

SOVEREIGN 451

Chapter 451: Betrayal

Practically all the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples were gathered on the peak of Dubhe Peak, and a stream of people flowed here, yet at this moment, it was instead terrifyingly silent.

Only a wave of heavy breathing that rhythmically rose up and down without end.

To the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that were present, besides the Seven Star Sword Sect traitor, Huang Ji, beside the Origin Convergence Sect's Leader, the remaining people amongst the members of the three great sects that had arrived at the peak of Dubhe Peak were people that were far from their reach.

Not only was it far from their reach but they were similarly far from the reach of most of the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups that were present.

Besides Huang Ji, all the members of the three great sects were existences at the Void Initiation Stage.

Even the weakest of them all, the demon beast Cloudsoar Crane, was an existence at the fourth level of the Void Initiation Stage.

"Sect Leader Linghu, Elder Xuan said it's impossible... Do you think so too?" The Origin Convergence Sect's Leader, Lu Yuan, stared at Linghu Jin Hong with a burning gaze and a wisp of an evil smile appeared on the corners of his mouth.

As soon as Lu Yuan finished speaking, the gazes of everyone present, including Duan Ling Tian, had shot onto Linghu Jin Hong.

"If the Seven Star Sword Sect lives, then I, Linghu Jin Hong, am alive... If the Seven Star Sword Sect is gone, then I, Linghu Jin Hong, am dead even if I'm alive!" Linghu Jin Hong's expressed his stand with a single sentence.

If the Seven Star Sword Sect were to compromise for its safety and combine itself with the three great sects to form the Azure Forest Quad-Sect, then even though they would be alive, it was like death.

"Even though we'll be alive, it's like death!"

"Even though we'll be alive, it's like death!"

...

Linghu Jin Hong's words was like a fuse, completely lightning ablaze the atmosphere at the scene.

Most of the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples present flushed red with agitation as they shouted loudly, and their imposing manner was like a rainbow that shot through the sky.

Numerous shapeless waves of sound rose and fell, spreading throughout the entire seven great sword peaks of the Seven Star Sword Sect, reverberating without end.

These Seven Star Sword Sect disciples obviously agreed with Linghu Jin Hong's words.

Of course, there were many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples who had extremely pale expressions, and their bodies unconsciously started trembling...

They perceived the danger that was about to arrive.

"I don't want to die, I don't want to die!" These Seven Star Sword Sect disciples were incomparably terrified in their hearts.

Besides Zhao Lin's whose face had sank slightly and possessed a complicated gaze, the remaining Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups all had firm and fearless expressions.

Possessing the stance of vowing to live and die with the sect!

"Hahahaha..." Lu Yuan suddenly burst out into laughter, his laughter swept throughout the surroundings and suppressed the voices of the crowd of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples. "Sect Leader Linghu, could it be that you really want to waste your life and the lives of everyone in the Seven Star Sword Sect for the sake of the name 'Seven Star Sword Sect?' Do you want to make the Seven Star Sword Sect follow in the footsteps of the Mountain Split Sect?"

As soon as Lu Yuan said this, all the members of the Seven Star Sword Sect were sour.

Mountain Split Sect?

"All of you... All of you have annihilated the Mountain Split Sect?" Zhao Lin's pupils constricted as he asked in astonishment.

"Exactly! The Mountain Split Sect ceased to exist not long before this. Besides some Mountain Split Sect disciples that were willing to join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect, the Mountain Split Sect's Leader, Guardian Elder, Sect Guardian Demon Beast, and the various higher-ups of the Mountain Split Sect are all dead!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader took over the conversation and spoke with a clear voice.

Swish! Swoosh! Swish! Swoosh!

...

Instantly, no matter if it was the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups or the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples, they all paled.

The Mountain Split Sect, one of the five great sects of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom had been annihilated just like this?

"Mountain Split Sect... Sect Leader Teng..." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and slowly closed his eyes.

One year ago, during the Martial Competition of the five great sects, Duan Ling Tian had successively defeated to Mountain Split Sect disciples and caused the Mountain Split Sect to lose face greatly...

However, not only did the Mountain Split Sect's Leader not get enraged, he instead sincerely invited Duan Ling Tian to the Mountain Split Sect to be a guest.

Duan Ling Tian had a rather good impression of Sect Leader Teng.

But now, when he heard the Mountain Split Sect that was led by Sect Leader Teng had actually been annihilated just like this, Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but sigh in his heart.

How formidable was the Mountain Split Sect that was one of the five great sects of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom? Yet it had actually vanished now.

In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian's expression gradually became serious.

Although the strength of the Seven Star Sword Sect far surpassed the Mountain Split Sect, now that the top experts of the three great sects had arrived, even the Seven Star Sword Sect had the heart but lacked the strength...

No matter if it was in numbers or strength, the top experts of the three great sects possessed extremely shocking ability and they far surpassed the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"Little Gold, perhaps we're going to be buried with the sect here today." Duan Ling Tian touched his sleeve lightly as he spoke to the little gold mouse via voice transmission.

"Big Brother Ling Tian, we'll surely be able to survive." The little gold mouse consoled via voice transmission.

Survive?

Duan Ling Tian only shook his head and smiled when he heard the little gold mouse's naïve words, and he didn't reply.

He didn't have any hopes towards this.

Probably no one within the crowd of Seven Star Sword Sect members would be able to flee for their lives under the eyes of the experts from the three great sects.

Right at this moment.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

It seemed like an earthquake at the peak of Dubhe Peak as innumerable sounds of heavy footsteps approached.

"It's the members of the Demonic Lotusblade Sect!"

"And the members of the Origin Convergence Sect!"

"Members of the Snow Moon Sect have come as well!"

Along with the rising and falling of surprised exclamations sounding out from the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples, the surroundings of the peak of Dubhe Peak was covered in the members from the three sects...

Almost all these people were inner court disciples of the three great sects, and there were many elders of the sects.

Obviously, the three great sects had come prepared for the sake of annihilating the entire Seven Star Sword Sect today, then it would allow the Azure Forest Tri-Sect from the combination of their three sects to stand solely in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom...

At that time, even the imperial family of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom would probably have to be afraid of the deterrent force of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect.

"I'm willing to turn over to the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, I'm willing to turn over to the Azure Forest Tri-Sect... Don't kill me, don't kill me!" A Seven Star Sword Sect disciple looked at the elders and disciples of the three great sects that had surrounding him and spoke out in panic.

"Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that are willing to join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect can go to the back of the disciples of our Azure Forest Tri-Sect by yourselves... Don't think of fleeing, otherwise, you'll surely die!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader's voice was clear, and it completely crushed the mental line of defense in the hearts of the numerous Seven Star Sword Sect disciples.

"I'm willing to turn!"

"I don't want to die!"

"I don't want to die, I don't want to die!"

...

Instantly, many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples flowed towards the Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples.

These Seven Star Sword Sect were mostly outer court disciples that had no sense of belonging to the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"You deserve death for betraying the sect!" Many Seven Star Sword Sect inner court disciple's gazes went icy cold, and they directly killed the Seven Star Sword Sect outer court disciples that wanted to betray the Seven Star Sword Sect.

For a time, the ground on the peak of Dubhe Peak was tainted with blood.

Many of the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that wanted to betray the sect and turn to the Azure Forest Tri-Sect saw this scene, and their faces blanched, not daring to make a rash move again.

"Sect Leader Linghu, could it be that your Seven Star Sword Sect is so dictatorial and is not willing to allow the disciples in your sect to find a better sect and find another means of survival?" The Snow Moon Sect's Leader looked at Linghu Jin Hong and asked.

"Never mind, never mind." Linghu Jin Hong sighed, and his entire body seemed to be completely powerless. "Disciples that are willing to live and die with the sect, hear my orders. Everyone has their own aspirations... You're not allowed to kill your former disciples of the sect!"

Former disciples of the sect!

These words undoubtedly contained too much of helplessness and sorrow mixed within.

As soon as Linghu Jin Hong finished speaking, the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples instantly surged out desperately.

In next to no time, more than half had left.

The remaining people were more than a hundred plus people, and they were mostly inner court disciples.

"Monkeys scatter when the tree falls, perhaps it speaks of a situation like the one now." Duan Ling Tian sighed in his heart, and he didn't have the slightest hatred towards these disciples that chose to leave the Seven Star Sword Sect.

It was just like Linghu Jin Hong had said, everyone had their own aspirations.

Moreover, these Seven Star Sword Sect disciples couldn't compare to the personal disciples of the Peak Masters and Elders, they didn't receive too much favor when they were in the Seven Star Sword Sect.

They relied even more on themselves.

The Seven Star Sword Sect only gave them the honor of an identity, and their sense of belonging to the Seven Star Sword Sect was limited.

"I didn't misjudge in the end." Many Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups looked at the figures of their personal disciples within the group of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that remained, and their faces revealed a gratified smile.

"Master, disciple can only repay the kindness you have shown disciple in the next life!" Right at this moment, a voice suddenly sounded out.

A white clothed young man who'd come close to the edge of the peak of Dubhe Peak since long ago had flashed out, seeming to transform into a sharp arrow that flashed to the back of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples before vanishing within the crowd.

"Hu Xue Feng!" Duan Ling Tian recognized that this inner court disciple that betrayed the Seven Star Sword Sect was precisely the personal disciple of the Merak Peak's Master, Hu Xue Feng.

That day, during the outer court martial competition, Duan Ling Tian had once heard that Hu Xue Feng was the disciple the Peak Master of Merak Peak doted on the most, and had even found a grade seven spirit sword that provided a 30% amplification for him...

It could be said that the Merak Peak's Master had fostered Hu Xue Feng into a genius without holding back in the slightest.

But now, Hu Xue Feng had instead become the first amongst the personal disciples of the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups to betray the sect!

"Unfilial disciple!" An explosive shout suddenly sounded out by Duan Ling Tian's ears.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian saw that the face of a middle aged man amongst the higher-ups of the Seven Star Sword Sect that similarly wore white clothes flushed red, then the Origin Energy on his body skyrocketed, and he was enraged to the limit. "I'll kill you!"

Swoosh!

Instantly, the Merak Peak's Master moved, seeming to transform into a sharp sword that flashed out directly.

In the sky, an ancient horned dragon silhouettes and 2,000 ancient mammoth silhouettes dashed out in tow....

Ninth level of the Void Prying Stage!

"Master, spare me!" Hu Xue Feng hid behind the disciples of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, when he saw his Master flash over, his face went ghastly pale, and he was terrified and uneasy.

In next to no time, he heaved a sigh of relief.

Because a ninth level Void Prying Stage elder had walked out from the Azure Forest Tri-Sect's forces and stopped the Merak Peak's Master.

"Master, don't worry, I'll surely spread and flourish the ability you passed down to me... Go in peace, disciple will remember your kindness for my entire lifetime." Hu Xue Feng took a deep breath and suppressed the fear in his heart before speaking to the Merak Peak's Master.

"You... You... You unfilial disciple!" The Merak Peak's Master was enraged to the point his vital energy and blood roiled, and his face that was already flushed red was angered to the point he forcefully spat out a mouthful of blood.

Chapter 452: Duan Ling Tian's Conditions

"This Hu Xue Feng is simple an ungrateful bastard like Huang Ji!" The groups of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that chose to live and die with the sect looked at the distant Hu Xue Feng and couldn't refrain from cursing.

"Hu Xue Feng!" Duan Ling Tian looked at Hu Xue Feng and killing intent flashed within his eyes.

The other Seven Star Sword Sect disciples had never received any favor from the Seven Star Sword Sect, so choosing to leave the Seven Star Sword Sect could be said as following their own aspirations, and he didn't feel it was wrong.

But this Hu Xue Feng was fostered by the Peak Master of Merak Peak, and the favor he'd received from the Seven Star Sword Sect was innumerable.

A person like this betraying the Seven Star Sword Sect caused Duan Ling Tian to feel extreme despise.

Right when everyone thought the experts of the three great sects would attack.

"Duan Ling Tian!" The Origin Convergence Sect's Leader, Lu Yuan, shot his gaze at Duan Ling Tian. "Throughout the entire Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, no one can compare to your natural talent... Even to the extent that your natural talent can be said to be unprecedented! Why choose to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect? Why not join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect? With your natural talent, it isn't impossible for you to become the one and only Sect Leader of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect." Lu Yuan threw out an olive branch at Duan Ling Tian.

"Master!" Lu Yuan's words caused Huang Ji's expression to go gloomy and he said hurriedly, "Master, Duan Ling Tian can't be allowed to live! He'll surely become a great calamity if he's allowed to live, and he'll bring a disaster to our Azure Forest Tri-Sect..."

"Shut up!" How could Lu Yuan not know Huang Ji's thoughts, and he directly snapped and interrupted Huang Ji.

This caused Huang Ji's face to flush red and become incomparably unsightly.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Huang Ji stared at Duan Ling Tian with hatred, as he originally thought he would be able to make a show of force and see Duan Ling Tian get killed.

But who knew that his Master actually wanted to recruit Duan Ling Tian into the Azure Forest Tri-Sect?

Once Duan Ling Tian entered the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, he could imagine that it would be similar to when he was in the Seven Star Sword Sect, and he would be completely surpassed by Duan Ling Tian without any chance of standing up.

He wasn't resigned to this fate!

But even though he was unwilling now, he had no other choice.

Obviously, his worth was far inferior than Duan Ling Tian in the eyes of his Master.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're a peerless genius, and your accomplishments in the future are immeasurable... We believe you're an intelligent person and know how you ought to choose. So long as you leave the Seven Star Sword Sect and join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect, we'll surely use the best cultivation resources to foster you." The Snow Moon Sect's Leader looked at Duan Ling Tian as she tried to recruit Duan Ling Tian.

