeted him, it would be over. "I'll wait for your return here. After that, we'll return to the sect," Supreme Elder Lei said.

"I understand," Shi Tong Ming replied respectfully before he left the restaurant for the Linghu clan's estate.

When Shi Tong Ming was stopped by the patrol team from the Linghu clan in front of their estate, he explained, "I'm looking for Revered Elder Duan. My name is Shi Tong Ming, and I'm a disciple of Supreme Elder Lei. I have no ill intention."

Shi Tong Ming could naturally see the hostility in the eyes of the members of the Linghu clan so he quickly explained himself.

"Wait here. I'll report this to Revered Elder Duan."

The eyes of the members of the Linghu clan held hints of respect when Duan Ling Tian was mentioned.

Duan Ling Tian was now the number one prodigy in the Linghu clan. After his talent in alchemy was made known, even more people idolized him.

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"Shi Tong Ming?"

Duan Ling Tian, who was trying to refine a king-grade Divine Pill in his room, was stunned when he heard Wang Fu's words. After a brief moment, he said, "Uncle Fu, let them bring him here."

"Yes, Young Master Duan."

Soon enough, one of the members of the patrol team led Shi Tong Ming to Duan Ling Tian's courtyard.

Duan Ling Tian walked out of his room. When he saw Shi Tong Ming, he said, "We meet again."

Duan Ling Tian felt as though a lifetime had passed since he last saw Shi Tong Ming. At that time, he had just killed Tu Feng, the disciple of the second elder of the Hidden Fog Sect. At that time, Shi Tong Ming had come to invite him to join his master, Supreme Elder Lei.

Duan Ling Tian remembered Shi Tong Ming did not look for trouble with him even after he rejected the invitation. At that time, Shi Tong Ming, as a core disciple, was polite when dealing with him. Nevertheless, Shi Tong Ming could not hide the superiority that was etched in his bones. However, currently, Shi Tong Ming was very respectful without any hint of arrogance.

Shi Tong Ming bowed slightly. "Greetings, Revered Elder Duan."

"What's the matter?" Duan Ling Tian asked without beating around the bush.

"Revered Elder Duan, I came today on behalf of my master. He's in Linghu City." Duan Ling Tian smiled; he did not seem surprised. "Supreme Elder Lei is in Linghu City? What does your master want with me? Don't tell me he wants you to lure me out so he can capture me back to the Hidden Fog Sect?"

Shi Tong Ming felt slightly embarrassed when he heard Duan Ling Tian's words. "It's true that my master came to the city hoping to bring you back to the Hidden Fog Sect. He and Supreme Elder Feng came to an agreement; both of them would take turns staying in Linghu City a year each." He paused for a moment before he said truthfully, "However, master heard about you refining the Limit Divine Pills today. After careful consideration, he finally came to a decision. He sent me here to tell you that my senior brother, Long Xiao, provoked you first. Hence, he has given up on the idea of avenging my senior brother. He wants to make it clear that he no longer holds a grudge regarding this matter."

Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised by Shi Tong Ming's words. He did not expect Supreme Elder Lei would come to this decision just because he managed to refine the Limit Divine Pills. He looked at Shi Tong Ming with a penetrating gaze as he asked with a smile, "Is Supreme Elder Lei hoping that I'd let down my guard after hearing these words?"

Shi Tong Ming was very straightforward. Instead of explaining, he swore on the Devil Heart's Blood Oath to prove that he was telling the truth and that he believed Supreme Elder Lei truly did not want to make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian. "Very well." Duan Ling Tian nodded. "Tell Supreme Elder Lei that I have no grievances with him since it was his disciple that provoked me. Now that Long Xiao is dead and paid the price for his actions, I won't act against Supreme Elder Lei as long as he doesn't go against me."

These were the words Shi Tong Ming was hoping to hear when he came to the Linghu clan's estate. He smiled as he cupped his fists at Duan Ling Tian before he said with a bow, "Revered Elder Duan, I thank you on behalf of my master. I'll take my leave now."

After Shi Tong Ming returned to the restaurant in Linghu City to meet Supreme Elder Lei, the duo did not waste time and returned to the Hidden Fog Sect immediately.

After returning to the Hidden Fog Sect, Supreme Elder Lei looked for Qian Yin, the Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect, and told Qian Yin about everything he had heard in Linghu City. Finally, he said in a deep voice, "In my opinion, we shouldn't make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian. Even if we disregard his

background, someone like him will definitely rise to the peak in the future. In fact, there's a possibility that in just a few years, he'd be strong enough to deal with our sect on his own. Moreover, you know what it means for an alchemist capable of refining Limit Divine Pills."

Qian Yin's expressions changed when he heard Supreme Elder Lei's words. Similar to Supreme Elder Lei, after weighing the pros and cons, he came to the same conclusion as Supreme Elder Lei did. He nodded as he said, "You're right. As Long Xiao's master, you've already let go of this matter, there's no reason for me not to let go of this matter." Then, he paused before he said decisively, "The Hidden Fog Sect is no longer an enemy of Duan Ling Tian.

Supreme Elder Lei nodded before he looked at Qian Yin meaningfully and said, "There's one more thing. Stop the rumors about Duan Ling Tian's betraying our sect. We don't know what consequences these rumors would bring if we let them run rampant."

Qian Yin smiled sheepishly. "So you're aware of everything."

"Have you forgotten that I know you very well?"

When Supreme Elder Lei was about to leave, Qian Yin hurriedly said, "Supreme Elder Lei, please speak to Supreme Elder Feng on my behalf. I'm afraid he won't listen to me."

"I know," Supreme Elder said toneless, "I'll speak to him now."

Similarly, Supreme Elder Lei told Supreme Elder Feng everything he had told Qian Yin.

Supreme Elder Feng fell deep into his thoughts after listening to Supreme Elder Lei. He thought about how Supreme Elder Lei and Qian Yin had decided not to make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian for a moment before he nodded expressionlessly, "I understand." "Supreme Elder Feng, just let it go. Who knows when we'll be killed by the Heavenly Tribulation? Do you want to die ahead of time? Although what I said has yet to happen, there's no doubt it'll happen sooner or later," Supreme Elder Lei said with a sigh.

"I know." Supreme Elder Feng nodded with a faint smile on his face. Seeing this, Supreme Elder Lei left, feeling more at ease.

As soon as Supreme Elder Lei left, the smile on Supreme Elder Feng's face vanished immediately and was replaced by a sneer. His eyes shone icily as he muttered to himself, "It's easy for you to let the matter go since Long Xiao wasn't related to you by blood. However, Xiong Feng is my grandson. Most importantly, he's my only descendant! How can I give up on avenging my grandson?" After the outburst, Supreme Elder Feng calmed down and thought about how Duan Ling Tian had come from Skywind City. After a moment, he decided to leave the Hidden Fog Sect for Skywind City.

Skywind City was one of the small cities near the Hidden Fog Sect. The most powerful force in the city was the Hidden Fog Academy that belonged to the Hidden Fog Sect.

When Supreme Elder Feng arrived at Skywind City, he did not go to the Hidden Fog Academy or contact anyone from the academy.

For a month, he stayed in the city to gather information about Duan Ling Tian before he returned to the Hidden Fog Sect. "Duan Ling Tian has two close friends in the academy: Ding Yan and Huo Qing Ning. Ding Yan suddenly left the academy without a word, and Hou Qing Ning is the Young Master of the king-rank sect. I'll bid my time for now. Perhaps, I can use Hou Qing Ning to force Duan Ling Tian out of the Linghu clan's estate."

Supreme Elder Feng calmed down a lot now that he had a plan in mind.

Meanwhile, Supreme Elder Lei and Qian Yin were naturally unaware of Supreme Elder Feng's thoughts. They believed Supreme Elder Feng had dismissed the idea of avenging Shangguan Xiong Feng.

Qian Yin had also ordered people to stop the rumors of Duan Ling Tian's betrayal. Apart from that, he also made it clear that Duan Ling Tian only killed Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao out of self-defense. Apart from making it clear that the Hidden Fog Sect had no enmity with Duan Ling Tian, he also released a statement wishing Duan Ling Tian well in the Linghu clan.

