

## **A Sword 331**

### Chapter 331: Wash Up

Upon noticing that Ye Guan did not argue with her, the Adjudication Sword Master snorted coldly and decided to go silent. Her expression remained as stoic as ice.

Ye Guan carried the Adjudication Sword Master and strolled toward the timeworn temple. The entrance was marked by a shattered gate overgrown by vegetation.

Raising his gaze slowly, Ye Guan found a weathered iron plaque emblazoned with characters that Ye Guan barely managed to read—Great Dao Temple

Great Dao Temple? Ye Guan's brows knitted. Is this temple related to the Great Daoist Brush Master?

The Adjudication Sword Master's brows were furrowed as well as she stared at the iron plaque.

Ye Guan set aside his thoughts and carried the Adjudication Sword Master into the temple. A lone statue was standing inside the temple, but the figure didn't belong to a monk. The figure was holding the Great Dao Brush; this was a statue of the Great Daoist Brush Master! The statue was holding the Great Dao Brush in its left hand, while its right hand seemed to be suppressing something with its palm.

Ye Guan's expression darkened. Obviously, this mysterious place was related to the Great Daoist Brush Master, which meant that the Great Daoist Brush Master was the one who had created the restrictions here.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned and pondered deeply over something while staring at the statue.

Ye Guan gently placed the Adjudication Sword Master on the ground, releasing his grip on her waist. He then stepped back and created some distance from her. He was still rather wary of her.

The Adjudication Sword Master cast a glance at the wary Ye Guan but remained silent, offering only a cold smirk. Ye Guan found himself somewhat troubled by her. He turned to look outside the temple and saw darkness encroaching.

Ye Guan suggested, "We should rest here for the night."

With that, he gathered some wood from around the temple and started a fire. The two sat around the fire, and the temperature inside the temple gradually increased.

Ye Guan threw a broken piece of wood into the fire and then glanced at the bloodstains on the Adjudication Sword Master's legs. A sense of confusion arose within him.

When did she injure her leg? He couldn't remember it.

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression turned cold upon noticing Ye Guan's gaze.

"What are you looking at?!" she snapped.

Ye Guan quickly looked away and changed the subject.

"What do you think about this place?" he asked. He believed that the Adjudication Sword Master might know a thing or two. However, the Adjudication Sword Master's gaze toward Ye Guan remained cold as she roared, "Shut up!"

Ye Guan was rendered speechless; her stubbornness was back.

The ancient temple was soon enveloped by silence.

After a while, Ye Guan suddenly walked up to the statue and picked up the large incense burner next to it.

He then walked outside the temple.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned slightly and was about to ask him something, but she ended up staying silent. All of a sudden, a wave of sharp pain shot up to her brain once again, eliciting quite a few curses from her.

Ye Guan soon returned. He placed the incense burner in front of the Adjudication Sword Master. The incense burner was filled with clean water.

The Adjudication Sword Master was stunned.

Ye Guan explained, "I noticed a stream near the temple. You can go ahead and wash up."

The Adjudication Sword Master stared quietly at Ye Guan, but the coldness in her gaze was enough for Ye Guan to deduce her thoughts.

"I don't have any ill intentions. Our cultivation bases are sealed as well, so I'm not really confident that I can kill you," Ye Guan added.

The Adjudication Sword Master sneered, but she started using the water to freshen up. However, she seemed to have recalled something and came to a halt. She turned and found Ye Guan staring at her.

Moments later, she hurled a wave of expletives at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan ignored the Adjudication Sword Master and lay on the floor with his hands behind his head.

"Master Pagoda, are you there?" he asked inwardly.

Ye Guan let out a sigh—he received no response.

Little Pagoda and the mysterious lady were both incredibly strong, but Ye Guan couldn't sense either of them at the moment. There was only one explanation; the two had suffered the same fate as Ye Guan's cultivation base.

Ye Guan gazed at the statue of the Great Daoist Brush Master not too far away from him. There was a high chance that the restrictions here had been constructed by the Great Daoist Brush Master. Run-of-the-mill cultivators couldn't possibly seal Little Pagoda and the mysterious lady.

However, the question was why—why did the Great Daoist Brush Master bring them here? Ye Guan shook his head and cleared his thoughts. He didn't have the luxury to think about the Great Daoist Brush Master's motives, as he had to find a way to leave this eerie place first.

Just then, Ye Guan turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master next to him. The blood stains on her legs were no longer there. Sensing Ye Guan's gaze, the Adjudication Sword Master raised her head abruptly and glared at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan asked, "Do you know where we are?"

The Adjudication Sword Master tossed aside the skirt she had used to clean herself.

She lay down without responding to Ye Guan's question.

Ye Guan turned to look outside the temple. It was pitch-black outside, which made the place appear even more eerie. There were neither stars nor moons here to illuminate the world. This was a terrifying place for ordinary people, but the two were cultivators, so they weren't afraid of something like this.

However, they realized that the pitch-black world outside was giving off an ominous aura.

Ye Guan looked at the Adjudication Sword Master and found that she was staring at the statue of the Great Daoist Brush Master while seemingly lost in thought.

The Adjudication Sword Master turned to look at Ye Guan upon sensing his gaze, but she didn't curse at the latter.

Ye Guan took advantage of that to ask, "Do you know where we are?"

The Adjudication Sword Master replied, "We're in the Eternal Secret Realm."

"Eternal?" Ye Guan furrowed his brows slightly. "Is this place related to the Eternal Sovereign?"

The Adjudication Sword Master turned to gaze at the statue of the Great Daoist Brush Master and said softly, "The Eternal Sovereign created the Eternal Civilization, and a great battle unfolded between him and the Great Daoist Brush Master.

"Do you know the outcome of that battle?"

Ye Guan shook his head and replied, "No."

The Adjudication Sword Master calmly asked, "Do you want to know?"

Ye Guan nodded eagerly

"Then, guess!" the Adjudication Sword Master replied.

Ye Guan's face darkened.

The Adjudication Sword Master felt satisfied to see Ye Guan's disgruntled looks. She chuckled a few times, and her cold chuckle sounded eerily harsh in the ancient temple.

Ye Guan went silent and stopped asking questions. He turned his back on the Adjudication Sword Master before closing his eyes.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned as her gaze landed on the statue once more. After a while, the Adjudication Sword Master closed her eyes and slowly fell asleep.

Late at night, footsteps echoed from outside the temple.

Ye Guan immediately jumped to his feet and rushed out of the temple. He scanned the surroundings, but he saw nothing other than darkness. He also couldn't hear anything at all. Ye Guan's brows furrowed. The footsteps he had heard just now were unmistakably real, but there was no one around.

Is someone playing tricks on me? Ye Guan's gaze gradually turned icy. After contemplating for a while, he turned and went back into the temple.

The Adjudication Sword Master had woken up and was staring at him.

Ye Guan asked, "Lady Adjudication Sword Master, you heard those footsteps, too, right?"

The Adjudication Sword Master was silent.

Ye Guan was starting to get annoyed.

The Adjudication Sword Master calmly said, "They're still outside."

Ye Guan was taken aback, and he immediately rushed outside the temple to find nothing.

The Adjudication Sword Master added, "They're in front of you."

Ye Guan felt a shiver down his spine. "Don't scare me!"

The Adjudication Sword Master said indifferently, "Believe it or not."

Ye Guan looked around. His gaze inadvertently landed on the ground, and he was horrified to find footprints on the dusty ground.

"Oh, shit!" Ye Guan hastily retreated into the temple, and he stared outside in horror before crying out, "You were right! There's someone outside!"

The Adjudication Sword Master glanced at Ye Guan and sneered, "Aren't you the King of the Guanxuan Universe? Why are you such a scaredy-cat? You should be ashamed of yourself."

Ye Guan ignored the mocking and asked, "Can they not come in?"

The Adjudication Sword Master calmly replied, "They're already here—right in front of you."

Ye Guan froze, and he took several steps backward in shock.

The Adjudication Sword Master chuckled and said, "I was just joking, you idiot!"

Ye Guan was dumbfounded, but he started walking toward the Adjudication Sword Master with a serious look.

The Adjudication Sword Master furrowed her brows.

"What do you want?" she asked.

After a moment of thought, Ye Guan sat down and said earnestly, "Lady Adjudication Sword Master, I know that you don't like me. However, we're stuck here with our cultivation bases sealed, so we'll be nothing but sitting ducks if we end up encountering an enemy here.

"I think it's in our best interest to cooperate with each other."

Ye Guan had zero knowledge about this place, but he could feel that the Adjudication Sword Master seemed to be a bit familiar with it.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at Ye Guan without uttering a single word while Ye Guan looked back at her with a sincere gaze. Moments later, the two suddenly felt awkward, and they looked away at the same time.

Ye Guan coughed before sitting down and picking up a few pieces of wood.

He then hurled the wood into the fire.

Meanwhile, the Adjudication Sword Master finally started talking, "The Eternal Sovereign was defeated, and then he was sealed in the Eternal Secret Realm. The restrictions here were personally constructed by the Great Daoist Brush Master. It suppresses all cultivation, divine spells, secret arts, and ancient arts."

Ye Guan quickly asked, "Do you know a way out?"

"This temple is the key," the Adjudication Sword Master replied. She then looked outside before continuing. "I'm guessing we're not the only ones here."

"There are others here?" Ye Guan asked with furrowed brows. He pondered briefly over something before asking, "Are you trying to say that the Eternal Sovereign is bringing people here to break the seal for him?"

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet.

Ye Guan pressed on. "If there are others here, my assumption should be right. In that case, those who got dragged here must possess the means to help break the seal."

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly said, "Spiritual cores!"



Spiritual cores! Ye Guan stood up abruptly. He had billions of spiritual cores on him, and if spiritual cores were necessary to break the seal, then it made sense that he ended up getting dragged here.

Ye Guan looked at the Adjudication Sword Master and was about to say something, but his gaze inadvertently landed on her chest. The Adjudication Sword Master's clothes had suffered greatly during their fight, exposing a significant portion of her skin.

The Adjudication Sword Master was trying her best to cover herself up, but her efforts were clearly ineffective.

The Adjudication Sword Master's gaze flashed in killing intent when she noticed Ye Guan's gaze. However, Ye Guan suddenly took off his blue shirt and handed it over to her.

The Adjudication Sword Master was stunned.

Ye Guan quietly placed the shirt on the ground in front of her.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared deeply at Ye Guan before picking up Ye Guan's shirt and covering her exposed chest.

Tap, tap, tap!

Footsteps abruptly echoed from outside. Ye Guan's eyes narrowed, and the Adjudication Sword Master suddenly said, "I have a way for us to leave this place, but I need to recover a bit more."

A way to leave this place? Ye Guan furrowed his brows and was about to start asking questions when three men suddenly entered the ancient temple.

The black-robed man with thick eyebrows and black hair standing at the helm of the group seemed to be their leader. The black-robed middle-aged man's gaze was cold.

The three of them were momentarily taken aback the moment they saw Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master.

Ye Guan stood up and sat in front of the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at his back, but she didn't say anything in the end. Without cultivation bases, women were bound to suffer more than men, especially if the women in question were extremely beautiful.

The Adjudication Sword Master was extremely beautiful, so when the gazes of the three men fell on her, the two men behind the black-robed man began showing signs of lust.

Chapter 332: Not Interested!

The Adjudication Sword Master's gaze turned cold. She clenched her right fist as a surge of killing intent filled her eyes. However, she also felt a sense of helplessness and bitterness. If they were outside, anyone daring enough to look at her with that kind of gaze would have already died.

However, she couldn't do anything about it right now.

The Adjudication Sword Master glanced at Ye Guan and cursed inwardly. It's all this bastard's fault!

Ye Guan stared at the three without saying a word, but he was wary of them. He was a man, so he knew what these men were thinking.

The man with a scar on the left side of his face chuckled.

"Their cultivation bases are sealed well!" He pointed out. The man would have had reservations if they weren't here. However, everyone was under some kind of a seal here, so the dark side of human nature could easily be seen.

The scarred man grinned maliciously as he swept his gaze across the Adjudication Sword Master's figure.

Bang!

Ye Guan kicked the bonfire, sending dozens of embers toward the three men.

Caught off guard, the three men's faces changed dramatically, and they hastily raised their arms to protect themselves.

Ye Guan snatched a flaming stick out of mid-air and rushed toward the three men. A fight was inevitable, so he had to strike first; otherwise, he would end up at a disadvantage against these three men.

The scarred man and his companions were surprised by Ye Guan's outburst. The latter had appeared calm and composed, so who could have known that he would attack decisively and with such ferocity?

Ye Guan's flaming stick struck the scarred man's head.

Thwack!

The scarred man let out a howl of pain. Blood started streaming down his head, and the impact sent him staggering. However, Ye Guan wasn't quite done just yet. He sent a sweep kick toward the black-robed man, but the latter dodged the attack.

However, the third man of the group ended up getting hit in the head by Ye Guan's kick. He cried out in pain and staggered backward to retreat.

Just then, the black-robed man charged forward, delivering a kick toward Ye Guan's head. Ye Guan didn't retreat in the face of the kick. He rushed forward and swung his stick toward the black-robed man's face.

The black-robed man's expression changed slightly, and he crossed his arms in front of him.

Bang!

Ye Guan and the black-robed man staggered backward. The other two men saw that and rushed toward Ye Guan with eyes full of killing intent.

Ye Guan crouched briefly to take two handfuls of ashes. He tossed them toward the two men, creating a cloud of ash. The two men jumped to the side and retreated, but Ye Guan chased after them and gave them two servings of the stick

The two men staggered backward and grimaced in pain.

Ye Guan's brows furrowed, and he whipped around to see a blurry figure running toward him.

Ye Guan swung his stick toward the black-robed man, but the black-robed man suddenly pulled out a dagger. Before Ye Guan could react, he thrust the dagger into Ye Guan's right shoulder. However, Ye Guan was undeterred. Instead of retreating, he took a step forward and brought his head back before smashing his head forcefully into the black-robed man's face.

Crack!

A grotesque noise echoed, and the black-robed man was left dizzy and disoriented by Ye Guan's unexpected attack. Ye Guan pulled out the dagger from his right shoulder and slashed out.

Shwik!

The black-robed man's throat was slit open, and blood sprayed wantonly into the air.

The two remaining men charged at Ye Guan at the same time.

Ye Guan ignored the intense pain and met the two remaining men halfway. It didn't take long for a fierce battle to erupt between them. Although injured, Ye Guan didn't dare to retreat; he knew that the winner of this fight was the most ruthless one.