"Exactly! So long as you join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect, you'll have everything you want... With your monstrous and peerless natural talent, you'll surely become the number one person in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom in the future," said the Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader.

They'd seen Duan Ling Tian's natural talent before.

One year ago, he'd comprehended Elementary Wind Force at the age of 22 and defeated the Sword Young Master, Long Yun.

Today, he even made the Zither Young Master, Zi Shang, retreat in defeat.

Presently, Duan Ling Tian was only 23 years old, but he'd already crushed two of the five great young masters of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom...

If he were to be give another one or two years of time, even that person at the top of the five great young masters probably might not be his match.

The three great sect leaders threw an olive branch to Duan Ling Tian at the same moment.

Within the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, perhaps only Duan Ling Tian was able to acquire such treatment.

For a time, the gazes of everyone present descended onto Duan Ling Tian.

Everyone knew clearly that so long as Duan Ling Tian was able to survive, he would surely become a great figure in the future.

Duan Ling Tian stood that and remained unmoved towards the recruitment of the three great sect leaders, and he had a carefree expression as if he didn't hear them, remaining unmoved even if Mt.Tai were to collapse before him.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Finally, Linghu Jin Hong spoke with a calm tone. "It's exactly like the three of them have said, with your natural talent, your accomplishments in the future are immeasurable... I won't blame you if you choose to join their sect."

"Exactly, Duan Ling Tian, we won't blame you." Zheng Fan, Ke Zhen, and Elder Bi spoke out as well.

Duan Ling Tian's body unnoticeably shook when he heard the three of them, and a trace of warmth arose within his heart.

"I wonder how Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian will choose." Many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples couldn't help but be slightly perturbed. In their heart, they hoped that Duan Ling Tian could survive, yet they also hoped that Duan Ling Tian would choose to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect.

Shapelessly, Duan Ling Tian had become the spirit of the Seven Star Sword Sect.

If Duan Ling Tian chose betrayal, they would undoubtedly be extremely disappointed.

"I can join your Azure Forest Tri-Sect..." Duan Ling Tian looked at the three sect leader and spoke slowly. "But, all of you have to agree to a condition of mine!"

Duan Ling Tian's words caused many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples to sigh.

Of course, there were also some Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that heaved a sigh of relief.

All the Seven Star Sword Sect disciples like Zheng Song, Zuo Qing, Mo Yu, He Dong, and the other disciples that had a good relationship were all happy that Duan Ling Tian was able to survive.

"What condition?" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader asked.

The gazes of everyone present shot onto Duan Ling Tian.

They were curious.

"I can join the Azure Forest Tri-Sect that's a combination of your three great sects... But your Azure Forest Tri-Sect must guarantee to withdraw from the Seven Star Sword Sect, and guarantee not to invade the Seven Star Sword Sect again in the future!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes squinted as he spoke word for word.

Duan Ling Tian's condition was like a stone that caused a thousand ripples.

No one had expected that Duan Ling Tian would speak of such a condition...

In the beginning, when Duan Ling Tian said that he could join the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, although some of the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups and disciples didn't say anything, they still felt slightly uncomfortable in their heart.

Now, when Duan Ling Tian spoke of his condition, the dislike in their hearts completely vanished.

It could be said that if Duan Ling Tian didn't speak of this condition, then he was betraying the Seven Star Sword Sect for his own benefit.

But now, when Duan Ling Tian spoke of his condition, the nature of it was completely different.

It became to endure humiliation to carry a heavy load.

It caused them to feel deep veneration!

"Impossible!" The three great sect leaders shook their heads at the same time and refused Duan Ling Tian's condition.

"Duan Ling Tian, we want to recruit you to our Azure Forest Tri-Sect undoubtedly because we look highly upon your natural talent... However, although we look highly upon you, it doesn't mean that we can make such a large concession. The Seven Star Sword Sect must be annihilated today!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader looked at Duan Ling Tian with a trace of coldness in his eyes. "You can choose to change it to another condition, or you can choose to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect!"

The Sect Leaders of the Origin Convergence Sect and Snow Moon Sect nodded as well.

"Change it to another condition?" Duan Ling Tian frowned and seemed to be in a slightly difficult position.

At the same time, numerous voice transmissions entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears, and they were all advising him not to choose to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect...

These voice transmissions came from the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups, excluding Zhao Lin, and the group of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples.

Obviously, the condition Duan Ling Tian spoke of earlier had caused most of the members of the Seven Star Sword Sect to be filled with admiration towards Duan Ling Tian, and none of them wished for Duan Ling Tian to destroy his great future for them.

Duan Ling Tian ought to have a better future.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's heart lightly trembled...

He could feel that these voice transmissions came from the heart and they all really sincerely meant well.

But the more it was like this, the heavier Duan Ling Tian's feelings were.

Could he just walk away under such circumstances?

Was he that type of person?

"Fortunately, Ke Er and Litter Fei have left with Peak Master Qin Xiang... Otherwise, I'm afraid it would be difficult for them to flee from this calamity." At this moment, Duan Ling Tian recalled Ke Er and Li Fei, and he couldn't help but heave a sigh of relief.

"Duan Ling Tian, our patience is limited, have you finished deliberating?" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader frowned and spoke slightly impatiently.

"Then I'll change it to another condition." Duan Ling Tian raised his head to look at Lu Yuan, then he subsequently moved his gaze onto Huang Ji who was behind him. "My condition is... I want Huang Ji and Hu Xue Feng to die! So long as they're dead, I can agree to join the Azure Forest Tri-Sect." As soon as Duan Ling Tian finished speaking, the scene went deathly silent, as if a dropped pin could be heard.

Huang Ji and Hu Xue Feng had become the center of attention.

Their faces were pale.

"Master, don't believe him, don't believe him!" Huang Ji noticed Lu Yuan turning around to look at him, and his face went ghastly pale as he spoke with haste.

"Right, don't believe him, don't believe him!" Hu Xue Feng noticed that the gazes the disciples and elders of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect around him shot at him seemed to have change, and he was terrified to the point he trembled and was in extreme panic.

"So long as they're dead, you're really willing to join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect?" Lu Yuan looked at Duan Ling Tian as if he wanted to confirm it.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded, his gaze carried ridicule as he looked at Huang Ji who had a ghastly pale expression and said indifferently, "Huang Ji, at this moment, do you feel it to be ironic? That day, you betrayed the sect and joined the Origin Convergence Sect for no other reason that because I'd taken your limelight... Today, even if you've become the personal disciple of Sect Leader Lu, you still will die with a single word from me!"

"Before me, you're bound to be a loser, a loser forever. Your life is bound to be lived under my shadow!" Duan Ling Tian's struck the heart with every word.

"You!!" Huang Ji was angered to the point his face flushed red, and when he saw Lu Yuan look at him went eyes that emitted killing intent, he was completely flustered. "Master, no... Don't... No..."

Huang Ji's voice stopped abruptly.

Because Lu Qiu had easily shattered Huang Ji's skull with a wave of his hand, killing him.

Hu Xue Feng's face went ghastly pale when he saw this scene.

Flee!

At this moment, only this thought remained in his head.

But when Hu Xue Feng turned around, he didn't even have the chance to utilize his movement technique when he noticed he'd already been surrounded by the elders of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect.

"Kill him!" Along with the order from the Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader, a few Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders attacked, and they killed Hu Xue Feng before he could even react.

Everyone from the Seven Star Sword Sect revealed a smile when Huang Ji and Hu Xue Feng died.

In next to no time, the gazes of everyone descended onto Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, we've already completed your conditions... From today onwards, you, Duan Ling Tian, are a disciple of our Azure Forest Tri-Sect! Welcome." The Snow Moon Sect's Leader emitted a pleasant and elegant smile.

Chapter 453: The Slaughter Begins

"Welcome!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader and the Origin Convergence Sect's Leader looked at Duan Ling Tian and gave a warm smile.

At this moment, even the gazes of the older generation experts of the three sects had descended onto Duan Ling Tian.

They'd heard of Duan Ling Tian since long ago.

They knew that he was a peerless genius in the Martial Dao of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, and his monstrous natural talent in the Martial Dao could be called unprecedented in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom.

"Alas... Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian is going to leave in the end." Many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples couldn't help but sigh.

Although the outcome was like this, they didn't blame Duan Ling Tian in the slightest, and even felt gratitude towards Duan Ling Tian.

After all, Duan Ling Tian had dealt with two traitors for the Seven Star Sword Sect before leaving.

He'd completed something that they wanted to do, yet were unable to do.

Besides Zhao Lin who possessed an unsightly expression, the other higher-ups of the Seven Star Sword Sect looked at Duan Ling Tian with gazes filled with gratification.

"Duan Ling Tian, if you see Fei, remember to tell her... Don't think of taking revenge for me until her strength is able to shake the Azure Forest Tri-Sect! Of course, it's best if she never thinks of taking revenge for me. As her master, I hope she can have a peaceful life, without any worries!" Elder Bi's voice transmission entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears, and it was like she was leaving her final words.

"Elder Bi, I'm afraid I'm unable to pass these words to Little Fei." The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled into a wisp of a bitter smile as he replied via voice transmission.

"What do you mean by this?" Elder Bi couldn't help but be stunned when she heard Duan Ling Tian.

In next to no time, she obtained the answer.

Duan Ling Tian stood at the side of the life and death arena and looked at the Sect Leaders of the three great sects, then he smiled lightly. "Sect Leaders, I appreciate the kindness of all of you... But I've once received a great kindness from the Sect Leader, received a great kindness from the Seven Star Sword Sect, I'm afraid I'm unable to leave with all of you." Duan Ling Tian's words possessed the resolution of living and dying with the sect.

The stand Duan Ling Tian declared caused all the people present to be dumbstruck.

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian..." Many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples were stunned.

All the Seven Star Sword Sect higher-ups were dumbstruck as well.

"What? Want to go back on your word?" The faces of the Sect Leaders of the three great sect's sank, and the flames of rage in their eyes ceaselessly raged, and it was difficult to restrain.

"Despicable!"

"You've gone back on your word!"

...

Meanwhile, the elders and disciples that surrounded Dubhe Peak had all burst out with insults.

"Sect Leaders, I'm truly sorry... Actually, I was only joking earlier. But I never expected that you would actually be willing to abandon two disciples for the sake of me, I'm truly overwhelmed by the unexpected favor." Duan Ling Tian rubbed his nose and smiled slightly embarrassedly.

Duan Ling Tian's words entered into the ears of the people from the three great sects, and it completely lit the flames of their rage ablaze.

"Duan Ling Tian, since you're unwilling to join our Azure Forest Tri-Sect, then go to hell!" Lu Yuan was the first to be unable to endure, the Origin Energy on his body shot into the sky as he flew off the Jundefeather Vulture, and he seemed to have transformed into a hawk as he plunged towards Duan Ling Tian.

After all, for the sake of recruiting Duan Ling Tian, he'd killed the most extraordinary personal disciple under him.

This caused him to feel aggrieved and enraged!

Why did he believe the words of this little sly fox, Duan Ling Tian?

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Sounds of air exploding rose and fell everywhere Lu Yuan passed.

In the sky, eight ancient horned dragon silhouettes dashed out in tow with imposing might that shot through the skies like a rainbow.

Bang!

Lu Yuan who was enraged to the limit slapped his palm out, his Origin Energy condensed into an enormous palm print that carried along the strength of eight ancient horned dragons as it howled out to crash towards Duan Ling Tian, and at the same instant that Lu Yuan attacked, Linghu Jin Hong moved as well.

Swish!

With a raise of his hand, Origin Energy instantly condensed into a sharp sword in Linghu Jin Hong's hand, and the sharp sword that was completely condensed into form from spirit energy flashed out, seeming to have transformed into a sharp arrow that was even swifter than the palm print Lu Yuan had condensed and slapped out.

In the sky above Linghu Jin Hong, 14 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form.

As a sixth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist, Linghu Jin Hong's cultivation's strength was comparable to the strength of eight ancient horned dragon...

The extra strength of six ancient horned dragons was precisely from the sixth level Sword Concept of Linghu Jin Hong!

Duan Ling Tian's face went ghastly pale when Lu Yuan's palm print whistled towards him.

Whirlwind!

He exerted all his strength to execute his swiftest speed, yet it was still difficult for him to avoid Lu Yuan's palm print that was whistling towards him in the end.

It was as if these palm prints had eyes and they followed him like a shadow.

"Mother, Ke Er, Little Fei..." The almost suffocating feeling of almost stepping into the netherworld caused Duan Ling Tian to feel extremely unwell.

At this moment, the figures of the three women that were most important to him in this lifetime couldn't help but appear within his mind...

"Squeak squeak~" Right at this moment, the little gold mouse's sharp cry sounded out.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian noticed that his hand was latched onto by something, and only when his sleeve moved did he realize it was the little gold mouse's tails that had coiled around him and pulled him to flash towards the distance.

The speed was so quick that it was far from something the speed he produced could compare to.

It was at this moment that Duan Ling Tian heard a clear cry of the sword approach, and it pierced his eardrums to the point they shook.

Swish!

Bang!

It was the sword light Linghu Jin Hong condensed from his Origin Energy that had arrived and it crushed Lu Yuan's palm print.

"Sect Leader Linghu, I really never expected that you've actually comprehended a sixth level Sword Concept... In terms of strength, you're probably only below Elder Xuan in the Seven Star Sword Sect!" Lu Yuan looked at Linghu Jin Hong as a spear appeared out of thin air within his hand, the tip of the spear was suffused with Origin Energy and it emitted an aura that seemed as if it could penetrate anything.

Spear Concept!

Unlike Linghu Jin Hong who used the sword, Lu Yuan used the spear.

Very few martial artist on Cloud Continent used the spear, but those who dared use it were all experts that possessed extremely great confidence towards themselves.