Chapter 3754 Two Years Later

Naturally, Qian Yin's actions caused a commotion in the Hidden Fog Sect. How could the others not be skeptical of such a huge change? Moreover, they knew the high-ranking officials of the Hidden Fog Sect had been aware from the beginning that Duan Ling Tian had only acted in self-defense, but their stance was completely different in the beginning.

Apart from that, Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao were not only core disciples of the Hidden Fog Sect, but they were also the disciples of two out of the four Supreme Elders of the Hidden Fog Sect respectively. Why would the duo's masters suddenly give up on the idea of revenge?

"What do you think is happening? Are they trying to lull Duan Ling Tian into a false sense of security?"

"Lull him into a false sense of security?"

"That's right. Perhaps, the sect hopes to catch Duan Ling Tian off guard."

"I don't think so. After all, it's unnecessary to do such a thing."

"In any case, this matter has finally come to an end since the sect leader clearly has no intention to pursue this matter anymore."

"Even then, I'm really curious about what happened to bring about such a change..."

Wu Feng Yin, the second elder of the Hidden Fog Sect, had been shocked when he first learned about what happened.

Previously, when rumors about Duan Ling Tian's betrayal spread, Wu Feng Yin could feel the hostility of everyone in the Hidden Fog Sect toward Duan Ling Tian. With so many people who hated Duan Ling Tian, he was no longer worried about Duan Ling Tian targeting him. However, now that things had changed, Wu Feng Yin felt a sense of crisis again. He wondered if he should leave the Hidden Fog Sect immediately or if he should speak to Qian Yin first to find out what happened. After thinking about it, he decided to speak to Qian Yin first.

As the second leader of the Hidden Fog Sect, it was not difficult for Wu Feng Yin to meet Qian

Yin.

“Sect Leader.”

“Elder Wu? What’s the matter?” Qian Yin looked at Wu Feng Yin suspiciously.

Wu Feng Yin asked directly, “Sect Leader, why did our sect change our stance regarding Duan Ling Tian? He killed Supreme Elder Lei and Supreme Elder Feng’s disciples, after all. How can we let go of that matter? Are the two Supreme Elders really willing to let him go?”

“That’s right.” Qian Yin nodded. “We’ve all come to an agreement and decided not to make an enemy out of Duan Ling Tian.”

Then, Qian Yin asked, puzzled, “Elder Wu, did you come only to ask me this?” Then, as though he just recalled something, he asked warily, “Elder Wu, don’t tell me you did something to Duan Ling Tian before he left the sect...”

“No.” Wu Feng Yin quickly shook his head. “Initially, I wanted to act against him, but I didn’t find a good chance to do so. He killed my eldest disciple, Tu Feng, and I’m worried he’d target me, thinking that I’d seek revenge for Tu Feng.”

“I see.” Qian Yin nodded. Then, he said bluntly, “Don’t worry. Since you didn’t act against me yet, he won’t target you. Perhaps, he has already forgotten about you. You may think your status as the second elder is rather grand, but in reality, he likely doesn’t think much about you.”

Wu Feng Yin smiled wryly upon hearing these words. Then, he asked, “May I ask why Supreme Elder Lei and Supreme Elder Feng decided to let him go? Did you manage to confirm his identity and background? Who’s he? Is he truly from an emperor-rank force?” “I haven’t confirmed his identity and background,” Qian Yin said as he shook his head.

Wu Feng Yin was puzzled. Then, he asked skeptically, “Then, why did the two supreme elders let him go?”

Wu Feng Yin knew the two supreme elders were not pushovers. They would not choose to take a step back for no reason.

“You’ll find out sooner or later so I’ll just be honest with you,” Qian Yin explained, “Supreme Elder Lei went to Linghu City in hopes of capturing Duan Ling Tian back to our sect. If it’s proven that Duan Ling Tian comes from a formidable force, it won’t be too late to let him go at that time. Otherwise, we’ll kill him to avenge Xiong Feng and Long Xiao.”

Qian Yin paused briefly before he said, “When Supreme Elder Lei was in Linghu City, he heard something that changed his mind. He heard that Duan Ling Tian managed to refine the Limit Divine Pills.”

Wu Feng Yin’s eyes widened in shock. “Limit Divine Pills?”

Although Wu Feng Yin was not an alchemist, he naturally knew what this meant. Even without a backer, Duan Ling Tian’s future was incomparably bright. Unless they were certain they could kill him, no one would risk offending him. If he were in the two supreme elders’ shoes, he would have made the same decisions as them.

“Sect leader, you’re right. I’m sure he doesn’t remember me at all,” Wu Feng Yin said with a wry smile. Since he had yet to act against Duan Ling Tian, how could Duan Ling Tian remember a small character like him?”

Duan Ling Tian only learned about what happened in the Hidden Fog Sect two months later. Apart from refuting rumors that he betrayed the Hidden Fog Sect, the Hidden Fog Sect also wished him well in the Linghu clan.

“I really didn’t expect refining the Limit Divine Pills is enough to make Supreme Elder Lei and the Hidden Fog Sect take a step back...”

Although he was highly talented, and he was one of the strongest rudimentary Kings of Gods, his talent in alchemy was even more terrifying than his cultivation talent.

As strong as he was, any Lords of Gods in the lord-rank Hidden Fog Sect could easily kill him. However, there was no one in the Hidden Fog Sect who could refine a Limit Divine Pill like he did.

“In any case, this benefits me...” Although Duan Ling Tian was unhappy with the Hidden Fog Sect, he knew it was a good thing to have one less enemy. Moreover, he did not have enmity with the Hidden Fog Sect itself. The people he had enmity with were Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao who had already died.

Over this period of time, Duan Ling Tian had focused on studying alchemy in the Linghu clan. Apart from refining pills, he would also have discussions with Lin Yan, the Chief Alchemist of the Linghu clan. He had learned the basics of refining higher-grade pills from Lin Yan during their time together. Currently, he could refine ordinary king-grade Divine Pills.

During the times he refined the king-grade Divine Pills, he did not use too much vitality energy, afraid of creating more Limit Divine

Pills.

It was not a big deal to refine god-grade Limit Divine Pills, but if word got out that he managed to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills, he was afraid some emperor-rank forces and sectless cultivators might not be able to sit still.

It would not be too bad if it were just the emperor-rank forces since they would only want to recruit him. However, rogue forces and sectless cultivators might kidnap him so they could force him to refine pills. Who knew if they would kill or torture him if he refused them?

Hence, Duan Ling Tian decisively kept a low profile.

Recently, Duan Ling Tian was filled with the urge to leave the Linghu clan’s estate to refine king-grade Divine Pills.

Duan Ling Tian sighed. “Alas, I can’t leave the clan estate for the time being. Even if the Hidden Fog Sect has given up, there’s still Kuang Tian Zheng. I don’t for sure if he’s still waiting for me in Linghu City. If Kuang Tian Zheng makes a move outside of the clan estate, I’m afraid that even if the supreme elders of the clan were present, they still wouldn’t be able to protect me.”

Duan Ling Tian had learned from Linghu Ren Jie that Kuang Tian Zheng was an intermediate Lord of Gods. He was must stronger than ordinary intermediate Lords of Gods.

“I’ll think of leaving in the future... If Kuang Tian Zheng is truly in Linghu City, he should be bored of waiting after a few more years...” Unlike cultivating, where one would easily lose track of time, time seemed to tick slower when one was waiting. Even a Lord of God like Kuang Tian Zheng would be able to wait for so long,

Time flew by. In just a blink of an eye, two years had passed. Swoosh!

At this time, a figure shot out of the Hidden Fog Sect and flew in the direction of Skywind City. The figure belonged to Supreme Elder Feng, one of the four Supreme Elders of the Hidden Fog Sect.

Halfway through his journey, Supreme Elder Feng changed into a black hooded robe that hid his face.

When he arrived at Skywind City, he went to the Hidden Fog Academy immediately. No one seemed to notice his arrival.

At this time, Hou Qing Ning’s door was kicked open. He, who was cultivating, opened his eyes, and when he saw the black-clad hooded man in front of him, his expression changed drastically.