Ye Guan rushed at one of the men after sending the other man staggering backward.

Ye Guan raised the dagger in his hand and swung downward. A miserable shriek filled the air, and blood spattered onto the floor. A severed arm fell to the ground with a dull thud, but Ye Guan wasn't done yet. He moved even closer to the man and slashed out.

Squelch!

Blood poured out like a waterfall from the man's slit throat.

Ye Guan whipped around and cornered the last remaining man until the dagger in his hand found its way into the last remaining man's bowels. The man's eyes widened, and he fell to the ground with a dull thud!

Ye Guan slumped to the ground.

Blood flowed incessantly from his right shoulder. He had won, but he was heavily wounded as a result. His injuries from his fight against the Adjudication Sword Master had yet to completely heal, so this fight had exacerbated those wounds.

Just then, Ye Guan recalled something. He sat up and casually bandaged his right shoulder. He turned and looked at the Adjudication Sword Master sitting beside him.

The Adjudication Sword Master was also looking at him.

A tiny broken piece of wood was in her delicate hand.

Ye Guan sounded solemn as he said, "I'm sure this temple is the only temple hundreds of kilometers around us. It's not strange for people to come here because it sticks out like a sore thumb.

"And you're extremely beautiful, so you're also going to stick out like a sore thumb. I am sure that most men will harbor malicious thoughts toward you once they see you, so we have to leave. It's going to be troublesome if we stay here.

The Adjudication Sword Master nodded quietly.

Ye Guan asked, "Can you walk by yourself?"

The Adjudication Sword Master remained quiet.

Ye Guan was at a loss for words, but he didn't dare to delay as he walked briskly toward the Adjudication Sword Master. He picked her up and headed outside.

This time, the Adjudication Sword Master didn't resist his touch.

It was pitch black outside the temple, but Ye Guan didn't have the luxury to consider visibility. He left the temple in a hurry while carrying the Adjudication Sword Master away. Not long after they left, he noticed many people rushing toward the temple.

Ye Guan felt relieved that they had left the temple; otherwise, they would have gotten caught up in a fierce battle.

Ye Guan looked away and carried the Adjudication Sword Master somewhere far away despite the darkness.

After about half an hour, Ye Guan found an inconspicuous cave. He placed the Adjudication Sword Master down and created a bonfire. The flames rose and soon vanquished the coldness and dampness inside the cave.

Leaning against the cave wall, Ye Guan slumped down. He was utterly exhausted, but he couldn't afford to sleep. Apart from the dangers outside, he was still wary of the Adjudication Sword Master not too far away from him, so he didn't dare to relax.

The Adjudication Sword Master made a sidelong glance at the wary Ye Guan, but she didn't say anything. After a while, Ye Guan couldn't hold on any longer and succumbed to the temptations of sleep.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared quietly at the bonfire in front of her.

Just then, she heard faint footsteps echo within the cave. The Adjudication Sword Master turned around and was just about to curse, but she immediately swallowed her words after realizing something.

She leaned against the wall and fell into deep contemplation as she glanced at Ye Guan not too far away from her. Eventually, silence reigned supreme in the cave as her eyes closed slowly.

Time passed, and Ye Guan suddenly opened his eyes.

He sat up abruptly and turned toward the cave entrance to find that it was dawn.

Ye Guan turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master's eyes were closed, and her breathing was even. Her hair was somewhat disheveled along with her visage, but one could still see from her delicate and flawless features that she was an extraordinary beauty.

The soft glow of the fire illuminated her slightly flushed cheeks, and the contrast between her flawless beauty as well as her bedraggled appearance made her exude a breathtaking charm.

Just then, the Adjudication Sword Master suddenly opened her eyes.

"What are you looking at?" she snapped, and her visage quickly grew cold.

Ye Guan withdrew his gaze and changed the subject. "Let's go outside"

The Adjudication Sword Master looked at Ye Guan without saying anything. Ye Guan walked up to her and carried her in his arms. As they exited the cave, a refreshing breeze swept past them.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly said, "Go to the right!"

Ye Guan asked, "Why?"

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't answer.

Ye Guan didn't think much of it and continued to hold her in his arms.

A faint fragrance soon enveloped him, and the softness of the Adjudication Sword Master's body made Ye Guan feel self-conscious. Intrusive, lustful thoughts filled Ye Guan's mind, but he quickly dispelled them.

Ye Guan walked to the right. After an hour, they found themselves inside a bamboo forest. Eventually, Ye Guan stumbled upon a bamboo hut with a pool of clear and fresh water in its front yard.

The Adjudication Sword Master's gaze fell on the pool, and she seemed lost in thought as she stared at the pool.

Ye Guan suddenly asked, "How did you know that there's a bamboo hut here?"

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't answer the question. Instead, she pointed at the pool. Ye Guan nodded, and he walked to the edge of the pool with the Adjudication Sword Master on his back.

Ye Guan placed her down on the edge of the pool, and the Adjudication Sword Master stared at him deeply but without saying anything.

Troubled, Ye Guan asked, "If you need something, just say it."



The Adjudication Sword Master said, "I want to take a bath."

Ye Guan was stunned.

The Adjudication Sword Master said, "Stand guard for me."

Ye Guan nodded. "Alright."

With that, he turned around and walked away.

The Adjudication Sword Master called out, "Wait!"

Ye Guan turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master. The latter's gaze was fierce and as sharp as swords as she warned, "I'm going to kill you if you dare peek at me!"

"Don't worry," Ye Guan calmly replied, "I'm not interested in you."

"Get lost!" the Adjudication Sword Master roared.

Ye Guan finally left.

The Adjudication Sword Master started removing her clothes, and she submerged herself in the pool. She floated on her back, and her hair swayed gently in the water as she closed her eyes.

She started thinking about many things, but she suddenly clenched her hands tightly with her face flushed red in fury.

After some time, the Adjudication Sword Master emerged from the pool. She put on her clothes and frowned upon seeing Ye Guan's blue shirt. After a moment of silence, she ended up picking up Ye Guan's shirt and wrapped it around her chest.

Ye Guan walked over to her with a few wild chickens in his hands.

He smiled at her and asked, "How was it?"

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't answer Ye Guan's question.

Ye Guan didn't mind it. He crouched and made a fire before roasting one of the wild chickens in his hands. They were mortals without their cultivation bases, so Ye Guan was starting to get hungry after a long while.

The Adjudication Sword Master sat across from him, and she stared at him quietly as the latter very gingerly roasted a chicken.

"I visited the temple, and a fight had indeed broken out," Ye Guan said.

However, the Adjudication Sword Master remained silent. Soon, the chicken was cooked, and Ye Guan divided it into two—one for him and one for the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master accepted it without hesitation and began eating.

Ye Guan examined the Adjudication Sword Master. She was clean, but her hair was damp, and there were water droplets on her face. Regardless, she looked as stunning as always.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly looked up at Ye Guan, and the latter quickly looked away. He didn't want her to start cursing him once again.

The Adjudication Sword Master said, "The Eternal Sovereign is about to break the seal."

Ye Guan furrowed his brows and asked, "Break the seal?"

The Adjudication Sword Master explained, "The seal has loosened. The Eternal Sovereign is probably going to break it soon and reappear in the world."

Ye Guan asked, "Can you defeat the Eternal Sovereign?"

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet. Ye Guan stared at her for a few moments, but he decided not to press on.

The Adjudication Sword Master turned toward the horizon and said, "Now, we just have to wait. Once he breaks the seal here, our cultivation bases will be restored."

Ye Guan nodded and frowned while staring at the distant horizon.

The Eternal Sovereign is about to break his seal, yet another supreme elite is about to appear. Why is the world so chaotic? Why couldn't my father resolve all these issues before handing over the helm to me? Ye Guan shook his head and smiled upon realizing that he had gotten a bit too optimistic.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly exclaimed, "Give me more food!"

Ye Guan was taken aback. His gaze landed on the Adjudication Sword Master's hand and discovered that the chicken in her hand earlier was nowhere to be found.

How is she eating so fast? Ye Guan was taken aback.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at him and asked, "What's up with that look?"

Ye Guan ended up handing over the chicken in his hand, but the Adjudication Sword Master accepted it without any reservations and immediately started eating it.

It seemed that she was truly hungry.

Ye Guan casually asked, "How are your injuries?"

For some reason, the Adjudication Sword Master became furious upon hearing that question. She threw the chicken in her hand toward Ye Guan and snapped, "Why do you care? Huh?!"

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

### Chapter 333: Invincible

Ye Guan suddenly felt a bit puzzled. Was the Adjudication Sword Master really out of her mind? There wasn't even a moment when she wasn't annoyed. Her temper was just outrageous.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared fiercely at Ye Guan as if she wanted to devour him alive.

Just as Ye Guan was about to speak, they heard approaching footsteps. Without hesitation, Ye Guan jumped in front of the Adjudication Sword Master. He lifted her up and started running away.

The Adjudication Sword Master had yet to recover from her injury, so she would be completely useless in a fight.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at Ye Guan without speaking. After running for about an hour, Ye Guan stopped and placed the Adjudication Sword Master on the ground.

Taking a step back, he asked, "When will the seal break?"

The Adjudication Sword Master remained expressionless as she replied, "No idea."

Ye Guan sighed softly and sat down quietly next to her.

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet.

Eventually, the silence in the air was broken by the Adjudication Sword Master as she asked, "What about Cishu?"

Ba Wan? Ye Guan shook his head and replied, "She's in Stone Village."

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned slightly and asked, "She didn't go with you?"

Ye Guan nodded.

The Adjudication Sword Master's curiosity was piqued. "Why?"

Ye Guan was quiet for quite a while before he eventually decided to explain, "She cherishes her relationship with her sisters. If she had followed me, she would have to join forces with me to deal with her sisters.

"She didn't want to do that, and I don't want to force her to do something she doesn't want to do."

The Adjudication Sword Master sneered, "Makes sense. We've always been close, so how could she possibly stand on your side and go against us?"

Ye Guan nodded at that and went quiet.

The Adjudication Sword Master saw Ye Guan's solemn look and taunted, "What's wrong? Does it hurt to know that we're more important to her than you?"

Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at the Adjudication Sword Master before asking, "Have you ever fallen in love?"

The Adjudication Sword Master narrowed her eyes. Before she could explode in fury, Ye Guan chuckled and said, "Of course, you haven't. You're so ruthless and proud, so how could you possibly fall in love?"

The Adjudication Sword Master's visage turned frosty. "So what if I'm ruthless and proud? What does it have to do with you?"

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "It has nothing to do with me."

With that, he walked away and lay down, putting some distance between himself and the Adjudication Sword Master. The Adjudication Sword Master sneered, but she chose to remain silent.

Just then, a loud explosion tore through the air, and a pillar of red light burst out of the ancient temple in the distance.

Ye Guan's expression changed, and he stood up.

However, a mysterious force had locked onto him, and before he could do anything, the same mysterious force stripped him of his spiritual cores. Ye Guan tried to resist in a panic, but it was futile.

The mysterious force was far too overwhelming, and even if Ye Guan's cultivation base weren't sealed, it would still be impossible to resist the mysterious force. It was simply that formidable.

The mysterious force snatched away his spiritual cores; the spiritual cores transformed into radiant beams of spiritual energy that rushed toward the ancient temple.

However, Ye Guan wasn't alone. It seemed the other people had been robbed of their spiritual cores as well, and the spiritual energy inside their spiritual cores was rushing toward the ancient temple like a torrent.

An hour later, Ye Guan's billions of spiritual cores had finally melted away. He was utterly exhausted, and he collapsed to the ground.

Just then, the Adjudication Sword Master walked over to Ye Guan and reached out toward Ye Guan's waist to pull out a dagger.

She looked down coldly at the helpless Ye Guan with a cold smile on her lips.

Ye Guan stared into her eyes, but he remained silent.

The Adjudication Sword Master patted Ye Guan's face and said, "Rest assured, I won't grant you such an easy death!"

She tossed the dagger in front of Ye Guan and stood up, shifting her focus to the distant temple. Ye Guan heaved a sigh of relief, but a sense of bewilderment lingered in his mind. How come she had decided to spare him?

Rumble!

The red light from the ancient temple turned golden as it received more and more spiritual energy. An indescribably powerful aura could be felt from within the ancient temple, and it instantly pervaded the world outside.

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression changed drastically.

She turned around and grabbed Ye Guan's foot, dragging him away. Ye Guan was confused, but the Adjudication Sword Master didn't say anything as she grabbed Ye Guan downhill.

She wasted no time and tumbled down the slope, bringing Ye Guan along for the ride. The two embraced each other as they rolled down, but none of them thought too much about the physical contact, as they couldn't even make sense of their surroundings as they rolled down the hill.

Just as they had reached the ground, the hill where they had been standing earlier was obliterated by a powerful force. If they had moved even a beat slower, they would have been obliterated along with that hill.

The Adjudication Sword Master lay on top of Ye Guan. She attempted to get up but found herself devoid of strength. Her previous wound had yet to recover, and she had just sustained new injuries.

The new injuries were just scratches and bruises, but the previous injury was more complicated.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at Ye Guan and roared, "Stand up!"

Ye Guan tried her best to stand up, but he was too exhausted to do so.

The Adjudication Sword Master was both furious and frustrated at the sight.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan was astonished upon realizing that they were so close to each other. They were pressed against each other, and Ye Guan could feel how soft she was; likewise, Ye Guan reckoned that she could feel the hardness of his—dagger.

The Adjudication Sword Master snapped, "What are you looking at?!"

Ye Guan retorted, "Am I supposed to close my eyes?"

The Adjudication Sword Master angrily responded, "Yes, close them!"

Ye Guan grew irritated. "I'm just looking! What's wrong with that?"

The Adjudication Sword Master glared fiercely at Ye Guan, and her chest heaved up and down as she stewed in fury.

However, Ye Guan was unwilling to compromise this time, and he met her gaze defiantly. Just then, the Adjudication Sword Master leaned down and opened her to bite his nose.

"Fuck!" Ye Guan was stupefied. He used all his might to flip over and pin the Adjudication Sword Master beneath him. He glared at her and shouted, "Are you crazy?!"



She had bit down so hard on the tip of his nose that it almost came off. There was blood on the Adjudication Sword Master's lips, but she lunged forward and bit him again. Ye Guan saw through her movement and attempted to avoid her bite by trying to stand up, but the Adjudication Sword Master ended up biting his lips.

The two froze and looked as if they had been struck by a hammer.

They stared at each other in shock.

All of a sudden, Ye Guan felt a sharp pain on his lips. The Adjudication Sword Master had decided to bite down hard on his lips. Ye Guan rolled away in an attempt to escape the Adjudication Sword Master's teeth, but the latter took advantage of that opportunity to pin Ye Guan beneath her.

She pulled a dagger from Ye Guan's waist and aimed it at his throat. When the dagger was only half an inch away from his throat, however, she retracted it and said, "It's too easy."

She dropped the dagger and rolled away, grimacing from the pain that had shot through her entire body.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan closed his eyes. His nose and lips were in excruciating pain.

The Adjudication Sword Master had gone mad.

Boom!

A loud explosion echoed from the distance. Ye Guan looked up and saw beams of golden light in the skies. A terrifying pressure bore down on everyone on the ground, and the world itself seemed to be trembling.

Ye Guan's expression turned grim. The pressure from the Eternal Sovereign's aura had gripped his heart with dread. The phenomenon in the skies lasted for an hour before a sonorous roar echoed from the ancient temple.

Boom!

A massive pillar of light shot into the skies, and a massive Great Dao rune appeared in response.

Ye Guan gnashed his teeth as the pressure had become a bit too much for his fleshly body to withstand. He gazed at the ancient temple and saw that the beams of golden light were bombarding the Great Dao rune, and it quivered incessantly beneath the bombardment.

Ye Guan clenched his fists. His cultivation base would be unsealed the moment the Eternal Sovereign shattered the seal, and he would finally be able to leave this damned place.

The Great Dao rune in the sky became blurrier and blurrier as time went on. An hour later, Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master watched as the Great Dao rune burst into innumerable light crystals with a thunderous boom.

Rumble!

A figure slowly rose within the ancient temple. The figure belonged to none other than the Eternal Sovereign!

Ye Guan abruptly clenched his fists, and a low rumbling echoed from within him.

His cultivation base had been unsealed!

Ye Guan was overwhelmed by excitement, but he suddenly remembered the Adjudication Sword Master standing next to him. As always, her demeanor was as cold as a thousand-year-old icy cavern as she stared at him.

Ye Guan hurriedly took several steps backward, and he opened his right hand to create a sword made out of his sword intent. He stared intently at the Adjudication Sword Master, ready to defend himself at any moment.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared back at him and mocked, "Scared of me?"

Ye Guan was silent as he gripped the sword in his right hand. He didn't answer, but his surging sword intent was enough of an answer for the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly turned and looked up to find a middle-aged man dressed in luxurious robes. His long hair flowed down freely, and his broad shoulders made him look towering. His hands were clasped behind his back, and he was laughing heartily. His laughter echoed throughout the Eternal Secret Realm.

He was one other than the Eternal Sovereign!

The Eternal Sovereign's laughter eventually died down. He closed his eyes and muttered to no one in particular, "I didn't expect that the Great Dao in this place would one day deteriorate to such an extent.

"Did something happen to the Great Daoist Brush Master? It shouldn't be the case. He was so strong, so who could possibly harm him? Hm, what if letting me out is a part of the bigger picture that he is drawing?"

His frown deepened as he muttered. He had shattered the seal earlier than scheduled—about ten thousand years early. For some unknown reason, the Great Dao that the Great Daoist Brush Master had left here had weakened greatly.

As a result, the Great Daoist Brush Master's seals weakened. In addition, the Eternal Sovereign could no longer sense even the tiniest vestiges of the Great Dao here.

What happened to the Great Daoist Brush Master?

As the Eternal Sovereign stewed in his own confusion, his eyes suddenly landed on Ye Guan. His eyes narrowed slightly, and he opened his palm, sending a wave of mysterious force that instantly engulfed Ye Guan before he could react.

Ye Guan was astonished to find the tiny pagoda in the Eternal Sovereign's hand. It seemed the Eternal Sovereign wanted to steal the tiny pagoda. The Eternal Sovereign's eyes flashed in surprise as he marveled, "This is a true treasure of the world..."

The Eternal Sovereign smiled at Ye Guan and said, "You're quite interesting. Someone has obfuscated you from Heaven's Will, and you possess a Dao Imprint. What's your relationship with the Great Daoist Brush Master? Is he dead?"

Ye Guan stared deeply at the Eternal Sovereign before replying. "You're an esteemed individual known as the First Sovereign, so are you really going to resort to stealing?"

The Eternal Sovereign laughed heartily. "Yes, I'm going to resort to stealing. So what? Unhappy? Fight me!"

Ye Guan frowned.

"No, I'm not just going to steal." The Eternal Sovereign chuckled before saying, "I'm going to kill you as well!"

He threw a punch toward Ye Guan.

The Great Daoist Brush Master was no more, so he considered himself invincible!

Chapter 334: Call Your Aunt

The Eternal Sovereign's punch made Ye Guan feel as though nothing else existed aside from him and the former's fist. The punch was so strong that he found it difficult to breathe.

He could attempt to resist the fist, but death was inevitable, as he was just too weak!

Ye Guan knew that he was about to die the moment he saw the fist.

My aunt has just left, and I'm already facing such a powerful enemy. How unlucky. Ye Guan chuckled bitterly. The fist reached Ye Guan in the proverbial blink of an eye, but before the fist could hit him, a hand grabbed his shoulder and pulled him away.

"Your life is mine!" A cold voice pierced his ears as the Adjudication Sword Master appeared in front of him and slashed out with her sword. The powerful burst of sword aura tore through the world itself, splitting it into two.

Boom!

The fist imprint came to a halt upon colliding with the Adjudication Sword Master's sword. The Eternal Sovereign's eyes shone with surprise as he exclaimed, "A swordsman? How interesting."

He sent another punch, shattering the Adjudication Sword Master's sword light. The fist imprint had shattered along with the sword light, but the shockwaves that had burst out of the collision sent the Adjudication Sword Master and Ye Guan staggering backward.

The Adjudication Sword Master looked down at her Adjudication Sword and saw cracks on its body. The Adjudication Sword Master's eyes narrowed into slits, and her heart was gripped by intense shock.

The Eternal Sovereign looked at the Adjudication Sword Master and mused, "You're actually a bit stronger than I thought."

The Adjudication Sword Master looked up at the Eternal Sovereign. Moments later, she transformed into a ray of sword light that rushed to the skies.

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled. He had only met one individual whom he hadn't been able to beat since he became world-renowned, and he was none other than the Great Daoist Brush Master.

Aside from the Great Daoist Brush Master, he found any other opponent to be beneath him, so he never really bothered to fight them properly. This time, however, the Eternal Sovereign laughed boisterously and punched at the Adjudication Sword Master.

An inscrutable, seemingly timeworn aura pervaded the sky.

The Adjudication Sword Master felt as though she was facing thousands of punches.

Boom!

The sword light shattered, and the Adjudication Sword Master was blown away.

She landed not too far away from Ye Guan, and the sword in her hand shattered, unable to withstand the Eternal Sovereign's fist intent.

The Adjudication Sword Master opened her palm, creating a sword made out of sword intent.

The Eternal Sovereign smiled at the sight and said, "Let me tell you a secret. Right now, I'm not even at thirty percent of my powers compared to when I was at my peak. Hahaha..."

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't respond, but she knew that she had underestimated the Eternal Sovereign. It was no wonder he had managed to create the Eternal Civilization.

Just then, the Adjudication Sword Master turned to look at Ye Guan.

"Call your aunt," she said.

Ye Guan shook his head and replied, "My father and aunt are no longer here."

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned slightly. "They're not following you anymore?"

Ye Guan nodded.

The Adjudication Sword Master laughed at his misery and said, "You're so pitiful."

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

The Adjudication Sword Master looked away and cast her gaze on the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign smiled and declared, "Those I want to kill will die!"

He turned to Ye Guan and sent a powerful punch.

Boom!

Time seemed to have ground to a halt as the punch made its way toward the frozen Ye Guan. Ye Guan's pupils constricted. He knew that there was no way he could withstand the oncoming punch. Despite that, he remained steadfast and opened his palm. An intense sword intent burst out of him—the Invincible Sword Intent!

He had decided to fight! His opponent was strong, but Ye Guan would fight!

The Eternal Sovereign laughed and said, "The Invincible Sword Dao. You're very ambitious. You actually dared to walk down the path to the summit of the Invincible Sword Dao. But don't worry, I'll spare you the hardships and end your journey!"

Ye Guan bent his knees to jump, but the Adjudication Sword Master stopped him. She glared at Ye Guan and roared, "Stay back! Your life belongs to me!"

With that, she turned into a ray of sword light that collided with the oncoming fist.

Boom!

The ray of sword light shattered, and the Adjudication Sword Master plummeted to the ground. She landed harshly, and blood dripped down her lips the moment she stood up.

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled and said, "You're just a slightly stronger ant."

The Eternal Sovereign raised his hand to attack, but the tiny pagoda in his hand erupted into a radiant light. A horrifying aura swept past him, prompting him to throw the tiny pagoda away and raise his hands to defend himself.

Boom!

The radiant light shattered, and a figure was forced back. The figure belonged to none other than the mysterious lady!

The mysterious lady turned to look at Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master down below and said solemnly, "Leave! He has created an entire civilization, and you two cannot handle him, even though he's far weaker than the Great Daoist Brush Master!"

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at the mysterious lady and shouted, "Leave, my ass! I will finish what I started!"

She opened her palm, and a kaleidoscope of sword lights burst out of her, forming a long river of sword energy that rushed toward the Eternal Sovereign like a torrent of water.

The Eternal Sovereign's expression turned sinister; he stepped forward and sent a kick toward the oncoming torrent of sword energy.

Boom!

The torrent of sword energy split into two and exploded, but a sword abruptly appeared a few inches away from the Eternal Sovereign's face.

The Eternal Sovereign remained unafraid as he pointed at it.



Boom!

The sword made out of sword intent was destroyed, and the Adjudication Sword Master plummeted to the ground. She crashed down hard, and blood wantonly flowed out of her lips.

The Eternal Sovereign closed his eyes and lamented. "How weak! Could it be that the vast expanse had yet to give birth to someone stronger than the Great Daoist Brush Master, even after a billion years?"

The Adjudication Sword Master shouted fiercely, "Arrogant, pretentious prick!"

She took a stance with her sword and rushed toward the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes opened slowly, and he cast an extremely dissatisfied gaze at the Adjudication Sword Master. He flipped open his right hand, revealing a universe in the palm of his hand.

Grasp the Universe!

The Adjudication Sword Master felt like she was an extremely tiny boat in the middle of a typhoon. The Eternal Sovereign punch contained the force of thousands of galaxies; the Eternal Secret Realm started to disintegrate, unable to withstand such a power.

Boom!

The Adjudication Sword Master was blasted away, and she cut a sorry figure in mid-air as she flew dozens of kilometers away. Eventually, she managed to land, and she immediately opened her palm upon landing.

A burst of dazzling sword lights erupted from her palm, and she created a kilometer-long sword light to swing at the oncoming fist. Shockingly, the kilometer-long sword light erupted into flames the moment it collided with the fist.

Ye Guan grew solemn at the sight. The Eternal Sovereign was just a Great Sovereign, but he was stronger than Cosmic Spirits.

Just then, the mysterious lady vanished and a beam of radiant light shot toward the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign merely chuckled in the face of the beam of light and casually waved his sleeve.

Crackle!

The beam of light shattered, and the mysterious lady was forced to retreat.

Ye Guan opened his palm, and a green light shot toward the mysterious lady and the Adjudication Sword Master.

Divine Tree of Nature!

The Adjudication Sword Master and the mysterious lady's injuries healed at a speed visible to the naked eye.

The Eternal Sovereign made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan again. Surprise flashed in his eyes as he said excitedly, "That's an impressive divine spiritual treasure you have there. It's actually capable of healing the injuries that the Great Daoist Brush Master had inflicted on me. It seems that even the heavens are on my side. Hahaha..."

He stepped forward and reached out toward Ye Guan.

The Adjudication Sword Master and the mysterious lady vanished at the same time.

Boom!

Two terrifying auras swept across the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign glared sinisterly at the two ladies. He opened both of his palms and pressed downward. The world went silent as the sword light and the ray of radiant light shattered at the same time, forcing the two ladies to retreat.

The Eternal Sovereign cast a heated gaze at Ye Guan. He had just broken the seal on him, and he needed to patch himself up as soon as possible. The injuries he had suffered were injuries that ordinary spiritual pills or divine items couldn't heal.

However, the tree that Ye Guan had shown to him just now could actually heal him.

It seemed that the heavens were truly standing on his side.

Ye Guan's origins were mysterious, and powerful cultivators had obfuscated him from Heaven's Will. It was a fact that would deter cultivators, but it was nothing in the Eternal Sovereign's eyes.

Aside from the Great Daoist Brush Master, no one else was interesting enough for him to give them a second glance!

The Eternal Sovereign opened his palm, and a mysterious force bored down on Ye Guan. The spacetime around Ye Guan was sealed to create a terrifying cage. The formidable, mysterious force also immobilized Ye Guan.

Shwik!

A ray of sword light pierced the mysterious force and created a hole in it.

The sword light had come from the Adjudication Sword Master!

The Adjudication Sword Master stared coldly at Ye Guan and explained. "I'm not here to save you. I just don't want you to die at someone else's hands. Your life is mine, and I'm going to kill you myself. Do you understand?"

She raised her sword and slashed out.

Crackle!

The mysterious force immobilizing Ye Guan was torn apart.

The Eternal Sovereign's gaze turned icy cold. He looked down at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, "Since you've decided to seek death, I shall grant your wish!"

He clenched his right hand, and a terrifying force abruptly pervaded everything between heaven and earth.

However, the surrounding spacetime was suddenly ripped apart.

Dozens of powerful auras emerged from the rift in spacetime that had manifested in the blink of an eye. Left Councilor Feng Qi and Martial Chancellor Wu Qi walked out of the rift, and they were soon followed by ten Great Destiny Sovereigns.

The Eternal Sovereign's brows furrowed. "Owners of the Divine Dao Bloodline?"

Left Councilor Feng Qi didn't respond. Instead, she looked up and called out, "Commander Yuan Zhen!"

Rumble!

A low rumbling echoed as a rift in spacetime was torn open. Moments later, a long spear made a beeline for the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign's expression was that of disdain as he shouted, "Mere ants!"

He raised his hand and punched the long spear.

Boom!

The long spear instantly came to a halt upon getting hit by the punch, but a saber slashed toward the Eternal Sovereign from the side. The saber was incredibly fast, and it obliterated the spacetime inside the Eternal Secret Realm.

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes narrowed, and he pressed down with his right hand.

Boom!

The long spear and the saber were blasted away, but the Eternal Sovereign didn't escape unscathed. He staggered backward, and it took him hundreds of meters before he could finally stop.

A middle-aged man clad in purple armor appeared a thousand meters away from the Eternal Sovereign on the latter's left. The long spear that the Eternal Sovereign had blasted away earlier was resting in his hand.

He was none other than Commander Yuan Zhen of the Divine Dusk Guards.

Meanwhile, a man in black with a saber in hand was standing a thousand meters away from the Eternal Sovereign on his right.

He was Commander Yuan Hao of the Expedition Army,

The commanders of the True Universe's biggest armed forces were here, but the Eternal Sovereign was unafraid. He looked around and let out a peal of boisterous laughter. "Ganging up on me?"

He smiled sinisterly and roared, "Let me show you the power of my Eternal Army!"

The Eternal Sovereign opened his right hand and pumped it into the sky before shouting, "My people! It's been a billion years since you've gone to sleep, and it is time for you to wake up. Wake up, and let's make the vast expanse tremble once again!"

BOOM!

A seal burst open, and a horrifying aura emerged from the ground.

Eternal Civilization would soon be reborn!

Chapter 335: Someone Has Asserted That They're Invincible

The earth cracked open as twelve crimson pillars of light shot up into the sky. Twelve cultivators emerged slowly from the crimson pillars of light. Their combined aura was so strong that it made the entire world appear as though it was boiling.

They were twelve Great Destiny Sovereigns!

The twelve Great Destiny Sovereigns walked up to the Eternal Sovereign. They then knelt down one by one, looking incredibly excited as they exclaimed, "Greetings, First Sovereign!"

Boom!

It seemed that the spectacle wasn't over just yet as hundreds of pillars of light suddenly soared into the sky. Everything between heaven and earth seemed paltry in comparison to the combined power of the one hundred pillars of light.

The light soon dissipated, revealing the figures of a hundred cultivators.

Incredibly, they were all Great Time Sovereigns!

Just like the Great Destiny Sovereigns, they all knelt down in front of the Eternal Sovereign and shouted, "Greetings, First Sovereign!"

Rumble!

The voices of the Great Time Sovereigns had yet to finish echoing when a towering aura swept past everyone like a deluge. Soon, a group of over ten thousand cultivators wearing armor that resembled flames emerged from the ground.

Each and every single one of them was a Divine Sovereign!

A terrifying pressure bored down on everyone, and the world itself seemed to tremble incessantly before their presence. Low rumbling could still be heard underground; clearly, there were still quite a few cultivators waiting for their turn to awaken.

A tempestuous cloud of horrifying aura loomed over everyone.

The Eternal Army was here! The Eternal Army that had once made the vast expanse tremble had reappeared, signaling the revival of the Eternal Civilization that had once dominated an era!

Left Councilor Feng Qi furrowed her brows. Her expression turned grim, and she sounded serious as she said, "It turns out that the Great Daoist Brush Master had actually suppressed them rather than killing them outright!"

Left Councilor Feng Qi was genuinely surprised. She was convinced that these people had died long ago, but it turned out that they were just being suppressed all this while.

Why? What was the Great Daoist Brush Master up to?

Martial Chancellor Wu Qi asked in a low voice, "Do we fight or retreat? If we choose to fight, I'll mobilize the entirety of our armed forces and tell them to come here."

The Eternal Civilization had many powerhouses, and there were quite a few Great Destiny Sovereigns among them. However, the True Universe wasn't afraid of them.

Left Councilor Feng Qi glanced at Ye Guan and said, "We're not going to fight."

Martial Chancellor Wu Qi turned to look at Ye Guan and understood the reasoning behind Left Councilor Feng Qi's decision. If the True Universe were to wage war against the Eternal Army, the True Universe would gain nothing, while the Guanxuan Universe would reap the most profits!

The Eternal Civilization was a huge threat, but they were as threatening as the Guanxuan Universe in the True Universe's eyes.

Having made up her mind, Left Councilor Feng Qi shouted, "Retreat!"

Retreat!

The cultivators of the True Universe turned around and retreated.

Ye Guan stared at the Eternal Sovereign in the distant sky with his brows slightly furrowed. The tiny pagoda was still in the Eternal Sovereign's eyes. Just then, a blurry figure swept past him—the Adjudication Sword Master!

Ye Guan wanted to speak, but the Adjudication Sword Master grabbed his shoulder, and they vanished into thin air. Soon, the cultivators of the True Universe were no longer in the Eternal Secret Realm.

A cultivator next to the Eternal Sovereign muttered, "Master, the divine spiritual treasure on his person can heal your injuries..."

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled and said, "Don't worry. He won't escape."



He looked down and saw powerhouses being awakened one after another in the depths of the earth. Soon, the Eternal Sovereign revealed the barest hint of a smile. The Great Daoist Brush Master was no more, so who could stand against him in this era?

Without the Great Daoist Brush Master... the Eternal Sovereign broke out into a grin and declared, "I am invincible!"

"Hmm?" A faint sound suddenly echoed from the seemingly endless vast expanse. The Eternal Sovereign frowned and stared into the depths of the vast expanse. Who could it be?

The Unfettered Swordsman came to a halt. He wanted to turn around, but the blue-robed man next to him stopped him by asking, "What's wrong?"

The Unfettered Swordsman replied, "Someone has asserted that they're invincible."

The blue-robed man chuckled and said, "It's probably just a random riff raff on the street. Don't worry about insignificant bastards. We have important things to do to worry about anyone asserting that they're invincible."

With that, the blue-robed man turned into a ray of sword light that vanished into the distant starry sky.

The Unfettered Swordsman pondered briefly over it before nodding and disappearing into the distance as a ray of sword light. He had heard quite a few people asserting that they were invincible, but the majority of them were just pretentious bastards, leaving the Unfettered Swordsman extremely disappointed.

The one who had just asserted their invincibility this time was most likely just another pretentious bastard. The Unfettered Swordsman knew better than to waste his time on arrogant, pretentious bastards.

...

Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master appeared in one of the True Universe's halls. Ye Guan's gaze was calm as he stared at the Adjudication Sword Master right in front of him. He hadn't resisted because it would have been useless, anyway.

The Adjudication Sword Master walked up to him and said, "I saved you to kill you with my own hands, do you understand?"

Ye Guan nodded. "I understand."

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned and asked, "What's with that expression? Do you really think that I won't dare to kill you?"

She grabbed Ye Guan's throat with her right hand.

"With a gentle squeeze, your head will go flying," she threatened.

Ye Guan was quiet in the face of her threat.

The Adjudication Sword Master became somewhat annoyed by his gaze.

"What's up with that look?" she asked irritably.

Ye Guan asked, "Were you expecting me to plead for mercy?"

The Adjudication Sword Master asked, "Are you even going to plead for mercy?"

Ye Guan shook his head. Pleading for mercy was useless, as he knew that the Adjudication Sword Master wouldn't possibly spare his life if she truly wanted to kill him.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at him for a while before smiling. “Don’t worry, I won't let you die an easy death. I'll make you suffer... I'll make you suffer to the extent that you'd wish you were dead! I'm going to take my time tormenting you.”

Ye Guan frowned as he replied, “Miss Adjudication Sword Master, I know that you don't like me because of my relationship with Ba Wan, but my relationship with Ba Wan is our affair. Aren’t you being a bit too nosy?”

The Adjudication Sword Master's glare turned fierce, but she didn't say anything in response.

Ye Guan continued. “Something isn't right. I can feel that you're holding a grudge against me, but I don't think we've interacted many times before this ordeal. Why do you hate me so much that even my death will not soothe your anger?”

Thwack!

The Adjudication Sword Master punched Ye Guan's stomach, sending him flying into the distance. The Adjudication Sword Master chased after Ye Guan and gave him a few knuckle sandwiches and kicks in mid-air.

Her fine control over her strength allowed her to inflict excruciating pain without actual damage.

The Adjudication Sword Master continued to beat Ye Guan for an entire fifteen minutes before stopping.

Fifteen minutes later, Ye Guan was sprawled out on the floor, unable to move even a single muscle—no, he felt like all his bones had become mush from the beating.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared coldly at Ye Guan and sneered. She let out a sigh before turning around to leave.

Just then, a lady walked up to her—the mysterious lady!

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression remained indifferent.

“Are you here to save your good old friend?”

The mysterious lady frowned and asked, “Cijing, did you eat the wrong medicine today?”

The Adjudication Sword Master retorted, “Cirou, did you sleep with him?”

“You!” Cirou was furious. She glared at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, “It seems that you've read too many of those books that Big Sister brought with her. Your glib tongue doesn't make sense otherwise.”

The Adjudication Sword Master snorted twice before leaving.

Cirou was furious, and her chest heaved up and down as she stared at the Adjudication Sword Master's departing figure.

Eventually, Cirou took deep breaths to calm herself down. She then slowly walked up to Ye Guan and leaned over to help Ye Guan up before placing a spiritual pill into his mouth.

Ye Guan instantly felt much better.

Ye Guan looked at Cirou.

Cirou was wearing a light yellow skirt, and her hair was pulled up into a bun by a purple ribbon. Her eyes were as clear as water, and her skin was as white as snow. She was looking down at Ye Guan with a light smile.

Cirou asked, “Are you feeling better?”

Ye Guan chuckled and exclaimed, “Senior!”

"Call me Cirou," said Cirou before grabbing his hand. "Let's go!"

"Are we going back to the Guanxuan Universe?" Ye Guan asked

Cirou blinked and said, "No."

Ye Guan went silent.

"You're going to prison." Cirou smiled and explained, "You're our prisoner right now."

Our prisoner? Ye Guan let go of Cirou's hand. He suddenly remembered that the mysterious lady was a Divine Spirit. Cirou grabbed Ye Guan's hand once again and smiled before saying, "I'm from the True Universe, but I've never hurt you, haven't I?"

Ye Guan nodded without saying anything.

"They're having a meeting right now. Let's go inside and listen," Cirou said.

Ye Guan hesitated before asking, "Is that appropriate?"

Cirou rolled her eyes at him and asked, "What's not appropriate with it? In my heart, you're one of us!"

Cirou dragged Ye Guan without waiting for the latter's reply.

Cirou brought Ye Guan to the True God Hall. There were dozens of figures gathered in the True God Hall. Standing at the helm of the group were Left Councilor Feng Qi and Martial Chancellor Wu Qi, while Yuan Zhen and Yuan Hao stood next to them.

Two rows of True Universe cultivators were sitting behind them, and they were the upper echelons of the True Universe. Of course, the Adjudication Sword Master was here.

All eyes landed on Ye Guan the moment he walked into the True God Hall.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned.

Cirou smiled and said, "There won't be any issues if we join, right?"

The cultivators wore strange looks. They knew Ye Guan, and they knew him as the True Universe's enemy.

Cirou repeated, "It's okay, right?"

No one said anything; they all looked at Left Councilor Feng Qi.

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and said, "It's fine. Men, bring chairs for Young Master Ye and Cirou."

The chairs were soon brought over. Ye Guan felt uncomfortable as he sat in the middle of the hall. His expression looked like he had been surrounded by beasts and was in great peril.

Left Councilor Feng Qi chuckled upon seeing Ye Guan's expression before saying, "Let's continue."

An old man spoke, "According to the latest news, the Eternal Sovereign has twelve Great Destiny Sovereigns, hundreds of Great Time Sovereigns, and thousands of Ordinary Great Sovereigns. He also has tens of thousands of Divine Sovereigns.

"In addition, he also has over ten Ancient Great Imperial Sorcerers who were alive during the Eternal Civilization's era. No one knows the extent of their power, and they're all individuals shrouded in mystery."

The old man took a moment to clear his throat before continuing. "He is heading to the Eternal World, and he has been awakening the cultivators of the Eternal Civilization whom the Great Daoist Brush Master had suppressed.

"He's also recruiting people from the Chaotic Star World. Other than Sovereign Xue, everyone else had already submitted to him."

Left Councilor Feng Qi frowned.

"There's one more thing," the old man added and said, "The destruction of the Heaven Seizing Universe destroyed the Heaven Seizing Boundary, and according to our sources, there's a special world beyond the broken boundary. It's called Xuane World, and a powerful clan known as the Zhantai Clan reigns over that world."

Left Councilor Feng Qi suddenly asked, "Where is Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao?"

The old man shook his head, "He's nowhere to be found. According to our guesses, he must be trying to recover his prowess. He has already gone through ten reincarnation cycles, so he's going to become invincible once he has recovered the prowess of all of his ten reincarnations!"

Martial Chancellor Wu Qi thought about it before asking, "What is the Zhantai Clan planning on doing?"

The old man responded, "They're ambitious."

Martial Chancellor Wu Qi frowned at that remark.

The old man continued. "The Eternal Civilization, the Zhantai Clan, and Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao are a threat to us indeed, but neither of them is as big of a threat as the Guanxuan Universe."

All eyes landed on Ye Guan.

Ye Guan calmly said, "Our universe also thinks that the True Universe is the biggest threat."

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and said, "Young Master Ye, I really want to hear your opinion."

Ye Guan replied blandly, "I don't have anything to say."

Left Councilor Feng Qi frowned.

Cirou tugged at Ye Guan's hand and said, "I know you want to say something, so just say it!"

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

The Adjudication Sword Master sneered at Cirou.

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "From now on, our Guanxuan Universe will not do anything. The Eternal Civilization will definitely target the True Universe before anyone else. Their goal is to conquer the vast expanse, so the True Universe will be their first target."

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and asked, "How can you be sure that they will not attack the Guanxuan Universe first? If I were him, I would target the weaker universes first before consolidating my forces to attack the strongest one."

Ye Guan stared at Left Councilor Feng Qi before saying, "The Eternal Sovereign considered himself invincible, and he looks down on us equally. Such an arrogant cultivator will definitely attack the most powerful force first before the weaker ones."

Left Councilor Feng Qi was silent.

"Pardon me for asking, but..." Ye Guan suddenly asked, "Can't the True God just make a move?"

The True Universe cultivators in the True God Hall frowned at the same time the moment Ye Guan's question echoed throughout the hall.



## Chapter 336: The True God!

### The True God!

Everyone's eyes landed on Left Councilor Feng Qi and Martial Chancellor Wu Qi. It turned out that everyone else was curious as well. It couldn't be helped. It had been quite a while since the True God had last made an appearance.

The True Good seemed to have vanished into thin air, and the only people aware of her location were Left Councilor Feng Qi, Martial Chancellor Wu Qi, and the Adjudication Sword Master.