Whoosh!

The speak in Lu Yuan's hand shook and the Origin Energy that coiled around the spear seemed to have transformed into flames that leaped about in the air, seeming able to burn everything into nothingness.

At the same time, 16 ancient horned dragon silhouettes condensed into form above Lu Yuan.

Around these 16 ancient horned dragons, another 8,000 ancient mammoth silhouettes were like stars that surrounded the moon as they surrounded all around the ancient horned dragons, as if they were submitting to 16 emperors.

Lu Yuan, the Sect Leader of the Origin Convergence Sect, was a sixth level Void Initiation Stage expert who possessed a grade five spirit spear and fifth level Spear Concept.

"Grade five spirit weapons!"

"It's the Origin Convergence Sect's Sect Guarding Spirit Weapon, Blazesea!"

"I've heard of this Blazesea that's long been in the possession of Sect Leader Lu. Supposedly, this Blazesea it the one and only grade five spirit weapon of the Origin Convergence Sect, a grade five spirit spear!"

...

Some of the elders and disciples of the Demonic Lotusblade Sect and Snow Moon Sect couldn't help but sigh with emotion.

In next to no time, the gazes of everyone descended onto Linghu Jin Hong that was in confrontation with Lu Yuan.

Linghu Jin Hong stood there and his robe fluttered about without being blown on by the wind.

A sword swiftly appeared within his hand, it was a sword with flowing lights revolving around it...

Along with his Origin Energy pouring into it and his sixth level Sword Concept suffusing onto it.

Whoosh!

In the sky, 17 lifelike ancient horned dragons condensed into form.

All around the 17 ancient horned dragon silhouettes, another 8,000 ancient mammoth silhouettes had appeared similarly to coil around them...

"Sect Leader!" The Seven Star Sword Sect disciples present looked up at Linghu Jin Hong and they revealed burning gazes.

This was the Sect Leader of their Seven Star Sword Sect!

His strength had obviously surpassed the Origin Convergence Sect's Leader, Lu Yuan.

"Sect Leader Linghu, I have to admit, I'm not a match for you one on one... But unfortunately, it isn't a battle between the two of us today, and it's instead a battle between our Azure Forest Tri-Sect and your Seven Star Sword Sect." Lu Yuan had a calm expression, and at the same time, he raised his other hand. "Disciples of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, listen to my command..."

Suddenly, Lu Yuan pressed his hand down.

"Slaughter them all!" At this moment, Lu Yuan seemed to have transformed into the judge that controlled life and death.

"Kill!"

"Slaughter them all!"

...

Instantly, the disciples of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect were like swarming bees that swept towards the group of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples that chose to live and die with the sect.

The Seven Star Sword Sect disciples would naturally not sit still and wait for death, and they all rose up in resistance.

At almost the exact same instant, the experts of the three great sects who were high up in the sky attacked as well.

These were all experts that stood at the peak of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, Origin Energy roared with every move they made, and Concept suffused the sky....

At the peak of Dubhe Peak, the true slaughter had unfolded.

"Kill!"

"Kill!"

...

A wave of battle cries sounded out by Duan Ling Tian's ears, and at the same time, he's entered into the fray.

Sword Drawing Arts!

Along with the Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword in his hand appearing in his hand, it seemed to have transformed into a venomous serpent, and numerous disciples of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect died at his hands successively.

Thousand Illusions!

A dim light flickered within Duan Ling Tian's eyes, and his Spiritual Force executed the illusions space via the soul brand.

With him at the center and spanning out an area of 10 meters, so long as it was an Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciple that possessed a Spiritual Force that was inferior him, they would all be lost within the illusion space and become goats awaiting for slaughter.

"Kill Duan Ling Tian!"

"Duan Ling Tian is capable of Demonic Techniques!"

...

In next to no time, there were Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders that had noticed the soul skill that Duan Ling Tian utilized.

Of course, they didn't know what Duan Ling Tian utilized was a soul skill, and only thought it was a Demonic Technique.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Numerous elders of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect flashed towards Duan Ling Tian as if they'd already discussed it.

These Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders all had Spiritual Forces that surpassed Duan Ling Tian's current Spiritual Force, and the soul skill, Thousand Illusion, that Duan Ling Tian utilized was completely useless towards them.

In the blink of an eyes, these Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders had already come close to Duan Ling Tian.

"Am I going to die in the end?" A bitter smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth when he saw this scene.

Not to mention him, even the little gold mouse was inferior to these Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders.

Most of them were existences at the fourth level of the Void Prying Stage or above.

Although his Spiritual Force had advanced to the Void Prying Stage and it was sufficient to inscribe inscriptions that could annihilate Void Prying Stage martial artists, the materials required by these inscriptions were extremely rare and couldn't be bought with money. They were materials that could be encountered by luck but couldn't be sought after.

Swish!

A dazzling sword light flashed before Duan Ling Tian's eye, and it was like a lifesaving straw that swiveled past.

With just a single sword strike, half of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders that flashed towards Duan Ling Tian were killed.

The remaining elders retreated in a hurry, then they looked at the middle aged man that stood in the sky with an expression of terror.

Chapter 454: Heroism and Sadness

"Peak Master Zheng Fan!" A smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face when he saw the middle aged man.

Subsequently, when his gaze shot at other places, it became icy cold and again.

Numerous Seven Star Sword Sect disciples had died at the hands of the disciples and elders of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, and in a short moment, blood had already flown into a river atop Dubhe Peak.

"Kill!" A Seven Star Sword Sect outer court disciple that seemed to be around the age of 20 was directly killed as he roared.

Duan Ling Tian's heart shook when he saw this scene.

Such a young life had come to its end just like this...

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian felt that life was so fragile.

If it was in the earth of his past, this Seven Star Sword Sect outer court disciple might only be a carefree university student, and would live peacefully every day.

But now, he hadn't even had the chance to enjoy life when he'd already lost it.

"AH!!" Duan Ling Tian was enraged, his eyes were tainted completely scarlet red, and every time the Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword in his hand swung out, it would take away the life of an Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciple.

He didn't know how many Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples had died at his hand, and was unable to count how many Seven Star Sword Sect disciples had fallen the ground.

He only knew to...

KILL, KILL, KILL!

Every time he faced danger, the two peak masters, Zheng Fan and Ke Dong, would lend a hand and save him from peril.

Otherwise, perhaps he would have died at the hands of the group of Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders since long ago.

The Origin Energy in his body was ceaselessly consumed, yet Duan Ling Tian seemed as if he didn't feel it at all, and the Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword in his hand flashed, seeming as if it wanted to completely use the last strand of strength within his body.

On the other side, Zheng Song, Mo Yu, Zuo Qing, and the others that had a good relationship with Duan Ling Tian were all fighting with all their might, and their eyes had gone red from the slaughter.

For the sake of the sect, they were willing to bleed to the last drop!

Unknowingly, Duan Ling Tian felt exhausted, and he bent over, supporting himself by propping his hands on his legs as he breathed heavily.

His gaze shot high above into the sky.

There, the battle of the experts was being carried out.

The Sect Leader, Linghu Jin Hong, and Elder Xuan fought two against three, battling three sixth level Void Initiation Stage experts, and for a time, a victor was difficult to decide on.

The two of them relied on their Sword Concepts that suppressed their opponents, and they seemed to be able to sustain it for some time.

On the other side, Elder Ming moved about with the wind, and his fifth level Wind Concept raged as he fought the Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader.

The strength, spirit weapon, and Concept of the two were comparably, and for a time, their battle had was at a draw.

On the other side, the Seven Star Sword Sect's Sect Guardian Revered Elder, the demon beast Elder Peng, fought against the last sixth level Void Initiation Stage expert from the three great sects and the Origin Convergence Sect's Sect Guarding Demon Beast, the Jundefeather Vulture.

Originally, with Elder Peng's strength, he wasn't inferior to that sixth level Void Initiations Stage expert, but because of the interference of the Jundefeather Vulture, it caused Elder Peng to gradually become disadvantaged.

The other people and beasts both fought like a raging fire.

"I'm utterly unable to interfere in this type of a battle." A wisp of a bitter smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth when he saw the fierce battle before him.

Any one of these experts were able to crush him to death with a flip of their palms!

Existences at the Void Initiation Stage are too terrifying.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian felt himself to be so weak and inferior.

If he was a Void Interpretation Stage expert....

No, even if he was only an expert at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage or above, it would be sufficient to change the course of events and allow the Seven Star Sword Sect to be spared from this calamity.

In the battle amongst experts, the Seven Star Sword Sect gradually fell into a disadvantage.

In terms of strength and numbers, the experts of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect firmly suppressed the Seven Star Sword Sect.

An outcome like this wasn't surprising.

"Kill!" Duan Ling Tian rested sufficiently under the protection of Peak Master Zheng Fan and Peak Master Ke Zhen, then he continued to carry out a slaughter.

Gradually, Duan Ling Tian killed to the point he was slightly numbed.

At an unknown time, a clear voice transmission entered into his ears, it belonged to the Sect Leader, Linghu Jin Hong. "Duan Ling Tian, after three breaths of time, Elder Peng will take you away, get ready!"

Leave?

Duan Ling Tian was stunned first, then he guessed Linghu Jin Hong's intentions.

Linghu Jin Hong wanted to send him off.

But would he be able to leave?

Perhaps he'd guessed Duan Ling Tian's current thoughts, and Linghu Jin Hong added in a hurry. "So long as you survive, our Seven Star Sword Sect will have hope... I believe that you'll surely be able to take revenge for us, and be able to make the Seven Star Sword Sect stand at the peak of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom once again!" Linghu Jin Hong's voice transmission that contained both heroism and sadness was filled with confidence to Duan Ling Tian.

"Sect Leader!" Duan Ling Tian's heart shook.

Three breaths of time passed in the blink of an eye.

Right at the instant.

Swish!

A terrifying sword howl tore apart the sky, and it carried along an unparalleled might as it swept through the world.

It was the strongest in the Seven Star Sword Sect, Elder Ming, who had gone into a rampage, and he went against three sixth level Void Initiation Stage experts by himself... Causing Linghu Jin Hong to be free.

Swoosh!

Linghu Jin Hong tore through the sky, seeming to transform into a sharp sword as his figure flashed, and he directly flashed towards the Grand Roc.

The Grand Roc was in combat with a man and a beast, and there were some injuries on his body.

"Elder Peng, I'll leave it to you!" The grade five spirit sword in Linghu Jin Hong's hand howled as he helped the Grand Roc to suppress the Grand Roc's opponent, and the sixth level Void Initiation expert was blasted away by Linghu Jin Hong; the Jundefeather Vulture was in an extremely sorry state as well.

In terms of strength, Linghu Jin Hong was far inferior to the Grand Roc.

But in terms of attack, he far surpassed the Grand Roc.

After all, he'd already comprehended the sixth level of the Sword Concept...

Whereas even though the Grand Roc was a sixth level Void Initiation Stage demon beast, he'd only comprehended fifth level Wind Concept.

Sword Concept only affected offense but didn't affect speed.

Wind Concept instead affected both offense and speed!

The Grand Roc nodded, his eyes emitted a wisp of a dreary expression, and then his eyes that flickered with a bright light flashed towards Duan Ling Tian's location.

"Shriek!" Right at this moment, the Jundefeather Vulture seemed to have realized the Grand Roc wanted to leave, and it let out a sharp cry before transforming into a green colored flowing light that shot towards the Grand Roc.

Killing intent shot out from the depths of the Grand Roc's eyes.

Swoosh!

Without the suppression of that sixth level Void Initiation Stage expert, the Grand Roc directly moved to greet the Jundefeather Vulture.

In the blink of an eye, the Grand Roc stood towering in the air, whereas the Jundefeather Vulture's neck was twisted by the Grand Roc before crashing onto the life and death arena on Dubhe Peak and giving rise to a cloud of dust and dirt.

The Jundefeather Vulture had become the first Void Initiation Stage expert to be killed.

"Elder Qing!" The Origin Convergence Sect's Leader, Lu Yuan, saw this scene, and his face was gloomy as he exclaimed in sorrow.

The status of the Jundefeather Vulture in the Origin Convergence Sect was similar to the status of the Grand Roc in the Seven Star Sword Sect...

Even he, the Sect Leader, would have to respectfully address the Jundefeather Vulture as Elder Qing when they met.

Swoosh!

In the next moment, Lu Yuan recovered from his shock, and he saw the Grand Roc of the Seven Star Sword Sect actually abandoned Linghu Jin Hong and plunged downwards.

His gaze followed to move downwards.

In next to no time, a familiar figure appeared within his field of vision.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Instantly, Lu Yuan's face went gloomy as he finally knew what the Grand Roc intended, and he also knew why the Seven Star Sword Sect's Elder Xuan would suddenly go on a rampage and desperately suppress the three sixth level Void Initiation Stage experts that included him...

So it turned out that all of this was planned!

"Stop that Grand Roc! It wants to take Duan Ling Tian to safety!" Lu Yuan abruptly shouted out explosively, his voice traversed out to spread throughout the entire peak of Dubhe Peak.

Instantly, all the experts of the three great sects wanted to leave their opponents and flash to Duan Ling Tian's location to stop the Grand Roc.

At this moment, their hearts burned with anxiety.

It was fine if any other Seven Star Sword Sect disciple were to flee, and they wouldn't care...

But Duan Ling Tian, this monstrous existence that had risen in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom like a comet was someone that they wouldn't permit to flee no matter what.

They could imagine that with Duan Ling Tian's natural talent, once he grew in the future, sweeping through their Azure Forest Tri-Sect would be nothing difficult.

"Don't think of leaving!" All the Seven Star Sword Sect experts were notified by Linghu Jin Hong via voice transmission earlier, and they all went completely berserk, exploding out with all the strength in their bodies to stop the experts of the three great sect.

