

Bang!

Inside Duan Ling Tian's body, Origin Energy charged out and broke through the last bottleneck...

A carp leapt over the dragon gate and instantly transformed into a dragon!

At the exact moment the Origin Energy charged through the bottleneck, Duan Ling Tian's body instantly underwent an earth-shattering change...

Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes and a smile appeared on the corners of his mouth.

I've broken through!

Fourth level of the Core Formation Stage!

In these past three months, Duan Ling Tian had never once stopped cultivating as he travelled to the Imperial City, and the facts would prove that his hard work wasn't wasted!

"I can exert the strength of 11 ancient mammoths without using spirit weapons at my current strength.... That's comparable to an ordinary eighth level Core Formation martial artist! Once I complete the fourth level Core Formation Stage tempering of the fleshly body for the Raging Python Form, I will gain another ancient mammoth worth of strength. That will allow me to possess a strength comparable to a ninth level Core Formation martial artist!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed with a trace of a brilliant light.

"Duan Ling Xing, we'll meet really soon, and at that time, what you gave me, gave Ke Er, gave Li Xuan...I'll make you repay it a hundred fold, a thousand fold, or even ten thousand fold!"

After breaking through, Duan Ling Tian's mood was elated, but only when he lifted his head to look did he realize that his mother was still cultivating, and the girls, Li Fei and Ke Er, were both sleeping.

"These two little girls are probably really tired." A light smile appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth and his eyes were filled with a gentleness. He planned to use his entire life to protect these two girls and allow them to be the happiest women on this world.

This was the promise he made to himself that wouldn't change throughout his lifetime.

Duan Ling Tian opened the carriage curtain and looked off into the distance.... During this journey, they'd met with some senseless bandits; however, none of those bandits were able to rob and kill them; instead, they were killed by Xiong Quan.

Duan Ling Tian was extremely at ease with Xiong Quan around, and after a short while, he felt slightly exhausted and dozed off.

Before long, Duan Ling Tian was jolted awake by the sound of hurried horse hooves stomping towards them. These sounds came from three horses which had speeds far above the speed any ordinary horse was capable of...

"Three Ferghana Horses?" The sound of the horses grew closer and closer. Duan Ling Tian lifted open the carriage curtain and looked towards the back. What he saw made his brows twitch.

In next to no time, he clearly saw the face of one of the three figures.

Yu Xiang!

"The Yu Clan's movements are really fast." Duan Ling Tian eyes went cold as he closed the carriage curtain. He didn't disturb his mother nor Ke Er and Li Fei as he opened the carriage door and sat beside Xiong Quan. "Xiong Quan, the three people behind are coming for me. Stop the wagon at the side and let's deal with them."

"Yes, my liege." Xiong Quan nodded and stopped the wagon at the side of the road before following Duan Ling Tian and dashing towards the back of the wagon.

Neigh!

Neigh neigh~

...

Three Ferghana Horses stopped before Duan Ling Tian. On their bodies was sweat that seemed like fresh blood, and under the rays of the burning sun, it glimmered with a devilish glow.

A young man atop one of the Ferghana Horses stared coldly at Duan Ling Tian as he sneered, "Duan Ling Tian, you know that you can't escape death, so you came over to seek your own doom? What? Hoping to use this to plead us to spare your family?"

"Yu Xiang, you're still as conceited as usual." Duan Ling Tian looked at Yu Xiang and spoke in an indifferent tone. His gaze had never once fallen upon Yu Xiang. Instead, it descended upon the other two people.

An old man and a middle-aged man.

Once a martial artist was above the Core Formation Stage, his cultivation wasn't something that could be easily discerned, but Duan Ling Tian inherited the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor after all, and by relying on Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, he was vaguely able to discern that the middle-aged man was an Origin Core martial artist, and the old man, on the other hand, was a Nascent Soul martial artist...

This old man's strength was not one bit inferior to Aqua Mist City's He Clan's Supreme Elder, He Zu Dao.

"Humph! Duan Ling Tian, you're still stubborn even when you're about to die! I'll tell you right here right now, even if you come and seek death, I still won't spare your family. As long as it's someone related to you, then they will die!" Seeing Duan Ling Tian actually ignoring him caused Yu Xiang to burst with rage.

"What did you say?" Duan Ling Tian's face sank and his gaze turned slightly cold. A terrifying killing intent swept out from him towards Yu Xiang.

Threatening his family was taboo to him!

Yu Xiang's expression went ghastly pale and his body started trembling when he was abruptly enveloped by this killing intent, and he actually fell off his horse in a sorry state...

"Hmm?" The old man, or the Yu Clan's Grand Elder, Yu Hui, glanced at Duan Ling Tian with a slightly astounded gaze.

Such a killing intent.... Even he, who had killed to make his way through his life till now, had not developed a killing intent of this degree. This youth around the age of 17 was not an ordinary person!

"You're courting death!" Yu Li's face sank as his legs stomped on the Ferghana Horse's body. He launched himself like a rocket towards Duan Ling Tian, then he smashed his palm that swept out with violent winds towards him, causing the sound of air exploding to echo out. "Duan Ling Tian, you killed my son, Yu Hong. Today is the day you die!"

"Yu Hong?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes flickered as he came to an understanding. So this man was Yu Hong's father.

As he looked at the 110 ancient mammoth silhouettes above Yu Li, Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart, "This Yu Li's strength isn't bad; he actually cultivated to the eighth level of the Origin Core Stage."

"But this little bit of strength..."

"You dare to be disrespectful to my liege? Die!" Xiong Quan shouted explosively. As he instantly flashed out to intercept Yu Li, 100 ancient mammoth silhouettes appeared above him...

"Seventh level of the Origin Core Stage?" Yu Hui, who still sat atop his Ferghana Horse, was slightly surprised, but didn't have any intention of lending a hand. As far as he was concerned, Yu Li was more than enough to handle a seventh level Origin Core martial artist.

"Humph! A mere seventh level Origin Core martial artist dares to be presumptuous in front of me? I'll kill you first!" Yu Li looked on disdainfully as he sneered, and his palm that approached with tremendous momentum was suffused with Origin Energy as it blasted towards Xiong Quan.

Whoosh!

However, in this very instant, the 100 ancient mammoth silhouettes above Xiong Quan instantly became 200!

"No!!!" Seeing this scene caused the sneer on the corners of Yu Li's mouth to completely freeze, and his eyes contained terror.

He never would have thought that Xiong Quan was actually a Nascent Soul martial artist, as 200 ancient mammoths were something only a martial artist above the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage was capable of condensing.

He wanted to stop his attack, but he realized that it was already too late, as the entire strength within him had already been fully poured into this palm strike and was now difficult to withdraw.

"Stay your hand!" Yu Hui's expression distorted, as he never imagined that Xiong Quan would have concealed his strength, and his body swiftly flashed out in an effort to save Yu Li. Above him, 300 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form!

"Second level of the Nascent Soul Stage!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed when he noticed Yu Hui attacking, but he remained unfazed.

Whoosh!

A three-foot-long blade abruptly appeared in Xiong Quan's hand and whistled out to instantaneously flash past Yu Li's throat. After successfully completing his attack, Xiong Quan returned to stand in front of Duan Ling Tian and protect him.

Yu Hui caught Yu Li's body only to notice that blood was flowing violently out of Yu Li's throat, then Yu Li struggled for a few moments and lost all signs of life...

"Second Elder!" Yu Hui's expression turned gloomy, as the middle-aged man in his hands was not only simply the second elder of the Yu Clan, he was the younger brother of the Patriarch. Now that Yu Li had died in front of him, how would he return and explain it to the Patriarch?

Since the moment Xiong Quan exerted the strength of a Nascent Soul martial artist, Yu Xiang had been completely dumbstruck. Now that he saw Yu Li's death, his expression went ghastly pale. He pounced forward and continuously shook Yu Li's corpse. It was as if he was unwilling to believe that all of this was real. "Father! Father!..."

Yu Hui put down Yu Li's corpse and strode over towards Duan Ling Tian and Xiong Quan while staring at them with a cold and indifferent gaze.

"Today, even if you're at the first level of the Nascent Soul Stage, you will still die for sure! And you, Duan Ling Tian, after I kill him, I won't kill you... I'll capture you and give you over to be dealt with by Yu Xiang!" Yu Hui's cold and indifferent voice sounded as his ice cold gaze flashed past Xiong Quan before descending upon Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, I will let you see with your own two eyes how I slice the flesh off your body piece by piece. I want you to feel that living is worse than death!" After hearing what Yu Hui said, Yu Xiang looked at Duan Ling Tian with a gaze that emitted a ruthless glare.

Duan Ling Tian's face sunk. "Then it would depend on if this old goat is able to live up to your expectations."

Whoosh!

Yu Hui made his move. His speed was so fast that Duan Ling Tian, at his current cultivation level, was unable to catch a glimpse of Yu Hui... Xiong Quan flashed out right after Yu Hui, seeming to be able to easily see through Yu Hui's whereabouts as he directly intercepted Yu Hui.

"A mere first level Nascent Soul martial artist, die!" Yu Hui's figure appeared as he shouted coldly, and in his hand, a narrow saber that was as thin as a cicada's wing appeared abruptly before whistling through the air as it struck at Xiong Quan!

The light of the saber radiated, and under the rays of the blazing sun, it flickered with a brilliant luster...

"Grade Eight Spirit Weapon!" Duan Ling Tian's gaze flickered as he noticed the grade of the spirit weapon in Yu Hui's hand.

Meanwhile, beside the 300 ancient mammoth silhouettes above Yu Hui, another 60 ancient mammoth silhouettes appeared. This was the strength amplified by the spirit weapon!

The Grade Eight Spirit Weapon provided a 20% amplification!

Om!

Yu Hui's sabre martial skill was extremely remarkable, as it perfectly revealed his entire strength, and his attack moved like a shadow to envelop Xiong Quan.

"Your martial skill isn't bad, but unfortunately, you encountered me." Xiong Quan didn't dodge when faced with Yu Hui's remarkable saber strike, and the three-foot-long blade in his hand flashed out to intercept the attack.

"Overestimating yourself!" A sneer appeared in the corners of Yu Hui's mouth.

However, in next to no time, his expression completely changed...

What did he see?

Just at the moment Xiong Quan attacked, the 200 ancient mammoth silhouettes above him instantaneously became 400 ancient mammoth silhouettes...

Third level of the Nascent Soul Stage!

And this wasn't even the end. As the spirit sword in Xiong Quan's hand trembled, its might was completely revealed. Beside the 400 ancient mammoth silhouettes, another 100 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form...

The spirit weapon's amplification was close to 30%!

The strength of more than 500 ancient mammoths against the strength of nearly 360 ancient mammoths, the two of them were truly not on the same level, so the result was easily determined.

Clang!

The Grade Seven Spirit Weapon, the three-foot-long blade, flashed past as it instantly cut the Grade Eight Spirit Weapon, narrow saber, in half, and without losing any momentum continued on to descend upon Yu Hui's head...

Yu Hui only had one thought before his death: "Third level of the Nascent Soul Stage... Grade Seven Spirit Weapon..."

Yu Hui's severed head that flew off had its eyes opened wide, seeming to say that even till the moment of death, he never imagined that Xiong Quan would possess such strength...

"Grand Elder... No, it can't be! It can't be! I must be dreaming, I must be!" The scene before him caused Yu Xiang's eyes to seem like they were about to split apart, and his expression was extremely unsightly! He muttered in despair while extending his hand to pinch his own thigh...

Chapter 132: I, Duan Ling Tian, Disdain It!

"Ah!" The sharp pain that came from his thigh caused Yu Xiang to be unable to stop himself from emitting a shrill cry. Only now did he realize that everything that happened before him was real, and he wasn't dreaming...

"Yu Xiang!" How could Duan Ling Tian not know what Yu Xiang was thinking after seeing what he was doing? A sneer appeared on the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth. "Now, tell me what do you think of how I should deal with you? Should I let you see with your own two eyes as I slowly slice off the flesh on your body piece by piece and let you feel like living is worse than death... Or should I give you a swift death?"

In the next moment, what Yu Xiang did caused Duan Ling Tian to be stunned.

Putong!

This Yu Xiang actually knelt on the floor and started kowtowing to him, even disregarding the blood flowing from his forehead. "Duan Ling Tian, I beg you, let me go... I don't want to die, I really don't want to die!"

As death closed in on him, Yu Xiang forgot about his pride and forgot about everything...

"Let you go?" Duan Ling Tian sneered. "Let you go so that you can return to the Yu Clan and get more people to take revenge on me?"

Yu Xiang hurriedly shook his head. He was so afraid that his body shivered. "I won't look for you to take revenge, I really won't look for you to take revenge..."

"Your father and your brother both died by my hand. Are you sure you won't look for me to take revenge?" Duan Ling Tian's eyes emitted a trace of doubt.

"Really, really!" Yu Xiang gazed at Duan Ling Tian with a pleading expression.

However, Duan Ling Tian noticed the cold light that flashed briefly deep within his gaze, but even if Duan Ling Tian didn't notice this, he still didn't plan on letting Yu Xiang go...

If weeds weren't removed at the roots, then they would grow once more when the spring winds blow!

Duan Ling Tian could be considered to have experienced how malicious this Yu Xiang's heart was.

