

A Sword 141

Chapter 141: You Are So Ugly!

Old Fu's heart beat fiercely against his chest after hearing Ye Guan's words.

He was so brazen! People would misunderstand that Ye Guan was the Chosen One.

Ye Guan seemed like he didn't think things through by asking Old Fu to bring him to the Main Guanxuan Academy today.

"W-wait, Young Lord Ye," Old Fu said.

Ye Guan stared at Old Fu.

Old Fu smiled wryly and said, "Young Lord Ye, didn't you tell him to set the date?"

"I know." Ye Guan nodded. "And that's why I have to go visit him right now."

Old Fu was confused, but he suddenly thought of something and asked, "Are you saying that he's not confident of killing you at the moment, and that is why he chose to challenge you three months later? Perhaps he might learn a new technique in the meantime. Is that it?"

Ye Guan nodded in confirmation.

Old Fu stared at Ye Guan incredulously.

He didn't expect Ye Guan's actions to be so deep. He hadn't even imagined it, much less thought of it, but Ye Guan had already executed this plan. It seemed that Ye Guan was gifted in both the sword and mind.

Just whose child is he? He was ridiculously talented!

Ye Guan sounded serious as he asked, "Senior, the Main Guanxuan Academy's resources are definitely better than mine, right?"

Old Fu answered, "Of course."

Ye Guan nodded and continued. "In other words, he's going to grow by leaps and bounds upon arriving at the Academy. In addition, the Academy would definitely pour all of its resources into him. If I head there earlier, my chances of winning will definitely be greater than if I were to follow the schedule."

Old Fu hesitated for a bit before asking, "How about you, Young Lord Ye? Are you not going to cultivate?"

Ye Guan thought about it for a while before he answered, "The best way to cultivate is to experience many life-and-death battles. The feeling I get whenever I'm one step away from death has never failed to enlighten me."

Old Fu stared at Ye Guan in shock. He finally knew why the Chosen One and Ye Guan were archenemies. There was simply no place for two unparalleled cultivators in the same generation.

Only one of them could be the strongest...

The Chosen One's heart would collapse if he failed to defeat Ye Guan. It would be an extremely devastating blow considering that he had to be unrivaled among his peers, considering his status as the Chosen One.

Unfortunately, he didn't really have much choice. People were bound to expect great things from him, as he was the Chosen One.

Ye Guan asked, "Senior, can we go to the Main Guanxuan Academy now?"

Old Fu's voice deepened as he asked, "Are you sure?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes, I'm sure."

Old Fu stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "All right! Follow me to the teleportation array, I'll send you to the Main Guanxuan Academy."

With that, he led Ye Guan into the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

All of a sudden, an old man appeared in front of Old Fu. The old man opened his, revealing a golden cloth sack. There were three lines written on the golden cloth sack.

Old Fu was stunned upon seeing the words on the golden cloth sack.

"You are no longer the manager of Qingzhou's Chamber of Commerce."

Old Fu stood rooted, and he looked like he had gotten struck by a lightning bolt from out of the blue.

Ye Guan's expression darkened.

Just then, the old man turned toward Ye Guan.

He glared at Ye Guan with an icy cold gaze and said, "Young Lord Ye, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion does not welcome you. Please leave, or you will have to bear the consequences."

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. The old man was chasing away.

Old Fu grabbed Ye Guan's hand and dragged him away.

"Wait!" exclaimed the old man.

Old Fu turned toward the old man.

The old man stared indifferently at Old Fu and said, "Manager Fu, the elders of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion have said that you must be taken away to the Main Guanxuan Academy in Xiaoguan!"

Old Fu went beyond pallid.

The old man mocked, "A mere manager dares to interfere with the Chosen One's matters? You should have known your place!"

Old Fu ignored the old man. He turned to Ye Guan and said, "Young Lord Ye, my apologies. I can't send you to the Main Guanxuan Academy anymore."

Ye Guan sounded solemn as he replied, "I'm sorry, Old Fu."

Old Fu smiled wryly. "I had no idea that the Immortal Treasures Pavilion had chosen to stand completely on the Chosen One's side."

Ye Guan fell silent. He thought the same as Old Fu.

Old Fu added, "I've contacted the Literary Department, but they still haven't replied. I think you shouldn't put a lot of hope into them. They must be in a dilemma as well after Representative Ye's house arrest."

Ye Guan nodded and said, "I'll bring you away with me, Old Fu."

"You dare!" the old man suddenly dashed toward Ye Guan and threw a punch filled with lightning. The old man was a Divine Tribulation Realm cultivator, and the power he had used in his punch made it obvious that he wanted to kill Ye Guan.

Ye Guan whipped around and faced the old man.

Shwik!

A sword pierced the old man's forehead, and the sword continued flying with the old man hanging from its blade until it finally struck a stone pillar.

Old Fu chuckled bitterly. Ye Guan's temper was quite hot.

Ye Guan turned to look at Old Fu and said, "Old Fu, you'll suffer if you let them bring you to the Main Academy."

Old Fu shook his head and sighed. "Where else can I go?"

Ye Guan fell silent.

"Ye Guan!" the old man pinned to the stone pillar shouted, "How dare you oppose the Immortal Treasures Pavilion?! You're done! Your Great Sword Sovereign Dao Protector can't protect you anymore. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion will also massacre your entire clan.

Ye Guan wordlessly glared at the old man with his eyes narrowed.

However, the old man wasn't afraid. Instead, he taunted Ye Guan. "What? You want to kill me? Come and kill me! I'm a Golden-sack manager of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. I dare you to kill me!"

"Are you taunting me?" asked Ye Guan.

The old man's pupils constricted, and his heart jumped.

The young man had seen through his intentions.

Ye Guan glared at the elder and said, "I have nothing against you, and there was no reason for you to be so rude to me. In other words, you must be moving under someone else's orders. The An Clan is ruined, and I have resolved the conflict with the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan. I wonder who else is targeting me..."

Ye Guan smiled and continued. "There's only one left—the Chosen One."

The old man's eyes narrowed, and he stared at Ye Guan in surprise.

However, Ye Guan shook his head and said, "No, that's not right! The Chosen One has agreed to my challenge. He's not impressive for his status, but he has no reason to play this kind of trick. In that case, he's not the one targeting me."

The old man's fist started trembling at Ye Guan's words.

He stared at Ye Guan without saying anything, but his heart was beating fiercely against his chest.

Ye Guan added, "I killed a number of talents from the Guanxuan Universe on my way here, but most of them don't have backgrounds that will allow them to intervene in the matters of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

"I'm not an enemy of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion as well. Using the elimination method, only the aristocratic faction and the great clan faction in the Main Guanxuan Academy are left."

Ye Guan nodded as if he was confirming it with himself. "There are two possibilities for their actions. Firstly, the aristocratic clan and the great clan factions are probably afraid of targeting me in the open because of the Sword Master's reaction to my plight. In other words, they had no choice but to employ dirty tricks against me."

The old man stared dumbstruck at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan chuckled and said, "Actually, I don't think there are two possibilities; they're killing two birds with one stone with this move, after all. Both the aristocratic clan and the great clan faction cannot produce another Sword Master.

"Since they can't produce another Sword Master, they've decided to make sure that there won't be another Sword Master. After all, they've already gotten used to being the bosses. Why would they want another boss?

"In fact, the Chosen One and I are probably chess pieces in their eyes!"

The old man remained silent.

Ye Guan continued. "The rewards they promised you must have been spectacular, but did you even think twice about agreeing to their offer? The higher-ups of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion aren't stupid.

"Do you really think that they will let you off once they discover that you're in cahoots with the Guanyuan Academy?"

The old man stared at Ye Guan for quite a while before eventually raising a thumbs up.

"Young Lord Ye, I have to say that I admire you," said the old man. "You're mostly correct aside from one thing."

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed as he asked, "What is it?"

The old man snapped, "I had no choice!"

Rumble!

The old man's eyes flashed in a violent light as he started exuding terrifying undulations of profound energy. He was about to self-destruct!

Ye Guan's expression changed, and he hurriedly said, "Hang on, I have a way—"

Boom!

The undulations abruptly reached a crescendo, and a violent explosion occurred.

Ye Guan grabbed Old Fu and disappeared a few hundred meters away.

He soon stopped and turned around to find a massive crater where they stood earlier.

The old man was dead.

Ye Guan's expression turned ashen.

Meanwhile, the powerhouses of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion poured out of the pavilion and were stunned to see the scene of destruction.

They turned to look at Ye Guan at the same time, and someone among them shouted, "Ye Guan, how dare you kill an elder of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion!"

He then took out a transmission talisman and activated it.

Ye Guan fell silent. At this point, there was no way he could explain his side and expect that they would listen to him. He truly didn't expect that the old man would self-destruct just to frame him. What a ruthless move!

Old Fu's expression was dark as well. The waters of the Guanxuan Universe were so muddy that a mere manager like him couldn't possibly wade into it and expect to survive.

Ye Guan was about to speak when a shadow flitted across the scene. The heads of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion's powerhouses flew into the air as blood haphazardly spurted into the air.

They were killed in a split second!

Ye Guan turned and looked to his right. A woman was standing a few dozen meters away from him. She was dressed in a tight black skirt, and her very long hair covered half of her face. A blood-red sickle was in her hand.

Ye Guan wordlessly stared at the woman.

The woman smirked at him in response and turned to leave.

Old Fu's voice trembled as he cried out, "Hurry up and stop her! Otherwise, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion will think that you killed its powerhouses!"

The woman didn't even bother to turn around as she mocked, "Not even ten Sword Sovereigns can stop me."

"Ugly bitch!" Ye Guan shouted, "You're so ugly!"

The woman and Old Fu abruptly froze.

Chapter 142: Martial God

Really ugly! What kind of woman could ignore such words?

The sickle-wielding woman sure as hell couldn't accept it. She turned around and looked at Ye Guan.

"I'm ugly?" she asked.

Ye Guan nodded and replied. "You're the ugliest woman I've ever seen."

The woman's eyes narrowed, and a sinister look appeared on her face.

Swoosh!

She abruptly vanished, and the space in front of Ye Guan was torn open as a sickle emerged from the rift. The sickle contained a terrifying energy that spread hundreds of meters in all directions.

The air quivered violently as the sickle made its way toward Ye Guan.

However, Ye Guan remained calm as he thrust toward the sickle with his Path Sword.

Clang!

Ye Guan's sword split the blood-red sickle into two, and the long-haired woman flinched.

She was about to flee, but Ye Guan's Path Sword appeared inches away from her forehead.

The long-haired woman's eyes were filled with disbelief. "What sword is that?!"

Ye Guan willed it, and a sword manifested.

Slice!

The sword made out of sword energy chopped off one of the long-haired woman's arms, and blood spurted out like a fountain from the stump.

The long-haired woman glared at Ye Guan, but she didn't say anything.

Ye Guan calmly asked, "Who sent you here?"

The long-haired woman didn't respond.

Buzz!

A buzzing sound echoed as the sword sent the long-haired woman's remaining arm flying into the air.

Ye Guan stared coolly at the woman.

He held the Path Sword next to her neck and asked, "Who sent you here?"

The long-haired woman stared deeply at Ye Guan before saying, "I don't know, but they gave me fifty million gold spiritual crystals for me to kill these people and kick up a fuss to frame you." Ye Guan nodded and asked, "Can you contact them?"

The long-haired woman shook her head, "No."

Ye Guan nodded again. "That's alright."

He opened his palm, and the woman's storage ring flew toward him. The Path Sword remained near the long-haired woman's neck. Ye Guan examined the storage ring, and he was amazed to find fifty million gold spiritual crystals in it.

Ye Guan stored the storage ring away.

The long-haired woman wordlessly stared at Ye Guan as blood flowed out of her stumps.

Meanwhile, the space next to them split open, and an old man walked out of the rift.

The old man was definitely a powerhouse of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

The old man swept his gaze across the corpses before looking at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan then told him everything.

The old man fell silent.

Ye Guan silently gazed at the old man.

If the old man was still on the aristocratic faction or on the great clan faction's side, then the Immortal Treasures Pavilion was truly irredeemable.

Fortunately, the old man nodded and said, "I understand."

Ye Guan nodded as well and glanced at Old Fu. "Elder, will Old Fu get punished?"

The old man looked at Ye Guan and replied, "No."

Ye Guan nodded before pointing at the armless woman. "I'll leave her to you."

However, he seemed to have recalled something as he asked, "Will the Immortal Treasures Pavilion remove me from the blacklist?"

The old man shook his head. "No."

Ye Guan smiled before turning around to leave.

"Are you not curious why the Immortal Treasures Pavilion doesn't want to remove you from the blacklist?" asked the old man.