Bang!

A Seven Star Sword Sect elder was directly killed because he tried to obstruct an expert from the three great sects.

Whereas now, the elders and disciples of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect all surged towards Duan Ling Tian with imposing auras that shot into the sky like a rainbow, as if they wanted to kill Duan Ling Tian before the Grand Roc took Duan Ling Tian away.

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian, I'll assist you!" A hurried voice sounded out and it was the nearby Mo Yu who'd flashed over, and he killed an Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciple that wanted to attack Duan Ling Tian from behind.

Mo Yu stood by Duan Ling Tian's eyes, and his eyes had gone red from the slaughter!

Relying on his extraordinary natural talent, Mo Yu had already broken through to the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage now, and his strength was outstanding.

"Stop them!"

"Stop them, open a path for Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian!"

...

The group of Seven Star Sword Sect disciples seemed as if they were on steroids, and they fought desperately against the disciples of the three great sects.

They shed all their hot blood just for the sake of helping Duan Ling Tian to pave a road to survival!

Today, anyone amongst them could die, but only Duan Ling Tian couldn't.

Duan Ling Tian was their hope.

The hope of the Seven Star Sword Sect!

Whereas their actions came with extremely great consequences.

Numerous Seven Star Sword Sect disciples painted the ground red, their fresh blood flowing out to taint the shoes of Duan Ling Tian's feet red.

"No! No!!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes almost split apart as he watched the scene before him.

Most of these Seven Star Sword Sect disciples didn't have any relationship with him, but today, for the sake of allowing him to leave, they'd instead fought desperately with their lives on the line to stop the members of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect.

"Duan Ling Tian, live well!" Meng Qiu, the personal disciple of the Merak Peak's Master, Ke Zhen, charged into the crowd and killed a few Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples before being killed by an elder of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect.

"Meng Qiu!" Duan Ling Tian's face went gloomy and his eyes emitted boundless bloodthirst.

"Qiu, great work!" After Ke Zhen killed an Azure Forest Tri-Sect elder with a palm strike, he just happened to see this scene, and at the same time that tears flowed from his aged eyes, he had a gratified expression.

His disciple didn't lose face for him, and the fostering he'd given for many years wasn't in vain.

"Junior Brother Duan Ling Tian, don't let down Junior Sister..." A delicate shout entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears, causing his face to go ghastly pale. "Senior Sister Zuo Qing, don't!!"

Zuo Qing's beautiful figure was like the wind, and after she killed a few Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples, a group of Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciples swarmed at her, causing her to be exposed before saber lights and sword images that covered the sky before perishing beneath them.

"No! No!!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes were crimson red, and he was sad to the extreme. The Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword in his hand flashed out to carry away the life of an Azure Forest Tri-Sect disciple.

Chapter 455: Hope

"Little fellow, let's go!" A wave of violent wind assaulted him. The wings of the Grand Roc that were like clouds that covered the sky crashed down to sweep away all the Azure Forest Tri-Sect members around Duan Ling Tian. The terrifying force swept out, causing many people to be directly knocked out.

In the next moment, Duan Ling Tian felt his body become light as he was heaved up by the Grand Roc.

"Mo Yu!" At the same time that the Grand Roc rose into the sky, Duan Ling Tian's hand shot out like a bolt of lightning to grab onto the nearby Mo Yu, then pulled him up onto the Grand Roc's back with him.

"Escort Duan Ling Tian!" The Mizar Peak's Master, Zheng Fan, and the Merak Peak's Master, Ke Zhen, looked at each other, then they flashed out to descend onto the Grand Roc at the same time. They forced back all the Azure Forest Tri-Sect elders that pounced towards them.

Swoosh!

Right at this moment, a figure that was like a bolt of lightning flashed over from afar and descended firmly onto the back of the Grand Roc.

Duan Ling Tian's face was gloomy when he saw this person. "Zhao Lin!"

The person that had appeared on the back of the Grand Roc now was none other than the Megrez Peak outer court elder, Zhao Lin, who had irreconcilable enmity with Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, you destroyed my son's life. I'll send you to hell!" Zhao Lin revealed an insane expression, then swung his hand out. Terrifying Origin Energy roared as it swept towards Duan Ling Tian with an imposing aura that shot to the sky like a rainbow.

Above him, 4,200 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form.

Zhao Lin had obviously broken through to the third level of the Nascent Soul Stage.

Moreover, he'd executed Elementary Force.

Duan Ling Tian's face was white.

His soul skill, Thousand Illusions, was completely useless against Zhao Lin.

"Squeak squeak~" The little gold mouse flashed out from beneath Duan Ling Tian's sleeve, then she transformed into an incomparably swift gold light that directly moved to intercept Zhao Lin, and the sound of thunder tore open the sky.

In the sky, 4,500 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form...

At present, the little gold mouse had already broken through to the third level of the Void Prying Stage, and her Half-step Advanced Lightning Force moved out with her.

Bang!

An enormous bang resounded out as the terrifying Origin Energy collided with each other, the airflow in the sky flew out, transforming into circle after circle of ripples that undulated and swept out. A terrifying strong wind swept towards the surroundings.

In the collision between Zhao Lin and the little gold mouse, the little gold mouse slightly took the advantage.

"Who?!" Zhao Lin never expected that Duan Ling Tian actually had an expert protecting him. Zhao Lin's face was dark as he noticed the little gold mouse that stood on Duan Ling Tian's shoulder with a single glance, and his gaze became slightly cold. "Little mouse, you're courting death!"

As soon as he finished speaking, a spirit sword appeared in Zhao Li's hand. With the raise of his arm, he intended to attack again.

"It's you who's courting death!" Right at this moment, an extremely terrifying force swept out to crash onto Zhao Lin and blasted him flying.

Zhao Lin was utterly incapable of going against this force, and his vital signs became weak as he flew out like an arrow that had left the bow.

Obviously, it was impossible for him to survive this.

"Lin!" Right at this moment, an explosive shout sounded out from high in the sky.

After Elder Ming noticed Zhao Lin was heavily injured and close to death, his fifth level Wind Concept combined with his Origin Energy to sweep out, and temporarily forced his opponents to retreat before flying out to catch Zhao Lin.

"Zheng Fan, why did you kill my grandson?" Elder Ming's gaze was incomparably cold as he stared at Zheng Fan, who rose into the air with the Grand Roc.

Earlier, it was exactly Zheng Fan who blasted Zhao Lin flying. He attacked without holding back in the slightest, shattering Zhao Lin's internal organs and causing him to have no way of surviving.

"Elder Ming, everyone from our Seven Star Sword Sect is fighting desperately now just for the sake of sending Duan Ling Tian off! Whereas your grandson actually attacked Duan Ling Tian with a killing blow just for the sake of his own selfish interests... Don't you think he deserves death?" Zheng Fan's gaze was incomparably frosty as he answered with a deep shout.

"Lin, is it really like this?" Elder Ming's face was gloomy as he gaze at Zhao Lin in his arms, and he had an expression of being disappointed.

Whoosh!

Elder Peng's wings that were like clouds that covered the entire sky swept out, giving rise to a gust of violent winds as his enormous figure flashed out, and it caused Duan Ling Tian to feel as if he was riding on the clouds and mist.

The piercingly cold strong winds that assaulted his face almost tore him to pieces, and Mo Yu who stood by his side had an extremely unsightly expression as well.

Now, for the sake of carrying them to safety, Elder Peng didn't intentionally slow down his speed, instead flying at full speed.

"Duan Ling Tian, Mo Yu, live well... The future of the Seven Star Sword Sect is carried by both of you." Zheng Fan and Ke Zheng nodded to Duan Ling Tian and Mo Yu, then they flew off the Grand Roc and pounced towards the elders of the Azure Forest Tri-Sect, launching a bloody slaughter.

They were resolved to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"No!!" Duan Ling Tian's expression was livid when he saw Zheng Fan and Ke Zhen's figures were drowned within the crowd of Azure Forest Tri-Sect members, and his expression was extremely unsightly.

"Not good!" Suddenly, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have noticed something, and he shuddered as he looked towards the distance.

There was a figure swiftly flashed towards them from there, and the person's speed was so swift it caused his face to become gloomier.

Swoosh!

Behind the Grand Roc, the Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader who was unrestrained after Elder Ming withdrew had flashed out with eyes that emitted gushing killing intent, and he followed closely behind the Grand Roc.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're dead!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader's voice seemed like the voice of an asura from hell, and it was incomparably gloomy.

He'd followed the Grand Roc purely for the sake of killing Duan Ling Tian.

He could imagine that if Duan Ling Tian didn't die today, then not to mention he personally couldn't rest easy, even the Azure Forest Tri-Sect would surely be unable to be at peace in the future.

Unfortunately, the Grand Roc's speed was too swift. Even as he flashed out with full force, the Grand Roc still gradually pulled open the distance between them.

"Dammit!" The expression of the Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader was extremely unsightly, yet he still desperately gave chase, only giving up when the figure of the Grand Roc disappeared before his eyes.

"We actually allowed Duan Ling Tian to flee... Damn Linghu Jin Hong, damn Seven Star Sword Sect!" The Demonic Lotusblade Sect's Leader suddenly turned around and returned to the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"Grandfather... Duan Ling Tian caused our Zhao Clan's family line to be cut off... Ke's family jewels were crippled by him... Grandfather, avenge Ke, avenge me..." Zhao Lin lay in Elder Ming's embrace and struggled to speak. In the end, he didn't finish speaking when he breathed his last breath.

"Lin, Lin!!" Elder Ming roared towards the sky with a voice that was filled with misery.

"I, Zhao Ming, dedicated my entire life to the Seven Star Sword Sect... But in the end, my grandson was killed by members of the Seven Star Sword Sect, my great grandson was crippled by the 'hope' of the Seven Star Sword Sect! Laughable, laughable... HAHAHAAHHA!..." As he laughed loudly, Elder Ming flew out and arrived at the side of the grey clothed old man, Elder Xuan, in the blink of an eye.

Presently, Elder Xuan was going against three sixth level Void Initiation Stage experts and was gradually falling into a disadvantaged position, and he heaved a sigh of relief when he saw the arrival of Elder Ming.

But in the next moment, his expression became pale.

Only because Elder Ming's attacks wasn't towards his opponents, but was instead towards him.

Bang!

Elder Ming's palm strike that contained his fifth level Wind Concept smashed onto Elder Xuan, directly heavily injuring Elder Xuan who wasn't on guard against him in the slightest.

"Zhao Ming, have you gone mad?" Elder Xuan's face was deathly pale, his signs of life were weakening, and his expression was extremely unsightly.

He never imagined that Zhao Lin would attack him.

All the three Azure Forest Tri-Sect experts including Lu Yuan who were in combat with Elder Xuan earlier were shocked by Zhao Ming's actions.

After a short moment, they finally reacted.

"HAHA! Elder Ming, so long as you help us eliminate the Seven Star Sword Sect today, then our Azure Forest Tri-Sect is willing to receive you as a Guardian Elder!" Lu Yuan laughed loudly as the scene before him caused him to be extremely pleasantly surprised.

Subsequently, Lu Yuan and the others attacked once again, they cooperated with Zhao Ming and only spent a few breaths of time to kill Elder Xuan.

Elder Xuan, the number one expert of the Seven Star Sword Sect, dead!

He died at the hands of four sixth level Void Initiation Stage experts.

"Zhao Ming!!" Zhao Ming joining forces with Lu Yuan and the others to kill Elder Xuan caused Linghu Jin Hong's eyes to almost split apart. "Are you worthy of the fostering of the sect ancestors? Are you worthy of the fostering of the sect?"

"Sect?" Zhao Lin laughed in ridicule. "What sect!?! My great grandson was crippled by a member of the Seven Star Sword Sect, my son was killed by a member of the Seven Star Sword Sect... Since the Seven Star Sword Sect is heartless to me, then I'll be disloyal to the Seven Star Sword Sect! Linghu Jin Hong, die!" As soon as he finished speaking, Zhao Ming seemed to transform into a gust of wind that blew away the clouds and mist on the horizon, then swept towards Linghu Jin Hong.

The other experts flashed towards Linghu Jin Hong as well.

"Sect Leader!" Everyone from the Seven Star Sword Sect exclaimed in sorrow and despair.

"HAHAHAHA! I, Linghu Jin Hong, will go first, and await the arrival of all of you in the road to hell... All of you prepare well to greet the flames of Duan Ling Tian's rage in the future! HAHAHAHA!" The instant

before he was killed, Linghu Jin Hong laughed loudly and wantonly, and he wasn't afraid in the slightest. All that remained in him was sorrow, heroism, and his confidence in Duan Ling Tian.

Bang!

Along with Linghu Jin Hong being killed, the fierce battle continued, yet the outcome was already decided.

The Seven Star Sword Sect was annihilated!

At a place extremely far from the Seven Star Sword Sect, within a vast desolate desert, an enormous figure that was incomparably swift plunged downwards to descend onto the boundless ground.

This was a Grand Roc, and it possessed eyes that were like lightning and extremely fierce.

"You two little fellows take care of yourselves... I'll leave the future of the Seven Star Sword Sect to the both of you." The Grand Roc unfolded his wings and pulled the two people on his back to the ground.

These people that were pulled down were precisely Duan Ling Tian and Mo Yu who'd escaped from the Seven Star Sword Sect.

On Duan Ling Tian's shoulder, the little gold mouse lay there dispirited.

"Elder Peng, you..." Duan Ling Tian seemed to have perceived something when he heard the Grand Roc's voice transmission, and his face went even more pale.

Right when he intended to persuade the Grand Roc to stay.

Whoosh!

The Grand Roc's wings unfolded like clouds that could blot out the sky, and he soared into the sky.

At the same time, a voice transmission clearly entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears. "My life was given to me by the Seven Star Sword Sect... It's impossible for me to not get involved and watch idly by at the time of crisis of the Seven Star Sword Sect. Little fellow, with your natural talent, your future is immeasurable..."

"You are the hope of the Seven Star Sword Sect!"

Swoosh!

Elder Peng had left, bringing along his resolute will, his will to live and die with the Seven Star Sword Sect.

"Elder Peng!" Duan Ling Tian's heart trembled for no reason when he saw the Grand Roc charge into the clouds and vanish before his eyes.

Meanwhile, numerous figures that had given up their lives fearlessly for him involuntarily flashed within his mind, and it caused his eyes to once again turn dark red...

They'd all died so that he could live.

An inexplicably large burden had unknowingly pressed onto his shoulders.

It was like an enormous mountain pressing down onto him, causing him to be unable to catch his breath.

Chapter 456: Returning to the Crimson Sky Kingdom

On the vast ground, two young men with similar ages stood there, and a gloomy atmosphere arose involuntarily.

The two of them didn't speak in tacit understanding.

After a short moment.

"Master, Master!!" One of the young men knelt on the ground and looked in the direction of the Seven Star Sword Sect as tears flowed down like the rain.

A man does not easily shed tears, only when his heart hasn't been deeply hurt.

On the other side, Duan Ling Tian stood there and took a deep breath as unprecedented firmness arose within his eyes, and he vowed to himself as he gazed at the direction of the Seven Star Sword Sect. "Sect Leader, don't worry... So long as I, Duan Ling Tian, am alive, I'll surely wipe out the Azure Forest Tri-Sect!"

"Besides that, I'll do my best to help Mo Yu rebuild the Seven Star Sword Sect!"

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian closed his eyes, and numerous familiar figures appeared within his mind.

These were all the people he had a good relationship with in the Seven Star Sword Sect, and now they were probably all dead.

"I, Duan Ling Tian, vow with the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation, that I'll surely avenge all of you... If I go against this vow, then I'll be executed by the heavens and the earth!" Duan Ling Tian suddenly raised his head and pinched open his index finger, then a drop of fresh blood tore through the sky and fused into the horizon.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Nine ear piercing thunderclaps sounded out and witnessed the vow that Duan Ling Tian established.

Mo Yu knelt there, not moving even under the sounds of thunder, and his eyes were crimson red as if they were tainted with a layer of fresh blood.

Although he'd only taken Linghu Jin Hong as his master for a year, during this year, Linghu Jin Hong had fostered him wholeheartedly, and it caused him to feel heartfelt gratitude...

Even to the extent that he seemed to have already taken Linghu Jin Hong to be his father in his heart.

Now, it was very likely that his father had been killed.

Whereas he didn't have the ability to take revenge for his father.

"AH!!" Mo Yu roared loudly into the sky, his roar was filled with extreme hatred, as if he wanted to destroy the boundless sky...

Slap!

Duan Ling Tian walked over to Mo Yu's side, then lightly patted Mo Yu's shoulder. "Restrain your grief. We'll take revenge for this enmity, sooner or later... What you have to do now is cultivate properly. In the future, the Seven Star Sword Sect will be relying on you to be rebuilt."

Mo Yu's body trembled, then he nodded earnestly. "Yes, Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian."

"Squeak squeak~" The little gold mouse on Duan Ling Tian's shoulder cried out twice. The slaughter on the top of Dubhe Peak in the Seven Star Sword Sect earlier had scared her to a certain extent.

Although the little gold mouse's current strength wasn't bad, compared to those existences that were at the Void Initiation Stage, she was still quite inferior.

"Big Brother Ling Tian, where're we going now?" The little gold mouse's voice transmission entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears. "Those people are too bad, they actually caused us to be homeless... Hmph! Hmph! Once my strength surpasses them, I'll surely make them pay and make them become homeless as well."

"Making them homeless? That's being too easy on them..." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and his eyes emitted dense killing intent as he spoke word for word. "I want them to turn into ashes!"

Turn into ashes!

Duan Ling Tian's words contained extreme hatred mixed within, and it caused the little gold mouse and Mo Yu to be unable to refrain from shuddering.

"Little Gold, enlarge yourself and take me and Mo Yu out of this place," Duan Ling Tian said to the little gold mouse.

"Squeak squeak~" Little Gold nodded lightly, then her tiny body trembled before instantly transforming into the size of a small hill.

After she broke through to the third level of the Void Prying Stage, the little gold mouse's body had expanded once again and she was slightly larger than before.

In the past, she was around three meters tall, now, she was already almost four meters tall.

After her body enlarged, the little gold mouse's back seemed exceptionally spacious, and it was more than enough to accommodate Duan Ling Tian and Mo Yu.

Along with the passage of time, Mo Yu's tears were restrained and he buried his sorrow deep within his heart.

He knew clearly in his heart that it was exactly like Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian had said. What he had to do now was to work hard and cultivate, and avenge his Master and rebuild the Seven Star Sword Sect in the future.

"Master, don't worry... I'll surely rebuild the sect with Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian!" Mo Yu silently promised in his heart.

Mo Yu took a deep breath as he gazed at the enormous gold mouse beneath him, and he suppressed the shock in his heart.

As far as he was concerned, anything shocking that occurred on Duan Ling Tian was not worth being surprised over.

Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian himself was sufficiently shocking already.

"Big Brother Ling Tian, where're we going?" The little gold mouse asked Duan Ling Tian via voice transmission.

"Little Gold, head south... I want to return to the Crimson Sky Kingdom." Duan Ling Tian looked towards the south as he spoke.

The Crimson Sky Kingdom was his roots since he came to this world...

The people that were of great importance to him were there.

Swoosh!

The little gold mouse's figure turned and transformed into a gold bolt of lightning that flashed towards the south. Clouds and mist split open wherever she passed, and it was extremely alike to a 'road in the skies.'

Duan Ling Tian sat on the back of the little gold mouse with a calm expression as he gazed at the boundless space in the distance, and it was unknown as to what he was thinking.

As for Mo Yu, he silently sat cross-legged on the little gold mouse's back and cultivated, and he was completely immersed into his cultivation.

After the Seven Star Sword Sect encountered a tragic calamity, as the personal disciple of the Seven Star Sword Sect's Leader, Linghu Jin Hong, Mo Yu similarly carried the heavy responsibility of rebuilding the sect like Duan Ling Tian.

When Duan Ling Tian left the Crimson Sky Kingdom that day and travelled by Ferghana Horse to head to the Seven Star Sword Sect, it had taken quite a long time.

Now, with the little gold mouse, who was a third level Void Prying Stage demon beast, travelling at full speed, it was only a few days before they entered into the territory of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

"Over there!" Duan Ling Tian pointed towards the distance, guiding the little gold mouse.

That was precisely the location of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City...

"Mom, I'm home!" Duan Ling Tian had an unsmiling face for these past few days, yet now emitted a rare light smile.

It has been a few years, I wonder how mom is now...

Duan Ling Tian was anxious to return home as soon as possible.

After spending another day of time, Duan Ling Tian finally arrived outside the imperial city of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

For the sake of not causing panic, Duan Ling Tian asked the little gold mouse to descend in a remote place outside the Imperial City, then he told Mo Yu to leap off with him.

The little gold mouse shrunk and descended onto Duan Ling Tian's shoulder, the sized up the nearby city with interest. "Big Brother Ling Tian, this is the Imperial City of the Crimson Sky Kingdom?"

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian, this place is?" Mo Yu had a curious expression as he looked at the city before him.

He'd been cultivating on the little gold mouse's back all throughout these past few days, and he completely didn't know where the little gold mouse was flying towards.

But he could be sure of one thing, the place the little gold mouse went was surely the place Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian wanted to go to.

"This...can be considered to be my home." Duan Ling Tian smiled, as the Crimson Sky Kingdom was his home to him.

"Home?" Mo Yu's pupils constricted and said with a surprised expression, "Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian, I once heard someone mention that you're from a subordinate Kingdom under the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom... Could it be that it's this place?"

"Exactly." Duan Ling Tian nodded then brought along Mo Yu to head towards the Imperial City as he said, "This place is my home. This is the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City, and my home is within it."

Home.

To Duan Ling Tian, his home was where his mother was.

The only sense of belonging he had towards his home was his mother.

Only with his mother would he have a home.

To him, his mother was the most important person in this world.

Mo Yu nodded and curiously sized up the Imperial City before him.

"This place is the home of Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian... I wonder exactly what sort of place this is? It was actually able to produce a peerless genius like Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian!" Mo Yu's heart was filled with curiosity and yearning.

Duan Ling Tian's natural talent was extraordinary beyond all doubt.

After all, even at the moment the Seven Star Sword Sect was about to be annihilated, the three great Sect Leaders actually didn't hesitate to kill two disciples with natural talent that was not bad for the sake of roping Duan Ling Tian in...

How extraordinary Duan Ling Tian was in the eyes of the three great Sect Leaders could be known from this.

Duan Ling Tian walked into the Imperial City, and his face emitted a wisp of a smile as he felt the atmosphere of the outer city.

A few years had passed, yet there wasn't too great of a change in the outer city.

"Eh? Senior Brother Duan Ling Tian, your Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City has a city within the city?" Mo Yu asked in slight surprise as he looked at the tightly shut inner city gate when they arrived at the moat outside the inner city.

"Yes. That's the inner city of my Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City... The inner court hasn't opened yet at this time. Let's go find a restaurant to have a meal first, and once we're done, the inner city ought to be opened by then. At that time, we'll enter the inner city." Duan Ling Tian brought Mo Yu along to walk into a restaurant in the outer city, then saw at a place by the window that was able to look at the inner city's gate.

Duan Ling Tian picked a few dishes, and they arrived in no time.

Under Duan Ling Tian's invitation, Mo Yu picked up his bowl and chopsticks, and started eating with large gulps.

"Squeak squeak~" The little gold mouse wasn't courteous in the slightest and completely cleaned a large pile of fried meat in next to no time.

At the same time that he ate, Duan Ling Tian kept his eyes and ears open, listening to the discussions of all the customers in the restaurant.

"I heard the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador has come with ill intentions... On the surface it's a visit between friendly kingdoms, but in truth they instead want to suppress the prestige of our Crimson Sky Kingdom."

"I heard as well. Supposedly, the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought along three of the most outstanding people in the younger generation of the Sun Ascent Kingdom... The strongest amongst them has even stepped into the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage!"

"The Divine Might Marquis Estate's Junior Marquis, Nie Fen, is at the top amongst the younger generation of our Crimson Sky Kingdom. But the Junior Marquis's cultivation seems to have only broken through to the ninth level of the Origin Core Stage a while back... I'm afraid he isn't a match for the young genius of the Sun Ascent Kingdom."

"Hmph! It's said that the strongest young genius of the Sun Ascent Kingdom is much older than the Junior Marquis... Even if he defeats the Junior Marquis, that's a victory relying on age, not ability!"

"Unfortunately, besides the Junior Marquis, there's almost no figure in the younger generation of our Crimson Sky Kingdom to represent our Crimson Sky Kingdom."

"There's the Xiao Clan's Xiao Yu and Xiao Xun. Besides that, the Imperial Family, Duan Clan, and Su Clan also possess a few people with good natural talent... But unfortunately, their ages are too young and their strength is insufficient to suppress the three young geniuses of the Sun Ascent Kingdom."

...

A few customers that sat at a table nearby Duan Ling Tian discussed ceaselessly.

Sun Ascent Kingdom?

Duan Ling Tian's brows lifted up when he heard their discussions.

Chapter 457: Returning Home

After they had their meal, the gate of the Imperial City's inner city had opened on time.

Duan Ling Tian put down the silver and paid the bill, then he brought Mo Yu along to leave the restaurant and enter the inner city.

The inner city was similar to the outer city. There wasn't a large change compared to a few years before.

Duan Ling Tian followed along the familiar road to go directly towards his own courtyard house, and Duan Ling Tian's heartbeat suddenly became faster and faster...

He was currently even more nervous than when facing a Void Initiation Stage expert.

Nervousness when approaching home!

This was exactly Duan Ling Tian's current feelings.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian arrived outside a courtyard house.

This courtyard house was personally bought by him that day, and the scenes from the past were still vivid in his mind, as if it was only yesterday.

Duan Ling Tian stood before the courtyard house door, then raised his hand, yet his hand didn't descend for a long time...

Mo Yu and the little gold mouse could feel the heaviness of the atmosphere. They maintained their silence and did not disturb Duan Ling Tian.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and his hand descended to knock on the door.

Knock! Knock!

Duan Ling Tian withdrew his hand after knocking twice, and he was able to hear a wave of footsteps approaching.

In next to no time, the door was opened and a familiar figure appeared before Duan Ling Tian...

"Young Master!" Behind the door, the young woman saw Duan Ling Tian and she was stunned for a short moment, before crying out in pleasant surprise with an excited expression.

"Jing Ru, long time no see." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled as he nodded to the young woman.

The young girl before him was none other than the Manager Duan Ling Tian found for his own courtyard house, Jing Ru.

Jing Ru calmed her feelings after a long time, then said with a light smile, "Young Master, the Madam will surely be extremely happy if she knows you've returned."

"How's my mom lately?" Duan Ling Tian had an eager expression when he heard Jing Ru mention his mother.

"Don't worry Young Master, Madam is extremely well... Princess Bi Yao and Miss Xiao Lan pay the Madam a visit every now and then, and it never changed throughout these past few years. So Madam has never been lonely." Jing Ru spoke slowly.

"I've troubled the two of them." Duan Ling Tian nodded then introduced Mo Yu and Jing Ru to each other before walking into the courtyard house.

"Jing Yu, we'll be staying for some time... Clean up a room for Mo Yu." Duan Ling Tian instructed Jing Ru.