"Yu Xiang, I still remember your overbearing and arrogant appearance when we met for the first time, and how you seemed to look down upon me. Originally, I didn't plan on fussing about it, but you actually secretly schemed with your brother to get someone to take my life. It can be said that your brother's

death, and even the death of your father, were all caused by you!" Duan Ling Tian swept his gaze over Yu Xiang.

"You... The disappearance of Centurion Bai Feng is related to you?" Yu Xiang's expression turned ghastly pale. He had felt it to be strange when his brother's good friend, Bai Feng, disappeared, but now, after hearing what Duan Ling Tian said, he vaguely guessed something.

Duan Ling Tian nodded as he openly admitted, "Yes, Bai Feng died by my hand! I used the same inscription that I used to kill your brother when I killed him in the Dawnshroud Mountain Range."

Yu Xiang's expression was ashen. Never did he imagine that from the beginning until the end, Duan Ling Tian was never once worried about his revenge.... Now that he recalled the matter, everything seemed to really be his doing!

"Duan Ling Tian, as long as you don't kill me, I can promise you anything. I can be your dog and let you command me however you wish. How about it?" Yu Xiang's eyes emitted a desire to live, as he was only 20 this year and was unwilling to lose his life here.

"Be my dog?" Duan Ling Tian was stunned, as he never imagined that Yu Xiang would actually disregard his pride in such a way just to continue living. The current Yu Xiang, compared to the Yu Xiang he met on their first meeting, were like two completely different people!

If Yu Xiang could still maintain his arrogant appearance from before, Duan Ling Tian might've thought slightly highly of him... but now he didn't even feel like killing this Yu Xiang.

"Xiong Quan!" Duan Ling Tian said lightly in a tone that was mixed with dense coldness.

"Yes, my liege!" Although Duan Ling Tian didn't provide detailed instructions, Xiong Quan could still understand what Duan Ling Tian meant. He was, after all, someone that had followed Duan Ling Tian for a few months.

"No!" Yu Xiang turned around and fled, as he realized that he was facing imminent danger when he saw Xiong Quan walking towards him. However, that puny speed of his was nothing in front of Xiong Quan, so he was caught up to by Xiong Quan within a short moment before dying beneath his blade.

Under Duan Ling Tian's instruction, Xiong Quan searched the three Yu Clan corpses and withdrew some silver and a Spatial Ring. That Spatial Ring precisely belonged to the Grand Elder, Yu Hui.

"My liege!" Xiong Quan respectfully passed over the spoils to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded and glanced at the Grade Eight Spirit Weapon narrow sabre that was in two halves before glancing at the three Ferghana Horses, "Put away his spirit weapon; I can use it when I refine weapons in the future. As for these three Ferghana Horses, substitute them to pull the wagon and sell off our five horses in the next town."

Xiong Quan's gaze flickered as he asked, in shock, "My liege... You... You're a weapons craftsman as well?"

"Is it that strange? Let's return." Duan Ling Tian's brows knit as a Pill Fire burned alight on his palm. He turned around and left after he burned the corpses of the three Yu Clan members.

Meanwhile, he established ownership over Yu Hai's Spatial Ring on the way. "2,000,000 silver? Not bad. This Yu Hui was much better-off than Aqua Mist City's He Clan's He Zu Dao from before..."

Xiong Quan led on the three Ferghana Horses as he respectfully followed behind Duan Ling Tian. He felt that this liege he acknowledged seemed to be no ordinary person.

What a joke! How could an ordinary person at this age be so wise and farsighted, and seem to have everything within his grasp?

Xiong Quan even felt that in certain areas, even the Sect Leader of the Boundless Sect from before was far inferior to this liege of his.

"Maybe being able to follow my liege is my fortune.... With my liege's natural talent, he will sooner or later head to the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom. I have a feeling that my entire life will change because of this..." This thought suddenly arose within Xiong Quan's heart, and this very thought was like a seed that slowly sprouted and grew...

Years later, when Xiong Quan looked back at it all, only then would he realize how correct his thoughts at this moment were.

After returning to the carriage, Duan Ling Tian noticed Li Fei's, Ke Er's, and Li Rou's gazes all descend upon him.

"You're all awake?" A smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face.

"Young Master, what happened?" Ke Er asked.

"Nothing, just a few bandits." Duan Ling Tian lightly shook his head and found an excuse so that he could keep his mother from worrying.

"Bandits? Since when did bandits come on Ferghana Horses to rob people?" Li Rou pulled upon the carriage curtain, took a glance outside, and smiled spuriously at Duan Ling Tian when she noticed Xiong Quan leading the three steeds whose entire bodies were covered in blood-like sweat.

Duan Ling Tian laughed embarrassedly.

"It really is a Ferghana Horse, and there're even three!" Li Fei was attracted by the three Ferghana Horses as well, and a light flashed within her eyes.

"What beautiful horses... These are Ferghana Horses? Big Sister Fei Fei, are these Ferghana Horses very special?" Ke Er was attracted by the three Ferghana horses as well.

No matter whether it was the strength of its legs, or its appearance, the Ferghana Horse was absolutely the highest grade among horses.

"Ke Er, the Ferghana Horse's speed is several times faster than the average steed, and they are able to travel a thousand miles within a day! Moreover, merely one Ferghana Horse was worth 1,000,000 silver," Li Fei explained.

"Ah!" Ke Er was shocked. One horse was worth 1,000,000 silver?

In next to no time, the three women's scrutinizing gazes simultaneously descended upon Duan Ling Tian... Duan Ling Tian's heart constricted, and light flashed within his eyes.

"Xiong Quan, tell me when we've reached the next town. I'm sleepy and I'm going to take a nap." Duan Ling Tian yawned and notified Xiong Quan before enduring the burning gazes of the three women as he lied down on the bed and pretended to be sleeping.

"Rascal!" Li Fei chided.

Li Rou helplessly shook her head but didn't plan to get to the bottom of the matter. She closed her beautiful eyes to continue cultivating.

After a short moment, Duan Ling Tian glanced at his mother, and upon noticing that she was fully submerged within her cultivation, he extended his hand to grab Li Fei's hand. "Little Fei, come."

Li Fei was still puzzled when Duan Ling Tian raised his hand and a Spatial Ring appeared out of thin air. It was precisely the Spatial Ring of the Yu Clan's Grand Elder, Yu Hui.

"This is..." Li Fei took a deep breath. She had a guess in her heart, which caused her to be slightly excited.

"Weren't you jealous that Ke Er has a Spatial Ring?" As Duan Ling Tian spoke in a light voice, he removed the ownership on the Spatial Ring and put it onto Li Fei's hand.

"It's really a Spatial Ring?" After Li Fei dripped her blood and established ownership of the Spatial Ring, she bent her head down in excitement and kissed Duan Ling Tian. Following which, she noticed Ke Er looking at her with a spurious smile, causing her to turn away in embarrassment and not daring to look back over even after a long time had passed.

"Little Fei's still shy." Duan Ling Tian extended his hand out and pulled Li Fei into his embrace in a domineering manner, and his other hand embraced Ke Er, embracing women in both hands as he fell asleep.

Before long, Xiong Quan drove the wagon into a small town.

After dealing with the original five steeds, Xiong Quan harnessed the three Ferghana Horses onto the wagon. When they left the small town, the rate of people taking a second glance was 100%! There were even some people who chased behind as they left the small town and watched as their wagon disappeared off into the distance before coming back to their senses.

"My god, is that a Ferghana Horse?"

"Three Ferghana Horses are worth 3,000,000 silver..."

"Pulling a wagon with three Ferghana Horses, too extravagant!"

...

The crowd of the small town residents deeply engraved this scene in their hearts, as this was the most extravagant act they would see in their entire lives.

After changing to the three Ferghana Horses, the wagon dashed like the wind with extremely swift speeds!

In Duan Ling Tian's original plan, he would need nearly a year to arrive at the Imperial City, but now, since they had changed to the Ferghana horses, they would be able to arrive a whole three months earlier...

"The Imperial City is just up ahead." Li Rou's gaze was complicated as she looked through the carriage window and saw the far-away grand and enormous city that covered a vast expanse.

That year, she took her son that was still too small to understand anything and left this place. Never did she imagine that after so many years she would once again step foot on this soil.

She seemed to recall the scenes of when her husband, Duan Ru Feng, was still alive.... Although her husband had vanished many years ago, she believed that he was still alive!

"Tian." Li Rou looked at Duan Ling Tian and slowly said, "Once we've arrived at the Imperial City, mother hopes you will accompany mother to take a trip to the Duan Clan so you can acknowledge your ancestors and return to your clan."

That year, it was she who secretly took Duan Ling Tian and left, and Duan Ling Tian's blood flowed with the blood of the Duan Clan after all, so he was still a member of the Duan Clan.

"Acknowledge my ancestors and return to the clan?" Duan Ling Tian frowned. "Mom, I'm not going!"

"Tian!" Li Rou's tone became heavier, as she had always been a person who was particular about loyalty and emotions, and thus couldn't bear to see her son be so insensible.

"Mom!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes were crimson red as he said, in a low voice, "Has the Duan Clan ever once cared about whether we, mother and son, are dead or alive all these years? Also, when Duan Ling Xing nearly killed me two years ago, that so-called fourth uncle, did he ever treat me fairly?"

"I, Duan Ling Tian, disdain such a clan!"

Chapter 133: Red-Clothed Girl

The interior of the carriage was deathly silent.

Li Fei and Ke Er were both intelligent and thus didn't say a word.

Li Rou's eyes were slightly red, as she could feel her son's resentment from the way he spoke. After a long time, she sighed and said lightly, "Fine, Tian, since you're unwilling to go, then we won't."

"Mom, don't be upset." Duan Ling Tian's heart ached slightly when he saw his mother like this. He sat over beside her and held her hand. "I know that you want me to go acknowledge my ancestors and return to the clan for the sake of father, but why did you leave the Duan Clan all those years ago? Surely it doesn't mean that you've forgotten all that, right? When father was alive, everyone respected you,

but once father disappeared, those jealous people were the first to make trouble for you! I'm sure that even if father was still alive, he wouldn't blame us."

Li Rou nodded, and a smile appeared on her face. "Tian, you've grown up. Mother can be at ease. Mother doesn't have any other requests for the remainder of my life; all I hope for is to be able to see you and Little Fei and Ke Er bear children together, and then I'll be satisfied."

Duan Ling Tian's heart trembled. The love of a mother was as heavy as Mount Tai, and it caused his heart to ache and his eyes turned misty.

"Mom, rest for a while." After taking a deep breath, Duan Ling Tian returned to the side of Ke Er and Li Fei before sighing.

He would go to the Duan Clan, but it wasn't to acknowledge his ancestors and return to the clan.... Instead, it was to kill that Duan Ling Xing!

Before long, the wagon arrived before the Imperial City, and the large wagon that was pulled by three Ferghana Horses naturally attracted much attention wherever it passed.

The Imperial City encompassed a vast expanse of land, and it stood there like an enormous fierce beast in hibernation, giving people a type of oppressive feeling.

Surrounding the Imperial City was a wide moat, only leaving a single stone bridge to provide access towards the city's main gate. This was precisely the one and only city gate in the Imperial City... and thus there was only this one method of passage in and out of the Imperial City.

As the wagon traveled on the stone bridge, ferocious fish-type fierce beasts could be vaguely seen leaping about the city moat, revealing their vicious sharp teeth.

The denseness of the fish-type fierce beasts within the city moat would cause anyone's scalp to go numb.

It's imaginable that even if a Nascent Soul martial artist were to fall in, he would still probably have only a slim chance of survival.

As the one and only city gate of the Imperial City, it was extremely large and completely made out of Fine Steel. Its height was over tens of meters, and on either side of the city gate were mighty soldiers wearing armor. These soldiers held sharp spears within their grasps, and they separated into two squads that stood guard on either side of the city gate, not moving an inch.

Wherever Duan Ling Tian's wagon passed, the crowd would move aside; even the soldiers stationed on either side of the city gate did not dare come close.

A wagon pulled by three Ferghana Horses wasn't a common sight even in the Imperial City, as a figure who could travel on such a wagon was either rich or noble.

After entering the Imperial City, Duan Ling Tian, Ke Er, and Li Fei carefully sized up the Imperial City through their carriage's window.

On either side of the wide road were plenty of stores and restaurants, and the area was extremely bustling.

Li Fei faintly sighed. "Aurora City can only be considered a small, countryside city compared to the Imperial City."

Duan Ling Tian deeply agreed with Li Fei's sentiments.

Aurora City was completely unable to compare with the Imperial City.

Meanwhile, Xiong Quan's voice sounded. "My liege, the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City is divided into the outer city and inner city. We are currently only in the outer city."

"Outer city?" Duan Ling Tian was surprised. Such a flourishing place was only the outer city of the Imperial City?

"My Liege, look, the inner city is right up ahead." The wagon traveled for around another half an hour before Xiong Quan's voice sounded once more.

At this time, Duan Ling Tian glanced over to see that at the end of the road, there was a city inside a city standing there. This inner city seemed no different than the outer city.

If there really was a difference, then it would be that the area it occupied was smaller than the outer city. The moat, the city walls, and the stone bridge, they were all exactly the same as the outer city's.

Presently, the inner city's city gate was shut tight, and the stone bridge was devoid of people.

"This inner city is actually not open." Duan Ling Tian's brows slightly knit.

"It's probably time restrictions," Xiong Quan said.

"Xiong Quan, you seem to be familiar with the Imperial City. You've come here before?" Duan Ling Tian asked, as from Xiong Quan's introduction earlier, he had noticed that Xiong Quan seemed to be very familiar with the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial City.