“Who are you?”

Chapter 3755 Coercion

“Who are you?!” Hou Qing Ning cried out when he saw the black-clad break into his room.

The intruder waved his hand, sending a wave of terrifying energy his way. In just a blink of an eye, Hou Qing Ning was bound by the energy, and his Divine Energy was also suppressed, making him unable to mobilize it at all. When he tried to call for help, he discovered he could not make a sound at all. Even his eyes were forcefully shut by the energy. On top of that, he felt suffocated by the energy.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Hou Qing Ning knew he had been taken out of his room when he felt and heard the wind. Perhaps, he had even been brought out of the Hidden Fog Academy.

Hou Qing Ning speculated inwardly, ‘Who is he? Is he an enemy of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect? However, when did our sect have such a powerful enemy? Even my uncle, who’s the strongest in the sect, won’t be able to bring me away from the academy without alerting the dean. After all, the residence for Ten Stars students is near the residence of the dean and the teachers... Even if the teachers aren’t alerted, the dean should’ve been alerted if there was an intruder since the dean is a Lord of Gods. This means the person who kidnapped me is at least a Lord of Gods. It’s impossible for our sect to provoke such a person!’

Hou Qing Ning was filled with apprehensions at this moment. He continued to speculate inwardly, ‘He could’ve easily killed me, but he didn’t. This means I’m of use to him alive...’

With all these thoughts in mind, Hou Qing Ning grew even more anxious and confused. He really could figure out why such a person would kidnap him. Who did he or the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect offend? Thump!

While Hou Qing Ning was lost in his thoughts, a loud sound and the sharp pain in his back pulled him back to his senses. He had clearly been tossed to the ground. When he landed on the ground, he discovered that he had regained mobility, no longer bound by that energy. He could also see, and his Divine Energy was no longer suppressed. Nonetheless, he did not dare to rashly mobilize his Divine Energy. After all, the other party could easily crush him like an ant. Hence, he only opened his eyes to look at the person who kidnapped him. He wanted to see who was it that he or the Thousand Leaves Sect offended.

When Hou Qing Ning opened his eyes, he saw that he had been brought to a deserted place. He was now leaning against a tree trunk. Clearly, his back had hit the tree when the other party tossed him out earlier. When he saw the black-clad hooded man, a confused expression on his face.

“Senior, may I ask... who, who are you?”

The black-clad man did not respond to Hou Qing Ning’s question. Instead, he said in a hoarse voice, “Look at the city in front of you.”

Despite the other party deliberately making his voice sound hoarse, Hou Qing Ning could tell the voice belonged to an old man. When he heard the other party’s words, he instinctively looked ahead. With just a look, he was stunned. “Ten, Ten Thousand Leaves City?”

How could Hou Qing Ning not recognize Ten Thousand Leaves City? This was the place he grew up in, after all.

The Ten Thousand Leaves Sect was the force behind Ten Thousand Leaves City. Although the city was not as large as Skywind City, it was still a fairly prosperous city.

“Why did you bring me from Skywind City to Ten Thousand Leaves City...” Hou Qing Ning trailed off as chills ran up his spine. Considering the time it took for him to arrive at this place from Skywind City, he knew even the strongest advanced King of Gods would not be capable of this speed. Hence, the other party was definitely a Lord of Gods at least. Hou Qing Ning shuddered inwardly with this revelation. He did not understand why such a powerhouse would kidnap him and bring him back to Ten Thousand Leaves City. He could tell the other party did not have good intentions.

Hou Qing Ning could not control the trembling in his voice as he asked, “S-senior, why, why did you... bring me here? What, what do you want from me? I don’t think I or the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect have ever offended you...”

Panic welled up in Hou Qing Ning’s heart. Let alone killing him, such a powerhouse could easily destroy the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect.

The black-clad man slowly said, “Neither you nor the sect has offended me...”

Hou Qing Ning sighed in relief inwardly. Then, he asked, “Then, what business do you have with me, senior?”

“Are you friends with Duan Ling Tian?”

Hou Qing Ning, who had just heaved a sigh of relief, froze upon hearing these words. His expression changed drastically when he realized the other party targeted him because of Duan Ling Tian. Hou Qing Ning had always been proud of having a friend like Duan Ling Tian. Even when everyone in the Hidden Fog Sect scolded Duan Ling Tian for his betrayal and the people from the Skywind City's Hidden Fog Academy questioned Duan Ling Tian's character for joining the Linghu clan after his departure from the sect, his confidence in Duan Ling Tian did not waver. Although he did not know Duan Ling Tian for a long time, he was certain Duan Ling Tian was not an ungrateful person and would not betray the Hidden Fog Sect without valid reasons.

Moreover, since he was from a relatively influential sect, he knew the inner workings of a sect very well. Since Duan Ling Tian had killed Shangguan Xiong Feng and Long Xiao, who were the disciples of two Supreme Elders of the Hidden Fog Sect, he knew the Hidden Fog Sect would not let Duan Ling Tian go easily. Since Duan Ling Tian left for the Linghu clan, the two supreme elders must have failed to detain him.

When Qian Yin, the Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect, stepped forward to clear Duan Ling Tian's name and wished Duan Ling Tian well in the Linghu clan, Hou Qing Ning knew Duan Ling Tian's feud with the Hidden Fog Sect had come to an end. At the very least, the Hidden Fog Sect would no longer openly make things difficult for Duan Ling Tian. Although he did not know the reason for the Hidden Fog Sect's sudden change in attitude, at that time, he thought that Duan Ling Tian was truly amazing

When Hou Qing Ning received news from Linghu City a few months later, he finally figured out what happened. As it turned out, Duan Ling Tian had refined the Limit Divine Pills. Even if they were just god-grade Limit Divine Pills, it proved that Duan Ling Tian was monstrously talented in alchemy as well. Even lord-rank sects like the Hidden Fog Sect did not have alchemists with such capabilities. After all, one had to be a lord-rank divine alchemist to be able to refine the Limit Divine Pills. He finally understood why the Hidden Fog Sect took a step back. To put it bluntly, the Hidden Fog Sect was afraid.

Hou Qing Ning had been sincerely happy when he heard the news. He was still worried about Duan Ling Tian after Duan Ling Tian joined the Linghu clan. With this news, he felt much more at ease. He had planned to send a message to Duan Ling Tian to enquire about his wellbeing, but when he thought about Duan Ling Tian's current status and his own status, he dismissed the idea. Before he knew it, his friend had completely surpassed him to the point that it seemed impossible to catch up. Moreover, there was nothing he could do to help Duan Ling Tian.

"I wouldn't say we're friends," Hou Qing Ning finally replied as he shook his head, "Before he joined the Hidden Fog Sect, he was a Ten Stars student as well. At most, we can be considered acquaintances..." "Hmm?" The black-clad man's voice changed slightly as he asked, "Do you have his Soul Pearl?"

"No." Hou Qing Ning shook his head. He was very cautious now that he knew the black-clad man's target was Duan Ling Tian. It was clear the black-clad man intended to use him to deal with Duan Ling Tian.

"I'll give you another chance," the black-clad man said icily, "If you don't answer truthfully, I'll bring you the head of the Sect Leader of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect within 15 minutes. I heard he's your father..."

Upon hearing these words, Hou Qing Ning's expression changed drastically. He did not expect a Lord of Gods would stoop so low and threatened him using his father. He did not doubt the other party's strength and words. The black-clad man said again, "Tell me the truth."

"I have it." Although Hou Qing Ning was reluctant, he had no choice but to be truthful. His hands were tightly clenched as guilt overwhelmed his heart. 'I'm sorry, Duan Ling Tian. I don't have a choice.'

"Very good," the black-clad man said, satisfied, "Follow me to Linghu City. If you cooperate with me, I'll let you and the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect go. Otherwise, I'll destroy your sect..."

The other party's frosty tone sent chills up Hou Qing Ning's spine. His hair stood on end, and his eyes widened in fear. He looked at the black-clad man with a gloomy expression and asked, "Who are you? What do you want?"

Chapter 3756 Leaving the Linghu Clan's Estate

Duan Ling Tian had been very anxious and irritated recently. It had been two years since he had first successfully refined king-grade Divine Pills. He had been wanting to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills but did not wish to do so in the Linghu clan's estate. He was worried it would bring him trouble in the future. After all, who knew if he would encounter mad sectless cultivators? There were powerhouses out there that even the Linghu clan could not handle. For now, the Linghu clan was able to keep him safe, but it might not be the case if he showed his strength.

'I can already refine lord-grade Divine Pills now. Hence, it shouldn't be a problem for me to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills. Over the past two years, my cultivation only made little progress after I consumed the ordinary king-grade Divine Pills that I refined. Moreover, I'd undoubtedly grow even more immune to those pills the more I take them. I'm sure my cultivation would improve greatly if I take king-grade Limit Divine Pills...'

Over the past two years, Lin Yan, the Chief Alchemist of Linghu clan, had visited Duan Ling Tian frequently to see if Duan Ling Tian could refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills. However, since Duan Ling Tian was determined to hide his strength, he only returned disappointed every time. In recent times, he had even stopped visiting Duan Ling Tian.

At that time, Lin Yan had said, "Revered Elder Duan, perhaps, my expectations for you were too high. After all, even the best among lord-rank divine alchemists could only refine god-grade Limit Divine Pills. Even ordinary emperor-rank divine alchemists might not be able to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills. Take the elder from the Flying Dragon Sect as an example. Many emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion desperately want to recruit him. However, I haven't heard anything about him being able to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills."

Since Lin Yan was afraid that Duan Ling Tian would be discouraged, he would patiently comfort Duan Ling Tian. He was unaware Duan Ling Tian was hiding his true strength, after all.

'I'll wait a few more months. Someone like Kuang Tian Zheng, an elder of the Flying Dragon Sect, won't stay in Linghu City for too long. If I were him, I'd be impatient and left a long time ago.'

Duan Ling Tian was desperate for king-grade Limit Divine Pills. Otherwise, his current speed of cultivation was too slow. Naturally, to others, his cultivation speed was very fast. However, he could

measure his speed by the average person's standard. He had to take shortcuts to improve quickly so he could bring Ke'er back from the Divine Offering Land. Even if Linghu Chu Yin was Ke'er and they were reunited, he was determined to be acknowledged by Ke'er's family.

He had grown desperate because he felt that time was running short.

If he followed the usual path of cultivation, he was afraid he would even be able to become a Lord of Gods within 300 years, let alone an Emperor of Gods or Supreme Gods. "The Xia clan in the Divine Offering Land is a supreme-rank clan...'

Duan Ling Tian had learned about this after he joined the Linghu clan. He had seen records of top forces in the Realms of Gods that included the Divine Offering Land's Xia clan. There were fewer than ten forces listed in each Realm of Gods. There were more than a dozen Realms of Gods, but there were only slightly more than 100 forces that were listed. These forces were mostly supreme-rank forces.

'In addition to the Xia clan in the Divine Offering Land, the Yun clan in the Divine Offering Land is also a supreme-rank force. The Yun clan is also one of the eight supreme-rank forces in the Divine Offering Land.'

Saving Ke'er and getting the approval of the Xia clan were Duan Ling Tian's main goal while killing Yun Qing Yan was his secondary goal. He would never forget that face that stood high above him, looked down on him, and despised him in the past. One day, he would trample on that arrogant young man, and let the young man experience what it was like to be looked down upon.

All these things were the driving force that pushed Duan Ling Tian forward.

A few days later.

Duan Ling Tian did not expect to receive a message from Linghu Ren Jie about Kuang Tian Zheng.

A hint of worry could be heard in Linghu Ren Jie's voice as he said, "Duan Ling Tian, I received an invitation from Kuang Tian Zheng. It's a wedding invitation for the marriage of his second disciple and the daughter of Vice Sect Leader Xue of the Flying Dragon Sect. The invitation specifically stated that I must bring you with me." His voice turned grim as he continued to say, "I can't bring you there. Otherwise, it'd be difficult for you to return to the clan alive. I want to be mentally prepared. Kuang Tian Zheng now has ties with Vice Sect Leader Xue so his status in the sect has risen. In the future, it'd be easier for him to deal with you."

"However, the Linghu faction in the Flying Dragon Sect has been around for a long time in the Flying Dragon Sect. So, don't worry too much. An elder of our clan married the son of another Vice Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect who's also one of the White Dragon Elders of the Flying Dragon Sect." Duan Ling Tian had heard from Linghu Jie previously that the White Dragon Elders of the Flying Dragon Sect had a higher status than inner elders of the Flying Dragon Sect.

"Clan leader, I understand," Duan Ling Tian replied. Inwardly, he was excited. This meant that Kuang Tian Zheng was not in Linghu City, and he could leave the Linghu clan's estate.

Apart from that, he had felt slightly apprehensive when he heard about Kuang Tian Zheng's new connections. However, he put his worries to rest when he heard about the Linghu clan's connections in the Flying Dragon Sect. With that, he would not be without help when he entered the Flying Dragon Sect.

'I should start preparing the ingredients for a few king-grade Divine Pills and lord-grade Divine Pills. Who knows I might be lucky and obtain a lord-grade Limit Divine Pill?'

With that, Duan Ling Tian began to make preparations to leave the Linghu clan's estate.

Three days later, Linghu Ren Jie bade farewell to Duan Ling Tian before he went to the Flying Dragon Sect to attend the wedding of Kuang Tian Zheng's second disciple.

In fact, if Linghu Ren Jie only considered Kuang Tian Zheng's second disciple, all he needed to do was politely decline the invitation if he did not want to attend the wedding. However, due to the bride's special identity as the daughter of a Vice Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect, he could not risk offending the Vice Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect by not showing up. After all, Kuang Tian Zheng would certainly fan the flames if he was not present.

If that happened, who knew if that vice sect leader would openly stand with the 10,000 Devils faction and oppose the Linghu faction in the Flying Dragon Sect. Even if the Linghu faction had the support of another vice sect leader, it was best to have one less enemy.

A few days after Linghu Ren Jie left, Duan Ling Tian finally left the Linghu clan's estate after he was done with his preparation. However, he did not tell anyone about his departure.

Even the housekeeper Wang Fu, and the attendants in his courtyard were unaware that he had left.

Duan Ling Tian used the Teleportation Profundity to leave. With the identity token from the Linghu clan, he did not have to worry about the clan's Guarding Formation.

After teleporting a few times, Duan Ling Tian arrived in a remote alley in the east of Linghu City. He waited in the alley for a while. Although Kuang Tian Zheng was not in the city, who knew if there were other threats?

Although the Hidden Fog Sect had openly stated they had no intention of going against him, who knew if that was really the case? It was better to be safe than sorry.

Duan Ling Tian waited for about 15 minutes. After confirming he was not being watched, he teleported away to another place in Linghu City. After teleporting a few times, he finally left Linghu City.

When Duan Ling Tian left the Linghu clan, one of the elders in charge of keeping watch over the clan's Guarding formation finally discovered the fluctuations in the Formation caused by Duan Ling Tian's teleportation.

"That's caused by Revered Elder Duan!"

The elder's expression changed slightly as he quickly sent a message to his superior, a core elder of the Linghu clan.

When Duan Ling Tian first joined the Linghu clan, Linghu Ren Jie had ordered everyone to pay attention to Duan Ling Tian's whereabouts and to not let Duan Ling Tian leave the clan's estate alone. After all, who knew if Duan Ling Tian would encounter danger?

Hence, the elders kept Linghu Ren Jie's words in mind and paid special attention to Duan Ling Tian.

For more than two years, Duan Ling Tian did not leave the Linghu clan's estate until today.

"Revered Elder Duan teleported out of the estate?"

When Linghu Ren Jie received news about Duan Ling Tian's sudden departure, he was sitting in the flying ship, on his way to the Flying Dragon Sect. At this time, he had almost arrived at his destination.

Chapter 3757 The Earthly King Divine Pill

After receiving the news, Linghu Ren Jie hurriedly sent a message to Duan Ling Tian asking why Duan Ling Tian left the Linghu clan's estate and if Duan Ling Tian knew how dangerous it was.

"Have you forgotten how Kuang Tian Zheng, the inner elder of the Flying Dragon Sect, wanted to kill you? What if he had his men lying in wait for you in Linghu City? Apart from that, there's also the Hidden Fog Sect. Although they made it clear they have no enmity with you now, who can say for sure that's really the case? Who knows if Supreme Elder Lei and Supreme Elder Feng will go against Qian Yin's words?"

Duan Ling Tian, who was outside of Linghu City at this time, was moved when he heard the concern in Linghu Ren Jie's message. He said through Voice Transmission, "Don't worry, Clan Leader. I'll be fine. When you return, I might have a surprise for you."

Linghu Ren Jie had checked Duan Ling Tian's Soul Pearl earlier so he knew Duan Ling Tian was safe, at least for now. He felt much more at ease after he confirmed Duan Ling Tian had not been attacked.

"Don't be so reckless next time," Linghu Ren Jie said with mock sternness. His back was drenched in cold sweat when he thought about how Duan Ling Tian might have gotten hurt. He had high hopes for Duan Ling Tian, after all. How could he be willing to see anything bad happen to Duan Ling Tian? Moreover, after spending more than two years with Duan Ling Tian, his impression of Duan Ling Tian, who was very clear about his friends and foes, had grown even better. If it were not because of Duan Ling Tian's talent and he felt unworthy, he really wanted to adopt Duan Ling Tian as his foster son.

Linghu Ren Jie said again, "If the cost of the surprise means you have to endanger yourself, I'd rather not have it."

Duan Ling Tian's heart moved again when he heard these words. He knew Linghu Ren Jie sincerely cared about him.

'Linghu clan, you took me in at my lowest point. When I succeed in the future, I'll definitely repay your kindness,' Duan Ling Tian vowed inwardly.

On the other hand, after Linghu Ren Jie spoke to Duan Ling Tian, he sent a message back to the core elder of the Linghu clan and told the core elder to leave the matter alone and that Duan Ling Tian would return on his own. Linghu Ren Jie hesitated for a moment before he sent a message to Linghu Huan, one of the Supreme Elders of the Linghu clan.

“Elder Huan, do you plan to go into closed-door cultivation any time soon?”

“No,” Linghu Huan quickly responded, “What’s the matter?”

“It’s nothing,” Linghu Ren Jie replied, “Duan Ling Tian left the estate on his own...”

“What?” Linghu Huan did not wait for Linghu Ren Jie’s reply as he continued to say anxiously, “That kid ran out on his own? Doesn’t that mean the effort my brother and I expended to bring him back from the Hidden Fog Sect is in vain? How can he do this? Where is he now? Is he still alive? If he dies, my brother and my efforts will go to waste!”

Linghu Huan was exasperated when he heard about Duan Ling Tian’s departure. His chubby face was flushed, and his eyes were narrowed into slits.

“Elder Huan, calm down,” Linghu Ren Jie said, “I just spoke to him. He’s fine. I reached out to you because I hope you’ll escort him back to the clan. You don’t have his Soul Pearl so you can’t contact him so I’ll arrange everything.”

Since Duan Ling Tian was fine after leaving the Linghu clan, it meant that he managed to avoid detection. It could also mean that his enemies had given up on waiting in Linghu City. However, Linghu Ren Jie was still worried so he wanted Linghu Huan to escort Duan Ling Tian back.

“Hurry up and ask him where he is. Ask him to wait for me. My brother and I will go to him immediately! The cheeky rascal!” Linghu Huan said.

“I’ll speak to him now.”

When Duan Ling Tian received Linghu Ren message again, he refused immediately. “Clan Leader, there’s no need for that. I can return safely on my own. There’s no need to trouble Supreme Elder Huan and Supreme Elder Heng.” What a joke! He had left the Linghu clan’s estate so he could find a secluded place to refine king-grade Limit Divine Pills. With that, no one would notice if there was a Pill Tribulation. It would be for naught if he returned or if Linghu Huan and Linghu Heng came.

Alas, Linghu Ren Jie was very insistent and firm in his decision this time. Nevertheless, he still tried his best to compromise. “When you want to return, send me a message, I’ll send the two supreme elders to pick you up. Don’t return on your own. Your enemies might not have noticed when you left, but you can’t be certain it’d be the same when you return.”

Duan Ling Tian briefly considered Linghu Ren Jie’s words and agreed since it would not affect his mission.

“Be careful. Contact me if anything happens,” Linghu Ren Jie said.

Despite the wry smile on Duan Ling Tian’s face, his heart was warm. Since he came to the Profound Energy Land, this was the first time someone cared so much about him. Perhaps, the only other person was Tang Wu Yan, the disciple of the Hidden Fog Sect.

Over the past two years, Duan Ling Tian had spoken to Wu Feng from time to time. Wu Feng would often update him about Tang Chun, an elder of the Hidden Fog Sect.

Tang Wu told Wu Feng, who in turn told Duan Ling Tian, that after Duan Ling Tian was labeled a traitor after leaving the Hidden Fog Sect, Tang Wu Yan was so angry that she shut herself in her room. It was only when Qian Yin, the Sect Leader of the Hidden Fog Sect, stepped forward to clear the rumors and wished Duan Ling Tian well that Tang Wu Yan came out from her room after being persuaded by Tang Chun. According to Tang Chun, Tang Wu Yan had lost some weight.

When Duan Ling Tian heard that, he was determined not to meet Tang Wu Yan again to prevent her from falling deeper in love with him. After all, apart from his two wives; Keler and Li Fei, he also had Feng Tian Wu and Huan'er. There was also Murong Bing who was still waiting for him to pick her up in the Devata Realm.

"I should hurry up and refine the pills..." Duan Ling Tian muttered under his breath as he dismissed thoughts about Tang Wu Yan that had surfaced due to Linghu Ren Jie's concern.

Duan Ling Tian looked around for a secluded place outside Linghu City for a while before he decided on a deserted mountain range. There were no humans and very few monsters in that place.

"I'll refine the pills here."

Duan Ling Tian circled the place to confirm there was no one around before he landed in a canyon in the mountain range. Then, he brought out his Divine Pill Cauldron.

"Earthly King Divine Pill."

Duan Ling Tian decided to refine the Earthly King Divine Pill first. This Divine Pill was one of the king-grade Divine Pills he had consumed while he was in the Linghu clan to improve his cultivation base. However, due to the frequency of his consumption, ordinary Earthly King Divine Pills had lost their efficacy on him. It was also one of the pills that he was very skilled at refining; he even dared to say that his success rate of refining this pill was 100%.

Since Duan Ling Tian wanted to keep a low profile, he did not imbue the Earthly King Divine Pills with vitality energy when he was in the Linghu clan. Now, he longer had to worry about attracting attention.

Soon enough, Duan Ling Tian discovered a problem. The amount of vitality energy he extracted from the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was truly pitiable. It was not as much as the vitality energy he extracted from the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in the Linghu clan. After all, there was a divine stone vein under the Linghu clan's estate so the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was richer.

The reason he could only extract such a small amount of vitality energy here was due to the thin Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in this place.

"The Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy here is the issue. It seems like I can only use the vitality energy in my Little World..."

Duan Ling Tian did not waste time and mobilized the vitality energy in his Little World. Due to the Divine Tree of Life, he did not need to extract it from the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy in his Little World. The vitality energy from the Divine Tree of Life was also much purer.

"Purify!"

Duan Ling Tian used the vitality energy in his Little World to carry out the last step of the pill refinement process, which was to purify the pill.

Since Duan Ling Tian did not lack vitality energy, he was very generous with his vitality energy when purifying the pills. "It's almost done. I wonder if I'll be able to successfully refine the Limit Divine Pill."

Under Duan Ling Tian's expectant gaze, a pill flew out of the cauldron. For most king-grade Divine Pills like the Earthly King Divine Pill, only one could be refined at a time in a cauldron.

"Hm? It looks different..." Duan Ling Tian could tell the pill in his hand was different from the Earthly King Divine Pills he usually refined. The pill in his hand was glowing with a strange light.

Suddenly...

Boom! Boom! Boom!

As soon as the Pill Tribulation arrived, the Earthly King Divine Pill flew up into the air.

Duan Ling Tian smiled. He finally managed to refine another Limit Divine Pill.

Alas, the smile on Duan Ling Tian's face did not last for long. The Earthly King Divine Pill he refined failed to pass the Pill Tribulation and was smashed into powder.

Chapter 3758 The Colossal Heaven Land

"It failed?" Duan Ling Tian was surprised and puzzled when the Earthly King Divine Pill failed its Pill Tribulation.

After the tribulation clouds dispersed, he tried to refine another Earthly King Divine Pill. He was even more cautious this time. However, the pill still failed its Pill Tribulation. The third pill he refined suffered a similar fate as well.

"What's going on? What's the problem?" Duan Ling Tian recalled the steps and techniques he used when refining the Earthly King Divine Pills, but he still could not figure out where he went wrong.

"I'll ask for Revered Elder Lin's advice..."

Duan Ling Tian inhaled deeply before he sent a message to Lin Yan, the Chief Divine Alchemist of the Linghu clan.

"Revered Elder Lin, I'm outside now. I tried to refine the Earthly King Divine Pill into the Limit Divine Pills, but all of them failed to pass their Pill Tribulations. I'm sure I didn't make any mistakes when I was refining them. I can't figure out where I went wrong.

"You left the clan estate?" Lin Yan's first concern was Duan Ling Tian's safety. As Linghu Ren Jie's best friend, he naturally knew the dangers that Duan Ling Tian faced. However, he felt relieved after Duan Ling Tian quickly reassured him. Then, he said, "I'm aware of your skills and talents in alchemy. You shouldn't have made any mistakes when refining the Earthly King Divine Pills. This means there's definitely no problem with the steps and techniques. It has to be other underlying factors."

"What are the underlying factors?" Duan Ling Tian asked. "The condition of your Divine Pill Cauldron could be the reason. Even your state of mind could be a reason. Even the slightest distraction can affect

the pill refining process. The Pill Tribulation is able to sense even the slightest problem. Think carefully. Is your cauldron okay? Were you distracted?" Lin Yan asked.

Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly as he examined his Divine Pill Cauldron. When he confirmed there was no problem with it, he sighed. 'It seems like the problem is my state of mind.'

Earlier, before he began to refine the pills he had thought about Tang Wu Yan, his wives, and his partners. He had thought he had put those thoughts away, but it seemed like he had been subconsciously affected by the thoughts of his wives and his partners. At that time, other memories of the past begin to flood his mind.

When he was in the mundane realm, Keler's fiance from her past life, Yun Qing Yan, had shown up. In order to get Ke'er to do his bidding, Yun Qing Yan had captured his family and friends and confined them in a spatial divine artifact. The only ones who managed to escape Yun Qing Yan's imprisonment were Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao since the duo was not around when Yun Qing Yan showed up. This also meant that Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao were still in the Saint Province Realm.

Alas, due to various reasons, Situ Zhu Qing, the Heavenly Emperor of the Luo River Island, had sent her men to kill the people of the Saint Province Realm. As a result, almost the entire population was wiped out. After that, Duan Ling Tian searched the realm for Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao, but he failed to find them. He could not contact them since he did not have their Soul Pearls. After all, they used to be by his mother's side all the time so there was no need for him to keep their Soul Pearls. Under such circumstances, he did not know if they were still alive.

He also thought about the time when he reunited with his good friends in the Azure Cloud Mansion in the Saint Province Realm. That was the last he had seen of them. Before leaving the Saint Province Realm, he had visited the major forces there, asking them to search for his friends and promised to reward them greatly. For this reason, those who survived the massacre were still searching for Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao. Apart from that, he had also asked Elder Huo to send people to the Saint Province Realm to search for them. He also told Elder Huo to take care of them if he were to find them.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian sighed. He had tried to shake off these thoughts earlier when he refined the Earthly King Divine Pills, but he was still inevitably affected. He was now certain this is why he had failed to refine the Earthly King Divine Pills into the Limit Divine Pills.

"Again."

Duan Ling Tian calmed down. He settled his uneasy heart and dismissed the thoughts in his mind. Then, he took a deep breath before he began to refine the Earthly King Divine Pill again.

Boom!

After the Earthly King Divine Pill was formed, a clap of thunder heralded the arrival of the Pill Tribulation. This time, the pill successfully passed the Pill Tribulation. After passing the tribulation, the pill glowed brightly and exquisite patterns could be seen on its surface.

"It's a success!" Duan Ling Tian smiled widely as he looked at the Earthly King Divine Pill that had successfully transformed into the Limit Divine Pill.

Following that, he continued to refine other king-grade pills that would help with his cultivation into Limit Divine Pills. All of them turned into Limit Divine Pills without exception.

Everyone from the Eastern Ridge Mansion would have been shocked out of their minds if they were to see Duan Ling Tian's heaven-defying performance.

Usually, only outstanding emperor-rank divine alchemists could refine Earthly King Divine Pills into Limit Divine Pills in an environment where the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was rich. Without such an environment, the pill refinement would only end in failure. In fact, even a supreme-rank divine alchemist would not be able to refine the pills into king-grade Limit Divine Pills in Duan Ling Tian's environment. In such an environment, even refining god-grade Limit Divine Pills would be a problem. The only reason Duan Ling Tian successfully refined the Limit Divine Pills in this environment was all thanks to the vitality energy from the Divine Tree of Life in his Little World. Otherwise, it would also be impossible for him to refine Limit Divine Pills in this place no matter how good he was at sensing and extracting vitality energy from the Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy. 'I think I'll refine the lord-grade Divine Pills another time.' Duan Ling Tian quickly dismissed thoughts about refining lord-grade Divine Pills. This was because he had yet to fully familiarize himself with the steps and techniques. For this reason, even with sufficient vitality energy, there was a high chance the pill refinement would end in failure. "I'll practice more by refining king-grade Limit Divine Pills. After all, ordinary Divine Pills can't compare to the Limit Divine Pills..."

The difference between Limit Divine Pills and ordinary Divine Pills was huge. Needless to say, the Limit Divine Pills would help with his cultivation more. For example, ordinary Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills would not be able to help a rudimentary god become an intermediate god unless the cultivator's talent was heaven-defying, to begin with.

On the contrary, the Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills that Duan Ling Tian refined into Limit Divine Pills managed to help an intermediate god in the Linghu clan become an advanced god. Moreover, after that breakthrough, the disciple even had leftover force from the pills that continued to boost his cultivation.

Ordinary Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills could only help intermediate gods become advanced gods if they cultivated supreme-grade cultivation methods. As for those who had just attained godhood, they would need to cultivate emperor-grade cultivation methods at least to directly become intermediate gods. With ordinary Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills, lord-grade cultivation methods were useless.

On the contrary, Duan Ling Tian's god-grade Limit Divine Pills helped the intermediate god from the Linghu clan become an advanced god even though that person only cultivated using a lord-grade cultivation method. Moreover, according to that person, he only used half the efficacy of the pills to become an advanced god.

Based on this, one could see how heaven-defying the Limit Divine Pills were compared to ordinary Divine Pills.

Since time immemorial, there would only be 18 Realms of Gods at one time. The Divine Offering Land and the Energy Profound Land were two of the current 18 Realms of Gods.

At this time, Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao, Duan Ling Tian's good friends whom he failed to find in the Saint Province Realm, were in another Realm of Gods called the Colossal Heaven Land.

The two women ended up on the Colossal Heaven Land because of Jing Ru, who was also an old friend of Duan Ling Tian.

Jing Ru was the steward Duan Ling Tian had hired in the Crimson Sky Kingdom before he left the Saint Province Realm's Ten Great Dynasties. When Duan Ling Tian's father, Duan Ru Feng, returned to the Crimson Sky Kingdom in the past to bring his wife, Lin Lan, and Princess Bi Yao away, Jing Ru followed them as well. However, when Duan Ling Tian reunited with them in the past, Jing Ru was nowhere to be found. It was as though she had vanished into thin air, leaving no trace behind.