"Yes." Jing Ru replied respectfully, then led Mo Yu away.

"Little Gold, go play yourself... Don't go too far. I'm going to go see my mother," Duan Ling Tian said to the little gold mouse then walked towards the rear courtyard after the little gold mouse left his shoulder.

The rear courtyard was full of flowers and plants, and it had changed greatly.

After all, a few years had passed.

Duan Ling Tian walked into the rear courtyard and he saw a familiar graceful figure watering the flowers and plants with a single glance, causing his heart to tremble.

Finally, Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and suppressed the excitement that was difficult to restrain in his heart, and he said slowly, "Mom."

Mom.

Duan Ling Tian had only just finished speaking when the graceful figure in the distance abruptly trembled.

Subsequently, the graceful figure turned around to reveal a drop dead gorgeous appearance...

"Tian... Tian!" A few years had passed and Li Rou seemed to have not changed much, yet her pair of beautiful eyes seemed to become slightly experienced. She had an excited expression when she saw Duan Ling Tian and her body started to tremble lightly.

"Mom, your unfilial son has returned!" Duan Ling Tian took a few steps forward then knelt before Li Rou as he spoke straight from the heart.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian's was trembling in excitement as he looked at Li Rou's face. His eyes were moist and he forced out a slight smile on his face.

Although he'd unintentionally possessed Duan Ling Tian's body all those years ago, the various things that Li Rou had done for him all through these years had caused him to take Li Rou as his own mother since long ago, and there wasn't the slightest unnaturalness.

After so many years, when he saw Li Rou again, at the same time that his heart was trembling, he was like a child that had lost his way and had once again found the beacon to guide him on ahead.

"Tian, what're you doing? It's good that you're back, it's good that you're back..." Li Rou hurriedly helped Duan Ling Tian up, then tiptoed to look at Duan Ling Tian's face in detail before muttering. "Grown up, my Tian has grown up..."

"Mom!" Duan Ling Tian spread open his arms and tightly embraced Li Rou, and the tears accumulated in his eyes were difficult to restrain and they poured down.

A man doesn't easily shed tears, only because he hasn't encountered something saddening.

Li Rou lightly patted Duan Ling Tian on the back, and her peerlessly beautiful face revealed a gratified smile.

The mother and son pair only split up after a long time.

"Tian, where are Ke Er and Fei?" Li Rou looked towards behind Duan Ling Tian and asked when she noticed that there was no one.

Duan Ling Tian was able to see the yearning that filled Li Rou's eyes, and he lightly smiled. "Mom, Ke Er and Fei went on a long journey with a senior of the sect some time ago... They'll come visit you once they're done." At the same time that he said this, Duan Ling Tian's heart was filled with bitterness.

Now that the annihilation of the Seven Star Sword Sect had become an inevitable outcome already, it wouldn't be long before the news of the Seven Star Sword Sect's annihilation would probably spread throughout the entire Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom.

At that time, the Alkaid Peak's Master, Qin Xiang would surely receive the news and wouldn't return to the Seven Star Sword Sect...

"I hope Ke Er and Little Fei can return to the Crimson Sky Kingdom as soon as possible," Duan Ling Tian silently said in his heart.

He'd already decided that he would stay in the Crimson Sky Kingdom for some time and wait for Ke Er and Little Fei to return...

He believed that after they found out about the news of the Seven Star Sword Sect's annihilation, Ke Er and Li Fei would surely return.

This place was also their roots.

"Good, good." Li Rou didn't doubt Duan Ling Tian's words, then she held Duan Ling Tian's hand and pulled Duan Ling Tian into the pergola and sat down. "Tian, tell mother your experiences throughout these past few year."

Obviously, Li Rou was filled with curiosity towards Duan Ling Tian's experiences during these past few years.

Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled, and besides the matter of the Seven Star Sword Sect's annihilation, he didn't conceal anything else and spoke of them one by one.

Li Rou listened earnestly.

Every time she heard an alarmingly dangerous parts of his experiences, Li Rou wouldn't be able to refrain from breaking out in cold sweat for Duan Ling Tian.

She never imagined that her son had experienced so much in a short few years, even to the extent that he'd passed by the gates of hell.

"Tian." Li Rou held Duan Ling Tian's hand, as if she was deeply afraid that Duan Ling Tian would leave if she let go.

Duan Ling Tian could feel the moistness that came from Li Rou's hand, he knew that his mother was worried about him, and he couldn't help but console her. "Mom, don't worry. Aren't I alright? Your son is lucky and is surely able to turn calamities into blessings at the necessary moment."

Li Rou nodded lightly, yet the worry contained in her beautiful eyes didn't reduce in the slightest.

"Mom, this is the 10,000 Year Stalactite Milk I spoke of earlier." Duan Ling Tian withdrew two bottles of 10,000 Year Stalactite Milk and passed it to Li Rou. "Mom's natural talent will improve to the limit of Cloud Continent once you consume this 10,000 Year Stalactite Milk... At that time, your cultivation will yield twice the results from before."

At the same time that Duan Ling Tian passed the 10,000 Year Stalactite Milk to Li Rou, he extended out his Spiritual Force to sweep towards Li Rou.

In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian's eyes stared wide open.

"Mom... You... You actually broke through to the third level of the Nascent Soul Stage?" Duan Ling Tian had a surprised expression after he detected Li Rou's current cultivation.

The advancement of Li Rou's cultivation had slightly exceeded his expectations.

"If Mother doesn't cultivate diligently, then wouldn't I be completely surpassed by you and those two little girls? At that time, how would mother protect all of you?" Li Rou spoke as if it was so simple, but Duan Ling Tian was able to feel the hardships hidden within it.

He knew clearly in his heart that besides the contribution of the top cultivation method, Demonic Beauty Divine Technique that he passed down to her, the reason his mother's cultivation advanced so quickly was even more because of her hard work.

His mother had surely cultivated extremely painstakingly these past few years.

"Mom, you don't have to do that... I'll be satisfied so long as you properly enjoy a happy life and pass your days happily." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath and his voice was slightly trembling.

"Silly child." Li Rou lightly shook her head as she smiled. "Mom doesn't have anything to do anyway, so cultivating more isn't a bad thing... Also, I passed down that Demonic Beauty Divine Technique to Yao and Lan, you won't blame mother, right?" As she finished speaking, Li Rou looked at Duan Ling Tian with a gaze filled with a dubiousness.

"Of course I won't. Since I've passed that cultivation method to mom, then mom can deal with it anyhow mom likes... It's enough so long as you're happy." Duan Ling Tian disregarded the dubiousness in Li Rou's gaze and spoke with a light smile.

He naturally knew that the Yao and Lan that his mother spoke of was none other than Princess Bi Yao and Xiao Lan.

Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but sigh in his heart when he thought of those two women who were beautiful like flowers and possessed good looks that weren't inferior to Ke Er and Little Fei...

Sometimes, having such a great charm seems to not be a good thing.

Li Rou shook her head slightly helplessly, as she was able to discern that her son was avoiding it.

Li Rou couldn't help but feel pity when she thought of the lovely woman that silently stayed by her side and waited for Duan Ling Tian. "Tian, mom knows that your heart is only on Ke Er and Fei. But, Mom doesn't want you to hurt Yao and Lan... Do you understand?"

"Mom, I understand. I'll talk to them when I have the time... Don't worry." Duan Ling Tian lightly nodded.

Perhaps, some things have come to the time to be settled. He couldn't make these two beauties that were as pretty as flowers to wait for him for their entire lives.

"That's good." A smile appeared on Li Rou's face, then she asked. "Right, Tian. How long do you intend to stay this time?" As Li Rou spoke, her beautiful eyes were filled with anticipation.

From her own personal point of view, she naturally hoped that Duan Ling Tian was able to stay at home for a bit longer.

There was a common folk saying, a mother is worried when the child has gone on a journey.

"I don't know for now... But, I'll try my best to stay a little longer and accompany mom longer." Duan Ling Tian's eyes were filled with warmth, and his heart had completely calmed after returning home.

The boundless restlessness that had arose from the annihilation of the Seven Star Sword Sect by the Azure Forest Tri-Sect had completely been suppressed now, and it was buried deep within his heart...

The smile on Li Rou's face grew wider when she heard Duan Ling Tian. "Tian, since you're returned, then go to the Divine Might Marquis Estate and notify your Uncle Nie... Besides that, make a trip to the Duan Clan and the Imperial Palace. Both of them have never treated mother unfairly these past few years."

Chapter 458: The Shock of the Divine Might Marquis Estate

"Yes, Mom." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Even if Li Rou didn't say it, he would go to the Divine Might Marquis Estate to pay a visit to the Divine Might Marquis, Nie Yuan.

At the very least, Nie Yuan had given him too much help during his path of growth.

He's always remembered this kindness in his heart.

That day, Duan Ling Tian accompanied his mother for the entire day and he only brought the little gold mouse along and went out at dawn the next day as he headed to the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

During these few years, the guards at the gate to the Divine Might Marquis Estate were changed countless times, so they didn't recognize Duan Ling Tian.

However, the guards noticed that Duan Ling Tian's bearing was extraordinary and didn't dare treat him coldly, and they asked politely. "Young Master, may I know why you've come to our Divine Might Marquis Estate?"

"Please report that Duan Ling Tian requests for an audience with the Divine Might Marquis Estate." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to the guard and spoke slowly.

Duan Ling Tian?

Unexpectedly, Duan Ling Tian had only just finished speaking when the guards had expressions of surprise. "You... You're Duan Ling Tian?"

"What? Has there been someone who was pretending to be me?" Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled.

"No... No... Young Master Ling Tian, please follow me, please follow me." One of the guards hurriedly shook his head, and he didn't dare make Duan Ling Tian wait outside and brought Duan Ling Tian into the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

The other guards stayed back, and their faces slightly flushed red as they gazed at Duan Ling Tian's figure that moved into the distance.

They only came back to their senses after Duan Ling Tian's figure vanished before their eyes, then they looked at each other. "I've heard of this Young Master Long Tian since long ago, but now that I've met him, he really does deserve his reputation... Supposedly, he was once the Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard."

"That time was before I joined the Divine Might Marquis Estate. Young Master Ling Tian's reputation was like thunder reverberating in my ears... The genius in strategy of the Paladin Academy's Star Mastermind Department who didn't waste a single soldier in breaking through the Southern Champion Kingdom's Southern Barbaric City! Not only that, his natural talent in the Martial Dao is even unprecedented in our Crimson Sky Kingdom."

"Supposedly, Young Master Ling Tian is also an alchemist."

"Supposedly, Young master Ling Tian is also a weapons craftsman... He once carried out a life wager by weapon's refinement in the County City of Swallow Mountain County, and crippled a great clan of the Swallow Mountain County's City!"

"Even now, the legends of Young Master Ling Tian is still spread all over the Crimson Sky Kingdom... I truly never imagined that I would be able to meet Young Master Ling Tian in my lifetime. My life has truly not been lived in vain!"

"I heard that Young Master Ling Tian went to the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom later and joined one of those formidable sects. He probably returned this time to visit his family and relatives."

"I heard long ago that our Divine Might Marquis Estate had an extremely good relationship with Young Master Ling Tian... Presently, the news of Young Master Ling Tian hasn't even spread and he had already come to our Divine Might Marquis Estate. It's sufficient to show how important our Divine Might Marquis Estate is in the heart of Young Master Ling Tian."

...

The guards discussed animatedly, and they were more excited the more they discussed.

Duan Ling Tian followed the guard and quickly arrived outside the Audience Hall of the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

Duan Ling Tian was able to notice from far away that there was a figure walking up and down within the Audience Hall, and the figure seemed to be slightly anxious...

Duan Ling Tian restrained the guard that wanted to report Duan Ling Tian's arrival and he lightly smiled to him. "I'll go in myself, sorry for the trouble."

"Don't mention it, Young Master Ling Tian." When facing the polite Duan Ling Tian, at the same time the guard turned around and left, he had an expression of being overwhelmed by the unexpected favor.

Duan Ling Tian walked over to the Audience Hall in large strides.

Meanwhile, he saw two robust figures...

The robust middle aged man stood within the Audience Hall and seemed calm.

The other young man walked up and down, and he seemed to have encountered something that caused him to be in an extremely difficult situation.

"Big Brother Nie, what's wrong?" Duan Ling Tian didn't proclaim his arrival beforehand and directly walked swiftly into the Audience Hall and asked with a hearty smile.

"Who?!" Duan Ling Tian appearing without a sound had alarmed both the people within the Audience Hall, and it caused their faces to go grim.

Two pairs of fierce gazes swept towards Duan Ling Tian in unison.

In next to no time, when their gazes descended onto Duan Ling Tian, the fierceness within instantly melted...

"Little... Little Tian?" The Divine Might Marquis, Nie Yuan, who stood deep inside the Audience Hall was the first to react and he had an expression of pleasant surprise.

Although a few years had passed, Duan Ling Tian's appearance hadn't changed much and he'd only become slightly mature.

"Little Tian, it's really you!" Because of Duan Ling Tian's appearance, Nie Fen who was walking up and down had stopped moving, and he had an expression of pleasant surprise as well.

"Uncle Nie, Big Brother Nie." Duan Ling Tian nodded with a smile to the two of them. "Long time no see."

"Haha... Little Tian, when did you return?" Nie Yuan walked over in pleasant surprise, and he asked as he walked.

"I just returned yesterday." Duan Ling Tian smiled.

"Little Tian, you've returned at the right time... Hmph! This time, let me see how that Sun Ascent Kingdom's Ambassador still remains complacent now! So what if he's at the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage... Compared to Little Tian, he doesn't even amount to trash." Nie Fen had an excited expression, and disdain appeared on the corners of his mouth as he finished speaking.

Sun Ascent Kingdom?