"I've come here once." Xiong Quan sighed. He seemed to be recalling past events.

At that time, he was acting on his status as the Guardian of the Boundless Sect, and he passed through here while leading some disciples to run some errands.

Now that he recalled it, he couldn't help but sigh...

"Let's find an inn in the outer city to stay at first," Duan Ling Tian instructed.

"Yes," Xiong Quan respectfully replied, before looking for a slightly luxurious inn to stay at.

The manager of the inn personally came out to greet them, as a wagon that was pulled by three Ferghana Horses caused him to tremble with fear. He was deeply afraid of irritating the esteemed guest.

Duan Ling Tian arrived before the door of Li Rou's room and quietly said, "Mom, let's go get something to eat."

"Mom isn't hungry and wants to take a rest. Go on ahead... Hmm, remember to bring Xiong Quan along, as the Imperial City is full of powerhouses. Be sure to not cause trouble on your own accord." Li Rou's voice sounded, and she didn't forget to warn Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian acknowledged her before leaving the inn with Ke Er and Li Fei. Xiong Quan followed suit.

Duan Ling Tian looked for a nearby restaurant that seemed good before walking in with large strides. This restaurant was a multi-storied pavilion that was divided into three floors. The first floor's surroundings were filled with flora and fauna that were extremely pleasing to the eye, and since it was lunchtime, the first floor was already packed with people and bustling with activity.

Duan Ling Tian followed the stairs and walked swiftly up to the second floor. Compared to the first floor, the second floor was instead much quieter. Although many people were conversing, they intentionally suppressed the sound of their voices, as they were very conscious of their image.

"Guest, please come over here." Before long, a female attendant greeted Duan Ling Tian's group and brought them to a nearby table.

"Bring me a serving of all the specialty dishes in your restaurant, and a jug of fine wine," Duan Ling Tian instructed.

"Yes." The female attendant respectfully nodded before turning around and leaving.

In next to no time, good wine and delicious food were placed onto the table...

"This restaurant is really special." Li Fei lightly smiled. They were nearly unable to hear any of the loud noise from the first floor while sitting here on the second floor, and everything seemed so calm and peaceful.

A small portion of the surrounding patrons were discussing private matters, whereas the larger portion were discussing the Paladin Academy.

"I wonder if the Paladin Academy will receive another genius student like Xu Qing this year."

"What a joke, that Xu Qing is a rare genius martial artist, and in our entire Crimson Sky Kingdom's Paladin Academy's history, only one person from 20 over years ago could compare with him.."

"Who?"

"Naturally it was the Duan Clan's Duan Ru Feng!"

"Who's Duan Ru Feng?"

"You actually don't even know Duan Ru Feng? He's a peerless genius of our Crimson Sky Kingdom from over 20 years ago and is a direct descendant of the Duan Clan."

"I actually have never heard of him."

"That normal, because he disappeared 15 years ago. If he didn't disappear, the number one powerhouse in our Crimson Sky Kingdom might not be the figure from the Imperial Family."

"Shhh! Softer! Are you courting death? Is that figure of the Imperial Family's figure someone you can wildly talk about?"

...

Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as he heard the discussion from the nearby table. Duan Ru Feng was precisely his father of this lifetime!

"I never imagined that there were still people who remembered that deadbeat father of mine," Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart, as he was slightly surprised.

"Hmph! Duan Ru Feng was only just a short-lived guy!" Just at this moment, a cold and indifferent voice sounded from the stairway.

A red-clothed girl around the age of 19 walked up to the second floor, and behind her followed an old woman. The old man supported herself on a walking stick, but her eyes were brilliant like an array of stars, obviously due to having a high cultivation level.

"Little girl, you're too presumptuous! Would you dare say that if that Duan Ru Feng was around?" The face of the middle-aged man who adored Duan Ru Feng sank.

"Slap in the face!" The red-clothed girl's icy cold voice sounded. It was unknown who she was talking to.

Instantly, the old woman behind her moved as if she had transformed into a gust of wind and flashed towards the middle-aged man!

Above the old woman, tens of ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form before vanishing in the next instant.

Slap!

A clear sound echoed out as the old woman returned to the red-clothed girl. Half of the middle-aged man's face swelled up, and his expression was extremely unsightly, but although he was furious, he did not dare say anything, as the old woman's strength was far above his.

For a moment, the entire second floor was deathly silent.

"So overbearing!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes narrowed as a cold light flickered within...

Although he didn't have any feelings towards that deadbeat father of his, he was still his father after all, and now that someone was insulting him, Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but have rage arise in his heart.

"What a joke! A short-lived guy is worthy of your adoration." The red-clothed girl's icy cold gaze descended upon the group of people that were discussing earlier, causing them to hurriedly lower their heads and not dare say another word.

Li Fei obviously detested the actions of the red-clothed girl, so she coldly grunted, "Hmph! Nowadays, people can't even speak the truth. Would you dare insult him if he was still alive?"

The red-clothed girl's gaze descended upon Li Fei as she mocked, "A freak covered in a veil is worthy of speaking to this Young Miss? I'll give you a chance: slap yourself 30 times, or else bear the consequences!"

"Freak?" Li Fei was dazed for a moment before sneering, "You really think highly of yourself. With this sort of attitude, even if you give yourself over to the beggars on the roadside, they might not even want to marry you, right?"

Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but burst into laughter.

This girl's mouth was really unforgiving...

"You're courting death!" The red-clothed girl's eyes flashed with a trace of a cold light. Her hand trembled and was suffused with Origin Energy before sweeping out with a black whip, carrying violent winds and a string of afterimages towards Li Fei.

Above her, six ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form... Fourth level of the Core Formation Stage!

Just when everyone thought Li Fei was about to suffer a loss, Duan Ling Tian moved.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian embraced Li Fei and dodged the red-clothed girl's attack just when Li Fei's eyes went slightly cold and she was about to attack. And Duan Ling Tian's icy cold gaze descended upon the red-clothed girl. "So only you can mock others but others can't mock you? If you can't win an argument, you turn angry out of embarrassment and use force instead.... You, don't you think you're going too far?"

Chapter 134: I'll Discipline You in Your Parents' Stead!

"Going too far?" The red-clothed girl's face was extremely unsightly due to her attack hitting nothing, "You can't afford to offend some people. In front of me, not to mention mocking, she doesn't even have the qualification to speak!"

"Qualification to speak? That's really fresh. It's the first time I've ever heard that speaking required qualifications. I wonder where you obtained the qualifications to injure another, and who gave you the qualifications?" Duan Ling Tian's face sank as he started laughing out of extreme anger.

Even if he hadn't made a move earlier, Li Fei, with her strength at the fifth level of the Core Formation Stage, was more than sufficient to defeat this fourth level Core Formation Stage red-clothed girl.... The only reason he pulled Li Fei away was not because he was worried Li Fei would suffer a loss, but rather he was listening to what his mother said and was trying not to get into trouble.

If the matter really progressed to a point that it got out of hand, then he wasn't someone who was easy to offend!

Some of the surrounding patrons frowned as they gazed at the red-clothed girl, as they all felt she was going too far.

"Some people are born lowly like ants! Some people are born noble and lofty!" The red-clothed girl raised her head arrogantly as she spoke in a tone filled with contempt. "You asked this Young Miss where I got the qualifications? This is precisely my qualifications! In front of this Young Miss, she is just an ant. You are just an ant as well! So you don't have the qualification to speak in front of this Young

Miss!" The red-clothed girl had only just finished speaking when her black whip swung out once more, flashing towards Duan Ling Tian.

"What logic! Today, I'll properly discipline you in your parents' stead! And I'll let you know that no one has the qualifications to casually trample on another's dignity!" Duan Ling Tian's voice was incomparably cold, as he was really furious.

"Die!" the red-clothed girl shouted in a low voice, and the whip in her hand seemed to transform into many black poisonous snakes that flashed towards Duan Ling Tian.

Slap!

Duan Ling Tian extended his hand and only used a strength close to seven ancient mammoths, easily grasping in his hand the black whip that the red-clothed girl swung at him, before he fiercely shook it.

"Pu!" The red-clothed girl's hand that held the whip trembled, and the shock caused her to spit out a mouthful of blood. She glared at Duan Ling Tian with a ghastly pale face as if she had encountered something completely unbelievable. "You.... You actually dare injure this Young Miss?"

"What a joke! You want to kill me, but I can't injure you?" Duan Ling Tian sneered, "Does this insane girl really think that she is number two beneath the heavens? She can kill others, but others can only stand and be killed by her? What logic is this!"

For a moment, the crowd of patrons in the restaurant looked at the red-clothed girl as if looking at an idiot. Although they'd seen many good-for-nothing rich kids, this was the first time they had seen one that was this bad...

"Do you know who this Young Miss is? This Young Miss will give you a chance; kneel down and kowtow three times to this Young Miss, and perhaps this Young Miss might show mercy and spare your life!" The red-clothed girl looked at Duan Ling Tian and spoke in a cold voice, as if she was giving charity to Duan Ling Tian.

"Ridiculous! Do you really think you're the judge of life and death and may easily determine another's life or death?" Duan Ling Tian strode a step forward, and an icy cold, bloody killing intent swept out from his body.

The red-clothed girl's expression went ghastly pale when she was enveloped by this killing intent, and her whole body trembled while she took a few steps back. When she looked at Duan Ling Tian once more, her gaze was as if looking at a devil. "You...don't come any closer...don't come any closer..."

"Enough!" The old woman finally said something. She walked out to stand in front of the red-clothed girl, blocking the unparalleled killing intent that was emitted from Duan Ling Tian's body.

At this moment, even the old woman couldn't help but be moved. This youth that looked to be around the age of 18 not only had a strength not one bit inferior to her clan's Young Miss, he actually possessed such a terrifying killing intent. Even across the entire Crimson Sky Kingdom, there probably wouldn't be many people who possessed such a killing intent!

"Who the heck are you?" The old woman like at Duan Ling Tian with a slightly fearful gaze, as she vaguely became aware that this violet-clothed youth wasn't simple, even to the extent that he might have an extraordinary background.

"Who am I?" Duan Ling Tian started laughing. He swept his gaze across the red-clothed girl behind the old woman. "I'm the ant she spoke of, the ant that was born to be lowly! What, the great Young Miss that's born to be noble now is only capable of hiding behind another? You don't dare to attack to show your nobility?" Duan Ling Tian's voice was filled with a mocking tone.

The red-clothed girl was so upset by that her face flushed, and she angrily shouted, "Kill him, I want him dead!"

The old woman's pupils concentrated on Duan Ling Tian and her killing intent flickered. Originally, seeing that Duan Ling Tian was so mysterious and unfathomable, she had some worries in her heart, but now, after hearing the orders of her Young Miss, she didn't hesitate anymore. Even if the violet-clothed youth's identity was even more extraordinary, today he would surely die!

Whoosh!

The old woman attacked with her full strength. 80 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above her, revealing her cultivation... Sixth level of the Core Formation Stage!

"Xiong Quan, don't let her disturb me." Just when the hearts of the patrons in the restaurant were in their throats due to worry for Duan Ling Tian, he instead abruptly said this, causing all of the patrons to feel baffled.

"Yes, my liege!" Xiong Quan only used the strength of 100 ancient mammoths to stop the old woman, and he fully suppressed her, causing her to be unable to attack Duan Ling Tian again.

"Seventh level of the Core Formation Stage!" The old woman looked at Xiong Quan in terror, and her face went ghastly pale.

"You... don't you come any closer... don't come any closer..." The red-clothed girl's face turned ghastly pale when she noticed that her one and only reliance was pinned down by Xiong Quan and Duan Ling Tian was walking towards her.

Slap!

Duan Ling Tian walked up and raised his hand before slapping it down onto the red-clothed girl's face, and then he said, in a cold voice, "Noble Young Miss, let this lowly ant properly discipline you in your parents' stead today. This slap is for my wife!"

A smile of happiness appeared on Li Fei's face as she sat there at the side.

"You... you dare slap me?" The red-clothed girl was stupefied; even her father had never once hit her... Now, a stranger actually dared slap her!

"You'll die for sure... you'll die for sure..." The red-clothed girl looked at Duan Ling Tian with an icy cold gaze as if looking at a dead person.

Slap!

Duan Ling Tian gave the red-clothed girl another slap before sneering, "This slap is for that big brother over there."

The middle-aged man with half of his face swollen glanced at Duan Ling Tian with a gaze full of gratitude.

"Kid, you'll regret this. Do you know who she is?" Meanwhile, the body of the old woman that was pinned down by Xiong Quan started to lightly tremble.

"Don't worry, no matter who she is, I'll still properly discipline her in her parents' stead today and teach her how to behave..." Duan Ling Tian had a cold and unfeeling expression as he swept the old woman with his cold and indifferent gaze before shifting his gaze back to the red-clothed girl.

Slap! Slap! Slap! Slap! Slap!

...

Duan Ling Tian swung slap after slap at the red-clothed girl's face, causing her face to completely swell up like a pig's head.

"Didn't you say you were born noble and lofty?"

"Didn't you say I'm born lowly, and you wanted to kill me, this ant?"

...

Duan Ling Tian's voice was filled with indifference.

The red-clothed girl's eyes flickered with an icy cold killing intent. She seemed to be numbed to what was happening to her, as she continued to mumble, "You...you...surely...surely will...regret this..."

