

Chapter 3921: Green Province Mansion

Duan Ling Tian spent half a year on the Lord Battlefield, and it was considered not bad that he encountered three members of the Tai Yi Sect.

The members from the Flying Dragon Sect gasped when they saw the two intermediate Lords of Gods' identity tokens.

"Duan Ling Tian killed two intermediate Lords of Gods from the Tai Yi Sect!"

Intermediate Lords of Gods had the highest cultivation bases on the Lord Battlefield, after all. The extraordinary intermediate Lords of Gods were mostly White Dragon Elders or Underworld Elders from the Flying Dragon Sect and Tai Yi Sect respectively. The weaker and ordinary ones were all inner elders.

"Do you think those two identity tokens belong to Underworld Elders?"

"That's unlikely. He's strong enough to kill inner elders, but I don't think he's capable of killing Underworld Elders just yet."

"Not necessarily. He might be able to kill a newly-promoted Underworld Elder through an ambush."

"You have a point."

"Duan Ling Tian is quite lucky if that was the case..."

At the same time, the members of the Tai Yi Sect saw the identity tokens as well, and their expressions darkened immediately.

"That's Elder Huang Yun's identity token!"

"The other one belonged to Elder Xu You Shan!"

"Duan Ling Tian killed two of our inner elders!"

"Don't forget the inner deacon as well!"

Although the Flying Dragon Sect members were slightly disappointed Duan Ling Tian did not manage to kill an Underworld Elder or two, they were still amazed by his performance.

"Duan Ling Tian is just a rudimentary Lord of Gods, but he managed to kill two inner elders from the Tai Yi Sect. It's an amazing feat for a rudimentary Lord of Gods."

"Those from the Tai Yi Sect kept bragging about Ximen Long Xiang.... However, since news of Duan Ling Tian killing intermediate Lords of Gods who were death warriors spread, I haven't heard them talking about Ximen Long Xiang anymore. I wonder what happened to him."

"Did he get frightened by Duan Ling Tian?"

The expressions of the members of the Tai Yi Sect were rather unsightly. They did not know how to refute the words of the members of the Flying Dragon Sect. Moreover, Duan Ling Tian's performance

was indeed better than Ximen Long Xiang's. They were just about to leave when they saw a newcomer, shocked. When they regained their senses, they bowed and greeted the newcomer.

"Sect leader!"

The Tai Yi Sect members did not expect their sect leader to enter the Imperial War Realm and come to Peace City. They were also curious when they saw their sect leader respectfully following behind a stern-looking skinny old man.

Everyone watched as the skinny old and the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect made their way toward Duan Ling Tian. They instinctively made way for the duo. Needless to say, no one dared to act presumptuously in front of the duo.

The members of the Flying Dragon Sect were curious about the old man's identity and quickly sent messages. With that, more and more people gathered.

Everyone wondered about the old man's identity and why the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect and the old man were looking for Duan Ling Tian. Based on how respectful the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect was, they could not help but wonder if the old man was an Emperor of Gods? They grew even more excited with this thought in mind. After all, none of them had met an Emperor of Gods before.

"Who is he? Why is the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect so respectful to him?"

"The sect leader doesn't even treat the supreme elders with so much respect, right?"

"Did they come for Duan Ling Tian?"

"I wonder if he's an Emperor of Gods? I've never met an Emperor of Gods before."

"Me too!"

"My life will be complete if I can meet an Emperor of Gods."

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At the same time, a huge commotion broke out in Flying Dragon City and Tai Yi City after the news spread. The news also spread to the Flying Dragon Sect and the Tai Yi Sect soon after. Many people were green with envy when they speculated that the Emperor of Gods wanted to accept Duan Ling Tian as his direct disciple.

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Duan Ling Tian was similarly shocked to see the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect. His heart skipped a beat when he shifted his eyes to the skinny old man. He wondered inwardly, 'Is he really an Emperor of Gods like the others speculated? Why are they looking for me?'

At this time, the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect, looked at Duan Ling Tian indifferently before he said to the old man in a respectful tone, "Elder Deng, this the proud prodigy of the Flying Dragon Sect, Duan Ling Tian."

Although the Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect had no enmity with Duan Ling Tian, it was naturally not easy to ignore the fact that Duan Ling Tian had killed many of his sect members on both the King and Lord Battlefields. How could he be friendly toward Duan Ling Tian?

The Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect turned to Duan Ling Tian and said tonelessly, “Duan Ling Tian, this is Elder Deng Kui from the Marionette Villa in the Green Province Mansion. Elder Deng Kui is a Silver Marionette Elder of the Marionette Villa. He’s an Emperor of Gods. The Marionette Villa is one of the top four emperor-rank forces in the Green Province Mansion. They have many Emperors of Gods, including intermediate Emperors of Gods.”

Upon hearing this, the members of the top emperor-rank forces in Eastern Ridge Mansion in Peace City raised their eyebrows.

As for those from the Flying Dragon Sect and the Tai Yi Sect, they were naturally shocked.

Some of them had heard about the Green Province Mansion, which was located northwest of the Eastern Ridge Mansion. Its size was about the same as the Eastern Ridge Mansion, and their top forces were on par with each other.

“An Emperor of Gods from the Green Province Mansion’s Marionette Villa? Is he here to recruit Duan Ling Tian?”

“I always thought it’s a waste for Duan Ling Tian to stay in the Flying Dragon Sect. With his young age, innate talent, and comprehension skills, it’s easy for him to join any of the top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. Moreover, those top forces had already tried to recruit him before the Imperial War began, but he refused them. I didn’t expect a top emperor-rank force from the Green Province Mansion would try to recruit him as well...”

“They sent an Emperor of Gods to recruit Duan Ling Tian. It could be seen that they place great importance on him. I think Duan Ling Tian will likely leave our Flying Dragon Sect this time...”

In everyone’s opinion, it was an honor that an Emperor of Gods was sent to recruit Duan Ling Tian. It showed that they valued Duan Ling Tian. Most people would definitely not refuse such a chance.

Deng Kui smiled and said, “Duan Ling Tian, I’m an elder from the Marionette Villa in the Green Province Mansion. I came to invite you to join our Marionette. If you join us, you’ll be given the best treatment our sect has ever given to a disciple. Apart from that, you’ll also receive a generous welcome gift from us.”

Before Duan Ling Tian could reply, a loud voice rang in the air.”

“Old Deng, don’t you think the Marionette Villa is overstepping its bounds? You’re in the Eastern Ridge Mansion, not the Green Province Mansion.”

Following that, a figure with a medium build appeared in front of Duan Ling Tian, facing Deng Kui.

Deng Kui looked at the man and said, “Hong Yun Xiao? Oh, have you forgotten about how I defeated you 3,000 years ago? How dare you stop me from recruiting a talent for the Marionette Villa?”

Upon hearing Deng Kui’s words, the people in the surroundings began to whisper among themselves again.

“Hong Yun Xiao? He’s an Emperor of Gods as well, right? He’s an elder from one of the top emperor-rank forces, the Seven Kills Valley.”

“He’s the Emperor of Gods on duty today in Peace City!”

“Hey, did you hear that? The powerhouse from the Marionette Villa said he defeated Elder Hong 3,000 years ago!”

Chapter 3922: Zhen Ping Fan

Similar to the Pure Yang Sect, the Seven Kills Valley was one of the top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion.

The middle-aged man standing in front of Duan Ling Tian was Hong Yun Xiao, an Emperor of Gods from the Seven Kills Valley.

Needless to say, Hong Yun Xiao’s fame in the Eastern Ridge Mansion was much higher than that of Deng Kui who came from Green Province Mansion. Hong Yun Xiao’s achievements were so well-known in the Eastern Ridge Mansion that almost everyone from the Flying Dragon Sect and Tai Yi Sect knew who he was.

As such, how could they not feel shocked when Deng Kui, the Silver Marionette Elder from the Marionette Villa, said he had defeated Hong Yun Xiao 3,000 years ago?

Hong Yun Xiao’s expression darkened immediately when he heard those words that hurt his pride. He scoffed coldly, unintentionally releasing a soundwave that caused many Kings of Gods with weaker cultivation bases to turn pale and bleed from their seven orifices. As an Emperor of Gods, even if the attack was unintentional, its might was truly frightening.

‘So Emperors of Gods are so strong...’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as his eyes glinted. Although the other party did not really make a move, he could sense that the other party’s aura was much stronger than that of a Golden Dragon Elder from the Flying Dragon Sect.

“Deng Kui, you’re 10,000 years older than I am. What’s there to be proud of?” Hong Yun Xiao retorted icily, “Moreover, that was 3,000 years ago. I really don’t mind sparring again. What do you think? Of course, we can’t do it here.”

Deng Kui laughed. Then, he said confidently, “Hong Yun Xiao, it seems like you’ve improved over the past 3,000 years. Very well. After I complete my mission, I’ll spar with you. Why don’t we go to your Seven Kills Valley to spar?”

“Why not? As long as you’re not afraid to come...” Hong Yun Xiao sneered.

“Why would I be afraid?” Deng Kui said nonchalantly. “Don’t tell me your Seven Kills Valley is going to do something to me? I really don’t believe your Seven Kills Valley dare to act against me.”

Deng Kui’s words caused Hong Yun Xiao’s expression to darken even more.

Indeed, the Seven Kills Valley would not dare to do anything to Deng Kui. Everything else aside, Deng Kui was not just a Silver Elder Marionette Elder of the Marionette Villa, but he was also the son of a Golden Marionette Elder.

Silver Marionette Elders were mostly rudimentary Emperors of Gods. Golden Marionette Elders, who had higher status, were at least intermediate Emperors of Gods.

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Hong Yun Xiao took a deep breath and adjusted his emotions before he turned to Duan Ling Tian and said, "Duan Ling Tian, if you join our Seven Kills Valley, we'll not only match the Marionette Villa's offer, but we'll offer more. No matter what they offer, we'll definitely offer more..."

Now that Hong Yun Xiao turned around, Duan Ling Tian finally had a good look at Hong Yun Xiao.