Duan Ling Tian's brows raised, it would seem like what he heard in the restaurant yesterday was true.

The ambassador of Sun Ascent Kingdom had brought along three outstanding young geniuses, and he actually wanted to challenge the young geniuses of the Crimson Sky Kingdom to reduce the prestige of the Crimson Sky Kingdom...

"Little Tian, what's your cultivation now?" Nie Yuan looked at Duan Ling Tian with eyes filled with curiosity.

Before Duan Ling Tian left the Crimson Sky Kingdom that day, he'd revealed a peerlessly monstrous natural talent that could be called unprecedented in the entire Crimson Sky Kingdom.

As far as he was concerned, now that a few years had passed, Duan Ling Tian who had joined a sect in the Azure Forest and possessed an even better cultivation environment would have surely already grown to an extent that was sufficient to shock him...

"Father, I've already stepped into the ninth level of the Origin Core Stage now, with Little Tian's natural talent, he'd have surely already surpassed me... Dealing with the young geniuses that the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought along is extremely easy for him! Little Tian, you should have at least broken through to the second level of the Nascent Soul Stage now, right?" Nie Fen's words were filled with confidence towards Duan Ling Tian, and as he finished speaking, he looked at Duan Ling Tian with an expression of anticipation.

Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled and abruptly took a step forward.

Origin Energy raged and leaped up on his body.

Whoosh!

Instantly, numerous ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above Duan Ling Tian, and they continuously condensed and increased in number...

After a short moment, the ancient mammoth silhouettes stopped increasing in number.

"Eight... The strength of 800 ancient mammoths!" Nie Yuan looked at the 800 ancient mammoth silhouettes that appeared and he had an astonished expression as his heartbeat increased in speed.

Although he'd long since guessed that Duan Ling Tian's current strength would be sufficient to shock him, he'd still never expected it to be so shocking...

In just a few years, this nephew of his had already broken through to the sixth level of the Nascent Soul Stage?

If he didn't remember wrongly, this nephew of his was only 23 this year, right?

A 23 year old at the sixth level of the Nascent Soul Stage...

What sort of monster was this?

Even Duan Ling Tian's father, Duan Ru Feng, the number one in the younger generation of the Crimson Sky Kingdom during his time, seemed to have only broken through to the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage at the age of 27...

Compared to Duan Ling Tian, the accomplishments of Duan Ling Tian's father, Duan Ru Feng, were completely not worth mentioning!

"Sixth... Sixth level of the Nascent Soul Stage..." Nie Fen stood on the spot and he was dumbfounded, his mouth gaped and was unable to close for a long time.

Similarly to Nie Yuan, he was completely stunned by Duan Ling Tian's cultivation as well.

A 23 year old sixth level Nascent Soul Stage martial artist...

He didn't know how what to use to describe Duan Ling Tian.

Monster? Abnormal? They seemed to be already not suitable for the current Duan Ling Tian.

"Abnormal amongst abnormal!" In the end, Nie Fen finally thought of a way to describe Duan Ling Tian...

It wasn't going too far to call Duan Ling Tian an abnormal amongst abnormal with the cultivation Duan Ling Tian possessed at an age like this.

After a long time, Nie Yuan and Nie Fen recovered from their shock.

"Little Tian, you must follow us to the Imperial Palace tomorrow and properly teach the first level Nascent Soul Stage young genius that came along with the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador a lesson... Let him learn of the true genius of our Crimson Sky Kingdom!" Nie Fen looked at Duan Ling Tian and rubbed his palms together, he seemed as if he'd already seen the scene of Duan Ling Tian completely crushing the young genius the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought over.

"Hmph! You don't cultivate properly and are inferior to him, so you want to teach him a lesson through Little Tian? Don't you feel it to be shameful?" Nie Yuan looked at Nie Fen and grunted coldly.

Nie Fen smiled bitterly. "Father, it's not like you didn't see it... Never mind the other two people, the person that Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought over, but in terms of age, that first level Nascent Soul Stage young genius is many years older than me. If I was of the same age as him, I guarantee I'd crush him completely."

"Age?" Nie Yuan glared angrily at Nie Fen. "You have the nerve to speak about age? Then do you want to compare your age with Little Tian? The difference between you and Little Tian seems to be even greater than the difference between you and the person the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought over, right?"

"Father, you... Aren't you bullying me by comparing me with Little Tian?" Nie Fen was completely helpless.

Comparing himself with Duan Ling Tian was completely like looking to be bashed.

This was something that he already knew all those years ago.

"Uncle Nie, Big Brother Nie, what's actually going on with that Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador?" Duan Ling Tian asked curiously.

Although he'd heard about the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador intentionally provoking the Crimson Sky Kingdom, but he didn't know the cause and effect of the matter.

"Actually, it isn't a big deal..." Nie Yuan spoke slowly. "The Sun Ascent Kingdom is a neighboring kingdom on the west of our Crimson Sky Kingdom, and had always been living along peacefully with our Crimson Sky Kingdom... This time, the Sun Ascent Kingdom sent over an ambassador and we originally thought it was just a friendly visit, but we never imagined that he would actually put forward a suggestion on the spot for a friendly martial competition between the young geniuses of the two kingdoms to his Majesty.

"It wasn't good for His Majesty to object, so he agreed... News had spread out these past few days that one of the three young geniuses that the ambassador of the Sun Ascent Kingdom brought had actually broken through to the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage." As he spoke up to here, Nie Yuan sighed. "Originally, it was fine even if we lost. But the problem is that his Majesty and the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador had actually used three years of the kingdom's taxes as the wager for the friendly martial competition..."

"Hmph! That Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador had obviously come prepared, and placed a trap for his Majesty... However, never in his dreams would he have thought that Little Tian would return." Nie Fen grunted in a low voice, and as he finished speaking, he couldn't refrain from bursting into laughter.

Chapter 459: I Won't Participate

During that year, Duan Ling Tian's reputation in the Crimson Sky Kingdom could be said to be like a sun that was towering in the sky.

Perhaps not many people in those formidable Imperial Kingdoms had heard of Duan Ling Tian, but the legends about Duan Ling Tian was similarly spread throughout the few Kingdoms in the surroundings of the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

Duan Ling Tian was undoubtedly a legend in the Crimson Sky Kingdom.

As far as Nie Fen was concerned, with Duan Ling Tian's current cultivation, the first level Nascent Soul Stage young genius that the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought over was utterly not a threat.

Perhaps, Duan Ling Tian only needed a single finger to beat the young genius down.

"No... Big Brother Nie, I won't participate in the friendly martial competition between the Crimson Sky Kingdom and the Sun Ascent Kingdom." Duan Ling Tian shook his head, as he wasn't interested in the slightest towards the friendly martial competition between the young geniuses of the two kingdoms.

As far as he was concerned, participating in the friendly martial competition with his current cultivation was simply bullying others.

"Not participating?" Nie Fen was stunned, then he laughed bitterly as he said, "Little Tian, if you don't participate, then our Crimson Sky Kingdom will surely lose this time... Once we lose, our Crimson Sky Kingdom will pay three years of taxes because of this!"

The taxes of the Crimson Sky Kingdom for three years was undoubtedly an astronomical figure.

No matter who is was, they would feel their heart ache over it.

"Little Tian... I know you've joined a sect in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom and you stand at a different height, so you don't take the people the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador brought over seriously. But, the friendly martial competition this time isn't only related to the honor of our Crimson Sky Kingdom, it's also related to three years of taxes of our Crimson Sky Kingdom..." Nie Yuan looked at Duan Ling Tian and sighed. "This time, Uncle Nie hope that you're able to assist our Crimson Sky Kingdom and help our Crimson Sky Kingdom out of this predicament. If our Crimson Sky Kingdom loses three years of taxes to the Sun Ascent Kingdom, then the Sun Ascent Kingdom will very likely use these taxes to strengthen their army for the purpose of attacking our kingdom... At that time, it would surely cause the commoners to live in misery."

"I think that you're unwilling to see the myriad of commoners of the Crimson Sky Kingdom to be caught in the flames of war and be forced to leave their homes, right?" As he finished speaking, Nie Yuan's expression was extremely serious.

"Uncle Nie." Duan Ling Tian was instantly unable to bear Nie Yuan's long winded speech. "I think you've misunderstood... I only said I wouldn't participate the friendly martial competition, but I didn't say I wouldn't help the Crimson Sky Kingdom win the wager this time." As he finished speaking, Duan Ling Tian shook his head helplessly.

"Little Tian, what do you mean by this? You won't participate in the friendly martial competition, then how will we win the wager this time?" Nie Yuan and Nie Fen both had puzzled expressions.

"Both of you will know at that time... Right, Uncle Nie, Big Brother Nie, when is the friendly martial competition being held?" Duan Ling Tian smiled mysteriously, then he asked Nie Yuan and Nie Fen.

"Coincidentally enough, it's tomorrow." Nie Yuan said, "At that time, the friendly martial competition will be held in the Imperial Palace... His Majesty and the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador will personally arrive. Now only that, the young geniuses of the Imperial Family and the three great clans will be present at that time."

"Tomorrow? It's coincidental indeed... Hmm, I'll come to the Divine Might Marquis Estate again tomorrow, and we'll go to the Imperial Palace together." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"Uncle Nie, is Grandpa Nie here?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Nie Yuan and asked. Since he'd come to the Divine Might Marquis Estate now, he naturally had to meet the Senior Marquis to show respect.

"Father went on a long journey some time ago." Nie Yuan shook his head, and he was extremely happy in his heart that Duan Ling Tian was still able to remember his father.

"Little Tian, how exactly will you allow our Crimson Sky Kingdom to win the wager with the Sun Ascent Kingdom?" Nie Fen's curious eyes turned as he asked impatiently.

"Big Brother Nie, you'll know tomorrow..." Duan Ling Tian shrugged and intentionally kept him guessing.

Although Nie Fen's heart itched intolerably, Duan Ling Tian was unwilling to say, so he had didn't have any other way and could only wait for the arrival of the friendly martial competition tomorrow.

"Little Tian, I heard the cultivation environment in the sects of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom is extremely good... Is this true?"

"Little Tian, have you seen Void Initiation Stage experts when you were in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom during these past few years?"

"Little Tian, you..."

Subsequently, Nie Fen ceaselessly asked Duan Ling Tian about things related to the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, as if he didn't know exhaustion and weariness.

In the end, Duan Ling Tian was truly unable to bear it and hurriedly bid his farewell before leaving.

When he left, it was no different than fleeing.

Nie Yuan and Nie Fen sent Duan Ling Tian out, and when Duan Ling Tian's figure disappeared from his vision, Nie Fen was slightly not fully satisfied as he muttered. "I haven't finished asking him..."

"Enough, you still want to ask him? Little Tian was even scared away by you." Nie Yuan glared angrily at Nie Fen.

Nie Fen smiled in slight embarrassment, then his eyeballs revolved as he mutter. "Earlier, when I asked Little Tian questions... Father, you seemed to be extremely interested as well, right? Why are you blaming me now?"

How strong was Nie Yuan's hearing, he vaguely heard Nie Fen's light muttering, and he glared angrily as he raised his voice and asked. "What did you say?"

"No... No... Nothing! Nothing!" Nie Fen was instantly frightened when he saw this.

On the outside, he was the Junior Marquis of the Divine Might Marquis Estate, a general with matchless bravery and was revered by a myriad of soldiers.

But at home, before his father the Divine Might Marquis, he was always only a little kid.

After Duan Ling Tian left the Divine Might Marquis Estate, he didn't go anywhere else and directly returned to his own courtyard house.

Duan Ling Tian had only just returned to his courtyard house and walked in when he heard a wave of light laughter that was pleasing to the ear.

"Xiao Lan?" Duan Ling Tian discerned the owner of the sound and his brows raised.

In the pergola in the rear courtyard, the woman that sat opposite of Li Rou had soft and straight long hair that was like a waterfall that poured down, and it fluttered with the wind.

Her drop dead gorgeous face seemed to have been carved with the care and precision of a sculptor.

Xiao Lan sat there with a refined bearing, and she seemed to have transformed into a celestial maiden that had come down to the mortal world...

Duan Ling Tian had only just entered the rear courtyard when Xiao Lan noticed him and looked over. A wisp of delight appeared on her peerlessly beautiful face, and she stood up in slight panic. "You... You've returned!?"

Xiao Lan glanced at Duan Ling Tian then lowered her head in embarrassment, as if she was a child that had been caught secretly eating candy.

"Xiao Lan, long time no see." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to Xiao Lan. He was able to perceive that his mother didn't tell Xiao Lan beforehand that he'd returned.

"Yes, long time no time. It's good that you've returned... Aunt Rou has missed you extremely these past few years..." Xiao Lan lightly nodded, and he only sat down once again after Duan Ling Tian came over and sat down.

Her hazy beautiful eyes that were like water occasionally sneaked a peek at the man before her...

They hadn't met in a few years, and this man had become matured and even more charming.

Unknowingly, a wisp of a bright red blush that was rosy had tainted Xiao Lan's beautiful face, and she looked delicate and attractive.

"Tian, you've gone to see Uncle Nie?" Li Rou noticed Xiao Lan's subtle changes when Duan Ling Tian appeared, and she sighed in her heart before looking at Duan Ling Tian and steered around the topic of conversation.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled and nodded. "I've seen him. After so many years, Uncle Nie is still healthy as usual."

"When do you plan to go to the Duan Clan and the Imperial Palace?" Li Rou asked.

"I'll go to the Duan Clan in another two days... I'll rest today as I still have to make a trip to the Divine Might Marquis Estate dawn tomorrow, then I have to follow Uncle Nie and Big Brother Nie to enter the Imperial Palace, and go see his Majesty as well." Duan Ling Tian spoke slowly.