Left Councilor Feng Qi admitted, "The True God is suppressing the True Universe's Universe Tribulation."

Ye Guan was curious. "What happens if the Universe Tribulation is left unsuppressed?"

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and replied, "The True Universe will be destroyed."

Ye Guan frowned.

Left Councilor Feng Qi added, "I know that you don't believe me. Go ahead and ask Cirou."

Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at Cirou. And

Cirou nodded and said, "Big Sister can indeed suppress the Universe Tribulation, but the Universe Tribulation grows stronger after each suppression. It has been suppressed so many times that its power has long grown to unimaginable heights.

"Once it erupts, the known universes and the All Worlds will get caught up; they'll be annihilated along with the True Universe."

Ye Guan fell silent.

Cirou suddenly stood up and exclaimed, "I have a suggestion!"

Everyone's gaze landed on Cirou.

Cirou sounded solemn as she said, "The Universe Tribulation isn't an issue that belongs solely to the True Universe. It's an issue that every single living being in the vast expanse has to address. In other words, the greatest enemy of our True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe was the Universe Tribulation."

Everyone furrowed their brows at Cirou's remark.

Why did she tie the True Universe together with the Guanxuan Universe? What was she trying to do here?

Cirou continued. "I said was because it has been replaced by the Eternal Sovereign—the First Sovereign of time immemorial. Big Sister is the only one strong enough to take him on."

Cirou glanced at Ye Guan and said, "Only supreme elites from your father's generation can fight him head-on"

Ye Guan was silent.

Cirou looked around and smiled. "What did the Eternal Sovereign do the moment he was unsealed? He asserted his invincibility and said that he was going to make the vast expanse tremble once again. Goodness. He wants to conquer the vast expanse. His declaration was a blatant disrespect to our True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe!"

Cirou waved her hand and said, "We should deal with him—let's deal with him together!"

Everyone from the True Universe instantly understood what she was trying to say.

She wanted the True Universe and the Guanyuan Universe to collaborate on a mission to deal with the Eternal Sovereign. Everyone had no idea what to say in response to the suggestion.

Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at Cirou.

Cirou blinked at him and asked, "What do you think of my suggestion?"

"It was great." Ye Guan nodded and said, "Stay quiet next time."

Cirou's expression darkened. She pinched Ye Guan's palm and muttered, "You meanie!"

Everyone was stunned. What was their relationship?

The Adjudication Sword Master stared coldly at Cirou, and she didn't bother hiding the disdain in her smile. Ye Guan's head started to ache. He hesitated for a moment before retracting his right hand and saying, "Stop acting coy. You'll make everyone misunderstand."

Cirou laughed heartily and explained, "Please don't misunderstand, everyone. We have a wholesome relationship, and nothing of that sort has ever happened between us!"

The crowd: "..."

Ye Guan facepalmed and said, "Stop talking, please."

Cirou was an expert at rendering everyone speechless.

Cirou continued. "Don't look at us like that. We're really in a wholesome relationship!"

The crowd was quiet.

Ye Guan's temples throbbed in pain.

Left Councilor Feng Qi shook her head with a smile and said, "Cirou, I understand what you're trying to say here. You want the Guanyuan Universe and the True Universe to join forces against the Eternal Sovereign, right?"

Cirou nodded and spoke seriously, "Ladies and gentlemen, the Great Daoist Brush Master is currently being suppressed, and I believe that the vast expanse will soon welcome the second coming of the supreme elites that the Great Daoist Brush Master had once suppressed."

Cirou smiled lightly and explained, "It wasn't just the Great Daoist Brush Master. Big Sister has also suppressed many old fogeys during the chaotic era of the Divine Dao Civilization. I'm sure they're going to reappear soon and take advantage of the upcoming chaos."

"With their threat in mind, I don't think it's a bad idea for us to hold hands with the Guanyuan Universe!"

Everyone in the hall was quiet. They didn't want to hold hands with the Guanyuan Universe, but it made sense. After all, they had been fighting each other for millions of years now, and it would be an understatement to call their fighting a simple feud.

Ye Guan was silent as well. He also didn't want to work with True Universe.

Seeing the expressions of Ye Guan and the cultivators of the True Universe, Cirou knew that she had to do something here. She pondered briefly before saying, "Actually, there's no need for us to hold hands. We can just declare a temporary ceasefire and agree that we won't invade each other for the time being. What do you guys think?"

A ceasefire! Everyone was quiet.

Left Councilor Feng Qi looked at Ye Guan and asked, "Young Master Ye, what do you think?"

Ye Guan was silent as well.

Cirou grabbed Ye Guan's hand and said, "Master Pagoda is still in the hands of the Eternal Sovereign. Think about it! The Eternal Sovereign's prowess will skyrocket once he obtains complete control over the tiny pagoda.

"You know of the tiny pagoda's ability concerning time, so the overall prowess of the Eternal Civilization will reach terrifying heights in the proverbial blink of an eye if we just let him be!"

Ye Guan furrowed his brows and asked, "Will Master Pagoda be in danger?"

Cirou shook her head and replied, "Rest assured, he won't be in danger. Those lucky enough to obtain control over the tiny pagoda will treat it like a family heirloom. I'm sure they won't disrespect him by hurting him."

Ye Guan was relieved. Of course, he was still worried about Master Pagoda.

"I know you're worried, and I'm not going to ask you to forgive the True Universe. It's just that if we remain at war, the Eternal Sovereign and Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao will profit at our expense. In addition, the supreme elites of the Divine Dao Civilization—"

Ye Guan interrupted with a mutter, "I understand..."

Cirou smiled softly.

Ye Guan looked at Cirou and sighed. He actually had a good impression of her. She was like a teacher and a friend to him, but he knew that her heart would always be for the True Universe, just like Ba Wan.

The moment he had to fight the True Universe, Ye Guan had no doubt that the lady in front of him, along with the Ba Wan, would choose to stand on the True Universe's side.

However, it wasn't strange at all, as they were denizens of the True Universe!

With that thought in mind, Ye Guan felt at ease. At least, their loyalty was clear.

Recollecting himself, Ye Guan looked at Left Councilor Feng Qi and asked, "May I know your name?"

Left Councilor Feng Qi was taken aback, but she replied, "Feng Qi!"

Ye Guan nodded and said, "Lady Feng Qi, are you in charge of the True Universe?"

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and replied, "You can say that."

Ye Guan thought for a moment before saying, "Lady Feng Qi, how about this? From now on, let's declare a temporary ceasefire between the Guanxuan Universe and the True Universe. Your people won't intrude on the Guanxuan Universe, and my people won't intrude on your True Universe. What do you think?"

Left Councilor Feng Qi suddenly smiled, "Young Master Ye, I have an idea. Would you like to hear it?"

Ye Guan nodded, "Please go ahead."

Left Councilor Feng Qi stared deeply at Ye Guan as she said, "The True Universe is willing to open up to the Guanxuan Universe. As long as they're willing, the denizens of the Guanxuan Universe can enter the True Universe to cultivate.

"Of course, we'll also allow the denizens of the True Universe to do the same, but it's only going to happen if Young Master Ye is willing."

Ye Guan instantly understood Left Councilor Feng Qi's motive behind such a suggestion. She wanted to poach the geniuses of the Guanxuan Universe!

It was true that the True Universe was better than the Guanxuan Universe when it came to the quality of cultivation methods, amount of resources, and more. If both the Guanxuan Universe and the True

Universe were willing, there would certainly be people who would jump ships onto the True Universe. After all, it was difficult to resist the tempting benefits that the True Universe had to offer.

Left Councilor Feng Qi's smile deepened as she stared at the contemplating Ye Guan.

Surprisingly, Ye Guan nodded and said, "That sounds great."

Feng Qi was stunned, and even the Adjudication Sword Master frowned.

They didn't expect that Ye Guan would agree to such a suggestion.

Ye Guan looked at Feng Qi. "If the Guanxuan Universe is good enough for them, they'll stay. Otherwise, forcing them to stay is tantamount to harming their future prospects. It is up to them whether they want to stay or leave the Guanxuan Universe.

"There's always freedom of movement in the Guanxuan Universe."

Freedom of movement? Left Councilor Feng Qi was awestruck. She examined Ye Guan from top to bottom. What a charming young man.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at Ye Guan without saying anything.

Everyone else was extremely surprised by Ye Guan's remark. The young man's courage had exceeded their expectations.

Ye Guan suddenly said, "I want to open an Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch in the True Universe. Is that okay?"

Feng Qi fell silent. She knew about the Immortal Treasures Pavilion. The reason the Guanxuan Universe managed to become a powerhouse among universes was largely thanks to the Immortal Treasures Pavilion.

The business model of the Immortal Treasures Pavilion was superb, and it would have a significant impact on the businesses of the True Universe's denizens once they were allowed to set up shop in the True Universe.

Left Councilor Feng Qi was about to object, but she recalled Ye Guan's audacity to allow the denizens of the Guanxuan Universe to cultivate in the True Universe. If she were to object to his demand, she would appear petty to everyone.

Left Councilor Feng Qi's gaze deepened as she stared at Ye Guan. She finally understood why Ye Guan had agreed after just a brief moment of contemplation. It turned out that his goal was to establish an Immortal Treasures Pavilion branch in the True Universe and hopefully disrupt the True Universe's economy.

Ye Guan looked at her, awaiting her response.

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and said, "Sure, but we want to have a share in it."

Ye Guan frowned.

Left Councilor Feng Qi explained, "We want a fifty percent share. What do you think?"

Ye Guan was silent.

Left Councilor Feng Qi's expression turned solemn as she said, "Young Master Ye, even if I allow your Immortal Treasures Pavilion to set up shop here, do you really think that it will take off like it did in the Guanxuan Universe without our support?"

Ye Guan nodded lightly and said, "That makes sense."

Left Councilor Feng Qi nodded and asked, "Do you have any other requests?"

"None." Ye Guan shook his head and stood up. "Farewell."



He then turned around to leave.

Cirou stood up and followed him. Ye Guan stopped in his tracks and turned to look at Cirou.

Cirou smiled and asked, "What's wrong?"

"Lady Cirou, your injuries should have completely healed. Is there a need for you to follow me?" Ye Guan asked.

Cirou replied, "Of course!"

Ye Guan sighed softly and said, "Lady Cirou... you're from the True Universe."

Cirou stared at Ye Guan and replied, "You're smart, so you must know my motive."

Ye Guan was quiet at that.

Cirou continued. "Have you ever seen the Universe Tribulation?"

Ye Guan shook his head.

"Great!" Cirou smiled and exclaimed, "I'll let you see it, then!"

Ye Guan was stunned.

Cirou turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, "Cijing, come with us."

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't say anything in response, but she stood up.

Cirou's gaze turned to Ye Guan, and she asked, "Shall we go, then?"

Ye Guan was quiet. If I go there to see the Universe Tribulation, does that mean that I'll finally see the legendary True God in the flesh?

### Chapter 337: The Death of a Myriad Beings

Ye Guan accepted the offer. Not only did he want to see what a Universe Tribulation looked like, but he also wanted to see the True God. After all, the True God was as strong as his father.

Since Ye Guan had no objections, they swiftly departed.

Left Councilor Feng Qi and the Right Councilor walked out of the True God Hall.

The Right Councilor looked worried.

Left Councilor Feng Qi said softly, "Do you want to say something about Lady Cirou?"

The Right Councilor nodded. "Her relationship with Ye Guan is out of the ordinary."

Left Councilor Feng Qi smiled and said, "I know what you're worried about, but rest assured. She'll never help the Guanxuan Universe to an extent that will put us at a disadvantage."

The Right Councilor was silent.

Left Councilor Feng Qi continued. "No matter, she will be on our side."

The Right Councilor looked at Left Councilor Feng Qi without saying anything.

...

Cirou brought Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master to a mountain peak on a mountain that stretched tens of thousands of kilometers. On the summit of the mountain stood a huge teleportation array with quite a few inscrutable runes engraved on it.

Cirou brought the two of them into the teleportation array. She activated the teleportation array, and they were all whisked away by the teleportation array's dazzling light.

While they were waiting to arrive at their destination, Ye Guan decided to satisfy his curiosity by asking, "Lady Cirou, can you tell me more about the Universe Tribulation?"

Cirou smiled and said, "I'm sure you heard me say something about the Great Dao Origin, right? Everything has an origin, and it's the Great Dao. The same goes for the Universe Tribulation, which means that it can only be suppressed, not destroyed."

Ye Guan was confused. "Why?"

Cirou looked at Ye Guan and smiled. "It's all because it's a part of the Great Dao. Destroying it means destroying a chunk of the Great Dao, which will result in the deaths of a myriad of beings."

Ye Guan frowned slightly. "Is that right? It can only be suppressed?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded. "Just like how the myriad of beings in this vast expanse live and die. Life and death is also a part of the Great Dao. In other words, Big Sister is slowing down the death of this universe."

Ye Guan nodded slightly without speaking.

Cirou said softly, "I'm really worried."

Ye Guan looked at Cirou.

Cirou's expression was complicated as she said, "Your aunt suppressed the Great Daoist Brush Master in the Milky Way all for your sake. She did it with kind intentions in mind, but she seemed to have forgotten something crucial.

"It is the fact that the Great Daoist Brush Master was once the hegemon of our vast expanse. He had suppressed many powerhouses whom he had deemed as his enemies, and now that he has gotten a taste of his own medicine..."

Cirou shook her head slightly and said, "The Great Daoist Brush Master's seal on the Eternal Sovereign has weakened, which allowed the latter to break free. Back then, Big Sister had chased him away as well, but it wasn't as extreme as what the Great Daoist Brush Master had done."

Ye Guan shook his head with a smile. His aunt had suppressed the Great Daoist Brush Master, but she had inadvertently released the Eternal Sovereign.

"Your aunt had good intentions, but she failed to take into account that you're incredibly weak compared to the true supreme elites."

Ye Guan felt helpless as well upon hearing the remark.

Cirou continued. "We are not very clear about the Eternal Civilization's history and the extent of their strength. However, we're not actually that worried about the Eternal Civilization when compared to something else."

Ye Guan's expression turned solemn as he asked, "What does that mean?"

Cirou said solemnly, "Do you know why the boundary of our vast expanse is so strong?"

"Does it have something to do with the Great Daoist Brush Master?" asked Ye Guan.

Cirou nodded and said, "He has created boundaries between vast expanses, separating universes into regions to allow every vast expanse to develop independently from each other.