"Ignorant!" Duan Ling Tian gave the red-clothed girl another slap, and only after slapping her down onto the ground did he stop and shout coldly, "F**k off! Don't appear in front of me ever again... or else, don't blame me for not showing mercy!"

Meanwhile, Xiong Quan had returned to Duan Ling Tian's side. After regaining the freedom to move, the old woman supported the red-clothed girl up and swiftly walked down the stairs. Her icy cold voice echoed out from afar, "Kid, no matter who you are, and what your background is... you, prepare to face the wrath of the Fair Sun County's County Governor's Estate!"

"Fair Sun County's County Governors Estate?" The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled into a sneer.

"A Country Governor's Estate Again!"

He seemed to be extremely fated with members of County Governor Estates. First it was the Swallow Mountain County's County Governor's Estate, now it was the Fair Sun County's County Governor's Estate.

"Could it be that the red-clothed girl from before is the Fair Sun County's County Governor's daughter?"

"I once heard that the Fair Sun County's County Governor's daughter was an unruly girl, but I never thought that she would be unruly to this degree!"

...

The expressions of many of the patrons in the restaurant went pale, and they hurriedly paid their bills and left, deeply afraid that they would court disaster by remaining here.

"Little brother." Before long, only the middle-aged man with a swollen face remained. He looked at Duan Ling Tian with a grim expression. "The Fair Sun County's County Governor's Estate is not to be trifled with. You all should hurry and leave the Imperial City."

"This is the Imperial City. Could it be that their County Governor's Estate possesses the ability to rebel against the Imperial Family?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly curious, because no matter how strong the County Governor's Estate was, it would only have its prestige spread within the County it controlled.

In the Imperial City, a mere County Governor's Estate still dared to be presumptuous?

The middle-aged man might have seen through Duan Ling Tian's indifference, and he laughed bitterly and explained, "Little brother, you are not aware.... If it was any of the other 17 counties, it wouldn't really matter. But the Fair Sun County's Counter Governor's Estate is different. If memory serves, the red-clothed girl from before should be the daughter of the Fair Sun County's County Governor, and the little sister of his majesty the Emperor's concubine. That concubine of his majesty the Emperor is also the mother of the Fifth Prince..."

The middle-aged man left the restaurant after he finished explaining, and he didn't forget to warn Duan Ling Tian once more to leave the Imperial City as soon as possible.

"In other words, the red-clothed girl from before is the cousin of the Fifth Prince?" Li Fei's beautiful eyebrows frowned. She looked at Duan Ling Tian with a slightly worried gaze. "Scoundrel, what should we do?"

They had only just arrived in the Imperial City and had already indirectly offended the Fifth Prince of the Crimson Sky Kingdom. This was no good sign...

"What, Little Fei, weren't you so confident earlier? Now you're scared?" Duan Ling Tian made fun of her.

"Hmph! I'm just worried about you." Li Fei grunted.

Duan Ling Tian returned to his seat between Li Fei and Ke Er as he said, with a light smile, "Alright, let's eat."

Before long, Duan Ling Tian looked towards the female attendant that stood afar and called her over.

"G-Guest, do you need anything?" The female attendant didn't dare to look at Duan Ling Tian, as Duan Ling Tian's domineering bearings from before had scared her as well.

"Don't be nervous, I just want to ask you if you know when the inner city is open to the public?" Duan Ling Tian forced out a trace of a smile on his face as he asked curiously.

The female attendant's expression calmed slightly as she said, "Guest, the inner city is open to public for an hour in the morning, noon, and dusk."

"What's the difference between the inner city and outer city?" Duan Ling Tian continued asking.

"The inner city is much more luxurious than the outer city. The Imperial Palace, the estates of the large clans, and Paladin Academy are all located in the inner city. However, ordinarily, even if visitors enter the inner city, they wouldn't stay the night within, as the inns within the inner city are more than 10 times more expensive than the outer city. And anyone who is able to buy an estate within the inner city is considered to be either rich or noble," the female attendant slowly explained.

Chapter 135: Duan Ling Xing's Cousin?

Duan Ling Tian found out about the differences of the inner city and outer city from the female attendant.

Compared to the outer city, the cost of land in the inner city was extremely expensive.

"Young Master, are we going to the inner city?" Ke Er looked at Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian smiled as he said. "There's no rush, as there's still some time before dusk. Let's finish eating and return to the inn first."

Ke Er obediently nodded.

While they left the restaurant, Duan Ling Tian made up his mind that later, at dusk, they would enter the inner city and look for an inn to stay in, and after that he would buy a courtyard house as the home for his family in the Imperial City. He would be spending the next few years in Paladin Academy after all.

On the way back to the inn, Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart, "Looks like I have to work hard and earn money."

Although he had 10,000,000 silver on him currently, he knew that this little amount of money would probably be spent just on buying a courtyard house in the inner city that had such an expensive cost of land.

Swallow Mountain County, County City, Yu Clan Estate.

Within the Audient Hall, a Yu Clan disciple that was travel-worn reported to the Yu Clan's Patriarch, Yu Dian, "Patriarch, Grand Elder, Second Elder, and Young Master Yu Xiang probably have met with disaster..."

"Probably?" Yu Dian's face sank. He said, with a piercing and cold voice, "This is the result of your investigation?"

The Yu Clan disciple took a deep breath before slowly saying, "Patriarch, during my entire investigation, I didn't find any traces to the Grade Elder's whereabouts.... However, I continued my investigation all the way to nearby the Imperial City. I heard that someone used three Ferghana Horses to pull their wagon, and on that wagon was the Li Clan's crest."

"Li Clan's crest? Hmph! It's probably that little bastard's wagon. Looks like I've underestimated him!" Yu Dian's eyes went cold as he ordered with a shout, "You, go request the presence of the three Supreme Elders!"

"Yes." The Yu Clan disciple accepted his orders and left, and only after he exited the Audience Hall did he heave a sigh of relief, as the Patriarch's rage from before pressured him to the extent that he nearly couldn't catch his breath.

"Second brother, Xiang.... Don't worry, even if that Duan Ling Tian has gone to the Imperial City, I'll still dye his blood on a three-foot-long blade to console your spirits in heaven!" At this very moment, the Yu Clan's Patriarch's flames of fury ravaged, as he was clear that the three of them who hadn't made contact for nearly half a year would most probably be dead.

Imperial City outer city, in an inn that was exceptionally peaceful in such a bustling city.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Sounds of things being tossed about echoed out from the best room in the inn. Obviously the guests inside were venting the rage in their hearts.

Inside the room, the red-clothed girl seemed to have gone mad, and nearly everything within the room had been tossed about by her!

The red-clothed youth dropped herself onto the bed after feeling exhausted from throwing, and said, with crimson-red eyes that made her seem like she was an Asura who had just walked out of hell, "When have I, Tong Li, suffered such humiliation in my entire life? I won't rest until he dies!"

The old woman stood at the side without making a single sound, as she knew that when the Young Miss got furious, not to mention her, even the County Governor was helpless.

"Grandma Wang, the inner city should be open soon. Let's go! I want to go look for my cousin!" Tong Li stood up and stomped out angrily.

"Yes." The old woman respectfully followed behind.

Clang clang!

At dusk, accompanied by the opening of the inner city's city gates, the stream of people who had been waiting on the stone bridge and the people who were waiting to leave from inside the inner city crossed each other as they left and entered.

As a wagon passed their the stone bridge, although there was still an unceasing stream of people moving in and out, the stream of people still moved aside to make way. Everyone looked on at the wagon with gazes of reverence as it passed by, as a wagon being pulled by three Ferghana Horses would surely be owned by someone who was either rich or noble, and that wasn't someone they could offend.

"This is the inner city? So many people." Inside the wagon carriage, Ke Er couldn't help herself from exclaiming when she took a glance outside.

Inside the inner city, streams of wagons and people moved about unceasingly, and a black mass of people entered her eyes...

"When I saw so many people on the stone bridge, I thought we'd probably need to que up for a long time before finally being able to enter. I never imagined it would go so smoothly." Li Fei's angelic face was full of smiles, and her devilish body lazily leaned beside the carriage window.

"Of course! Don't look down on the deterrent power of these three Ferghana Horses," Duan Ling Tian said with a smile.

Even the 18 County Governor's Estates within Crimson Sky Kingdom might not use three Ferghana Horses to pull a wagon. It wasn't that they couldn't afford the Ferghana Horses, but rather that they wouldn't misuse them in such a way!

A Ferghana Horse was worth 10,000 gold, so very few people were willing to use them as a means to pull a wagon.

While Duan Ling Tian's wagon had smoothly entered the inner city and started looking for an inn to stay at, outside of the inner city's city gate, a wagon similarly pulled by three horses stepped onto the stone bridge, but it could only slowly move forward on the stone bridge like the speed of an ant.

"It's too slow!" Inside the carriage, the red-clothed girl had an extremely unsightly appearance.

The red-clothed girl raised the carriage's curtain and growled at the wagon driver, "Hey, hurry up!"

"Young Miss, I'm helpless. The wagon can't move at all when there's so many people in line." The wagon driver had a wronged expression.

"Hmph!" The red-clothed girl snorted coldly before walking out of the carriage and looking out at the surrounding stream of people all around her, causing her face to sink.

These lowly commoners actually dare to obstruct this Young Miss's way!

Bang!

The red-clothed girl raised her hand and swung the black whip through the air, causing a loud sound to echo out. However, this little sound was quickly covered by the noisy sounds coming from the surroundings, and virtually no one heard it...

"You lowly commoners, scram!" The red-clothed girl swung her whip about as she shouted angrily.

Her voice entered into the ears of the surrounding crowd, and these people had expressions of contempt as they coldly looked at the ordinary horses that pulled the wagon, then they mocked her in a completely unrestrained manner.

"Does she think her wagon is pulled by Ferghana Horses?"

"Yeah, riding on such a lousy wagon and she thinks she's some great figure?"

"If you have the ability, then go get three Ferghana Horses to pull your wagon just like the wagon in front, then you won't even have to say a word and we would automatically open a path for you."

"Brother, how can you speak like that? Do you think that a random person has the resolution to use three Ferghana horses to pull their wagon?"

"Yeah, that's true too."

...

The wave of mocking voices entered the red-clothed girl's ears, causing her expression to become even more unsightly.

Bang!

The black whip in her hand swung out, and she was about to whip the people who mocked her...

"Young Miss!" The old woman walked out of the carriage and grabbed hold of the red-clothed girl's hand.

"Granny Wang, what're you doing? I'm going to teach this group of lowly commoners a lesson!" The red clothed girl's face sank.

"Young Miss, if you were to injure people in front of so many people, you would surely become a target for criticism. Presently, his majesty the Emperor is getting old, and it is about the time for a change of Emperors. Could it be that you want the matter of you hitting commoners for no reason to become a means for the other Princes to move against Fifth Prince?" The old woman laughed bitterly as she warned the girl in a light voice.

The red-clothed girl took a deep breath before returning to the carriage. She said, with a gloomy expression, "This Young Miss is just angry that these lowly commoners actually dare to talk like this to this Young Miss... If this Young Miss finds out who used three Ferghana Horses to pull their wagon and swagger about, causing this Young Miss to be mocked, this Young Miss will surely not let him off!"

The red-clothed girl was precisely Tong Yi, the Fair Sun County's County Governor's daughter. However, it was a mystery how Tong Li's expression would be if she knew that the owner of the wagon that was pulled by three Ferghana Horses was precisely the same youth that slapped her in the restaurant not long ago.

Inner city, in a quiet and peaceful inn.

"Both of you, stay and accompany my mother. I'll be going out with Xiong Quan to run some errands," Duan Ling Tian said to Ke Er and Li Fei before going out with Xiong Quan.

In the Imperial City's inner city, there were businesses that specialized in the sale of courtyard houses, and these businesses were directly under the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Imperial Family.

Presently, Duan Ling Tian walked into a spacious store with Xiong Quan.

"Customer, may I know what type of courtyard house you're looking for?" Among the female attendants that stood at the door, the most beautiful among them respectfully greeted Duan Ling Tian in the lobby, as she noticed that among the two people before her, the violet-clothed youth was the leader.

The lobby was extremely simple. Besides a counter, there were only the models placed within the lobby. These models were all courtyard house models, and each were placed separately.

"I didn't think that this world would have similar architectural models like to ones from Earth in my previous life." Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but be dazed for a moment and felt a sense of familiarity.

"Customer, these are the courtyard houses that haven't been sold. Please take a look and see which one you like." The female attendant pointed towards a row of courtyard house models and introduced them with a light smile.

"Ok." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

Just when Duan Ling Tian was about to carefully size up these courtyard houses, a young man around the age of 19 walked into the store accompanied by an old man.

The young man had an arrogant expression and was obviously a disciple from a rich family.

"Customer, do you wish to purchase a courtyard house?" Another female attendant greeted him.

"Nonsense. Do you think I came here to look at you? Of course this Young Master came here to buy a courtyard house. Let this Young Master see what courtyard houses you have here." The young man's voice was filled with a slightly condescending tone, causing the expression of the female attendant to change between green and pale, but she didn't dare say anything. As someone who were able to buy a courtyard house here, he wasn't someone she could afford to offend.

Duan Ling Tian frowned and swept the young man with his gaze, but he didn't say anything. He continued to be absorbed with sizing up the courtyard house models in front of him.