"Is it for the matter of the friendly martial competition with the young geniuses of the Sun Ascent Kingdom?" Obviously, Li Rou knew of this matter as well.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

After a short moment, Li Rou glanced at Duan Ling Tian, then looked at Xiao Lan who sat nearby before standing up. "The two of you haven't seen each other in a long time, have a good chat... I'll return to my room to cultivate first." As she finished speaking, Li Row let out a breath of air before leaving the rear courtyard.

For a time, only Duan Ling Tian and Xiao Lan who sat opposite each other remained in the pergola within the rear courtyard.

Duan Ling Tian was slightly embarrassed and he didn't know what to say.

In the end, it was Xiao Lan who spoke first. "Ke Er and Li Fei returned with you?"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "No. They've gone on a long journey with a senior from the sect, and it will probably be another period of time before they return together."

"Mmm." Xiao Lan nodded lightly.

"Have you been well during these past few years?" After Xiao Lan saw Duan Ling Tian giving no reaction for a long time after replying to her, she secretly cursed the 'block of wood' before taking the initiative to start the conversation.

"Not bad." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

He never felt that he was an awkward person, but now when he faced Xiao Lan, his feelings were instead extremely complicated...

If it's said that he didn't have a good impression of Xiao Lan, that would be impossible.

Since ancient times, heroes love beauties. Although he didn't think he was a hero, he didn't have too great of a resistance to this level of a beauty like Xiao Lan.

Even to the extent that during that time when they were still in Aurora City and he'd seen Xiao Lan for the first time during the Hidden Dragon List gathering held by the Xiao Clan, he couldn't help but have a breathtaking feeling towards this woman that was like a celestial maiden that had come down to earth, and he had a rather good impression of her.

After all, everyone loved a beauty.

If he didn't have Ke Er and Li Fei, perhaps he would take the initiative to chase after Xiao Lan, as for feelings, it could be developed slowly...

Just like Li Fei all those years ago.

However, because he already had Ke Er and Li Fei by his side now, it caused Duan Ling Tian to shoulder a great responsibility.

He had to consider the feelings of the two young women.

Of course, although it was like this, it didn't mean that Duan Ling Tian wouldn't marry a third woman in his entire life. He just wouldn't be licentious like before.

If they really had fate, then when fate came, he wouldn't miss it.

But up until now, the fate between him and Xiao Lan seemed to not have come to that extent.

Subsequently, Xiao Lan asked Duan Ling Tian many things about the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, and at the same time, she was filled with yearning towards the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom.

"I really envy Ke Er and Li Fei, as they are able to always accompany you by your side, and accompany you to wander around outside." Xiao Lan had an expression of envy.

Always accompany me by my side?

Xiao Lan's words caused Duan Ling Tian to feel deeply ashamed.

During these past few years, the time he was together with Ke Er and Li Fei in total seemed to be less than a month.

At other times, he was alone by himself.

Chapter 460: Entering The Palace

A morning silently passed by.

At almost noon, it was practically Xiao Lan asking and Duan Ling Tian replying all the time.

"Xiao Lan." In the end, Duan Ling Tian secretly gritted his teeth and was prepared to go straight to the point.

"Hmm?" A wisp of a blush tainted Xiao Lan's beautiful face when she heard Duan Ling Tian call her, and her beautiful eyes were tender as water as flowing lights flowed within.

"Undeniably, you're extremely outstanding... But, I..." Duan Ling Tian looked at Xiao Lan and hesitated to speak.

Xiao Lan's delicate figure lightly trembled, then asked in a light voice. "Is it because of Ke Er and Li Fei?"

Duan Ling Tian lightly nodded.

"If you didn't have them, you..." As she spoke up to here, Xiao Lan's breathing became slightly hurried.

"I would chase after you." Duan Ling Tian didn't conceal it and said it directly.

"That's enough." Xiao Lan's face emitted a light smile that came from the heart. "In this way, it at least proves that I have a certain level of weight in your eyes... But we just met each other too late."

Xiao Lan stood up when she spoke up to here, then she looked at Duan Ling Tian and said with a light voice, "It's Aunt Rou who asked you to take resolute action to solve this, right? I know that Aunt Row did it for my own good... But, sometimes, once a woman sets her mind on a man, then she won't easily change it, no matter how long it is."

"No matter what, since I, Xiao Lan, have set my mind on you in this lifetime, then I won't change my mind, even until death. Even if the two of us will come to nothing in this lifetime, I'm still willing to silently accompany Aunt Rou's side, just for the sake of having the chance to take another glance at you... I'll let you know, that what I can give for you is no less than Ke Er and Li Fei." As soon as she finished speaking, Xiao Lan turned and left, and her graceful figure seemed to be lonely and desolate.

Duan Ling Tian only came back to his senses when Xiao Lan's figure disappeared before his eyes, and he had a bitter smile on his face.

He never imagined that for the sake of him, Xiao Lan would actually have had the thought of not getting married for her entire lifetime.

Moreover, she was even unshakably determined to do this.

This caused him to feel guilty and helpless. "What ability do I, Duan Ling Tian, have to get this?"

"Hehe... Big Brother Ling Tian, that Big Sister from earlier is extremely good to you." The little gold mouse's voice transmission entered into Duan Ling Tian's ears, and it contained slight teasing mixed within.

"What does a little kid know, go fly a kite!" Duan Ling Tian grabbed the little gold mouse and casually tossed her away, then he left the rear courtyard and returned to his room to cultivate.

The little gold mouse stood in the air, and as she looked at Duan Ling Tian's figure, her jade green eyes were filled with craftiness and a teasing expression...

Duan Ling Tian sat cross-legged on the bed after he returned to his room, then closed his eyes to cultivate.

However, he was unable to get into the state of cultivation after a long time.

The words Xiao Lan said affected him extremely greatly, and it caused him to be unable to calm down for a long time.

In the end, Duan Ling Tian simply didn't cultivate, and he lay down to sleep.

Eating after awakening from his sleep, then sleeping after eating.

Dawn the next day, Duan Ling Tian walked out of his home with the little gold mouse and Mo Yu, and they headed to the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

Before long, Duan Ling Tian's group of two and the Divine Might Marquis's group of father and son ascended a carriage before heading towards the Imperial Palace.

"Little Tian, what exactly are you planning?" Nie Fen looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked slightly anxiously. "If you don't participate, then how will we win?"

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled, then didn't keep them guessing any long, and he looked at Mo Yu who was beside him and said slowly, "Big Brother Nie, I won't fight today, but it doesn't mean that Mo Yu won't... Don't worry, just leave that first level Nascent Soul Stage young genius of the Sun Ascent Kingdom to Mo Yu."

When they heard Duan Ling Tian, not only Nie Fen but even Nie Yuan looked at Mo Yu.

Although Duan Ling Tian had introduced Mo Yu earlier, they noticed Mo Yu's respectful and reverent attitude towards Duan Ling Tian, they only thought that Mo Yu was a Junior Brother that Duan Ling Tian had brought back to the Crimson Sky Kingdom to tour around, and ought to have no strength.

After all, Mo Yu's age looked to be similar to Duan Ling Tian.

As far as he was concerned, even if it was someone from a sect in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom, they would probably not be so strong at such an age.

After all, not everyone was Duan Ling Tian.

However, Nie Yuan and Nie Fen choose to believe Duan Ling Tian in the end.

Duan Ling Tian had never disappointed them.

When he arrived at the Imperial Palace once again, Duan Ling Tian felt as if it had been ages.

Today, the friendly martial competition between the young geniuses of the Sun Ascent Kingdom and the Crimson Sky Kingdom would be held in the imperial garden at the back of the Imperial Palace.

Duan Ling Tian brought Mo Yu along and went to see the Emperor in the throne room with Nie Yuan and Nie Fen.

After not seeing the Emperor for a few years, not only did the emperor have no trace of aging, he was even more spirited...

"Commander Duan!" The Emperor saw Duan Ling Tian and his eyes squinted, then he had a pleasantly surprised expression. "I was talking with Bi Yao last night that if you were able to return at this moment, then the Sun Ascent Kingdom's ambassador will surely return in defeat... But I never imagined you would really return!"

"Your Majesty, congratulations on successfully breaking through to the Void Prying Stage!" Duan Ling Tian congratulated the Emperor.

Earlier when he first laid eyes on the Emperor, his acute Spiritual Force had detected the Emperor's current cultivation.

The Emperor had obviously already broken through to the Void Prying Stage.

"Void Prying Stage?" Nie Yuan and Nie Fen were both stunned when they heard Duan Ling Tian. Obviously, they didn't know beforehand that the Emperor had broken through to the Void Prying Stage.

After all, they didn't have such a formidable Spiritual Force like Duan Ling Tian to detect the cultivations of others.

"Congratulations your Majesty!" Instantly, Nie Yuan and Nie Fen hurriedly congratulated the Emperor.

A flowing light flashed within the Emperor's eyes, then he looked at Duan Ling Tian with a gaze filled with surprise. "Commander Duan, you've truly surprised me... After all, besides myself, there isn't a second person that knows that I have broken through to the Void Prying Stage! You've only just returned and discerned my cultivation with a single glance. Looks like Commander Duan has obtained quite good gains from these few years in the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom."

"Your Majesty, you're too kind." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled. "Besides that, I'm already not the Commander of the Embroidered Uniform Guard anymore... Your Majesty, just directly address me by my name in the future."

"In my eyes, you're always the Commander Duan that uprooted the traitors and performed an extraordinary service!" The Emperor had a serious expression.

Duan Ling Tian smiled and didn't persist. "Your Majesty, it's almost time... Let's go over first."

"Alright!" The Emperor nodded then under the escort of the imperial guard, he headed to the imperial garden with Duan Ling Tian's group.

Besides the large space emptied out in the center, there were a total of six banquet tables in the imperial garden. A luxurious carpet was placed beneath the exquisite banquet table, and there were many good wines and dishes place on the tables.

The luxurious carpet on the east was the largest and it was obviously the seat of the host.

When Duan Ling Tian's group and the Emperor arrived, four of the banquet tables were already seated with many people.

"Here comes His Majesty!" Along with a loud shout sounding out, the people at the banquet tables all stood up and bowed respectfully. "Your Majesty!"

"Don't stand on ceremony everyone, take your seats. Divine Might Marquis, take your seat with the Junior Marquis... Commander Duan, sit by my side today." After the Emperor sat at the seat of the host, he slowly spoke out.

"Yes, Your Majesty." Duan Ling Tian nodded and sat at the right of the Emperor.

"Mo Yu, you go over with Uncle Nie and Big Brother Nie." At the same time, Duan Ling Tian asked Mo Yu to sit at the banquet table below the one he sat at with Nie Yuan and Nie Fen.

That place was exactly the banquet table left for the Divine Might Marquis Estate.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Right at this moment, a wave of surprised exclams sounded out from the other three banquet tables.

The people these were respectively the people from the three great clans of the Imperial City, the three great Patriarchs and the young geniuses they brought with them.

The two young geniuses that sat at the Xiao Clan's banquet table looked at Duan Ling Tian from afar with an excited expression.

"Xiao Yu, Xiao Xun, long time no see... Xiao Yu, I never expected that you've actually broken through to the seventh level of the Origin Core Stage." Duan Ling Tian communicated with the two via voice transmission.

"Duan Ling Tian, when did you return?" Xiao Yu asked via voice transmission.

As for Xiao Xun, his cultivation hadn't broken through to the seventh level of the Origin Core Stage and was unable to condense his Origin Energy into sound, and he could only sit anxiously by Xiao Yu's side but be unable to do anything.

"I returned the day before yesterday." Duan Ling Tian replied via voice transmission, and he was rather happy in his heart when he met his two old friends again.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Xiao Xun who sat there anxiously by Xiao Yu's side and said via voice transmission, "Xiao Xun, let's have a nice get together after this friendly martial competition ends."

Xiao Xun hurriedly nodded when he heard this and his face finally emitted a smile.

"Looks like I have to quickly break through to the seven level of the Origin Core Stage as well... Unable to use voice transmission at a critical moment is truly a cause for anxiety." Xiao Xun silently said in his heart.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Meanwhile, the Duan Clan, Su Clan, and Xiao Clan's Patriarchs looked at Duan Ling Tian.

They were surprised and delighted towards Duan Ling Tian's appearance.

"Here comes Princess Bi Yao." A sudden voice sounded out and broke the silence at the scene.

Right at this moment, a graceful and beautiful figure walked over in large strides. She wore luxurious clothes and possessed a peerless appearance, and her disposition was natural as if she was a beauty that had walked out from a painting, causing one to find it difficult to have the heart to disrespect her.

"Princess Bi Yao!" Instantly, besides the banquet table of the host, the people at the other tables all stood up and bowed to the young woman.

But, these people that stood up weren't able to obtain the reply of the young woman after a long time.

Because, at this moment, the young woman's gaze had completely descended onto a single person...

Duan Ling Tian!

"Princess, long time no see." Duan Ling Tian slowly stood up, and his face revealed a smile as he looked at Princess Bi Yao.

Princess Bi Yao's beautiful eyes that were as tender as water became slightly moist, and her delicate figure trembled slightly.

At this moment, it seemed as if only Duan Ling Tian remained in her world...

Was she dreaming?

The person that she longed for extremely had returned?

"Everyone, please sit." The Emperor didn't have any intention of blaming Princess Bi Yao for her breach of etiquette, then looked at the people that still stood there and lightly smiled. "My daughter has been impolite, I hope that no one blames her for it."

"Your Majesty of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, Princess Bi Yao of your kingdom is really drop dead gorgeous as the rumors say... Princess Bi Yao deserves the title of the number one beauty in the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City!" At the banquet table below where Duan Ling Tian and the Emperor were seated, a middle aged man with a robust figure sighed.

"Ambassador, you're too kind." The Emperor smiled modestly.