Ye Guan came to a halt before saying, "It's simple. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion wants to invest in the Chosen One, and you all have to show your sincerity."

The old man's gaze turned complicated as he said, "Yes. The Elder Circle has decided to invest in the Chosen One, and they've decided to show their sincerity by placing you on the blacklist, and they vowed never to remove you from the blacklist. After all, you're an enemy of the Chosen One."

So it's a permanent blacklist. Ye Guan was silent for quite a while before he nodded. "I understand."

He glanced at the Immortal Treasures Pavilion before whispering, "I will never set foot in the Immortal Treasures Pavilion again."

With that, he turned around and disappeared. Unbeknownst to him, his vow today would one day stir up a great disturbance throughout the entire Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

The old man watched as Ye Guan's figure vanished.

He turned to the armless woman and said, "You may leave. The higher-ups have something to tell you."

Old Fu was stupefied by the sight.

The armless woman didn't say anything as she turned around and left.

"Manager Mu..." Old Fu turned to look at the elder.

Manager Mu sighed and said, "Old Fu, you could have been forgiven if you had perished. However, you're still alive, so it's difficult for you to escape any punishment. You will have to stay in Danzhou from now on."

Old Fu went silent. Danzhou was in the Lower Realm, and it was a tiny place far, far away. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion obviously wanted him to spend the rest of his life there.

Sigh. Old Fu nodded and said, "All right."

Old Fu turned around and left without any protests. He was aware that this was the best outcome for him, but he still seemed to have aged a few years as he departed.

The manager of Qingzhou's Immortal Treasures Pavilion was now the manager of Danzhou's Immortal Treasures Pavilion in the Lower Realm. It was like falling into the mud while soaring through the clouds.

Anyone would feel despair upon reaching the peak and then falling to the bottom.

Manager Mu looked at the aged Old Fu and shook his head, sighing. He knew that Old Fu would end up dying in Danzhou, and it would be a miserable death at that.

Unfortunately, this was the consequence of losing upon choosing a side.

Old Mu sighed once more and left.

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Ye Guan walked down the streets, and it suddenly started raining.

However, Ye Guan didn't seek shelter. He continued walking down the streets beneath the rain.

Little Pagoda suddenly asked, "What's wrong?"

Ye Guan asked, "Am I a troublemaker, Master Pagoda?"

Little Pagoda thought about it before replying, "Not really."

Ye Guan was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

Little Pagoda replied, "I've seen worse."

Ye Guan asked, "Really? Who are they?"

Little Pagoda remained silent.

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled, but he didn't press for answers.

Little Pagoda asked, "What are your plans?"

Ye Guan calmly responded, "I'm going back to Nanzhou."

Little Pagoda asked, "On the space ship?"

"Of course not," Ye Guan responded and turned around.

Little Pagoda was confused. "What are you doing?"

Ye Guan didn't speak, but he soon arrived at the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

Old Mu appeared in front of him.

Manager Mu frowned and asked, "What are you doing here?"

Ye Guan calmly responded, “Where is your teleportation array?”

Manager Mu stared deeply at Ye Guan and asked, “Young Master Ye, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion will not serve you.”

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, “I don’t think someone in Qingzhou is strong enough to beat me, and it will take at least an hour for the headquarters of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion to send people over here, right? I’m sure a Sword Sovereign like me can do many things in just an hour. What do you think?”

Manager Mu’s expression shifted. “Young Master Ye... control yourself!”

Ye Guan calmly retorted, “Manager Mu, I’m calmly talking to you. I have a space ship, but it’ll take me a few months to reach Nanzhou from Qingzhou. Are you going to make me take the space ship?”

Manager Mu chuckled bitterly and said, “Young Master Ye, I’ve received a strict order from the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. I really cannot do business with you.”

Buzz!

A sword abruptly manifested and orbited the two. The sword moved so fast that it seemed like the buzzing noises it was emitting were coming from all directions.

Manager Mu’s expression changed, and he retreated fearfully.

He was afraid—afraid of what Ye Guan would do.

Damn it, he’s a Sword Sovereign! He’s also an abnormal Sword Sovereign among Sword Sovereigns!

The powerhouses of Qingzhou’s Immortal Treasures Pavilion appeared, but none of them dared to make a move.

Ye Guan gazed at Manager Mu and asked, "What is this, Old Mu? I'm just playing with my sword here. I have no other intentions."

Old Mu was silent.

Ye Guan's gaze was transfixed on Old Mu.

Goosebumps broke out all over Old Mu, and he felt like he was suffocating beneath the stress.

Ye Guan suddenly said, "Isn't it a win-win situation for the both of us if I left Qingzhou?"

Old Mu froze. He's right! It'll be great for me if he leaves Qingzhou, and I also think that he's going to kill me if I insist on stopping him.

Old Mu silently stared at Ye Guan. Yeah, he's definitely going to kill me. I mean, he wasn't even afraid of the An Clan and the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan, so why would he be scared of a manager like me?

Old Mu made a decision and waved his right hand.

The powerhouses of Qingzohu's Immortal Treasures Pavilion retreated.

Old Mu pondered briefly before saying, "The teleportation array is to the right. It's about sixteen kilometers from here, and the teleportation array is currently without guards."

"Ah!" Old Mu was surprised as he said, "What did I just say?"

He then shook his head and left.

Ye Guan also vanished, eliciting a sigh of relief from Old Mu. Old Mu wasn't afraid of people with powerful backings because the bigger their backgrounds, the warier they were when doing things.

They had many vested interests to consider before making any moves, after all.

On the contrary, young people were often reckless, so Old Mu was afraid of them.

Young, enthusiastic, and unafraid—Ye Guan could be described using these three words. In other words, Ye Guan had no qualms about killing those daring enough to offend him, and those people's deaths could truly be considered meaningless.

Old Mu was just an employee. He didn't have to risk his life to show that he was loyal to the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. In addition, his death meant that his wife and children would be left alone.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan sat cross-legged in the teleportation array.

He soon closed his eyes and pondered over his next move.

He was quite rich at the moment, and he had about a hundred million gold spiritual crystals at his disposal, excluding the storage rings he had obtained from his journey to Qingzhou from the Zhongtu Divine Continent.

He also had three hundred thousand immortal spiritual crystals and a few treasures like the Martial God Spear.

Ye Guan flipped open his palm, and the Martial God Spear appeared.

He stroked it with his right hand.

The Martial God Spear still contained the Will of a Martial God.

The Will of a Martial God... Ye Guan took a closer look at the Will of a Martial God.

The will had left a deep impression on him during that fateful battle.

It was just a will, but it felt indomitable and exceedingly powerful.

Ye Guan suddenly asked, "Master Pagoda, what is a Martial God?"

Little Pagoda responded, "I don't know."

Ye Guan frowned slightly. "You don't know?"

Little Pagoda responded, "Mmhm."

After a moment of silence, Ye Guan stroked the Martial God Spear once again and muttered, "Master Pagoda, I'm picking up a strange energy from the Will of a Martial God in this spear."

Little Pagoda was curious. "Will?"

Ye Guan nodded and said seriously, "Martial God... the books I've read all said that a Martial God is beyond all martial arts. However, I think a Martial God is just a martial arts cultivator with a different way of thinking.

"A Martial God's mind is indomitable and exceedingly powerful. You can defeat me, but you can never defeat my will."

Ye Guan closed his eyes once more and continued. "This spear wasn't indomitable against Plain-Skirt Aunt, but its will remained exceedingly powerful. A Martial God is not invincible, but they are willing to fight anyone, even those who are invincible."

Boom!

A terrifying energy burst out of him, but it was martial force rather than sword force, and it had come from the Will of a Martial God!

The spear shook violently, and the Will of a Martial God sunk into Ye Guan's glabella.

Ye Guan's eyes shot wide open, and he found himself somewhere in the starry skies.

A woman was standing about ten meters away from him with a spear in hand. She was wearing a white skirt and was exuding a terrifying martial aura.

Ye Guan froze and muttered, "Will of a Martial God..."

Meanwhile, Little Pagoda's voice trembled as he shouted, "A Martial God Inheritance?! What in the flying fuck is this?! He's a swordsman. A swordsman! What Martial God Inheritance?! Damn it, he's a swordsman! You better not become a martial arts cultivator!"

The mysterious voice suddenly said, "What if... what if he becomes a Martial God using the Sword Dao?" Little Pagoda didn't know what to say to that.

Chapter 143: An Lanxiu

Using the Sword Dao to become a Martial God? Little Pagoda was truly shocked. He had once stood next to two Chosen Ones, and they had been prodigies. His Young Master's talent was particularly out of this world.0

The first Chosen One whom Little Pagoda had once accompanied had dabbled in other Daos, but in the end, he gave up and focused on the Sword Dao. Little Pagoda's Young Master also made the same decision.0

Little Pagoda was worried that Ye Guan would dabble in too many Daos, and he might end up becoming a jack of all trades but master of none.0

The idea of becoming a Martial God using the Sword Dao was alluring, so Little Pagoda was worried that Ye Guan would fall victim to the temptation. If that were to happen, there was a high chance that Ye Guan wouldn't excel in either of the Daos, becoming mediocre in both Daos at best.0

The woman in a white skirt turned around. She froze upon seeing Ye Guan. 0

"You're not an An Clan descendant," she said.0

Ye Guan instantly raised his guard. So she's a Martial Goddess of the An Clan? Damn! Is she going to kill me?0

Ye Guan slowly clenched his right fist. 0

He was ready to pull out his Path Sword at any moment. 0

The woman in a white skirt's eyes narrowed, seemingly realizing something. Her figure blurred, and she reappeared in front of Ye Guan in the blink of an eye. Ye Guan's expression changed. He wanted to move, but a horrifying force bore down on him.0

Ye Guan felt as if his acupoints were sealed. He couldn't move at all.0

Ye Guan was shocked, and he hurriedly said, "Senior, my Master Pagoda is here. He's really strong."0

Damn it! Little Pagoda grew agitated. Stop saying that; I can't live up to it!0

The woman in a white skirt stared at Ye Guan for a while as a complicated light flitted across her eyes. She waved her sleeve, and the horrifying force vanished. 0

Ye Guan breathed a sigh of relief, but he was still wary.0

The woman in a white skirt asked, "Are you alone?"0

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "I'm with Master Pagoda, and he's really strong. He told me he's invincible under Three Swords!"0

Little Pagoda didn't know what to say. 0

The mysterious voice teased. "Oh, you're actually scared? Why were you not scared when you were bragging?"0

Little Pagoda remained silent. He wanted to pretend like he was dead. 0

Meanwhile, the woman in a white skirt smiled and asked, "Your Master Pagoda told you that?"0

Ye Guan nodded. He stared deeply at the woman in a white skirt before asking, "Do you know my Master Pagoda?"0

The woman in a white skirt nodded and said, "Yes."0

Ye Guan went silent. It seems that Master Pagoda wasn't just bragging to me; he really was an impressive powerhouse! Ye Guan decided to butter Little Pagoda up so that the latter would help him through the hardships he would surely encounter in the future. 0

Ye Guan was about to speak, but the woman in a white skirt tapped his forehead.0

Boom!0

Ye Guan's eyes widened as a vast amount of information entered him like a deluge. Ye Guan traveled through time and space, and he witnessed the battles of the woman in a white skirt. They were battles on a scale that Ye Guan had never seen before0

Ye Guan was shocked. It turns out that I can fight this way!

0

A Martial Goddess was indeed nigh impossible to defeat. 0

A Martial God Inheritance...0

The woman in a white skirt retracted her hand. She stared at Ye Guan and said, "You've grasped the Will of a Martial God. This inheritance will help you grasp the Martial God Consciousness. You'll be indomitable once you've grasped it."0

Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly and asked, "Senior, do you know me?"0

The woman in a white skirt nodded. "Yup!"0

Ye Guan hesitated before saying, "I'm an enemy of the An Clan. I was being pursued by the An Clan, but they are no more."0

The woman in a white skirt nodded. "You're alive, and that's good enough for me."0

Ye Guan froze. What did she just say?0

"I'm leaving," said the woman in a white skirt, and her figure turned blurry.0

Ye Guan hurriedly asked, "Senior, am I a Martial God now?"0

The woman in a white skirt asked back, "What do you think?"0

Ye Guan thought about it before saying, "It seems that I shouldn't pay that much attention to the title. I should pursue the spirit and the mindset of a Martial God."0

The woman in a white skirt smiled and said, "You don't have to pursue them because you already have them, but you must make sure not to lose those two."0

"Unfortunately, you need to go through more battles. I've already shown you what I've experienced, but you can only assimilate what you've seen through battles. I'm sure you'll eventually create your own Martial Dao."0

She tapped Ye Guan's head lightly and said, "Remember, the Martial God Consciousness is the most important in the beginning, but you have to prioritize power and speed in the middle stages."0

Ye Guan asked, "What about in the later stage?"0

The woman in a white skirt smiled and replied, "We'll talk about it once you get there."0

"Okay." Ye Guan nodded.0

"All the best!" The woman in a white skirt nodded and disappeared. 0

The arena in front of Ye Guan turned blurry until he found himself in the teleportation array. Ye Guan closed his eyes, and the battles of the Martial Goddess kept on replaying in his mind. 0

Little Pagoda suddenly said, "You're a swordsman."0

He was afraid of the possibility that Ye Guan might go down the wrong path. 0

"I know." Ye Guan nodded. "Master Pagoda, are you afraid that I might end up becoming mediocre at best in both Daos?"0

Little Pagoda answered, "Yes."0

"I don't think there's that much of a difference between the Sword Dao and the Martial Dao." Ye Guan pointed out.0

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Little Pagoda went silent. 0

Ye Guan smiled and explained, "I think they can cover each other's weaknesses. I'm fast, but I lack combat sense. I'm sure the Martial God Consciousness will grant me the combat sense that I need.0

"Actually, it doesn't matter whether it is the Martial Dao or the Sword Dao. In the end, battles are still about defeating my enemies. I think any Daos that can help me defeat my opponent is a good Dao."0

Little Pagoda remained silent.0

Ye Guan said softly, "I just want to be able to fight properly, so I'm going to fuse my Sword Dao and the Martial Dao to create a Dao unique to me. I don't want to stick to either the Sword Dao or the Martial Dao. My Dao is the Dao that I'm using."0

The mysterious voice suddenly said, "I think his talent is a bit excessive."0

Little Pagoda hurriedly nodded to express his agreement.0

The mysterious voice spoke softly, "I think he has completely inherited the talents of his parents. Considering his talent and personality, I'm confident that he'll reach the Four Swords."0

Little Pagoda sounded solemn as he said, "We have to make sure to keep an eye on him. He's outstanding, but he's still young. He needs to experience a bit more hardships, so he'll stay on this trajectory without going down the wrong path.0

"Yes, we have to make him suffer. It's fine as long as he won't die."0

The mysterious voice said seriously, “Little Pagoda, why does it feel like you’re holding a grudge?”0

Little Pagoda was speechless. 0

Ye Guan stood up and saw a white light in the distance. 0

He would soon arrive at Nanzhou.0

Ye Guan moved toward the white light and found himself in the Immortal Treasures Pavilion’s Teleportation Hub.0

I’m back! Ye Guan started walking away, but an old man appeared in front of him. 0

The old man froze, flabbergasted. “Ye Guan?!”0

Ye Guan nodded. 0

The old man’s expression turned grim. He was an employee of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion, so he was aware that Ye Guan was on their blacklist. He instantly became wary upon confirming Ye Guan’s identity. 0

Ye Guan ignored the old man and hopped onto his sword before disappearing into the horizon. 0

Ye Guan didn’t head straight to Ancient Desolate City. 0

He headed to a mountain behind the city. 0

Ye Guan looked down at the mountain and waved his sleeve.0

Swoosh! 0

A three-hundred-meter-long sword made out of sword energy manifested and descended. 0

Boom! 0

The mountain was split into two. 0

Ye Guan boisterously laughed to himself before turning around to leave. 0

Little Pagoda didn't know what to say. 0

Ye Guan soon arrived at the city gates of Ancient Desolate City. He smiled as he looked around. How nostalgic. Everything still looks familiar. 0

Someone cried out from out of the blue. "Ye... Ye Guan?!" 0

Ye Guan turned and found a man standing near the city gates. 0

"You know me?" asked Ye Guan with a smile. 0

"It's really you!" the man excitedly ran toward Ye Guan while shouting, "Ye Guan is here! He's back!"

Chapter 144: Women Will Only Affect the Speed at Which I Draw My Sword

Ye Guan turned and saw a woman wearing a long green skirt. 0

She had a graceful figure, and her long hair draped over her shoulders. Her visage was impeccable, and it seemed as though a sculpture had carved it for her. 0

Ye Guan saw dissatisfaction in the woman's visage. 0

The woman was none other than Fei Banqing. 0

Ye Guan immediately stood up and exclaimed, "Tutor!"0

Fei Banqing walked in front of him and glared at him. 0

"Why did you not look for me?" she asked.0

Ye Guan hurriedly explained, "I was planning on visiting you at the Academy tomorrow."0

Fei Banqing asked, "Have you had a tough time out there?"0

Ye Guan chuckled sheepishly and replied, "It was fine."0

Fei Banqing stared deeply at him. 0

"Why does it seem like you're wary of me? Am I that scary?" she asked.0

Ye Guan fell silent. Fei Banqing was indeed scary the first time he met her. She even threatened to kick the balls of those daring enough to anger her. 0

He wasn't afraid of Fei Banqing, but he truly respected her.0

Fei Banqing smiled and said, "Let's go for a stroll."0

Ye Guan nodded. "Okay."0

.

The two walked down a narrow path toward the hill behind the Ye Clan. 0

The noises of insects echoed incessantly. 0

Fei Banqing suddenly said, “Little Jia—”0

Ye Guan interrupted her. “I’ll save her.”0

“Great.” Fei Banqing nodded. She smiled softly as she stared at Ye Guan. “You were kind and tender back then, but now, I can see that you’ve grown up quite a bit.”0

Ye Guan nodded. 0

“How about you, Tutor? How have you been?” asked Ye Guan.0

Fei Banqing rolled her eyes and grumbled, “So you actually know how to ask how I’ve been doing? You’ve sent a total of zero letters since you embarked on your journey. Did you really forget me while you’re out there?”0

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled. “Things were a bit complicated out there...”0

Fei Banqing nodded without saying anything else. 0

The two soon arrived at the top of the hill behind the Ye Clan.0

Fei Banqing turned to look at Ye Guan and smiled. “Little Guan, I want to ask you a question, and I want you to answer me honestly.”0

Ye Guan nodded. “All right, ask away.”0

Fei Banqing's mouth curled up slightly. "Are you only going to like one girl your entire life?"0

Ye Guan froze. 0

Fei Banqing lifted a finger and warned, "Look at me, and tell me honestly."0

Ye Guan asked back, "Tutor, is it against the law to like two girls?"0

Fei Banqing froze. It was definitely not against the law. Fei Banqing gazed intently at Ye Guan as she said, "It's not against the law, but why did you say that? Are you saying that you're going to like another girl in addition to Little Jia?"0

"Do you want me to do that, Tutor?" quipped Ye Guan.0

"I'm the one asking the questions here!" Fei Banqing was a bit annoyed, and she grumbled, "Answer me! Are you trying to build a harem? Tell me!"0

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "Tutor, hypothetically speaking, what are you going to do if I like you and Little Jia?"0

Fei Banqing didn't know what to say. 0

Meanwhile, Little Pagoda suddenly said, "Is he speaking the truth, or is he changing the topic?"0

The mysterious voice responded, "She can't beat him when it comes to arguments."0

Little Pagoda went silent. I've been with this bastard for so long that I've already gotten familiar with his habits and personality. He looks honest on the outside, but he's very sly inside. He's slyer than his father! To make matters worse, his father's slyness is readily apparent, but this brat's slyness is hidden inside. 0

In other words, both father and son were bad people.0

Fei Banqing suddenly turned away and clenched her fists. She seemed to have fallen into deep contemplation, but she soon emerged from her thoughts and said, "I'm your tutor!"0

"Hypothetically!" Ye Guan said, "If I like you and Little Jia, does that mean I'm a bad person?"0

Fei Banqing looked away without speaking. 0

Ye Guan pulled on Fei Banqing's sleeve. "Tutor?"0

Fei Banqing said blandly, "Do you think you're a bad person?"0

Ye Guan shook his head and replied, "I don't know. That's why I'm asking you."0

Fei Banqing silently stared at Ye Guan for quite a while.0

"Do you really like me?" she asked.0

Ye Guan froze. 0

Fei Banqing chuckled. "Do you?"0

Ye Guan hesitated for quite a while. He was about to speak, but Fei Banqing shook her head and said, "You brat. You've truly become bold. How dare you use me that way, even if it's in a hypothetical scenario? I'm still your tutor."0

Fei Banqing revealed a strange, inscrutable smile. 0

“Is it because you’re thinking that things will be more exciting if you get together with your tutor?” she asked.0

Cold sweat rolled down Ye Guan’s forehead as he stammered, “I did not have such dirty thoughts. I—no, Master Pagoda can vouch for me.”0

Little Pagoda was dumbfounded. 0

Fei Banqing flicked Ye Guan’s forehead and shook her head. 0

“It’s not like I can control your thoughts,” she said nonchalantly.0

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, “I really did not have such thoughts.”0

Fei Banqing winked at him and grinned cheekily. “Do you not want to try it? Just think about it, isn’t it exciting?”1

Ye Guan went silent, and his expression stiffened. 0

“You shouldn’t have thought of me that way if you were going to be a coward.” Fei Banqing flicked Ye Guan’s forehead. 0

Moments later, she placed a storage ring in Ye Guan’s hands. “This is yours.0

Ye Guan examined the storage ring and was stupefied to find thirty million gold spiritual crystals inside of it.0

“How do you have so much money, Tutor?!”0

Fei Banqing smiled and said, "I gambled my life savings during the martial contest, and I bet that you'll take home the championship. I bet fifty thousand gold spiritual crystals, and I ended up winning, hahaha!"0

"I see." Ye Guan smiled. He placed the storage ring in Fei Banqing's hands before taking out another storage ring. The storage ring contained ten dragon carcasses along with many other items.0

Fei Banqing looked at Ye Guan. "You don't want the money?"0

Ye Guan nodded and explained, "I'm not short of money at the moment. You can keep it for yourself."0

Fei Banqing was silent. 0

Ye Guan smiled and explained, "This storage ring contains several techniques and cultivation manuals. They're all valuable items from the Guanxuan Universe. I picked a few of them for you, so you'll definitely find them useful."0

Fei Banqing asked in a low voice, "Are you leaving?"0

Ye Guan nodded. 0

Fei Banqing suddenly rushed toward him. 0

Ye Guan couldn't react as Fei Banqing hugged him tightly. It was a warm and fragrant hug. 0

Ye Guan stiffened as if he had been struck by lightning. 0

Fei Banqing stepped backward and smiled at him. "That was a wholesome hug. Don't you dare think of it as dirty, do you understand?"0

"I understand." Ye Guan chuckled and said, "I'm leaving now, Tutor."0

Fei Banqing's smile vanished. "Will you be back?"0

"Yes," said Ye Guan with a nod.0

"You better visit me first upon your next return, do you hear me?" asked Fei Banqing.0

"Yes, I hear you," said Ye Guan.0

Fei Banqing smiled and said, "Go ahead, then."0

"Please take care of yourself, Tutor," replied Ye Guan. He then turned and hopped onto his sword before disappearing into the horizon. 0

Fei Banqing stared blankly at the sword light on the distant horizon. After a while, she shook her head and muttered, "He's great at everything, but why is he not lustful?"0

Fei Banqing soon went down the hill and left.0

...0

Ye Guan didn't bid farewell to Ye Xiao and the others.

Chapter 145: Who's The Strongest, Ye Guan, Ye Xuan, or Yang Ye?

Ye Guan entered the Profound Tower, leaving the Tower Keeper frozen where he stood, seemingly in deep thought.

Should I inform the Main Academy? He was hesitant. The Main Guanxuan Academy would definitely send someone here to take care of Ye Guan if he informed them about Ye Guan's intrusion into the Profound Tower.

Unfortunately, Ye Guan could easily kill him before the powerhouses of the Main Guanxuan Academy arrived at the Profound World. If the Main Guanxuan Academy ended up underestimating Ye Guan's strength, the Tower Keeper would perish along with the powerhouses that the Main Guanxuan Academy would send.

There was also a huge chance that Ye Guan would survive, even if the Main Guanxuan Academy decided to send powerful powerhouses to kill Ye Guan. After all, a Great Sword Sovereign was Ye Guan's backer.

In other words, a mere Tower Keeper like him could die easily in a clash between Ye Guan and the Main Guanxuan Academy. In addition, Ye Guan would definitely take revenge on him.

The Tower Keeper sighed deeply. He gave up on the idea of informing the Main Guanxuan Academy. The risk was simply too great for him to bear. He was just here to do his job, so there was absolutely zero need for him to put his life on the line.

Furthermore, Ye Guan even gave him three million gold spiritual crystals!

Forget it! I'll be corrupt just this once! The Tower Keeper put the storage ring away.

He looked around warily before turning around to leave.

...