"Eh, this girl is not bad... Hey! You, this Young Master doesn't want to be attended by her. You, come and attend to this Young Master." The young man walked over in large strides before stopping in front of Duan Ling Tian and looking at the female attendant that was attending to Duan Ling Tian with a lustful gaze that seemed to be able to strip off all the clothes on her body.

The female attendant took a deep breath to suppress the fury in her heart, then she said, in a low voice, "Sorry, customer. I'm currently attending to this customer and am temporarily unable to attend to you."

"What did you say?" The young man glared before scolding, "Girl, do you know who the f**k this Young Master is? This Young Master is a member of Jade Magnolia County's County City's Duan Clan! The Imperial City's Duan Clan is our Duan Clan's Main Clan! Besides that, do you know of the Imperial City's Duan Clan's direct descendant, Young Master Duan Ling Xing? Let me tell you, that's this Young Master's cousin brother!" Hearing what he said caused the female attendant's face to go ghastly pale from fear.

Imperial City's Duan Clan? One of the few powers only inferior to the Imperial Family within the entire Crimson Sky Kingdom.

Duan Ling Xing?

Duan Ling Tian's state of mind was completely disturbed by the young man, and he looked at the young man with a gaze that flashed with a cold light.

Duan Ling Xing's cousin?

"Kid, what are you looking at? Unwilling to submit? Let me tell you, I, Duan Rong, am not someone you can afford to offend!" The young man noticed Duan Ling Tian looking at him, and he had a face full of disdain as he spoke with a condescending tone.

Chapter 136: Recruiting Jing Ru

Duan Ling Tian was still surprised, as he didn't think that he would encounter Duan Ling Xing's cousin here. But now he hadn't even speak and was already taunted and mocked by the young man, causing a malicious flame to burn within his heart.

"Idiot!" The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled up slightly as he slowly spit out a word.

Duan Rong was stupefied. This violet-clothed youth had actually called him an idiot?

He even thought that he had heard wrong and asked uncertainly, "What did you say?"

Duan Ling Tian paid no attention to the young man. Although he was Duan Ling Xing's cousin, there wasn't any real relationship between the two. He had enmity with Duan Ling Xing, but he wouldn't involve Duan Ling Xing's family members for no reason.

This was a principal that he had always persisted upon in his previous life while living in the world of mercenaries on the edge of a blade.

One's family shouldn't have to bear their sins!

This point was something that even made the enemies in his previous life have heartfelt admiration towards him. Of course, if Duan Rong wasn't sensible and provoked him, then he wasn't someone that was afraid of trouble...

Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled to the attendant beside him as he asked, "What are the prices of these courtyard houses?"

The attendant returned to her senses. Duan Ling Tian's smile was like a spring breeze to her, and she momentarily forgot about the displeased feeling from what happened just now as she earnestly explained to Duan Ling Tian, "Customer, this courtyard house is divided into the a main and a secondary building. It has a total of 20 rooms, two kitchens, two halls, one front yard, and one back yard. The courtyard houses we sell here all come with brand new furniture and daily necessities, and in total cost 8,000,000 silver."

8,000,000 silver? Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but be astounded as he looked at the courtyard house the attendant pointed at.

Duan Rong stood at the side with a flushed face. When was he ever ignored by someone in such a way? Flames of fury couldn't help but ignite within his heart as he watched the violet-clothed youth chat happily with the beautiful attendant.

"Kid, didn't you hear what this Young Master said earlier? I want this attendant!" Duan Rong said in a cold voice that contained an undisputable manner and was extremely overbearing.

"Customer." The attendant's face turned slightly pale, as she was scared of Duan Rong's growl, and looked over at Duan Ling Tian with a worried expression.

"In this world, dogs bark everywhere; you just have to get used to it. You can continue." Duan Ling Tian had a carefree and unbothered expression. Just like he said, there were so many mad dogs in this world that he couldn't actually kill all of them, right?

As long as they didn't bite him, they could go on and be as mad as they wanted; he would just ignore them.

The attendant heaved a sigh of relief when she saw how Duan Ling Tian was so unperturbed. She realized that although this youth had heard of the young man's background, he was still unperturbed, and thus obviously was unafraid.

Dog bark? Duan Rong's face darkened as he shouted in rage, "Kid, you're courting death!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Duan Rong pounced towards Duan Ling Tian, and above him, seven ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form...

Fifth level of the Core Formation Stage!

"Customer, be careful!" The attendant's face went pale, as she didn't expect that this young man would have such a deep cultivation. At the same time, she unconsciously moved to block in front of Duan Ling Tian. Her delicate body trembled as she closed her eyes in terror.

"You're courting death!" Seeing the attendant actually being willing to shield Duan Ling Tian caused his eyes to emit jealousy and insanity. His palm strike, which suffused palm images throughout the air, blasted down towards the attendant.

"It looks to me like you're courting death!" Duan Ling Tian's voice was incomparably icy cold, as if it came from hell itself.

Spirit Serpent Movement Technique!

Duan Ling Tian's figure flashed out, seeming to transform into a spirit serpent as he moved around the attendant's delicate figure to circle around in front of her.

At the critical moment, Duan Ling Tian's hands shook, then palm images and fist images whistled out to intercept Duan Rong's palm strike.

Dragon's Finishing Touch!

Between the flurry of fist and palm images, Duan Ling Tian's finger pointed out and, accompanied by an ear-shattering sound, touched Duan Rong's approaching palm.

Swish!

In the blink of the eye, eight ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above Duan Ling Tian.... Duan Ling Tian exerted the strength of nearly eight ancient mammoths when executing this finger attack!

"Sixth level of the Core Formation Stage!" The old man behind Duan Rong had maintained a calm expression while all of this was going on. Even when Duan Rong attacked, he didn't have any reaction. But now, when he noticed that Duan Ling Tian revealed a strength that was completely sufficient to suppress Duan Rong, his face sank, and he instantaneously flashed out. His figure left a string of afterimages behind as he flew towards Duan Ling Tian and shouted explosively, "Stay your hand!"

The silhouettes of 60 ancient mammoths condensed into form above the old man... Fourth level of the Origin Core Stage!

"Hmph!" A cold grunt that seemed like thunder instantly exploded out throughout the lobby.

A robust figure that seemed like a mountain blocked in front of the old man. The figure casually swung out a punch, seeming to disdain to even use a martial skill. The punch blasted onto the old man's chest and sent him flying. The old man had approached swiftly and flew away even more swiftly!

"Seventh level of the Origin Core Stage!" When the old man flew out, he could vaguely see 100 ancient mammoth silhouettes flash above the figure that attacked him.

Hiss!

And almost at the exact same moment, Duan Ling Tian's finger strike touched Duan Rong's approaching palm strike. Instantly, the force of his finger attack exploded out.

"Ah!" Duan Rong's shrill cry sounded, accompanied by a strange sound of bones shattering, and his body jerked before following in the old man's footsteps. He was blasted away by Duan Ling Tian's finger attack.

Bang! Bang!

The old man's body had only just crashed onto the ground when Duan Rong's body descended straight after him, crashing just right beside the old man.

The sharp pain that came from the heart of his palm caused Duan Rong to let out another shrill cry full of grief. "Eighth...Eighth Elder... my... my carpal bone... shattered... it's shattered!"

The old man spat out a mouthful of blood and glanced at the robust middle-aged man in terror before he slowly stood up, supported Duan Rong to exit the store, and made his way towards the Duan Clan Estate.

"This..." The attendant had already opened her eyes; however, the expected palm strike didn't descend upon her, and she only saw the disappearing figures of the young man and the old man beside him.

"Who is he?" Subsequently, her gaze, which was filled with curiosity and disbelief, descended upon the violet-clothed youth. Everything that happened before only took place in the blink of the eye, and she had only come back to her senses when she noticed that everything had already ended. But even then she could still recall that although she blocked in front of the violet-clothed youth, in the end, the violet-clothed youth still managed to circle around in front of her...

"Why?" Suddenly, a slightly young voice entered her ears, causing her to awaken from her daze. She had a perturbed expression as she spoke. "Cus...customer."

"Why did you block in front of me earlier? Aren't you afraid of death?" Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled as he asked the attendant.

"I don't know as either.... At that moment, I felt that I couldn't let a mishap befall my customer. After that... I unconsciously..." As the attendant recalled what happened earlier, she had an inexpressible feeling. Even she herself didn't know why she did what she did earlier, and she felt a lingering fear when she recalled what happened.

The smile on Duan Ling Tian's face never faded as he asked, "What's your name?"

"Customer, I'm Jing Ru," the attendant respectfully replied.

Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled and nodded, then his gaze descended upon the courtyard house model Jing Ru was introducing earlier. "I think this type courtyard house is pretty good... Are there any near Paladin Academy?"

Paladin Academy!

Jing Ru's delicate body trembled and her eyes emitted a glow of disbelief. "Cus... Customer, you... you're a student at Paladin Academy?"

"Sort of. I've obtained the qualifications but haven't reported in yet." Duan Ling Tian shook his head.

Jing Ru was startled, as she never would have imagined that the youth before her would actually be a student at Paladin Academy!

In order to enter Paladin Academy, besides members of the Imperial Family and the few great clans in the Imperial City who possessed a small amount of qualifications to recommend one of their own, only genius martial artists who had experienced and surpassed countless tests and tribulations were able to obtain the qualifications to enter Paladin Academy.

No matter how she looked at him, the violet-clothed youth in front of her was around the age of 18. No matter what method he used to obtain the qualifications, it was still sufficient to shock her, and even make her look up to him!

Jing Ru took a deep breath and spoke slowly. "Customer, you're in luck. There just happens to be one of these courtyard houses close to Paladin Academy."

Duan Ling Tian nodded. "Then I'll take that courtyard house. What procedures do we have to go through?"

With the help of Jing Ru, Duan Ling Tian spent 8,000,000 silver and bought the courtyard house Jing Ru introduced. Duan Ling Tian withdrew 10,000,000 silver with a wave of his hand before separating 8,000,000 silver and tossing it onto the counter. His entire movement flowed naturally and smoothly.

The manager behind the counter who was in charge of registrations was shocked by Duan Ling Tian's wealth. He passed over the deed for the land and keys to Duan Ling Tian with utmost respect.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Jing Ru and asked, with a smile, "Jing Ru, how about you take me over to have a look?"

Jing Ru glanced at the manager in hesitation when she heard what Duan Ling Tian said.

"Go." The manager nodded. Although this customer was young, he obviously had an extraordinary background based on how liberal with money he was, so the manager wasn't willing to offend him.

Under Jing Ru's lead, Duan Ling Tian arrived at the courtyard house he had bought. The conditions of the courtyard house were roughly similar to the model, and it came complete with furniture and daily necessities, saving him much trouble...

"Customer, do you have any other question?" Jing Ru asked respectfully after taking Duan Ling Tian around the entire courtyard house.

"Jing Ru." Duan Ling Tian looked at Jing Ru and smiled lightly. "Are you interested in being my manager here?"

Jing Ru was stunned and couldn't quite wrap her head around things.

Duan Ling Tian continued, "I'm worried Duan Rong will come look for trouble with you because of what happened today. Even though you're a member of the Imperial Family's business, and he wouldn't dare make trouble for you openly, a despicable person like him isn't above operating in secret!"

"If you be my manager, your main job will consist of being in charge of my daily income and the everyday management of the courtyard house. You don't have to do anything else, so it's absolutely more relaxed than your previous job. Besides that, I can give you double your salary." Duan Ling Tian had already decided in his heart that when he bought this courtyard house, he would find a manager, some servant girls, and a chef.

In the future, the household affairs would be handled by the manager, allowing his mother and his two fiancées to cultivate in peace.

"You think it over properly. Within the next three days, you may come find me here anytime." Duan Ling Tian didn't force Jing Ru when he noticed her hesitation.

Chapter 137: Huge Problem

Duan Ling Tian didn't have any other intentions for looking after Jing Ru like this; it was all pure concern. Although Jing Ru had a pretty appearance, she was still inferior compared to Li Fei and Ke Er, and at most at the same level as Li Shi Shi.

As a former king of mercenaries, Duan Ling Tian was a person that knew how to be grateful. Even though Jing Ru moving to block in front of him was very unnecessary, at that time Jing Ru didn't know his of his ability and was obviously throwing her life out there.

Such a kind girl being the manager of his courtyard house was extremely suitable because he could completely trust her.

"Xiong Quan, let's return to the inn and bring them over." After Jing Ru left, Duan Ling Tian locked up the main gate before leaving the house with Xiong Quan.

Duan Clan Estate.

As a large clan within Crimson Sky Kingdom that was only inferior to the Imperial Family, the Duan Clan Estate occupied an extremely vast area of land.

At this moment, in a large courtyard within the Duan Clan Estate, a fat, married woman with a bodyweight of around 300 pounds was currently helping Duan Rong dress his injuries. The pair of small eyes on the fat woman flickered with a vicious light. "Rong, do you know who the person who injured you is?"

Duan Rong furiously shook his head. "I don't know!"

"Don't worry, Auntie will surely find out and take revenge for you!" The fat woman's voice emitted a trace of sinister coldness.

"Thank you, Auntie!" Duan Rong had a face full of delight, as he knew the ability of this aunt of his.

Although his uncle, the Duan Clan's second-son-in-line, had his Dantian crippled 20 years ago, he was still able to manage the various businesses of the Duan Clan, and his status in the Duan Clan was only below the Patriarch's and the few Supreme Elders. And his uncle always listened to this aunt of his.