Hong Yun Xiao's appearance and stature were average. However, he had an extraordinary air about him. His eyes, in particular, were profound and fierce, causing others to be unable to meet his gaze.

Deng Kui sneered. "Hong Yun Xiao, you talk too much. Aren't you afraid of accidentally biting your tongue? That aside, the Seven Kills Valley isn't even among the top three emperor-rank forces in Eastern Ridge Mansion, right?"

Without waiting for Hong Yun Xiao's reply, Deng Kui turned to say to Duan Ling Tian, "Duan Ling Tian, the Marionette Villa is one of the top two strongest emperor-rank forces in the Green Province Mansion. You can rest assured that you won't regret your decision if you join the Marionette Villa."

Hong Yun Xiao said mockingly, "One of the top two emperor-rank forces in the Green Mansion Province? Deng Kui, there's no need to twist your words. You can just directly say that your Marionette Villa is the second, not the first, in the Green Province Mansion. Do you think no one here knows about the situation in the Green Province Mansion? If your sect is so great, why don't you challenge a force with an advanced Emperor of Gods?"

Hong Yun Xiao was obviously trying to provoke Deng Kui.

'Advanced Emperor of Gods? There are advanced Emperors of Gods in the Green Province Mansion?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, surprised by Hong Yun Xiao's words.

Advanced Emperors of Gods were the strongest among Emperors of Gods. Although there were strong and weak Emperors of Gods, they were almost invincible when faced with Lords of Gods.

The top five emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion, which included the Pure Yang Sect and the Seven Kills Valley, were naturally the strongest forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. However, in the entire Profound Energy Land, the top five emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion were only ordinary.

As for emperor-rank forces like the Flying Dragon Sect that did not have Emperors of Gods, they sat at the bottom among the emperor-rank forces. In fact, some people did not even consider them emperor-rank forces.

Hong Yun Xiao's words successfully drew Deng Kui's ire. He said, "Hong Yun Xiao, even if our Marionette Villa is weaker than the Howling Heaven Sect, it's still stronger than the Seven Kills Valley. Currently, we have more than five intermediate Emperors of Gods in our sect."

Duan Ling Tian and the others gained a better understanding of the Marionette Villa and the Seven Kills Valley through Hong Yun Xiao and Deng Kui's words.

'Are they really Emperors of Gods? They look more like bickering children...' Duan Ling Tian felt rather speechless as he watched the two Emperors of Gods bicker.

At this moment, while the two Emperors of Gods were still bickering, a playful voice rang from outside.

"You said the Seven Kills Valley is inferior to your Marionette Villa, what do you think of our Pure Yang Sect?"

Deng Kui and Hong Yun Xiao stopped bickering immediately and looked in the direction of the voice.

At the same time, the members of the Flying Dragon Sect standing near the entrance began to bow and called out one after another.

"Sect leader!"

'Sect leader? It seems like the sect leader came with someone from the Pure Yang Sect...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Duan Ling Tian was naturally familiar with the Pure Yang Sect. The sect had tried to recruit him as well. Previously, Yang Qian Ye and many elders from the Pure Yang Sect had visited the Flying Dragon Sect's estate to recruit him. He still remembered Qin Wu Yang, the sincere elder, who had spoken to him back then.

'That voice doesn't seem to belong to Elder Qin. It seems like the Pure Yang Sect sent a different person this time...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

At this time, three people walked into the hall unhurriedly. One of them walked in front while the other two walked slightly behind.

Duan Ling Tian quickly identified the two people walking at the back. They were none other than Long Qing Chong, the Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect, and Qin Wu Yang, the sincere elder from the Pure Yang Sect whom he had previously met.

The person walking in the lead was a handsome young man. He had a majestic air about him that made people afraid to look at him. He wore a lazy smile on his face, giving him a carefree appearance.

As soon as Hong Yun Xiao saw the handsome young man, his eyes widened as he said, clearly surprised, "Zhen Ping Fan, you actually came here in person?"

Apart from those in the know, everyone, including Duan Ling Tian, was dumbfounded and speechless.

Duan Ling Tian thought to himself, 'Zhen Ping Fan? Did his parents really give him this name? Ping Fan means ordinary, and he's clearly anything but ordinary...'

Duan Ling Tian was not the only one who had these thoughts in mind. The others' could not stop the corners of their lips from twitching as well. After all, for a person with such an outstanding temperament and appearance, his name that meant ordinary really did not suit him at all.

Zhen Ping Fan, the young man who was a Nirvanic Elder of the Pure Yang Sect, asked with an insouciant smile on his face, "Hong Yun Xiao, I'll help you teach him a lesson? I'll make sure that when I'm done,

he'd be too afraid to even utter your name in the future. In exchange, give me your prominent divine artifact with a half-complete soul. What do you think?"

Upon hearing this, Hong Yun Xiao said awkwardly, "It's alright. I can handle this on my own. I was indeed not a match for him 3,000 years ago, but that doesn't mean I'm no match for him now."

In truth, Hong Yun Xiao was not very confident about defeating Deng Kui. Nonetheless, it did not stop him from refusing Zhen Ping Fan's proposal. At the same time, he was puzzled. How did Zhen Ping Fan know he possessed a prominent divine artifact with a half-complete soul? Even in the Seven Kills Valley, only a few people knew about it.

Chapter 3923: The Extraordinary Zhen Ping Fan

"Zhen Ping Fan."

Deng Kui, the Silver Marionette Elder from the Marionette Villa, looked at Zhen Ping Fan, the Nirvanic Elder from the Pure Yang Sect. A hint of fear could be seen in his eyes as his expression darkened.

The status of a Silver Marionette Elder in the Marionette Villa was like that of a Nirvanic Elder in the Pure Yang Sect. Similarly, one had to be a rudimentary Emperor of Gods at least to be promoted to those positions.

Zhen Ping Fan looked at Deng Kui and smiled meaningfully as he asked, "Deng Kui, you look good. It seems like you've fully recovered from your injuries. How's your grandfather? Has he recovered as well?"

Upon hearing this, Deng Kui's expression changed drastically.

1,000 years ago, Deng Kui and his grandfather had visited the Pure Yang Sect in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. At that time, they had taken an interest in an item in the Pure Yang Sect. For that reason, they put up two precious items as stakes before inviting the cultivators of the Pure Yang Sect to a duel. If they lost, the two precious items would naturally go to the winner.

At that time, Deng Kui's grandfather's opponent was an Ascension Elder, who was an intermediate Emperor of Gods. Their duel was very fierce. In the end, the Ascension Elder suffered minor injuries while inflicting heavy injuries on Deng Kui's grandfather; needless to say, the Ascension Elder won. After the duel, Deng Kui's father focused on recovering. However, when he was almost fully recovered, he had to face his Heavenly Tribulation. As a result, his injuries worsened. It was still uncertain if he would be able to survive the next Heavenly Tribulation.

As for Deng Kui, his opponent at that time was Zhen Ping Fan, who was already a Nirvanic Elder back then. Zhen Ping Fan had defeated him within three moves. After all, Zhen Ping Fan's strength was truly extraordinary. Despite being a rudimentary Emperor of Gods, Zhen Ping Fan's strength was on par or possibly stronger than the strongest intermediate Emperor of Gods in the Marionette Villa.

At that time, both grandfather and grandson lost very miserably in the Pure Yang Sect.

Back in the present, Deng Kui took a deep breath before he forced a smile on his face and said, "Thank you for your concern, Elder Zhen. My grandfather has fully recovered after returning to the Marionette Villa."

Hatred flooded Deng Kui's heart when he looked at Zhen Ping Fan. After all, it took him a long time to recover from the injuries that Zhen Ping Fang inflicted on him back then. He was fortunate enough that he had passed his Heavenly Tribulation 100 years prior. Otherwise, who knew if he would survive? Zhen Ping Fang looked very approachable, but he was ruthless and decisive with his actions during the duel. Not only did he destroy Deng Kui's Heavenly Veins, but he also injured Deng Kui's soul. As such, how could Deng Kui not hate him?

"That's good to hear," Zhen Ping Fan nodded and said, "Elder Deng, I'm afraid you'll be disappointed. After all, Duan Ling Tian has agreed to join our Pure Yang Sect. Before the Imperial War between the Flying Dragon Sect and the Tai Yi Sect began, he had promised Little Yang that he'd join our sect if he decides to leave." Then, he turned to Qin Wu Yang and said, "Little Yang, tell Senior Uncle Deng Kui about it."

It did not take long for Duan Ling Tian to figure out that 'Little Yang' was Qin Wu Yang, whom he had exchanged Soul Pearls with in the past. The corners of his lips began to twitch at how absurd it was that a young man was addressing an old man as 'Little Yang'.

Qin Wu Yang stepped forward and said, "Senior Uncle Deng, it's the truth."

Deng Kui said with a faint smile on his face, "It's just a verbal agreement, right? That means he can still change his mind. After all, he has yet to join the Pure Yang Sect." Then, he turned to Duan Ling Tian and said, "Duan Ling Tian, join the Marionette Villa. I'll accept you as my direct disciple! Like I said earlier, your treatment will be the best among the disciples in Marionette Villa."

Deng Kui thought Duan Ling Tian would find this offer difficult to resist, but he soon discovered that he was wrong when he saw the disinterested expression on Duan Ling Tian's face.

At this time, Zhen Ping Fan nodded at Duan Ling Tian and said with a smile, "Duan Ling Tian, I've never accepted a direct disciple in my life nor do I intend to accept one because I'm too lazy. However, if you're keen, I know an Ascension Elder who'll be more than willing to accept you as a direct disciple. It's naturally better to have a master who's an intermediate Emperor of Gods than one who's a rudimentary Lord of Gods."

Deng Kui's expression darkened. "Zhen Ping Fan, are you intentionally provoking me?"

Zhen Ping Fan ignored Deng Kui and continued to say, "If you don't want to become anyone's direct disciples, you can also join the Pure Yang Sect. On top of that, you can consider that I, Zhen Ping Fan, owe you a favor as well. If you need my help in the future, I'll help you as long as it doesn't contradict my principles. Apart from that, if you join our sect, not only will you be treated like True Martial Disciple, the highest-ranking disciples in our sect, but our sect will owe you a favor as well. Needless to say, it can't contradict the sect's interests and principles."