Ye Guan immediately headed to the Emperor-rank Trial Layer. Emperor was the second highest rank the Profound Tower could offer, second only to the God-rank Trial Layer.

Ye Guan chose the combat trial because he had to go through numerous life-and-death battles! Ye Guan entered the teleportation array, and he was whisked away to a massive square-shaped stone platform.

The square-shaped platform was surrounded by an abyss that was so deep it was impossible to see the bottom of it from the top.

A white fog had also enveloped the abyss.

A pair of cranes would fly by from time to time, making the place seem even more eerie. Ye Guan looked around and saw more than ten square-shaped stone platforms around him.

Ye Guan turned and saw a massive stone stele in the distance.

Two words were emblazoned on the stone stele—Trial Peak.

Ye Guan was astonished.

It seemed that he was standing on a tournament platform that was quite advanced.

Meanwhile, the Tower Keeper's face changed.

“Emperor-rank combat trial? Is he crazy?” he muttered before disappearing.

Ye Guan was in awe of Trial Peak.

Rumble!

The rift in space was abruptly torn open in front of Ye Guan.

A mysterious blue light swept across him, and a phantom appeared moments later.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed upon seeing the sword in the phantom's hand. It's a swordsman!

Swoosh!

The phantom abruptly vanished.

Ye Guan's face changed. Instant Death Strike! The phantom had just performed Ye Guan's Instant Death Strike, and it was a sword move that shattered the spacetime rules.

Ye Guan's heart was gripped by shock. He didn't have the luxury to think about his next move as his figure blurred and retreated frantically. However, the phantom's sword was still chasing after him.

Ye Guan came to a halt and thrust his sword toward the oncoming attack.

Boom!

A loud noise echoed throughout the Trial Peak.

Ye Guan and the phantom were sent flying by at least thirty meters, but they weren't idle while in mid-air. The two slashed out with their hands, sending a wave of sword force toward each other.

Clang!

A dazzling explosion of sword light erupted, and the space was pervaded with the pair's powerful sword aura. The space near the explosion was ruthlessly torn apart.

However, the two weren't done just yet, as they both disappeared at the same time.

Swoosh!

Two beams of sword light streaked across the tournament square like two bolts of lightning.

Boom!

There was yet again another dazzling explosion and a strange scene soon unfolded on the tournament platform. Two blurry figures were charging and retreating while their flying swords imbued with sword energy incessantly collided with each other.

The peculiar scene lasted for an entire minute before the two finally disengaged.

However, their flying swords were still fighting each other in mid-air.

Ye Guan had suffered about ten slash wounds from the exchange, and his gaze turned heavy as he stared deeply at the phantom in the distance. The exchange just now had told Ye Guan one thing—the phantom knew what Ye Guan knew, and it didn't know what Ye Guan didn't know.

However, the phantom was becoming stronger and faster over time.

If it hadn't been for the Martial God Inheritance that he had obtained recently, which allowed him to become familiar with many attack patterns from many different cultivators, Ye Guan reckoned that he would have long lost against the phantom.

To make matters worse, the phantom had an infinite amount of profound energy, so it could manipulate its sword with its profound energy indefinitely.

Swoosh!

The space in front of Ye Guan was split open, and a sword came flying out.

Instant Death Strike!

Ye Guan narrowed his eyes and sent a flying sword toward the oncoming attack before disappearing.

The phantom let go of its sword and disappeared as well.

Ye Guan reappeared behind the phantom, but the phantom vanished and reappeared behind Ye Guan.

Slash!

The phantom slashed out toward Ye Guan's head.

Ye Guan remained calm and whipped around, but the phantom disappeared and reappeared behind him. However, Ye Guan turned right back and thrust his sword toward the phantom behind him!

Predict my moves, and I'll predict yours! Yes, let's keep doing that!

Ye Guan's sword struck nothing but air, and Ye Guan's pupils constricted.

He knew that he had lost, and just in time, he felt the tip of a sword pushing against the back of his head.

The phantom didn't pierce Ye Guan's head. It walked over to one side and bowed slightly to Ye Guan before standing upright once more and taking a stance with its sword, seemingly waiting for Ye Guan to make a move.

Ye Guan stared deeply at the phantom before closing his eyes. Ye Guan had done his best to outsmart the phantom, but the phantom would always be one step ahead of him.

It was the Stream of Consciousness fighting style!

It was an exhausting fighting style that required one to constantly predict and outsmart one's opponent during battle. One's combat sense, reaction time, and speed had to be able to keep up with each other.

Ye Guan was thrilled at the discovery. He was convinced that he would be able to push himself to his limits and perhaps go even further beyond.

Ye Guan consumed a spiritual pill. Moments later, he got up and vanished.

Swoosh!

He was soon locked in an intense battle against the phantom. They fought fiercely with their swords zigzagging across the tournament square, leaving behind nothing but dazzling trails of sword light.

The strangest thing about their fight was that the two of them would sometimes disappear and reappear at the same time without making any moves.

The Tower Keeper's expression turned solemn upon witnessing the scene unfolding in front of him.

The Emperor-rank Combat Trial was a special layer of the Profound Tower, as it was created by the extremely powerful Martial Court. It was built with two purposes in mind—research and talent discovery.

The Immortal Treasures Pavilion wasn't just a money-making business, it also cultivated its own talents!

Many years ago, the Martial Court had used a massive amount of resources to create a special array that would first assess the challenger before producing a mirror image of the same cultivation realm as the challenger.

However, the array wouldn't have become special if it were only capable of producing mirror images. Of course, there was more than what met the eyes. The mirror image created by the special array had two special abilities—it was an extremely fast learner, and it could reproduce the fighting styles and techniques of the challengers that it had encountered.

In other words, every mirror image in the Emperor-rank Combat Trial contained many years of knowledge and wisdom. Until now, no one had been able to last for more than a minute against the mirror image—not a single person!

Every challenger so far had to be carried out before a minute went by.

However, Ye Guan was actually capable of exchanging moves with the terrifying phantom that had been haunting the Emperor-rank Trial!

He was also moving so fast that the Tower Keeper couldn't quite keep up with his movement.

The Tower Keeper fell silent. He's a heaven-defying talent! Should I gamble on him?

The Tower Keeper despaired upon recalling that Ye Guan's enemy was the Chosen One. In addition, the entire Immortal Treasures Pavilion had chosen to take the Chosen One's side. If he took a gamble on Ye Guan, wouldn't he become an enemy of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion?

The risk was simply too big!

The Tower Keeper sighed.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan was still locked in a fierce battle against the phantom. His heart was empty, nary a single thought, as he was entirely focused on the battle and kept his spirits high. He didn't dare to be negligent. The phantom was just too terrifying!

Just like that, three days passed. Ye Guan had spent every day over the past three days fighting the phantom. He didn't sustain any injuries, and the phantom remained unscathed as well.

On the fourth day, Ye Guan threw his sword at the phantom with his right hand. The moment he let go of the sword, he charged forward and slammed his knee against the phantom.

The phantom was stunned by the unexpected move, but it reacted quickly and retreated. However, Ye Guan immediately seized the opportunity in front of him and charged at the phantom with his fist.

Chapter 146: Ye Xuan? Qin Guan? Ye Guan?

Who was the strongest?

Little Pagoda was silent for quite a while before answering, "Do you really think I'm dumb enough to answer your question?"

The mysterious voice was at a loss for words.

Little Pagoda calmly added, "I can't afford to afford any of them, so you better not ask such questions in the future. I'd rather not risk my life, so thank you very much."

The mysterious voice didn't say anything in response. Little Pagoda had become much warier than before.

Meanwhile, more than a hundred flying swords had surrounded the phantom on the tournament square. The swords flew haphazardly, and their seemingly random flight trajectories made it hard for the phantom to predict any of their movements.

The phantom retreated for another hundred meters until it finally stopped.

Shwik!

A flying sword finally pierced the phantom's forehead!

Ye Guan was beyond pallid, and he looked extremely weak. He had exhausted his profound energy and mental strength by using the Royal Sword Art to manipulate so many flying swords at once.

He would have collapsed long ago if it hadn't been for the spiritual pill he had consumed earlier.

Ye Guan collapsed to the ground and consumed another spiritual pill before closing his eyes. His cultivation base was indeed too low for his profound energy reservoir to keep up with his consumption, and it had become more apparent during this fight.

In other words, Ye Guan had no choice but to end his fights as soon as possible because long, drawn-out fights were a disadvantage for someone like him whose cultivation base was too low to support his sword cultivation realm.

However, Ye Guan still preferred to take it slow.

It was better to struggle now than to struggle later.

Meanwhile, the phantom was no longer moving. It stood in silence, seemingly pondering over something. Someone actually defeated me using my own techniques?

It had always been the phantom learning from others, but someone had actually flipped the tables against it!

The phantom stared deeply at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was currently analyzing his previous battles with the phantom. It had long become a habit for him to review his battles, as he found that he would often find his mistakes in hindsight.

In other words, he would become even stronger by learning from his mistakes and learning from his enemies.

Ye Guan was thrilled. The phantom's way of manipulating the sword with its profound energy had opened up a door to a whole new world for Ye Guan.

So this is how you fight using flying swords!

Ye Guan had to admit that his Royal Sword Art was terrifying, and most people would fail to defend themselves against his Royal Sword Art. However, it had one massive flaw—it consumed too much profound energy, stamina, and mental power.

Half an hour later, Ye Guan stood up.

The phantom had been waiting for him, clearly a bit indignant about its loss.

Ye Guan stared at the phantom and said, "Go ahead."

Swoosh!

The phantom suddenly disappeared.

Rumble!

The space in front of Ye Guan split open, and a sword flew out of it, rushing toward Ye Guan.

However, Ye Guan remained calm. When the sword was just inches away from his forehead, he moved his left leg slightly. The phantom whipped around and thrust his sword forward!

The phantom was stunned; its sword had struck nothing but thin air.

Unfortunately, it was already too late. The phantom had just thought of turning around, but a sword had already buried itself in the phantom's back.

The phantom froze, and its hand holding its sword stopped in mid-air.

Ye Guan didn't bother to predict the phantom's moves. You thought I was going to try and predict your moves? No! I won't do that anymore!

Ye Guan reckoned that most powerhouses probably couldn't predict the movements of greenhorn cultivators, as those greenhorns most likely wouldn't put too much thought into their moves.

Ye Guan put his sword away and bowed slightly. "Thanks a lot!"

With that, he turned around to leave. To be frank, he could have ended the battle much earlier. However, he wanted to compare the phantom's limits with his own, so he opted not to use such a move until their final battle.

A clever person would sometimes fall victim to their own ingenuity.

"Wait!" the phantom cried out.

Ye Guan was taken aback.

He turned to look at the phantom and asked, "Are you a real person?"

The phantom shook its head and said, "No."

"What are you?"

"I am a consciousness born from the countless challengers who have set foot in here. My mission is to collect combat data for the Martial Court."

"Martial Court?" Ye Guan asked, frowning.

The phantom nodded.

It opened its palm, and a gold badge floated toward Ye Guan.

A pavilion was emblazoned on one side of it along with three words—Immortal Treasures Pavilion. The word Martial was emblazoned on the other side.

Ye Guan was slightly confused. "What is this?"

"It's the Martial Badge!" the phantom replied.

Ye Guan asked again, "What is it for?"

The phantom explained, "The badge grants you entry to the Trial Peak anytime you want, and you can also use the cultivation grounds of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion for free. It also grants you VIP privileges of the Pavilion.

"You can also get an advance payment from any Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch, but there is a limit of thirty million gold spiritual crystals per year."

Ye Guan stared at the phantom for a few moments before asking, "Does that mean I can get thirty million gold spiritual crystals from the Immortal Treasures Pavilion every year?"

The phantom nodded. "Yes!"

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "But the Immortal Treasures Pavilion has blacklisted me..."

The phantom was stunned.

"Can you give me the thirty million? I'm afraid they won't give me the thirty million if I were to visit any of their branches."

The phantom shook its head and said, "I'm sorry, but I don't have any money."

Ye Guan fell silent.

"The Martial Court made that badge," said the phantom. "The Immortal Treasures Pavilion will definitely acknowledge it."

“What if they don’t?” Ye Guan asked.

The phantom thought for a while before saying, “Kill them and let the Martial Court take responsibility for it.”

Ye Guan was stunned.

“It was a pleasure to have fought you,” said the phantom. “I’m looking forward to seeing you again here.”

The phantom’s figure turned blurry, and it was clear that it would disappear in just a few seconds.

“I’ll see you again,” said Ye Guan before turning around to leave.

Rumble!

Meanwhile, a deep rumbling echoed as a statue rose from beneath the tournament square.

The statue looked exactly like Ye Guan and two large words were emblazoned on its abdomen—Ye Guan.

Ye Guan laughed. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion was truly an expert at making sure that its customers were satisfied. Ye Guan’s vanity was gratified upon seeing a statue of him.

He stared at the statue for quite a while before turning around to leave.

The old Tower Keeper appeared in front of Ye Guan.

Ye Guan wordlessly gazed at the Tower Keeper.

The Tower Keeper boisterously laughed and said, "Congratulations, Young Lord Ye!"

Ye Guan nodded and replied, "I truly learned a lot here!"

He cupped his fists and added, "I appreciate your kindness, Senior. If it hadn't been for you, I wouldn't have been able to train here in peace. I will remember your kindness!"

The Tower Keeper grinned at Ye Guan's words.

Ye Guan suddenly said, "Senior, I want to go to the God-rank Trial!"

The God-rank Trial?!

"Young Lord Ye, I'm aware of your capabilities, but..." the Tower Keeper sounded hesitant as he said, "The God-rank Trial is special, and you shouldn't attempt it in the meantime."

"What do you mean?" asked Ye Guan, looking baffled.

The Tower Keeper's face turned heavy as he said, "Since the Profound Tower was built, there have only been two people who have attempted the God-rank Trial.

"Those two used to be one of the most heaven-defying talents of the Zhongtu Divine Continent. One of them was even the Champion of the Great Dao Destiny Aura Contest.

"Needless to say, they were strong, but the two still perished within the God-rank Trial!"

"They died?" Ye Guan asked with a frown.

The Tower Keeper nodded and said, "Yes! The Emperor-rank Trial is nothing compared to the God-rank Trial."

Chapter 147: Destined To Be Invincible!

The woman was familiar. She looked exactly like the woman Ye Guan had seen in the Martial God Spear—no, she was definitely that Martial Goddess.

She was wearing a clean long robe that was as white as snow, and her demeanor as well as visage were both ethereal and perfect. Unfortunately, her eyes contained only coldness, nary a single emotion.

Ye Guan was stunned. He didn't expect to see her here!

However, the woman remained unperturbed upon seeing Ye Guan. The light in her eyes remained cold, and it seemed that she didn't recognize Ye Guan at all.

Ye Guan saw that and felt that something was off.

He retreated because it was better to retreat whenever something felt strange.

Little Pagoda's voice suddenly echoed in Ye Guan's mind, "Little bastard, that's not her true body nor her soul. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion has replicated her. She has zero emotions, and she only knows how to fight."

Ye Guan's expression fell. The woman was a Martial Goddess, so Ye Guan truly couldn't have expected that the Immortal Treasures Pavilion was capable of replicating the consciousness of such a powerhouse.

Of course, Ye Guan was excited to fight a Marital Goddess. He loved living life on the edge and being pushed to the brink of death, as that was the only way he could unleash his potential, reach his limits, and even surpass them!

Ye Guan believed that one had to be a bit crazy while living their life.

Otherwise, could one even be considered alive?

Ye Guan's blood boiled with excitement.

Little Pagoda suddenly said, "Don't get too excited. Her cultivation base has been suppressed, but she's still a terrifying existence. She also has no emotions, so she's definitely going to kill you the moment she sees an opportunity to do so.

"Do you understand?"

"I know!" Ye Guan nodded. His voice was trembling as he said, "I'm just so excited—I can't help myself! Master Pagoda, why do I feel so excited whenever I'm about to kill someone? My blood feels like it's boiling, and I feel like I've awakened to something.

"Master Pagoda, d-does my family have some sort of hereditary blood disease?"

Little Pagoda was speechless. What do you mean, hereditary blood disease?! Your family has the Mad Demon disease!

Little Pagoda thought for a little while before answering, "It's just the adrenaline rush making you feel strangely excited. You've also been single for too long! And you also haven't done that in a long time, so... you know?"

The mysterious voice was absolutely speechless.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan was confused. What has this got to do with being single? Fuck! Master Pagoda is trying to fool me again! I wonder who was Master Pagoda's role model when it comes to being pretentious and scheming? He's always so flippant!

Ye Guan took a deep breath and suppressed his excitement. He looked at the Martial Goddess before waving his hand, causing his sword to disappear.

Little Pagoda was confused. “What are you doing?”

Ye Guan exclaimed, “I’m trying to get a beating!”

Little Pagoda was thoroughly confused.

Meanwhile, the Martial Goddess abruptly vanished.

Ye Guan squinted his eyes. The Martial Goddess’ speed was terrifying.

She was so quick that he couldn’t quite grasp her movement.

Ye Guan raised his right hand to defend himself.

Boom!

Ye Guan slid about thirty meters away, but an afterimage appeared in front of him before he could even stop. Ye Guan’s figure blurred as he dashed to his right, but a hand had captured his right leg.

The sudden momentum change tripped Ye Guan, and he fell on his back.

Boom!

A crater appeared on the ground, and Ye Guan frowned at the pain that reverberated from his back. However, the Martial Goddess wasn’t done just yet. She lashed out with a kick toward Ye Guan’s abdomen.

Boom!

Ye Guan was sent flying away.

The Martial Goddess' moves were smooth, like flowing water. She didn't give Ye Guan any chance to retaliate.

Ye Guan landed heavily on the ground, and another crater was made the moment he struck the ground. Ye Guan also spat a mouthful of blood.

"Wield your sword!" Little Pagoda cried out.

However, Ye Guan ignored Little Pagoda.

The Martial Goddess reappeared like a ghost in front of Ye Guan and threw a punch.

Her fist wasn't shining and was without any bells and whistles, but Ye Guan felt as if a hundred mountains were flying toward him rather than a fist.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. He came up with a hundred ways to deal with it, but he had a feeling that the Martial Goddess already knew what he could do at this point. It was just a simple-looking punch, but it had cut off Ye Guan's escape routes.

Left helpless, Ye Guan could only raise his arms to try and block her attack.

Boom!

Ye Guan was smashed to the ground, creating another rift in the ground. His face turned ugly at the intense pain, but the Martial Goddess was far from done. She rushed and kicked Ye Guan in the stomach, sending him flying away.

Swoosh!

The Martial Goddess' figure blurred, and she reappeared in front of Ye Guan with her fist flying toward the latter's face.

Ye Guan crossed his arms in front of him to defend himself in mid-air.

Boom!

Ye Guan flew a hundred meters away, and he spat another mouthful of blood the moment he struck the ground.

“Hurry up and wield your sword!” Little Pagoda cried out, “Otherwise, you’ll—”

The mysterious voice interrupted. “He’s learning!”

Little Pagoda was stunned.

The mysterious voice explained, “He’s probably thinking that he’s currently no match for his opponent, even with his sword in hand. Let’s see how it goes first. Perhaps he’ll surprise us once more the moment he counterattacks with his sword.”

Little Pagoda fell silent.

The Martial Goddess rushed over, but Ye Guan didn’t remain idle anymore. He slammed his right palm to the ground, and his figure shot upright. This time, he neither retreated nor dodged. He clenched his fist and sent a punch.

He had decided to face the Martial Goddess’ fist head-on!

Ka-cha!

A grotesque noise echoed as Ye Guan’s right arm instantly broke at the moment of collision. He was sent flying away, but the Martial Goddess caught up to him in the blink of an eye and yanked his broken right arm toward herself before lifting her knee toward Ye Guan’s abdomen.

However, a sword suddenly appeared in Ye Guan's hand, and he thrust his sword toward the Martial Goddess!

He had finally wielded his sword!

The Martial Goddess had pulled Ye Guan toward herself, so Ye Guan's sword reached its peak speed in the proverbial blink of an eye.

Boom!

Ye Guan flew three hundred meters away and crashed heavily to the ground.

Every single bone in his body had broken upon taking the brunt of the Martial Goddess' punch, and his flesh was torn apart as well. Blood poured out of his wounds and orifices, drenching his clothes crimson.

Meanwhile, the Martial Goddess stood frozen. A sword was sticking out of her forehead.

Ye Guan took the life of the Martial Goddess replica in exchange for severe injuries.

The Martial Goddess' figure blurred until she completely disappeared.

Ye Guan took out a spiritual pill and shut his eyes. He truly felt like he was falling apart.

Little Pagoda suddenly asked, "Why were you so passive earlier? Was it because you've been waiting for that opportunity?"

Ye Guan replied softly, "She's definitely stronger than me, so I reckoned that I wouldn't be able to beat her if I had wielded my sword against her the moment we fought.

"She's a Martial Goddess, so she would have quickly gotten used to my speed and would have prevented me from taking advantage of it. I had no choice but to get a beating from her first and get used to her attack patterns.

"It was easy from then on, I simply waited for the golden opportunity to use my sword to land a lethal blow. However, I only had one chance to get it right."

Little Pagoda went silent.

Ye Guan continued. "Her combat sense, strength, and speed are overwhelmingly stronger than mine. I can only show my weaknesses and make her lower her guard against me before I catch her by surprise. Otherwise, I wouldn't have won."

He then concluded, "The best way to defeat powerful opponents was to show your weaknesses and then analyze their attack patterns before making a decisive move of your own."

Little Pagoda sighed. He was also aware that Ye Guan would have lost if he had wielded his sword at the beginning of the battle.

What if he had faced her head-on with his sword? It was still impossible for him to win!

This Martial God had battle consciousness, and even though its cultivation realm was suppressed, it could still crush Ye Guan. Under such a circumstance, there was simply no way he could fight it head-on.

The mysterious voice suddenly said, "This little bastard's mindset is truly terrifying. I thought that he would start becoming arrogant the moment he broke through, but it turns out that he's still humble, and he didn't underestimate his opponent at all.

"What an admirable young man!"

Little Pagoda boisterously laughed and remarked, "It's all because I taught him well!"

The mysterious voice was speechless. However, it soon composed itself and pointed out. "You're slowly becoming more thick-skinned than your Young Master."

Little Pagoda was speechless.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan suddenly sat up. He excitedly said, "Master Pagoda, I finally understand why her punches were capable of suppressing me!"

"Why?" Little Pagoda asked.

"It's her momentum!" Ye Guan replied and explained, "Her momentum earlier was born from the fact that she had looked down on me the moment she saw me. She seemed sure that she could end my life with her attacks.

"However, just where did her momentum come from? It was definitely born from her strength and experience of fighting countless battles. She was completely unafraid of me or whatever method I might use to fight back, as she had already seen through every single possible action I might take.

"She preemptively sealed all of my escape routes using that knowledge. In other words, she could easily counter all of my attacks."

Ye Guan clasped his hands and added, "Beginners learn the fundamentals of anything first before they start learning the complex parts of it. However, past a certain stage, everything boils down to the simplest things. In the path of cultivation, the most complicated truths are often the simplest."

The most complicated truths are often the simplest!

Boom!

The Martial God Spear within Ye Guan's abruptly soared to the skies.

Little Pagoda reeled in shock. "D-Did he just become a Martial God?"

The mysterious voice responded, "No, not really."

"What do you mean?" Little Pagoda asked, confused.

The mysterious voice explained, "He can only be considered a Quasi-Martial God. He has finally understood that the most profound things are the simplest, but he still hasn't embarked on a journey to comprehending the Great Dao of Simplicity.

"He's still learning about the complexities of things. It will be difficult for him to achieve simplicity, as there's a huge gap between knowing simplicity and achieving it. However, the fact that he discovered simplicity through just one fight with a Martial Goddess shows that he is indeed an exceptionally rare talent."

"Of course, he's an exceptionally rare talent!" Little Pagoda laughed heartily and said, "He's under my tutelage, after all. I'm sure you already know, but his grandfather and father became invincible under my tutelage, and so will he!

"I think I should give myself a nickname. How about Mr. Awesome-Mentor-of-Invincibles Pagoda!"

The mysterious voice didn't know what to say.

Ye Guan suddenly said, "My sea of consciousness contains countless scenes of powerhouses in battle. I've been observing them and learning from them, but I realized while fighting the Martial Goddess earlier that it's not enough to just ponder over something. The only way to become stronger is to fight!"

He punched the air and continued. "It looks like a simple punch, but this simple punch might contain hundreds or even a thousand years' worth of experience. I need to fight. I want to fight!"

With that, he left the tournament square and entered it once more.

The vanquished Martial Goddess reappeared.

Ye Guan stared at her with a fierce light in his eyes before shouting, "Let's do it again!"

He vanished and charged toward the Martial Goddess.

...

A young man sat cross-legged on the peak of a towering mountain within the confines of the Main Guanxuan Academy in the Guanxuan Universe. The young man's eyes were closed, and it seemed like he was one with the heavens and earth.

The young man was none other than the Chosen One. The Main Guanxuan Academy had poured their best resources into nurturing the Chosen One the moment he became a student of the Guanxuan Academy.

His fame surpassed both Ye Guanzhi and the Martial Department's Representative, Chen Ge's fame. It could be said that he was currently the hottest student of the Main Guanxuan Academy!

The Chosen One's eyes shot wide open.

Boom!

A cataclysmic scene unfolded almost immediately.

There was heavenly lightning, magma, and tempestuous winds.

Seal Shattering Realm!

The Chosen One stood up, and a middle-aged man walked up to him.

The Chosen One hurriedly bowed and said, "Tutor!"

The middle-aged man was none other than the current Head Military Official of the Guanxuan Academy!

The Head Military Official was responsible for matters regarding the teaching of martial arts to the students of the Guanxuan Academy, and his status was only second to the Martial Department Chief and the Martial Department's Representative.

He had also been to the Void Battlefield, and it had to be known that survivors of the Void Battlefield had always been terrifying figures.

The Head Military Official examined the Chosen One from top to bottom. He sounded surprised as he asked, "You're already in the Seal Shattering Realm?"

"Yes!" said the Chosen One with a smile before asking, "How about Ye Guan?"

The Head Military Official replied, "Space Annihilation Realm."

The Chosen One frowned and asked, "He's still in the Space Annihilation Realm?"

The Head Military Official nodded, and his response made the Chosen One fall silent.

The Head Military Official looked at the Chosen One and asked, "Are you indignant about losing that battle on that fateful day?"

The Chosen One shook his head and said, "I lost fair and square, so there's nothing to be indignant about it. I was simply weaker than him, and I'm not going to be a sore loser. I actually have to thank him for defeating me that day.

"If I hadn't tasted defeat, my weaknesses would have remained hidden from me, and I would have remained arrogant if I had defeated him that day."

The Head Military Official's eyes briefly shone in admiration and approval. "Indeed, A single loss or win does not matter in the grand scheme of things. The path to the summit of cultivation is long, and one match will not determine anything. You have a bright future ahead of you, and whoever gets the last laugh is the true winner!"

"I understand!" The Chosen One nodded slightly and said, "However, I don't want to lose anymore. I don't want to lose ever again!"

"Are you confident?" asked the Head Military Official.

The corners of the Chosen One's lips curled up slightly.

He closed his eyes slightly and chanted a spell in an inscrutable language.

Boom!

A gold imprint appeared on his forehead.

The Head Military Official was stupefied. It was a Dao Imprint, and it was the Dao Imprint that the Sword Master used to own.

After that particular battle on that fateful year, the Sword Master had returned the Dao Imprint to the Daoist Sect's Sect Leader, but it was now in the hands of the Chosen One.

The Chosen One clenched his fists and looked up to the sky. He closed his eyes and muttered, "My goal is to become the Academy Master! Ye Guan will be my first stepping stone to the summit. I'm destined to be invincible!"

The Chosen One had finally revealed his ambition—he wanted to sit on that throne!

Chapter 148: Committee Head Li Banzhi

Academy Master!

The Head Military Official remained silent.

The Sword Master's disappearance left a void in the Guanxuan Academy, and it was the Academy Master seat.

Why?

Who was worthy of becoming the Academy Master? Who had the guts to assume such a role? Even the revered Princess Xin and Emperor Yue didn't dare to take on that position.

It wasn't a matter of their individual desires or aspirations.

The issue was that no one would accept them as the Academy Master.

They were powerful individuals with millions of Dao Soldiers under their banners, and they were both part of the Committee. However, the moment they expressed any thoughts of sitting in that seat, they would be summarily removed from their positions. There was a mutual understanding between the Committee members.

The Sword Master's descendant or someone who was lucky enough to receive the Sword Master's inheritance could become the Academy Master of the Guanxuan Academy.

The Chosen One!

The Academy thought that the Chosen One was the Sword Master's descendant. After all, the previous Chosen Ones were father and son. However, the Academy couldn't find the Mad Demon Bloodline in the Chosen One.

They came up with two possibilities as to why the Mad Demon Bloodline was missing in the Chosen One's veins: the Chosen One still hadn't awakened the Mad Demon Bloodline, or he wasn't the descendant of the previous Chosen One.

However, the Chosen One possessed the Dao Imprint that once belonged to the Sword Master, which meant that there was a high chance he had received the Sword Master's inheritance, even if he weren't the Sword Master's descendant.

Could he become the Academy Master?

He could indeed become the Academy Master.

The Head Military Official closed his eyes.

He was getting excited as he thought of the many possibilities.

The Committee had ordered him to become the Chosen One's tutor. At first, he had only accepted the role because the Committee had ordered him to do so, but now, he had decided to choose sides. His future depended on which side he chose.

Just then, the Chosen One turned toward the Head Military Official and bowed before saying, "I know that it's difficult to become the Academy Master, so I hope that you'll lend me a helping hand. Once I succeed, I will never forget your help."

The Chosen One was aware that he needed a lot of people on his side to become the next Academy Master, but the Head Military Official had to stand by his side at all costs.

The Head Military Official was silent for quite a while before asking, "Does the Immortal Treasures Pavillion know that the Sword Master's Dao Imprint has recognized you as its master? Is that why they're supporting you?"

The Chosen One nodded. "Yes!"

The Head Military Official fell silent once more.

The Chosen One saw that and added, “The two superpowers of Milky Way—the Future Clan and the Milky Way Clan—are supporting me as well.”

The Head Military Official was surprised.

“They’re supporting you?” he asked, sounding incredulous.

The Chosen One nodded in confirmation, shocking the Head Military Official.

The Future Clan and Milky Way Clan were weaker than the Guanyuan Academy, but they were still powerful clans in their own right. They were stronger than the Nine Heavens and Ten Lands.

The Immortal Treasures Pavilion, the Future Clan, and the Milky Way Clan had decided to support the Chosen One. The aristocratic faction and the great clan factions of the Academy were also on his side.

In other words, there was an extremely high chance that the Chosen One would become the next Academy Master, and the Head Military Official reckoned that it was just a matter of time before the Chosen One was chosen as the Academy Master.

The Head Military Official soon made up his mind. He stared at the Chosen One and said, “The Academy has been under the leadership of quite a few powerhouses for a long time now. It’s about time we greet a new Academy Master!”

The Chosen One jumped for joy.

He had finally gotten the support of the Head Military Official!

The Head Military Official was extremely influential, as more than eighty percent of the students in the Martial Department were his students. He had a massive network of people. The support of the Head

Military Official meant that the Chosen One's power in the Academy would rise, especially in the Martial Department.

The Head Military Official advised, "You need to ensure that you have the support of the Committee and the four major clans if you want to become the next Academy Master."

The Chosen One fell into deep thought. The four major clans were the Gu Clan, the Yue Clan, the Primordial Clan, and the Yang Clan.

He was the Chosen One, but he was still wary of the four major clans.

Just one of them had enough power to wreak havoc on the Guanyuan Universe.

The Head Military Official added, "Don't worry, there's no rush. We'll slowly tackle the matter as it comes. The current priority is the battle between you and Ye Guan. You must emerge victorious in that battle. Your fame will soar once you've emerged victorious, and it will be much easier for you to reach your goals.

"The four major clans won't dare to underestimate you by then."

The Chosen One nodded. "I understand."

The Head Military Official continued. "You're special. The Immortal Treasures Pavillion, the Milky Way Clan, and the Future Clan are supporting you as well. I'm sure the rest of the aristocratic families and the clans of the great clan faction will rush to become your allies.

"However, you must defeat Ye Guan before anything else."

The Chosen One nodded and muttered, "I'll kill him and prove to everyone that I'm the peerless talent of this generation."

The Head Military Official suddenly said, "I will bring you to a special place to cultivate. Trust me, only Ye Guan and Chen Ge are worthy of becoming your rivals once you've emerged from that place."

The Chosen One bowed and said, "Thank you, Tutor."

The Head Military Official waved his sleeve and whisked the Chosen One away.

They soon found themselves in front of a tall tower.

The Chosen One asked, "What is that, Tutor?"

The Head Military Official explained, "It's the Martial Tower! A Pavillion Master of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion built it. One year in the Martial Tower is equivalent to only one day in the outside world!"

The Chosen One's eyes widened in shock.

The Head Military Official continued. "The Martial Tower is a special place, so only those who had been acknowledged as monstrous talents are allowed to enter the Martial Tower.

"However, the qualification is just the first hurdle. Those monstrous talents cannot really afford to enter the Martial Tower because a day in the tower costs a hundred thousand immortal spiritual crystals!"

A hundred thousand Immortal Crystals! The Chosen One's expression fell. He was quite wealthy, but he wasn't as wealthy as the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

It was such an exorbitant amount that it was borderline insane.

The Head Military Official said, "Let's go!"

The Chosen One shook his head and stammered, "I don't have enough money..."

The Head Military Official explained, "You can access it for free."

The Chosen One was stunned.

The Head Military Official blandly said, "I'm in charge of the Martial Tower. No one can tell me what to do."

The Chosen One bowed and said, "Thank you, Tutor."

With that, the two entered the Martial Tower.

.....

Meanwhile, Ye Guanzhi was standing near a lake in the South Garden of the Main Guanxuan Academy. She seemed engrossed in the ancient scroll that she was reading.

Ye Guanzhi was wearing a deep green long skirt embroidered with a river flowing through a scenic mountain. She looked stunning and elegant in it.

She leaned against the railing of the railings near the lake, and her soft hair covered half of her face, obscuring her beautiful features. She was chuckling to herself.

An old woman walked toward her and chided, "How can you still laugh?"

Ye Guanzhi asked, "What's wrong?"

The old woman asked, "Do you not regret it?"

Ye Guanzhi smiled and asked, "What is there to regret?"

The old woman said, "You've lost everything, and you're currently under house arrest. Was it worth it?"

Ye Guanzhi explained, "I never really cared about whether I would regret my actions or not. I just did what I thought was right."

The old woman was annoyed, and she questioned, "You stood up for Ye Guan, but who's going to stand up and seek justice for you?"

Ye Guanzhi changed the topic and asked, "How is Young Lord Ye doing nowadays?"

The old woman snapped, "I don't know!"

"He's the real victim here..." Ye Guanzhi trailed off before continuing. "I'm sure he's having a hard time recently. Help me give him some money and spiritual pills."

The old woman's voice deepened as she said, "My lady, he's the Chosen One's arch-enemy now. The Chosen One had even declared that only one of them may live in this generation. You're antagonizing the Chosen One by helping Young Lord Ye!"

Ye Guanzhi made a sidelong glance at the old woman and asked, "Do I need to be on the Chosen One's side?"

The old woman was stunned.

Ye Guanzhi chuckled and asked, "Why do I have to suck up to someone who summons the Heavenly Dao upon losing?"

With that, she turned around and left, leaving the old woman at a loss for words.

.....

Meanwhile, a woman wearing an oversized white robe with a head full of white hair walked into the Committee Hall of the Main Guanxuan Academy. The woman was none other than Shuxian.

The Committee Hall only had one other woman today, and she was seated by the window with a pile of documents in front of her.

The other woman was Committee Head Li Banzhi.

Li Banzhi was surprised to see Shuxian.

She placed her pen down and exclaimed, "Department Chief Shu!"

Shuxian nodded slightly and said, "Committee Head Li, I'm sure you know why I'm here."

Li Banzhi asked, "Is this related to Ye Guanzhi?"

Shuxian nodded.

Li Banzhi said, "I was the one who dismissed her and placed her under house arrest."

Shuxian was shocked, and she asked, "It wasn't the collective decision of the Committee?"

"That's right," said Li Banzhi. "I did it summarily."

Shuxian hesitated briefly before saying, "Committee Head Li, I've always admired you, and I'm familiar with your personality as well. I'm sure you know who is in the right and who is in the wrong here, so why did you do it?"

Li Banzhi fell silent for a while before saying, "Department Chief Shu, please take a seat."

Shuxian shook her head and said, "No, thank you."

Li Banzhi smiled wryly and explained, "I know the truth, Department Chief Shu. The An Clan and the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan were the ones in the wrong, and Guanzhi was simply trying to seek justice for that young man. She did not make a mistake."

Shuxian frowned deeply and asked, "Why did you punish her, then?"

Li Banzhi suddenly asked, "Department Chief Shu, are you not aware that internal strife has been brewing within the Committee?"

Shuxian was stunned.

Li Banzhi continued. "Guanzhi is smart, and she knows what's wrong with the Academy. However, do you really think that she's the only one who can see what's wrong with the Academy? Did the Sword Master overlook the flaws in the system? Do you really think I'm blind that I can't see what's wrong here?"

Shuxian was silent.

Li Banzhi sighed and said, "I tried many times to persuade the Sword Master to suppress the aristocratic faction and the great clan factions, but he couldn't bear to do so, and that is why he decided to leave it alone.

"If he had suppressed those factions, it would be akin to getting rid of the donkey once it was no longer useful. The factions had gotten too much credit in the Xuzhen Great War, so it would have been wrong to point the knife at them right afterward.

"They also hadn't done anything wrong back then, so how could the Sword Master suppress them?"

Shuxian was still silent.

Li Banzhi added, "Guanzhi could see the flaws in the system, and I know that she wants to rectify those flaws. However, she's trying to bite off more than she can chew, and have you heard about how the aristocratic faction and the great clan faction teamed up when she started helping Ye Guan?"

"It's not difficult to deduce why they teamed up. They simply treat those threatening their positions as their enemies."

Li Banzhi shook her head and said, "Department Chief Shu, Lady Qingqiu isn't around. Do you really think you can stop those factions from taking action against Guanzhi without Lady Qingqiu?"

Shuxian didn't say anything in response. However, the answer to Li Banzhi's question was clear. There wasn't anything the Literary Department could do against those behemoths.

"If I had accepted Guanzhi's request and impeached those factions, they would have resisted violently," said Li Banzhi. "Their backers—the Gu Clan and the Yue Clan— will definitely come out from behind the curtains and cause chaos in the Committee."

"The Academy will also be in chaos as a result. In the first place, who is daring enough to take on such a radical stance without the Sword Master and Lady Qingqiu?"

Shuxian sighed deeply and admitted. "I truly didn't think it through."

Li Banzhi nodded and explained, "I placed Guanzhi under house arrest to make sure that she's going to be safe from the aristocratic faction and the great clan faction."

"It seems that I've misunderstood you." Shuxian cupped her fists together and said, "My apologies, I will take my leave now."

With that, she turned around and left the Committee Hall.

Left all alone, Li Banzhi turned to a wooden sculpture not too far away from her.

“It has been a few million years since I last saw you,” Li Banzhi muttered to herself. A wry smile formed on her lips as he continued. “You appeared in Qingzhou, but why did you not come here... Am I nothing but a worker in your eyes?”

Chapter 149: Did I Show You Too Much Respect?

Ye Guan was engaged in an intense battle with the Martial Goddess. The pair moved so fast that it seemed as if there were a pair of afterimages flying across the skies.

Ye Guan wasn't using his sword; he was throwing out punches and kicks. Ye Guan wasn't born a swordsman, so he was without any weapon when he started walking down the path of cultivation.

The Martial Goddess was suppressing Ye Guan, leaving him without any chances to retaliate. The Martial Goddess was superior to him in all aspects—speed, reaction speed, and combat sense. However, Ye Guan still didn't pull out his sword.

He had decided to get beaten up on purpose to improve his reaction speed.

It was a good thing that he had consumed nothing but dragon meat and dragon blood for sustenance all this while, which meant his stamina was much better than ordinary people. Otherwise, he couldn't have lasted for so long.

Ye Guan wasn't worried about taking any steps toward comprehending the Great Dao of Simplicity. He was convinced that he had to prioritize his cultivation first because it was the prerequisite of comprehending the Great Dao of Simplicity.

One had to pursue the complexities of the cultivation path first before one could pursue simplicity. Otherwise, one wouldn't be pursuing simplicity at all but was simply simple.

Simplicity and simpleness were two sides of the same coin, after all.

And that was exactly why Ye Guan had decided to pursue the peak of his prowess first before pursuing simplicity.

Ye Guan was still being suppressed by the Martial Goddess, but he was making progress. Three days passed by in the blink of an eye, and Ye Guan had relied entirely on spiritual pills to recover and forgo rest for the sake of fighting the Martial Goddess.

He was pushing himself to his limits by making sure that his concentration would never wane while he was under attack. However, the truth was that Ye Guan didn't dare to be distracted by even a split second because the Martial Goddess could easily take advantage of that split second to destroy him.

Ten days later, Ye Guan had grown accustomed to the Martial Goddess' attack patterns. He still couldn't retaliate, but he had gotten extremely adept at defending himself. He had also gotten used to the Martial Goddess' speed.

The Martial Goddess' strength was fixed, and she was five times stronger than the challenger. Unlike her, however, Ye Guan was learning and improving as they fought.

Just like that, another five days went by, and Ye Guan was now capable of retaliating. Unfortunately, his attacks were ineffective against the Martial Goddess.

It turned out that the Martial Goddess' defenses were airtight, but Ye Guan wasn't disheartened. He was thrilled by the discovery.

Ten days later, Ye Guan had completely memorized the Martial Goddess' attack patterns as well as the way she deflected his counterattacks. The two remained unrelenting, and it was clear that either of them didn't want to give up.

However, it had to be known that Ye Guan still hadn't wielded his sword over the course of this bout.

Bam!

A hollow noise echoed, and Ye Guan hurriedly retreated. The Martial Goddess dashed forward and threw a punch toward Ye Guan's head. Her fist didn't glow, nor did it emit any terrifying energy, but it carried a terrifying amount of pressure.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. He stomped with his right foot and shot toward the Martial Goddess as if he were an arrow that had left its bowstring. He decided to use his own fist to greet the Martial Goddess' fist.

Boom!

A loud explosion reverberated as the two were sent flying away.

Ye Guan crashed to the ground and stood up, but the Martial Goddess was already in front of him. She raised her leg and lashed out with a kick toward Ye Guan's head, but Ye Guan mirrored her actions and sent a kick toward her head as well.

Boom!

Their feet collided with each other, and the collision sent the two flying away.

Ye Guan landed, but he didn't take his sweet time recovering.

He slammed his palms on the ground and propelled himself backward. He stomped and shattered the ground beneath him to send himself flying backward at least twelve meters away from his initial location.

The Martial Goddess' turned into a blur as she charged at Ye Guan.

A rift was torn in front of Ye Guan, and a terrifying pressure swept past him.

However, Ye Guan had already disappeared.

The Martial Goddess abruptly whipped around and punched out.

Boom!

The Martial Goddess' fist shattered space, but Ye Guan was safe a few meters away from where her fist had struck nothing but air. Unfortunately, the Martial Goddess seemed unperturbed. She stomped and dashed toward Ye Guan with a punch.

Boom!

Ye Guan disappeared once more, and the Martial Goddess' punch struck nothing but air yet again. The bizarre scene continued for a while. The Martial Goddess was relentless in her pursuit, but her pursuit was made in vain by Ye Guan.

The Martial Goddess' attacks looked deceptively simple, but they had been fighting each other for so long that Ye Guan was already aware of the tricks she had up her sleeves as well as her attack patterns.

Unfortunately, Ye Guan was too weak and too slow.

The Martial Goddess was five times stronger than him as well.

The Martial Goddess abruptly stopped moving, surprising Ye Guan.

This was the first time the Martial Goddess had stopped moving during the course of their fight. The Martial Goddess opened her palms, and the space around her was peeled away.

Ye Guan was dumbstruck, but his expression soon fell as he cried out, "Hey, are you really going to start using martial skills? Really?! I guess I can't play around anymore."

Ye Guan wasn't afraid of martial skills. He was afraid of what the Martial Goddess could do with those martial skills. Needless to say, the Martial Goddess' martial skills had to be extremely powerful.

Swoosh!

The Martial Goddess vanished into the air.

Ye Guan's pupils constricted.

He was about to make a move, but a force field had immobilized him.

He was about to shatter the force field, but Ye Guan's heart jumped in fright upon seeing a hand reaching out toward him.

Ye Guan clenched his right fist and sent a punch toward the hand.

However, the Martial Goddess was even faster than him.

Ye Guan had just punched out, but the Martial Goddess' hand had already touched Ye Guan's right arm. An inexplicable scene unfolded afterward. The profound energy within Ye Guan's right arm was abruptly sucked out of him, rendering Ye Guan both horrified and stunned.

Meanwhile, the Martial Goddess' other hand landed like a feather on Ye Guan's fist.

Ye Guan went silent at the sight. He was about to say something, but a tremendous wave of energy inundated him like a deluge, sending him flying away as if he were a kite with a broken string.

The Martial Goddess' attack was so strong that Ye Guan's fleshly body couldn't withstand the attack and cracked. Blood seeped out of the cracks, creating a grotesque and terrifying sight.

Rumble!

A low rumbling echoed as the tournament square belatedly cracked, which made the entire square platform look as if it were a massive spider web.

Meanwhile, a dull thud echoed as Ye Guan crashed to the ground and spat a mouthful of blood. The blood pouring out of his wounds dyed the ground crimson, and he was quivering violently beneath the intense pain and shock.

Ye Guan felt as if the Martial Goddess had shattered every bone in his body and wounded every square inch of his skin.

Ye Guan's voice was trembling as he asked, "M-M-Master Pagoda, what was that?"

Little Pagoda didn't reply to him.

Swoosh!

The Martial Goddess abruptly appeared in front of Ye Guan.

Ye Guan froze, but he hurriedly cried out, "I surrender! I admit defeat!"

The Martial Goddess didn't say anything, but her figure blurred.

Ye Guan stared at her incredulously.

Soon, the Martial Goddess finally disappeared.

An ancient book appeared in mid-air and floated over to Ye Guan. Ye Guan was greatly startled upon seeing the book's name.

World Devastation Art!

Ye Guan ignored the excruciating pain and raised his hand to open the book.

The first page of the book contained only a single line of words—Seize the opportunity, move the heavens by an inch. Cultivate a punch to destroy the world, and you shall be invincible in close-range combat.

Invincible in close-range combat! Ye Guan was ecstatic. He flipped to the next page, and a ray of light shot out and melted into his glabella.

Boom!

A deluge of information flooded Ye Guan's mind.

Simplicity-rank martial skill—World Devastation Art.

On the Zhongtu Divine Continent, martial skills and cultivation methods were categorized into the following ranks: Human, Spiritual, King, Earth, Sky, Immortal, Saint, and Imperial. The ranks above Imperial were Divine and Simplicity.

An Imperial-rank martial skill was extremely rare. Ye Guan had only encountered a single cultivator with an Imperial-rank martial skill in his arsenal, and it was none other than Zhang Longhu.

Ye Guan was still in awe of Zhang Longhu's Imperial-rank martial skill.

The great clans of the Zhongtu Divine Continent only had a few Divine-rank martial skills, while only the top clans had Simplicity-rank martial skills.

The Great Dao of Simplicity was all about simplicity. The only way forward—once things had gotten a bit too complicated—was to simplify everything. One had to be straightforward and attack without bells and whistles.

A punch had to be enough to kill one's opponent.

Ye Guan was beyond excited, even though he was heavily injured. The World Devastation Art had said that he would be invincible in close-range combat upon successfully cultivating it.

A Martial Goddess had developed it as well, so how could it be mediocre among the other Simplicity-rank martial skills? The World Devastation Art was definitely unrivaled, and it would definitely help him stand toe-to-toe against opponents whose cultivation bases were significantly higher than his.

It was all worth it! Ye Guan boisterously laughed before shouting, “Master Pagoda! I got a Simplicity-rank martial skill! Look! It’s a Simplicity-rank martial skill! Oh my goodness! Hahaha!”

Little Pagoda remained silent.

Meanwhile, the mysterious voice remarked, “How do you think he’s going to react once he finds out that what he obtained today is considered garbage in his family?”

Little Pagoda sighed and said, “I don’t know.”

The mysterious voice asked, “Why don’t you give him something better than that?”

Little Pagoda said, “No. He put his life on the line in exchange for that martial skill, so I can’t just give him something better without any sacrifice on his part.”

The mysterious voice agreed. “Indeed.”

Ye Guan was still laughing enthusiastically as he marveled, “Master Pagoda, look! Master Pagoda? Why are you not saying anything? It’s a Simplicity-rank martial skill! Isn’t it amazing?”

Little Pagoda remained silent.

Ye Guan jumped for joy for quite a while, but he eventually calmed down and sat cross-legged. He consumed the remaining two spiritual pills in his storage ring.

Two hours later, he felt much better, but he didn't stand up. He decided to cultivate.

World Devastation Art—Seize the opportunity, move the heavens by an inch. Cultivate a punch to destroy the world, and you shall be invincible in close-range combat. It was a martial skill that massively increased one's explosive strength at the opportune moment.

Ye Guan reckoned that he would instantly kill an Ancient Heavenly Dragon in just one punch using the World Devastation Art.

The Martial Goddess couldn't display the full might of the martial skill, as she was just a replica of the real Martial Goddess and was being suppressed by the Profound Tower as well.

If the real Martial Goddess were here, she wouldn't have to use the World Devastation Art. Ye Guan reckoned that she could destroy the entire Zhongtu Divine Continent with a casual punch.

It didn't take Ye Guan that long to memorize the intricacies of the World Devastation Art. It only took him two days to learn and master the martial skill. He could now display the same might that the replica of the Martial Goddess had shown to him using the same World Devastation Art.