The fat woman looked at Duan Rong and slowly said, "You go get some rest first. I'll ask your uncle to send some people over to buy a courtyard house for you. At that time, you can directly move in. Besides that, you must be sure to live up to expectations once you enter Paladin Academy. The entire Duan Clan only has a quota of five recommendations, and your uncle gave you the only one he had, so you mustn't lose face for him."

"Auntie, I won't disappoint you and Uncle for sure." Duan Rong fiercely nodded before turning and leaving.

After Duan Rong left, the fat woman stood up with great difficulty, and her 300 pound body walked out in large strides, causing a wave tremors on the ground...

North of the Duan Clan Estate, there was a luxurious estate just a few streets after. A wagon had only just stopped at the estate's gates when a red figure flashed out of the carriage and flew directly towards the estate gate.

"Who!?" Four house guards stopped the figure at the gate.

"You all actually dare to stop this Young Miss? Open up your damn eyes and look at who I am!" The red-clothed youth burst out in rage as she stared at them furiously, and her hand that grasped the black whip seemed to tighten.

One of the house guard's face turned ghastly white when he recognized her, then he hurriedly bowed. "Young Miss Li, this lowly one didn't recognize you for a moment. Please pardon my offense!"

Young Miss Li?

The other three house guards' expression turned ghastly white as well and they hurriedly bowed.

They had all recalled this she-devil. She was precisely the Fifth Prince's cousin and the only daughter of Fair Sun County's County Governor, Tong Li.

"Pardon your offense? Dream on! I'll discipline you all properly in my cousin's stead today." Tong Li, however, wasn't so forgiving. When she lifted her hand, the black whip seemed to transform into a black, venomous snake that flashed towards the four house guards, fiercely swinging itself upon their bodies.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Even though the four house guards were beaten to the point that their skin split apart, they didn't make a single sound, as they knew that if they made a sound, their punishment would be even worse.

"Hmph, at least you're sensible! Grandma Wang, let's go find my cousin." After venting her anger, Tong Li put away her whip before walking swiftly into the estate.

The four house guards' faces were ghastly white with a sense of lingering fear, and they only caught their breaths after Tong Li had disappeared from their sights.

"I didn't think that this Tong Li's temper wouldn't change a bit after so many years."

"Not only did it not change, I feel it became worse.... I still remember the first time she came here three years ago; half of my hair was burnt off by her."

"That's nothing! 10 years ago, when she was still a little girl, she snuck into my room and put a poisonous snake into my bath barrel. If it wasn't for Fifth Prince bestowing medicine to me, I would have died from poisoning back then."

"This she-devil is back again. Looks like the estate is going to be eventful again."

The four house guards had faces filled with lingering fear, seeming to be unable to bear to remember the past.

In the luxurious estate, within the backyard pergola, a refined young man around the age of 30 sat there as he peacefully tasted some fragrant tea. Behind him, a white-browed old man stood there, not moving an inch.

"Cousin Brother!" Suddenly, a voice that caused the refined young man's eyebrows to twitch sounded from afar, and then a sense of tender love appeared on his face.

The corners of the white-browed old man's mouth twitched, and his expression became slightly unnatural.

Before long, Tong Li arrived before the refined young man. With red eyes, her tears flowed like the rain. "Cousin Brother, you have to take revenge for me..."

The refined young man, in other words, the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Fifth Prince, couldn't help but be stunned. It was hard for him to imagine how there was actually someone who could bully this cousin of his. "Li, what wrong? Who offended you?"

"Wuwu..." Tong Li flew into Fifth Prince's embrace. It was like a place for her to vent as she started crying loudly.

"Grandma Wang, what happened?" When the Fifth Prince looked at the old woman that followed Tong Li in, the tender love on his face vanished, and in its place was a trace of a dignified expression. This was the dignified expression of someone in a high position, and thus suppressed the old woman to the extent that she lowered her head.

The old woman hurriedly recounted what happened in the restaurant. "Fifth Prince, this is what happened: a few hours ago I and the Young Miss..."

Bang!

The Fifth Prince's palm that exploded forth with Origin Energy descended upon the stone table in front of him, shattering it into pieces. His eyes flickered with a fierce light as he spoke in a low voice. "What did you say? That person slapped Li many times?"

"Yes." The old woman lowered her head.

Tong Li raised her head and cried as she spoke. "Cousin Brother, look, it's been a few hours, and although I consumed an Icy Skin Pill, the marks on my face couldn't be fully removed."

When the Fifth Prince noticed the light marks on Tong Li's face, the fierce light in his eyes grew even brighter!

Icy Skin Pill, a grade seven medicinal pill that healed the external injuries on the skin and yielded miraculous results.

She had consumed the Icy Skin Pill a few hours earlier and the marks on her face still couldn't be fully removed.... He could imagine how heavily injured she was before!

"Who is he?" Fifth Prince's refined temperament vanished, and in its place was fierceness and ruthlessness.

His gaze descended upon the old woman, causing her expression to turn slightly pale. "Fifth Prince, I don't know. All I know is that there were four of them. A violet-clothed youth around the age of 18, a middle-aged man with a cultivation at the seventh level of the Origin Core Stage, and two more women who wore veils and weren't older than 20."

Fifth Prince took a deep breath. "Old man Bai!"

"Bai Mei's present." The white-browed old man took a step forward before looking at the Fifth Prince and respectfully bowing.

"Go investigate. I want to see who actually dared to injure my Cousin Sister!" Fifth Prince instructed with eyes that emitted dense killing intent.

He was born in the Imperial Family, and although he had many brothers and sisters from the same father but different mothers, none of them could be entrusted with his heartfelt feelings. Only this Cousin Sister of his wouldn't scheme against him nor fight for power and status with him, and thus he had always doted on this Cousin Sister.

"Cousin Brother, I want him captured alive. I want to kill him with my own two hands!" Tong Li's voice was mixed with infinite icy coldness.

Duan Ling Tian naturally wasn't aware that on the first day he arrived at the Imperial City, he'd already created two huge problems. He was currently sitting within the wagon and chatting with the three women as they traveled towards the house he had just purchased...

"Scoundrel, why'd you sell the Ferghana Horses?" Li Fei asked in curiosity.

"I lack money, so I sold them. We won't be using them while we stay in the Imperial City anyway, and we can buy them again when we need them in the future," Duan Ling Tian casually said.

Purchasing the house cost 8,000,000 silver, and now, with the balance 2,000,000 silver combined with the 3,000,000 from the sale of the three Ferghana Horses, he had another 5,000,000 silver on him.

There were no advantages to traveling in the Imperial City using Ferghana Horses, so changing to ordinary steeds were more than enough.

"Young Master, what's the pleasant surprise you spoke about?" Ke Er's watery eyes blinked as she asked Duan Ling Tian curiously.

Duan Ling Tian shook his head with a smile. "If I tell you now, then it won't be a pleasant surprise."

"So mysterious. Nobody wants to know," Li Fei rebuked, but in truth, a trace of curiosity flashed deep within her eyes.

Eventually, the wagon came to a stop.

"My liege, we've arrived." Xiong Quan's voice sounded.

When the three women saw Duan Ling Tian unlock the main gate of the courtyard house in front of them, they were dumbstruck.

"Tian, this... this is a house you bought?" Li Rou asked in surprise.

Years ago, she had stayed in the Imperial City's Duan Clan for a few years, and naturally knew how expensive land was in the Imperial City's inner city. Compared to the Duan Clan Estate, the courtyard

house in front of her eyes might be nothing, but even then, this house was worth at least be 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 silver.

"Pleasantly surprised, right?" Duan Ling Tian laughed.

The three women nodded as they followed Duan Ling Tian into the house. This pleasant surprise was really too huge!

Xiong Quan led the wagon into the courtyard before closing the main gate.

"Scoundrel, this courtyard house cost a lot, right?" Li Fei suppressed the shock in the heart and blinked her beautiful eyes as she looked at Duan Ling Tian.

"Never mind how much it was, see if you like it. The building on the right is the main building. It has seven rooms and leads directly to the back yard. The building on the left is the sub building. It has 30 rooms and I plan to leave it for the servant girls and chef." Duan Ling Tian slowly introduced.

Before long, Li Rou was pulled away by Ke Er and Li Fei, who had excited expressions on their faces, to take a look around the entire courtyard house. After today, they would be the owners of this house.

Knock knock. Suddenly, the sound of a door being knocked sounded.

Under Duan Ling Tian's instruction, Xiong Quan walked over and said, in a low voice, "Who?"

"It's me." An anxious woman's voice sounded from outside.

"Open the door." Duan Ling Tian recognized this voice. It was the voice of the manager he had decided upon, Jing Ru.

However, why was she so anxious?

Chapter 138: The Terrifying Little Pythons

When Duan Ling Tian saw Jing Ru once more, he noticed that she had brought a bundle of things with her, and couldn't help but ask curiously, "Jing Ru, what happened?"

"Young Master, the Duan Clan's second master sent people to ask the manager about the whereabouts of your house. Although that person couldn't do anything because the manager wouldn't speak due to business rules, the Duan Clan's second master is too skilled, so before long, he will probably find out about your whereabouts." Jing Ru's mouth didn't stop speaking since she entered, and only after finishing did she have a worried expression on her face.

Duan Ling Tian's eyes flickered as he slowly nodded before asking, "You came to notify me?"

Jing Ru's face blushed. "I came to seek refuge from Young Master. I never imagined that the Duan Clan's second master would interfere in the matter, and if he interferes, then he will come for me sooner or later. Since it's like this, I might as well leave."

Duan Ling Tian was stunned for a moment. Never had he expected that the Duan Clan's second master would actually help him achieve his aim.

Jing Ru's face went pale when she saw Duan Ling Tian's expression. "Young Master, you can't be regretting it now, right?"

How could Duan Ling Tian not realize that Jing Ru had misunderstood? "What are you thinking? I, Duan Ling Tian, never take back what I've said," he explained with a light smile.

Duan Ling Tian?

Jing Ru's beautiful eyebrows knit. "Young Master, you.... Could it be that you're a member of the Duan Clan? According to my knowledge, the younger generation direct line descendants of the Duan Clan were named with 'Ling'."

"I was once, but now I'm not," Duan Ling Tian said indifferently, as he never had any sense of belonging to that Duan Clan.

Even if his deadbeat father were to return, he still wouldn't return to the Duan Clan. That clan that was cold and indifferent like ice! That clan that would force a single mother to leave...

He would never in his entire life forget the 'generous gifts' the Duan Clan gave to him!

Jing Ru was a smart person, so upon noticing that Duan Ling Tian didn't want to explain any further, she didn't continue asking.

Before long, Duan Ling Tian's expression eased up and he withdrew some silver before passing it to Jing Ru. "Jing Ru, from today onwards, you're my house's manager. Take this money and hire a few well-behaved, diligent, and reliable servant girls within the next few days. Hmmm, and look for two chefs. As for their salary, make it double of whatever their counterparts get in those large clans."

"Yes, Young Master." Jing Ru received the silver and hurriedly nodded. "I will surely take care of this properly and won't disappoint you."

"If I didn't trust you, then I wouldn't let you be my manager." Duan Ling Tian shook his head. It was precisely because he liked Jing Ru's behavior that he made this decision.

"Besides that, in the future, you'll stay in the main building with us since there are seven rooms. My family plus Xiong Quan would only take five rooms, so there are two extra rooms," Duan Ling Tian continued.

"Thank you, Young Master." Jing Ru had an excited expression and her heart was filled with gratitude. The Young Master allowed her to stay in the main building, and it would also mean that he didn't take her to be an outsider.

"Scoundrel, who is she?" A fragrance invaded his senses as Li Fei grabbed Duan Ling Tian's arm; it was as if she was announcing that Duan Ling Tian belonged to her. Her gaze, which was filled with vigilance, descended upon Jing Ru.

"This is the manager I found, Jing Ru. Jing Ru, this is my fiancée, Li Fei." Duan Ling Tian introduced the two girls.

"Manager?" The vigilance on Li Fei's face eased up and she lightly smiled to Jing Re. "Big Sister Jing Ru, nice to meet you."

Jing Ru was overwhelmed with the unexpected favor as he hurriedly said, "Young Mistress, you can call me Jing Ru."

Li Fei beamed when Jing Ru called her Young Mistress, then she grabbed Jing Ru's hand and walked off towards the house. "Big sister Jing Ru, let's go. I'll introduce Aunt Rou and Ke Er to you..."

A smile appeared on Duan Ling Tian's face when he saw the three women quickly getting along with Jing Ru.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Just at this moment, two flashes of light that seemed like bolts of lightning flashed out straight towards Duan Ling Tian like lightning striking!

"Be careful, my liege!" Xiong Quan's expression turned grim and his body jerked before disappearing on the spot. When he appeared once again, he was already in front of Duan Ling Tian.

Whoosh!

Instantly, his three-foot-long blade flashed out and over 500 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form above him. Facing the two flashes of light that were flying over, Xiong Quan used his full strength, clearly showing how fearful he was of these two sudden flashes of light.

However, even Xiong Quan's sword strike still hit nothing!

The two flashes of light flashed past his sword and flew towards Duan Ling Tian...

"My liege!" Xiong Quan's expression turned extremely grim and cold sweat started to pour from his body. If his liege were to die, he wouldn't be able to survive either!

"It's fine, Xiong Quan, put away your sword." Duan Ling Tian said, which caused Xiong Quan's heart to settle down. When he returned to his senses, he noticed that there were two strange little pythons on Duan Ling Tian's hands....