Upon hearing this, Deng Kui scoffed. "Zhen Ping Fan, you're just a Nirvanic Elder in the Pure Yang Sect. Do you really have the authority to make such decisions?"

Zhen Ping Fang smiled. "Elder Deng, it seems like you only know that I'm a Nirvanic Elder..."

Deng Kui frowned slightly upon hearing this.

"Little Yang, enlighten your Senior Uncle Deng," Zhen Ping Fan said to Qin Wu Yang.

Everyone, including Duan Ling Tian and Long Qing Chong, looked at Qin Wu Yang in unison.

Hong Xiao Yun from the Seven Kills Valley was the only one who looked at Deng Kui as though Deng Kui was an idiot.

Qin Wu Yang looked at Deng Kui and said, "Elder Zhen isn't just a Nirvanic Elder of our Pure Yang Sect. His father is the strongest Ascension Elder in our sect, and our sect leader, who's the junior brother of Elder Zhen's father, also treats Elder Zhen like a son. Apart from that, Elder Zhen is also an only son. In other words, Elder Zhen's words hold a lot of weight in our sect."

Deng Kui's expression changed upon hearing Qin Wu Yang's words. It was only natural that he did not know about Zhen Ping Fan's extraordinary background. After all, he was not from the Eastern Ridge Mansion and did not know much about the Pure Yang Sect.

At the same time, many among the crowd began to curse inwardly again. How could this extraordinary person be named Ping Fan, which meant ordinary? All of them, including Duan Ling Tian, felt that it was truly ridiculous.

Zhen Ping Fan smiled and said to Duan Ling Tian, "Duan Ling Tian, join the Pure Yang Sect. If anyone in the sect dares to cause trouble for you, I'll beat them into a pulp for you."

Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly. "Elder Zhen, I'm just a nobody."

Zhen Ping Fan waved his hand and said, "Enough. I hate to beat around the bush. Are you willing to join the Pure Yang Sect? I just need your answer."

"Duan Ling Tian, joining the Pure Yang Sect is a good choice."

Duan Ling Tian was surprised when he received Long Qing Chong's Voice Transmission.

"The other four top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion sent people over, but they were all frightened away by Elder Zhen," Long Qing Chong said.

Duan Ling Tian felt rather speechless when he heard these words. Clearly, Zhen Ping Fan was determined to recruit him.

At this time, Qin Wu Yang said, "Duan Ling Tian, trust me. You won't regret joining the Pure Yang Sect. Our sect is famous in the Eastern Ridge Mansion for being protective of our disciples. Elder Zhen is also very famous for being protective of his people. Although he doesn't have any disciples, he always stands up for his juniors..."

Duan Ling Tian looked at Zhen Ping Fan, recalling Zhen Ping Fan's earlier promises. Then, he said solemnly, "Elder Zhen, I'm willing to join the Pure Yang Sect."

The smile on Zhen Ping Fan's face widened as he said, "Excellent!" Then, he raised his hand and tossed a spatial ring to Duan Ling Tian before he said, "This is a gift for you. I've heard of the matter between you and the Linghu clan. There are 100 million divine rocks in there. If there's nothing else, after you settle the matter with the Linghu clan, you should follow us back to the Pure Yang Sect. We'll accompany you to the Linghu clan as well. I want to see their faces when you settle the debt in such a short time."

Chapter 3924: Leaving the Imperial War Realm

“Thank you, Elder Zhen.”

Duan Ling Tian refused Zhen Ping Fan’s kind gesture because he truly needed the divine rocks. It would be best if he helped Linghu Ren Jie deal with the problem before joining the Pure Yang Sect so he would feel at peace. After all, Linghu Ren Jie was stripped of his position as clan leader because of him.

Although Duan Ling Tian could earn 100 million divine rocks by refining lord-grade Limit Divine Pills, it would create an uproar in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. After exposing his ability, there was a chance that he would be kidnapped by a powerhouse to refine pills. This was also why he had been very cautious whenever he refined lord-grade Limit Divine Pills in the Flying Dragon Sect. He would refine the lord-grade Limit Divine Pills during the intervals when he was refining king-grade Limit Divine Pills to avoid suspicion. Otherwise, the former Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect, the top divine alchemist in the Eastern Ridge Mansion, would definitely discover his secret.

After claiming ownership over the spatial ring, Duan Ling Tian saw a mountainous pile of divine rocks. Apart from that, there also seemed to be at least a million divine crystals in there.

“When do you want to leave for the Linghu clan?” Zhen Ping Fan asked with a hint of anticipation in his eyes. He was clearly eager to watch a good show when Duan Ling Tian settled the debt with the Linghu clan.

“I can leave after bidding farewell to my friends. I’ll contact Elder Qin to inform you once I’m ready to depart,” Duan Ling Tian said.

“There’s no need to go through all that trouble,” Zhen Ping Fan said as he waved his hand and brought out a Soul Pearl. His expression turned serious as he continued to say, “Let’s exchange Soul Pearls. You can contact me directly once you’re ready to leave. After dealing with the matters in the Linghu clan, I hope you’ll return to the Pure Yang Sect with us. The Pure Yang Sect will be distributing excellent cultivation resources to the True Martial Disciples soon. However, the disciples will have to earn them so they’re not distributed equally. If we return in time, you might have a share of it.”

Based on Zhen Ping Fan’s words and expression, Duan Ling Tian knew the resources had to be very precious. He hurriedly said, “Don’t worry, Elder Zhen. I’ll be quick. We’ll leave the Flying Dragon Sect within two days.”

Zhen Ping Fan smiled. “Alright. We’ll have more time the sooner we leave. If there’s anything else, deal with them so you can join the Pure Yang Sect without any worries.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded.

While Zhen Ping Fan was talking to Duan Ling Tian, Deng Kui, the Silver Marionette Elder from the Marionette Villa, left reluctantly. Since Duan Ling Tian had decided to join the Pure Yang Sect, he knew he wasted his time coming to the Eastern Ridge Mansion.

The Sect Leader of the Tai Yi Sect and some of the sect members followed Deng Kui when he left. A hint of jealousy could be seen in their eyes when they looked at Duan Ling Tian.

After a while, Zhen Ping Fan and Qin Wu Fang returned to the Flying Dragon Sect's estate after bidding farewell to Duan Ling Tian.

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Before leaving with the duo, Long Qing Chong also congratulated Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission.

"Congratulations, Duan Ling Tian. I look forward to seeing you excel in the Pure Yang Sect. The Flying Dragon Sect will always have its door open for you. Please visit us if you have the time."

"Thank you, sect leader."

After Long Qing Chong left, various elders from the top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion came over to congratulate Duan Ling Tian as well.

"Congratulations, Duan Ling Tian!" an elder from the Pure Yang said. He was particularly happy that Duan Ling Tian decided to join the Pure Yang Sect.

Following that, the members of the Flying Dragon Sect stepped forward to congratulate Duan Ling Tian as well.

"Congratulations, Senior Brother Duan!"

"Congratulations, Duan Ling Tian!"

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After wandering Peace City, he left the Imperial War Realm empty-handed.

'It's too bad they don't have any more Destruction Divine Shuttle...'

Duan Ling Tian had obtained everything he needed previously. This time, he was specifically looking for Destruction Divine Shuttles in Peace City. After all, he wanted to return to the lower realms because he was worried about his master, Feng Qing Yang.

'I hope master is safe... He should be able to escape from Mi Xuan since he had a fortuitous encounter and inherited the legacy of a supreme powerhouse...' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself as he looked at Feng Qing Yang's Soul Pearl in his spatial ring. The mark on the Soul Pearl was fading, and when it faded completely, the Soul Pearl would be useless. He would not be able to contact Feng Qing Yang nor would he know if something happened to Feng Qing Yang.

'I have to try obtaining a few Destruction Divine Shuttles after I arrive at the Pure Yang Sect...'

Previously, Duan Ling Tian had asked Xue Hai Chuan if there were any Destruction Divine Shuttles in the Flying Dragon Sect. According to Xue Hai Chuan, Destruction Divine Shuttles were not uncommon in the sect, but there was a shortage lately due to the closed spatial passages between the Realms of Gods and Devata Realms.

After returning to the Flying Dragon Sect's estate, Duan Ling Tian quickly sent a message to Xue Hai Chuan.

"Brother Hai Chuan, are you free?"

Xue Hai Chuan's reply came swiftly.

"Little Tian, are you going to tell me about the Emperor of Gods from the Pure Yang Sect who personally came to recruit you?"

Duan Ling Tian replied, "No, it's not regarding this matter. Are you in your cultivation ground? I'll look for you now."

"Alright, I'll wait for you."

On his way to Xue Hai Chuan's cultivation ground, many disciples came over to congratulate him enthusiastically. After all, it was the first time an Emperor of Gods came to the Flying Dragon Sect just to recruit a disciple. Emperors of Gods were the strongest in the Eastern Ridge Mansion, after all. It was natural that the others were excited. It was an honor, after all. Even if the Flying Dragon Sect did not benefit from the visit, it would still benefit when Duan Ling Tian grew stronger and became one of the strongest powerhouses in the Eastern Ridge Mansion.

When it became too overwhelming, Duan Ling Tian quickly found a place and teleported to Xue Hai Chuan's cultivation ground. When he arrived, Xue Hai Chuan was already waiting for him in the front courtyard.

"Brother Hai Chuan, you owe a huge favor this time," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile.

Xue Hai Chuan was confused.

"Did you hear about Liu Yin's death?" Duan Ling Tian asked.

Xue Hai Chuan nodded. "I heard he died a while ago..." Then, his eyes widened as realization dawned on him. "Are you saying..."

Before Xue Hai Chuan finished speaking, Duan Ling Tian brought out Liu Yin's prominent divine artifact and placed it on the stone table.