Rumble!

The Tower Keeper's voice suddenly echoed in Ye Guan's head. "Young Lord Ye, hurry up and leave! There are people from the main branch here!"

Ye Guan jumped up. He left the platform and returned to the Profound Tower.

The Tower Keeper saw Ye Guan and hurriedly said, "Young Lord Ye, you really have to leave. The main branch has discovered that you're here, and they sent men to come after you."

Ye Guan frowned, but he cupped his fists and said, "I'm leaving, Senior."

He turned around to leave, but a powerful divine sense locked onto him from above.

The Tower Keeper's expression turned pale.

Ye Guan sent a message to the Tower Keeper using voice transmission.

"Tell them that I forced you, Senior."

The Tower Keeper smiled wryly.

A white-robed old man descended in front of Ye Guan and the Tower Keeper. A group of ten elites clad in black robes stood behind the white-robed old man. They were powerful, and the weakest of them was a Divine Tribulation Realm cultivator.

Meanwhile, the white-robed old man was a Seal Shattering Realm cultivator.

The white-robed elder stared at Ye Guan and said, "Young Lord Ye, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion doesn't welcome you."

"All right." Ye Guan nodded and said, "I'm leaving, then!"

He turned around to leave.

"Hold on!" the white-robed old man called out.

Ye Guan turned toward the white-robed old man.

The white-robed old man said indifferently, "You may leave, but you have to leave your equipment behind."

Everyone was already aware that Ye Guan possessed a seemingly invincible sword.

It seemed that the white-robed old man was coveting Ye Guan's sword.

Ye Guan stared at the elder and asked, "You want me to leave my equipment behind?"

The white-robed old man nodded and said, "Yes."

Shwik!

A sword pierced the white-robed old man's forehead.

The white-robed old man stared in disbelief at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan glowered and asked, "Did I show you too much respect?"

Chapter 150: Your Grandfather Loved To Kill

No one thought that Ye Guan would make a move, and everyone was stupefied upon realizing that Ye Guan had managed to inflict a critical wound on the white-robed old man in just a single sword move.

The white-robed old man didn't dare to move, afraid that Ye Guan would finish the job. The elites behind him still couldn't recover from the shock. Was Ye Guan really just a Space Annihilation Realm cultivator?

The Tower Keeper was dumbstruck as well.

A thought jumped into his mind, and he inhaled sharply.

Oh my goodness! I actually forgot! Ye Guan had just emerged from the God-rank Trial. The fact that he managed to come out so quickly meant that Ye Guan had managed to pass the God-rank Trial.

However, the Tower Keeper shuddered at the thought. Absurd! This is too absurd!

The white-robed old man struggled to speak. "Y-Young Lord Ye, there is no grudge between you and the Immortal Treasures Pavilion."

At this point, he didn't dare to threaten Ye Guan.

He would be a fool to threaten Ye Guan, considering his life was in Ye Guan's hands.

Ye Guan was daring enough to kill the An Clan and the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan members. He had also challenged the Chosen One, so how could he be afraid of killing a mere servant of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion?

"Give me a reason not to kill you," said Ye Guan as he stared at the white-robed old man. "I hope you'll satisfy me."

The white-robed old man hurriedly gave his storage ring to Ye Guan. He turned to look at the elites behind him and said, "Give your storage rings to him."

His underlings hesitated slightly, but they eventually surrendered their storage rings.

Ye Guan calmly pointed out. "I just have to kill you all, and all these will still be mine."

The white-robed old man thought for a while and then said, "Young Lord Ye, you'll end up bringing more trouble for yourself by killing us. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion values its reputation, after all.

"You have been blacklisted, and if you kill us on top of that, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion will definitely chase you to the ends of the world.

"I'm sure you have many things to do, and I'm sure you don't want to make an enemy out of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion." "I made sure to hide any traces of mine when I decided to come here, but

the Immortal Treasures Pavilion still managed to discover me.” Ye Guan gazed deeply at the white-robed old man and said, “Doesn’t that mean that the Immortal Treasures Pavilion has been keeping tabs on me all this while?”

”I have nothing against you, and there’s only one reason you’re keeping tabs on me. It’s all because the Immortal Treasures Pavilion has already invested in the Chosen One, right?”

The white-robed old man’s expression fell, and he stammered, “Y-You...”

Ye Guan was right. The Immortal Treasures Pavilion had decided to stand on the Chosen One’s side. However, the white-robed old man didn’t expect that Ye Guan already knew that much.

“You’re not here to capture me.” Ye Guan continued, “You’re here to test my true strength, right?”

The white-robed old man’s pupils constricted, and his jaw dropped. “Y-You...”

Ye Guan’s eyes remained transfixed on the white-robed old man as he asked, “I was just guessing. Were my guesses right?”

The white-robed old man was overwhelmed by shock, and his voice trembled as he muttered, “Young Lord Ye, you—”

Ye Guan interrupted and said, “You couldn’t control your greed, so you demanded my equipment. Actually, it’s for the best if you die. That way, you won’t be able to report my true strength.”

The white-robed old man hurriedly begged, “Young Lord Ye, don’t do this. You’re burning bridges here! You’ll go past the road of no return.”

Ye Guan calmly responded, “So what if I burn bridges? One day, I’ll plunder the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.”

Slice!

Ye Guan slashed, and a fountain of blood erupted as the white-robed old man's head flew into the air. The elites in black robes were startled, and the thought of escaping had barely crossed their minds when Ye Guan vanished.

Slash!

Ten heads flew into the air at once. The elites died before they could even move.

Goosebumps broke out all over the Tower Keeper.

Ye Guan examined his spoils and found a total of thirty million gold spiritual crystals. He now had one hundred and thirty million gold spiritual crystals.

It was indeed a big haul, and he had profited greatly this time.

The Tower Keeper's voice trembled as he spoke, "You didn't have to kill them, Young Lord Ye."

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "If I hadn't killed them, they would have reported me to the main branch, which means trouble will come sooner for me. The white-robed old man was smart, but he was clearly a scheming individual.

"If I hadn't killed him, he would have backstabbed me in the future."

"You're now a wanted criminal of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion," said the Tower Keeper.

Ye Guan remained calm as he said, "They'll come after me, but they won't send a true powerhouse."

The Tower Keeper was confused. "Why not?"

Ye Guan smiled and explained, "What do you think is the reason they decided to stand on the Chosen One's side? Surely you don't think it's money, right?"

The Tower Keeper shook his head. "It's definitely not for the sake of money."

Ye Guan nodded and pointed out. "It's something bigger and greater than that. I assume they want to help the Chosen One rise to a higher position."

The Academy Master seat!

The Tower Keeper was stunned, and he stammered, "T-That's..."

Ye Guan's smile remained on his lips as he added, "What do you think the Chosen One lacks? It's fame! His fame is guaranteed to soar if he manages to kill me in our battle in two months.

"In other words, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion will definitely not send someone strong enough to kill me. At most, they'll just tell everyone that I'm on their wanted list."

The Tower Keeper hesitated for a while before he asked, "Young Lord Ye, are you confident in killing him?"

Ye Guan shook his head. "No."

The Tower Keeper was taken aback.

However, Ye Guan continued. "Surely I'm not the only one who has been cultivating all this while. He's also enjoying the resources of the Main Guanxuan Academy and the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. How can I possibly be confident against him?"

"I don't want to look arrogant by saying that I'm fully confident in killing him, but I'm ninety percent confident."

The fuck? The Tower Keeper was completely stunned. Your roundabout way of saying things is scaring me.

“Senior,” Ye Guan said, “I’m leaving.”

The Tower Keeper asked, “Where are you going?”

Ye Guan calmly replied, “I’m going to the Main Guanxuan Academy.”

The Tower Keeper asked, “Isn’t the challenge in two months?”

Ye Guan shook his head and explained, “Two months is too long. I can’t afford to wait that long, so I’m going right now.”

Ye Guan cupped his fist and said, “Senior, please take care. If the Academy tries to find fault with you, throw all the blame on me. I’m going to the Guanxuan Universe. If I survive, I’ll repay your kindness in the future. Farewell.”

The Tower Keeper hesitated for a bit before he said, “If you’re going to the Guanxuan Universe, use the Teleportation Area of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. A word of caution. You’re blacklisted, so the Immortal Treasures Pavilion will not willingly activate the teleportation array for you.

“Unfortunately, it’s the only way for you to reach the Guanxuan Universe. It’s not a distance a space ship can quickly traverse.”

“I guess I have to use the teleportation array, then,” said Ye Guan with a nod. “I’ll go to the nearest Immortal Treasures Pavilion. Goodbye, Senior!”

Ye Guan hopped onto his sword and disappeared into the horizon.

The Tower Keeper stood rooted and stared at the horizon for quite a while before muttering, “I need a drink to get through this chaos.”

The Tower Keeper shook his head and laughed. Actually, he was feeling great. He had confirmed that Ye Guan was indeed a heaven-defying talent.

Ye Guan was at a huge disadvantage compared to the Chosen One, but the Tower Keeper believed that Ye Guan had a chance of winning. He had a feeling that Ye Guan had a superior background as well and that his ancestors had to be heaven-defying talents, too.

The Tower Keeper simply had no idea just how exceptional Ye Guan's ancestors were. Regardless, he had done Ye Guan a huge favor, so he would truly reap a ton of profit once Ye Guan repaid him.

However, the Tower Keeper didn't really mind if Ye Guan couldn't repay him.

The Tower Keeper was just a guard. He could scheme his way for a few bucks, but he had to risk his life if he wanted to change his destiny.

...

Ye Guan headed straight to the largest Immortal Treasure Pavilion branch on the Zhongtu Divine Continent. He didn't bother visiting Mo Ya as he didn't want to trouble her.

However, Ye Guan frowned upon arriving.

The entire place was empty and devoid of people.

What's going on? Many questions popped up in Ye Guan's mind.

Just then, a middle-aged man appeared not too far away from him.

The man smiled and asked, "Are you perhaps Young Lord Ye?"

Ye Guan glanced at the man and asked, "Who are you?"

The man cupped his fist and said, "I'm the manager of this Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch."

Ye Guan went silent.

The man asked, "Are you here for the teleportation array?"

Ye Guan nodded.

The man pointed to his right.

"The teleportation array is in that direction. You may use it as you please," said the man.

Ye Guan gazed deeply at the man.

Eventually, he hopped onto his flying sword and flew to the right.

Left all alone, the man sighed.

He knew that Ye Guan was headed for the Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch that he was managing because the entire Zhongtu Divine Continent was keeping tabs on Ye Guan. He ordered everyone to leave upon hearing of the news, afraid that a conflict would arise.

Ye Guan was stronger than anyone had predicted, and there were only a few people capable of standing toe-to-toe against Ye Guan throughout the Zhongtu Divine Continent.

There would have been a high chance that Ye Guan would annihilate everyone from this Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch if the man had decided to stand his ground against Ye Guan.

The best option was to let Ye Guan leave.

Since Ye Guan wasn't here to kill people, it was better to let him leave peacefully.

...

The Teleportation Area was deserted, and there was no one except for Ye Guan there. The powerhouses of this Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch had definitely received orders to leave.

Ye Guan looked around for quite a while before he found the teleportation array connected to a node in the Guanyuan Universe. He walked into it and activated it.

A blue light enveloped him before whisking him away.

Ye Guan closed his eyes and sat cross-legged in the spacetime tunnel.

Little Pagoda suddenly asked, "Are you sure about this?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Little Pagoda asked, "Why are you in a rush?"

Ye Guan explained, "I have to go there to revive Little Jia."

He opened his palm, and the Path Sword appeared in his hand.

He gently traced the Path Sword's outline with his finger.

Little Pagoda asked, "Are you confident in defeating the Chosen One?"

Ye Guan calmly answered, "It doesn't matter. He had declared that there can only be one of us in this world, so I will have to get rid of him. I don't deliberately bully others, but if someone bullies me, I'll teach them a lesson and take their storage ring away."

Little Pagoda was speechless.

Ye Guan would always take his opponent's storage ring away.

Your grandfather loved to kill, your father loved women, and you... you love money.

Little Pagoda truly had no idea what to say.

Ye Guan continued. "I assume the Chosen One wants to become the new Academy Master of the Guanxuan Academy, and he has many supporters. He's my enemy on the surface, but my true enemies are the aristocratic faction and the great clan faction."

"What are you planning to do?" asked Little Pagoda.

Ye Guan's gaze turned deep as he asked, "Master Pagoda, do you think I can become the Guanxuan Academy's Academy Master?"

Little Pagoda jumped in fright.

The mysterious voice muttered, "Little Pagoda, do you think he figured something out?"