Chapter 3759 The Three Women's Experience

Jing Ru used to sell houses in the Crimson Sky Kingdom, one of the Ten Great Dynasties. On Earth, she would be known as a realtor.

When Duan Ling Tian was in the Crimson Sky Kingdom, he had bought a house from her. At that time, he had taught a disciple in the Duan clan a lesson because of her. He was worried that the disciple might take revenge on her so he hired her to be the steward and housekeeper of his house. Moreover, she had a good character as well. From then on, she had been responsible for looking after the house and Duan Ling Tian's mother, Li Rou's daily living. After Duan Ling Tian left and became famous, she continued serving his mother.

Duan Ling Tian and his mother never treated Jing Ru like a maid. Instead, they treated her like family. Duan Ling Tian saw her as an older sister while Li Rou saw her as a daughter. Hence, when Duan Ru Feng came to bring Li Rou and the others to the Azure Cloud Mansion, he brought Jing Ru, who was an orphan, with him as well.

Jing Ru did not forget her responsibilities and continued serving Li Rou. However, one time, when Jing Ru left to gather Li Rou's favorite fresh produce, she did not return.

Li Rou was so worried that she did not have an appetite for a long time.

Duan Ru Feng also ordered many of his men to search for Jing Ru, but they failed to find her.

Since that time, none of them had seen Jing Ru again.

Duan Ling Tian only found out about this matter when he was reunited with his family in the Azure Cloud Mansion. At that time, he had been greatly saddened.

What happened to Jing Ru remained a mystery to Duan Ling Tian until now.

The fact was on the day Jing Ru left to gather fresh produce for Li Rou, she encountered an unconscious woman. She, who had always been kind, naturally helped the woman. However, when the woman regained consciousness, she suddenly grinned like a madwoman before waving her hand and dragging Jing Ru into a spatial tear. Jing Ru really regretted helping the woman at that time.

When Jing Ru regained her consciousness, she discovered she was in an unfamiliar place. The Heaven and Earth Spirit Energy was so rich that she broke through several stages within a month. Not long after she met the madwoman again, the madwoman seemed to have recovered.

The madwoman apologized to Jing Ru and said she was unable to send Jing Ru back since her energy had been sealed. It seemed like she could only use her powers when she lost her mind. In order to express her apology, she taught Jing Ru a few cultivation techniques after telling Jing Ru they were in a Realm of Gods called the Sanction Land.

After two days, the woman lost her mind again. However, since Jing Ru was around to look after her, the woman fared better than before.

Many years later, Jing Ru's cultivation had also improved by leaps and bounds. Moreover, under her care, the woman was able to break the seal and was cured of her madness.

After the woman was cured, she sent Jing Ru back to the Azure Cloud Mansion as Jing Ru had requested. However, when Jing Ru returned, she discovered the Azure Cloud Mansion was overrun with those from the Devil clan. Subsequently, the duo wandered around to search for Li Rou. Eventually, the woman managed to locate Li Rou and the others. During their journey, they even ran into Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao who were patrolling the area.

At that time...

"Sister Jing Ru?! Where have you been all these years?" Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao were naturally ecstatic when they saw Jing Ru after so many years.

"That's right. Do you know Aunt Li Rou lost her appetite for a long time because of your disappearance? Come on, I'll bring you to meet Aunt Li Rou! She'll be overjoyed when she sees

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you!"

Just when Lin Lan and Princess Bi Yao were about to lead Jing Ru to Li Rou, an invisible force suddenly swept out toward the trio, protecting them. At this time, the woman standing near Jing Ru looked at the sky. She frowned as she muttered to herself, "What's a native from the Realm of God doing in a small mundane realm?" The woman brought the trio with her as she moved closer to look at the young man who was descending from the sky. She turned pale when she had a closer look at the young man. She exclaimed in shock, "It's him? How can it be him?!"

At the same time, Lin Lan, Princess Bi Yao, and Jing Ru watched as the young man easily captured Duan Ru Feng, Li Rou, and the others with just a wave of his hand. Princess Bi Yao and Lin Lan's expressions changed drastically, and they instinctively moved to intervene. However, they were stopped by the woman's energy.

Jing Ru pleaded with the woman for help.

Unfortunately, at this time, the woman opened a hole in space and dragged all of them in. She ended up bringing the trio to another Realm of Gods called the Colossal Heaven Land instead of the Sanction Land. The woman had a sudden relapse at the critical moment and went mad again!

When the woman returned to her normal self, the Realm Battlefield had already formed from the collision of the Realms of Gods, and the spatial passages between the Realms of Gods and the Devata Realms had been sealed off. As a result, the trio could no longer return to the Saint Province Realm.

The woman felt guilty so she taught the trio cultivation methods from the Realms of Gods and trained them sincerely.

One day, the woman lost her mind again, triggered by Princess Bi Yao's question.

At that time, Princess Bi Yao had unwittingly asked if the woman was familiar with the young man who captured Li Rou and the others. This time, it took her several years before she returned to normal.

From that time onward, the trio no longer dared to bring up that matter again. The woman struggled for some time before she finally decided to bring the trio to join one of the top supreme-rank forces in the Colossal Heaven Land. Then, she entrusted the trio to a female powerhouse who was the leader of a faction in the supreme-rank force before she left.

Later on, the trio found out from the female powerhouse, who was now their master, about the woman.

"She's my junior sister. She fell in love with the wrong man. After he deceived her feelings, she lost her mind and did something that brought great shame to our sect so she left..." The trio also found out that the man the woman fell in love with was from another Realm of Gods called the Divine Offering Land. That man eventually became the leader of one of the realm's strongest supreme-rank forces, the Yun clan.

In the present.

In the Colossal Heaven Land.

In the middle of a mountain that towered into the clouds, three women with extraordinary auras sat around a table in a courtyard.

One of them was a peerless beauty whose face would make men turn around immediately for a second look.

The second woman was also a peerless beauty, but her beauty was different. Her lips were as red as cherries, and her eyes were crystal clear.

The third woman was not as beautiful as the other two women, but she was still beautiful in her own right. She had an ethereal look.

If Duan Ling Tian were present, he would recognize them as Bi Yao, Lin Lan, and Jing Ru. "Princess, I sensed a change in your energy. Did you have a breakthrough again?" Jing Ru asked with a hint of surprise flashing in her eyes.

"Sister Jing Ru," Bi Yao said with a wry smile, "I've told you over the past few hundred years to stop addressing me as Princess. We're no longer in the Crimson Sky Kingdom. You can just address me as Bi Yao."

"Okay, Princess."

Bi Yao could only look at Jing Ru with a helpless expression.

“Bi Yao, you know it’s difficult for her to call you by your name. Just let her be. Honestly, whenever she calls you Princess, I can’t help wondering if the past few hundred years are a dream...” Lin Lan said with a sigh.

“I wonder how he’s doing...”

With these words, a purple figure simultaneously appeared in the three women’s minds.

“He wasn’t with Aunt Li Rou and Uncle Feng and the others at that time so he should be fine,” Lin Lan said gloomily, “I hope Aunt Li Rou and Uncle Feng are fine...”

“Junior aunt said that the man who abducted them is from the Realm of Gods. Why would someone from the Realm of Gods attack them?” Jing Ru asked with a frown.

“This has been a mystery to us over the past few hundred years,” Bi Yao said as she shook her head, “Perhaps, we’ll be able to find out when the spatial passages reopen 300 years later. We can only hope that all of them are safe. I can’t imagine how difficult this time must be for him...” Lin Lan murmured with a worried expression on her face. Bi Yao’s beautiful face stiffened slightly upon hearing Lin Lan’s words. Then, a similarly worried expression appeared on her face.

Chapter 3760 Hou Qing Ning’s Warning

In the Profound Energy Land’s Eastern Ridge Mansion.

Duan Ling Tian had been refining Divine Pills outside Linghu City. After he refined all king-grade Limit Divine Pills he needed, he decided to try to refine lord-grade Divine Pills that he could remember.