"Once the right time has arrived, he'll create a boundary line that denizens from the various vast expanses could use to travel between different universes and worlds from many different vast expanses. However, there are some regions that the Great Daoist Brush Master has yet to connect to us."

Ye Guan sounded solemn as he asked, "Are you perhaps worried about encountering civilizations from outside universes?"

Cirou stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "We're not the only ones looking for traces of civilization outside. The other universes outside are also looking for us. During the Divine Dao Civilization Era, the Great Daoist Brush Master once personally enhanced the extremely sturdy boundary of our vast expanse."

"Why did he do that, and why did he do it personally? Was he afraid that we'd invade the other universes outside, or was he afraid that we would get invaded by the other universes outside?"

Ye Guan was silent.

Cirou looked worried as she muttered, "It'd be great if it were the former. But what if it's the latter? Of course, I'm just making assumptions here. Perhaps I'm just overthinking it."

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly said, "You're not overthinking it."

Cirou looked at the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master remained expressionless as she said, "Big Sister once did the same as the Great Daoist Brush Master."

Cirou frowned and asked, "Really?"

The Adjudication Sword Master nodded. "Before she went to suppress the Universe Tribulation of the True Universe, she said something to me. Do you know what she said?"

Cirou shook her head.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared deeply at Cirou and said, "Prepare for war!"

Prepare for war! Cirou's expression went solemn.

The Adjudication Sword Master looked at Ye Guan before continuing. "It is not strange that our vast expanse has gotten so messy. After all, the Great Daoist Brush Master is an existence infinitely close to being our Great Dao, so it would have been strange if we weren't in such a mess."

"Why don't we stop suppressing him?" Ye Guan asked.

The Adjudication Sword Master looked away, ignoring him.

Ye Guan was speechless.

Cirou shook her head and said, "Your aunt's power is paralleled. There must be a reason why she had decided to suppress the Great Daoist Brush Master. I'm guessing that the Great Daoist Brush Master must have done something bad, and your aunt discovered it. Then, she suppressed him as punishment."

Ye Guan nodded before sighing to himself. It turned out that the world was much bigger and more complex than he thought.

Cirou smiled and said, "I brought you here to let you see the Universe Tribulation as well as to allow you to become even stronger."

Ye Guan cast an astonished and curious gaze at Cirou. He opened his mouth to speak, but the spacetime tunnel where they were in was abruptly torn open. Several powerful lightning bolts made a beeline toward them.

"Cijing, protect him!" Cirou shouted. She pushed both of her palms outward, sending golden beams of radiant light toward the lightning bolts.

Ye Guan's expression turned solemn upon witnessing the might of the lightning bolts.

Shockingly, each lightning bolt seemed to be much more powerful than the lightning bolts a cultivator had to withstand while attempting to become a Great Destiny Sovereign. Ye Guan had no doubts that he would die instantly once he was hit.

The Adjudication Sword Master abruptly appeared right in front of Ye Guan. She opened both of her palms, and a kaleidoscope of sword lights erupted and rushed toward the lightning bolts.

"When did these lightning bolts become so powerful?!" Cirou shouted.

"They're becoming stronger every day," replied the Adjudication Sword Master.

Cirou's face fell, and she muttered, "Big Sister..."

Rumble!

Just then, a low rumbling echoed as the spacetime tunnel around them started to collapse. Cirou quickly cast her gaze upon Ye Guan and said, "Brat, make sure to hold on to Cijing. This teleportation array won't last any longer. We have to get out of here."

Cirou waved her sleeve, creating ten thousand radiant rays of golden light in the blink of an eye. The dozens of oncoming lightning bolts shattered the moment they collided with the radiant rays of golden light.

Ye Guan stuck closer to Cijing at Cirou's warning. He embraced Cijing's waist, and her face changed drastically. She glared at him and roared, "Do you want to die?! She told you to hold me, not hug me!"

After a moment of hesitation, Ye Guan took a step backward and grabbed Cijing's waist instead. For some reason, an indescribable emotion surged in Cijing's heart as she felt Ye Guan's touch. Annoyed and confused, she glared at Ye Guan to say something.

However, Cirou suddenly shouted, "Let's go!"

She swung both of her hands outward, clearing a path with her radiant rays of golden light. The Adjudication Sword Master went quiet and didn't hesitate. She took to the skies with Ye Guan and left the spacetime array.

Cirou followed closely behind them upon transforming into a beam of golden light.

Ye Guan looked around in astonishment. In between the two golden lights, an endless array of tribulations shot towards the distance like meteors. They were so densely packed that it was impossible to count them all.

How terrifying!

Every lightning bolt was several times more powerful than the lightning bolts from a Destiny Tribulation.

Recalling something, Ye Guan suddenly turned back to look. There was a mysterious golden seal several hundred kilometers behind them. A mysterious force would shatter every lightning bolt that got too close to the seal.

Cirou's voice echoed in Ye Guan's ears. "You're staring at the True God Law Imprint that Big Sister left behind here. The law imprint is the reason the True Universe—no, our vast expanse is still alive."

Ye Guan fell silent with a grave expression. If these powerful lightning bolts somehow made their way to the Guanyuan Universe, the Guanyuan Universe would undoubtedly perish. Only a handful of secluded experts could possibly survive such a calamity.

Cirou continued. "These lightning bolts are just a tiny glimpse at the Universe Tribulation's power. The real Universe Tribulation is a thousand times more terrifying than the lightning bolts you've seen so far combined."

Ye Guan's expression changed.



Cirou made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan and muttered, "I'm not lying, and I'm not exaggerating as well. I had the privilege of witnessing the Universe Tribulation's wrath, and all I could say is that it is capable of instilling despair into the hearts of just about anyone.

"However, the scene I had witnessed happened millions of years ago. Today, the Universe Tribulation must have reached terrifying heights than millions of years ago."

Ye Guan reeled from shock as he swept his gaze across the lightning bolts streaking across the starry sky. Ye Guan would have no choice but to call out to his father to deal with these lightning bolts if they somehow made their way to the Guanyuan Universe.

He truly couldn't handle even one of these lightning bolts!

Just then, dozens of crimson lightning bolts abruptly appeared in the distance.

Cirou and Cijing's expressions changed, and Cirou exclaimed, "Watch out!"

Ye Guan felt a shiver down his spine. The crimson lightning bolts were dozens of times stronger than the lightning bolts he had witnessed so far here!

Ye Guan inadvertently grabbed the Adjudication Sword Master and held on for dear life.

The Adjudication Sword Master was infuriated by Ye Guan's strong grip, but she didn't have the luxury to grumble at the moment. She waved her sleeve, and beams of sword light rushed toward the oncoming crimson lightning bolts.

Rumbling sounds echoed from the starry sky as explosions erupted one after another.

However, even the Adjudication Sword Master's sword energy couldn't handle every single crimson lightning bolt, and some of them made their way over to the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master's eyes flashed coldly. She used her fingers as a sword and slashed out. The sword light and the crimson lightning bolts exploded, blasting both Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master away.

Meanwhile, a crimson thunderstorm flew toward them at incredible speeds.

The Adjudication Sword Master made a finger with her sword, and then she placed those fingers in front of her glabella. Moments later, she pointed at the crimson thunderstorm with her finger swords.

"Break!" she shouted. A sword thousands of meters in length abruptly manifested.

Boom!

The sword slashed out at the approaching crimson thunderstorm, but a crimson bolt of lightning flew from out of nowhere and struck the gargantuan sword, shattering it into innumerable light fragments.

The Sword Master's face changed drastically. She waved her sleeve, and a shield made out of sword light appeared in front of her.

The shield shattered, and the impact sent both the Adjudication Sword Master and Ye Guan flying as though they were kites with their strings cut. The impact had made Ye Guan inadvertently let go of the Adjudication Sword Master's waist.

He had to do something, or he would die.

The Adjudication Sword Master saw that and decisively turned around to grab Ye Guan's hand, ignoring the lightning bolt in the process. Dozens of sword lights shot out of her, and they all converged into a singular concentrated beam of sword light that struck the lightning bolt behind Ye Guan.

Crackle!

Unfortunately, the Adjudication Sword Master ended up getting hit by the lightning bolt she had decisively ignored. She was blasted away, and she cut a sorry figure in mid-air as she flew across the starry sky.

Despite that, she refused to let go of Ye Guan's hand. She knew that Ye Guan would definitely die if she were to let go of him.

Crackle!

Just then, a horrifying volley of crimson lightning bolts flew toward the Adjudication Sword Master. The Adjudication Sword Master's pupils constricted at the sight, but before she could even make a move, Ye Guan suddenly pulled her behind him.

Ye Guan glared fiercely at the oncoming crimson lightning bolts and shouted, "Activate!"

Boom!

The Dao Imprint on his glabella let out a burst of radiant light, and it instantly brought Ye Guan's cultivation realm to the Time Immortal Realm. However, it seemed that Ye Guan wasn't done just yet, as a terrifying energy rushed out of him.

The energy belonged to nature—it was the Force of Nature!

Ye Guan glared at the oncoming crimson lightning bolts and slashed out.

Boom!

A terrifying conflagration of sword energy erupted as Ye Guan performed the most powerful attack he had ever done! Ye Guan's sword managed to stop the crimson lightning bolts, but his fleshly body started burning as a result.

The Adjudication Sword Master cast a dumbfounded gaze upon Ye Guan.

## Chapter 338: Cirou And Ba Wan's Motives

Ye Guan's Dao Imprint had allowed him to temporarily reach the Time Immortal Realm, and the Divine Tree of Nature's Force of Nature gave him an incredible recovery rate, but he could still not withstand the crimson lightning bolts.

Ye Guan knew that he would have had a high chance of success if he had the Path Sword, but he still decided to charge at the crimson lightning bolts. The reason wasn't that hard to deduce. He had simply gotten tired—tired of being protected.

He had to do things by himself at some point, and he couldn't rely on the protection of others forever.

Just before Ye Guan's fleshly body and soul were annihilated by the crimson lightning bolts, a dazzling light erupted in front of him and blasted the crimson lightning bolts away.

The radiant light had come from Cirou, and she exclaimed, "Let's go!"

She grabbed the Adjudication Sword Master's hand and blasted away every nearby crimson lightning bolt before disappearing into the depths of the starry sky.

...

On a remote island somewhere, Cirou's expression was heavy as she looked down at Ye Guan lying on the sand.

Ye Guan was severely injured.

He had bitten more than he could afford to chew, and he would have died if it hadn't been for the Divine Tree of Nature.

It wasn't strange that Ye Guan had suffered such extensive injuries. Those crimson lightning bolts would only appear whenever a cultivator attempted to make a breakthrough and become a part of the universe by becoming a Cosmic Spirit.

It was a good thing that he had the Divine Tree of Nature.

The Adjudication Sword Master watched Ye Guan in silence, seemingly deep in thought.

Cirou sat down next to her and caressed her face gently with a smile.

“Cijing, what do you think of this brat? He's pretty handsome, right?”

Cijing stared at Cirou and said, “You’re following him because you’re hoping that the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe can coexist in peace in the future?”

Cirou smiled and admitted, “That's one of my motives.”

Cijing frowned slightly and asked, “One of your motives? Do you have other motives?”

“I hope that he'll help Big Sister in the future.”

“You're hoping that he'll help Big Sister overcome the Universe Tribulation?”

“Yes.”

“I don't think it's fair for Big Sister to carry the existence of this vast expanse on her shoulders by herself.”

“So, you're using him?” asked Cijing.

"You're making it sound worse than it is," Cirou replied.

The Adjudication Sword Master shook her head and went silent.

Cirou stroked Ye Guan's face and asked, "Do you really think that Big Sister can keep on suppressing it forever?"

A trace of sadness fled across the Adjudication Sword Master's face as she said, "I haven't seen her in a long time."

Cirou looked down at Ye Guan and said, "Apart from Big Sister, there are only two other people capable of withstanding the Universe Tribulation."

The Adjudication Sword Master looked at Ye Guan as well and asked, "Him?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded and explained, "The other is the Great Daoist Brush Master... Of course, he's too weak to do it on his own. However, if he attempts to take on the Universe Tribulation, then she will make a move."

"So, you want to force her to make a move by putting him in danger," the Adjudication Sword Master remarked.

Cirou nodded without saying anything.

The Adjudication Sword Master shook her head and said, "Cirou, I can tell that he's quite fond of you. Once he discovers that you're just using him..."

Cirou hurriedly said, "Ba Wan is also..."

The Adjudication Sword Master narrowed her eyes and said, "Ba Wan is doing the same thing as you?"

Cirou smiled wryly without saying anything.

"No wonder Ba Wan had decided to sleep with him all of a sudden. If she truly liked him, she wouldn't have given up her body to him so easily..." the Adjudication Sword Master muttered to herself. Moments later, she glared fiercely at Cirou and asked, "What exactly are your plans?"

"I already told you," Cirou said, "We're trying to make him take on the Universe Tribulation."

The Adjudication Sword Master asked, "Does he not know of Ba Wan's motives?"

"You know what this brat's greatest flaw is?" Cirou asked with a smile before proceeding to answer her own question. "It's his kind heart. He's kinder than his father and his grandfather.

"It's not that difficult to take advantage of such a good person; you just have to use the right methods."

"Cirou, this is a bit too despicable." the Adjudication Sword Master muttered.

"I know," Cirou replied with a nod.

"Is that so? He's our enemy, yes, but what you and Ba Wan are doing is really despicable. I'm sure Big Sister will find it despicable as well," the Adjudication Sword Master grumbled.

"Do you have any suggestions? How are we supposed to help Big Sister, then?"

"Once Big Sister can no longer withstand the burden on her shoulders, then I'll go and die with her. Have you never thought about what you're doing here?"

"And Ba Wan—who does she think she is? She even went as far as to seduce him just to deceive him. Fuck! This is really too despicable. If she were here, I would have already beaten her up!" The Adjudication Sword Master was outraged.

“Who are you to judge us? All you know is to resort to violence; you don’t know anything at all! If Big Sister fails to overcome the Universe Tribulation, do you have any idea just how many people will die?”

“Since when did you become so afraid of death?” asked the Adjudication Sword Master.

Cirou stood up and seethed, “I’m going to be the first one to follow her to the afterlife the moment she can no longer withstand the Universe Tribulation.”

The Adjudication Sword Master fell silent at that. She took a moment to compose herself before making a sidelong glance at Ye Guan. Eventually, she shook her head and said, “Cirou, I wouldn’t object if you wanted to kill him, but your scheme is just too despicable for me to stomach.”

