

## **A Sword 341**

### Chapter 341: True Selflessness

One Heart, One Life!

It was an ancient spell that the True God created when they were still living in Stone Village. Once cast, two individuals would share one heart and one life. They would share life's sorrow and joy from then on.

The four of them had cast it onto each other back then, and it was a declaration of their determination to save each other from peril.

Cirou didn't expect that the Adjudication Sword Master would cast it onto Ye Guan. It had to be known that the four sisters had never cast it onto someone else other than themselves.

The Adjudication Sword Master and Ye Guan were now linked, and it would be like they were sharing one body. She helped Ye Guan absorb half of the damage!

Cirou was extremely furious. Has she gone completely insane?!

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned deeply, and her expression turned pale.

She had underestimated the power of the lightning bolts.

Cirou glared at her without saying a word. However, she had already secretly channeled the same ancient spell. Once the Adjudication Sword Master could no longer withstand the lightning tribulation, she would activate the One Heart, One Life spell that they had cast onto each other long ago to help her with the burden.

Just like that, Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master remained steadfast as they dealt with the Lightning God Imprint. Ye Guan was having an easier time now that the Adjudication Sword Master had decided to absorb half of the damage for him.

Regardless, he didn't stay idle. Soon, he attempted to conquer the Lightning God Imprint. Half an hour later, the power of the lightning tribulation dissipated, and a faint lightning-shaped imprint appeared on Ye Guan's glabella.

It was the Lightning God Imprint!

The Adjudication Sword Master staggered back by about ten steps and almost fell to the ground.

Ye Guan took a deep breath and clenched his fists.

Boom!

A terrifying lightning force burst out of him and rattled the earth even thousands of meters away from him.

Ye Guan looked at his own hands. He then closed his eyes to feel the Lightning God Imprint's endless power from within him. Cirou was right; the Lightning God Imprint would constantly temper his sword and fleshly body.

Ye Guan suddenly recalled something and opened his eyes. Two bolts of lightning flashed in each of his eyes, and a burst of electricity exploded from him, making him look like the Lightning God.

Ye Guan's gaze landed on the weakened Adjudication Sword Master. he waved his sleeve, and a green ray of light flew toward her.

Ye Guan walked up to her.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned and asked coldly, "What?"

"Thank you," Ye Guan said softly.

The Adjudication Sword Master asked, "What are you thanking me for? I decided to save you so that I could kill you myself later."

Ye Guan's eyes flashed in a complicated light as he cast a deep gaze upon her.

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

"You're nice to look at," he said unconsciously and immediately froze upon realizing what he had just told her. What the hell did I just say?

The Adjudication Sword Master froze as well. Visibly taken aback, she hurriedly said, "You're courting death!"

She drew her sword and unleashed a sword attack on him. The sword attack started out fierce and powerful, but it got weaker and weaker as it approached Ye Guan. In the end, it became so slow that Ye Guan managed to dodge it without any issues.

Ye Guan smiled sheepishly and said, "Don't misunderstand... I was just being honest... You're really beautiful."

Hearing that, the Adjudication Sword Master glared at him, but she didn't say anything nor make any moves.

Ye Guan was starting to feel a little uncomfortable under her gaze, so he quickly changed the topic and turned to look at Cirou. "Lady Cirou, where is your big sister?"

Cirou slowly eased the pressure on her right hand that was hidden underneath her sleeve to disperse the spell that she had channeled. She smiled at Ye Guan and replied, "She's not here."

Ye Guan was confused. "She's not here?"

Cirou nodded and explained, "Her power is here, but her body isn't. We don't know where she is either."

Ye Guan looked at the skies, feeling slightly puzzled.

He didn't expect that the True God wouldn't be here.

"Now that your strength has improved significantly, it's about time for us to leave," said Cirou.

Ye Guan retracted his thoughts and replied, "We're leaving?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded and said, "Your most urgent is to fight the Eternal Sovereign."

"And once I'm done with that?"

"We'll talk about it once we get there."

"Lady Cirou, let me guess. Once I'm done dealing with the Eternal Sovereign, it'd be time for me to face the Universe Tribulation, right?"

Cirou blinked and feigned ignorance. "What are you talking about?"

Ye Guan replied softly, "Lady Cirou, you treat me really well, like how a tutor would treat his student. I really hoped that your feelings toward me were sincere, but I realized long ago that you have a hidden motive behind why you're following me.

"At first, I thought you were simply my treasures, but it quickly became obvious that it's not the case. I mean, you weren't even interested in the tiny pagoda, the Divine Tree of Nature, and surprisingly, even my Path Sword failed to move you.

"It was only after you brought me here that I realized something. Your motive has something to do with your big sister. Let me guess. Your ultimate goal is to make me take on the Universe Tribulation in the stead of your big sister.

"Of course, I can't possibly go against it yet with my current strength, so you must be aiming to implicate my father and my aunt, am I right?"

Cirou's smile vanished upon hearing that.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at him, but she didn't say anything.

Ye Guan continued. "From our conversations, I can feel that the bond between the four of you is very deep, especially your bonds with the True God. What you've done and are doing right now is all for her sake, right?"

Cirou stared intently at Ye Guan. Moments later, she chuckled and said, "I guess I underestimated just how smart you are. Actually, I was worried that you'd see through me once I executed my plan.

"I've been trying to be as covert as possible, and everything seemed to be going smoothly, but who would have thought that you had already seen through me? And a long time ago at that!"

Ye Guan shook his head lightly at Cirou's confession. He had his suspicions, but the fact that they all turned out to be true made him feel complicated deep inside.

Cirou asked, "When did you find out?"

Ye Guan opened his hand, and the Lightning God Imprint appeared on his glabella.

"The moment I absorbed the Lightning God Imprint was the moment my karma was linked to the Universe Tribulation. Am I right?"

Cirou laughed and praised, "You're way smarter than I thought."

Ye Guan stared into Cirou's eyes and asked, "Was it also a part of your plan when you asked me to go and seek out Ba Wan?"

Cirou nodded and admitted, "Yes."

"I've always found it baffling," Ye Guan shook his head and said, "If Ba Wan hadn't recovered her memories, she wouldn't have done it. In fact, she wouldn't even know how to do it. On the other hand, if she had recovered her memories prior to that, I would have been just a stranger to her."

"Why would the esteemed True Selflessness sleep with me, then? A mere stranger? Was it really because she just thought that I was handsome? I highly doubted it, but I've been avoiding it because of my feelings for her."

Cirou smiled and said, "As expected of the Sword Master and Pavilion Master Qin's son. If it weren't for the feelings involved, I wouldn't have been able to deceive you at all."

"Lady Cirou, I have another question."

"Ask away," Cirou replied.

"Why did Ba Wan sleep with me?" Ye Guan asked, sounding confused. "What was there for you guys to gain?"

At last, Ye Guan had finally blurted out the question that had baffled him the most.

Cirou blinked and asked back, "Why don't you take a guess?"

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "Just tell me the answer."

"If you can't guess it, I won't tell you what it is. Just guess, and I'll tell you if you made the right guess," Cirou said.

Ye Guan stared at her without saying anything.

Cirou smiled and pointed out. "You can't kill me."

"How about my aunt?" Ye Guan asked.

Cirou's smile stiffened, but she quickly recovered and said, "Who was it that said that he would no longer ask for his aunt's help? It hasn't even been that long since you made that declaration, but you're already going back on your word?"

Ye Guan gave her a thumbs up and said, "That was a great comeback."

"I know you don't want to be a pawn, but you no longer have a choice," Cirou sighed and said, "Honestly, you're smart, but you're not cunning at all. If I were you, I would have feigned ignorance and pretended to fight the Eternal Sovereign along with the True Universe."

"Since my goal is to make you take on the Universe Tribulation, I would have definitely made the True Universe assist you, but now... the Guanyuan Universe's help is all you're going to get against the Eternal Sovereign."

Ye Guan retorted, "I wanted that to happen, too, but do you know why I chose not to proceed with it?"

Cirou asked curiously, "Why?"

Ye Guan looked straight into her eyes and said, "Because I have dignity, and I'm not willing to stoop so low."

Cirou's eyes narrowed.

Ye Guan said, "Lady Cirou, you're from the True Universe, and I'm from the Guanxuan Universe. In retrospect, it's not strange that you've plotted against me. I can only blame myself for falling into your trap, so I'm not angry at all.

"However, there's something I hope you won't hide from me. You know where Ba Wan is, right?"

Cirou nodded. "Yes."

"I'd like to meet her," Ye Guan said.

"Are you sure about that?"

"The matters between me and her must be settled eventually, don't you think so?"

"I agree."

"Is she still in Stone Village?"

Cirou shook her head and replied, "No, she's right here."

Boom!

The spacetime behind Cirou was abruptly torn open, and a young woman slowly walked out of the spacetime rift. She was an extremely beautiful young woman wearing a long skirt. Both her hands were behind her back, and her eyes exuded a domineering light reminiscent of invincibility.

The three sisters were as beautiful as each other, and it would be an understatement to say that their beauties were at mythical levels.

Ye Guan slowly walked up to Ba Wan.

Ba Wan stared calmly at him, and there wasn't a hint of turbulence in her placid eyes. It felt like she was staring at a complete stranger rather than at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan looked at her for a long time before he smiled and said, "I've been thinking for a long time about what I would do and say once I meet you again. I've always been anxious about it, but now that I've seen you again. I finally realized it.

"The person I loved was the Ba Wan I met in that tiny village. The Ba Wan who was always excited to eat my meals, the Ba Wan who cried over an old cow, the Ba Wan whose stomach was seemingly an endless pit, and the Ba Wan who rushed into the True Universe to protect me with her life at stake..." Tears started falling from Ye Guan's eyes as he continued. "Now that I've seen you again, I'm finally convinced that she's never going to come back.

"She... that Ba Wan will... never come back."

#### Chapter 342: Infuriating Man

Ye Guan turned on his heel and walked away.

Before he met the Ba Wan standing in front of him, he felt a mixture of nervousness and anticipation. He wished to encounter the past Ba Wan—the Ba Wan whose hunger seemed impossible to satisfy. The woman standing in front of him had made it clear that the past Ba Wan would never come back.

She wasn't Ba Wan; she was True Selflessness.

He finally understood why she had chosen not to go with him back then.

Staring at Ye Guan's departing figure, True Selflessness' right hand, hidden inside her sleeve, slowly clenched into a fist, but she remained calm. There wasn't even a hint of emotions in her eyes.

The Adjudication Sword gripped the sword in her hand tightly as she stared at Ye Guan, but her expression remained stoic. Soon, Ye Guan vanished from their eyes.

True Selflessness shut her eyes, and her right hand balled into a fist quivered violently.

Cirou suddenly said, "The Eternal Sovereign's men should be here by now."

The Adjudication Sword Master's eyes narrowed as she stared at Cirou.

"You've colluded with the Eternal Sovereign?" she asked.

Cirou calmly responded, "Don't look at me like that. The Eternal Sovereign is simply determined to obtain his divine items. After all, he has the Divine Tree of Nature and the Sword Master's Dao Imprint."

The Adjudication Sword Master stared deeply at Cirou, but she remained silent.

"Won't it be great if the Eternal Civilization and the Guanxuan Universe end up destroying each other?" Cirou asked the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't respond. She turned around to leave.

Cirou immediately blocked her path.

"Cijing, what are you going to do?" she asked, sounding furious.

"It's none of your business!" the Adjudication Sword Master responded fiercely. She didn't even look back at Cirou as she stepped onto her sword and disappeared into the distant horizon.

Cirou stomped around in frustration. "Just what is she trying to do?"

True Selflessness looked up without saying a word.

"She always kicks up a fuss during important times. She really knows how to make me go crazy," Cirou remarked and got ready to fly. She wanted to stop the Adjudication Sword Master herself.

However, True Selflessness interrupted her by saying, "Let it go."

Cirou cast a surprised gaze upon True Selflessness. However, True Selflessness remained silent as she turned around and left.

...

Ye Guan streaked across the starry sky at the fastest speed possible. His goal was to return to the Guanxuan Universe. His intuition was screaming at him about the possibility that Cirou had colluded with the Eternal Sovereign against him.

He had to return to the Guanxuan Universe to warn them of what was to come.

He didn't dare underestimate the Eternal Sovereign. To make matters worse, Cirou had decided to collude with the Eternal Sovereign, so it wouldn't be long before the True Universe and the Eternal Civilization established an alliance.

An alliance between them would put the Guanxuan Universe in extreme peril.

Just then, the spacetime a kilometer away from Ye Guan was torn open, and a middle-aged man rushed out of the spacetime rift. At the same time, a fist imprint rushed toward Ye Guan like a tidal wave.

Boom!

A low rumbling echoed from the starry sky as the fist imprint made its way over to Ye Guan. The powerful undulations from the fist imprint were enough for Ye Guan to deduce that the middle-aged man was a Great Destiny Sovereign.

A Great Destiny Sovereign! Ye Guan's face darkened. He had his suspicions that Cirou had decided to collude with the Eternal Sovereign, but he didn't expect to get attacked so soon. Since only the True Universe knew that he was here, Cirou had obviously told them of his whereabouts.

Ye Guan set his thoughts aside and drew his sword.

Heavenrend Quickdraw—sixty as one!

Ye Guan's sword let out a shrill cry as it carved a path in the starry sky. The spacetime in a few dozen radius around Ye Guan collapsed with a thunderous roar; the sheer power contained within Ye Guan's sword shattered the oncoming fist imprint.

Boom!

Both Ye Guan and the middle-aged man were blasted away.

It took Ye Guan a few kilometers of flying before he could finally stop. He looked up and finally saw his opponent—a black-robed middle-aged man with a towering physique. The man's fists were so massive that they looked like huge hammers.

The middle-aged man exclaimed in surprise, "An Ephemeral Transcendence Realm swordsman at such a young age... No wonder the Eternal Sovereign decided to send me to deal with you personally."