Chapter 3925: Duan Ling Tian is About to Leave the Flying Dragon Sect

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Xue Hai Chuan had already guessed Duan Ling Tian had something to do with Liu Yin's death when Duan Ling Tian brought up the matter. His guess was confirmed when Duan Ling Tian brought out Liu Yin's divine artifact. He asked worriedly, "Little Tian, did you kill Liu Yin after he was injured by an Underworld Elder? Did that Underworld Elder die? It won't be good if he exposes you. Although the Flying Dragon Sect can't do anything to you because of the Pure Yang Sect, it'll taint your reputation. The Pure Yang Sect might look at you differently because of this matter. After all, it's a shameful thing to kill a fellow member of the same sect."

In Xue Hai Chuan's opinion, Duan Ling Tian was strong enough to kill a newly-promoted White Dragon Elder, but it would not be easy for him to kill a veteran White Dragon Elder like Liu Yin. Moreover, although he himself was stronger than Liu Yin, he was not confident he would be able to kill Liu Yin.

"Brother Hai Chuan, rest assured," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile, "We're the only ones who know about this matter. Moreover, I was only defending myself since Liu Yin tried to kill me."

Xue Hai Chun sighed in relief upon hearing these words. After a while, his gaze changed as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, "It seems like you've hidden much of your strength. This is amazing. To have such strength when you're not even 3,000 years old. It's unprecedented even in the entire Eastern Ridge Mansion."

After a pause, Xue Hai Chuan said solemnly, "My brother and I will forever be indebted to you."

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said with a smile, "Brother Hai Chuan, I didn't kill him because of you and Brother Hai Shan. I only killed him because he tried to kill me."

Duan Ling Tian did not mention how Liu Yin had mastered the secret technique to the true detonation of his Little World, which would likely kill Xue Hai Chuan if Xue Hai Chuan fought with Liu Yin. He broke out in cold sweat when he thought about how close he was to dying. He was lucky that he managed to kill Liu Yin. Otherwise, Liu Yin would be a huge threat to Xue Hai Chuan in the future.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian said, "Brother Hai Chuan, I'm leaving the sect in two days. Invite Brother Hai Shan back from Revered Elder Sikong's cultivating ground, and invite Brother Yan Nian as well. Let's have a drink together tonight."

Xue Hai Chuan nodded. "I already heard you'd be leaving with the Emperor of Gods from the Pure Yang Sect in two days. Very well. I'll bring my brother over now. With Liu Yin gone, there's no need to trouble Revered Elder Sikong to look after my brother."

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and said, "Don't let your guards down. Liu Yin is dead, but the people around him are alive. Who knows if they want to avenge Liu Yin or carry out his revenge for him... It's best to eliminate these people as soon as possible."

"Don't worry. I'll get someone to deal with them," Xue Hai Chuan replied. In fact, after learning that Liu Yin had died, he had already made plans to get rid of Liu Yin's loyal subordinates who might be a threat to his brother, Xue Hai Shan.

"That's great," Duan Ling Tian said with a nod. He knew Xue Hai Chuan must have already come up with a plan.

...

That night, Duan Ling Tian drank to his heart's content with Xue Hai Chuan, Dongfang Yan Nian, and Xue Hai Shan. He was in good company, and it had been a while since he had felt so relaxed. Now, he was not only protected by the Flying Dragon Sect, but he was also protected by the Emperor of Gods from the Pure Yang Sect. With this, even Xue Ming Zhi, the Vice Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect, would not dare to make a move.

After Duan Ling Tian and Xue Hai Shan were drunk, the relatively sober Xue Hai Chuan and Dongfang Yan Nian exchanged a glance.

Dongfang Yan Nian said with a sigh, "Little Tian really has a lot of worries..."

"If even he can't deal with it, we won't be able to help him," Xue Hai Chuan said with a sigh as well.

Although Duan Ling Tian did not say anything, Xue Hai Chuan and Dongfang Yan Nian could tell that something was weighing on Duan Ling Tian.

...

The next day, Xue Hai Chuan and Dongfang Yan Nian saw Duan Ling Tian out after he sobered up.

"Little Tian, if there's anything we can help you with, don't hesitate to get in touch with us," Xue Hai Chuan said solemnly, "You don't have to be polite with us."

"That's right," Dongfang Yan Nian nodded as he chimed in, "Feel free to find us. However, I don't know if we'd be of help for much longer since you're going to surpass us soon in strength."

Dongfang Yan Nian shook his head. He had never met anyone who progressed as quickly as Duan Ling Tian did.

"Alright," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile, completely forgetting about how drunk he had gotten the night before. Although the duo had good intentions, he knew they would not be able to help him with matters regarding supreme-rank forces.

"Little Tian," Dongfang Yan Nian said again, "The war points you gave me are more than what you owed me. Let me know if you need something. I'll help you get it from Peace City or our sect."

"Thank you, Brother Yan Nian," Duan Ling Tian replied.

After returning the war points he owed, he distributed the contribution points he owned equally between Xue Hai Chuan and Dongfang Yan Nian. After all, the contribution points were useless to him once he left the Flying Dragon Sect. However, Xue Hai Chuan refused the contribution points. Since he had already killed Liu Yin, Xue Hai Chuan felt it would be inappropriate to take anything from him again. As such, all the contribution points were given to Dongfang Yan Nian in the end. In fact, Dongfang Yan Nian refused as well, but the drunk him was very persistent so Dongfang Yan Nian had no choice but to accept it in the end.

"Brother Hai Chuan, Brother Yan Nian, I'll take my leave now. Please say goodbye to Brother Hai Shan for me when he wakes up. Brother Yan Nian, please tell sister-in-law that I said goodbye too," Duan Ling Tian said before leaving.

...

Following that, Duan Ling Tian looked for Ding Yan and Hou Qing Ning, another two of his friends in the Flying Dragon Sect.

That night, he drank again. However, this time, he did not get drunk like Ding Yan and Hou Qing Ning.

After Hou Qing Ning was drunk, he reminded Duan Ling Tian to be extra cautious after joining the Pure Yang Sect. After all, competition among peers was particularly fierce in powerful forces. He was a young master of a king-rank force so he was privy to all the struggles and politics in a force.

As for Ding Yan, he vowed to join the Pure Yang Sect in the future.

...

The next day, after bidding farewell to Ding Yan and Hou Qing Ning, Duan Ling Tian went to look for Zhen Ping Fan. He had contacted Zhen Ping Fan the night before and arranged to meet in Zhen Ping Fan's courtyard.

On his way there, Duan Ling Tian ran into Long Qing Chong, who seemed to be waiting for him.

"Sect leader?"

Long Qing Chong said with a smile, "Duan Ling Tian, you're the most outstanding disciple the Flying Dragon Sect has ever had. As the sect leader, I'm very proud of you. You brought us glory by joining the Pure Yang sect. Although we're also an emperor-rank sect, we've passed our prime. Nonetheless, we're always generous to our own people. This is a small token from the sect before you leave."

Then, Long Qing Chong tossed a spatial ring over to Duan Ling Tian.

"Sect leader..." Duan Ling Tian furrowed his brows slightly.

Before Duan Ling Tian could speak, Long Qing Chong said, "Consider this a reward from the sect. Don't feel like you owe us a favor because of this."

Duan Ling Tian smiled wryly. "That's not what I meant..."

Although Duan Ling Tian did not spend a particularly long time in the Flying Dragon Sect, the sect had a place in his heart. After all, Long Qing Chong and some of the members here had helped him during his lowest point. For that reason, although his sense of belonging to the sect was not strong, he would never refuse to help the Flying Dragon Sect if it needed help.

Duan Ling Tian only wanted to refuse Long Qing Chong because he felt that he had already obtained everything he wanted from the Flying Dragon Sect and Peace City. The things that were given to him were likely not things that he needed so he felt it was better to leave them to those who needed them.

Chapter 3926: A Favor

In the next moment, Long Qing Chong said, somewhat sheepishly, "I meant it when I said you don't owe the sect a favor. However, I have a small personal favor to ask from you..."

"A favor?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned upon hearing Long Qing Chong's words. When he regained his senses, he smiled and said, "Sect leader, please speak. I'll do what I can to help."

Although Duan Ling Tian did not meet Long Qing Chong often, Long Qing Chong had helped him a lot. Hence, he was more than willing to help Long Qing Chong.

“Before I can explain the matter to you, I need you to follow me to a place,” Long Qing Chong said with a smile, “Of course, you can refuse if you’re unwilling. I won’t force you to do something you’re not willing to do.”

Long Qing Chong had always been courteous and friendly to Duan Ling Tian, but today, he was even more courteous than before.

“Alright.” Duan Ling Tian nodded and followed Long Qing Chong after he informed the two elders from Pure Yang Sect that he would meet them later.

Long Qing Chong brought Duan Ling Tian to his cultivation ground where they first met. A middle-aged man was already waiting for them there.

The middle-aged man seemed calm, but a hint of anxiety could be seen in his eyes.

“Sect leader, this is?” Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

“Xue Ming Zhi,” Long Qing Chong said.

Upon hearing this name, Duan Ling Tian’s expression changed immediately; his eyes widened immediately.

When Kuang Tian Zheng, an inner elder of the Flying Dragon Sect and a member of the 10,000 Devils faction in the sect, tried to kill Duan Ling Tian in the past, Duan Ling Tian had suspected that the mastermind behind the attack was Xue Ming Zhi. He also suspected that Xue Ming Zhi was the one who had hired the death warriors to kill him.

“So, it’s Vice Sect Leader Xue,” Duan Ling Tian said. He naturally knew that Long Qing Chong was trying to resolve the conflict between him and Xue Ming Zhi.

Xue Ming Zhi shuddered inwardly. He could hear the mockery in Duan Ling Tian’s voice. He smiled awkwardly and called out, “Young Master Duan.”

Long Qing Chong looked at Xue Ming Zhi and said coldly, “Tell the truth.”

Xue Ming Zhi took a deep breath before he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said, “Young Master Duan, the conflict between us arose because of my son-in-law.”

After saying that, Xue Ming Zhi waved his hand.

A decapitated head that belonged to a handsome young man appeared in Xue Ming Zhi’s hand after that. Based on the bloodstain on the neck, it was obvious that the young man was beheaded not long ago.

“This was my son-in-law, Zhong Can...”

Duan Ling Tian’s expression changed again upon hearing these words. He knew that Xue Ming Zhi only had one daughter, and he loved his daughter greatly. That was why he had taken great care of his son-in-law, who was from the 10,000 Devils faction.

“My daughter is unaware that I’d killed him. I killed him because I discovered he was involved with the death warriors,” Xue Ming Zhi said calmly, “He wasn’t wealthy enough to hire the death warriors, but

the 10,000 Devils Sect could do so. I suspect that due to the conflict between you and the 10,000 Devils Sect, he was roped into the matter. After finding out about this matter, the sect leader ordered me to go to the 10,000 Devils Sect to kill all of their high-ranking officials who were involved in this matter. I also killed Zong Can. I hope this is enough to redeem myself, Young Master Duan.”

Then, Xue Ming Zhi fell to his knees and kowtowed thrice to Duan Ling Tian. He hit his head so hard that his forehead began to bleed.

“Redeem yourself?” Duan Ling Tian stared at Xue Ming Zhi intently as he asked, “Vice Sect Leader Xue, may I ask what you did that made you feel the need to go to such lengths to redeem yourself?”

Xue Ming Zhi inhaled deeply and said, “In a way, Kuang Tian Zheng’s bold actions of trying to assassinate you in the sect had something to do with me...”

Duan Ling Tian was not surprised. After all, he had already suspected this. Kuang Tian Zheng would not have come up with such a bold idea on his own. Moreover, the two White Dragon Elders from the 10,000 Devils faction were not influential enough to force Kuang Tian Zheng to do such a thing due to Kuang Tian Zheng’s connection to Xue Ming Zhi. In the end, he said with a smile, “It seems like Vice Sect Leader Xue really wanted me to die.”

“Young Master Duan, I was afraid you seek revenge from me when you’ve grown strong enough. After all, Kuang Tian Zheng’s direct disciple was my son-in-law.” Xue Ming Zhi hurriedly said, “I apologize for being irrational. To show my remorse, I killed Zhong Can to prove that I no longer have ties with the 10,000 Devils faction. I hope this is enough to resolve the conflict between us, Young Master Duan. Naturally, if you’re unwilling, I have no objections. I just hope that you’ll spare my daughter. She’s only muddle-headed because of Zhong Can.”

Xue Ming Zhi’s gaze softened greatly when he mentioned his daughter.

After a brief pause, Xue Ming Zhi continued to say, “If Young Master Duan wants my life, the sect leader will announce to the sect that Zhong Can and I hired the death warriors. After I’m executed, my daughter will be expelled from the sect.”

Duan Ling Tian frowned slightly as he turned to Long Qing Chong and asked, “Sect leader, the favor you mentioned earlier... You want me to spare his life?”

Long Qing Chong nodded. He said, “Xue Ming Zhi’s master was my junior uncle, and I owed my junior uncle a life-saving grace. If it’s possible, I hope to preserve his life to repay the favor. However, I naturally have nothing to say if you want his life. If that’s what you want, I only hope that you’ll spare his daughter. I can guarantee that his daughter will not seek revenge nor trouble you in the future. Whatever happens to her after that, it’s all her fault. If you’re willing to spare Xue Ming Zhi, I also promise that he won’t cause trouble for you again. Otherwise, I’ll kill him with my own hands.”

Duan Ling Tian’s eyes flashed slightly.

Xue Ming Zhi said again, “Young Master Duan, there’s another matter. I was the one who sent you the Voice Transmissions during the Latent Dragon Grand Contest.”

"It's you?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised. He still remembered the incident, but he dismissed it as an empty threat since nothing happened to Linghu Ren Jie.

Xue Ming Zhi smiled bitterly. "Yes, it was me. My daughter was tricked by Zhong Can. At that time, he had said that if you obtain the Lord Breakthrough Divine Pill and become a Lord of Gods, it'll bring disaster to us."

Duan Ling Tian's expression eased slightly. "Since nothing happened, I'll let this matter slide."

In Duan Ling Tian's opinion, it would have been easy for Xue Ming Zhi to kill Linghu Ren Jie if he really wanted to do so.

Xue Ming Zhi shook his head. "No. In fact, I did make good on my threats."

"What?" Duan Ling Tian's gaze sharpened immediately. He might have been able to forgive Xue Ming Zhi if Xue Ming Zhi had only targeted him. However, he was furious when he learned that Xue Ming Zhi had involved the innocent people around him.

Long Qing Chong sighed. In fact, he had told Xue Ming Zhi not to reveal this matter to Duan Ling Tian since he knew it would anger Duan Ling Tian.

"What happened in the end?" Duan Ling Tian asked in a deep voice, barely able to conceal his anger.

"An Emperor of Gods intervened," Xue Ming Zhi said.

"An Emperor of Gods?"

Duan Ling Tian was surprised. Then, he recalled the Emperor of Gods that appeared in the Flying Dragon Sect shortly after he joined the sect. That Emperor of Gods was not ordinary since she was able to make the Flying Dragon Sect yield at that time. Even a Nirvanic Elder of the Pure Yang Sect would not be able to do what without an extraordinary background.

Xue Ming Zhi nodded and recounted what happened. "Yes. In the past, I agreed to reward a Black Dragon Elder if he managed to kill Linghu Ren Jie. Unexpectedly, he was killed by the Emperor of Gods when he tried to kill Linghu Ren Jie in the Linghu clan's estate. The Emperor of Gods came to the sect to teach me a lesson. However, at that time, she said that she didn't care if I made a move against you as long as I left Linghu Ren Jie and the Linghu clan alone. That was one of the reasons I vented my anger on you."

Duan Ling Tian's eyes glinted as he asked, "Is that Emperor of Gods Linghu Ren Feng?"

Chapter 3927: Leaving the Flying Dragon Sect

"Young Master Duan, how do you know?" Xue Ming Zhi's eyes widened, and his face paled in shock. He did not expect Duan Ling Tian to know that Emperor of Gods. After all, based on his investigations, apart from Linghu Ren Jie, no one in the Linghu clan knew Linghu Ren Feng was an Emperor of Gods. How could Duan Ling Tian know?

"I'm just guessing," Duan Ling Tian said indifferently. His gaze toward Xue Ming Zhi still carried a hint of hostility. He found it difficult to forgive Xue Ming Zhi for sending a Black Dragon Elder to the Linghu clan to kill Linghu Ren Jie. This had crossed his bottom line.

Xue Ming Zhi noticed Duan Ling Tian's hostile gaze and smiled bitterly. He knew it was unlikely that Duan Ling Tian would let him go now. He sighed and said, "Young Master Duan, my only wish is that you'll spare my daughter."

"As long as she doesn't take the initiative to provoke me, I won't target her," Duan Ling Tian said indifferently.

With that, Xue Ming Zhi fell silent. He did not move, waiting for Duan Ling Tian to kill him.

At the same time, Long Qing Chong, who was standing at the side, remained silent. After all, this was also within his expectations. Moreover, he had already told Duan Ling Tian he would not intervene if Duan Ling Tian insisted on taking Xue Ming Zhi's life.

After killing Xue Ming Zhi, Duan Ling Tian looked at Long Qing Chong and said apologetically, "Sect leader, I apologize. If he didn't send someone to kill Linghu Ren Jie, I would've done you a favor and let him go. However, he really crossed the line. Even if I didn't kill him today, I would still kill him in the future."

"I understand." Long Qing Chong nodded. He did not blame Duan Ling Tian at all. In fact, he felt that Duan Ling Tian was already being quite understanding. If he were in Duan Ling Tian's shoes, he would have made the same choice.

"Alright, I'll deal with the mess here," Long Qing Chong said, "You should look for Elder Zhen now. I only hope that you'll remember that you were once part of the Flying Dragon Sect after joining the Pure Yang Sect."

"Of course," Duan Ling Tian said before bidding farewell to Long Qing Chong and left to look for the two elders of the Pure Yang Sect.

...

After Duan Ling Tian left the Flying Dragon Sect with the two elders of Pure Yang Sect, Long Qing Chong made a shocking announcement.

"We've investigated the origins of the death warriors who tried to kill Duan Ling Tian previously and discovered they were hired by Vice Sect Leader Xue and his son-in-law, Zhong Can after colluding with a few members from the 10,000 Devils Sect. The people from the 10,000 Devils Sect have been executed; Xue Ming Zhi and Zhong Can have also been executed by the sect. This concludes the investigation. I'd like to remind everyone again to adhere to the rules of the Flying Dragon Sect. Don't think you can get away if you break the rules. Even if you hire death warriors, we'll still be able to uncover the truth."

.....

The Flying Dragon Sect was in an uproar.

No one expected this announcement from Long Qing Chong.

"Those two death warriors were hired by Vice Sect Leader Xue, Zhong Can, and the 10,000 Devils Sect?"

"I wonder how the sect found out about this when the death warriors are dead."

“I find this strange as well. There shouldn’t be any clues.”

“The sect is quite amazing. They managed to find the culprit when there were almost no clues at all...”

Many people who had considered hiring death warriors to deal with their enemies, inspired by Duan Ling Tian’s assassination attempt, quickly dismissed this thought.

It was only natural that not everyone got along in the Flying Dragon Sect. There were many whose archenemies were fellow sect members. An example of this was Xue Hai Chuan, Xue Hai Shan, and Liu Yin.

Many thought they would be able to get away with hiring death warriors to kill their enemies, but Long Qing Chong’s words shattered their hopes immediately.

...

“Father! Brother Can!”

Previously, Xue Ming Zhi’s daughter was still in shock and grieving her husband’s sudden disappearance and death after she found his shattered Soul Pearl. When her father’s Soul Pearl had shattered as well, she was even more shocked, completely unable to accept the reality. She even convinced herself that there were problems with her father and husband’s Soul Pearls.

However, her delusions were quickly shattered when she heard Long Qing Chong’s announcement. Her father and husband were truly dead; they were executed by the sect!

“What happened? How’s this possible? How did the sect find out? Father and I were the only ones who knew about this matter? Did father’s friend betray him? It must be him! It must be him! Brother Can had nothing to do with this matter. Why was he executed? Why! Someone tell me what’s going on!”