Cirou was furious, and she exclaimed, “I have to do this! Otherwise, she won’t make a move, and the vast expanse will be destroyed! And why should Big Sister shoulder the entire burden by herself?!”

“I don’t care. I’m telling him the truth once he wakes up,” replied the Adjudication Sword Master.

“It’s too late!” Cirou pointed at Ye Guan’s glabella and shouted, “Look!”

A deep crimson scar was on Ye Guan’s glabella.

A Tribulation Imprint! The Adjudication Sword Master reeled from shock, and she stammered, “W-w-why does he have that?!”

“It’s because he made a move against the crimson lightning bolts earlier.”

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly remembered Ye Guan pulling her behind him and throwing all caution to the wind just to attack the oncoming crimson lightning bolts earlier.

“This is the second part of my plan. I was supposed to put myself in peril for him to save me. I’m confident that he would have done that, but I didn’t expect that he would also be willing to throw all caution to the wind just to save you!



"Cirou!" The Adjudication Sword Master roared, "What's the third part of your plan?"

"I'm not telling you," Cirou said with a smile. "You're too upright and righteous. You're only going to spoil my plans."

The Adjudication Sword Master clenched her fists tightly.

Moments later, she asked, "You know that he likes Ba Wan, right?"

Cirou nodded.

The Adjudication Sword Master asked once again, "Ba Wan is in cahoots with you?"

Cirou nodded without saying anything.

The Adjudication Sword Master nodded and went silent. Her gaze was complicated as she stared at Ye Guan lying on the sand. The Tribulation Imprint on her glabella was starting to disappear.

Cirou said, "Cijing, we know what kind of a person you are, and we know that there's no way you'll join us. That's why we've been hiding our plan from you."

"So you decided to tell me because the Universe Tribulation has already marked him. In other words, you're hoping that I'll cooperate with you from now on, as it's already too late to disrupt your plans, is that right?" asked the Adjudication Sword Master.

"Yes," Cirou replied with a nod.

"Cirou, I have no doubts that you and Ba Wan just want to help Big Sister, but I can tell you with full confidence that Big Sister will not like what you are doing right now."

"We know. Big Sister is exceedingly prideful, and she won't stoop so low as to approve of something like this. However, we're willing to accept the consequences of our actions so long as she ends up surviving the Universe Tribulation."

"I won't cooperate."

"Is that so? What about him? Are you not going to help him?"

"What do you mean?"

"This brat is exceedingly prideful as well. He even returned the Path Sword to that lady and swore not to ask for her help from then on. Sigh, he really caught me off guard, and he had inadvertently spoiled some of my plans."

"It is indeed true that one can never predict the future. His courage has truly surprised me."

"I think he made the right decision," the Adjudication Sword Master said.

"Really? Cirou asked before explaining, "He's going to face the Eternal Sovereign soon. The Guanxuan Universe is too weak to fight the Eternal Sovereign and his army."

"The Eternal Sovereign is also a part of your plan?" asked the Adjudication Sword Master.

Cirou avoided the question and said, "We have to make him even stronger. I was hoping that we could work together to help him get the Lightning God Imprint from this place and allow him to refine his sword intent using the Lightning Pool."

The Adjudication Sword Master scoffed, "What makes you think that I will help you?"

"Because it's for Big Sister's sake..."

"I'll help him, but it won't be for Big Sister's sake."

Cirou was surprised to hear that.

Just then, Ye Guan's right hand twitched. Cirou walked up to him as Ye Guan's eyes fluttered open. His vision captured the blue skies up above, and the pristine scenery made him mutter, "Am I dead?"

"Of course not," Cirou replied.

Ye Guan turned and smiled upon seeing Cirou.

"I really thought I would die..." he said. He felt a shiver down his spine upon recalling his encounter with those crimson lightning bolts.

Cirou smiled at him and asked, "How are you feeling?"

Ye Guan examined himself and realized that his fleshly body and soul were on the cusp of making a complete recovery. He pondered briefly before saying, "I should be all healed up in just a few hours."

"That's great!" Cirou exclaimed in joy.

Ye Guan looked around and asked, "Where are we?"

"We're in a small, independent world that Big Sister created. This world is called the True World, and the legendary Universe Tribulation is just outside of this world. Of course, we can't see it right now. We can only see it once we go up.

"Unfortunately, we can't go to it right now; if we do, we're certainly going to die."

Cirou took out a pill and helped Ye Guan ingest it.

“Rest some more. Later, we'll bring you around to look for good things.”

Ye Guan's curiosity was piqued. “Good things?”

“Yes, good things,” Cirou replied with a nod.

Ye Guan stared deeply at Cirou. For some reason, there was something strange in the air about Cirou, but he couldn't quite put a finger on it. In the end, he set his thoughts aside and focused on recovering. With the help of Cirou's pill, he achieved a complete recovery in just thirty minutes.

"The two of us will protect you later," Cirou said.

Ye Guan glanced at the Adjudication Sword Master and muttered doubtfully, “She's going to protect me too?”

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at Ye Guan and said, “I'll cut you down if you dare to lose focus later.”

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

## Chapter 339: Don't Get Hard

The Adjudication Sword Master's words made Ye Guan shake his head and laugh. Of course, he was not going to take her words seriously. If she really wanted to kill him, she would have already done it when he was still unconscious.

The Adjudication Sword Master was furious upon seeing Ye Guan laugh.

“Do you really think that I won't dare to do it? Come here, I'll cut you down right now!”

A sword suddenly appeared in her hands, and she got into a fighting stance.

Ye Guan's expression changed, and he started to get afraid that she would actually cut him down.

Just then, Cirou interrupted and said, "Alright, alright! Let's talk about what matters now."

The Adjudication Sword Master glared angrily at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was speechless. She is way too irritable.

Cirou looked at Ye Guan and said, "There's a newborn Lightning God Imprint here, and because it's so close to the Universe Tribulation, it hasn't gotten the chance to become sentient just yet. We'll work together to help you get it."

Ye Guan was slightly curious, and he asked, "Lightning God Imprint?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded and explained, "However, there are two prerequisites. First of all, you must use the lightning tribulations to train your sword intent and bring it to a whole new level."

"Using lightning tribulations to train my sword intent?"

"Never heard about it before, huh?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Cirou continued. "The lightning tribulations in this place are unique. If your sword intent can survive even after being struck by the lightning bolts here, then even a Great Destiny Sovereign will not be able to destroy your sword intent."

Ye Guan reeled from the shock upon hearing that. His sword intent was powerful, but it wasn't strong enough to withstand a Great Destiny Sovereign's attacks.

Cirou smiled and exclaimed, "Get ready!"

She formed a seal with her hands and chanted an ancient incantation.

All of a sudden, the sky split open, and a purple lightning bolt descended.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. The purple lightning bolt couldn't be compared to the crimson lightning bolt, but it was still extremely terrifying. He couldn't handle it with his current strength.

Cirou yelled, "Release your sword intent!"

Ye Guan opened his hand, and his sword intent congealed before flying toward the skies. It shattered upon colliding with the purple lightning bolt, and the purple lightning bolt made a beeline for Ye Guan afterward.

Swoosh!

A ray of sword light slashed at the purple lightning bolt.

Boom!

The purple lightning bolt shattered into nothingness.

Ye Guan turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master was staring at Ye Guan as well, and she asked, "Do you know how a swordsman can create their own sword intent?"

Ye Guan replied, "It is created by asserting one's will."

The Adjudication Sword Master nodded.

"You—" The Adjudication Sword Master started.

However, Ye Guan interrupted her and said, "I understand what you're trying to say. Sword intent is created by asserting one's will, but my will shrank back in fear upon seeing that purple lightning bolt. My will was weak, and so was my sword intent. It couldn't have withstood that purple lightning bolt."

Ye Guan closed his eyes and said, "Fear had unknowingly gripped my heart. Senior, I want to try it again."

The Adjudication Sword Master was stunned. He got it right away?

Cirou smiled and said, "All right."

Cirou chanted the same ancient incantation, and another purple lightning bolt plummeted toward Ye Guan. Ye Guan decisively took to the skies and slashed at it.

Boom!

His sword intent shattered in an instant, and he fell straight to the ground.

The impact of his fall made the earth tremble violently.

He had failed!

Nevertheless, he was thrilled. He opened his hand, and his sword intent congealed to become a sword. He turned to Cirou and shouted, "One more time!"

Cirou nodded and chanted the same ancient incantation.

Ye Guan stomped with his right foot and turned into a ray of sword light that took to the skies. He had decided to give it another shot with all of his might!

And just like that, Ye Guan failed again and again. However, he would always emerge even stronger after every failure, and he eventually lost his fear of the lightning bolts. Failure wasn't scary at all. What was scarier was losing one's courage to stand up once more after failing.

Ye Guan stood up every time he was knocked down.

Eventually, his sword intent started to change.

The Adjudication Sword Master and Cirou watched Ye Guan train from the side.

Cirou sighed with admiration and muttered, "He could have chosen to live the good life, but he chose to train so hard and become a true supreme elite."

"Isn't that a good thing?" the Adjudication Sword Master asked.

"His goal is to become as powerful as his parents. Unfortunately, he has no idea just how difficult that is."

"I think that it's a good thing that he's training so hard, though. The fact that he has the courage to see who he truly is as well as the heart to become stronger already makes him better than most people."

Cirou turned to look at the Adjudication Sword Master. She looked slightly bewildered as she said, "Cijing, you don't seem to hate him as much as you did before."

Cijing coldly replied, "The people I hate now are you and Ba Wan."



Cirou smiled without saying a single word.

She had already gotten used to Cijing's awful temper. Cirou knew that her actions were despicable, but she had no regrets. For her big sister, she was willing to do anything—she was even willing to do things that went against her conscience.

The Adjudication Sword Master cast a thoughtful gaze at the hardworking Ye Guan in the distance. He had failed hundreds of times by now, but he had yet to give up.

Just like that, half a month passed.

Ye Guan's sword intent was still too weak to disperse the purple lightning bolts, but his sword intent had become strong enough to withstand it.

In addition, his sword intent was starting to emit a faint lightning intent; it was a sign that his sword intent was slowly going through a qualitative change.

Ye Guan looked up at the oncoming purple lightning bolt and flicked his wrist, sending his sword intent to meet it halfway.

Boom!

The sword intent was blasted away upon making contact with the lightning bolt, and the lightning bolt continued to descend toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan transformed into a ray of sword light and charged to the sky. He raised his sword up high and slashed at the lightning bolt, tearing it into two pieces of smaller lightning bolts that struck the ground along with a thunderous explosion.

Ye Guan had managed to split the lightning bolt from a lightning tribulation into two, but he didn't manage to escape unscathed. He plummeted to the ground, and the resulting impact created a huge, human-shaped crater in the ground.

Ye Guan's gaze turned upward, and he clapped his eyes on the innumerable but fleeting arcs of lightning in the air. The arcs of lightning quickly vanished, but they left motes of lightning that sparkled like stars.

Ye Guan's lips curled up. He opened his hand, and his sword intent converged on his palm. It quickly congealed and became a sword that gave off the same glow as lightning.

Tribulation Lightning Sword Intent!

Ye Guan smiled. He felt gratified that his efforts over the past half a month had finally paid off; his sword intent had finally undergone a qualitative change.

Cirou walked up to Ye Guan and grinned. "How do you feel?"

"I feel like I can beat anyone so long as they're not Great Destiny Sovereigns!" Ye Guan replied boldly.

"Pfft!" Cirou let out a peal of boisterous laughter and said, "Okay, sure, but don't get too over-confident. A skillful Great Destiny Sovereign will still defeat you with no issues. You're still not that strong, after all."

Ye Guan smiled sheepishly and said, "Yeah, I think that was a bit arrogant of me."

Cirou examined Ye Guan's sword intent and said, "The Tribulation Lightning Sword Intent. Your sword intent is imbued with the power of tribulation lightning, and it is quite rare even throughout the vast expanse."

Ye Guan smiled and asked, "What are we going to do next?"

"We'll have to strengthen your fleshly body."

"My fleshly body?"

"Yes."

"Really? I have to cultivate my fleshly body as well?" Ye Guan asked.

"I understand your concerns, but think about it: if your fleshly body is strong enough, your Heavenrend Quickdraw will reach a whole new level," Cirou explained, "Your father and your grandfather had managed to cultivate the same quickdraw to a terrifying level, and it's largely because their fleshly bodies were horrifyingly strong."

Ye Guan nodded. He had long realized that the Heavenrend Quickdraw was taking a huge toll on his fleshly body. In fact, his fleshly body would always start breaking apart the moment he pushed the technique to its limits.

Cirou was right. He would reach new heights with the Heavenrend Quickdraw so long as his fleshly body was durable enough.

Cirou continued, "The lightning bolts here are special because they're countless times purer than what you can find outside. Once your fleshly body has become strong enough to withstand the lightning bolts here, even Great Destiny Sovereigns will find it difficult to injure you.

"And..." Cirou trailed off and chuckled before saying, "That thing also becomes stronger with your fleshly body!"

What thing? Ye Guan froze in confusion, and then he cast a questioning gaze at Cirou.

Meanwhile, the Adjudication Sword Master immediately understood Cirou's words.

She glared at her and shouted, "Are you out of your mind?!"

Ye Guan was thoroughly confused. "What thing?"

Cirou blinked a few times and then replied with a serious tone of voice, "Of course, I'm talking about your sword! Your sword will become even stronger along with your fleshly body"

Ye Guan nodded and said, "Makes sense..."

The explanation made sense, but Ye Guan still found her words odd.

The Adjudication Sword Master was still glaring fiercely at Cirou as well. Cirou's mind was so dirty that the Adjudication Sword Master wanted to beat her up for it.

Cirou smiled and said, "Let's begin."

Ye Guan asked, "Do I have to take the lightning bolts with my fleshly body?"

"Of course not." Cirou rolled her eyes at Ye Guan and said, "Do that, and you'll die instantly. Your soul will instantly dissipate into nothingness. Anyway, take your clothes off"

Ye Guan froze and went silent.

Cirou repeated, "Take them off."

"Why?" Ye Guan asked, sounding confused.

Cirou sounded serious as she said, "I'm going to cast a spell on your body."

"A spell?"

"Yes."

Ye Guan was quite hesitant. He didn't think it was a good idea to remove his clothes right in front of her.

Cirou grinned and said, "What? Are you thinking that I'm trying to take advantage of you here? Everyone is the same in my eyes, regardless of their gender. Just think of me as a doctor."

Ye Guan felt guilty the moment he caught a glimpse of the pure light in Cirou's eyes.