The middle-aged man stepped forward and unleashed a punch.

Boom!

The punch sent forth a torrent of power that was akin to a dam breaking loose.

A terrifying wave of energy loomed over Ye Guan. The wave of energy was so strong that he found it hard to breathe, even at the mere sight of it. Indeed, Great Destiny Sovereigns were true powerhouses!

Ye Guan took a moment to compose himself before taking a step forward and activating the Lightning God Imprint. He slashed out with his sword, unleashing Heavenrend once again.

The moment his sword fell, a powerful force capable of splitting the world apart erupted. The two forces clashed with a deafening boom, and a shockwave swept across the starry sky.

Ye Guan and the black-robed middle-aged man flew backward, and they came to a halt at the same time. Ye Guan looked up to stare at the black-robed middle-aged man, and the latter disappeared the moment Ye Guan's gaze fell on him.

Slash!

Ye Guan responded quickly with a slash imbued with the lightning energy of the Lightning God Imprint. The resulting slash seemed capable of tearing apart anything, but the black-robed middle-aged man seemed excited as he faced the attack.

He rushed forward and transformed into a streak of light before unleashing a punch that sent forth a tempest of fist light. The fist light engulfed the sword, and the nearby stretch of the starry sky seemed to crumble around them.

Kaboom!

The nearby stretch of the starry sky was obliterated; Ye Guan and the black-robed middle-aged man found themselves in a mysterious patch of spacetime. They couldn't see anything at all, but they remained fierce as they rushed at each other.

This was Ye Guan's first fight after his massive increase in strength, and this was a clash of raw power.

Schemes and tricks were useless at their cultivation base. After all, they had already gotten strong enough to obliterate a chunk of the starry sky.

Boom!

A loud boom echoed as the fist light and the sword light annihilated each other. The two were forced to retreat yet again, but a sword snuck its way over to the black-robed middle-aged man's flank.

The black-robed middle-aged man smirked and retaliated with a punch.

Boom!

The sword was blown away, but another sword quickly replaced it. However, there was a massive difference—Ye Guan was wielding the sword himself!

The black-robed middle-aged man's eyes narrowed, and he clapped, catching the blade of Ye Guan's sword between his palms. However, the black-robed middle-aged man decided to let go of his sword and punched the black-robed middle-aged man.

World Devastation Art!

Ye Guan's World Devastation Art reached greater heights because of the changes to Ye Guan's fleshly body. The black-robed middle-aged man's eyes flickered with surprise upon seeing Ye Guan decisively abandon his sword.

He didn't dare to underestimate Ye Guan as he let go of the sword and raised his arms in front of him.

Boom!

The black-robed middle-aged man was blasted a kilometer away after barely managing to protect himself. As he came to a stop, astonishment suffused his face, and he stared at Ye Guan in disbelief. "You're a Martial God as well?!"

Ye Guan was quiet. His figure flickered and turned blurry as he rushed at the black-robed middle-aged man. The black-robed middle-aged man opened his palm, and a golden light burst out.

The golden light enveloped the black-robed middle-aged man's fist as he let out a punch toward Ye Guan.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

The black-robed middle-aged man unleashed multiple attacks in the blink of an eye.

Bang!

Ye Guan was blasted at least a few dozen kilometers away. As he came to a stop, the black-robed middle-aged man in the distance erupted into laughter. "Young swordsman, I'll let you witness my true power as a Great Destiny Sovereign."

The black-robed middle-aged man's voice faded as he took a step forward.

Boom!

A mysterious force surged from within him, and a colossal golden astral projection soon materialized behind him. The spacetime of the nearby starry sky started to crumble as the golden astral projection materialized.

The black-robed middle-aged man laughed.

"Come and try to withstand these punches of mine!" he exclaimed, and the golden astral projection behind him leaned forward to unleash a terrifying punch at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's expression turned grim at the oncoming punch. However, he was not afraid at all. He took a step forward and thrust his sword, unleashing a sword thrust emblazoned with the final move of the Unbeatable Fist Art—Unbeatable!

A kaleidoscope of sword light erupted. Ye Guan's sword seemed as tiny as a grain of dust when compared to the golden fist of the golden astral projection, but the moment the sword and the colossal fist collided—

The golden fist violently trembled and exploded!

Almost simultaneously, Ye Guan and the black-robed middle-aged man vanished.

Moments later, a burst of fist light and sword light erupted into multiple collisions!

Rumble!

A terrifying shockwave swept across the starry sky.

Ye Guan staggered backward. He got ready to counterattack, but his pupils suddenly constricted. He turned around and found a long spear flying toward him from behind.

Another Great Destiny Sovereign was here! The long spear moved at astonishing speeds, and it caught Ye Guan off guard. He couldn't react in time, and the long spear pierced his chest.

Boom!

Ye Guan flew like a kite that had lost its strings. He cut a sorry figure in mid-air, and when he stopped, he saw a hole in his chest oozing with blood. Raising his head, Ye Guan looked up and found a white-robed man holding a long spear.

The black-robed middle-aged man sounded displeased as he asked, "Sovereign Xuan, why did you intervene?"

Sovereign Xuan glanced at the black-robed middle-aged man and replied, "Sovereign Mang, the First Sovereign has ordered us to bring back his head and his divine items."

The First Sovereign's commands? Sovereign Mang's brows furrowed.

"We can't afford to waste any more time," Sovereign Xuan said, "Let's do it together!"

His words had yet to finish echoing when he vanished into thin air.

Shwik!

The long spear tore through everything in its path as it made a beeline for Ye Guan.

After a brief moment of hesitation, Sovereign Mang also disappeared.

Two against one! Ye Guan's expression darkened. Damn it, these guys are shameless. In addition to bullying the weak, they're also ganging up on me!

Left with no choice, a powerful sword energy erupted from Ye Guan as a colossal sword that stretched over a kilometer manifested in his hands. He gripped the colossal sword tightly and swung it toward the oncoming Great Destiny Sovereigns.

Boom!

The colossal sword was made out of sword energy, but it seemed like it was made out of paper instead, as it shattered the moment it collided with the two Great Destiny Sovereigns.

Ye Guan had gotten dramatically stronger, but two Great Destiny Sovereigns were still too much for him to handle. To make matters worse, they were ancient Great Destiny Sovereigns born during the Eternal Civilization era.

Sovereign Xuan glared at Ye Guan and shouted, "Shatter his fleshly body first!"

With that, he transformed into a beam of spear light and rushed toward Ye Guan. The long spear pierced everything as it made a beeline for Ye Guan. Sovereign Mang had also made the same decision as he unleashed a powerful fist attack.

A hint of ruthlessness flashed across Ye Guan's eyes. He was about to activate his bloodline when a dazzling sword light appeared from out of nowhere and struck the oncoming long spear.

Clang!

Sovereign Xuan was blasted away by the sword light, while Sovereign Mang immediately came to a halt and directed his gaze toward a woman not too far away from Ye Guan.

The Adjudication Sword Master!

Ye Guan looked at the Adjudication Sword Master with a face full of astonishment.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared coldly at him.

"Return to Guanxuan Universe!" she exclaimed.

Ye Guan asked, "Why?"

"Do you really have to ask that?" The Adjudication Sword Master snapped, "Hurry up and go back to your Guanxuan Universe!"

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "If I go back, you'll be outnumbered and overwhelmed!"

Rumble!

Ye Guan's words had just left his mouth when the spacetime behind him and the Adjudication Sword Master trembled violently. Moments later, two Great Destiny Sovereigns walked out of the spacetime rift.

The Adjudication Sword Master was annoyed. She glared fiercely at Ye Guan and shouted, "Perfect! Now you can't escape! Damn it, you infuriating man!"

### Chapter 343: I Don't Want To See Him Die

#### Four Great Destiny Sovereigns!

As he observed the formidable lineup, Ye Guan's face darkened. The fact that the Eternal Sovereign had dispatched four Great Destiny Sovereigns to kill him had truly caught him off guard. His cultivation base was too low compared to them, so how could he possibly contend with such an overwhelming lineup?

Adding to the unexpected turn of events was the Adjudication Sword Master's intervention. Ye Guan regarded the Adjudication Sword Master with a complex mix of emotions and asked, "What brings you here?"

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't even glance at him as she coldly declared, "To witness your demise."

Her words were cold, but Ye Guan found a subtle warmth in them, and the discovery made him smile.

The Adjudication Sword Master shot him an icy glare. "What's funny? There's nothing funny about this situation."

Ye Guan responded sincerely, "You disrupted Cirou's plans."

Turning away, the Adjudication Sword Master stared into the distance with an emotionless visage. "I'll fight those four, and you can make your escape."

Before Ye Guan could speak, the Adjudication Sword Master softly warned, "Don't feign act like you're strong. If you stay here, you're definitely going to die."

Shaking his head, Ye Guan met the Adjudication Sword Master's ire with a calm expression.

"Stubborn and foolish," the Sword Master grumbled.

Ye Guan's gaze shifted toward Sovereign Mang in the distance.

"What's going to happen to you if I leave?"

The Adjudication Sword Master turned toward him, but she didn't respond.

Sovereign Mang broke the silence and asked, "What kind of game is your True Universe playing?"

The Adjudication Sword Master turned toward Sovereign Mang.

Sovereign Mang asked, "Adjudication Sword Master, did Lady Cirou not inform you of her alliance with our Eternal Civilization?"

The Adjudication Sword Master stared intently at Sovereign Mang.

"Her allegiance has nothing to do with me," she said.

"It appears that your True Universe lacks unity," Sovereign Mang said with narrowed eyes.

"We can just kill her if she remains adamant on saving him. Why waste words with her?" said Sovereign Xuan. His words echoed throughout the starry sky, and he suddenly vanished.

The other two also made their moves, while Sovereign Mang quickly followed suit.

Facing the terrifying assault of four Great Destiny Sovereigns, Ye Guan felt as though he was facing four immovable mountains. Just their combined aura was enough to obliterate a few worlds.

The Adjudication Sword Master's gaze turned cold. She took a step forward and gestured with her fingers.

"Open!" she roared and slashed out with her finger sword.

A sharp sword flew out from her glabella, and it made a beeline for Sovereign Mang.

The attack sent Sovereign Mang tumbling backward.

The Adjudication Sword Master quickly followed out, and a myriad of sword lights erupted, forcing the three Great Destiny Sovereigns to retreat.

The four Great Destiny Sovereigns were left astonished and uneasy.

They hadn't expected the Adjudication Sword Master's overwhelming strength. She glared coldly at the four Great Destiny Sovereigns with a sword made out of her sword intent in her hands.

She exuded a terrifying sword might that Ye Guan left Ye Guan deeply surprised.

Ye Guan initially thought that he was on par with the Adjudication Sword Master, but it finally became clear to him that the gap between them was incredibly huge, and she had held back during their previous fights.

Otherwise, he would have already died ten times.

A mix of complex emotions surged within Ye Guan.

The Adjudication Sword Master suddenly grabbed Ye Guan's shoulder and dragged him away with her across the starry sky.

Sovereign Mang's expression turned cold, and he roared, "Chase them!"

His words had yet to finish echoing when they all transformed into streaks of light that chased after the Adjudication Sword Master.

The Adjudication Sword Master tore through the fabric of spacetime, guiding Ye Guan toward the Guanxuan Universe inside the spacetime tunnel. Ye Guan turned toward the Adjudication Sword Master next to him. Her skin was as fair as snow, and her facial features were perfect, devoid of any flaws. Even though only half of her face was visible to him, he still couldn't take his eyes off his breathtaking beauty.

The Adjudication Sword Master seemed to have sensed his gaze as she suddenly turned her head toward him and asked, sounding furious, "What are you staring at?"

Ye Guan retracted his gaze and looked into the distance without uttering a word. The Adjudication Sword Master glared at him and said, "I saved you just because I didn't want you to die by such despicable means. Don't read too much into it, understand?"

Ye Guan nodded, "I know. You want to kill me with your own hands."

The Adjudication Sword Master coldly replied, "As long as you understand."

Ye Guan suddenly chuckled. The Adjudication Sword Master was furious, "What are you laughing at? Is there something funny about what I said? Laugh again, and I'll stab you to death!"

Ye Guan hastily said, "Okay, okay. I won't laugh anymore."

The Adjudication Sword Master glared fiercely at Ye Guan, and then she turned to look toward the distant edge of the starry sky. She fell silent upon sensing the four Destiny Sovereigns' pursuit. After a while, she asked, "Can you contact someone from your Guanxuan Universe?"

Ye Guan shook his head and replied, "This place is too far away from the Guanxuan Universe."

The Adjudication Sword Master furrowed her delicate eyebrows.

Ye Guan was about to say something when he noticed that she had come to a stop.

"What's wrong?" Ye Guan asked.

The Adjudication Sword Master silently gazed into the distance.

Ye Guan turned to look and found an old man not too far away from them. The old man was dressed in Daoist robes with a horsetail whisk in hand. His aura seemed like it had become one with the starry sky, and it was enough clues for Ye Guan to know that the old man was an expert.

Two Great Destiny Sovereigns were standing in front of the old man. Just then, Sovereign Mang and the other Great Destiny Sovereigns appeared a kilometer away from Ye Guan and the Adjudication Sword Master.

Six Great Destiny Sovereigns and an old fogey... Ye Guan frowned deeply. The Eternal Sovereign had twelve Great Destiny Sovereigns, and he had dispatched half of them just to kill him.

Wait! Ye Guan's brows knitted. The Eternal Sovereign was exceedingly prideful and confident. It was unlikely that he would go to such lengths to deal with a mere Ye Guan. In other words, Cirou had to have said something to the Eternal Sovereign.

Her words—whatever they were—had made the Eternal Sovereign take him seriously.

Ye Guan felt bitter. He had never been wary of Cirou because it seemed like she had been in the tiny pagoda for a long time. He always thought that Cirou was there to assist him at the behest of his father. Indeed, she had assisted him for quite a while.

However, he truly didn't expect the depths of Cirou's schemes.

Did Father place her by my side to increase the difficulty of my life? Ye Guan genuinely felt that his grandfather had been too lenient with his father many years ago. The Yang Family members were getting tougher and tougher, so his grandfather should have given his father more hardships.

The old man stared at the Adjudication Sword Master and smiled before asking, "Adjudication Sword Master, did Cirou not inform you of the alliance between your True Universe and our Eternal Civilization?"

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at the old man and asked, "Is it really necessary to dispatch so many Great Destiny Sovereigns just to kill a Peak Immortal Realm cultivator?"

The old man made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan and chuckled. "Young Master Ye is not an ordinary Peak Immortal Realm cultivator. Of course, this is all thanks to Lady Cirou's words. He could have escaped if we had only sent one Great Destiny Sovereign."

Ye Guan's expression darkened. He was right. His days ahead were undoubtedly going to be even more challenging because Cirou knew everything there was to know about him.

Just then, the old man continued. "Adjudication Sword Master, we don't want to be enemies with the True Universe, so if you wish to leave, you can do so at any time. If you don't want to leave, then we'll have to apologize in advance for offending you."

The Adjudication Sword Master turned to Ye Guan and whispered, "Can you just go?"

Ye Guan stared at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, "I want to leave. If I go, they will come after me, which means that I won't be in danger. However, I'm afraid that you'll desperately try to stop them from chasing me if I were to do that."

The Adjudication Sword Master looked away and spat coldly. "You have a wild imagination. I won't risk my life for you."

Ye Guan shook his head with a smile and clenched his fist.

Boom!

Ye Guan's aura surged crazily after activating the Sword Master's Dao Imprint. The Sword Master's Dao Imprint allowed him to temporarily reach the Time Immortal Realm. However, Ye Guan wasn't done just yet—he activated the Lightning God Imprint and the Divine Tree of Nature.

Ye Guan's aura reached unprecedented heights in the blink of an eye.

The old man's eyes narrowed in astonishment, and he exclaimed, "The Sword Master's Dao Imprint!"

They had come here to kill Ye Guan and plunder his divine items. Every piece of divine item on Ye Guan was a godly divine item of unparalleled value. The Sword Master's Dao Imprint was especially overpowered as it allowed one to break even the Great Daoist Brush Master's seals.

In fact, their main objective here was the Sword Master's Dao Imprint.

All of a sudden, Ye Guan reached out for the Adjudication Sword Master's face.

This time, the Adjudication Sword Master didn't kick up a fuss, nor did she look away.

Ye Guan suddenly stopped when it was just half an inch away from her face.

In the end, Ye Guan retracted his hand and stared deeply at her. He had so many words that he wanted to say to her, but he could only say two words.

"Thank you," he said. His figure turned blurry as lightning erupted beneath his feet. A thunderous boom echoed afterward as he vanished into a beam of sword light that rushed toward the distance.

"Cirou, True Selflessness, I know you two are here. Don't let her intervene again," Ye Guan said, leaving these words behind as he disappeared.

The old man and the Great Destiny Sovereigns ignored the Adjudication Sword Master and chased after Ye Guan.

The Adjudication Sword Master's eyes flickered with cold killing intent. She bent her knees and was about to jump into the air to chase after them when Cirou and True Selflessness suddenly appeared next to her.

The Adjudication Sword Master glanced at the two women and frowned.

Cirou stared deeply at the Adjudication Sword Master and said, "Why are you going this far for him? You... don't tell me that you like him!"

True Selflessness frowned. She cast a doubtful gaze at the Adjudication Sword Master upon sensing that something was awry. Initially, she hadn't entertained such thoughts, but Cirou's words hinted at a troubling reality.

The Adjudication Sword Master paid no attention to Cirou's remarks.

She started walking away, but Cirou swiftly stopped her. She glared at the Adjudication Sword Master and shouted, "Have you lost your mind?! Did you actually fall for him? Do you not know that his goal is to annihilate the True Universe?!"

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet. Eventually, she decided to speak and said, "Didn't you say that he's handsome?"

Cirou was frustrated and furious. "Calling him handsome is just... Cijing, please don't let your feelings cloud your judgment. He's far from reliable. I've been with him long enough to know that. He's not just flirtatious; he's also fickle and unreliable."

Undeterred, the Adjudication Sword Master continued walking away.

Just then, a mysterious force enveloped her.

The Adjudication Sword Master turned to Cirou and asked, "Do you really think that attacking me now will change anything?"

Cirou's cold gaze seemed to dig into the Adjudication Sword Master as she said, "He holds a grudge against the Eternal Civilization, and our True Universe can take advantage of that. Anyone else can rescue him, but not you.

"You have to remember who you are—you're a divine spirit of the True Universe, the Head Commander of the Jin Guards, and you're from the Stone Village. Are you truly willing to betray the True Universe, the Stone Village, and Big Sister for one man?"

The Adjudication Sword Master glared coldly at Cirou. Her words were like sharp knives piercing her heart. Cijing spoke before Cirou could say something, and she sounded like she was pleading as she said, "I don't want to see him die."

"Ah..." Cirou was dumbstruck. "How can you fall for him? How can you—"

Cirou interrupted herself and stared wide-eyed at the Adjudication Sword Master.

"Eternal Secret Realm. What happened there? You two..." she muttered.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared at the fuming Cirou and said, "You're right! He's an enemy of the True Universe, and you didn't do anything wrong by scheming against an enemy. We're enemies, so everything is justified, but..."

The Adjudication Sword Master turned toward the distance and continued. "I still want to save him!"

"Why?! Why?!" Cirou shouted; she couldn't quite accept it.

"I don't want to see him get bullied!" the Adjudication Sword Master exclaimed and smiled wryly. Then, she turned into a beam of sword light that disappeared into the distance.

## Chapter 344: The Yang Family Members Would Rather Die in Battle than Kneel in Submission

"How reckless!"

Cirou's voice echoed throughout the starry, and a mysterious voice enveloped the Adjudication Sword Master, immobilizing her.

Cirou then appeared in front of the Adjudication Sword Master. She cast a cold gaze upon the latter and said, "Come, let me see if your swordsmanship has improved over the years."

Since her persuasion had fallen on deaf ears, it was time to use force.

The Adjudication Sword Master ignored Cirou and turned to look at True Selflessness. If she had any feelings for Ye Guan, the latter would live to see another day.

However, True Selflessness was quiet for a while before shaking her head.

The Adjudication Sword Master closed her eyes. Moments later, she opened her eyes, revealing the determined light within them as she roared, "Both of you, come at me together!"

A shrill noise echoed as the Adjudication Sword Master unsheathed her sword.

...

Ye Guan flew across the starry sky on his sword.

Thanks to the Sword Master's Dao Imprint, he was temporarily a Time Immortal Realm cultivator, which meant that he was significantly faster than when running away with his Peak Immortal Realm cultivation base. Still, he couldn't shake off his pursuers.

The Great Destiny Sovereigns behind him stuck to him like a koala to a tree.

An ancient incantation abruptly rang out from behind Ye Guan.

A sense of unease crept into Ye Guan's heart. The next moment, spacetime in front of him trembled violently. Shockingly, the flow of spacetime around him and in front of him had reversed; he was now moving backward rather than forward.

Ye Guan quickly recovered from his shock and decisively swung his sword.

Swish!

A dazzling sword light slashed down.

The old man wearing daoist robes was already standing in front of Ye Guan.

Six Great Destiny Sovereigns surrounded him, and with the old man wearing daoist robes, Ye Guan was now surrounded by seven Great Destiny Sovereigns. The old man wearing daoist robes was even a sorcerer.

Ye Guan's expression turned grim.

He might stand a chance in a one-on-one battle with his current strength, but going against seven Great Destiny Sovereigns at the same time was just impossible.

Even if he were to burn his fleshy body, soul, and bloodlines, he had zero chance of winning.

The old man wearing daoist robes observed Ye Guan with a smile and remarked, "You've truly defied our expectations. You are but a paltry Peak Immortal, but you're capable of contending with Great Destiny Sovereigns. Even in the era of my Eternal Civilization, you'll stand out as an anomaly among anomalies, a genius among geniuses!"

Ye Guan looked at the old man wearing daoist robes and asked, "Are you a sorcerer from the Eternal Civilization?"

The old man wearing daoist robes nodded. "Indeed."

Ye Guan continued, "I've encountered Ancient Divine Sorcerers and Divine Mages, but I've never seen what a sorcerer from the Eternal Civilization can do."

The old man wearing daoist robes chuckled. "Are you challenging me to a one-on-one duel?"

Ye Guan's eyes were fixed on the old man wearing daoist robes.

"Enlighten me if you would," he said.

The old man wearing daoist robes grinned and gestured with his hand. The formidable Great Destiny Sovereigns moved aside.

"You move first," the old man wearing daoist robes said.

Without hesitation, Ye Guan vanished.

A streak of sword light streaked across the starry sky, and Ye Guan appeared in front of the old man wearing daoist robes. He executed the Heavenrend Quickdraw seventy times in one sword move.

In addition, he also harnessed the might of his Lightning God Imprint, the Divine Tree of Nature, and the Sword Master's Dao Imprint. He had gone all-out. A mighty conflagration erupted from Ye Guan's sword, and it reduced every inch of spacetime in its way into ashes.

The surrounding spacetime eventually became illusory; it just couldn't handle Ye Guan's sword.

However, the old man wearing daoist robes remained calm. Just as Ye Guan's sword was a few meters away from him, he calmly opened his palm, and a golden light poured out of his hand to create a golden shield in front of him.

Boom!

The golden shield trembled violently before letting out a crisp cracking noise.

The old man wearing daoist robes gently pushed his right hand forward.

It was just a simple push, but it generated a deafening boom that sent Ye Guan flying tens of kilometers away. When he came to a stop, a trickle of blood slowly dripped down his lips.

Ye Guan looked down and saw that his fleshly body was covered in cracks.

The old man wearing daoist robes had moved only once, but he already suffered severe injuries.

Wiping the blood from the corner of his mouth, Ye Guan looked toward the old man wearing daoist robes not far away. The latter chuckled and said, "If you were a Great Sovereign, perhaps you could challenge me. Unfortunately, you're still too weak."

The old man wearing daoist robes pointed a finger at Ye Guan.

"Divine Lightning of the Nine Heavens, descend," he muttered.

Boom!

A lightning bolt plummeted toward Ye Guan's head. However, Ye Guan neither dodged nor avoided it; he allowed the divine lightning to engulf him.

The old man wearing daoist robes furrowed his brows. Ye Guan was unscathed. In fact, Ye Guan was actually devouring the divine lightning.

The old man wearing daoist robes stared at Ye Guan for quite a while before exclaiming in shock, "Lightning tribulation force!"

Ye Guan took a deep breath and clenched his fists, prompting a terrifying wave of lightning force to surge out of him.

Just then, the old man wearing daoist robes pointed at him again, and a tempestuous wind swept across the starry sky toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's eyes widened. The wind blade seemed ordinary, but it carried a horrifying amount of power that made Ye Guan frown. He didn't dare to be careless. He gripped his sword with his right hand and slashed out.

Ye Guan's current stacking limit was seventy strikes in one, so he performed that against the oncoming wind blade. However, his right arm let out an audible crack; clearly, his fleshly body couldn't quite withstand the toll of executing such a move two times in a short period of time.

Boom!

Ye Guan's sword light crumbled in the face of the wind blade.

Ye Guan was forced to retreat, and the wind blade chased after him relentlessly. He cast a gaze of disbelief at the wind blade. What kind of wind is that? How come it shattered my sword move as if it were made out of paper?

A glint of determination flashed in Ye Guan's eyes. He was forced to interrupt his train of thought as the wind blade was already a few meters away from him. Left with no choice, he slashed out once more—a sword move emblazoned with Unbeatable!

Boom!

The wind blade trembled violently, and it was forced to come to a halt.

Ye Guan's right hand was torn open, and blood incessantly poured out of the wound.

Despite that, Ye Guan was horrified to find that the wind blade was still after him!

Ye Guan roared and pressed forward with his sword.

Boom!

The wind blade was blasted away. The old man wearing daoist robes opened his palm, and the wind blade flew toward him. It orbited him as though it was alive.

The old man wearing daoist robes stared at Ye Guan with a hint of astonishment in his eyes. "Your sword intent is pretty durable. I didn't expect that it'd withstand my Netherwind."

Ye Guan was unwittingly transfixed on the old man wearing daoist robes.

He gripped the sword in his bleeding right hand; blood also poured out of his mouth without any signs of stopping.

The old man wearing daoist robes was far stronger than the majority of the Great Destiny Sovereigns out there.

"Come again!" the old man roared and tapped his Netherwind with his left hand. It surged and congealed into a colossal saber that made its way toward Ye Guan.

The terrifying sight made Ye Guan's heart skip a beat. Regardless, he remained steadfast as he stepped forward and unleashed his Sword Domain. It didn't take long for the colossal saber to reach his Sword Domain, and Ye Guan went pale the moment the colossal saber was under the influence of his domain.

Ignoring the pain, Ye Guan turned into a streak of sword light that rushed at the colossal saber. He raised his sword and struck it with his sword emblazoned with Unbeatable.

Kaboom!

The colossal saber quivered violently upon getting hit. Ye Guan took advantage of the momentary lull to raise his sword and slash out once more.

Boom!

The colossal saber shattered with a resounding explosion, and the Netherwind was also blasted away. However, Ye Guan wasn't quite done just yet. He vanished and sent a diagonal slash toward the old man wearing daoist robes.

The old man reacted quickly. He opened his palm, and a conflagration erupted. It consumed Ye Guan's sword light, startling Ye Guan into a retreat. When he looked up once more after retreating, he was shocked to find that the spacetime in front of him had been obliterated by the flames.

Ye Guan looked down at the sword in his hand and found that it was blurry. The sword intent that had been maintaining its form seemed to have run dry.

Ye Guan's expression turned solemn. He gazed at the old man wearing daoist robes in the distance and saw a white and eerie flame in the old man's palm. The spacetime a few hundred meters around the old man was melting layer by layer, creating an incredibly horrifying sight.

The old man smiled at Ye Guan, "Do you know what this flame is?"

Ye Guan replied, "I'm eager to hear about it."

The Divine Tree of Nature inside of him was patching him up at the moment. He just needed to buy enough time.

The old man smiled and explained, "I know you're buying time to heal up, but it's useless. I'm too strong. Even if you somehow managed to raise your cultivation base to the Great Sovereign Realm, you still won't be my opponent."

The old man paused before continuing. "You're an exceedingly rare talent, and it is a pity for you to die here. How about this? I'm willing to give you a way out. Offer the Guanyuan Universe to us and submit; do that, and you may live along with the Guanyuan Universe."

Ye Guan was stunned. He's actually persuading me to surrender?

Even the Great Destiny Sovereigns behind the old man were surprised. They were here to kill Ye Guan and plunder his divine items rather than to ask him to surrender.

Still, they didn't dare to say anything. The old man's position was much higher position than theirs in the Eternal World.

Ye Guan was silent, seemingly thinking about the offer.

The old man wasn't in a hurry at all. He stared at Ye Guan with a light smile on his lips. The young man before him was an extraordinary talent beyond extraordinary talents, but he was still too young.

Unfortunately, Ye Guan's young age also meant that he was no match for the old man.

"Hahaha!" Ye Guan suddenly laughed and exclaimed, "The Yang Family members would rather die in battle than kneel in submission!"

"I see..." the old man nodded lightly before exclaiming, "Then, die with your Guanyuan Universe!"

The old man opened his palm, and a terrifying conflagration erupted.

The space within a few kilometers of the old man began to disintegrate.

Ye Guan chuckled and shouted, "Come here!"

With that, Ye Guan got ready to ignite both his own fleshly body and soul. However, the spacetime behind Ye Guan was suddenly torn open. Moments later, Ye Guan heard someone approaching him from behind.

The old man's gaze turned solemn as his gaze landed on the newcomer. The Great Destiny Sovereigns reacted the same.

Ye Guan slowly turned around and was stunned to see the newcomer.

He was stunned because he couldn't recognize them.

Who were they?

#### Chapter 345: Aunt

The newcomer was a woman. Clad in a long, flowing white robe, her posture was reminiscent of a sword. A wine gourd was hanging on her waist. The woman stared at Ye Guan with a light smile.

Ye Guan asked, "Aunt?"

The woman's lift became charming as she remarked, "You're sharp."

Aunt! Ye Guan grinned brightly. Aside from his plain-skirt aunt, he had a few more aunts. The woman in front of him felt so close to him, which was why he had unknowingly blurted out the word aunt.

The woman in the white robe's smile deepened as she said, "You really resemble my brother."

Ye Guan asked, "Did my father send you to protect me?"

"Yes, but I also wanted to see you." The woman in the white robe chuckled and ruffled Ye Guan's hair before saying, "Step aside; Aunt will handle this for you."

However, Ye Guan shook his head and said, "Aunt, can you let me take on one?"

The woman in the white robe was surprised, "Take on one?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Facing seven is too much for me, but one? I can give it a shot."

The woman in the white robe smiled and said, "Sure."

Ye Guan grinned and turned to the old man wearing daoist robes.

"Send a Great Destiny Sovereign to face me one on one. How about that?"

The old man glanced at Ye Guan and chuckled. "Can your aunt even handle six?"

Swoosh!

A white flowing sword light suddenly appeared and rushed toward the old man. The old man frowned and opened his palm, conjuring a wall of fire a few hundred meters high.

Bam!

The wall of fire was instantly extinguished, and the impact sent the old man flying hundreds of meters away.

Another woman was standing at the old man's previous location. She was wearing a pristine white skirt, and the way she held her sword exuded unprecedented grace reminiscent of a goddess.

The expressions of the Great Destiny Sovereigns turned serious.

Ye Guan looked at the woman in the white skirt and exclaimed, "Aunt!"

The woman in the white skirt looked at Ye Guan.

She broke out into a grin and exclaimed, "You really are handsome!"

"It's just my good genes!" Ye Guan exclaimed with a chuckle.

The woman in the white skirt chuckled at that and said, "You're good with your words as well."

Ye Guan smiled, but he was inwardly surprised to see two of his aunts at the same time.

The woman in the white robe looked at the old man and said with a smile, "Since he wants a one-on-one, what do you think of letting him do it?"

The old man looked at the flame in his hand and saw that it had grown weaker. The old man was stupefied. The woman in the white skirt could actually harm an Eternal Fire[1]! Clearly, he had underestimated the Guanxuan Universe's overall strength!

The old man swept his gaze across the two women before saying, "Since he wants a one-on-one, then let there be a one-on-one."

"Who's up?" he asked the Great Destiny Sovereigns behind him.

Sovereign Xuan stepped forward with his long spear. He looked at Ye Guan in the distance and chuckled. "Why bother with a one-on-one? Let your two aunts move, and you'll have a great chance of escaping with their help."

Ye Guan smiled, "No need for unnecessary words. How about this? I want us to fight one-on-one without anyone's interference."

Sovereign Xuan stared deeply at Ye Guan and asked, "Are you sure?"

Ye Guan nodded, "Yes."

Sovereign Xuan glanced at the woman in the white robe and the woman in the white skirt. Then, he smiled without saying anything.

Ye Guan instantly understood what he meant. He turned around and stared at the two women with a serious gaze. "Aunts, I'll have a one-on-one battle with him. Please don't intervene even if I start losing."

The woman in the white robe looked at Ye Guan and asked, "Are you sure?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

After a moment of silence, the woman in the white robe nodded. "Okay."

Hearing that, Ye Guan turned to look at Sovereign Xuan.

Sovereign Xuan burst into laughter and said, "Gentlemen, please don't intervene even if I start losing in our one-on-one. Anyone who does so won't earn my gratitude; I'll consider them my mortal enemy instead."

With that, the rest of the Great Sovereigns withdrew to the sidelines.

The two women did the same.

The woman in the white robe muttered, "He's a really prideful young man."

The woman in the white skirt's eyes shone with a hint of concern. She wasn't aware of Ye Guan's capabilities, so she didn't know what to expect. She had chosen to trust Ye Guan because the latter's eyes exuded confidence.

Sovereign Xuan commented, "Daring to challenge a Great Destiny Sovereign at the Peak Immortal Realm—I must admit, you're quite bold. Your boldness is rare, even during my glory days. Rest assured, I won't stoop so low as to bully the weak."

Sovereign Xuan suppressed his cultivation base to the Peak Immortal Realm.

The old man wearing daoist robes frowned, but he couldn't say anything.

Ye Guan was daring enough to challenge a Great Destiny Sovereign at the Peak Immortal Realm, but it would actually be shameless of them to send a Great Destiny Sovereign against a Peak Immortal Realm cultivator in a one-on-one fight.

In addition, Sovereign Xuan had his own pride. He was considered a heaven-defying talent himself for even reaching the Great Destiny Sovereign. With that in mind, there was no way he could allow a paltry Peak Immortal to challenge him.

After suppressing his realm, Sovereign Xuan looked at Ye Guan and said, "Let's get started."

Ye Guan stared into Sovereign Xuan's eyes and said, "I'm going, then."

Swoosh!

Ye Guan vanished into a streak of sword light.

Sovereign Xuan laughed heartily and charged forward with a thrust of his long spear. The long spear moved like a dragon, causing the starry space to surge with energy. His aura remained oppressive and dense despite his suppressed cultivation base.

In fact, it felt as though he had become stronger.

The two chose to face each other's attack head-on for the first move.

The moment the spear and the sword collided, a burst of sword light and spear light erupted. The resulting force sent both of them staggering backward, but at the same time, Sovereign Xuan threw his spear toward Ye Guan.

Swish!

The long spear flew forward, tearing through the air with terrifying force. Every inch of spacetime in its way was torn apart, creating a horrifying scene. The long spear instantly reached Ye Guan. It was no longer in Sovereign Xuan's hand, but it was still incredibly powerful.

However, Ye Guan didn't retreat—no, he couldn't afford to retreat.

He raised his sword and swung it down fiercely.

It was a sword move emblazoned with Unbeatable!

The sword's aura was no weaker than the aura of Sovereign Xuan's spear.

Unbeatable!

Ye Guan was neither afraid nor hesitant, even in the face of a Great Destiny Sovereign.

Unfortunately, his sword was slightly weaker than Sovereign Xuan's spear.

Bang!

Ye Guan's sword struck and blasted the long spear away, but Ye Guan himself was sent flying backward by at least a few kilometers. When he came to a halt, a trace of blood seeped from the corner of his mouth and onto the ground. Tiny cracks had also appeared on his arms, and his blood slowly dripped onto his sword, giving it a crimson hue—it was a blood-stained sword!

The old man and the other Great Destiny Sovereigns cast a solemn gaze at the fight.

The young man's prowess had astounded them—to think that he could face Sovereign Xuan head-on! Sovereign Xuan had indeed suppressed his cultivation base, but Great Destiny Sovereigns were strong not just because of their realms.

Sovereign Xuan opened his palm, and the long spear returned to him. He glanced at the cracks on the spear, and he broke out into a grin. Moments later, he laughed heartily and shouted, "Interesting! This is interesting! Here, come at me again!"

His words had yet to finish echoing throughout the battlefield when he suddenly vanished with his long spear pointing at Ye Guan in the distance.

He didn't make any flashy moves, and it was just a simple thrust. However, the long spear contained enough power to annihilate small worlds. It made sense as Sovereign Xuan had infused all of his power into the spear.

He knew that Ye Guan would undoubtedly choose to fight him head-on, and Sovereign Xuan was convinced that Ye Guan wouldn't be able to withstand the energy contained within his spear. It didn't matter if he had a sturdy physique.

He wanted to end the fight with one thrust!

As a Great Destiny Sovereign from the era of the Eternal Civilization, he naturally had his pride. If he were to engage in a long battle with a young man, it would be embarrassing even if he won, so he wanted to achieve a landslide victory.

One thrust to end the battle!

Ye Guan's heart was gripped by trepidation upon sensing the terrifying might contained within the spear. Clearly, Sovereign Xuan wanted to determine victory or defeat with a single thrust.

Retreat?

It was impossible! If he retreated, his sword would become weaker than the spear. To make matters worse, any hint of indecisiveness would lead to certain defeat. Ye Guan charged forward decisively. He gripped the blood-stained sword as his gaze turned ice cold, devoid of any emotion.

Soon, the distance between the two shrank from kilometers to meters. Sovereign Xuan exerted all his strength, thrusting the spear toward Ye Guan's chest. Just as everyone expected Ye Guan to counterattack with his sword, Ye Guan allowed the long spear to pierce his chest.

He wasn't going to fight back?

Everyone was shocked, and the two women were startled as well. They didn't expect that Ye Guan wouldn't make any move to protect himself, so the two women quickly became nervous.

Sovereign Xuan was also nervous. He could feel something amiss. However, it was already too late the moment he bent his knees to jump backward and retreat. Ye Guan was just too close to him, and a sword pierced his belly.

Ye Guan's goal was to exchange a life for a life! Sovereign Xuan roared in pain and threw a punch forward, but Ye Guan let go of his sword and punched Sovereign Xuan's fist.

World Devastation Art!

Boom!

A deafening explosion rocketed the starry sky, and both Ye Guan and Sovereign Xuan cut sorry figures in mid-air as they flew backward. When Sovereign Xuan came to a stop, his expression changed dramatically. Something was burning inside him!

Sovereign Xuan looked down at the blood-stained sword and was horrified.

"Bloodline power!" he exclaimed.

Ye Guan's blood had entered his body, and it was ruthlessly devouring his bloodline.

Sovereign Xuan decisively destroyed his own fleshy body.

However, Ye Guan's bloodline had already entered his soul.

The Great Destiny Sovereigns were horrified by the sight. What bloodline was that? It was terrifying!

Sovereign Xuan sat down cross-legged and desperately attempted to suppress the bloodline power inside of him. His expression was filled with terror, and he was scared for his life.

Meanwhile, two hands caught Ye Guan just as he collapsed to the ground. Ye Guan's aunts managed to catch him in time before he fell to the ground.

The woman in the white skirt looked down at Ye Guan in her arms. Blood was pouring out of Ye Guan's mouth, and his right arm was twisted and deformed. Every bone in his body was shattered, and the wound in his belly was bleeding profusely.

Ye Guan looked at the two women before him and grinned. The blood pouring out of his mouth made it difficult for him to speak, but he tried his best and stammered, "Aunts, you saw... it... right? I can... take on... one of them... Only if they hadn't ganged up on me..."

1. unclear whether it's just a type of flame or if it's the name of the flames, so I decided to keep it capitalized but adding an indefinite article ?

Chapter 346: The Chosen One

The women in the white skirt and the white robe shared a brief, surprised look.

It seemed that he had decided to fight one-on-one to prove himself to them.

The woman in the white skirt gently wiped away the blood at the corner of Ye Guan's mouth and offered a reassuring smile. "I understand. You don't have to carry so much burden, all right?"

Ye Guan grinned but remained quiet.

Seeing Ye Guan's determined expression, the woman in the white skirt shook her head and smiled. "Take care of your wounds. We'll take it from here."

Ye Guan nodded and closed his eyes.

The Divine Tree of Nature started patching up his wounds.

Standing up, the woman in the white skirt turned her attention to Sovereign Xuan in the distance. His soul was gradually stabilizing as he suppressed the Mad Demon Bloodline. The Mad Demon Bloodline was powerful, but trace amounts of it couldn't possibly kill a Great Destiny Sovereign.

Holding a long sword, the woman in the white skirt addressed the crowd from the Eternal World with a playful smile. "One-on-one or a group fight? You can choose; I am fine with anything."

The old man eyed the woman in the white skirt. "We have a mission to do, so I'm afraid we can't fight you one-on-one."

The old man opened his palms, and the Eternal Fire and the Netherwind appeared in both of his palms. They took to the skies and transformed into two colossal dragons that rushed toward the woman in the white skirt.

Practically simultaneously, the other Great Destiny Sovereigns disappeared from their positions and headed straight for the woman in the white skirt.

The woman in the white skirt remained calm. She transformed into a streak of sword light that took to the sky. Moments later, a kilometer-long white sword energy descended like a waterfall.

Just then, the woman in the white robe also transformed into a streak of sword light and joined the fray

A kaleidoscope of sword lights painted a devastating scene across the starry sky!

Boom!

The two colossal dragons crumbled, and the woman in the white skirt's sword reached the old man. The old man's eyes narrowed. He gestured with his hand, and a golden light appeared to protect him.

Crackle!

A piercing noise echoed as the golden light shattered in the face of the woman in the white skirt's sword thrust. The backlash sent the old man back a few hundred meters away, but before he could land, the woman in the white skirt appeared in front of him.

The old man was alarmed; the woman in the white skirt was a terrifying swordsman, and he didn't dare to underestimate her anymore. He gestured with both hands and leaned forward before chanting an ancient incantation. Moments later, a colossal illusory humanoid figure appeared behind him.

The humanoid figure exuded an air reminiscent of a towering mountain. It was entirely golden, and it erupted into a radiant golden light before sending a punch toward the woman in the white skirt.

Bang!

This fist forcefully halted the woman in the white skirt in her tracks, and at that moment, the starry sky seemed to boil. The punch was strong enough to annihilate a few worlds.

The old man stared at the woman in the white skirt, and a malicious glint fleeted in his eyes. He suddenly opened his palm and then clenched it into a fist. The colossal illusory figure behind him mirrored his movements and unleashed a punch.

Boom!

Countless golden lights surged forth from the enormous fist.

The woman in the white skirt lightly tapped with her toes and turned into a beam of sword light that soared to the skies. She had decided to fight the colossal illusory figure head-on! The woman in the white skirt seemed as insignificant as an ant before a towering mountain, but when her sword struck the oncoming fist—

The fist was torn apart, and the woman in the white skirt reached the old man in the blink of an eye. Her hand lifted her sword high, and a sword light that was a few kilometers long slashed down.

Boom!

The colossal illusory figure behind the old man shattered, and he was blasted away.

The spacetime around him collapsed and disintegrated.

The old man eventually came to a stop, but he was horrified to find another sword light flying toward him. His pupils suddenly constricted, and he placed a finger on his glabella before shouting, "I invoke the Three Calamities with my blood as the sacrifice!"

The starry sky descended into an abrupt silence.

The woman in the white skirt's fleshly body suddenly erupted into flames.

The Three Calamities!

It was an ancient art from the era of the Eternal Civilization, and it was derived from the calamities a Great Time Sovereign would have to face to become a Great Destiny Sovereign. The ancient art allowed the old man to unleash those calamities upon his enemies.

The first of the Three Calamities—Fire Calamity!

Boom!

The flames of this calamity weren't from the heavens; they were from the mortals themselves. The flames would envelop the organs of the mortal daring enough to challenge the heavens, and it would quickly engulf their fleshly bodies.

A slight misstep meant their organs would be reduced to ashes. Their limbs would decay, and their many years of cultivation would be reduced to nothingness.

The woman in the white skirt frowned as her fleshly body burned. Meanwhile, the old man was thrilled. He was about to unleash the Second Calamity, but a mysterious force burst out of the old man and extinguished the flames.

The power of transcendence!

Before the old man could recover from the shock, the woman in the white skirt rushed toward him.

Boom!

A burst of sword light erupted, sending the old man flying kilometers away. As he came to a stop, he hastily formed hand seals, and countless ancient runes surged out from within him.

Meanwhile, a sword emblazoned with the power of transcendence rushed toward him, causing the ancient runes around the old man to dissipate. The old man's eyes narrowed, and he hurriedly summoned a golden barrier made out of ancient runes.

Bang!

The golden barrier shattered, and the old man was forced to retreat again. However, yet another sword made a beeline for him. The old man was alarmed. Realizing that he was no match for the woman before him, he shouted, "Retreat!"

Retreat!

The old man's words had yet to finish echoing, but he had already transformed into a streak of golden light that disappeared into the distance. The Great Destiny Sovereigns fighting the woman in the white robe quickly receded like a tide.

They were overwhelming the woman in the white robe with numbers, but the fight remained extremely challenging. The old man had sounded the retreat and had already disappeared, so they didn't dare to stay any longer and continue the battle.

The two women in white didn't chase after them. They sheathed their swords and returned to Ye Guan's side.

Ye Guan's injuries had mostly recovered by the time they walked up to him.

Ye Guan slowly opened his eyes and smiled when he saw the two women.

The woman in the white skirt asked, "How do you feel?"

Ye Guan clenched his fists.

Boom!

Suddenly, a powerful aura burst forth from within him!

Dao Immortal Realm!

He had suffered severe injuries in the battle against Sovereign Xuan, but the fight had also given him enough insight to reach the Dao Immortal Realm.

The woman in the white skirt smiled and cheered, "Congratulations!"

Ye Guan slowly stood up and earnestly said, "Thank you both for your assistance."

The woman in the white skirt chuckled and asked, "Why are you so polite?"

Ye Guan smiled but remained silent.

He knew that the reason they had come here to help him was all because of his father. Their deep affection for his father had led them to extend their help to him as well. In their eyes, it was only natural for them to help him, but he couldn't take it for granted. He wanted to reflect deeply upon this incident.

The woman in the white skirt suddenly said, "Return to the Guanxuan Universe."

Ye Guan gathered his thoughts and looked at the two women.

"Are both of you going back to the Guanxuan Universe?"

The woman in the white skirt shook her head, "Brother isn't there, so we won't go."

Ye Guan nodded. He was about to say something else, but the woman in the white robe smiled and said, "Just go ahead and return!"

Ye Guan bowed deeply to the two women. "Thank you, Aunties."

With that, he turned around and hopped onto his sword. Soon, he disappeared into the depths of the starry sky.

The woman in the white skirt watched as Ye Guan vanished into the distance. Then, she chuckled and remarked, "What an extraordinary young man. He's already so strong despite his young age. He's impressive, but... he's a bit too stubborn!"

The woman in the white robe pointed out. "It seemed like he was afraid that we'd look down on him."

"No," the woman in the white skirt shook her head and said, "He simply doesn't want to rely too much on the strength of the previous generations. He wants to show us that he's as outstanding as the members of the old generation."

The woman in the white skirt chuckled once more before saying, "And he's not exactly wrong. He has chosen the Invincible Sword Dao, after all. Since he's on the path of invincibility, he naturally cannot rely too much on the support of others."

The woman in the white robe expressed some concern. "But his enemies are even stronger than Brother's enemies during his time..."

"You're right," the woman in the white skirt nodded and said, "I guess we'll stay here a while and protect him as we go."

"Sounds great," said the woman in the white robe with a smile.

...

A middle-aged man was sitting cross-legged somewhere on the Eternal World. The sky above him was filled with stars, but the sight seemed eerie for some reason.

The middle-aged man was none other than the Eternal Sovereign!

Six individuals dressed in white stood a few meters away from him.

They were all carrying a long saber, and they stood quietly while staring at the Eternal Sovereign.

Just then, a group of cultivators made their way over to the Eternal Sovereign.

It was the old man wearing daoist robes and his group of Great Destiny Sovereigns.

The old man bowed deeply and said, "First Sovereign."

The Eternal Sovereign slowly opened his eyes, "You failed?"

The old man's face darkened as he explained, "He has two exceptional swordsmen helping him."

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled lightly. "Two exceptional swordsmen?"

The old man nodded and said, "They were incredibly powerful."

The Eternal Sovereign slowly stood up and stretched his arms.

"Now it's getting interesting," he said with a smile. After stretching, he turned to the side and said, "Jingchen."

A man walked slowly toward him.

The Eternal Sovereign looked at the elegant man in front of him and asked, "How are your investigations? Have you found out everything there is to find about that young man?"

Jingchen nodded and said, "He's the Sword Master's son, and he's the current ruler of the Guanxuan Universe. He's exceptionally talented, and he also has several mysterious experts behind him. The most notable of those experts are a lady dressed in a plain skirt and Sword Master Qingshan."

The Eternal Sovereign waved his hand dismissively and said, "Those two aren't important. I just want to know if he's related to the Great Daoist Brush Master."

Jingchen shook his head and replied, "He bears the Dao Imprint, but he's not with the Great Daoist Brush Master. He also doesn't have the Great Dao Destiny on him, so he's not the Chosen One of this generation."

"So you're saying that the Great Daoist Brush Master isn't the founder of the Guanxuan Universe?" The Eternal Sovereign asked.

Jingchen nodded. "Yes, that's right."

"Puhahaha!" The Eternal Sovereign erupted into a peal of laughter and said, "Since he's not related to the Great Daoist Brush Master, and he's also not the Chosen One of this generation; we don't have to hesitate about killing him."

Chapter 347: A Mere Great Sword Immortal

Jingchen hesitated for a moment before saying, "It's not that straightforward."

The Eternal Sovereign replied, "Explain."

Jingchen spoke in a deep voice, "First Sovereign, The Divine Dao Civilization was born after the Eternal Civilization, but the Divine Dao Civilization was short-lived, as it was eventually overturned by the True God of the True Universe. The True God of the True Universe once clashed with the Great Daoist Brush Master, and she might have defeated the Great Daoist Brush Master back then!"

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes widened, and he waved his hand dismissively.

"That's impossible!" he exclaimed.

Jingchen looked at the Eternal Sovereign, and the Eternal Sovereign said, "I have fought against the Great Daoist Brush Master. His strength is incomprehensible, and he's invincible!"

Jingchen hesitated to speak.

The Eternal Sovereign smiled and explained, "I am not exaggerating here. I remained invincible for millions of years despite having a myriad of remarkable talents as my peers. I can confidently say Great Destiny Sovereigns and even Cosmic Spirits are mere ants before me, but the Great Daoist Brush Master..."

The smile on the Eternal Sovereign's lips vanished as he continued. "His strength is unprecedented, and I have never encountered anyone like him. I'd never believe the claim that someone has defeated him."

"But the Divine Dao Civilization was eventually defeated by the True God!" Jingcheng exclaimed.

"Why did she not kill the Great Daoist Brush Master, then?" asked the Eternal Sovereign.

Jingchen went silent. He couldn't answer because he didn't know the answer to the Eternal Sovereign's question. It was a fact that had been puzzling him as well.

The Eternal Sovereign laughed and said, "Of course, we cannot underestimate the True Universe."

Jingchen finally composed himself and said, "The True Universe is incredibly powerful, but they've been in conflict with Guanxuan Universe for millions of years and still haven't been able to destroy it. Therefore, we must approach the Guanxuan Universe with extreme caution."

"I understand what you're trying to say here, Jingchen." The Eternal Sovereign smiled and replied, "You've become cautious after our defeat against the Great Daoist Brush Master back then. Caution is great, but one must not be overly cautious, as extreme cautiousness will make you overly hesitant."

"In other words, you'll lose your boldness and mettle."

Jingchen remained silent.

"The Guanxuan Universe and the True Universe are our enemies." The Eternal Sovereign added. He then looked into the distance and smiled. "Since I've been granted a second chance at life, the Eternal Civilization shall be reborn, and I'll make sure that the myriad beings of the vast expanse will honor my Eternal Great Dao.

"This era still belongs to us."

"That woman, Cirou, has ill intentions. He wants us to attack the Guanxuan Universe," Jingchen said.

"How can I not see through her scheme?" The Eternal Sovereign replied, "I've simply decided to go along with the flow, as what she wants to happen is what I want to happen as well."

Jingchen looked at the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign explained, "I need that young man's divine items, especially the Divine Tree of Nature. It's going to heal me from my deep-seated injuries. In addition, the Guanxuan Universe is weaker than the True Universe, so they are easier to eliminate.

"With that in mind, let's annihilate the Guanxuan Universe first, and then we'll deal with the True Universe!"

"First Sovereign," the old man wearing daoist robes said, "The two swordsmen behind that young man are much stronger than Great Destiny Sovereigns."

The Eternal Sovereign closed his eyes and said, "What do you think we should do then? Should we annihilate the Guanxuan Universe first or the True Universe first?"

Jingchen spoke in a deep voice, "I think we should observe and hide until we've gotten strong enough. There's no need for us to hurry to dominate this vast expanse."

The old man wearing daoist robes nodded. It was the most conservative approach, and he thought it was a great idea because the Guanxuan Universe was obviously not as simple as it seemed.

It would be too risky to wage war on the Guanxuan Universe until they had enough information and were strong enough to do so.

The Eternal Sovereign suddenly asked, "What do we need the most right now?"

The old man wearing daoist robes and Jingchen were stunned, but their expressions turned ugly in the next moment.

What did they need the most?

Money!

Spiritual energy!

They had conquered the Chaotic Star Realm, but it was a garbage dump! There was barely any spiritual energy here, and there were a myriad of tribulations and calamities. It would be a struggle to flourish here.

Every single one of them needed vast amounts of spiritual energy to cultivate, but the Chaotic Star Realm barely had any spiritual energy, so it was difficult to achieve anything substantial here.

The Eternal Sovereign said, "We currently have two choices: conquer either the Guanxuan Universe or the True Universe first, or exit the boundary of this vast expanse and conquer the worlds outside."

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes fell on the old man wearing daoist robes and Jingchen.

"Which choice is easier?"

The two were quiet.

Undoubtedly, seizing what was already there was easier than going out there. In addition, the Eternal Sovereign was probably not strong enough to shatter the boundary of the vast expanse and venture outside.

The Eternal Sovereign said, "Prepare yourselves. We'll annihilate the Guanxuan Universe first."

Jingchen spoke in a deep voice, "We have to be careful of the True Universe."

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled and said, "That woman thinks she's clever, but she doesn't understand me at all. She doesn't realize that in the face of absolute strength, all schemes and tricks are like fleeting clouds. Once I obtain the Divine Tree of Nature and recover from my injuries, she'll understand what despair truly means. At that time, I will personally crush her head beneath my foot."

Jingchen hesitated to speak again. He wanted to remind the Eternal Sovereign not to underestimate the enemy, but upon second thought, no one could really threaten the Eternal Sovereign now that the Great Daoist Brush Master was no more.

The Eternal Sovereign had the right to be arrogant.

After all, he had only been defeated once throughout his entire life.

"Jingchen, you will lead the war against the Guanxuan Universe," said the Eternal Sovereign.

Jingchen looked at the Eternal Sovereign, "Your Majesty, since you've already decided to eliminate the Guanxuan Universe, why don't you take action and annihilate its denizens yourself? Why give them any chance?"

The Eternal Sovereign said, "I have more important matters to attend to."

Jingchen was curious, "More important matters?"

The Eternal Sovereign smiled and explained, "The Guanxuan Universe is just our first stepping stone. Our real enemy is the True Universe. Therefore, I must go and unseal the elites in this world and bring them to our side."

Jingchen nodded slightly and asked, "How many people should I bring?"

The old man wearing daoist robes chimed in, "The Guanxuan Universe isn't weak, so we should be careful."

The Eternal Sovereign calmly said, "Bring everyone with you. After taking over the Guanxuan Universe, I want you to use it as our base to attack the True Universe."

Jingchen nodded. "Understood!"

The Eternal Sovereign turned into a streak of light and disappeared. In no time, he arrived in the middle of the starry sky. The Eternal Sovereign opened his palm, and a tiny pagoda appeared in his hand.

"Pagoda spirit, have you not made up your mind yet? Let me tell you, in my era, countless divine items wanted to acknowledge me as their master, but I ignored them with disdain."

Little Pagoda remained silent.

The Eternal Sovereign laughed heartily and said, "Pagoda spirit, you've been around for quite a while. Have you ever seen someone stronger than me?"

Little Pagoda was quiet for a while before answering, "No."

The Eternal Sovereign burst into laughter and asked, "Then why don't you acknowledge me as your master?"

"I have an unfinished business that I really want to be resolved," Little Pagoda said, "If you can help me fulfill it, then I will acknowledge you as my master. What do you think?"

The Eternal Sovereign smiled and said confidently, "Tell me about it, then!"

Little Pagoda said, "I once had a feud with someone. If you can help me kill her, I will acknowledge you as my master."

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled and said, "I just have to kill someone? Who do you want me to kill?"

Little Pagoda said, "Plain Skirt Destiny!"

The Eternal Sovereign furrowed his brows slightly and asked, "Plain Skirt Destiny? Who is that?"

Little Pagoda said, "She's a Great Sword Immortal!"

"She's just a mere Great Sword Immortal?" The Eternal Sovereign shook his head and said, "Once I'm done with my business, I'll help you kill her, then."

With that, he disappeared into the depths of the starry sky.

...

After returning to the Guanyuan Universe, Ye Guan immediately sought out An Nanjing.

The two walked slowly in the clouds. An Nanjing made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan and said, "We know about the Eternal Civilization. The Great Daoist Brush Master didn't kill the upper echelons and elites of that era. He sealed them instead, and now that the seal on them has shattered, all of them will soon appear in the world."

Ye Guan spoke in a deep voice, "They are going to make a move against us soon."

An Nanjing nodded and said, "No, they've made a move on us long ago."

Ye Guan looked at An Nanjing.

An Nanjing calmly explained, "The mysterious lady inside you has turned against us, hasn't she?"

Ye Guan was astonished. "Senior, did you already know that she'd turn against us?"

An Nanjing shook her head and said, "I just guessed."

Ye Guan was puzzled. "Guessed?"

"She's a denizen of the True Universe, after all," An Nanjing explained, "There must have been a reason she decided to keep following you."

Ye Guan finally decided to ask the burning question that had been plaguing his mind.

"Why did my father allow her to follow me?" he asked.

An Nanjing made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan and asked, "Didn't you profit quite handsomely, all thanks to her?"

Ye Guan fell silent. An Nanjing was right.

An Nanjing changed the subject and asked, "Once the Eternal Civilization wages war on the Guanyuan Universe, the one who will ultimately benefit is undoubtedly the True Universe. Have you met the Eternal Sovereign? What kind of person is he?"

Ye Guan spoke in a deep voice, "He's invincible."

An Nanjing nodded slightly and replied, "I understand."

Ye Guan looked at An Nanjing. "Understand what?"

An Nanjing calmly said, "I understand that we have to prepare for battle!"

Ye Guan's expression froze.

An Nanjing added, "I'll go and gather our people."

With that, she turned into a streak of light that disappeared into the horizon. Ye Guan stared into the starry sky for a long time. After a while, he turned around and left.

However, a woman was standing in front of him.

The woman was none other than Nalan Jia!

Nalan Jia looked at him, and a captivating smile blossomed on her stunning face.

Ye Guan smiled as well as he walked up to her and brought her into his arms.

Nalan Jia's cheeks blushed slightly.

"There are other people around us," she chided.

"So what?" Ye Guan chuckled and said, "It's completely normal for a husband to hug his wife!"

Nalan Jia smiled and asked, "Why are you so happy?"

Ye Guan hugged Nalan Jia and whispered into her ears, "Because I'm seeing and holding you right now."

The charming smile on Nalan Jia's lips widened, and she wrapped her hands around Ye Guan's waist before whispering, "I'm also happy to see and hold you."

Ye Guan wanted to speak, but Nalan Jia interrupted him before he could even open his mouth.

"Lady Nangong Xue is very beautiful and charming."

Ye Guan froze, and his demeanor resembled a statue as he stood unmoving.

Nalan Jia chuckled and said, "I didn't want to monitor you, but Mother was worried about you, so she left behind someone to keep tabs on you. That's why I know..."

Ye Guan chuckled; his mother was truly outrageous.

Nalan Jia suddenly asked, "Is Lady Nangong Xue as beautiful as I am?"

A trap! Ye Guan grabbed Nalan Jia's hand and said, "Let's not talk about this, all right?"

Nalan Jia looked at Ye Guan with a slight frown. "Why?"

Ye Guan embraced Nalan Jia and whispered as gently as he could into her ears, "I just don't want to talk about other women in front of you."

Nalan Jia's heart melted at that.

However, Ye Guan wasn't done just yet. He leaned over and kissed Nalan Jia on the lips. His right hand unconsciously grabbed something, which melted Nalan Jia's body along with her heart.

## Chapter 348: Meeting Ao Qianqian Again

Absence would truly make the heart grow fonder...

It could be done as many times as one wanted so long as one wouldn't end up dying as a result of it.

A few days later, Ye Guan decided to pay Ye Qing a visit. The Guanyuan Universe had poured all of its best resources into cultivating Ye Qing, and the Guanyuan Academy even gave him his own chunk of the starry sky as his training ground.

Ye Guan was shocked to see Ye Qing. The latter was already a Time Immortal.

The two brothers were incomparably happy to see each other.

Ye Qing grinned and said, "Brother Ye Guan, how about we spar?"

"Sure!" Ye Guan said with a chuckle.

He also wanted to spar with Ye Qing to see how strong he was at the moment.

Ye Qing sounded serious as he said, "Brother Ye Guan, let's use one move to decide the winner."

Ye Guan nodded and said, "Sure!"

Ye Qing suddenly retreated hundreds of meters away. He opened his palm, and the Nine Dao Laws appeared behind him. Soon afterward, an ancient light door manifested above him.

The Door of Laws!

The entire training ground trembled violently at the appearance of the Door of Laws, and a mysterious energy enveloped the entire chunk of the starry sky where Ye Qing's training ground was located.

Ye Guan was stupefied. Ye Qing had become a bit stronger than he thought.

Ye Qing laughed heartily and remarked, "Brother Ye Guan, you have to be careful!"

He stomped with his right foot and turned into a multi-colored beam of light that rushed toward Ye Guan. The energy of the Nine Dao Laws inside of him strengthened him to the extent that every inch of spacetime before him was annihilated as he made his way over to Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was shocked. The Nine Dao Laws were much stronger than what he expected. He didn't dare to underestimate Ye Qing, and he stepped forward, slashing out with the Heavenrend Quickdraw.

Fifty swords in one!

Boom!

A deafening explosion echoed, and a figure was blasted away.

The figure belonged to Ye Qing, and he cut a sorry figure in mid-air, leaving trails of annihilated spacetime behind him.

It took Ye Qing a kilometer before he could stabilize himself in mid-air and stop flying. The Nine Dao Laws orbited him for quite a while, seemingly patching him up. Ye Qing wiped away the blood that had trickled down the corner of his lips.

Ye Qing chuckled bitterly and said, "I concede defeat."

He could only admit defeat, knowing that Ye Guan hadn't given it his all.

Ye Guan walked up to him with a smile and opened his hand.

A storage ring floated over to Ye Qing.

Puzzled, Ye Qing asked, "Brother Ye Guan, what is this?"

"It contains an ancient inheritance that I had obtained in the Chaotic Star World," Ye Guan replied, "The inheritance suits you, so I brought it away with me."

Ye Qing wanted to turn it down, but Ye Guan shoved it into his hands and said, "Take a look at it first before you turn me down."

Ye Qing obliged, and his eyes lit up when he saw a few billion spiritual cores inside the storage ring along with the ancient inheritance Ye Guan had mentioned. He quickly put the storage ring away and said, "Thank you, Brother Ye Guan."

He wanted to be modest, but a few billion spiritual cores were just too tempting.

Ye Guan smiled and said, "Let me know if you need anything."

Ye Qing grinned. "I actually don't need anything. The Academy provides me with everything I need, and they only give me the best."

"That's good, then," Ye Guan said with a nod.

"Actually..." Ye Qing hesitated for a little while before saying, "There's something I want to tell you, Brother Ye Guan..."

"What is it?" asked Ye Guan.

Ye Qing replied, "Clan Leader says they'd like to make me the official heir of the Ye Clan."

Ye Guan was stunned. Moments later, he grinned and exclaimed, "That's great!"

Of course, he could no longer become the Ye Clan's heir. However, the Ye Clan still needed an heir. Ye Guan was just filling up a role that he could never fulfill, so it was about time the Ye Clan found a new heir.

Ye Guan smiled and said, "Tell the Clan Leader that I'll always be a member of the Ye Clan."

"I will," Ye Qing replied.

They chatted for a while before Ye Guan left for the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan.

He had come here to visit Ao Qianqian. He had never seen Ao Qianqian again since he returned from the True Universe, and Ao Qianqian didn't attend his wedding as well.

Ye Guan's arrival sent the entire Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan into an uproar.

The clan leader quickly came out to welcome him personally.

"Uncle, I'd like to meet Qianqian," said Ye Guan.

The clan leader hesitated for a little while before saying, "Please give me a minute, Academy Master."

He then turned around and left for somewhere.

Ye Guan stood quietly without moving. He clenched his fists tightly, feeling slightly nervous. At the same time, he was excited to meet her. It had been quite a while since they met each other, after all. Regardless, he was a bit nervous meeting her.

The clan leader soon returned. He looked hesitant to speak, but he eventually said, "Qianqian said that she's cultivating and that she doesn't wish to meet anyone."

Ye Guan fell silent for a few seconds before he said, "Then I'll just wait for her here."

The clan leader was instantly stuck between a rock and a hard place. Should I chase him away? I don't dare, but if I don't chase him away, people will say that I'm too arrogant to keep even the Academy Master waiting.

"Let him in." Ao Qianqian's voice echoed from the great hall.

The clan leader was relieved, and he hurriedly said, "Academy Master, this way, please."

Ye Guan nodded, and he immediately saw Ao Qianqian upon entering the great hall. Today, Ao Qianqian was wearing a simple white skirt that made her look prim and proper. As usual, her long hair fell past her waist to her hips, and her slender figure was a head-turner.

She also sported two tiny dragon horns that made her look extremely adorable.

Ao Qianqian's back was facing Ye Guan, and she didn't say anything even after sensing his arrival.

Ye Guan cast a complicated gaze at Ao Qianqian. He was silent for a few moments before he walked up to her and muttered, "Qianqian..."

"Academy Master, may I know what's your business with me today?" Ao Qianqian replied cordially—no, coldly.

Academy Master? Ye Guan froze and went silent. He didn't expect that the distance between the two of them would grow so expansive in the proverbial blink of an eye.

Should I leave? Ye Guan pondered over it, but he quickly dismissed the idea. He walked around to face her and saw that Ao Qianqian's expression was as cold as her gaze.

Ao Qianqian was staring at him with an indescribable hostility.

Ye Guan had many things he wanted to say to her, but he couldn't find any words to speak upon seeing the coldness in her expression and gaze.

Ao Qianqian turned her back on him again and said coldly, "Academy Master Ye, if there's nothing else, then I will excuse myself and cultivate."

With that, she started walking away.

However, Ye Guan grabbed her hand. Ao Qianqian trembled ever so slightly, and she turned to look at him before saying, "Academy Master Ye, men and women shouldn't casually touch each other. Please have some self-respect."

Ye Guan took one step forward to get closer to her and said, "We've been together through thick and thin; our souls and hearts were once fused and connected. Our relationship is beyond ordinary."

Ye Guan's words caused many scenes of the past to appear in Ao Qianqian's mind

Tears started falling from her eyes as she said, "How great it would be if I had met you earlier. I don't blame you, I only blame destiny for letting me meet you and falling in love with you."

She stomped and flew out of the great hall.

The clan leader rushed up to Ao Qianqian, and his heart ached when he saw her tear-stricken face.

"Qianqian!" he exclaimed.

Ao Qianqian shook her head and transformed into a ray of multi-colored light that disappeared into the distance.

Ye Guan slowly walked out of the great hall.

The clan leader could barely resist the urge to give Ye Guan a few delicious knuckle sandwiches. Look at this fucker! My daughter is willing to give up her own life for you, and she almost died on a few occasions because of you. He's gone too far. If this little bastard weren't the Sword Master's son, I would have already killed him.

The clan leader was enraged, but he merely sighed and said, "Academy Master Ye, Qianqian has almost died on a few occasions just to protect you. Is she really not good enough for you?

"She... she really likes you, and—never mind. Perhaps our Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan simply cannot meet your standards. Academy Master, please do not visit us after this; your visits will only bring her pain."

With that, the clan leader turned around to leave.

Ye Guan was quiet for a while before he decided to leave as well.

Ye Guan wandered aimlessly across the starry night sky.

"Junior Disciple Ye!" someone exclaimed.

Ye Guan turned and found Nanling Yiyi. She was wearing a plain skirt that depicted images of the mountains and the rivers of the continent. Her hands were placed behind her back, and she was grinning at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan walked up to her and greeted, "Senior Disciple Yiyi."

"You returned, but you didn't even think of coming to see me?" she whined.

"I was just about to go and visit you." Ye Guan replied.

“Really?”

“Yup.”

“Were you at the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan just now?”

Ye Guan stiffened and went silent.

“You look sad,” Nanling Yiyi asked, “You seem unhappy. What happened? Things didn’t go well with Lady Qianqian?”

Ye Guan nodded without saying anything.

Nanling Yiyi shook her head and said, “You are seriously an idiot.”

Ye Guan cast a befuddled gaze at Nanling Yiyi.

Nanling Yiyi sighed and said, “Lady Qianqian likes you a lot; you know that, right?”

Ye Guan nodded.

“But you’re married to Lady Nalan.” Nanling Yiyi pointed out.

Ye Guan didn't say anything in response.

“How is she supposed to face you knowing your status and her feelings? Were you hoping that she would say, Young Lord Ye, it’s fine, I’m willing to be your second wife?”

"If you were in her shoes, I bet you wouldn't be able to say something like that, either. Your silence probably made her even angrier, there was no way she was going to face you with a smile."

Ye Guan hesitated for a short while before asking, "Then, what do you think I should do?"

"From now on, I want you to be honest with me."

"Honest with you?"

"Yes, do you like Lady Qianqian or not?"

Ye Guan froze, not knowing how to answer.

Nanling Yiyi pointed at him and chided, "Is there a penny on the ground? Don't look away! Answer me honestly!"

Hearing that, Ye Guan nodded.

Nanling Yiyi continued. "You like Lady Qianqian, but you also like Lady Nalan, right?"

Ye Guan became uncomfortable upon hearing that, and he couldn't help but feel like he was a scumbag. This Father and Grandfather's fault for being womanizers; they must have passed down the womanizer trait to me.

Nanling Yiyi smiled and said, "You like Lady Qianqian, but you're afraid that Lady Nalan will become unhappy if you were to respond to her feelings. It's a dilemma that has put you in a tough spot, and it's the reason you've been hesitating.

"It's also the reason you've decided to run away from them. In fact, you don't even want to think about them for now, knowing that you don't have any answers.

Ye Guan sighed and admitted, "Senior Disciple Yiyi, I truly can't hide anything from you."

Nanling Yiyi suddenly asked, "Who else do you like apart from Lady Qianqian?"

Ye Guan went silent before muttering, "Erm... about that..."

"Lady Ji Xuan?" she asked.

Ye Guan nodded.

"Anyone else?"

"There are two more..."

"Who are they?"

"No, no, let's not talk about this anymore."

"Were you hoping to live together with all the ladies that you like in peace and harmony?"

Ye Guan laughed sheepishly and said, "Well..."

"It is normal for men to have such desires, but..." Nanling Yiyi took one step forward and pinched his cheek before saying, "Junior Disciple, you're the number one womanizer of the Guanxuan Universe!"

Ye Guan didn't dare to resist, and he allowed her to pinch his cheek.

He was thick-skinned, anyway, so it didn't hurt him at all.

Nanling Yiyi retracted her hand before saying in a serious tone of voice, "Junior Disciple, it's not good to be so indecisive when it comes to romantic relationships.

"You have strength, good looks, an excellent background, a great personality, and you're rich, so girls are bound to be fond of you. Under such circumstances, your indecisiveness will only hurt many more people in the future.

"Once they've fallen for you and you rejected them, it'll become difficult for them to love someone else in the future. It's not that big of a consequence for you, but she might remain unmarried her entire life... do you understand what I'm saying?"

Ye Guan nodded and said, "I will keep my distance from any women I meet in the future."

Nanling Yiyi burst out in laughter. "Do you really think that every single woman who meets you will fall in love with you? Wow, you really are full of yourself, Junior Brother."

Ye Guan smiled and said, "I feel much better after chatting with you."

"You should talk with me more often, then," Nanling Yiyi replied.

"Sure!" Ye Guan nodded. Then, he seemed to have thought of something as he added, "You haven't told me how to solve the dilemma yet."

Nanling Yiyi said nonchalantly, "Since you like her, just marry her."

Ye Guan froze.

Nanling Yiyi explained, "If you don't marry them, only two things can happen to them. First of all, they might choose to live alone for the rest of their lives. Is that something you want them to do?"

Ye Guan shook his head.

“Finally, they might take a really long time to get over you and then marry someone else in the end. Do you want to see them marry anyone else?”

Ye Guan shook his head once again.

“Apart from Ji Xuan and Lady Qianqian, you said you like two more women. Who are they?”

“Do you really wish to know?”

Nanling Yiyi nodded.

Ye Guan leaned closer to her and whispered.

Nanling Yiyi froze upon hearing what he had to say.

#### Chapter 349: I'll Kill Myself

Ye Guan suddenly grabbed Nanling Yiyi's hand.

He took out an ancient book and placed it into her stiff hand.

“This is a divine spellbook written by the True God. It is slightly different from what the Great Daoist Brush Master has written, so I think it'll be really helpful to you as a reference.”

Ye Guan smiled at her before turning around to leave.

Nanling Yiyi called out in a trembling voice, “J-Junior Disciple, what you said just now... is it true?”

Ye Guan nodded.

Nanling Yiyi grinned, but tears abruptly streamed down her face.

She felt incomparably happy inside.

Ye Guan arrived at the Nether Palace, but he didn't see Ji Xuan.

He asked around and found out that Ji Xuan had departed for Milky Way on the day of his wedding.

Milky Way!

He stood for a long time outside the Nether Palace before he turned around to leave.

When he returned to the Xuzhen Holy Hall, he handed over the Ancient Divine Puppet Refinement Method to Nalan Jia. Only the Immortal Treasures Pavilion was rich enough to make these Divine Puppets.

Nalan Jia immediately mobilized the entire Immortal Treasures Pavilion to seek the necessary materials to craft a Great Sovereign Ancient Divine Puppet!

Afterward, Ye Guan went to meet with Erya and Little White.

He had decided to visit Erya in the hopes of getting her help to strengthen his fleshly body. If he could bring his fleshly body to the next level, the power of his Heavenrend Quickdraw would increase dramatically.

Ye Guan was already strong enough to fight Sovereign Xuan, but it wasn't exactly a fair fight. Sovereign Xuan had suppressed his cultivation base, and if he hadn't done that, Ye Guan would have lost their fight.

In other words, Ye Guan couldn't really fight Great Destiny Sovereigns just yet. There was still a huge gap between him and Great Destiny Sovereigns.

As usual, Erya was licking her hawthorn candy.

Little White was sitting on her shoulder.

Erya smiled at Ye Guan and said, "You want to improve your fleshly body?"

Ye Guan nodded.

"What's in it for me?" Erya asked.

Ye Guan had come prepared. He took out a storage ring and placed it in Erya's hand. The storage ring was full of candied hawthorns.

Erya smiled in satisfaction.

She examined Ye Guan's fleshly body with her hands all over him.

"You're strong, but this isn't enough."

Ye Guan sounded confused as he asked, "What's not enough?"

"You're not strong enough. You're too weak to withstand my blood."

"Really?" asked Ye Guan, sounding doubtful.

Erya patted his shoulder and exclaimed, "Grandson[1], you're still too young!"

Ye Guan's face immediately darkened.

“Lady Erya, can you just call me Ye Guan or Little Guan?” he asked.

“Little Guan?” Erya replied. She eventually nodded and said, “Sure, Grandson!”

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

Erya licked her candied hawthorn before saying, “Your fleshly body cannot withstand my blood. It's too weak.”

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, “My fleshly body has become really strong!”

Erya calmly replied, “Shall I test it out, then?”

“Sure!”

Erya unceremoniously punched Ye Guan's chest.

Boom!

Ye Guan was blasted a few kilometers away. Upon stopping, he looked down at himself and saw cracks on his fleshly body with fresh blood oozing out of them.

Ye Guan was in disbelief.

Erya looked at him and nonchalantly said, “That wasn't my full strength.”

Ye Guan chuckled bitterly. Lady Erya's strength was indeed frightening. If she had given her all, he would have been pulverized.

“Follow me, we'll go somewhere,” said Erya before turning around to leave.

Ye Guan followed closely behind her.

Soon, they found themselves in a quiet region in the starry sky. Erya stared at Ye Guan before asking, "You said you want to strengthen your fleshly body, right?"

"Yes!" Ye Guan nodded.

"I know a way to strengthen your fleshly body. Do you want to give it a try?"

"Yes! What is it?"

"It's easy. I just have to beat you up."

Beat me up?! Ye Guan was horrified.

Erya explained, "Getting beaten up is the best way to improve your fleshly body's durability. In addition, your Sword Dao will also improve if you train with me. It's not just going to be your fleshly body.

"Really?"

"Yes. Don't believe me? You can go and ask Little White."

Ye Guan cast his gaze upon Little White, but Little White only blinked.

Erya gave her a stick of candied hawthorn, and she hurriedly nodded.

Ye Guan was silent for a few moments before saying, "Come on, then. Let's do it!"

He decided to trust Erya.

Erya was a progenitor, so there was no need for her to deceive him if she wanted to harm him.

Erya's lips curled up in a sinister smile at Ye Guan's response.

Seeing that, Ye Guan immediately grew a bit fearful. He wanted to say something, but Erya was already flying toward him.

Boom!

Ye Guan couldn't even react as he was blasted away with a punch.

True Universe.

Left Councilor Feng Qi and Cirou were walking side by side in front of the True God Hall.

"The Eternal Civilization will soon make a move," Left Councilor Feng Qi said.

"I know," Cirou replied with a nod.

Left Councilor Feng Qi looked at her and said, "They'll start killing each other soon, and the True Universe will reap a ton of profit once they end up destroying themselves."

Cirou shook her head and said, "We can destroy the Eternal Civilization, but not the Guanyuan Universe."

Left Councilor Feng Qi asked, "Why not?"

“You can beat that young man and even bully him, but you cannot kill him. His father, aunt, and grandfather wish to see him grow on his own, but they definitely do not wish to see his death.

"I don't think they're going to stand by and do nothing as we attempt to kill that young man. If they do make a move against us, the entire True Universe will be annihilated," Cirou said.

Left Councilor Feng Qi frowned deeply. “Are you saying that Ye Guan was born to be invincible?”

"It's useless to get angry over it." Cirou smiled and explained, “It's his birthright, anyway.”

Left Councilor Feng Qi was silent. It would be a lie if she said that she wasn't angry.

“Our true motive is to lure them into taking on the Universe Tribulation. Big Sister has to be freed from that tribulation,” said Cirou. Then, she looked up and muttered, “I'm sure she has been having a hard time all this while.”

"Cirou," Left Councilor Feng Qi sounded worried as she said, "I feel like you're playing with fire here.”

Cirou smiled without saying anything.

Left Councilor Feng Qi continued. “His backers are extremely powerful. Are you not afraid of provoking them by plotting against him? They might end up destroying the True Universe, anyway.”

“No, they won't,” Cirou reassured.

“Why not?” asked the Left Councillor.

“Ba Wan and I have another trump card,” Ba Wan explained.

A trump card! Left Councilor Feng Qi frowned. After a few moments of contemplation, she seemed to have thought of something. Her eyes narrowed as she muttered in disbelief, “Ba Wan, is she—”

Cirou pressed a finger on her lips and shushed her. "Don't say it out loud."

Disbelief filled Left Councilor Feng Qi's face as she stuttered, "C-Cirou, you...!"

Cirou started walking away as she said, "This is the only way for Big Sister to come back and dissolve the hatred between us and them."

Left Councilor Feng Qi remained silent. She wanted to object, or rather reprimand her, as she truly felt that Cirou's actions were both despicable and shameless.

However, she knew that she had to betray her feelings and accept the cold truth.

The True God!

The True God had been suppressing the True Universe's Universe Tribulation for the longest time now, and she had contributed way too much for the True Universe.

According to Cirou's words, the True God seemed to be struggling to hold on. What was she talking about? Was the True God's life in danger? It would make sense. Otherwise, she wouldn't be struggling to suppress the Universe Tribulation.

Left Councilor Feng Qi wasn't sure because she had no idea about the true extent of the True God's strength. In addition, the enmity between the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe...

Left Councilor Feng Qi felt slightly upset and conflicted.

"Don't think too much about it." Cirou smiled and said, "I'll bear the consequences of my actions."

Left Councilor Feng Qi shook her head and said, "Cirou, I've investigated him before, and he is unique among swordsmen. He treats people with respect, and he's really kind, but he's more ruthless and decisive than his father once angered.

"I'm afraid you'll suffer a backlash from your plans. Even if you succeed in your plans, I don't think he's going to let you go..."

Cirou swept a stray piece of hair behind her ear and said, "I know his temper, and I also know the consequences of my actions. However, there are some things that have to be done at all costs."

Left Councilor Feng Qi sighed and went silent.

Cirou continued. "I'm only worried about the future..."

"The future?" Left Councilor Feng Qi asked.

Cirou nodded and explained, "The Eternal Sovereign is strong, but he only cares about the Great Daoist Brush Master, so he's not a big cause for concern. I'm more worried about the Great Daoist Brush Master.

"There's only one explanation while the supreme elites of the Eternal Civilization are still alive, including the Eternal Sovereign. Someone must have intervened and made sure that they were suppressed rather than killed, and I'm sure they're planning something."

The Great Daoist Brush Master! Left Councilor Feng Qi said in a low voice, "Did he lose on purpose?"

"No, he truly couldn't beat Big Sister," Cirou said with a shake of her head. Then, she sighed and continued, "I really can't guess his true intentions, but even if I have enough wisdom and knowledge to deduce his true intentions. I don't think I'm going to play any games with him.

Left Councilor Feng Qi asked, "Are you saying that all this is a part of his scheme?"

Cirou nodded without saying anything.

"Do you want me to send someone to investigate this matter?" asked Left Councilor Feng Qi.

"No, no, no. It is not our place to interrupt his scheme. It's best if we just stick to our own tasks and do them properly," Cirou said.

"Once they start fighting, the True Universe has to—"

"We don't have to do anything, Cirou interrupted, "We just have to observe how it plays out. Of course, we can go and agitate the Eternal Sovereign so that he'll attack the Guanxuan Universe with all his might."

Left Councilor Feng Qi reminded her, "You said that we shouldn't destroy the Guanxuan Universe..."

"Yes, we're not going to destroy them," Cirou said with a nod, "We're going to stay our hands and observe unless the Guanxuan Universe is on the cusp of getting annihilated. If the Guanxuan Universe somehow manages to defeat them, it's all because that little bastard has decided to ask for help."

Cirou shook her head and sighed before continuing. "That little bastard is pretty good in all aspects, but he's too proud. Honestly, what's so bad about having a powerful family? Many people can only dream of being in his shoes!"

Left Councilor Feng Qi nodded lightly and muttered, "Cijing..."

"I'll go and talk to her," Cirou replied. Then, she transformed into a ray of multi-colored light that disappeared into the distant horizon.

Stone Village.

Cishu was sitting quietly while holding a large bowl in her hands. She looked down at the large bowl for a long time, and she suddenly grinned before placing a right hand on her belly.

Just then, the door was flung open, and a woman walked in.

She was the Adjudication Sword Master.

Cishu hurriedly moved her hand away from her belly.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared quietly at her.

Cishu smiled and asked, "What is it?"

The Adjudication Sword Master replied, "The Eternal Sovereign is about to attack the Guanxuan Universe."

Cishu nodded without saying anything.

The Adjudication Sword Master walked up to her. She stared deeply at Cishu before saying, "So you don't like him at all? Did you sleep with him because of that devious and shameless plan of yours?"

"It seems that you like him a lot, Cijing. Let me ask you this, then." Cishu smiled and asked, "If you can only save one of them, who are you going to save? Would it be Big Sister or him?"

The Adjudication Sword Master turned away and said sternly, "I don't like him at all!"

Cishu chuckled and said, "Do you really think that you can hide that from me and Cirou?"

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet.

Cishu added, "Answer my question."

The Adjudication Sword Master thought about it for a while before saying, "I will not harm him because of Big Sister, and I will not harm Big Sister because of him. If they really have to fight, I'm just going to kill myself—out of sight, out of mind."

Cishu chuckled and pointed out. "It's no wonder that he likes you, too."

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned, and she sounded exasperated as she said, "What the hell are you talking about?"

Cishu chuckled once more before saying, "He's a fool, and so are you. Birds of the same feather flock together."

1. Not literally, just a term that she uses to belittle him ?

Chapter 350: Going to Meet the Plain Skirt Lady

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned and asked, "Are you not tired of living like that? Is it not exhausting to always scheme against someone?"

Cishu chuckled and said, "It's exhausting"

The Adjudication Sword Master said, "Then why not live a simple life?"

"Who's going to protect the True Universe?" Cishu retorted.

The Adjudication Sword Master stared deeply at Cishu before turning around to leave. She stopped at the door just before taking a step outside and said, "Cishu, regardless of your intentions, Big Sister will definitely not approve of what you guys are doing."

With that, the Adjudication Sword Master left the stone hut.

Left all alone, Cishu was quiet for a long while. Eventually, she picked up the large bowl and started smiling while looking down at it. However, she suddenly got upset, and her expression was soon clouded by extreme conflict.

It seemed that even she could no longer tell if she was even doing the right thing.

...

The Adjudication Sword Master stumbled across Cirou outside the stone hut, and her gaze immediately turned cold upon seeing the latter.

"Don't look at me like that, you brainless woman," Cirou said.

The Adjudication Sword Master asked, "The Eternal Civilisation is about to launch an attack on the Guanxuan Universe. Are you happy now?"

"Cijing, do you really think that you and that little bastard are compatible?" Cirou asked.

The Adjudication Sword Master didn't say anything, but she tightened her grip on her sword.

Cirou stared at her and demanded, "Tell me!"

The Adjudication Master looked at Cirou and muttered, "I know that we're not compatible. Still, I can't bear to see him get bullied by others!"

With that, she transformed into a ray of light that disappeared into the horizon.

Left all alone, Cirou could only stomp angrily and curse, "Fuck!"

Cishu walked out of the stone hut upon hearing the commotion, and she was just in time to see Cirou curse one more, "That brainless woman really only knows violence and how to fight!"

Cishu remarked, "I'm slightly envious of her, though."

Cirou frowned and asked, "Do you still like him?"

Instead of replying, Cishu turned around to leave.

Cirou's face darkened. "Don't you guys dare make me suffer a double whammy after we've paid such a huge price to get this far! Fuck!"

...

Boom!

A deafening noise echoed through the desolate starry sky somewhere in the Guanxuan Universe.

A figure was flying away at incredible speeds, and he inadvertently collided with a meteoroid. Fresh blood trickled down his lips. He wiped it away and looked at his chest. A fist-shaped dent was in his chest.

Erya licked her candied hawthorn and shouted, "Again!"

Ye Guan nodded lightly before rushing toward her once again.

Boom!

However, the outcome remained the same.

Fighting Erya was just asking for a beating. Ye Guan couldn't retaliate at all, and the most terrifying part was that even though his sword had managed to hit her in the head, it felt like he had struck an iron pillar rather than a head.

Erya's fleshly body was insanely strong!

Ye Guan composed himself and charged out once more.

Just like that, he would get blasted away again and again, but he would always pick himself up and charge at Erya once more. Of course, Ye Guan was getting stronger; his fleshly body was becoming more and more durable with every beating.

Thanks to the Divine Tree of Nature, he could recover quickly regardless of the severity of his injuries. The Divine Tree of Nature had made this training session with Erya possible. If it weren't for the Divine Tree of Nature, Ye Guan would have been crippled long ago.

Just like that, Ye Guan trained non-stop with Erya every single day. He decided not to care about matters regarding the Guanxuan Academy and passed most of his responsibilities onto Nalan Jia and the academy chiefs.

Meanwhile, the Guanxuan Academy was getting ready for battle.

The Eternal Civilisation would attack them soon.

In the True God Hall, Nalan Jia and Li Banzhi sat opposite each other.

Nalan Jia took out a secret note and read out the information written on it. "Known strong cultivators of the Eternal Civilisation: Twelve Great Destiny Sovereigns, a hundred Great Time Sovereigns, two hundred Ordinary Great Sovereigns, more than ten thousand Divine Sovereigns, and thousands of Great Sorcerers..."

"In terms of overall strength, we're still at a disadvantage."

After saying that, Nalan Jia turned to Li Banzhi.

Li Banzhi remarked in a low voice, "That's not our biggest problem. Our biggest problem is the Eternal Sovereign. Only Martial Goddess An is strong enough to fight him. Even then, her chance of winning isn't that high."

Li Banzhi then shook her head and continued. "He's also extremely arrogant. He doesn't take us seriously, but since he wants to obtain Little Guan's Divine Tree of Nature. We must fight him no matter what."

The Guanxuan Universe didn't have any other choice but to fight.

Nalan Jia nodded and said, "So be it."

Li Banzhi looked at her and said, "How's your progress with the items in the cloth sachet?"

Nalan Jia smiled and replied, "I've learned how to use the majority of them."

Li Banzhi nodded in approval and said, "Great."

The items that Qin Guan had left behind in the cloth sachet couldn't be underestimated. Back then, she had used those items to slaughter the Divine Spirits of the True Universe.

"I'm more worried about the True Universe," Nalan Jia expressed, "The True Universe will definitely be waiting to reap the benefits. I'm worried that they'd attack us the moment we've repelled the Eternal Civilization."

Li Banzhi frowned. She had the same sentiment as Nalan Jia.

Nalan Jia stood up. She walked over to the window and muttered, "The burden of protecting the Guanxuan Universe is truly a heavy mantle to carry."

Li Banzhi chuckled and said, "Well, there's nothing else you can do. Everyone else doesn't want to do your job, so who's going to protect the Guanxuan Universe if the two of you no longer want to protect it?"

Nalan Jia shook her head and chuckled.

Li Banzhi walked up to her and grabbed her hands. She then smiled and said, "Don't be too worried. His father, aunt, and grandfather will definitely not stand by and watch as the Guanyuan Universe is annihilated."

Nalan Jia nodded lightly and said, "Little Guan and I will try our best to keep the Guanyuan Universe safe."

She grabbed the cloth sachet hanging by her waist and added, "Mother left some things here that I was supposed to use against the True Universe. It seems that I'll be able to try them on the Eternal Civilization."

Li Banzhi felt anticipation rising in her heart as she stared at the cloth sachet.

She started wondering as to what Qin Guan had left behind.

...

Chaotic Star World—no, the Eternal World.

Under Jingchen's orders, the powerhouses of the Eternal Civilisation gathered at the former Martial Sect. The Martial Sect and the Holy Sect had been taken over by the Eternal Sovereign.

The Martial Sect and the Holy Sect didn't object.

After all, they once belonged to the Eternal Civilisation, just that they were a minor power at the time.

Throughout the entire Eternal World, Sovereign Xue of the Starry Sea Sect was the only outlier. She had refrained from joining the Eternal Civilization, but the Eternal Civilization couldn't care less about her.

She was a Great Destiny Sovereign, but it didn't matter to the Eternal Civilization.

Jingchen took out a secret note and started reading it. After a few moments, he looked at the old man wearing daoist robes and said, "Zhan Shi, the Guanxuan Academy is much stronger than we initially thought."

He handed over the secret note to Zhan Shi.

Zhan Shi accepted it and skimmed through it before saying, "Their strongest powerhouses are Martial Goddess An and a few others. As long as we keep them occupied, the rest of our people can massacre the others."

Jingchen nodded. The Guanxuan Universe had many supreme elites, but their common troops couldn't compare to the common troops of the Eternal Civilization.

Zhan Shi continued. "You must remember the two swordsmen I had mentioned. They're stronger than Great Destiny Sovereigns, so you must not underestimate them."

Jingchen nodded and said, "I will not."

Zhan Shi put the secret note down and said, "Overall, we're stronger than them."

"There's someone else that we can't afford to underestimate," someone from the Holy Sect chimed in.

Zhan Shi and Jingchen looked at the man who had just spoken with their eyebrows raised, gesturing for him to continue. The same man said in a low voice, "Not long ago, Ye Guan came to the Chaotic Star World with another swordswoman wearing a plain skirt, and she killed a Great Destiny Sovereign with just a glance."

Just a glance?! Zhan Shi and Jingchen immediately frowned.

Jingchen asked, "Are you sure?"

The man nodded and said, "Yes, I'm not lying. I can't possibly lie because the person she killed was the Sect Master of our Holy Sect."

Jingchen was quiet for a few moments before saying, "Is it possible that she used some kind of strange method to kill your Sect Master? Perhaps a method you won't recognize."

The man became a little hesitant. He started doubting himself because killing a Great Destiny Sovereign with a mere glance was just outrageous. However, one thing was for sure—the plain-skirt lady was extremely terrifying!

Jingchen saw the man's hesitation and was convinced that the so-called plain-skirt lady had to have employed a trick unknown to the Holy Sect. The man was a Great Sovereign, but he was just an Ordinary Great Sovereign.

He had also been living in a backwater world, so his experience and knowledge had to be inferior to the elites of the Eternal Civilization.

"Regardless of the trick she must have used, we can't underestimate that plain-skirt lady," Zhan Shi said.

Jingchen nodded. "Yes, she must be very strong because she managed to make quick work of a Great Destiny Sovereign. The only issue is that we are not aware of the depths of her strength."

"Well, that's not an issue at all." Zhan Shi smiled and said, "Just get a Great Destiny Sovereign to fight her, and we'll know."

Zhan Shi turned to the man from the Holy Sect and asked, "Do you know where she went?"

The man replied in a low voice, "She said that she's going to travel the vast expanse and that her first stop is Milky Way."

"All right," Zhan Shi said, "Let's send someone over to Milky Way, then."

He swept his gaze across the Great Destiny Sovereigns in the hall and asked, "Who wants to go?"

Sovereign Mang instantly stood up. "I'll go. I want to see if she can really kill a Great Destiny Sovereign with a mere glance."

"You cannot be reckless!" Zhan Shi reminded sternly.

"Of course, I won't be reckless." Sovereign Mang grinned and said, "I'll escape the moment I start losing. I don't think she can stop me if I want to escape."

Zhan Shi nodded. Sovereign Mang was one of the strongest Great Destiny Sovereigns in their roster. Not many people could stop him and kill him if he wanted to escape from a battlefield.

"See you later, then!" Sovereign Mang exclaimed before transforming into a multi-colored beam of light that disappeared into the starry sky.