While Xue Ming Zhi’s daughter was still in a state of confusion, Long Qing Chong sent someone to capture her and bring her away from the sect.

“Due to Xue Ming Zhi’s heinous crime, the sect leader has ordered for you, as his daughter, to be expelled from the sect. The sect will spare your life considering you were unaware of the matter.”

Upon hearing this, Xue Ming Zhi’s daughter wondered inwardly, ‘The sect thinks I’m unaware? Why? Did... Did Brother Can take the blame for me?’

...

Duan Ling Tian, who had left the Flying Dragon Sect, found out about what happened through Voice Transmissions by Xue Hai Chuan, Dongfang Yan Nian, Ding Yan, and Hou Qing Ning. After all, this matter was related to him.

Duan Ling Tian was naturally not surprised. After all, he had known this would happen before leaving the Flying Dragon Sect.

“Duan Ling Tian,” Zhen Ping Fan, the Nirvanic Elder from the Pure Yang Sect, who was walking next to Duan Ling Tian, called out.

Initially, Duan Ling Tian, like Qin Wu Yang, had politely walked behind Zhen Ping Fan as a sign of respect. However, Zhen Ping Fang wanted to chat with him so he ended up walking next to Zhen Ping Fan. He did not think too much of the matter.

As for Qin Wu Yang, he maintained his position. How could he walk next to his junior granduncle? Even if his junior granduncle did not mind it, he had been taught it was rude to do so.

“How do you think the people of the Linghu clan will react once they find out you managed to gather 100,000 million divine rocks in such a short time?” Zhen Ping Fang asked with a hint of anticipation. He was like a playful child, and he seemed even more interested in this compared to Duan Ling Tian.

“They’ll probably be surprised,” Duan Ling Tian replied. If he did know better, he would have thought Zhen Ping Fan was younger than him, based on Zhen Ping Fan’s behavior. Not only did Zhen Ping Fan like to stir up trouble, but he liked to watch the drama as well.

“Probably?” Zhen Ping Fan frowned slightly. It was as though he was disappointed with such a boring outcome.

Duan Ling Tian replied helplessly, “I meant to say definitely. They’ll definitely be surprised.”

Zhen Ping Fan’s smile widened. “That’s right! This reaction alone is worthy of the 100,000 divine rocks I gave you! Hmm, will they be more surprised if they knew I gave you a million divine crystals?”

Zhen Ping Fan’s eyes brightened as he continued muttering to himself.

Seeing this, Duan Ling Tian felt really helpless. He really did not know how to communicate with this elder who was like a playful child.

Duan Ling Tian turned slightly and asked Qin Wu Yang through Voice Transmission, “Elder Qin, has Elder Zhen always been like this?”

“Uh, not really...” Qin Wu Yang replied, “Junior granduncle is usually quite serious. He’s only like this with his friends or people he gets along with. He’s usually in closed-door cultivation and keeps to himself a lot.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded. It seemed like Zhen Ping Fan was usually reserved unless he was with those he got along with.

‘That’s good as well. He’s so easy-going that I won’t feel tired about maintaining strict etiquette,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself with a smile. It was rather relaxing to be with Zhen Ping Fan. The atmosphere was light; it was not stifling or solemn.

When they were approaching Linghu City where the Linghu clan’s estate was located, Duan Ling Tian sent a message to Linghu Ren Jie.

Linghu Ren Jie was surprised when he received Duan Ling Tian’s message. “Duan Ling Tian? You came out from the Imperial War Realm?”

Linghu Ren Jie had spoken to Duan Ling Tian previously before Duan Ling Tian entered the Imperial War Realm so he was under the impression that Duan Ling Tian was still in there.

“Clan leader, I’m about to arrive in Linghu City,” Duan Ling Tian replied.

“Huh? You’re about to arrive in Linghu City?” Linghu Ren Jie was stunned. Then, he asked worriedly, “You left the Flying Dragon Sect so rashly, aren’t you worried that you’ll be targeted by your enemies? Are you alone?”

Although Duan Ling Tian did not mention his trouble in the Flying Dragon Sect to Linghu Ren Jie, he had vaguely heard about it from members of the clan who had joined the Flying Dragon Sect. After all, the number of members from the Linghu clan in the Flying Dragon Sect was not smaller than that of the 10,000 Devils Sect. Although Duan Ling Tian rarely interacted with them, they naturally knew a lot about him.

Chapter 3928: A Spirit Void Elder of the Pure Yang Sect? Translation

“I’m not alone. I came with two elders.”

Duan Ling Tian felt warm upon hearing the concern and worry in Linghu Ren Jie’s voice.

“Elders?” Linghu Ren Jie was surprised. “The elders from the Flying Dragon Sect?”

“No,” Duan Ling Tian replied, “They’re from the Pure Yang Sect.”

“I see, they’re from the Pure Yang Sect,” Linghu Renjie replied. After a moment, he replied again, clearly shocked, “Wait! The Pure Yang Sect?! One of the top five emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion?”

“Yes.”

“Are you planning to join the Pure Yang Sect?”

Linghu Ren Jie knew about Duan Ling Tian’s performance in the Flying Dragon Sect. He had been paying close attention to Duan Ling Tian. He had felt happy for Duan Ling Tian when he heard about Duan Ling Tian killing many members of the Tai Yi Sect, and he was worried when he heard that Kuang Tian Zheng had tried to kill Duan Ling Tian. He was even more worried and shocked when he heard that death warriors were hired to kill Duan Ling Tian. He could imagine the danger Duan Ling Tian was in at that time when faced with two intermediate Lords of Gods. Even after he knew Duan Ling Tian was safe, fear still lingered in his heart. Naturally, he also knew that the top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion were trying to recruit Duan Ling Tian as well. He knew Duan Ling Tian would join one of those forces sooner or later. Since Duan Ling Tian was accompanied by two elders from the Pure Yang Sect today, it seemed like Duan Ling Tian had decided to leave the Flying Dragon Sect.

“I’ll come out and receive you.”

After sending that message, Linghu Ren Jie said loudly so that everyone could hear his words, “Elders, come with me to receive the elders from the Pure Yang Sect.”

‘Pure Yang Sect?!’

The elders from the Linghu clan were shocked when they heard Linghu Ren Jie’s words. Although he was no longer the clan leader, they still followed him when they heard they had visitors from the Pure Yang Sect. After all, they knew Linghu Ren Jie was not one to lie.

At the same time, a commotion broke out in the Linghu clan as well.

.....

“Pure Yang Sect?”

“Is it really the Pure Yang Sect, one of the top five emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion?!”

“Of course! What other Pure Yang Sect is there in the Eastern Ridge Mansion?”

“Although the Flying Dragon Sect is also an emperor-rank sect, the difference between them is like heaven and earth. Why is someone from the Pure Yang Sect coming to our clan?”

...

After the group of people headed by Linghu Ren Jie flew out of the Linghu clan’s estate, it did not take long for them to arrive outside Linghu City. Not only were the ordinary elders present, but the supreme elders and ancestors like Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Heng, and Linghu Huan were present as well.

Linghu Zheng Xing asked Linghu Ren Jie, “Ren Jie, why would the elders from the Pure Yang Sect come here?”

“They’re accompanying Duan Ling Tian here,” Linghu Ren Jie said with a sigh, “Duan Ling Tian is joining the Pure Yang Sect. I really didn’t expect the young lad from our clan would join one of the top forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion so quickly.”

The eyes of Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Heng, and Linghu Huan lit up. They had a good relationship with Duan Ling Tian, after all. They were naturally happy for him when they learned that he would be going to the Pure Yang Sect.

As for the other elders, they exchanged a look, feeling complicated. Back then, they had insisted on stripping Linghu Ren Jie of his position because Linghu Ren Jie had indulged in Duan Ling Tian, causing the loss of many divine rocks. Later on, Duan Ling Tian had promised that he would return the divine rocks within 100 years. However, only a few decades had passed since then.

Previously, when they heard of Duan Ling Tian’s outstanding performance in the Flying Dragon Sect, they had been filled with regrets. They regretted penalizing Linghu Ren Jie for favoring Duan Ling Tian. It was due to this reason that Duan Ling Tian did not interact with those from the Linghu faction after joining the Flying Dragon Sect. For 100 million rocks, they had lost the opportunity to establish a good relationship with such an outstanding prodigy. How could they not feel regretful?

After repaying them, Duan Ling Tian likely would have nothing to do with the Linghu clan anymore. After all, just because he took care of Linghu Ren Jie, it did not mean he had to take care of everyone from the Linghu clan.

After thinking about it, the elders, those present and not present, began to discuss among themselves through Voice Transmission.

“When Duan Ling Tian arrives, let’s tell him that there’s no need to settle the debt. Moreover, we’ll also tell him that Ren Jie will be reinstated as the clan leader and will remain so unless he chooses to resign.”

“I agree.”

“I agree as well.”

Although 100 million divine rocks were a lot, the Linghu clan was not greatly impacted by the loss. 100 million divine rocks were nothing in exchange for the favor of a Lord of Gods who was not even 3,000 years old with a bright future ahead. Although he was just a rudimentary Lord of Gods, he managed to kill two intermediate Lords of Gods. His strength was almost comparable to a White Dragon Elder. Someone like that definitely would rise very high in the future. Perhaps, in another 10,000 years, he would become an Emperor of Gods.

When the elders thought about how the Linghu clan would be associated with an Emperor of Gods, they could not help but feel excited. They could not wait to make amends with Duan Ling Tian. In their eyes, Duan Ling Tian now was no different from an Emperor of Gods.

At this moment, Linghu Ren Jie, who had keen eyesight, saw three figures in the distance and said, “They’re here.”

Linghu Ren Jie was very familiar with the purple figure in the distance.

“I wonder which elders from the Pure Yang Sect came? There are different ranks of elders in the Pure Yang, based on what I know. I heard the Transcendence Elders are ranked third, and their status is like that of the Black Dragon Elders in the Flying Dragon Sect. However, their strength is like that of Golden Dragon Elders. They’re all outstanding Lords of Gods.”