Indeed, he was thinking too much into it.

Eventually, he set his thoughts aside and decisively took his clothes off.

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression turned strange as she instantly looked away. She couldn't help but recall that day. Ye Guan had lost his mind on that fateful day, but the Adjudication Sword Master's mind was as clear as day.

Again and again; again and again...

Of course, it hurt at the beginning, but once she got used to it...

The Adjudication Sword Master desperately shook her head to empty her mind. She turned around to face Ye Guan and saw him in his birthday suit. Her cold demeanor instantly collapsed and was overtaken by a furious blush.

Fortunately, it only took her a moment to compose herself.

Ye Guan was a bit uncomfortable standing naked in front of the two ladies.

Cirou's poker face was perfect as she said, "Lie down."

Ye Guan nodded and obliged.

Cirou took out a white jade bottle and put it to his lips.

"Open your mouth," she said.

Ye Guan opened his mouth and immediately felt liquid going down his throat. The liquid was slightly cold as it went down his throat and landed in his stomach. Soon, however, he felt like he was on fire.

Ye Guan's expression changed drastically. A few seconds later, the heat had gotten so high that Ye Guan felt like he was melting from inside.

"Calm down!" Cirou exclaimed. She took out another white jade bottle and handed it over to the Adjudication Sword Master.

"Apply this ointment on him, and I'll cast a spell that'll suppress the medicinal power that is running amok inside of him!" Cirou shouted.

"No!" the Adjudication Sword Master coldly exclaimed, "I'm not doing that!"

Cirou glared at her and said, "He's going to melt and die if you don't do this. I can do it for you, but do you even know how to cast spells?"

The Adjudication Sword Master remained silent.

"Hurry up!" Cirou urged. Then, she closed her eyes and started channeling.

After a few moments of silence, the Adjudication Sword Master walked up to Ye Guan. She opened the white jade bottle and poured the liquid inside onto Ye Guan's belly before rubbing it all over him.

The way her eyelids and hands quivered ever so slightly made it obvious that she was a bit nervous.

Ye Guan got a bit distracted as her soft hands glided all over him. All sorts of dirty thoughts appeared in his mind, and he knew that he couldn't get distracted here; he simply couldn't help it.

The Adjudication Sword Master slapped something and roared at it, "Don't get hard!"

## Chapter 340: One Heart, One Life

Don't get hard! Ye Guan felt slightly embarrassed when he heard what the Adjudication Sword Master said. He also didn't want it to get hard, but it was out of his control.

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at Ye Guan and shouted, "What are you thinking about?!"

"Stop nagging!" Cirou interjected and said, "Big Sister's books mentioned something about his reaction and that it's completely normal."

The Adjudication Sword Master redirected her glare at Cirou.

"You're just as bad as he is," she said.

Cirou was rendered speechless.

The Adjudication Sword Master went silent and continued rubbing the ointment all over Ye Guan. She pretended to be calm, but her trembling hands betrayed her.

Ye Guan's dirty thoughts had vanished when the heat had gotten too much for him to withstand. He felt like flames were raging inside of him. Cirou was helping him suppress the flames, but it didn't seem to be effective. The burning sensation became stronger and stronger, and he felt like his organs were going to melt.

After a while, the Adjudication Sword Master stood up and stepped aside with a frosty expression.

Cirou placed her right hand on top of Ye Guan's belly and pressed down gently.

Boom!

A powerful energy burst out of Ye Guan, and it transformed into a thin film of energy that enveloped him.

Cirou got up and smiled. "It's done."

Ye Guan slowly stood up. He looked down at the thin film that stuck to him.

He then turned to look at Cirou.

Cirou's smile deepened, and she said, "Activate the Divine Tree of Nature."

Ye Guan nodded, and a burst of the Divine Tree of Nature's Force of Nature enveloped him in the blink of an eye, bringing about a refreshing and cool sensation all over him.

"Now that we're done with the preparations..." Cirou said, "Let's start."

Cirou looked up and started channeling with both of her hands in the air.

A few moments later, she pointed at the skies and shouted, "Open!"

Whoosh!

The skies opened up, and a purple lightning bolt descended.

Cirou and the Adjudication Sword Master retreated at the same time.



Ye Guan jumped into the air and took a stance with his sword.

Cirou shouted, "Don't fight it!"

Don't fight it? Ye Guan froze, and the moment it took him to ponder over Cirou's words was enough for the lightning bolt to close in on him and hit him. A crackling noise pervaded the air as innumerable arcs of lightning burst out of Ye Guan.

Ye Guan fell to the ground. The purple lightning bolt had scorched him, but a dark green energy burst out from within him and enveloped him in the blink of an eye, along with the Divine Tree of Nature's Force of Nature.

Moments later, he was completely healed!

Cirou heaved a sigh of relief and said, "Thankfully, you have the Divine Tree of Nature. Otherwise, something really bad would have happened."

The Adjudication Sword Master glanced at her, but she didn't say anything.

"Go and continue!" Cirou shouted and summoned another purple lightning bolt.

Boom!

A piercing shrill suffused Ye Guan's ears when he was struck by the lightning bolt, but he recovered in just a few moments.

He repeated his new routine over and over again. It was a rather primitive method of strengthening his fleshly body, and it wasn't that exhausting as well. He didn't need to do anything aside from sitting cross-legged and letting the lightning bolt hit him.

However, it was an excruciatingly painful training method, but Ye Guan would gnash his teeth every time he was hit and refuse to let out even a groan. He had no qualms about going through such hardships so long as he would emerge stronger from it.

Ye Guan's fleshly body was being tempered like a piece of metal, and Ye Guan eventually realized that his fleshly body was going through a qualitative change, albeit it was slower than his sword intent.

Ye Guan had noticed his improvement upon realizing that the lightning bolts were no longer that painful. In addition, the lightning bolts could no longer wreak havoc throughout his body; he would twitch uncontrollably for a few seconds upon getting hit, but that was about it.

A month later, Ye Guan's fleshly body became strong enough to withstand the purple lightning bolts. Shockingly, lightning arcs would occasionally jump out of his fleshly body and orbit him, creating a terrifying sight.

He had attained the Lightning Tribulation Body!

Crackle!

A lightning bolt rushed toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan stood up and stomped before taking off to the skies in one fluid motion.

Heavenrend Quickdraw—sixty at once!

Slash!

The lightning bolt shattered and exploded into a myriad of tiny lightning bolts that scattered in all directions.

Ye Guan was beyond thrilled. He had just confirmed that his Heavenrend Quickdraw had become stronger by more than ten times than before!

At this point, even Great Time Sovereign wouldn't be able to withstand his Heavenrend Quickdraw anymore! As for a Great Destiny Sovereign, he wasn't sure, but he felt that they would have to exert some effort to withstand it.

Ye Guan seemed to have recalled something as he suddenly appeared in front of Cirou and Cijing. He looked at them and asked, "Can I keep on strengthening my fleshly body?"

Cirou shook her head and replied, "Not at the moment."

Ye Guan said in a serious tone, "I'm not afraid of pain."

"I know." Cirou smiled and explained, "But your fleshly body has reached its utmost limits. If you want to strengthen it any further, you need to be tempered by that crimson-colored lightning we call blood lightning. Unfortunately, your fleshly body is still too weak to withstand it."

Blood lightning? Ye Guan went silent. He could still remember how even the Adjudication Sword Master and Cirou had struggled against those blood lightning bolts. Surely, he would perish if he were to take them on.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly said coldly, "Are you not going to wear any clothes?"

Ye Guan's expression stiffened, and he blushed upon hearing her words. Moments later, he waved his hand and changed into a clean and plain blue robe.

Ye Guan's demeanor seemed to have changed now that he was wearing clothes. He was tall, and his posture was as straight as a spear. He was smiling lightly after becoming stronger, so he seemed less fierce and more elegant.

Ye Guan was a swordsman, but the fierce side of him had always been quite restrained. Anyone would think of him as a very gentle person at first impression; he gave off an air similar to scholars rather than swordsmen.

Cirou smiled and praised, "What a fine and handsome young man."

The Adjudication Sword Master examined him from top to bottom and said, "What's the point of being handsome when he's dumb?"

Ye Guan had long gotten used to the Adjudication Sword Master's insults, so he wasn't offended at all. He made a sidelong glance at Cirou and asked, "Lady Cirou, I remember you mentioned that there's a Lightning God Imprint here. Is it still here?"

Cirou smiled and exclaimed, "I knew you would say that!"

She opened her hand, revealing a gold imprint that rushed to the skies. The sky split open, and an imprint the shape of a lightning bolt and the size of a fist appeared.

It was none other than the Lightning God Imprint.

Ye Guan was taken aback. The imprint filled his heart with dread, and it contained a terrifying amount of lightning energy!

Cirou explained, "You're staring at an unranked divine item. If you manage to conquer it and get it to merge with you, you can use it to strengthen your fleshly body and sword every day."

Ye Guan was shocked. "Really? I can do that?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded and said, "It doesn't have a spirit yet, so if you manage to conquer it before its spirit is born, you'll become its first master. And becoming its very first master is important."

"It's important?" Ye Guan asked, "Why?"

"Yes, it's just like a girl's first crush. Her first crush will always be the most memorable to her, regardless of how many men she meets in the future," Cirou explained.

Ye Guan's face darkened.

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression turned cold, but she didn't say anything as she unleashed a sword move toward the Cirou.

Cirou's expression changed drastically; she didn't expect that Cijing would attack her all of a sudden. Cirou waved her sleeve, and a multi-colored light rushed to meet the Adjudication Sword Master's sword in mid-air.

Boom!

The multi-colored light shattered, but Cirou was still blasted a few kilometers away.

"What the hell is wrong with you?!" Cirou yelled.

"Your face pisses me off!" the Adjudication Sword Master roared.

Cirou frowned, and her expression turned to that of bewilderment as she asked, "I noticed it, but I haven't mentioned it yet. Why have you been acting so strange lately?"

The Adjudication Sword Master retracted her gaze and ignored her. When she saw that Ye Guan was looking at her, she snapped at Ye Guan and shouted, "What are you looking at, huh?!"

Ye Guan promptly looked away. He didn't want to fight her at all.

His gaze fell on Cirou, and he asked, "How can I conquer it?"

"It's simple. Do it by force."

"By force?"

“Yes.”

“Let me try,” said Ye Guan before turning into a ray of sword light that took to the skies.

“Suppress the lightning tribulation around the lightning imprint,” Cirou said.

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't move nor say anything in response.

Meanwhile, the Lightning God Imprint seemed to have sensed Ye Guan's approach, as it suddenly hurled a hundred lightning bolts toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was stupefied. The lightning bolts had come from the lightning tribulation orbiting the imprint, but he didn't retreat in the face of them. In fact, he picked up the pace and slashed out with his sword.

Boom!

The lightning bolts shattered, but even more lightning bolts surged toward him.

Boom!

Ye Guan was blown away. Upon recovering, he looked down at his right arm and was shocked to find it numb. Thankfully, he had strengthened his fleshly body; otherwise, his fleshly body would have been obliterated.

Cirou looked at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, “Your sword can suppress those lightning bolts. Help him.”

The Adjudication Sword Master glared coldly at her.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan charged toward the lightning imprint.

Unfortunately, the lightning bolts coming from the lightning tribulation around the imprint were too fierce and numerous for him to vanquish with just his sword. He ended up plummeting to the ground with a loud explosion.

He stood up quickly and was about to jump into the air when a dazzling ray of sword light fled across his vision and rushed toward the oncoming lightning bolts, shattering them in one fell swoop.

The dazzling sword light dissipated, revealing the Adjudication Sword Master's figure.

The Adjudication Sword Master's gaze was cold, and she stared at Ye Guan without a single word.

Ye Guan was moved, and he said, "Thank you."

With that, he took to the skies once more.

Rumble!

The Lightning God Imprint shook violently, and a myriad of lightning bolts burst out of it. Ye Guan was stupefied, but the Adjudication Sword Master appeared next to him and waved her Adjudication Sword, suppressing the myriad of lightning bolts in the blink of an eye.

Ye Guan was shocked speechless.

The Adjudication Sword Master was annoyed. "What are you looking at? Hurry up and go!"

Hearing that, Ye Guan turned into a ray of sword light that made a beeline for the Lightning God Imprint. The moment he grabbed it, Cirou shouted, "Put it in your consciousness!"

Ye Guan obliged, and a thunderous boom echoed inside Ye Guan as a terrifying lightning energy pervaded his fleshly body in the blink of an eye.

It was a good thing that he had strengthened his fleshly body before all this.

Otherwise, the powerful jolt of lightning just now would have obliterated both his soul and fleshly body. Unfortunately, the excruciating pain was a different story. The Lightning God Imprint was resisting him, and it inundated his fleshly body with wave after wave of lightning bolts from the lightning tribulation around it.

Ye Guan felt like both his fleshly body and soul were about to explode as his consciousness grew hazy from the intense pain.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned at the sight. She descended and cast her gaze at Cirou.

Cirou shrugged and said, "Don't look at me. I don't know what else we can do at this point. It all depends on him now."

The Adjudication Sword Master was furious. "You know that he might die from this, right?"

"Accidents are commonplace in the world of cultivators," Cirou replied in a low voice.

"Accidents, my ass!" The Adjudication Sword Master roared, "Do you have any idea of how disgusting you are right now? You're all kind and gentle on the surface, but you're actually a vile and manipulative bitch deep inside. He trusts you so much, and he treats you like his tutor, but—"

"We're enemies, and we've always been enemies!" Cirou interrupted, "Have you already forgotten that?!"

"Yes, he's an enemy, but we didn't have to resort to such a shameless and disgusting method to make him do our bidding!" The Adjudication Sword Master didn't relent and glared coldly at Cirou.



Cirou's gaze turned cold. "I don't care how shameless a method is so long as it's going to help Big Sister. I don't care if you get angry; I'm still going to make him withstand the Universe Tribulation in Big Sister's place!"

"I strongly disagree with the method that you and Ba Wan have chosen," said the Adjudication Sword Master with a shake of her head. Afterward, she rushed over to the trembling Ye Guan whose face was distorted in pain and said, "You fool! You have no idea that you're being deceived!"

She placed a finger on Ye Guan's glabella, and a myriad of lightning bolts from inside Ye Guan rushed toward her in the blink of an eye.

"One Heart, One Life!" she shouted.

"Are you crazy?!" Cirou was outraged. "You actually cast that ancient protection spell that Big Sister taught you on him?!"

One heart, one life. From now on, their hearts, lives, and destinies were one.

They would live together and die together.