He planned to keep some of the lord-grade Divine Pills that were useful to him and give the rest to Linghu Ren Jie. The pills he planned to give Linghu Ren Jie were pills that Lin Yan had a low success rate of refining. Although Duan Ling Tian was unfamiliar with the process of refining lord-grade Divine Pills, his success rate was rather high due to his talent.

In just a few days, Duan Ling Tian managed to refine three lord-grade Divine Pills for Linghu Ren Jie. Although he failed a few times, overall, it could be considered a success.

“I just need to refine another two lord-grade Divine Pills.”

Just when he decided to refine another two lord-grade Divine Pills before returning to the Linghu clan’s estate, he was interrupted by a message.

“Duan Ling Tian.”

Duan Ling Tian smiled when he realized the message was from Hou Qing Ning, a Ten Stars student whom he had met in Skywind City’s Hidden Fog Academy. Without waiting for Hou Qing Ning to say more, he asked, “What’s with the sudden message? Did something good happen? Did the dean recommend you to join the Hidden Fog Sect ahead of time?”

It had been a long time since Duan Ling Tian had spoken to Hou Qing Ning. Hou Qing Ning, along with Ding Yan, who suddenly withdrew from the Hidden Fog Academy and vanished without a trace, were his only friends from his time in the Hidden Fog Academy.

Hou Qing Ning sighed. "What a joke. Do you think everyone's like you?" After a pause, he added, "I wouldn't have sent you a message if the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect didn't send me on an errand in Linghu City. You've soared so high up that I can no longer catch up to you."

"Hou Qing Ning, since when did your self-esteem drop so low? I still remember you owe me a sparring lesson," Duan Ling Tian said. Then, he asked, surprised, "You're in Linghu City now?"

"Yes," Hou Qing Ning replied. He paused again before he said, "Before the Ten Stars student's test, you said you'll treat me and the members of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to a meal. It's your chance to fulfill your promise today since I'm in Linghu City."

At the same time, in an inn in Linghu City.

Hou Qing Ning sat in a room with a hooded black-clad man.

Unbeknownst to Duan Ling Tian, the black-clad man had taken his Soul Pearl and was listening in on his and Hou Qing Ning's conversation.

The black-clad man did not worry about Hou Qing Ning saying unnecessary words to Duan Ling Tian since he had used the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to threaten Hou Qing Ning.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian was perplexed when he heard Hou Qing Ning's message. He did not remember promising to treat Hou Qing Ning or the members of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to a meal when they were in the Hidden Fog Academy.

He wondered if Hou Qing Ning made a mistake? However, after mulling over it for a moment, he thought it was unlikely that Hou Qing Ning made a mistake. Perhaps, it could be the case if it was just Hou Qing Ning alone, but there was no reason for him to say he would treat the members of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to a meal.

With this, Duan Ling Tian recalled the time when Hou Qing Ning offered to help him and arranged for some members of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to wait near the Ten Stars student's trial ground. At that time, many of the members of various king-rank forces in Skywind City were waiting to attack him on the trial ground. However, at that time, he had refused Hou Qing Ning's help.

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'It seems like he's trying to tell me something or hint that something isn't right. Moreover, why would the king-rank Ten Thousand Leaves Sect send their Young Master to Linghu City to run an errand?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. Before long, he concluded that someone must have threatened Hou Qing Ning to lure him out of the Linghu clan.

'Hou Qing Ning's sudden appearance in Linghu city is too coincidental considering the clan leader just left a few days ago. The person who's threatening Hou Qing Ning to lure me out must be one of Kuang Tian Zheng's men. Like the clan leader said, even if Kuang Tian Zheng has returned to the Flying Dragon Sect, it's possible that he left his men here...'

It did not take much for Duan Ling Tian to guess that someone must have used the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect to threaten Hou Qing Ning. After all, the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect was just a king-rank force; the

strongest person in the sect was only a King of Gods. Hence, even an ordinary rudimentary Lord of Gods was enough to deal with the entire Ten Thousand Leaves Sect.

'How pitiful! Even when he's being threatened, he's still trying to help me...' Duan Ling Tian smiled bitterly. He felt incredibly guilty for implicating Hou Qing Ning with his matters.

At the same time.

The black-clad grew impatient when Duan Ling Tian did not reply for a long time. However, at this time, Duan Ling Tian finally replied.

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"Let's find a place to meet. You can decide on the place. I'll be busy refining Divine Pills for the supreme elders of the Linghu clan over the next two days. When are you free to meet after two days?"

Hou Qing Ning did not reply immediately. Instead, he looked at the black-clad man. "We'll meet after two days like he said. Make an appointment in the evening to have dinner," the black-clad man said hoarsely.

Subsequently, just as he was instructed, Hou Qing Ning said to Duan Ling Tian, "Alright, let's meet two days later in the evening to have dinner. I'll be busy during the day. I'll let you know where to meet at that time."

"Alright," Duan Ling Tian replied to Hou Qing Ning. Following that, he quickly sent a message to Linghu Ren Jie to inform him of this matter.

"Someone's threatening your friend to lure you out of the clan?" Linghu Ren Jie's expression changed slightly when he heard Duan Ling Tian's message. After listening to Duan Ling Tian's explanation, he said grimly, "I've heard of the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect. It's located between the Hidden Fog Sect and the Murong clan, which are both lord-rank forces. I'm good friends with the Clan Leader of the Murong clan. I'll ask him to send a few of his clan's powerhouses to check on the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect's situation."

"Thank you, Clan Leader," Duan Ling Tian said. After thinking about a way to repay this favor to the Murong clan, he said to Linghu Ren Jie, "Clan Leader, can you tell the Murong clan that in return for their help, we'll give them a batch of Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary Divine Pills that have been refined into Limit Divine Pills. These are beneficial to young cultivators. You can tell them the effects of the pills on our Linghu clan's young disciples."

"Are you able to refine so many pills?" Linghu Ren Jie asked.

"Yes," Duan Ling Tian said confidently, "I would've refined more for our Linghu clan's disciples as well, but I was busy refining king-grade and lord-grade Divine Pills."

"Very good. With this, our friendship aside, I believe Murong Yun Liu will be even more willing to help us," Linghu Ren Jie said with a laugh, "I'll contact him at once."

Murong Yun Liu was the Clan Leader of the lord-rank Murong clan.

“Thank you,” Duan Ling Tian replied.

‘Murong clan? Lord-rank?’ Duan Ling Tian was reminded of Murong Sui Feng, the dean of Skywind City’s Hidden Fog Academy and also one of the Vice Sect Leaders of the Hidden Fog Sect. He wondered if Murong Sui Feng was related to the Murong clan.

After a while, Duan Ling Tian received another message from Linghu Ren Jie.

“Murong Yun Liu has agreed to help us. He and two of his clan’s supreme elders, who are comparable to the four Supreme Elders of the Hidden Fog Sect, will go check on the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect now. I told him the number of pills he’ll obtain depends on the effort he puts in. Don’t worry, I won’t let him take advantage of us,” Linghu Ren Jie said with a laugh.

“Thank you, Clan Leader.”

Duan Ling Tian felt relieved after listening to Linghu Ren Jie’s words. Hou Qing Ning had risked his life to warn him even when the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect was at stake. Hence, he would not allow disaster to fall on both Hou Qing Ning and the Ten Thousand Leaves Sect.

At this time, another message from Linghu Ren Jie arrived. “However, if the person threatening your friend is Kuang Tian Zheng’s man. I’m afraid he won’t be the only one. I’m worried our supreme elders won’t be enough to deal with them. I’ll ask our supreme elders to ask for help from their friends who’re near Linghu City. We’ll repay them with Limit Divine Pills for their help. Even if they have no use for the Limit Divine Pills, considering the value of the pills, I’m sure they’ll be interested.”

“That’s great,” Duan Ling Tian said. He was worried about this matter as well. Who knew if the person Kuang Tian Zheng sent was an intermediate Lord of Gods, and who knew if Kuang Tian Zheng sent more than one person? With that, even if all the supreme elders from the Linghu clan were present to protect him, he still might not survive. After all, they were not in the Linghu clan’s estate that was protected by the clan’s Guarding Formation.