“Even if the Pure Yang Sect only sent a Spirit Void Elder to accompany Duan Ling Tian, it already shows how much they value him...”

“That’s right. Although Spirit Void Elders’ status is like that of White Dragon Elder in the Pure Yang Sect, their strength is that of a Black Dragon Elder at least.”

“Alas, I don’t think they would send a Spirit Void Elder, let alone two, to accompany Duan Ling Tian.”

“Even if they sent Pristine Void Elders, it’s more than enough to show how much they value Duan Ling Tian! A Pristine Void Elder’s strength is comparable to that of a White Dragon Elder in the Flying Dragon Sect! They’re all outstanding intermediate Lords of Gods. Currently, there are only two White Dragon Elders in our Linghu faction in the Flying Dragon Sect.”

The gossiping elders fell silent as soon as Duan Ling Tian arrived.

As soon as the trio arrived, Linghu Ren Jie stepped forward and bowed respectfully before he took the initiative to say, “Greetings, elders. I’m Linghu Ren Jie.”

With that, the others followed suit.

“Greetings, elders. I’m Linghu Zheng Xing.”

Duan Ling Tian smiled brightly when he saw Linghu Ren Jie again. “Clan leader!”

“I’m no longer the clan leader,” Linghu Ren Jie said. He had corrected Duan Ling Tian many times, but Duan Ling Tian seemed to forget the reminder every time.

Upon hearing these words, the other elders from the Linghu clan really wanted to speak up and say that they wanted Linghu Ren Jie to become the clan leader again. However, with the presence of the two elders from the Pure Yang Sect, they did not dare to speak rashly. In front of such powerhouses, they were not qualified to speak. They were aware of their limitations and status in front of these powerhouses.

Duan Ling Tian chuckled and said, “In my heart, you’ll always be the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan.”

After that, Duan Ling Tian looked at Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Huan before he greeted them with a smile. He naturally remembered how they had taken care of him in the past.

The trio smiled and nodded before their eyes shifted to the young man standing next to Duan Ling Tian

The young man looked extraordinary and was clearly not simple.

Linghu Ren Jie glanced at the young man next to Duan Ling Tian and the old man standing slightly behind the duo before he said politely with a smile, “Duan Ling Tian, please introduce the two elders from the Pure Yang Sect to us.”

Duan Ling Tian nodded before he looked at Qin Wu Yang and said, “This is Elder Qin Wu Yang of the Pure Yang Sect.”

‘Qin Wu Yang!’

Linghu Ren Jie and the others did not react to the introduction, but Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Heng’s expressions changed immediately. After all, they were familiar with this name.

During their younger days, Qin Wu Yang was a prodigy in the Pure Yang Sect, and he was famous in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. He was among the top ten prodigies of the Pure Yang Sect at that time. Currently, he was already an advanced Lord of Gods, and he was also a Spirit Void Elder.

Linghu Zheng Xing looked at Qin Wu Yang excitedly as he said in a slightly trembling voice, “Elder Qin Wu Yang... The Spirit Void Elder?”

Upon hearing these words, the others from the Linghu clan were stunned. Like they had discussed earlier, Spirit Void Elders were all advanced Lords of Gods with strength comparable to Black Dragon Elders from the Flying Dragon Sect.

They were also confused. Why was the old man, a Spirit Void Elder, standing behind Duan Ling Tian and the young man as though he was an attendant? Did Linghu Zheng Xing make a mistake? It was impossible, right?

Chapter 3929: A Nirvanic Elder? An Emperor of Gods?

In fact, a Spirit Void Elder did not have a very high status in the Pure Yang Sect, let alone the Eastern Ridge Mansion. However, Qin Wu Yang’s master was from a rather strong faction in the Pure Yang Sect so he was more famous compared to the average Spirit Void Elder.

Moreover, Qin Wu Yang's fame in the Eastern Ridge Mansion was a thing of the past. Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Heng recognized him because they were about the same age and were around during his glorious years. Linghu Ren Jie and the other elders did not recognize him at all. They were more familiar with the powerhouses, who were Emperors of Gods, of the Pure Yang Sect. Naturally, not all Emperors of Gods in the Pure Yang Sect were famous. The famous ones were usually pillars of the Pure Yang Sect or those that Pure Yang Sect used as 'faces' to represent their sect.

There were powerful and extraordinary Emperors of Gods in the Pure Yang Sect who remained hidden as trump cards. Let alone outsiders, even most members of the Pure Yang Sect were unaware of their existence.

Even in the Pure Yang Sect, the number of Emperor of Gods powerhouses was not large. The powerful ones were the trump cards of the Pure Yang Sect, so many people in the Pure Yang Sect have never heard of them, not to mention the people from all forces in Eastern Ridge Mansion.

For Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Heng, they had once regarded Qin Wu Yang as their idol. Now that they met him in person, their hearts that were like a still lake due to old age began to have ripples.

Qin Wu Yang was surprised by Linghu Zheng Xing's words as well.

"Little Yang, I didn't expect there to be people from this small king-grade clan who know about you... It seems like you didn't lie to me about being famous once upon a time," Zhen Ping Fan, who was standing next to Duan Ling Tian, said with a smile.

In the past, Qin Wu Yang had told Zhen Ping Fan repeatedly that he was rather famous once upon a time, but Zhen Ping Fan did not believe him.

After saying that, as though he had just thought of something, Zhen Ping Fan looked at Qin Wu Yang and asked suspiciously, "Wait. You didn't collude with Duan Ling Tian to put on this act in front of me, right?"

"..."

Qin Wu Yang was dumbfounded, and Duan Ling Tian could not help but laugh.

"Elder Zhen, Elder Qin didn't put me up to this..." Duan Ling Tian explained.

Meanwhile, Linghu Zhen Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Heng finally noticed the way Zhen Ping Fan addressed Qin Wu Yang. After all, in their eyes, Qin Wu Yang was the high and mighty Spirit Void Elder of the Pure Yang Sect. It was strange and jarring that the other party referred to Qin Wu Yang as 'Little Yang'. For a moment, they found it hard to reconcile the image of the person they worshipped with the nickname 'Little Yang'. Then, they looked at Qin Wu Yang skeptically, as though they doubted his identity.

.....

At this time, Duan Ling Tian smiled and said to Linghu Zhen Xing, "Elder Zheng Xing, he's indeed Elder Qin Wu Yang, a Spirit Void Elder of the Pure Yang Sect. How do you know him?"

Duan Ling Tian understood that most Spirit Void Elders did not have much fame or presence in the Pure Yang Sect, let alone the Eastern Ridge Mansion.

“He’s really the Spirit Void Elder, Qin Wu Yang?”

After receiving Duan Ling Tian’s confirmation, Linghu Zheng Xing said enthusiastically, “I’m about the same age as Elder Qin! When I was young, he was one of the top ten prodigies of the Pure Yang Sect! He was brilliant! Although I had never met him before, I had heard about him. He’s rather famous among people from my generation. Huan, Heng, and I heard many stories about him when we were young! He was the idol of many people from our generation!”

Duan Ling Tian nodded. ‘No wonder Elder Huan and Elder Heng look so awestruck as well...’

Since they were all from the same generation, it was no wonder that the trio from the Linghu clan knew Qin Wu Yang, who was a prodigy at that time.

Upon hearing Linghu Zheng Xing’s words, Qin Wu Yang sighed. “Top ten prodigies of the Pure Yang Sect? That was a long time ago. Time really flies... In just a blink of an eye, tens of thousands of years have passed. Among the top ten prodigies of the sect you mentioned earlier, apart from me, only three are still alive.”

Linghu Zheng Xing was surprised by Qin Wu Yang’s words. “Elder Qin, they were all members of the Pure Yang Sect, one of the top five emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. Who would dare to kill them?”

Qin Wu Yang smiled faintly. “The Pure Yang Sect is only considered strong in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. Outside of the Eastern Ridge Mansion, it’s only average at best.”

As though he had thought of something, Qin Wu Yang looked at Zhen Ping Fan’s back and said, “This person next to Duan Ling Tian is my junior granduncle. He’s Elder Zhen, a Nirvanic Elder of the Pure Yang Sect.”

‘Nirvanic! Elder!’

Linghu Zheng Xing’s eyes widened in shock.

Linghu Ren Jie, Linghu Huan, Linghu Heng, and the others were shocked as well.

After all, they knew that only Emperors of Gods could be a Nirvanic Elder.

When the people from the Linghu clan looked at Zhen Ping Fan again, they felt their legs trembling slightly. Emperors of Gods were the most powerful in the Eastern Ridge Mansion, after all. They were unrivaled in the Eastern Ridge Mansion. A person like Zhen Ping Fan could easily wipe out the entire Linghu clan and Linghu City.

Linghu Zheng Xing regained his senses first. Cold sweat broke out on his forehead as he said respectfully, “G-greetings, Elder Zhen.”

Following that, Linghu Huan and Linghu Heng, who were drenched in cold sweat, quickly greeted him as well.

Linghu Ren Jie bowed to Zhen Ping Fan again and greeted him. He was not as flustered as the others since his sister was also an Emperor of Gods.

The other elders stumbled in shock and fear as they quickly called out, "Greetings, Elder Zhen!"

Meanwhile, after seeing the fanfare in front of him, Zhen Ping Fan glared at Qin Wu Yang. He had come to the Linghu clan in hopes of quietly watching a show like a bystander. Now that Qin Wu Yang exposed his status, the limelight had fallen on him. This was naturally not what he wanted.

After a moment, Zhen Ping Fan said to Duan Ling Tian, "Alright, Duan Ling Tian. Let's go to the Linghu clan's estate and deal with your affair."

"Alright." Duan Ling Tian nodded. Then, he said to Linghu Ren Jie, "Clan leader, I'll have to trouble you to summon all the elders of the Linghu clan to the main hall in the clan's estate."

Linghu Ren Jie did not know what Duan Ling Tian intended to do, but he obeyed his wishes after glancing at Qin Wu Yang and Zhen Ping Fan.

With that, everyone returned to the Linghu clan's estate.

When they drew close to the Linghu clan's estate, the patrolling members of the clan were stunned.

"Although it's not surprising, I really didn't expect that the clan leader and the elders are following behind Duan Ling Tian and the two elders from the Pure Yang Sect so respectfully..."

"I wonder how powerful the elders from the Pure Yang Sect are?"

"Well, they're at least rudimentary Lords of Gods for sure. Their status can't be any worse than that of a White Dragon Elder or Black Dragon Elder from the Flying Dragon Sect."

...

Not long after Duan Ling Tian and the others entered the main hall, all the elders began to make their way to the main hall.

Some of them were in the estate, some of them were in the city, and some of them were outside of the city. All of them stopped what they were doing immediately and rushed to the main hall. After all, they knew that two elders of the Pure Yang Sect were visiting. Moreover, they also learned that one of the elders was an Emperor of Gods.

"Emperor of Gods! I didn't expect an Emperor of Gods would visit our clan!"

"He's a Nirvanic Elder! I can't believe I'll be able to meet a Nirvanic Elder!"

"I can brag about meeting a Nirvanic Elder from the Pure Yang Sect for the rest of my life!"

...

It took about half a day before almost all of the elders were gathered in the main hall. Those who were not in the main hall were those who had gone to distant places.

Linghu Ren Jie said to Duan Ling Tian, "Apart from those who are far away, everyone is here. They're enough to represent the council of elders."

“Alright.” Duan Ling Tian nodded.

After greeting Zhen Ping Fan and Qin Wu Yang, the elders who had just arrived looked at Duan Ling Tian with complicated expressions on their faces. Regret flooded their hearts when they recalled how they had insisted on removing Linghu Ren Jie from his position because he allowed Duan Ling Tian to enter the chamber of law, causing the loss of 100 million divine rocks. They even regretted agreeing to Duan Ling Tian’s proposal of returning the divine rocks within 100 years. If they had known then what they knew now, they would not have said anything even if they lost many more divine rocks back then, let alone 100 million.

“Elders...”

Under everyone’s watchful gazes, Duan Ling Tian stepped forward before he raised his hand and tossed a spatial ring out.

Clink!

In the next moment, divine rocks fell out of the spatial ring, covering the ground of the main hall in just a blink of an eye.

Chapter 3930: The Linghu Clan’s Elders

The group of elders from the Linghu clan was still stunned by the divine rocks and divine crystals that filled the hall when Duan Ling Tian said loudly, “Elders, there are more than a million divine crystals here. After you convert them, there would be more than 100 million divine rocks. I’ve now fulfilled my words from back then. I hope you’ll fulfill your promise.”

The expressions of the elders changed slightly upon hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words.

“Duan Ling Tian...” Linghu Ren Jie did not expect that Duan Ling Tian asked him to summon all the elders here because Duan Ling Tian wanted to return the divine rocks from back then. Just the divine crystals that Duan Ling Tian had brought out had far exceeded the 100 million divine rocks.

Moreover, even if the value were the same, not many people would exchange a million divine crystals for 100 million divine rocks. Divine crystals were precious and rare, after all.

Linghu Ren Jie looked at Duan Ling Tian with a complicated but grateful expression on his face. Back then, he had taken great care of Duan Ling Tian because he felt that Duan Ling Tian had a bright future. He felt that he would not suffer a loss from investing in Duan Ling Tian. Later on, after spending time with Duan Ling Tian and understanding Duan Ling Tian, he greatly admired Duan Ling Tian. Hence, he decided to help Duan Ling Tian when he could.

Later on, when Linghu Ren Jie was removed from his position as the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan because of Duan Ling Tian, he did not complain nor blame Duan Ling Tian. After all, it was something he did sincerely so he did not regret it. Even if he could turn back time, he would not do anything differently.

When he met his sister, Linghu Ren Feng, Linghu Ren Jie also learned that his sister had another daughter apart from Linghu Chu Yin. As it turned out, his other niece was Duan Ling Tian’s wife. This

meant that Duan Ling Tian was his nephew-in-law. As his sister's son-in-law, they were a family. With this revelation, he was even more convinced that his decision was the right one.

Finally, Linghu Ren Jie said with a wry smile, "You don't have to do this, Duan Ling Tian, Like I said before, I've grown tired of being the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan after so many years. Now, I can focus on my cultivation and also relax... Being stripped of my position is a good thing to me, not a bad thing. You must've borrowed these divine crystals from the elders of the Pure Yang Sect, right? Return these to them. You can return the divine rocks to the Linghu clan in the future. It doesn't matter if it takes longer than 100 years. I have no wish of becoming the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan again. It's really not necessary for you to do this..."

Based on Linghu Ren Jie's words, it was clear he thought that Duan Ling Tian had borrowed the divine crystals. He was even more convinced when he saw Zhen Ping Fang looking at the elders of the Linghu clan sect with great interest. After all, even the Sect Leader of the Flying Dragon Sect would find it difficult to bring out so many divine crystals in one go, let alone Duan Ling Tian who was just an inner disciple of the Flying Dragon Sect.

Meanwhile, after recovering from the shock, the elders from the Linghu clan looked at each other, feeling embarrassed. A bitter smile could be seen on their faces as well. If it were before, they would have been happy that Duan Ling Tian gave them so many divine crystals. However, they did not feel happy now. After all, after repaying the debt, it meant that Duan Ling Tian had severed all ties with the Linghu clan, with the exception of Linghu Ren Jie. It did not matter even if Linghu Ren Jie became the Clan Leader of the Linghu clan again.

Just when two elders were about to speak, in hope of rectifying the situation, Zhen Ping Fan, the Nirvanic Elder from the Pure Yang who had been watching the show, looked at Linghu Ren Jie and said, "These divine crystals are a welcome gift from me to Duan Ling Tian on behalf of the Pure Yang Sect. He didn't borrow them so he can do as he pleases with them. You can rest assured about this..."

Upon hearing this, not only Linghu Ren Jie, but the other elders from the Linghu clan were stunned as well.

'A welcome gift for Duan Ling Tian?'

They were not surprised that the Pure Yang Sect gave Duan Ling Tian a welcome gift. After all, it was only normal for one of the top emperor-rank forces in the Eastern Ridge Mansion to do so. However, despite the sect's wealth, it was truly unusual for them to give such a generous welcome gift to Duan Ling Tian, a newcomer. This showed that the Pure Yang Sect highly valued Duan Ling Tian.

The people from the Linghu Clan were unaware that it was indeed impossible for the Pure Yang Sect to be so generous with Duan Ling Tian's welcome gift. It was only because Zhen Ping Fan had looked for the Sect Leader of the Pure Yang Sect and suggested such a welcome gift that Duan Ling Tian received such a generous gift.

After all, the Sect Leader of the Pure Yang was the junior brother of Zhen Ping Fan's father. Zhen Ping Fan's father had raised him and taught him since he was young. The duo had also gone through many life-or-death situations that strengthened their bond. They were even closer than blood brothers.

Hence, it was not surprising that the Sect Leader of the Pure Yang Sect treated Zhen Ping Fan like a son. It was just as Qin Wu Yang had said to Deng Kui, the Silver Marionette Elder from the Green Province Mansion.

Duan Ling Tian looked at the elders, who wore complicated expressions on their faces, as he asked again, "Elders, now that I've fulfilled my end of the bargain, don't you think it's time for you to do so as well?"

As soon as Duan Ling Tian's voice fell, an elder, who had been chosen by the other elders to speak on their behalf, walked out. He was an old man dressed in a light blue robe, and he had a ruddy complexion. A bitter smile could be seen on his face as he said, "Duan Ling Tian, the elders of the clan only hoped to motivate you back then. It's the same as when we removed Ren Jie from his position. It's evident considering that from that time until now, we didn't find a new clan leader. Forget about the deal from back then. You should keep the divine crystals for yourself. Whether they're used for cultivation or obtaining things you need, they'll be of use to you in the future. As for Ren Jie, we'll reinstate him immediately. I speak for all of the elders of the clan when I say these words..."

Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised. He did not expect the elders from the Linghu clan would come to this decision. He could remember everything that happened back then. The elders said they were trying to motivate him by removing Linghu Ren Jie from his position and agreeing to his deal, but back then, they did not even tell him when they removed Linghu Ren Jie from his position. Moreover, he was the one who came up with the idea of keeping the clan leader's position empty for 100 years before he returned the divine rocks. The excuse the elders gave about trying to motivate him was clearly nonsense.

Linghu Ren Jie, Linghu Zheng Xing, Linghu Huan, and Linghu Heng felt the same way as Duan Ling Tian as well. The corners of their lips twitched when they heard the elders' excuse. They thought the elders of the Linghu Clan truly liked to lie.

Apart from that, they naturally knew the reason behind the elders' action. The elders did not want Duan Ling Tian to sever ties with the Linghu clan. If they accepted the divine crystals, it would mean that Duan Ling Tian no longer had anything to do with the Linghu clan, except for Linghu Ren Jie. As such, how could they benefit from Duan Ling Tian?

'These old geezers are really shameless,' Linghu Ren Jie complained inwardly. He was forcibly removed from his position as the clan leader previously. At that time, they did not say anything about motivating Duan Ling Tian at all.

"This..." Even Qin Wu Yang, the Spirit Void Elder from the Pure Yang Sect, was rendered speechless by the elders' shamelessness. He had known about what had happened in the past and the agreement; he had even told Zhen Ping Fan about it.

At this moment, the elders from the Linghu clan spoke up one after another.

"That's right! It was all to motivate you, Duan Ling Tian!"

“Duan Ling Tian, you must understand our good intentions. If you have any dissatisfaction, you can vent it on me! I’ll be your punching bag!”

“That’s right. Moreover, you were a former member of our clan after all. How can we deprive you of the divine crystals?”

Clearly, the elders of the Linghu clan really did not want to accept the divine crystals.

At this time, the blue-clad old man, who had been selected to represent the elders, said, “Duan Ling Tian, if you’re really unwilling, why don’t you think of this as the Linghu clan giving you the divine crystals after you returned them to the clan? You’re the first prodigy from our clan who managed to join the Pure Yang Sect. You naturally deserve such a gift!”