"Little Black, Little White, you two have finally awakened." Duan Ling Tian started playing with the two little pythons. He noticed that after half a year of sleep, they actually had undergone a huge metamorphosis. Not only were the horns on their heads fully revealed, now they even flickered with a faint brilliance.

"I really never imagined that the current speed of you two would be so swift. What sort of variant are you two?" Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but sigh. His Origin Energy merged into the bodies of the two little pythons and he noticed a shocking matter... the Snow Python's beast core had actually been completely dissolved and absorbed by the two little pythons!

No wonder their current speed was obviously far superior to the Snow Python at its prime! Even Xiong Quan couldn't touch them when he exerted his full strength while relying on his Grade Seven Spirit Weapon.

However, luckily, nothing happened to them. Duan Ling Tian felt a wave of fear wash over him. He hadn't mentioned the two little pythons to Xiong Quan, and thus Xiong Quan didn't know of their existence.

Hiss hiss~

The two little pythons playfully flicked their tongues at Duan Ling Tian.

Seeing this scene caused Xiong Quan's scalp to go slightly numb, and he asked, in disbelief, "My liege, are these your fierce beasts?"

"Sort of." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

His thoughts were still fixated on the moment the two little pythons flashed towards him. He vaguely saw more than 1,000 ancient mammoth silhouettes flash above them before disappearing in the next second. It was so fast that even he wasn't able to clearly see the exact amount of ancient mammoth silhouettes; he only vaguely caught sight of some afterimages...

"Little Black, come demonstrate for me to see how strong you two are currently." Duan Ling Tian looked at the little black python and lightly rubbed its small head.

The little black python seemed to understand what Duan Ling Tian said, as it flicked its tongue before instantly flashing out and coiling up a large tree in the front courtyard. It then playfully hung on a tree branch and started blinking its intelligent eyes at Duan Ling Tian...

This time Duan Ling Tian saw it clearly!

Whoosh!

Just at this moment, Little White moved as well and hung onto a tree branch like Little Black.

"Six... 600 ancient mammoth silhouettes..." Duan Ling Tian fiercely gulped down a mouthful of saliva, as he noticed that Little Black and Little White each possessed a terrifying strength at the fourth level of the Nascent Soul Stage.... No wonder they were able to dodge Xiong Quan's strike at full force!

Xiong Quan had currently only recovered to the third level of the Nascent Soul Stage, and without a spirit weapon, his entire strength was comparable to the strength of 400 ancient mammoths. If he used his Grade Seven Spirit Weapon, he would be able to exert close to 520 ancient mammoths, which was quite a difference from either one of the two little pythons.

"I never expected such a terrifying change to occur after they finished absorbing the Snow Python's beast core.... Unbelievable!" It took a long time for Duan Ling Tian's state of mind to calm down, and a question arose within his heart.

According to the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, the Snow Python's beast core shouldn't be able to cause the two little pythons to undergo such changes. Maybe there were some hidden facts which he didn't know of, or maybe there was something else within the Snow Python's beast core.

Unfortunately, however, now that the Snow Python's beast core had been completely dissolved and absorbed by the two little pythons, there was no way to investigate.

No matter what, the two little pythons undergoing a metamorphosis once again caused Duan Ling Tian to feel delighted, as this would mean that he would have two more powerhouses beside him that were even stronger than Xiong Quan.

The two little pythons and Duan Ling Tian could understand each other on a heart to heart basis; Duan Ling Tian only needed to slightly lead them and the two little pythons would be able to transform into two invincible sharp blades... two sharp blades that could pierce through his enemies' chests!

Duan Ling Tian waved his hand and the two little pythons returned to his hand.

Xiong Quan's eyes emitted a sense of fear, as he understood that even if one little python were to attack him, the current him wouldn't be able to avoid death! Even if he used the Grade Seven Spirit Weapon, the end result would be the same.

Duan Ling Tian naturally noticed Xiong Quan's gaze, and he felt that this wasn't a bad thing. From today onwards, besides needing to worry about the poison Duan Ling Tian gave him, he would need to worry about these two little pythons that completely obeyed Duan Ling Tian's orders. He knew that Xiong Quan was an intelligent person and would know how to choose.

Deep in the night.

Since they didn't have a chef yet, Jing Ru personally made dinner for them, and the taste caused Duan Ling Tian and his family to unceasingly praise her.

"Big sister Jing Ru, I never expected your cooking skills to be so good," Ke Er said, with a light smile.

"Young Mistress, you're too kind, but how could I compare to those professional chefs?" Jing Ru lightly shook her head.

"Big sister Jing Ru, just call me Ke Er." Being addressed as Young Mistress caused Ke Er to blush from embarrassment.

After dinner, Li Rou, Ke Er, and Li Fei returned to their rooms. Xiong Quan, on the other hand, stood behind Duan Ling Tian, fulfilling his role as a bodyguard.

"Jing Ru." Duan Ling Tian called over Jing Ru, who had just come out of the kitchen.

"Young Master, do you need something?" Jing Ru looked at Duan Ling Tian inquiringly and full of curiosity.

"Jing Ru, you seemed extremely afraid when you mentioned the Duan Clan's second master today. According to my knowledge, this second master is just an ordinary person that had his Dantian crippled, right?" This was something Duan Ling Tian couldn't wrap his head around.

The Duan Clan's second master, Duan Ru Lei's, Dantian was accidentally crippled by his deadbeat father all those years ago; this was something even he knew. A ninth level Body Tempering martial artist whose Dantian had been crippled was actually able to cause Jing Ru's face to turn pale just from mentioning him?

"Young Master, there are things which you don't know. Although the Duan Clan's second master's Dantian was crippled, he's skilled in business. The businesses under the Duan Clan were mostly built up by him. Although he lost his cultivation, he controls the Duan Clan's economy, so his status within the Duan Clan is only below the Patriarch's and the few Supreme Elders." As soon as Jing Ru heard what Duan Ling Tian said, she knew that he didn't know of the Duan Clan's current circumstances...

She was curious in her heart. Could it be that the Young Master was a direct descendant of the Duan Clan that was left behind outside of the clan?

Chapter 139: Dire Straits

In a spacious room, Duan Ling Tian lied on the soft bed as he looked at the ceiling with a flickering gaze.

What Jing Ru said earlier made him feel like he was awakening from a dream! He suddenly felt that many of his previous ways of thinking were too naïve. According to his previous thoughts, after he arrived at the Imperial City, he would directly go to the Duan Clan and challenge Duan Ling Xing before killing him...

In this way, the Duan Clan would suffer a loss but be unable to voice their grievances. But now it would seem that the matter was not as simple as he thought.

If he were to kill Duan Ling Xing in a fair and public match, he would surely need to face Duan Ru Lei's frenzied secret attempts at revenge.... Duan Ru Lei's status was extremely high in the Duan Clan, so that would be very troublesome.

He himself wasn't afraid, but he had to consider the safety of his family.

"Looks like the matter of taking revenge on Duan Ling Xing needs to be planned carefully..." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath before he closed his eyes and started thinking of a way to deal with the situation.

Besides Xiong Quan, there was only the two little pythons by his side that were strong. If the two little pythons were to work together and attack unexpectedly, killing a fifth level Nascent Soul martial artist shouldn't be a problem, but if it was a sixth level Nascent Soul martial artist, then even if Xiong Quan and the two little pythons were to work together, they still might not be able to kill him!

"Duan Ru Lei has such a high status in the Duan Clan; not to mention a sixth level Nascent Soul martial artist, he probably can even order about a martial artist above the seventh level of the Nascent Soul stage.... The strength that I control is still too weak." Duan Ling Tian slowly opened his eyes, and a bright light flashed within.

Cultivate!

As long as he broke through to the Origin Core Stage, he would be able to condense a Grade Eight Pill Fire and become a Grade Eight Alchemist, and thus would be able to refine a Grade Eight Spirit Cleansing Pill for Xiong Quan.

At that time, Xiong Quan's strength would recover by another one third.... And based on Duan Ling Tian's estimations, his strength would be at the first level of the Void Prying Stage.

"I wouldn't be so constrained if Xiong Quan was a first level Void Prying martial artist!" Duan Ling Tian's eyes emitted a piercing cold glow before he closed them.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign Technique, Raging Python Form!

The Origin Energy within Duan Ling Tian's body madly rushed at his fleshly body and unceasingly tempered it. If his fleshly body hadn't completed its tempering, then he wouldn't be able to break through to the fifth level of the Core Formation Stage!

It could be said that the Raging Python Form's mental cultivation method slowed down Duan Ling Tian's cultivation speed by a certain degree. This was precisely the reason it was difficult for him to catch up to Ke Er and Li Fei's cultivation levels.

His cultivation had an extra step: the tempering of the fleshly body!

Duan Ling Tian cultivated the entire night until dawn the next day, but he noticed that he actually didn't feel one bit exhausted. Although the fourth level Core Formation Stage tempering of the fleshly body hasn't been completed, he still noticed some changes in himself...

"My Spiritual Force... seems to have advanced! Only a little bit more for it to be comparable to the Spiritual Force of a Nascent Soul martial artist." After noticing this, Duan Ling Tian was pleasantly surprised.

If he possessed a Spiritual Force comparable to a Nascent Soul martial artist, then it would also mean that he would be able to inscribe an inscription that was at an even higher grade than the Blood Crescent Inscription...

If activated unexpectedly, the Blood Crescent Inscription was capable of killing martial artists below the Nascent Soul Stage but posed no threat against any martial artist at the Nascent Soul Stage.

If he wanted to deal with a Nascent Soul martial artists, then he would have to use a higher grade offensive inscription.

"Scoundrel, you... broke through?" Duan Ling Tian walked out of the main building and arrived at the front courtyard. His appearance, which was full of spirits, caused Li Fei to be surprised.

"No." Duan Ling Tian shook his head. Only he knew what he was happy about.

Duan Ling Tian glanced at Ke Er, who was absorbed in her sword cultivation, and lightly smiled as he asked Li Fei, "Who's stronger between you and Ke Er?"

Li Fei said, with a smile, "After Little sister Ke Er's Freezing Sword stepped into the Perfection Stage, I wasn't a match for her. Moreover, her cultivation should soon step into the sixth level of the Core Formation Stage."

Li Fei was not one bit envious of Ke Er's cultivation surpassing hers, as she had gotten along well with Ke Er in these past two years, and they were like true sisters.

Of course, this was only limited to Ke Er. Maybe it was because Ke Er was with Duan Ling Tian at first and she came later on.... However, Li Fei was extremely vigilant towards any other woman that appeared near Duan Ling Tian, as she was unwilling to share Duan Ling Tian with a third woman.

"Ke Er..." Duan Ling Tian looked at the far-away beautiful figure with slight surprise, as he didn't expect Ke Er to have such huge progress in her cultivation.

Ke Er currently was similar to him, already at the age of 18. Women changed quickly as they aged, and the current Ke Er was completely different from the immature little girl from three year ago!

Whoosh!

Ke Er's sword that was suffused with Origin Energy flashed out, and with it, an icy cold aura swept out. The entire sword seemed to be covered in a layer of cold qi. This was precisely the Freezing Sword, a high grade Profound Rank sword skill! And it was also the sword skill within the top cultivation method, Frost God's Sword Technique.

In the following month, the courtyard house was peaceful. Besides occasionally flirting with his two fiancées, Duan Ling Tian spent his time painstakingly cultivating. The facts proved that concentrating solely on cultivation made the process much faster than the cultivating while traveling in the wagon. After all, during the journey, he couldn't help but be affected by some disturbances.

Duan Ling Tian completed the tempering of his fleshly body for the fourth level of the Core Formation Stage within half a month and started to charge towards the fifth level of the Core Formation Stage!

Something worth mentioning was that his Spirit Serpent Movement Technique that hadn't broken through for a long time had finally stepped into the Perfection Stage during this one month's time. Presently, the three high grade Profound Rank martial skills that he possessed had all stepped into the Perfection Stage in succession.

Whoosh!

In the front courtyard, Duan Ling Tian's body was like a spirit serpent as it flashed out, seeming to transform into a violet bolt of lightning.

Above him, 12 ancient mammoth silhouettes condensed into form!

In terms of strength, the current him was comparable to a ninth level Core Formation martial artist. If he used the Grade Eight Spirit Weapon, Violet Myrtle Flexible Sword, he was confident that there weren't many people under the Origin Core Stage that could withstand a single sword strike from him.

During this month, Ke Er smoothly stepped into the sixth level of the Core Formation Stage.

Compared to a month before, the peaceful house felt much more alive, as Jing Ru had found three servant girls and two chefs.

Everything in the house was on the right track, allowing Duan Ling Tian and his family to cultivate in peace.

"How's the situation outside?" Duan Ling Tian asked Xiong Quan, who had just returned.

Xiong Quan respectfully said, "My liege, although that Duan Clan's second master and the Fifth Prince's people are still searching for your whereabouts, it isn't so frequent anymore. They don't know of your background and thus have no way of searching for you. However, according to my knowledge, the Fair Sun County's County Governor's daughter and the Duan Clan second master's nephew, Duan Rong, seem to be students in the same year as you in Paladin Academy."

"There's still two months before the end of the registration period of Paladin Academy and when the term begins. My liege, if you go to Paladin Academy, they'll probably recognize you at the first possible moment, and at that time, the Duan Clan's second master and the Fifth Prince will both target you." Xiong Quan spoke of his worries.

Both the Duan Clan's second master and the Fifth Prince had a myriad of powerhouses under their command. Xiong Quan was self-aware and thus knew that with his current level of cultivation, it would be difficult for him to deal with them.

"They're Paladin Academy students as well?" Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised. After pondering for a moment, he nodded. "I understand. I'll think of a way to handle this. Hereafter, continue to keep an eye on the surrounding circumstances. I don't wish for the Duan Clan's second master and Fifth Prince's people to locate this place in the short term."

"Yes, my liege," Xiong Quan replied respectfully. He obeyed any of Duan Ling Tian's orders unconditionally.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Xiong Quan and slowly said, "Besides that, don't call me your liege in the future, call me Young Master like Jing Ru and the others."

"Yes, Young Master," Xiong Quan replied before leaving.

"Duan Clan's second master, Fifth Prince..." Duan Ling Tian rubbed his temples. If the current him were to face them head on, he would undoubtedly be overestimating himself!

"My Spiritual Force is still slightly lacking.... I can only wait for some time." Duan Ling Tian took a deep breath as his eyes emitted a dense, cold light.

According to Rebirth Martial Emperor's memories, there was no way to cultivate Spiritual Force, and one could only rely on the progression of one's cultivation to continuously grow one's Spiritual Force.

Duan Ling Tian had a feeling that as long as he broke through to the fifth level of the Core Formation Stage, his Spiritual Force should be able to smoothly complete the final metamorphosis. At that time, his Spiritual Force, which was comparable to that of a martial artist at the Nascent Soul Stage, would be sufficient to inscribe a formidable inscription that could annihilate Nascent Soul martial artists.

"However, the higher the inscription, the more expensive the materials needed. Merely one inscription that could annihilate a Nascent Soul martial artist requires materials worth a few million silver..." Duan Ling Tian realized that he needed to find a way to make money.

Duan Ling Tian looked at the servant girl beside him and asked, "Xiao Lu, do you have some makeup?"

This servant girl was a clever girl named Xiao Lu. She was brought in by Jing Ru.

"Yes." Xiao Lu hurriedly nodded.

"Get it for me," Duan Ling Tian said.

Even though Xiao Lu was curious as to why Duan Ling Tian would want makeup, she still brought it over for Duan Ling Tian.

When she saw Duan Ling Tian putting makeup on to his own face, she was stunned. "Does Young Master's face, which is so delicate and pretty that even a girl would be envious of, need make up?"

In next to no time, she was completely dumbstruck.

"How is it? Can you still recognize me?" Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled. The current him looked as if he had completely changed his face, and it was precisely the effects of the disguise from the makeup he used.

"Young Master, you're too formidable... this is really too godly!" Xiao Lu had a face full of adoration as she looked at Duan Ling Tian. If she hadn't seen it with her own two eyes, it would be extremely difficult for her to believe that this was real, because it was utterly impossible to notice that Duan Ling Tian had makeup on just by looking.

"Xiao Lu, what're you so surprised about? You... who are you? Why are you wearing my scoundrel's clothes!?" At an unknown time, Li Fei had come out of her room, and when she saw the disguised Duan Ling Tian, her expression went grim.

Duan Ling Tian glared at Li Fei and fiercely said, "Little girl, I've killed your scoundrel. This courtyard house is mine from now on. Hmm, you're mine as well!"

"Scoundrel!" Li Fei was confused earlier due to being too concerned, but after a moment, she recognized Duan Ling Tian. "You... this... how did you do it?"

Duan Ling Tian wasn't surprised that Li Fei was able to recognize him. After all, they had been together for such a long time.

Chapter 140: Genius Alchemist?

"Ask Xiao Lu. I have to go out and do something." Duan Ling Tian lightly smiled. Although he had a different face now, his smile was extremely natural.

Duan Ling Tian brought Little Black in his sleeve before walking out of the house.

After leaving the house, Duan Ling Tian asked a passerby about the location of the Alchemist Guild in the inner city before walking over with large strides.

The inner city wasn't big but neither was it small. Duan Ling Tian weaved through the stream of people before arriving at the Alchemist Guild half an hour later.

Compared to Aurora City's Alchemist Guild, the Imperial City's Alchemist Guild was an ancient and majestic building.

"This should probably be the main building for the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild," Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart.

Within the Alchemist Guild's lobby, the stream of people entering and leaving was unceasing. Most of these people were here to post assignments. There was also a small amount of people who had an Alchemist Guild crest on their chests. Obviously they were alchemists, and most of them were Grade Nine Alchemists.

"Grade Nine Alchemists that were a rare sight in Fresh Breeze Town and even Aurora City are now everywhere to be seen." Duan Ling Tian sighed in his heart, and at the same time he withdrew his Grade Nine Alchemist crest and placed it on his chest before walking in.

Instantly, the people outside the Alchemist Guild's door stopped their steps and their gazes descended onto Duan Ling Tian... a Grade Nine Alchemist!

This wasn't the main point. The main point was that this violet-clothed youth looked to be only around the age of 18.

An 18-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist? They were all shocked.

Although Duan Ling Tian had disguised his face, this face was still a face of a youth and looked to be at most around the age of 18.

Duan Ling Tian ignored these gazes. He directly walked into the Alchemist Guild lobby and made his way towards the counter.

Meanwhile, the people at the door finally started moving.

"18-year-old youth, Grade Nine Alchemist? Is it real or fake?"

"Y=Do you believe this? Do you think that if our Crimson Sky Kingdom really had an 18-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist that passed the Alchemist Guild's verification, we wouldn't know about it?"

"You're right. The crest he's wearing is probably from his family's senior."

"I think so too."

...

Most of the people didn't consider Duan Ling Tian to be a real Grade Nine Alchemist.

If Duan Ling Tian knew of what they thought, he would surely laugh in disdain and feel that they had gotten excited over something so common! According to the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, 18-year-old alchemist appeared in the 'Foreign Lands' without end and were countless in number...

Duan Ling Tian walked over to an empty counter; however, just when he was about to reach the counter, a blue-clothed young man dash over to his front and stood at the counter before him.

Duan Ling Tian's face sank.

The young man didn't get the attendant to help him post or receive an assignment, but instead looked over at Duan Ling Tian with a ridiculing smile on the corners of his mouth.

The young man was over 20 years old and emitted arrogance between his brows.

"Kid, the Alchemist Guild's rules state that only alchemists are qualified to wear the Alchemist Guild's crest. If someone were to give another their crest as they pleased, it would be considered a form of disrespect towards the Alchemist Guild!"

The young man looked at Duan Ling Tian with a spurious smile. "Your family seniors are really bold, actually daring to let a little kid like you wear their Alchemist Guild crest. Looks like have no respect for the Alchemist Guild..."

Duan Ling Tian was initially thought that it was strange. This person didn't actually want to get to the counter, he wanted stop him. Now that he heard what the young man said, Duan Ling Tian finally came to an understanding and knew why the young man had stopped him...

Little kid?

Duan Ling Tian's eyes flickered and a trace of ridicule appeared on the corners of his mouth, then he lightly smiled and said, "How do you know it isn't my own Alchemist Guild crest? Or maybe it's you who's getting excited over something common and think that it's impossible to be a Grade Nine Alchemist at an age like mine?"

Just at this moment, many people within the Alchemist Guild lobby surrounded them. Watching a scene was human nature.

"Eh, isn't this the Xiao Clan's genius alchemist, Xiao He?"

"Yeah, its Xiao He. Allegedly, this Xiao He became a Grade Nine Alchemist when he just turned 20 and was publically acknowledge as our Crimson Sky Kingdom's most talented genius alchemist in the younger generation!"

"The Xiao Clan really got lucky, producing such a genius alchemist. With Xiao He's natural talent, becoming a Grade Seven Alchemist in the future won't be difficult!"

"Eh, this youth is a Grade Nine Alchemist as well? Oh my god, he looks like he's only 18."

"Didn't you hear what Xiao He said earlier? This youth probably got the Alchemist Guild crest from his family's senior and purposely came here to show off."

"This youth's seniors are really outrageous."

...

The surrounding crowd discussed animatedly.

No one felt that Duan Ling Tian could really be a Grade Nine Alchemist, as he too young after all. Moreover, in the entire history of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, there had never once been an 18-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist...

Duan Ling Tian raised his eyebrows.

Xiao he?

20 years old, Grade Nine Alchemist?

In the Crimson Sky Kingdom's domain, such a natural talent was indeed considered to be a genius alchemist; however, wasn't he a bit too arrogant.

"I'm getting excited over something common?" Xiao He perked up his head and mocked, "Little kid! Last year, when I was 20, I, Xiao He, registered as a Grade Nine Alchemist in this Alchemist Guild. I was acknowledged as the most gifted alchemist in the entire younger generation of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, and this was something that the Guild Master of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild's main guild personally acknowledged. If you're really a Grade Nine Alchemist, how could I have not heard of it? So, you are surely a fake!"

"Sometimes being self-confident is a good thing, but you shouldn't make self-confidence your means to be arrogant. In this world, there are some people that might not have the same level of fame as you, but that doesn't mean their natural talent is inferior to yours. So, I, this little kid, will give you a piece of advice: you should conduct yourself in a more humble manner." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled before slowly saying, "If there's nothing else, please move aside; my time is extremely precious."

What Duan Ling Tian said caused the surrounding bystanders to have weird expressions on their faces... This kid was actually teaching Xiao He a lesson?

"Little kid! You seem to be too self-righteous." Xiao He's face sank and his voice turned slightly cold.

"Xiao He, what's going on?" Just at this moment, a middle-aged man with a dignified appearance walked out from within the Alchemist Guild and walked over upon seeing the crowd gathered together.

"Vice Guild Master." Instantly, the surrounding crowd respectfully greeted the middle-aged man.

Even Xiao He was no exception.

This middle-aged man was precisely the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild's Vice Guild Master, Ye Lun.

"Vice Guild Master, this person put on another's Alchemist Guild crest and blatantly sought public attention. It's detrimental to the Alchemist Guild's reputation, so I say the Alchemist Guild should find the true owner of this Alchemist Guild crest and give out punishment to him!" Xiao He pointed at the Alchemist Guild crest on Duan Ling Tian's chest and spoke with a sense of justice.

Duan Ling Tian was slightly surprised when he saw the middle-aged man, as through the memories of Rebirth Martial Emperor, he was able to discern that this middle-aged man around the age of 50 was actually a Grade Seven Alchemist.... As expected of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild's Vice Guild Master!

"Oh?" After hearing what Xiao He said, Ye Lun curiously sized up Duan Ling Tian before asking, in an indifferent voice, "Kid, who gave you this Alchemist Guild crest?"

Duan Ling Tian started laughing. "What, the dignified Vice Guild Master of the Alchemist Guild speaks irresponsibly when he doesn't know the truth of the matter yet?"

Ye Lun's brows creased.

"Presumptuous!" Xiao He's face sank as he shouted at Duan Ling Tian, "Kid, you still dare deny it in front of the Vice Guild Master?"

Ye Lun raised his hand to stop Xiao He before glancing at Duan Ling Tian in interest. "Kid, could it be that it's really your own Alchemist Guild crest?"

"Is it that strange?" Duan Ling Tian shrugged and had a disapproving expression.

"It isn't strange, but you seem to be only around 18 years old. Are you sure this Grade Nine Alchemist crest is something you obtained through the verification of our Alchemist Guild?" Ye Lun's eyes shined brilliantly as his gaze descended upon Duan Ling Tian's face, seeming to be wanting to discern something.

Unfortunately, however, he was bound to be disappointed, as Duan Ling Tian's face remained unchanged from the beginning until the end.

"Kid, if you can't prove that you're really the owner of the Grade Nine Alchemist crest, then our Alchemist Guild has the right to reclaim this crest," Ye Lun added.

Actually, Ye Lun didn't believe that this Alchemist Guild crest belonged to the youth in front of him either. He was sure that the youth's Alchemist Guild crest was indeed one that was issued by the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild, because on the crest was a special marking of the Crimson Sky Kingdom's Alchemist Guild's main guild.

If the Crimson Sky Kingdom had a 18-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist, no matter how secluded the small city it was verified in, the small city's Alchemist Guild would report it to the main guild at the first possible moment, so as far as he was concerned, the possibility that this Alchemist Guild Crest was the youth's was nearly non-existent.

How could Ye Lun have known that when Duan Ling Tian was 16 years old, after he tested and verified his status as a Grade Nine Alchemist in Aurora City, the Alchemist Guild's Guild Master at the time, Su Mo, did indeed think of reporting this matter to the main guild.

However, later on, after hearing the nonsense Duan Ling Tian spoke of, Su Mo believed it to be true. He really thought that Duan Ling Tian's mysterious teacher was unwilling to let anyone disturb Duan Ling Tian's growth, so he concealed the matter and didn't report it.

This leader of the Alchemist Guild's main guild had absolutely no knowledge of the existence of Duan Ling Tian, or else the person that was publically acknowledged as the most gifted genius alchemist in the younger generation of Crimson Sky Kingdom wouldn't be Xiao He, but Duan Ling Tian!

Although a 20-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist was rare in the history of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, it wasn't that rare.

But a 16-year-old Grade Nine Alchemist, not to mention it hadn't appeared in the entire history of the Crimson Sky Kingdom, it's even never appeared in the entire history of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom!