

A Sword 361

Chapter 361: The Adjudication Sword Master

Three swords to choose from? Ye Guan was surprised. The swords were his plain-skirt aunt's Path Sword, his father's Qingxuan Sword, and his grandfather's Sword Precursor.

Clearly, his plain-skirt aunt, his father, and his grandfather were willing to lend their swords to White Skirt Qing'er.

Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at White Skirt Qing'er. It seemed that she was on good terms with all of them.

When Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao saw the Path Sword, his face turned ugly, and his eyes started trembling in fear.

The Path Sword was the sword that had struck the Heaven Seizing World and annihilated it. He couldn't help but feel terrified upon seeing it again. In addition, the other two swords seemed as terrifying as the Path Sword!

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao glanced at Ye Guan, thinking, His background is extraordinary!

White Skirt Qing'er swept her gaze across the three swords in front of her. She smiled lightly and stretched out her hand to stroke the three swords. In the end, her hand gripped the Path Sword.

The Path Sword trembled slightly as if responding to her.

White Skirt Qing'er turned to look at Shen Yijin not far away. Shen Yijin smiled lightly and was about to speak when White Skirt Qing'er vanished.

Sword light fled across the air as spacetime was directly torn apart.

Shen Yijin's eyes narrowed sharply, and fear gripped his heart. He had noticed White Skirt Qing'er while he was on the way here, but she wasn't emitting any aura, so Shen Yijin wasn't sure of her strength.

However, he instantly realized that he had underestimated her when he saw her drawing her sword. Unfortunately, there was no turning back for him. He had already shown them his cards, so retreating here would be a humiliation he couldn't afford to stomach.

Shen Yijin roared and clenched his right fist. He unleashed a punch emblazoned with a myriad of runes. The starry sky was instantly set ablaze. The spacetime of the starry sky was scorched until everything went quiet.

Shen Yijin didn't dare to be careless. He went all-out.

However, the runes that had emblazoned his fist were annihilated as the Path Sword swept across them. The Path Sword obliterated every rune, and then the Path Sword's swing became a thrust, piercing Shen Yijin's forehead.

Boom!

Shen Yijin was immobilized. Every onlooker was petrified as well. Shen Yijin was a Cosmic Spirit from the era of the Divine Dao Civilization, but the lady in the white skirt had defeated her with just one sword move?

Every elite from the Eternal Civilization was visibly shaken, and they hastily retreated from Ye Guan and his allies. Jingchen stared in astonishment at White Skirt Qing'er in the distance. Even the Battle Sovereign showed unprecedented seriousness in his gaze.

He was convinced that he couldn't block the lady in the white skirt's sword move even if he were at his peak.

The lady in the white skirt was strong, but the sword in her hand was even stronger!

Ye Guan's heart was filled with astonishment as he gazed at White Skirt Qing'er in the distance. The power of the Path Sword in her hands was completely different from when he wielded it. Clearly, the strength of a sword would vary depending on the strength of its wielder!

Ye Guan clenched his fists as his blood started boiling. He silently vowed to work even harder. One day, he wanted to make a sword as strong as the Path Sword.

White Skirt Qing'er looked at Shen Yijin in front of her.

She turned to look at Ye Guan and smiled. "Kid, come over here."

Ye Guan hurriedly went over to White Skirt Qing'er.

White Skirt Qing'er smiled faintly and said, "Now you can talk reasonably with him."

After a moment of thought, Ye Guan shook his head and said, "I think there's no need to do so."

"Young Master Ye!" Shen Yijin hurriedly said, "Spare me, and I'm going to serve the Guanyuan Universe under your command."

Shen Yijin was afraid of death, and he also knew the consequences of an uncompromising mindset. The result of his stubbornness was getting sealed for millions of years. He had cried a lot over those millions of years, regretting his decision to remain stubborn against the Great Daoist Brush Master.

He had just escaped from confinement, so he didn't want to die just like this. He didn't want to die when he had just regained his freedom after millions of years!

Hearing Shen Yijin's words, Ye Guan sighed inwardly. White Skirt Qing'er was right, a beatdown was sometimes more effective than words. If one were stronger than the other, the latter would beg you to talk reasonably with them.

White Skirt Qing'er turned to look at Ye Guan, seeking his opinion.

Ye Guan decisively said, "Kill him."

White Skirt Qing'er's lips curled slightly, and there was a hint of approval in her eyes.

As the ruler of the Guanxuan Universe, kindness could be fatal, as his enemies would certainly exploit it.

Shen Yijin's face turned fierce, and he roared, "If you're not going to let me live, I'm going to drag you down with me!"

His words had yet to finish echoing when his aura surged crazily. The terrifying undulations indicated only one thing—he had decided to self-destruct!

Snap!

White Skirt Qing'er snapped her fingers.

The Path Sword trembled violently, and there was a loud explosion as the Path Sword annihilated Shen Yijin. He failed to let out even a scream as the Path Sword obliterated both his fleshly body and soul, denying him the chance to reincarnate.

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao sighed softly.

How foolish!

He should have remained low profile and enjoyed his freedom. After all, he had just been unsealed after millions of years. How foolish of him to come here and seek his own death.

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao suddenly felt that he was quite fortunate. It was a good thing that he had escaped decisively and as fast as he could. Otherwise, he would have suffered the same fate as Shen Yijin.

Meanwhile, the cultivators of the Eternal Civilization wore ugly expressions at the terrifying sight that they had just witnessed. Shen Yijin was a Cosmic Spirit, but he had been destroyed just like that.

They finally realized that they had grossly underestimated the Guanxuan Universe.

Jingchen's face changed drastically upon realizing something. He suddenly turned towards the direction of the Guanxuan Universe. He had sent more than a thousand sorcerers to the Guanxuan Universe for an ambush, so how come things were so quiet? Were they still alive? How about the Demon Sovereign?

The Unfettered Swordsman looked down at Ye Guan below. He smiled lightly before transforming into a streak of sword light that disappeared into the depths of the starry sky.

White Skirt Qing'er, Slaughter, and An Nanjing looked up briefly at the starry sky.

Soon, White Skirt Qing'er opened her palm, and the Path Sword returned to her hand. She shook her head and smiled while looking down at the sword in her hand.

Powerful external tools like the Path Sword had to be reserved for emergencies. It would be dangerous to use them frequently, as it would make one overestimate themselves until they eventually lose their own path.

Divine Transcendence! They were so close to it; they just needed one step, but it was an extremely difficult step to take. Plain Skirt Destiny had become a god in the hearts of everyone, including the Sword Master.

To destroy her image of a god in their hearts, they had to confront themselves first.

White Skirt Qing'er sighed, and then she turned toward Jingchen and the others in the distance. They shuddered, and before Jingchen could give the command, they turned around and ran as fast as they could.

A fight was just impossible at this point.

In addition, the experts of the Guanxuan Universe were truly exceptional, and they seemed to be capable of growing stronger the longer the battle. Especially the lady in the white skirt. It was absurd how she had single-handedly disposed of a Cosmic Spirit in a single sword move.

Jingchen's expression turned ugly at the arbitrary retreat of his subordinates. He contemplated leaving behind some harsh words but decided against it. It would be his end if the enemies decided to chase after them out of fury.

Jingchen turned around and ran.

White Skirt Qing'er didn't bother to chase after them. She opened her palm, and the Path Sword took to the skies, disappearing into the starry sky. The Qingxuan Sword and the Sword Precursor also vanished into the depths of the starry sky.

Ye Guan glanced at the sky and asked, "How is Plain-Skirt Aunt doing in Milky Way?"

White Skirt Qing'er blinked and replied, "I don't know."

Ye Guan sighed.

White Skirt Qing'er added, "But we'll find out soon enough."

Ye Guan was surprised. "Are you going to Milky Way, too?"

White Skirt Qing'er nodded. "Brother is there, so we want to go there, too."

"I see." Ye Guan nodded.

White Skirt Qing'er smiled lightly and said, "Of course, we won't go there soon. The Eternal Sovereign is strong, and he's in the process of unsealing supreme elites from ancient eras, so we've decided to stay here with you until the crisis has passed."

Ye Guan muttered, "Thank you."

White Skirt Qing'er shook her head. "We're family; why say thank you?"

Ye Guan grinned and replied, "All right, no more thank yous in the future."

"Sounds great." White Skirt Qing'er chuckled. She smiled lightly and asked, "By the way, you're technically from Milky Way as well, so have you ever thought about going there? You have many relatives there, and your mother's clan, the Qin Clan, is there."

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "Let's see when the opportunity arises."

White Skirt Qing'er nodded lightly and said, "Okay."

Ye Guan smiled, but he suddenly recalled something and asked anxiously, "Aunt, the Guanyuan Universe..."

"Don't worry," An Nanjing chimed in, "The Guanyuan Universe is being protected."

Ye Guan was curious. "By who?"

An Nanjing remained silent.

Ye Guan shook his head with a smile and didn't dare to ask further. He was wary of Senior An, as she would really beat him up if he ever angered her.

"You should take Little Jia and the others back first," Mu Niannian said to White Skirt Qing'er.

White Skirt Qing'er nodded and led Little Jia away along with the others.

Mu Niannian looked at Ye Guan and said, "The Eternal Civilization won't give up. The Eternal Sovereign is extremely arrogant... Well, he does have the justification to be arrogant."

"Anyway, In your opinion, what should we do now?" asked Mu Niannian.

Ye Guan said seriously, "Please enlighten me, Aunt!"

Mu Niannian smiled and said, "You really are a sweet talker."

"Actually, we should be more careful of the True Universe," said Mu Niannian. She then turned to look at Ye Guan and said, "The mysterious woman inside you isn't with you anymore. Has she shown her true colors?"

Ye Guan nodded without saying anything.

Mu Niannian asked, "It's related to the Universe Tribulation, right?"

Ye Guan was somewhat surprised. "How do you know?"

"I guessed." Mu Niannian smiled and continued. "She wants you to take on the Universe Tribulation, right?"

Ye Guan nodded once again.

"What a scheming vixen!" Mu Niannian remarked coldly.

Ye Guan asked in a deep voice, "Can my father take on the Universe Tribulation?"

Mu Niannian looked at Ye Guan, "Your father has taken that step to Divine Transcendence, but he still couldn't kill the True God. The True God hasn't been able to extinguish the Universe Tribulation as well, so what do you think?"

Ye Guan's expression was calm.

Mu Niannian whispered, "The Five-Dimensional Universe has encountered this Universe Tribulation as well, but it is trivial compared to the Universe Tribulation of the True Universe. It has accumulated a horrifying amount of power after being suppressed for so long, so it has become unimaginably terrifying.

"Still, the True God and your father can destroy it. However, destroying the Universe Tribulation means rebuilding the True Universe and the All Worlds from scratch."

"Is there really no other solution?" asked Ye Guan.

"There is a solution." Mu Niannian stared straight at Ye Guan and said, "Suppress it. The True God has been doing it for quite a while now, though."

Ye Guan sighed softly.

Mu Niannian explained, "That woman does not want you to take over the task of suppressing the Universe Tribulation. She wants you to provoke it and have the people behind you suppress it for you."

Ye Guan sighed once again. It seemed that all the solutions to address the Universe Tribulation were just band-aid solutions. He finally knew why his father didn't go and challenge the True God again.

"I think you two should talk," Mu Niannian said.

Puzzled, Ye Guan asked, "What do you mean?"

Mu Niannian shook her head and pointed to the right. Ye Guan followed her gaze and saw a young woman standing in the distance.

The Adjudication Sword Master! Ye Guan froze in surprise.

"She's always been here, and it seems that she's—" Mu Niannian caught herself in time and shook her head. She then turned around and left without saying anything.

Chapter 362: I Like You!

The Adjudication Sword Master turned around to leave, but a spacetime rift manifested in front of her, and Ye Guan walked out of it.

The Adjudication Sword Master stopped walking and stared at Ye Guan silently as he walked up to her.

Ye Guan sounded excited as he exclaimed, "Cijing!"

Cijing!

The Adjudication Sword was astonished. Ye Guan had always addressed her formally as Lady Adjudication Sword Master, so she couldn't help but be astonished that he had addressed her so casually.

Ye Guan laughed and exclaimed once again, "Cijing!"

"What?" As always, Cijing's reply was as cold as a thousand-year-old icy cavern. However, Ye Guan had already gotten used to her cold replies.

"Did you come here to help me?" asked Ye Guan.

Cijing's expression was indifferent as she said, "As if."

Ye Guan grinned but stayed silent.

Cijing's eyebrows raised, and she asked, "Why are you smiling?"

"I'm just happy to see you here," Ye Guan replied.

Cijing looked at him. After a while, she looked away and shook her head. She turned around to leave, but Ye Guan pulled her arm. She turned and glared at him.

"What are you pulling me back for?" she asked.

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, "Cijing, can we talk?"

"What is there for us to talk about?" asked Cijing while glaring at him.

Ye Guan had many things to say, but he didn't know how to start.

"I'm from the True Universe, and you're from Guanxuan Universe. The only thing we can talk about is how to destroy the other," said Cijing.

"Then why did you save me over and over again?" asked Ye Guan.

Cijing said fiercely, "Because I want to end you myself!"

"That's a lie." Ye Guan shook his head and retorted, "Otherwise, I would have died long ago."

Cijing shook her head and didn't say anything in response. She also had many things she wanted to say, but she wasn't sure how to start.

Ye Guan was from the Guanxuan Universe, and she was supposed to kill him, but for some reason, she didn't want to see him die. Her emotions were like a tangled web; she was conflicted and found it agonizing.

The Adjudication Sword Master then said, "I'm leaving."

She turned around to leave, but Ye Guan didn't let go of her arm.

The Adjudication Sword Master met Ye Guan's gaze.

Ye Guan stared intently at her ice-cold visage and gently brushed her cheek with his right hand.

She didn't resist his touch, but she asked, "Do you know what you're doing?"

Ye Guan grinned. "Do you know what I felt when you were about to leave just now?"

The Adjudication Sword Master was quiet.

"I felt like a failure," Ye Guan confessed.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned slightly.

Ye Guan explained, "You've saved me multiple times now, and you've done it, even though you're from the True Universe. I know you must have been torn between saving me and killing me, especially when the former means that you'll stand on the opposite side of your sister."

Ye Guan revealed a self-deprecating smile and said, "You've always been so unwaveringly devoted to me, but what about me? I've been playing dumb, pretending not to know, not even daring to say that I like you..."

The Adjudication Sword Master flinched, and her heart started to pound madly against her chest. Her voice was trembling, and even her pupils quivered violently as she stared at Ye Guan and muttered, "Do you even know what you're saying?"

"It doesn't matter whether you like me or not," Ye Guan stared at her and said earnestly, "I like you."

The Adjudication Sword Master quivered, and a strange feeling rose in her heart.

"What do you like about me?" She shook her head and said, "You're from the Guanxuan Universe, and I'm from the True Universe. Have you forgotten that we're enemies? Are we going to stage some melodramatic play in the future?"

Ye Guan was about to speak, but she continued. "You won't betray the Guanxuan Universe for me, and I won't betray the True Universe as well as my elder sister for you, so—"

"Huh? What am I even saying?" The Adjudication Sword Master frowned deeply and explained, "I never said I like you too!"

She had just allowed her thoughts to get the better of her!

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at Ye Guan with a mix of embarrassment and anger. This scoundrel of a man was truly cunning.

Ye Guan was stunned by the Adjudication Sword Master's tirade. However, her embarrassed visage had also taken him by surprise. The Adjudication Sword Master's cheeks were adorned with faint blush, and even though her overall demeanor was icy, it carried an inexplicable charm that captivated him.

Seeing Ye Guan staring at her with infatuation, the blush on the Adjudication Sword Master's cheeks deepened a bit. She glared fiercely at Ye Guan and scolded, "What are you looking at? Keep staring, and I'll stab you to death."

Ye Guan tightened his grip on the Adjudication Sword Master's arm and muttered, "You're really beautiful."

The Adjudication Sword Master was stunned. She avoided Ye Guan's gentle gaze and muttered, "What's the point of telling me that?"

Ye Guan held the Adjudication Sword Master's hand and whispered, "I've been avoiding it. I hadn't been able to face you because I've been thinking of you as part of the True Universe, as the Adjudication Sword Master. We're enemies..."

"We've always been enemies, and we're going to keep on being enemies. A fight to the death is our fate, and we cannot escape that fate," the Adjudication Sword Master said.

Just then, Ye Guan bent down and kissed her on the lips. Books had taught Ye Guan that it was sometimes unnecessary to talk reasonably with women, and it was highly recommended not to argue with them.

If there were issues between a man and a woman—the man should just kiss her!

The Adjudication Sword Master's figure stiffened, and her mind went blank. When she came to her senses, she instinctively wanted to resist, but she felt as though her entire body was made out of jelly. She couldn't resist at all.

Ye Guan was a bit nervous. It was his first time stealing a kiss. Fortunately, it seemed that all men had the ability to adapt quickly during intimate moments.

Ye Guan felt that the Adjudication Sword Master had gone soft in his arms, and his heart started going wild—no, it was actually his hands. His hands were about to dance all over the Adjudication Sword Master's slender figure.

"Humph!"

A cold snort abruptly echoed from the side.

The Adjudication Sword Master's face instantly changed, and a powerful sword aura burst out of her, blasting Ye Guan a few meters away. Ye Guan recovered quickly from his astonishment and followed the Adjudication Sword Master's gaze.

The Adjudication Sword Master was staring at Cirou wearing a long pale yellow dress.

Ye Guan's expression soured, and he felt horrible. Why did she show up now of all times?!

The Adjudication Sword Master's expression was a hodgepodge of embarrassment and fury. She was embarrassed that her sister had seen her during that, and she was furious at Ye Guan.

She glared at Ye Guan, and her gaze looked like it was sharp enough to kill.

Cirou swept her gaze across the two and sneered, "How scandalous!"

"So what?" The Adjudication Sword Master glared coldly at Cirou. "It's none of your business!"

Cirou smirked, saying nothing.

Ye Guan started walking toward the Adjudication Sword Master. As he approached, The Adjudication Sword Master drew her sword and pointed it at him before stammering, "Y-y-you... don't come any closer! I'm going to stab you if you do!"

Ye Guan stood his ground and called her bluff.

The Adjudication Sword Master's cheeks flushed red.

Ye Guan smiled softly and said, "I didn't mean to be disrespectful. I was just so happy to see you that I was struck by this overwhelming urge to kiss you. I don't know what happened to me. Perhaps it's because you're so beautiful—no, I think it's because I really like you..."

Cirou's eyes widened in disbelief at Ye Guan's sudden confession. What? Since when and how did this scoundrel become a smooth talker?

The Adjudication Sword Master's fierce gaze softened upon hearing Ye Guan's words. She looked at the slightly nervous and uneasy Ye Guan and relented. She lowered her sword and muttered, "Just don't be so disrespectful next time."

Cirou's expression froze, and she stared wide-eyed at the Adjudication Sword Master.

Is she the same Cijing that I know? Is she really that Cijing? Oh, no! Cirou realized that the clueless girl had truly fallen for Ye Guan. Otherwise, she would have gotten mad upon getting kissed from out of nowhere. However, the opposite had just happened. This is a complete disaster!

No! Cirou was determined not to let Cijing fall deeper in love with him! Having made up her mind, Cirou hurriedly said, "Cijing, this scoundrel isn't what you think he is. He's really despicable. He's just playing with your feelings. I've followed him for so long, and I know his personality well. He has many flaws, really..."

The Adjudication Sword Master glanced at Cirou and asked, "What are those flaws?"

Cirou wanted to say something, but she found herself at a loss for words.

Flaws? What are Ye Guan's flaws?

She couldn't come up with anything on the spot. She had been following Ye Guan for a long time, so she knew that he had a great personality. He was also humble despite his powerful background, and he was also quite a hard worker. He also stood out as a positive influence among his peers, so he was flawless in Cirou's eyes.

Still, Cirou knew that she had to nitpick here, so she said, "He's quite fickle in relationships, and he's attracted to many women. He fits Big Sister's description of golden retriever men, and he can't even take care of his women."

The Adjudication Sword Master turned to look at Ye Guan.

"Can't take care of my women? Are you talking about Ba Wan?" Ye Guan asked.

Ba Wan? Cirou froze upon realizing that she had messed up.

The Adjudication Sword Master frowned.

"Lady Cirou, others liking me is their business, and I can't stop them from liking me. However, I have to admit that I genuinely like Ba Wan, just as I like Cijing... Of course, I had no idea at the time that I was just dancing on your palm."

Ye Guan shook his head with a smile and said, "Lady Cirou, you've created a trap targeting my emotions and good intentions. It's a trap I couldn't have avoided, so you really are a genius. I concede. I can't outsmart you."

The Adjudication Sword Master glared coldly at Cirou and said, "How despicable."

Cirou remained silent. She wanted to say something more, but Ye Guan suddenly walked up to her. Cirou looked at him silently

Ye Guan spoke earnestly, "Lady Cirou, you've been with me from the start of my journey. You've helped me a lot, and you've even saved me a few times. I've always respected you, and I've always thought of you as my tutor. Even now, I've never said anything bad about you to others..."

"So..." Ye Guan shook his head slightly and asked, "Must you speak ill of me to Cijing?"

Cirou stared quietly at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan continued, "I know you're helping your big sister, and that's the reason behind your scheme against me. However, Lady Cirou, I'm sure you know just what kind of a person I am.

"You've treated me well, so if you were in trouble and needed my help, you could have just called my name. Do you really think that I would have stood by and allowed you to face such adversity by yourself?"

"I understand that the Universe Tribulation is extremely dangerous, and it concerns the fate of the vast expanse, but you should have just talked to me about it. I respected you a lot, and I would have asked my relatives to help you."

Ye Guan shook his head once again; his gaze seemed melancholic as he said, "All you needed to do was say one word, and I, Ye Guan, would have gone all out to help you because I truly respected you, and... I considered you as family."

Cirou clenched her fists tightly, and her pupils quivered as she stared at Ye Guan. She truly didn't expect that she had such a high position in Ye Guan's heart. No, she hadn't even considered it.

Chapter 363: Rely on Oneself

After hearing what Ye Guan said, the Adjudication Sword Master glanced at him with a complicated look in her eyes. This man is really pitiful.

Cirou was simply too mean!

The Adjudication Sword Master turned around and glared at her.

Meanwhile, Cirou remained silent. She wanted to retort, but she had nothing to say because she knew that he wasn't lying.

He spoke every word from his heart.

Even though this man was not very well-mannered when he spoke sometimes, he would not engage in such lowly tricks of verbal deception. At this moment, however, she was slightly hoping that this young man would become a little more cunning with her.

However, Ye Guan no longer cared about Cirou. He walked up to the Adjudication Sword Master and took her hand, saying, "I suddenly thought of an idea. If you become the True Universe's ruler and have a baby with me, the ruler of the Guanyuan Universe, then—Ah!"

The Adjudication Sword Master glared at him angrily and pinched his palm tightly.

The cold look on her face was coupled with a little anger and shyness as she said, "Do you want to die?! Why would you say such things all of a sudden? I-If you say such things again, I-I'll stab you to death! Don't laugh, I'm not joking, I'm serious..."

Cirou stared at Ye Guan, not saying a word.

Ye Guan smiled at the Adjudication Sword Master's conflicting expressions.

He cast a serious gaze at her and said, "No matter what happens in the future, I'm going to tell you how I feel today. I like you. It doesn't matter whether you like me or not."

Then, he turned and hopped onto his sword before disappearing beyond the horizon.

The Adjudication Sword Master seemed to be in a trance as she watched him leave.

After a while, she smiled. No matter what would happen between them in the future, she was happy that he had confessed his feelings for her. She disliked people who liked to beat around the bush. If one liked someone, one should tell them; if one hated someone, one should tell them as well.

In her opinion, people should be more straightforward.

Cirou suddenly asked, "Did your relationship start at the Eternal Secret Realm?"

The Adjudication Sword Master retracted her thoughts and turned to look at Cirou.

"Is it any of your business?" she said.

Cirou sounded serious as she said, "Cijing, I know that you do not agree with what Cishu and I have done, but I have to remind you that having feelings for someone will end up hurting you the most... Okay, you like him but don't be in a rush. Wait a bit longer..."

Cijing shook her head and said, "Cirou, I know what you're trying to say, but I feel that people should live more freely. If we want to love someone, we should just go for it. Even if I have to meet him in combat one day, I don't think it'll be a big deal."

Cirou stared at her and asked, "You love him, too?"

"No, I hate him!" Cijing replied before turning around to leave.

Cirou was silent for quite a while before she turned around and left as well.

...

Somewhere in the starry sky, Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao was staring into the depths of the starry sky in silence. Heaven Seizing Lie was standing next to him.

They were the only two powerhouses left in the Heaven Seizing Clan.

Heaven Seizing Lie had a complicated expression on his face as he said, "I did not think that the Guanxuan Universe had so many mysterious supreme elites behind the scenes."

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao nodded slightly and sighed.

Heaven Seizing Lie sighed as well, feeling extremely conflicted inside. He knew that there was no way for the Heaven Seizing Clan to avenge itself anymore.

The Guanxuan Universe was not to be provoked!

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao suddenly said, "Countless imprints are starting to shatter because of the Great Daoist Brush Master's disappearance. Those Boundary Imprints are weakening as well..."

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao shook his head and continued. "We should bring our clansmen somewhere else."

Heaven Seizing Lie asked in a low voice, "Clan Leader, will the world soon be plunged into chaos?"

Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao calmly replied, "It's already in chaos."

He tilted his head up and looked at the skies. In a soft voice, he added, "Why do I feel even weaker even though I have gone through another cycle of reincarnation?"

...

Eternal World.

Jingchen and the rest remained scared even after they had returned to the Eternal World. They truly didn't expect that the supreme elites of the Guanxuan Universe would be so terrified. They were almost annihilated. Jingchen's face was incomparably gloomy, as he was the commander in charge of the mission.

His plan was to eliminate the Guanxuan Universe's supreme elites before taking over the Guanxuan Universe. Then, he would use their power to deal with the True Universe. However, the true prowess of the Guanxuan Universe's supreme elites had caught him off guard. They were so much stronger than he had imagined!

That lady in the white skirt was especially terrifying—she had killed a Cosmic Spirit in one sword move!

Zhan Shi appeared beside Jingchen. In a low voice, he said, "Out of a thousand Great Sorcerers that were sent to the Guanxuan Universe, only half of them managed to return."

Jingchen's eyes narrowed, and he turned to look at Zhan Shi. "Half?"

Zhan Shi nodded, and his expression turned extremely sour.

Jingchen was silent for a few moments before asking, "Where is the First Sovereign?"

They were not in a position to go against the Guanxuan Universe, so they wanted the Eternal Sovereign to make a move, as he was the only one strong enough to resolve all these issues.

Zhan Shi replied, "He's currently heading to the Divine Ruins."

Jingchen's eyes narrowed, and he said, "Divine Dao Civilization... All right, I want you to tell the First Sovereign about the result of our mission."

...

Upon returning to the Guanxuan Universe, Ye Guan immediately went into closed-door cultivation. His fight against the Battle Sovereign had enlightened him to many things, especially the integration of battle intent into his sword intent.

He felt like his worldview had been expanded, and he realized that his sword intent was actually quite flexible.

Ye Guan decided that he would incorporate his Tribulation Lightning Sword Intent, Martial God Intent, and Battle Intent into his sword intent to make full use of each intent.

Ye Guan opened his hand, and his three intents took to the skies. They soon converged above his head. Moments later, they merged with a loud explosion, and the surrounding spacetime quivered violently.

His sword intent had gotten drastically stronger!

Ye Guan smiled, but his smile soon vanished upon realizing that the convergence of three swords intents into one had consumed a ton of profound energy. Ye Guan pointed out with his fingers, and the three intents transformed into a sword.

The sword was around thirty-six inches in length, and it seemed to be made out of myriad motes of light that resembled the starry sky. Ye Guan had just created a whole new sword intent!

Ye Guan smiled before swinging it ahead of him. The sword tore the spacetime in front of him as lightning crackled around Ye Guan. Ye Guan closed his eyes, and the sword intent in his hand soon dissipated.

Ye Guan assessed his strength and realized that he was as strong as Great Time Sovereigns. He could probably fight weaker Great Destiny Sovereigns without any help, but he still couldn't fight powerful Great Destiny Sovereigns like the Battle Sovereign.

His cultivation base was still too low for him to fight the Battle Sovereign. He took a deep breath and told himself that he had to work even harder. He stopped complaining even though his opponents were only getting stronger and stronger. He knew that his grumblings wouldn't resolve his issues after all. Furthermore, his father had left behind a powerful group to assist him.

In fact, he was the weakest among his relatives here.

Therefore, Ye Guan decided to work even harder. He had to become a Great Sovereign so that he could confidently beat all the other Great Sovereigns!

Just then, a lady walked up to him.

Ye Guan retracted his thoughts and turned to find Mu Niannian.

Ye Guan quickly bowed to greet her, "Aunt Mu!"

Mu Niannian smiled and asked, "Have you broken through?"

"I haven't made any progress with my cultivation base, but..." Ye Guan replied, "My Sword Dao has improved."

Mu Niannian nodded and said, "What plans do you have for the future?"

"Do you have any suggestions, Aunt?" he asked.

Mu Niannian said, "I do have a few thoughts that I'll share with you. I'll tell you my thoughts first, and if you don't agree with them, we can just work it out verbally."

"All right."

"How are things between you and the Adjudication Sword Master?"

Ye Guan froze. He was confused as to why Aunt Mu had brought that up.

Mu Niannian added, "Come on, tell me."

Ye Guan thought for a few moments before saying, "She has saved me many times before, so we..."

Ye Guan trailed off and went silent.

Mu Niannian naturally understood what the situation was. She smiled and then said, "Since she has feelings for you, let's set aside the matters between the Guanxuan Universe and the True Universe for now. Let's deal with the Eternal Civilization first."

"There are two ways you can deal with them, but you can only choose one."

Ye Guan asked, "What are the two ways?"

"First of all, you can engage in a battle of wits and dissuade the Eternal Sovereign from attacking the Guanxuan Universe. Of course, it's going to be challenging because the Three Swords, the True God, and the Great Daoist Brush Master aren't here, which the Eternal Sovereign is practically unbeatable."

Ye Guan was silent. Back then, the Adjudication Sword Master had gone against the Eternal Sovereign and was completely suppressed by the latter. At that time, the Eternal Sovereign had recovered just around thirty percent of his strength.

Mu Niannian asked, "Do you know what the second way is?"

Ye Guan looked at her and said, "Let my aunt deal with them?"

The corners of Mu Niannian's lips curled up. "How quick-witted."

Ye Guan fell silent.

Mu Niannian smiled and explained, "The Eternal Sovereign is definitely not a match for your Aunt, but there's a huge problem. Every time she makes a move, the more you'll think of her as invincible. Your Invincible Sword Dao Faith will collapse at this rate."

Ye Guan clenched his fists. It was true. He was cultivating the Invincible Sword Dao, but every time he had an insurmountable issue in front of him, he would always call his aunt for help. Invincible Sword Dao? More like Invincible Aunt!

"In addition..." Mu Niannian continued. "What are you going to do if she's not around to respond to your call for help?"

Ye Guan nodded slightly and said, "Aunt Mu, I understand what you're trying to say."

"I don't want you to become the king of relying on others. If you keep on calling your aunt for help, why are we even here when you can just ask her for help and let her resolve every single difficult issue you're facing."

"I agree." Ye Guan nodded and said, "I'm going to rely on myself, then!"

"Actually, we are not here just to help you. We're also helping ourselves here. Our goal is to shatter our constraints and take that step into Divine Transcendence. It's all for the sake of reaching new heights."

"Divine Transcendence... is that a cultivation realm?"

"Well, it's not really a realm, but you can just think of it as a realm for you to understand it. In my opinion, though, Divine Transcendence means you've eliminated every indecisiveness, fear, and despair in your heart.

"You've become capable of achieving the impossible, and that is exactly what Divine Transcendence is. It's just like what we're going through right now. Our opponent is the Eternal Sovereign, and he's extremely strong, so we're going to feel hopeless if you call your aunt for help, and she kills him in one sword move.

"We're going to start doubting the reason we started cultivating in the first place. It'll feel meaningless because why are we even striving for greater heights when they've already been occupied?"

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "Aunt Mu, I know what you're trying to say. Rest assured, I will start relying on myself from now on."

His Aunt Mu was weighing the pros and cons of his choices for him, and she phrased it delicately. She had even used herself as an example so that his pride wouldn't get wounded.

Mu Niannian smiled. She could tell that Ye Guan wasn't lying when he said that he truly understood what he was trying to say.

"You're indeed as smart as your father," she remarked.

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, "Just give me time—give me time, and I can beat the Eternal Sovereign. Believe me, I can really do it!"

"I believe you!" Mu Niannian nodded and said, "Since you need time, we're going to buy you time."

"I'll listen to you, Aunt Mu."

"Then, let's give the Eternal Sovereign a surprise..."

Ye Guan was about to ask questions when An You suddenly appeared in front of them. Chief An You bowed deeply and started his report. Chief An You had yet to finish his report, but Ye Guan's face was already as dark as the bottom of a kettle, and even Mu Niannian was frowning.

Chapter 364: Kill The Plain Skirt Lady

Cirou had departed for the Eternal World.

Ye Guan's face darkened. She was definitely up to something. Otherwise, there was no reason for her to visit the Eternal World.

Mu Niannian suddenly said, "Let's just ignore her."

Ye Guan turned to look at Mu Niannian.

Seeing the confusion on Ye Guan's face, Mu Niannian decided to explain, "There are two important things that we have to do first before anything else."

"Aunt Mu, what are your plans?"

"As far as we know, the Eternal Sovereign is currently at the Divine Ruins. He's in the middle of unsealing those whom the Great Daoist Brush Master had sealed during the Divine Dao Civilization era. In return, they would have to do his bidding for an unknown amount of time.

"For example, that Cosmic Spirit... Shen Yijin, was it? Anyway, the Eternal Sovereign had unsealed him on the condition that he would serve the Eternal Civilization."

"If we can unseal those people, why can't we do the same?" Ye Guan asked, "I have the Great Daoist Brush Master's Dao Imprint, so I can definitely unseal those people much faster than him."

"Yep, that's right." Mu Niannian said with a smile. "You're really clever.

She was getting more and more fond of Ye Guan the more she talked to him. He had truly inherited his parents' intelligence.

"The second thing is for me to become even stronger, I reckon?" Ye Guan asked.

"Yes." Mu Niannian nodded and said, "Your Sword Dao is good enough, but your cultivation base and fleshly body are too weak. We have to think of a way to help you improve those two as soon as possible. For that, we'll go to the Divine Ruins!"

"All right." Ye Guan nodded.

"We're not going there by ourselves," Mu Niannian said and shattered a talisman.

The spacetime a few meters away from Ye Guan caved in, and a spacetime rift was created. Soon, a girl walked out of the rift in a hurry. The girl was Erya, and Little White was sitting on her shoulder.

Ye Guan was stunned upon seeing them.

"They're going to be really helpful," Mu Niannian said with a smile.

As usual, Erya was eating a candied hawthorn. She paused to look at Ye Guan and said, "You should always bring us with you whenever you go out to play. Do you understand?"

Little White pointed at herself and Erya with her claws.

Ye Guan smiled wryly and agreed. "Okay..."

Mu Niannian saw that and smiled.

"Let's go," she said. Moments later, the four vanished into thin air.

Nalan Jia, Li Banzhi, An Nanjing, and quite a few supreme elites were protecting the Guanxuan Universe at the moment, so Ye Guan wasn't worried about it at all. In fact, he was more worried about himself than the Guanxuan Universe.

After all, he was the weakest of them all!

Meanwhile, Ye An had gone somewhere else to train. Ye Guan had no idea where she was at the moment, but he learned that Ye An had decided to seek refuge with some of their relatives.

Ye Guan started to get a bit curious if he had more powerful relatives.

...

Cirou was sitting opposite Jingchen.

The Eternal Sovereign was not around, so Jingchen was still overseeing all the matters in the Eternal World in the meantime.

Zhan Shi was present, and he was staring quietly at Cirou.

They didn't dare to underestimate the True Universe.

The True Universe was stronger than the Guanxuan Universe, after all.

Cirou smiled and said, "I heard that the Eternal Civilization's attack on the Guanxuan Universe has failed. Is it true?"

Zhan Shi and Jingchen's faces darkened.

Jingchen said in a cold voice, "Lady Cirou, did you come here to gloat?"

Cirou laughed and said, "I'm not that free to do something like that. I'm here with the goal to establish an alliance with the Eternal Civilization."

An alliance?

Zhan Shi and Jingchen frowned.

Cirou explained, "The two of you must've investigated the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe. You should know then that there's a huge enmity between both our universes, and we've been fighting for millions of years.

"The enemy of my enemy is my friend, so I think that we should establish an alliance for the sake of defeating a common enemy. What do you guys think?"

Jingchen and Zhan Shi exchanged looks. They had indeed investigated the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe, and they came to realize that both universes were each other's archnemesis.

There was even this huge battle between them that had concluded recently.

Jingchen asked in a low voice, "Lady Cirou, how do you propose that we work together?"

The Eternal Civilization had sustained heavy losses this time. It wasn't a bad thing to work together with the True Universe.

Cirou said in a serious tone, "The strongest person in the Guanxuan Universe is that plain-skirt lady from Milky Way. She killed a Great Destiny Sovereign with just a mere glance in the Chaotic Star World."

"Anyway, have you guys investigated her yet?"

Jingchen nodded, and his expression was solemn as she said, "Yes, but we don't know exactly just how strong she is. However, we've sent people to Milky Way, and we should hear from them soon."

"She's the strongest supreme elite of the Guanxuan Universe," Cirou said.

Jingchen looked at her, bewildered. "The strongest?"

"Yes." Cirou nodded and said, "She's extremely strong. Our investigations told us that she's a Cosmic Spirit born during a distant era."

Cosmic Spirit?

Jingchen's expression turned heavy as he remarked, "No wonder she's so strong. I didn't think that the Guanxuan Universe actually has a Cosmic Spirit among their ranks."

"What about this?" Cirou said, "The True Universe will deal with the plain-skirt lady and your Eternal Civilization will deal with the Guanxuan Universe."

Jingchen and Zhan Shi looked at each other, slightly shocked.

"The plain-skirt lady is too strong," Cirou explained, "I reckon that we have to send out at least ten Great Destiny Sovereigns and ten Great Time Sovereigns to kill her. The Eternal Civilization's losses must have been huge, so I think it's better if you give that role to the True Universe."

Jingchen frowned, and he quickly made a counteroffer. "Lady Cirou, how about you let us deal with her, and the True Universe will deal with the Guanxuan Universe?"

Cirou frowned.

"That's right, Lady Cirou," Zhan Shi quickly added, "The Eternal Civilization has many supreme elites, but our overall numbers still can't compare to your True Universe. I think we're better suited to deal with the plain-skirt lady."

Cirou fell silent, and her expression turned ugly.

Zhan Shi and Jingchen scoffed in their hearts. The True Universe is truly devious, leaving us to fight more people... She's shameless, too. She actually dared to make such a request.

Cirou said in a low voice, "The plain-skirt lady is truly strong; you won't be able to kill her with a small number of supreme elites. I truly believe that it is better for the True Universe to deal with her; this suggestion is for your own good..."

"Lady Cirou!" Jingchen said, "That woman must be extremely strong, but it's not like the Eternal Civilization has a shortage of supreme elites. Rest assured, we'll bring her head to you; you just have to agree to our suggestion!"

Cirou's face turned gloomy. Obviously, she didn't want to give up. She wanted to say something, but Jingchen continued. "Lady Cirou, you keep objecting to my words. Is it perhaps because you have an ulterior motive?"

"What?" Cirou was furious. "Do you really think that I'm that kind of person? I'm here to represent the True Universe, and we're sincere in our proposal. How dare you accuse us of having an ulterior motive? You can doubt the True Universe, but you should not doubt my character."

Jingchen scoffed at Cirou's remark, but he didn't say anything in response.

Cirou continued in a cold voice, "Fine. Let the True Universe deal with the Guanxuan Universe, and the Eternal Civilization can deal with the plain-skirt lady, but let me remind you again that she is extremely strong, and you can't defeat her with numbers. If you want to kill her, you'd better give it your all.

"Send all your supreme elites out and strive to kill her with a single blow!"

"You didn't have to say that, Lady Cirou," Jingchen replied, "How about the True Universe? Are you really confident that you can defeat the Guanxuan Universe?"

Cirou chuckled and asked, "Do we look weak in your eyes?"

Jingchen said in a low voice, "I didn't mean it that way. It's just that the Guanxuan Universe has quite a few supreme elites, and they're pretty strong..."

"You don't have to worry about that. We're more worried about the plain-skirt lady than the Guanxuan Universe. The sword that the woman in the white skirt had wielded against you on that day was her sword. It belongs to her.

"Do you know the identity of that sword?"

Zhan Shi and Jingchen shook their heads.

"The sword's name is the Path Sword, and it was forged by the Great Daoist Brush Master!"

Jingchen was shocked. "The Great Daoist Brush Master?"

"Yes. And that's exactly why it's so strong."

"Does that mean she's weaker than the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

"Of course, how could there be anyone stronger than the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

"I guess that makes sense."

"She's nowhere near as powerful as the Great Daoist Brush Master, but we shouldn't underestimate her, especially that sword of hers. Tell your men who are on their way to Milky Way to be careful of that sword."

Jingchen calmly said, "Lady Cirou, rest assured. We'll definitely kill the plain-skirt lady!"

"In that case, I wish us a pleasant cooperation, then. Farewell," Cirou said before turning around to leave.

She had yet to exit the great hall when Jingchen suddenly called out to her and asked, "When do we make our move?"

"What's the point in delaying such matters?" Cirou laughed and said, "Do it now!"

She opened her hand, and a map appeared in front of both of them.

"Teleportation hubs connected to Milky Way are marked on this map. The True Universe built those teleportation hubs, and the Eternal Civilization may use them free of charge from now on."

After saying that, she turned around once more and disappeared.

Jingchen and Zhan Shi frowned.

Zhan Shi asked, "What do you think? Was she sincere?"

Jingchen's eyes narrowed. Things had developed so fast that it was suspicious.

Just then, an old man appeared in the great hall. He bowed deeply and said, "I've just received news that the True Universe has started mobilizing their forces. Their destination is the Xuzhen Battlefield. They've even mobilized their Divine Dusk Guards and their Expedition Army!"

Zhan Shi and Jingchen stared at each other for a while.

Jingchen eventually remarked, "It seems they were sincere."

Zhan Shi nodded and said, "The True Universe's enmity against the Guanxuan Universe runs deep, so it makes sense that they want to annihilate the Guanxuan Universe as soon as possible. Since that's the case..."

Zhan Shi trailed off and stared deeply at Jingchen.

Jingchen got the hint and shouted, "Pass down my orders! Summon all of our supreme elites! They must head to Milky Way and kill the plain-skirt lady!"

Chapter 365: The Son Returns What The Father Owes

Zhan Shi's expression changed.

"All of our supreme elites?" he asked, sounding shocked.

Jingchen stood up, his right hand slowly clenching into a fist as he said in a cold voice, "We've been suffering nothing but defeat against the Guanxuan Universe, and why do you think it's happening?"

"It's because we've never seen them as a worthy opponent. Are we really going to keep on underestimating them?"

Zhan Shi fell silent.

Just like what Jingchen had said, the Eternal Civilization had indeed underestimated the Guanxuan Universe. No, to be more precise, they had never regarded them with any importance, and this was what had caused them to suffer heavy losses.

However, Zhan Shi was a rather cautious man, so he didn't feel quite comfortable with the idea. "Why don't we wait for the First Sovereign to return before we make a decision?"

Jingchen calmly replied, "What do you think the True Universe will do if we don't make a move? They will surely think that we lack the courage to fight the Guanxuan Universe again. Once they think that way, do you really think they're still going to work with us?"

Zhan Shi frowned.

Jingchen continued. "The True Universe is launching a full-scale attack on the Guanxuan Universe, and it is commendable for them to do such a thing for the sake of our alliance. If we can't hold up our end of the deal and kill the plain-skirt lady, wouldn't we become a laughingstock?"

Zhan Shi remained silent, unable to retort.

Jingchen looked at him and added, "I know what you're worried about. That plain-skirt lady must be extremely strong. However, there has to be a limit to her strength. Let's say she can fight against ten supreme elites at the same time. Do you really think that she can do the same against a hundred or even a thousand?"

Zhan Shi contemplated for a few moments before he nodded and said, "To be safe, we should bring the Battle Sovereign along."

Jingchen smiled and agreed, "That goes without saying."

"Let's go!" Zhan Shi said. The two of them disappeared from the great hall.

Jingchen was a go-getter, and he would always make a move the moment he made up his mind. The supreme elites of the Eternal World were mobilized, and they headed straight for Milky Way.

Of course, he remained cautious. He was afraid that the True Universe had tricked them, so he sent a few people to monitor the True Universe. He was only reassured upon receiving reports that the True Universe had sent many of their troops to the Xuzhen Battlefield, and they had even activated quite a few ancient arrays.

...

Cirou was sitting on a chair while looking down at the Xuzhen Battlefield.

Left Councilor Feng Qi was sitting down next to her.

An old man suddenly appeared next to them. He bowed slightly and whispered.

Cirou nodded and said, "Got it."

The old man bowed and left.

Left Councilor Feng Qi turned to look at Cirou, saying, "Cirou, the Eternal Civilization has sent out all of their supreme elites to kill the plain-skirt lady..."

Cirou smiled and said, "They're quite bold, indeed."

Left Councilor Feng Qi was slightly puzzled. "Aren't we going to let the both of them wear each other out?"

Cirou stared quietly at the Guanxuan Universe's Star Field silently...

Left Councilor Feng Qi wanted to say something else, but Cirou spoke, "Keep on sending our men here, but none of them are to make a move without my orders."

Then, she got up and turned around to leave.

Left Councilor Feng Qi frowned. Who on earth is Cirou trying to help here?

She no longer knew.

...

Ye Guan traveled on his sword with Mu Niannian and Erya next to him.

Erya's outfit was quite unique. She was wearing a white shirt with cute, colorful pictures paired with light blue jeans. She was wearing a pair of flip-flops, which made her appear casual and cool. As usual, she was still holding a stick of candied hawthorn, and she would sometimes let Little White take a lick of the candy.

Mu Niannian suddenly said, "There has been news from the Guanxuan Universe. The True Universe has sent out countless strong fighters to the Xuzhen Battlefield, but they haven't launched any attacks just yet."

Ye Guan frowned and asked, "What are they trying to do?"

Mu Niannian replied, "I don't know, but from the looks of it, it seems like they don't intend on attacking. If they wanted to attack, they wouldn't have made such a big ruckus. They must be up to something but don't worry too much about it. Lady An and the rest are around to take care of things."

Ye Guan nodded lightly, and the three of them continued on their journey.

After a while, Ye Guan seemed to have thought of something and walked up to Erya.

He reached out to Little White and patted her head.

Little White seemed confused as she stared at Ye Guan. Ye Guan carried her and searched her fur, but he didn't find anything. Little White looked at him, her face still full of confusion.

She then took out a stick of candied hawthorn and handed it to him.

Ye Guan hesitated for a little while before asking, "Can I borrow that shield to play around with for a bit?"

He coveted the shield, as it was an extremely powerful divine item.

Little White quickly shook her head.

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, "I promise I'll return it!"

Little White waved her tiny paws in a frenetic way.

Ye Guan looked at her, puzzled. Then, he looked at Erya. Erya licked her candied hawthorn and explained, "She said that your father has borrowed many things from her, and he hasn't returned any of them yet."

Ye Guan froze and went silent. Goodness, my father actually did something like that? What kind of a monster is he?!

Ye Xuan had completely ruined their family's reputation by borrowing items without returning them.

Just then, Little White extended her tiny claw toward Ye Guan and turned it upside down.

Ye Guan looked at Erya.

Erya explained, "Your father said that his son would return what he owed."

Ye Guan's face immediately darkened. Fuck, he's too much! I'm still his son, so how come he had the stomach to do something like that to me?!

Erya pressed down Little White's tiny claw and said, "This grandson of mine is poor, so he can't afford to return them."

Ye Guan had no idea what to say. Grandson...

Lady Erya was really starting to treat him as her grandson!

However, he was his senior, so he couldn't really refute her words. In addition, Erya had referred to his grandfather as brother, while she had addressed his father as Little Xuan.

Little White glanced sideways at Ye Guan. As if she had thought of something, she suddenly took his storage ring, but she shook her head upon examining it. She was obviously unimpressed by his items.

Ye Guan could only chuckle bitterly. Little Jia, Little White, and Erya were the only ones daring enough to call him poor.

Just then, Little White waved her tiny claws, and Ye Guan's Dao Imprint, as well as his lightning imprint, flew out of his glabella.

S-she can control my imprints?! Ye Guan was shocked.

Little White played around with the Dao Imprint and the lightning imprint for a moment before she nodded and put them away. Clearly, she thought the two imprints were good enough for her.

Ye Guan quickly cried out, "Little White, those are mine!"

Little White blinked. She pointed her tiny claw at Ye Guan and pointed it at herself.

Ye Guan looked at Erya.

Erya proceeded to explain, "Everything you have is yours, while everything she has only belongs to her."

Ye Guan's face darkened. Why is Little White acting like a bandit? Where did she learn to act this way?

Little White chuckled. It seemed that she had no intention of returning what she had snatched from Ye Guan.

"Little White, you can't take what belongs to him," Erya said, "He's our grandson, and we're his seniors, so we must take care of him. Do you understand?"

Ye Guan had no idea what to say. Erya was getting more and more comfortable calling him grandson.

Little White hesitated a little when she heard what Erya said. A few moments later, she returned the Dao Imprint and the lightning imprint. She also felt that it wasn't appropriate to snatch Ye Guan's items, considering how she was his senior.

Ye Guan cast a contemptuous gaze at the Dao Imprint and the lightning imprint. These two bastards did not even resist and willingly went over to Little White.

He then turned to Little White. She was licking her candied hawthorn at the moment.

He suddenly came up with an idea. What if he borrowed something from her and told her that his son would return what he had owed?

Before he could do anything, however, Mu Niannian spoke, "We'll soon be at the Divine Ruins."

"Aunt Mu, are you familiar with this place?" asked Ye Guan.

Mu Niannian smiled and replied, "I don't know much about this place, but I do know that it has many supreme elites from the Divine Dao Civilization. The majority of them were suppressed here."

"The supreme elites during the Great Daoist Brush Master's era?" Ye Guan asked.

Mu Nianniann nodded and explained, "The Great Daoist Brush Master had overthrown the Eternal Civilization, but the order he had established had clashed against the vested interests of many supreme elites. Hence, the people who once followed him rose up against him, and the Great Daoist Brush Master responded by suppressing them.

"The Eternal Sovereign's goal is to unseal those people in the condition that they would serve him for a while."

Ye Guan was slightly puzzled, and he asked, "How come the Great Daoist Brush Master didn't just kill them back then?"

"I don't know," Mu Niannian replied.

Ye Guan fell silent.

"We're here to visit the Supreme Sword Sect," said Mu Niannian.

"The Supreme Sword Sect?" Ye Guan asked.

"Yes." Mu Niannian nodded and explained, "They were one of the two strongest sects during the era of the Divine Dao Civilization. The Great Daoist Brush Master once wielded them as one of his most powerful weapons.

"However, the first-generation Sect Master of the Supreme Sword Sect ended up rebelling against the Great Daoist Brush Master, and a fierce battle ensued. In the end, they were defeated, and the top-tier swordsmen of the sect were subsequently suppressed..."

"Actually, if there had been no internal strife during the early days of the Divine Dao Civilization, it wouldn't have been easy for the True God to defeat them. The internal strife had weakened the Divine Dao Civilization to the brink of destruction, and the True God's war on them was the final nail in the coffin."

"Something must have fueled those internal strifes." Ye Guan pointed out.

"It must be a difference in their ideologies," Mu Niannian said with a smile. She stared deeply at Ye Guan before continuing. "One could live forever during the era before the Great Daoist Brush Master's Divine Dao Civilization; every living creature could cultivate to immortality."

"In other words, a cultivator can keep extending their lifespan with breakthroughs. It can be said that they were sacrificing the vast expanse in exchange for their lifespan."

"The Great Daoist Brush Master took over and established the cycle of life and death, and it created an uproar. Think about it. Would you be happy if someone were to put a deadline on your life when you could have lived forever?"

Ye Guan shook his head.

Mu Niannian nodded quietly before continuing. "The vast expanse was chaotic without order before the era of the Great Daoist Brush Master's Divine Dao Civilization. After he rose to power, he started establishing order and rules. Living beings could no longer demand anything they wanted from the universe without paying a price."

"He also created and established the concepts of destiny, fate, and reincarnation using the Great Dao. He restrained everyone and shackled them with the chains of order."

Mu Niannian went silent before shaking her head and saying, "His actions had angered many people."

"No wonder he got beaten up," Ye Guan said.

Mu Niannian chuckled and asked, "What do you think about what he did? Was it wrong, or was it right?"

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "It's a great thing for the vast expanse that must have been struggling to keep up with the resource consumption of so many cultivators. However, I was sure that the cultivators at the time were outraged."

"If the choice were in your hands, what would you do?"

Ye Guan froze and went silent.

"Would you follow the Eternal Civilization's path or the Great Daoist Brush Master's path?" asked Mu Niannian.

Ye Guan remained silent at the question.

Mu Niannian smiled and said, "It's about time for you to start thinking about it."

Chapter 366: Boundless Club

Great Daoist Brush Master!

Ye Guan remained silent. He had crossed paths with the Great Daoist Brush Master a few times, and he had a good impression of the latter. He didn't come at Ye Guan with the ferocity of Sovereign Heaven Seizing Dao or the Eternal Sovereign.

In fact, he seemed pretty easygoing.

Of course, such people are often the most terrifying.

After contemplating for a while, Ye Guan said, "I can't evaluate him right now."

Mu Niannian looked at Ye Guan and asked, "Are you talking about the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

Ye Guan nodded and said seriously, "The Great Dao he advocates is bad for all living beings but beneficial to the vast expanse. If all living beings continue to take without restraint, the universe will sooner or later not be able to bear it. In the end, if the vast expanse is destroyed, all living beings will die along with it.

"However, I would resist him as well. After all, it involves my own vested interests."

Mu Niannian nodded with a smile and pointed out. "You haven't answered my question. If you were to become the new king of an era, what would you do?"

Ye Guan thought for a moment before shaking his head. "I don't know."

He was the king of the Guanxuan Universe, but Nalan Jia and Li Banzhi were the defacto leaders of the Guanxuan Universe. He had no idea how to manage an entire universe, so he had never really considered what kind of path he would take if he were to become the king of the vast expanse.

Of course, he agreed with Mu Niannian's words that it was about time he started thinking about it.

Mu Niannian smiled and said, "It's okay; there's no rush."

"Aunt Mu, aren't you the Chief of the Guanxuan Academy's Heavenly Dao?"

"Yes, I am." Mu Niannian nodded, "Why did you ask? Do you want to know what I think of the Great Daoist Brush Master's methods?"

Ye Guan nodded and said, "Yes."

Mu Niannian looked up at the starry sky and chuckled. "I want order and rules. With order and roles, the vast expanse can develop in a sustainable way, and everyone's lifespan will eventually become even longer in time."

Ye Guan stared deeply at Mu Niannian, but he remained silent. He understood what she was saying. She supported the Great Daoist Brush Master's actions, and it made sense, as without the Great Daoist Brush Master, the vast expanse would have been on its last legs long ago.

"The Great Daoist Brush Master's order is still around. The True God had decided to use his system, and the Guanxuan Universe followed suit," Mu Niannian said.

"Yes, I noticed that." Ye Guan nodded.

Mu Niannian made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan and asked, "What do you think of the True God?"

Ye Guan shook his head, "I am not familiar enough with her to respond to that."

Mu Niannian smiled. "Fair enough."

Just then, Erya suddenly said, "Little Guan, have you ever been to the Milky Way?"

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

"Next time, come with us," said Erya, "I'll treat you to that wine from Year 82!"

Ye Guan was puzzled. Year 82?

"And there is an abundance of girls dancing in revealing outfits there. They're pretty good dancers, too," Erya added.

Little White nodded vigorously and even waved her tiny claws.

Mu Niannian shook her head with a smile. These two troublemakers truly loved the Milky Way.

Ye Guan's curiosity was piqued. "Revealing outfits?"

Erya nodded, "I think the Milky Way is a good place to train. I'll bring you to those places, so you just have to come with us to the Milky Way."

Ye Guan looked confused. "Those places?"

Erya smirked, but she didn't say anything in response.

Ye Guan was speechless. Those places? Could it be... He made a sidelong glance at Erya, suspecting that An Nanjing had forbidden her from going there. She was most likely persuading him to go, hoping that she could go with him.

The Milky Way!

Ye Guan was looking forward to his journey there, as it was the hometown of his mother, aunt, and his father. Strictly speaking, he was also from the Milky Way.

Sensing that Ye Guan was intrigued, Erya seized the opportunity and said, "You'll become much more powerful if you train at the Milky Way."

Ye Guan looked at Erya and asked, "How so?"

Erya earnestly said, "The Milky Way is a world of temptations, and it is easy to temper your heart there. With your talent, your sword cultivation realm will definitely improve by leaps and bounds if you head there.

"The Great Daoist Brush Master used to be at the Milky Way. Little White and I even know where he lived. He once lived in Qianzhou, and it's a place with an abundance of treasures!"

Erya glanced at Little White and signaled at her with her eyes.

Little White shook her head innocently, indicating that Erya was lying. However, she immediately realized her mistake and nodded.

Erya rolled her eyes in frustration.

Ye Guan stared deeply at Erya and Little White. These two troublemakers were definitely up to something! Ye Guan suddenly turned to Mu Niannian upon recalling something.

"Aunt Mu, have you ever been to the Milky Way?" he asked.

Mu Niannian shook her head and replied, "No, but I might go there soon. I heard it's a fun place."

"I guess I'll go there too once there's a chance to do so." Ye Guan laughed.

"Remember to bring us along. We'll take you to the Boundless Club!" Erya chimed in.

Boundless Club? Ye Guan looked at Erya, puzzled.

Erya eagerly said, "Bring us along, and you'll have a lot of fun. Otherwise..."

She clenched her hands, making her intentions quite clear.

Little White also waved her tiny claws.

Ye Guan chuckled and said, "Sure, we'll go together when the time comes!"

"That's my grandson!" Erya exclaimed with a grin.

Ye Guan almost keeled over upon hearing that.

Mu Niannian's shoulders started quivering, but no sound could be heard from her. Clearly, she was desperately suppressing her laughter upon seeing Ye Guan's face which looked as dark as the bottom of a kettle.

Before long, the three arrived at a silent starry region. Mu Niannian gazed into the distance. There was a magnificent-looking ancient gate that spanned a few kilometers across the starry sky.

Ye Guan asked, "Is that it?"

Mu Niannian nodded.

The trio approached the gate, finding a corpse lying in front of it.

Mu Niannian briefly examined the corpse and said, "Probably a gatekeeper who got taken out."

Ye Guan sounded serious as he said, "Didn't they say that the Eternal Sovereign is here?"

"Yes, he's here." Mu Niannian said with a smile, "Scared?"

Ye Guan laughed heartily and replied, "I'm not even scared of my aunt, so why would I be scared of him?"

Mu Niannian blinked and said, "Since you're not scared, then I'm not scared. When the time comes, you can have a one-on-one with the Eternal Sovereign. Erya, Little White, and I will cheer for you. What do you think? You're not afraid, right?"

Ye Guan's expression froze. Does she really want me to challenge the Eternal Sovereign by himself when I'm still too weak? Yes, I'm not scared of him, but it doesn't mean that I can defeat him!

Mu Niannian chuckled at Ye Guan's dark expression and said, "Let's go!"

She led Erya and Ye Guan into the massive gate.

...

Moments later, the trio appeared in the middle of a sea.

Ye Guan looked around and found that the sea seemed endless. He saw a tiny dot in the distance and squinted his eyes—it was an island, and there was a sword floating above it.

"You're looking at the Supreme Sword Sect," Mu Niannian said."

Ye Guan nodded.

Just then, Little White suddenly waved her tiny claws.

Ye Guan looked at Little White in puzzlement.

Rumble!

Ye Guan had yet to even start deducing what she was doing when the sea around them abruptly boiled over, and a golden light emerged from the depths. The golden light turned into a beam of light that landed gently in front of Little White.

The golden light dispersed, and a golden ring appeared.

The ring was emitting a mysterious light; clearly, it was an extraordinary item.

Little White inspected the golden ring and pointed at it with her tiny claw. The golden ring vibrated violently and burst into a column of golden light that took to the sky. The golden ring then expanded and reached several hundred thousand times its original size to seemingly tower over everything!

Ye Guan felt an extremely oppressive force boring down on him, and he felt as though he was being suppressed by a domain. Ye Guan was shocked, and he looked at the golden ring with a solemn gaze. It had to be an unranked divine item.

Little White waved her tiny claws, and the golden ring returned to her. She put it away with a massive grin.

Ye Guan hesitated for a moment and muttered, "Little White, that golden ring..."

Little White pointed at herself with her tiny claw.

Ye Guan looked at Erya.

Erya calmly said, "That ring belongs to her."

Ye Guan fell silent. This is absurd! It hadn't even been that long since they arrived here, but Little White had already gotten herself an unranked divine item!

Little White's ability to seek treasures had also caught Ye Guan by surprise, and he was stupefied to see more and more divine items jumping out of the sea to land in front of her.

T-this is incredible! Ye Guan was in awe.

Mu Niannian chuckled and said, "Let's go!"

Ye Guan stared deeply at Little White. He had to find a way to borrow some of her divine items, especially that ancient copper shield. Soon, they arrived in front of the island in the distance earlier.

The island housed a huge mountain with hundreds of palaces on its summit.

Every palace had a sword floating above it.

Supreme Sword Sect!

Ye Guan's expression became a bit solemn. He could feel a terrifying sword intent on the island before him. The sword intent was an amalgamation of the sword intents of the ancient swords in front of him.

Their masters had been too powerful, so the sword intent of their masters had managed to withstand the passage of time to remain effective even after millions of years.

"The Supreme Sword Sect is quite extraordinary," Mu Niannian said.

Ye Guan nodded. "Indeed."

"Let's go inside," Mu Niannian said with a smile. The three walked up the green stone steps in front of them, and they soon found themselves heading toward a grand hall.

The Supreme Sword Sect was huge, and the green stone steps were a few hundred meters tall. Each step was several meters wide, and there were ancient statues on both sides of each step, standing like guards. Every ancient statue had a sword on its back.

Ye Guan took his time looking around.

The entire Supreme Sword Sect was magnificent, but it was desolate.

Soon, the trio arrived in front of the grand hall. The doors of the grand hall were tightly closed, and he was about to open the doors when he suddenly stopped. He turned toward Mu Niannian, obviously asking for her opinion.

Mu Niannian smiled and remained silent.

Ye Guan's face turned serious; there might be danger ahead.

Just then, a bellow echoed from the great hall, "Get lost!"

Buzz!

A terrifying sword intent swept toward the trio.

Ye Guan was astonished. Mu Niannian waved her sleeve, and a sword intent shot out to hit the oncoming sword intent.

"Hmm?" the voice from the great hall sounded surprised, "A swordsman?"

"We've heard that the swordsmanship of the Supreme Sword Sect was the peak swordsmanship during the Divine Dao Civilization's era. I've brought my junior here with me, and he's here to ask you for pointers. We want to see whether what we've heard was a mere rumor or not," Mu Niannian said with a smile.

Ye Guan stared in confusion at Mu Niannian.

Mu Niannian blinked and said, "Go and act arrogant."

Ye Guan hesitated, but he quickly made up his mind and turned to the great hall.

"I'm invincible! And I'm here to prove that once again! Come at me!" he roared.

Chapter 367: Rather Die Than Submit

Ye Guan noticed Mu Niannian's expression, and he hesitated before asking, "Is it too much?"

Mu Niannian smiled lightly and asked, "What do you think?"

Ye Guan awkwardly chuckled and said, "I'm just going to follow your lead, Aunt Mu."

"Then get ready to face the consequences!" Mu Niannian teased.

Ye Guan's expression stiffened.

The doors of the grand hall swung wide open. A sword emerged from beyond the doors, and it made a beeline for Ye Guan. The powerful aura of the sword suppressed Ye Guan, sealing off any escape routes.

Ye Guan was taken aback. The sword was incredibly powerful, and it radiated fluctuations comparable to a Great Destiny Sovereign! Not daring to underestimate the sword, Ye Guan stepped forward and thrust his own sword forward.

It was a sword thrust emblazoned with a brand-new Invincible Sword Intent derived from three distinct intents.

Bang!

The clash of the two swords resulted in a dazzling display of light. Ye Guan was forced to retreat, and he ended up a few hundred meters away.

As he stopped, Ye Guan glanced at his slightly numb right hand.

Raising his head, he saw an elderly figure slowly approaching him. The old man wore a simple robe, and he had a head full of white hair. Despite his aged appearance, his eyes gleamed with vitality, exuding a sharp and compelling aura.

He was a swordsman at the Great Destiny Sovereign Realm!

The old man walked up and opened his palm. A sword gracefully landed in his hand. He fixed his gaze on Ye Guan and asked, "You're invincible?"

Ye Guan glanced at Mu Niannian, but she looked away. Ye Guan couldn't help but smile wryly. He had walked right into a trap. The old man continued walking toward Ye Guan, and each of his steps was accompanied by a powerful sword force that came crashing down toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan furrowed his brow.

Taking a step forward, a surge of sword intent burst out of him.

Kaboom!

When Ye Guan's sword intent came into contact with the old man's sword force, his sword intent vibrated violently, but it didn't shatter.

The old man was momentarily stunned, and there was a hint of surprise in his eyes. He lightly tapped the ground with his right foot and turned into a streak of sword light that rushed toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's sword intent was instantly dispersed, and the old man's sword reached Ye Guan in the blink of an eye.

Ye Guan decisively slashed out—Beheading Heavens Sword Art[1]!

Hum!

The resonant hum of a sword echoed throughout the heavens!

Bang!

Both Ye Guan and the old man were forced to retreat. Ye Guan retreated for a few kilometers before coming to a stop, while the old man didn't go farther than the entrance of the great hall.

The old man was shocked. He hadn't expected that the young swordsman would be so strong. To think that Ye Guan had managed to force him back despite the massive gap between their cultivation realms.

Were cultivators of this era all monsters like him?

Ye Guan's expression was grim. He glanced at his right arm and saw that it had cracked. He sighed to himself and was convinced that there was still a huge gap between himself and a Great Destiny Sovereign.

"Young man, take another move from me!" said the white-haired old man.

As his words fell, he transformed into a streak of sword light that took to the sky. A hundred-meter-long sword energy seemed to tear the world apart as it descended toward Ye Guan.

Mu Niannian frowned. The old man had gone all out.

Ye Guan's expression became incredibly grim. The fluctuations of the oncoming colossal sword energy were terrifying, but he didn't retreat. Instead, he turned into a streak of sword light that rushed toward the colossal sword energy.

Boom!

Sword energy suddenly erupted from up above. Ye Guan plummeted and landed harshly on the ground.

Bang! The ground caved in from the impact.

However, the old man didn't make another move.

He flew back to the entrance of the grand hall, holding a sword in his hand. He watched Ye Guan in the distance with eyes full of admiration. "The Invincible Sword Dao... Ephemeral Transcendence Realm... how incredible!"

In the distance, Ye Guan slowly walked out from a pile of debris. He wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth and then looked toward the white-haired old man in the distance. He cupped his fist and said, "Thank you for sparing me, senior."

The white-haired old man smiled. "I did not spare you, young man. Your swordsmanship is incredible."

Ye Guan smiled as well and asked, "Senior, was that your sword technique?"

"Indeed." The white-haired old man chuckled and explained, "I created it myself, and it's called Heavensunder Pinnacle. What do you think of it?"

"That was incredible, senior..." Ye Guan muttered in awe. He suddenly bowed and said, "Senior, I have an earnest request."

The white-haired old man looked somewhat surprised. "Oh?"

Ye Guan said seriously, "I wish to learn that sword technique from you."

The white-haired old man raised an eyebrow. "You want to learn my sword technique?"

Ye Guan nodded and said, "Would you be willing to teach me?"

The white-haired old man was visibly delighted. He grinned and said, "My sword technique pales in comparison to yours, so why do you want to learn mine?"

"I want to learn it to understand your will," said Ye Guan.

"My will?" The white-haired old man suddenly became intrigued.

Ye Guan smiled and explained, "Yes, your move just now contained a rebellious spirit of incomparable sharpness. It contained a will wishing to challenge those invincible... You've made me realize that this is how a swordsman should be!"

The white-haired old man burst into uproarious laughter and said, "You've piqued my interest, young man. All right, let's bring this inside. Come with me."

Mu Niannian's lips curled slightly upon seeing that. She cast a gaze full of approval at Ye Guan. She brought Ye Guan here, hoping that he would be able to seize the opportunities here. Of course, everything would still be up to him in the end.

Erya glanced at Ye Guan before turning to whisper to Little White. "This grandson is quite good at flattery. Be careful, and don't let him deceive you. Of course, it's fine to give him a few carrots once in a while. He's still our grandson, so we have to treat him right."

Little White stared at Ye Guan's departing back and nodded.

Both Erya and Little White were truly treating Ye Guan as their grandson...

Ye Guan noticed that Mu Niannian wasn't following him. He was a bit puzzled and was about to start asking questions when Mu Niannian smiled at him and urged, "Go ahead; go by yourself."

Ye Guan hesitated for a moment before nodding and walking away. Soon, he found himself in a spacious hall. The statue of a middle-aged man holding a sword was in the middle of the hall.

Ye Guan walked up to the white-haired old man and bowed. "Senior!"

The white-haired old man didn't bother beating around the bush and asked, "Are you here for the inheritance of the Supreme Sword Sect?"

"Senior, to be honest, I'm here for something else," Ye Guan confessed.

"Oh?" The white-haired old man was curious. "What did you come here for?"

Ye Guan opened his palm, and the Dao Imprint appeared in his hand. Looking at the Dao Imprint in Ye Guan's hand, the white-haired old man squinted his eyes and remarked, "The Great Daoist Brush Master's Dao Imprint..."

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

The white-haired old man looked at Ye Guan and pointed out. "Although you have the Dao Imprint, there's no Divine Dao Destiny Aura on you. In other words, you're not the Chosen One. How strange... how come you have the Dao Imprint when you're not the Chosen One?"

"Yes, I'm not on his side." Ye Guan nodded.

The white-haired old man asked, "What do you want to do?"

Ye Guan sounded serious as he replied, "I heard that the Great Daoist Brush Master has sealed many of your sect's supreme elites. I'm here to unseal them."

"Is that so?" The white-haired old man smiled and asked, "And the condition is to become your servants?"

Ye Guan smiled and shook his head. "You're mistaken, senior."

The white-haired old man was taken aback.

Ye Guan continued. "You don't need to serve me. I'm just hoping that you'd teach me that sword technique earlier."

The white-haired old man stared at Ye Guan and asked doubtfully, "Just that?"

Ye Guan opened his palm, and the Dao Imprint slowly floated toward the white-haired old man. "Senior, you can borrow the Dao Imprint. With this, I believe you can break the seals."

However, the white-haired old man didn't take the Dao Imprint. Instead, he stared into Ye Guan's eyes, trying to determine whether the young man was being truthful or not.

Ye Guan met his gaze confidently.

After a while, the white-haired old man burst into laughter and said, "Young man, you are truly interesting. You're much more interesting than the Eternal Sovereign. Hahaha!"

Ye Guan was a bit surprised. "The Eternal Sovereign has been here?"

The white-haired old man nodded. "He visited us not too long ago. He said that as long as our Supreme Sword Sect is willing to pledge allegiance to him, he'll help us break free."

Ye Guan pointed out. "You refused."

The white-haired old man sneered, "Our sword sect has always been unyielding. How can we become someone else's lap dogs for the sake of survival? We would rather die than submit!"

Ye Guan fell silent. He knew that most swordsmen were prideful to the extreme. It was a double-edged trait that could be admirable but also stubborn.

"Young man," the white-haired old man asked, "Are you truly willing to lend me the Dao Imprint?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Of course."

The white-haired old man stared at Ye Guan, "You're not going to ask for anything else aside from what you've mentioned?"

Ye Guan smiled and said, "I guess I also want to establish friendly ties between myself and your sect."

The white-haired old man was momentarily taken aback. He burst into laughter and exclaimed, "Hahaha... friendly ties is it, then! Young man, I'll establish friendly ties with you on behalf of the Supreme Sword Sect."

The white-haired old man snatched the Dao Imprint out of mid-air and activated it.

A mysterious force roiled from the grand hall.

Boom!

The skies outside changed colors, and the ground trembled as a Great Dao rune manifested in the dome of heaven. The Dao Imprint flew out of the great hall and merged with the Great Dao rune.

Rumble!

The Great Dao rune trembled before exploding into a myriad of light fragments.

Hum!

A resonant sword hum echoed from the depths of the earth, and every single sword throughout the entire region let out the same hum at the same time.

Ye Guan turned to look outside, and his expression stiffened upon sensing the presence of quite a few Great Destiny Sovereigns.

The Supreme Sword Sect was reborn!

The white-haired old man's figure suddenly became blurry and ethereal.

Ye Guan was stunned.

The white-haired old man smiled but remained silent. When he disappeared, Ye Guan looked up and saw the same white-haired old man standing in the dome of heaven.

Clearly, the white-haired old man up above was the true body!

The white-haired old man closed his eyes and muttered, "Supreme Sword Sect..."

Hum!

A shrill sword hum echoed from underground as powerful auras took to the skies from beneath the ground.

Ye Guan walked out of the grand hall while staring at the white-haired old man.

The white-haired old man opened his palm and stared quietly at the Dao Imprint in his palm. He looked like he had zero intentions of returning it.

Ye Guan stared quietly at the white-haired old man. He knew that he had made a gamble, and he was aware of its risks.

Chapter 368: Be Humble

Was he about to lose?

Ye Guan wasn't sure, but he knew that losing meant more than just giving up the Dao Imprint. It also meant that he would have another powerful enemy—the entire Supreme Sword Sect!

Six Great Destiny Sovereigns were already standing around the white-haired old man. Furthermore, the white-haired old man was emitting energy fluctuations stronger than most Great Destiny Sovereigns.

In other words, the Supreme Sword Sect had to be on par with the Eternal Civilization.

More and more formidable swordsmen gathered around the white-haired old man. Seven Great Destiny Sovereigns arrived, and there were more than twenty Ordinary Great Sovereigns. The weakest among them were Divine Sovereigns!

One had to be a Divine Sovereign at the very least to withstand being sealed for millions of years. Soon, more than a thousand Divine Sovereigns arrived, and they were all swordsmen.

The white-haired old man smiled at Ye Guan and opened his palm.

The Dao Imprint returned to Ye Guan.

Ye Guan grinned. I won!

The white-haired old man suddenly appeared in front of Ye Guan. He smiled and asked, "Young friend, were you not afraid that I'll steal your Dao Imprint?"

Ye Guan laughed and said, "Senior, you're not that kind of person."

The white-haired old man looked at Ye Guan and asked, "How can you be so sure?"

Ye Guan replied, "You would rather die than submit, so how can someone like you do something so disgraceful?"

"Hahaha!" the white-haired old man laughed heartily and said, "Young friend, it is truly unfortunate that you've already chosen your Sword Dao. Otherwise, I wouldn't mind taking you in as my direct disciple and letting you become the Sect Master of the Supreme Sword Sect."

Ye Guan smiled without saying anything.

The white-haired old man opened his palm, and an ancient scroll floated over to Ye Guan. "Young friend, this scroll contains the core sword art inheritance of my sect. I hope it will be of help to your swordsmanship."

He could tell that Ye Guan wanted the sword art inheritance not because he wanted to become the Sect Master of the Supreme Sword Sect. He simply wanted to learn its complexities and hopefully integrate it into his own swordsmanship.

Ye Guan put the ancient scroll away and cupped his fist. "Thank you, senior."

The white-haired old man was truly impressed, but he also found it a pity. He was pleasantly surprised to see such a talented young man, but it was a pity that the young man had already found his Sword Dao.

From his years of experience, a swordsman finding their own Sword Dao at a young age usually meant that the swordsman in question already had a master. In Ye Guan's case, he definitely had a master and a strong one at that.

"I'm taking my leave, then, Senior," Ye Guan said with a cupped fist.

"Wait!" The white-haired old man opened his palm once again. A sword case flew out from a distant hall and landed gently in the white-haired old man's hand. He handed the sword case to Ye Guan and said, "It's yours, young friend."

Ye Guan observed the sword case. The sword case's color seemed as dark as the abyss, and it was covered in countless tiny, inscrutable runes. Every single stroke that made up the runes exuded a dim golden glow that squirmed as though it was alive.

Two tiny characters were inscribed on the sword case—Divine Evil.

"Senior?" Ye Guan said, sounding dumbfounded.

The white-haired old man laughed heartily and said, "You don't have to be so formal to me. I'm older than you, so you can just call me Big Brother!"

Big Brother! Ye Guan was stunned, and he wasn't the only one. The Supreme Sword Sect elites were surprised as well.

Noting Ye Guan's silence, the white-haired old man snorted and asked, "What? You aren't willing to call me Big Brother?"

"Of course, I'm willing!" Ye Guan exclaimed and cupped his fist before saying, "Big Brother, My name is Ye Guan, and I'm the Academy Master of the Guanxuan Universe's Guanxuan Academy!"

The white-haired old man boisterously laughed before introducing himself. "My name is Nan Yuntian, and I'm the Deputy Sect Master of the Supreme Sword Sect. I became the Supreme Sword Sect's overseer after our Sect Master's death."

"The sword case in your hand is my sect's divine treasure. It contains six unranked divine artifacts, all of which are swords. You were using swords made out of sword energy during our fight earlier, and it seems that you are in need of a real sword, so I decided to give that sword case to you."

Six unranked divine artifacts! Ye Guan's expression changed, and he was about to refuse the offer.

However, Nan Yuntian shook his head and said, "Don't refuse. It's my heartfelt gesture of gratitude."

Hearing that, Ye Guan had no choice but to nod. "Thank you, Big Brother!"

"That's my line," Nan Yuntian chuckled and said, "If you hadn't been willing to help, the Supreme Sword Sect would have remained sealed for eternity!"

Ye Guan smiled and said, "It's fate!"

"What great fate it is, then!" Nan Yuntian let out a peal of uproarious laughter and said, "You don't have to thank me, Brother Ye. From now on, your matters are the matters of my Supreme Sword Sect. If you need anything, let me know. My Supreme Sword Sect is going to stand with you even if you were to go against the Great Daoist Brush Master!"

Nan Yuntian took out a command token and handed it over to Ye Guan. "Crush it, and we will rush to your aid, regardless of your enemy."

Ye Guan was moved, "Big Brother, thank you!"

"As I said, you don't have to thank me, Brother Ye," Nan Yuntian replied with a smile.

Ye Guan put the command token away.

Just then, Mu Nianian appeared with Little White and Erya by her side.

She looked at Ye Guan and said, "We still have somewhere else to go."

Ye Guan nodded. He then turned to look at Nan Yuntian and saluted. "Big Brother, if you need anything to rebuild the Supreme Sword Sect, just tell me, and my Guanxuan Universe will spare no expense to help."

"Sounds great." Nan Yuntian grinned.

"Farewell, then, Big Brother." Ye Guan smiled before turning around to leave.

Once Ye Guan was no longer around, an old man walked up to Nan Yuntian and spoke in a deep voice, "Sect Master, you..."

"Are you wondering why I was treating that young man so kindly?"

The old man nodded.

Nan Yuntian swept his gaze across the Great Destiny Sovereigns nearby and explained, "First of all, he unsealed us. It is only natural to show gratitude toward your benefactor. In fact, even kowtowing to a benefactor wouldn't be strange."

The others remained silent.

Nan Yuntian added, "Secondly, what do you think of him?"

The old man replied in a deep voice, "His talent is extraordinary."

Nan Yuntian asked again, "Anything else?"

The old man cast a puzzled gaze at Nan Yuntian.

"Have you not seen his cultivation base?" Nan Yuntian asked, "He's only a Dao Immortal Realm cultivator, but he was strong enough to fight against Great Destiny Sovereigns. His talent is definitely extraordinary, but do you really think that all he has is his talent?"

"Don't forget that he also has the Great Daoist Brush Master's Dao Imprint for some reason."

The old man's eyes flashed coldly as he muttered, "He's related to the Great Daoist Brush Master—"

"Fool!" Nan Yuntian roared. He swept his gaze across the Great Destiny Sovereigns in front of him and saw that everyone's expression had turned cold. He glared at them and continued. "Let's ignore the possibility that he's related to the Great Daoist Brush Master, but does it really matter if he is a relative of the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

"Are we going to kill him because of something he couldn't control, or are we going to kill the Great Daoist Brush Master himself?"

Everyone didn't speak.

Nan Yuntian sighed and said, "Even when we were at our peak, we were too weak to fight against the Great Daoist Brush Master. How do you think we would fare against him right now?"

Everyone was gloomy at the harsh reality. The Supreme Sword Sect truly believed that they could go toe-to-toe with the master of the Great Dao Brush and went all out against him. However, reality was cruel to them.

Nan Yuntian continued. "I suggest we stay humble even if he's a relative of the Great Daoist Brush Master. We are too weak to act arrogantly. Fortunately, he doesn't have any trace of the Divine Dao Destiny Aura on him, so I don't think he's related to the Great Daoist Brush Master.

"However, it is indeed intriguing how he has the Dao Imprint, even though he has no traces of Divine Dao Destiny Aura."

Just then, a middle-aged man next to him said, "His identity isn't so simple. The two people next to him just now were strong enough to make me feel a sense of crisis. In addition, the white-furred animal we saw earlier was a Spirit Progenitor."

A Spirit Progenitor?!

Everyone's expression changed. A Spirit Progenitor was extremely rare, and they were highly sought after regardless of the era.

Nan Yuntian nodded. His expression was complicated as he swept his gaze across the members of the Supreme Sword Sect standing in front of him. "The times have changed! Our sect can have our pride and confidence, but we must be smart. I know what you're thinking. I'm sure you feel proud now that you've been unsealed.

"Without the Great Daoist Brush Master, you must be thinking that you're impossible to beat, right?"

The crowd was quiet, but Nan Yuntian's words had hit the mark.

During the era of the Divine Dao Civilization, they were among the most formidable powerhouses. Now that they had broken free from the seal and the Great Daoist Brush Master was no more, who was strong enough to defeat them?

Nan Yuntian sneered at them and said, "Why did the Supreme Sword Sect meet that disaster back then? It was because of our arrogance. Our arrogance made us lose sight of ourselves. It has been millions of years since then, but we're still going to meet the same disaster if we remain arrogant."

With that, he turned to look at the depths of the starry sky and muttered, "Every generation is full of talents, and I don't want you to underestimate the people of this era. Right now, we have to develop quietly and steadily, all the while building great connections with decent people."

The middle-aged man nodded lightly and said, "Sect Master's words are wise. Do you have high expectations for that young man?"

"The young man's background must be extraordinary, and in addition to his monstrous strength and heaven-defying talent, he's also smart with exceedingly high comprehension." Nan Yuntian smiled and said, "He's also courageous to the extent that he even dared to gamble with that Dao Imprint. He's far from ordinary, and it is our sect's great fortune to have established friendly ties with him!"

"Are we gambling as well?" the middle-aged man asked.

Nan Yuntian nodded and explained, "The Supreme Sword Sect has just been unsealed, and our foundations aren't exactly stable just yet. To ensure stable development, we need allies. I like the young man's character, and I'm willing to form a good relationship with him. As for that Eternal Sovereign..."

Nan Yuntian's eyes flashed coldly as he said, "He was acting like he was superior to us from the very beginning as if he was bestowing favors upon us. I will not pledge allegiance to him even if it means getting sealed once again."

The elites of the Supreme Sword Sect nodded one after another.

Their opinion of Ye Guan was incomparably better compared to their opinion of the Eternal Sovereign.

Ye Guan truly respected the Supreme Sword Sect.

He had unsealed them without asking for their subservience in return. He was a good person!

"From now on..." Nan Yuntian trailed off. He swept his gaze across the elites of the Supreme Sword Sect and said, "Don't allow our disciples to leave the sect in the meantime. You must restrain them and prevent them from causing trouble outside. We've just broken the seal on the sect, so we're unfamiliar with this era. A slight mistake can lead to a great disaster.

"Restrain them well! Everyone should keep a low profile as well and be humble!"

Everyone nodded in understanding. They had already made a grave mistake, and if they refused to learn from their mistake, then it meant that they deserved the disaster that had befallen them.

Chapter 369: Thirty Million Years

After leaving the Supreme Sword Sect, Ye Guan and the others headed north. On the way, Mu Niannian smiled at Ye Guan and remarked, "Quite bold, huh?"

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled. "It was all because Aunt Mu and Miss Erya are with me. Otherwise, I wouldn't have dared to take the risk."

One needed a strong hand to gamble. Ye Guan was well aware of that, and he made sure to gamble only when he had a high chance of winning it. If it weren't for that mindset and the fact that he had a strong hand, he would have lost today's gamble.

Upon hearing Ye Guan's words, Mu Niannian's eyes showed a sense of appreciation. This little brat knows himself well.

Compared to the Sword Master, Ye Guan wasn't in any way less smart. The difference was in the fact that the intelligence of this brat was more intrinsic and subtle, while the Sword Master was more straightforward.

Ye Guan turned to glance in the direction of the Supreme Sword Sect and said, "We gained quite a lot this time."

Mu Niannian nodded. "The Supreme Sword Sect is indeed formidable, especially their Sect Master. He's not weaker than the Battle Sovereign. Of course, we have to be powerful as well. Otherwise, our alliances would be superficial!"

"I understand." Ye Guan nodded. He naturally understood that the other party's friendliness was not solely due to his innate strength and talent. They had to have considered his background as well.

Nan Yuntian had to consider many different aspects when dealing with matters. After all, the fate of the Supreme Sword Sect was in his hands.

Mu Niannian suddenly came to a halt and said, "Go ahead and assimilate what you've obtained from the Supreme Sword Sect!"

"Okay." Ye Guan nodded and sat cross-legged in the air. He opened his hand, and an ancient scroll appeared in his hand. Just as he opened the scroll, a sword light burst out and struck his glabella.

Boom!

A deluge of information entered Ye Guan's mind. The ancient scroll contained extension knowledge about the experience and the Sword Daos of the Supreme Sword Sect ancestors. There were also quite a few powerful sword arts, and they were all incredibly powerful.

Ye Guan was extremely delighted, and he felt as if he had just found an oasis while he was dying of thirst in the middle of the desert. The information contained in the ancient scroll was useful to him, as he lacked experience the most.

His current understanding of his swordsmanship wasn't exactly the deepest, and the experience of the Supreme Sword Sect ancestors would make up for his lack of experience.

Gradually, Ye Guan shifted from excitement to shock because he discovered that the swordsmen of the Divine Dao Civilization were extremely formidable; some of them even had sword techniques that instilled fear in Ye Guan's heart.

The swordsmen of that era were splendid, and many different sword styles flourished.

Through the ancient scroll, Ye Guan felt as if he had traveled to the brilliant era of the Divine Dao Civilization. The Great Daoist Brush Master was the strongest of that era, but the swordsmen were also dazzling figures in their own right.

Mu Niannian could see Ye Guan's excitement, and she knew that this young man's strength would improve by leaps and bounds. Ye Guan was the most extraordinary talent she had ever seen. He had truly inherited the extraordinary talents of his parents.

The only regret was that he had recognized his roots too early. If he had spent more time in the world by himself and tempered his will through a variety of hardships, his will would have been more solid.

Ye Guan's life was extremely fast-paced at the moment, and he often dealt with supreme elites with cultivation bases above him. It was a lifestyle with its advantages and disadvantages.

The disadvantages were the fact that because Ye Guan's enemies were too strong, he was extremely thirsty for knowledge. Mu Niannian understood that it was all for the sake of becoming even stronger, but she was worried that it might lead to impatience.

Impatience made waste, after all.

Erya licked her candied hawthorn while staring at Ye Guan.

"Miss Niannian, Little White says that there's a treasure on the right."

Mu Niannian looked at Little White.

Little White grinned and pointed somewhere with an excited face.

Mu Niannian smiled and said, "We should wait for your grandson. Once he's done, we'll go there together. How about that?"

Little White blinked. She glanced at Ye Guan before nodding.

After about an hour, Ye Gua slowly opened his eyes, and two strands of sword light emblazoned with lightning flashed briefly in his eyes.

Ye Guan stood up slowly and waved his sleeves.

A faint sword intent rippled out of his sleeve.

In the distance, spacetime rippled forcefully.

Mu Niannian smiled at Ye Guan and asked, "How was it?"

Ye Guan sounded serious as he replied, "It was a great harvest."

Although he hadn't made any breakthroughs, his mind was now filled with a myriad of sword principles, allowing him to draw inspiration from them. Of course, he had no intentions of following someone else's path. His goal was to assimilate those experiences and turn them into his own.

He wanted to go beyond the Ephemeral Transcendence Realm. Unfortunately, it was easier said than done. However, Ye Guan was in no hurry, and his plan was to take it one step at a time.

As if sensing Ye Guan's thoughts, Mu Niannian smiled and asked, "Do you know what's after the Ephemeral Transcendence Realm?"

Ye Guan hurriedly inquired, "What is it?"

Mu Niannian revealed a mysterious smile and said, "Not telling you, but you'll find out when the time comes."

Ye Guan smiled wryly.

"You've already embarked on your own dao, and you already have your own swordsmanship, so even though you can learn and draw inspiration from the dao of the other swordsmen, you must not follow their footsteps." Mu Niannian reminded, "You have to make sure that what you'll learn from them won't make any impact on your own sword principles and beliefs."

"Of course, it's unlikely, considering what kind of a person you are, but it's always better to err on the side of caution."

Ye Guan nodded and smiled. "I understand."

Mu Niannian smiled, "Let's go to the Dao Sect!"

The Dao Sect? Ye Guan cast a curious gaze at Mu Niannian.

Mu Niannian saw that and explained, "The Dao Sect is one of the two major sects during the Divine Dao Civilization era. The Dao Sect was a supporter of the Great Daoist Brush Master, but they eventually stood up against him and were suppressed like the Supreme Sword Sect."

Ye Guan shook his head, smiling. "It seems that the Great Daoist Brush Master has truly angered everyone back then!"

"It's not strange." Mu Niannian nodded, "They had just defeated the Eternal Civilization and were about to share the fruits of their victory when the Great Daoist Brush Master appeared to establish order, imposing constraints on everyone."

"Some even said that his actions at that time were more excessive than the Eternal Civilization, especially since the Great Daoist Brush Master had stripped them of their immortality."

"Unfortunately for them, a single stroke of the Great Dao Brush was enough for the Great Daoist Brush Master to deal with them."

Mu Niannian shook her head and smiled before continuing. "Anyone would stand up to such tyranny, so it really isn't strange at all."

Ye Guan nodded. The Great Daoist Brush Master had definitely faced widespread opposition back then.

Mu Niannian added, "If it weren't for the True God, the Great Daoist Brush Master would have succeeded in his goal. Even if the powerful cultivators of that era had joined forces, they would still find it difficult to contend with the Great Daoist Brush Master."

The True God! Cijing's big sister. Ye Guan was curious. What kind of woman was she?

He wasn't exactly aware of her personality, and all he knew about her was what he had extrapolated from the reviews he had written on those books as well as the True God's books, which were quite... explicit.

The writing was impressive, and he had read quite a bit of the tamer ones.

"It's about time we move," Mu Niannian said, "Let's go!"

Ye Guan snapped out of his thoughts and nodded.

Just then, Little White stopped them. She waved her tiny paw and pointed it at somewhere.

Ye Guan blinked and asked, "There's a treasure there?"

Little White vigorously nodded.

Ye Guan became curious. Any treasure that could catch Little White's attention had to be extremely valuable.

Mu Niannian smiled and said, "Let's go on a treasure hunt, then!"

Little White nodded. She turned into a white light and headed to the right.

Ye Guan and the others followed closely behind her.

Soon, Little White led them deep into a mountain valley. Little White headed downward, and the others quickly followed along. Little White soon found herself in front of a massive canyon. Ye Guan looked down and saw nothing.

Little White flicked her claw.

Swoosh!

In the depths of the vast canyon, a terrifying aura erupted and took to the sky.

The earth split open, and a palace slowly ascended.

Ye Guan was stunned by the sight, while Little White was extremely excited.

Soon, the entire palace was revealed. It was enormous, spanning several kilometers, and tens of thousands of towering stone pillars were supporting it. Each stone pillar looked majestic and imposing. The image of fierce and monstrous beasts was carved on every pillar, and Ye Guan had never seen those beasts before.

Ye Guan turned to Mu Niannian.

Mu Niannian shook her head and said, "I'm not really that familiar with the Divine Dao Civilization."

Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at Little White.

Little White flicked her tiny paw.

Boom!

The palace shook violently as if an explosion had occurred within the palace.

It seemed like something was about to escape from the palace, but the stone pillars around and beneath the palace came to life and roared at the same time. A terrifying aura surged toward the palace, and another explosion soon occurred inside the palace.

Ye Guan was shocked, but he quickly saw through what was going on. The stone pillars had to be suppressing something.

Little White turned to look at Erya. She nudged Erya with her tiny paw.

Erya took a step forward with her candied hawthorn in hand and roared, "Get lost!"

Boom!

A thunderous sound echoed, shaking Ye Guan's eardrums. The beasts on the stone pillars revealed expressions of fear as they trembled in awe.

Erya seemed unfazed as she continued licking her candied hawthorn.

Ye Guan was stupefied as he stared at Erya. Bloodline suppression! Clearly, Erya was capable of suppressing demonic beasts and beasts weaker than her. It made sense, considering her strength.

Swoosh!

A black beam of light suddenly rushed out of the palace.

When the black light dissipated, a fist-sized black bead appeared before everyone. Little White flew to the bead. She tapped it with her tiny paw, and she grinned before storing it away.

Ye Guan stared deeply at Little White, and he suddenly came up with a plan.

"Bahahaha!" a peal of uproarious laughter echoed from the depths of the palace.

Ye Guan directed a shocked gaze at the palace.

A horrifying aura had emerged from the palace, and the boisterous laughter pierced Ye Guan's ears once more. "Bahahaha! Thirty million years! I've laid low for thirty million years before finally becoming strong enough! The Sword Master... that shameless bastard must be dead by now! Bahahaha!"

Chapter 370: Assist Her

The Sword Master? Ye Guan was stunned. He's from my father's generation?

Ye Guan turned to Mu Niannian, but she looked confused as well.

The voice was only slightly familiar to her.

A middle-aged man slowly walked out of the palace. He was dressed in a wide black robe, with long hair flowing down his shoulders. He had a wild grin on his lips.

Mu Niannian was stunned upon seeing him, and she blurted out, "It's you!"

The middle-aged man turned to Mu Niannian up above and exclaimed, "It's you!"

Ye Guan asked, "Aunt Mu, who is he?"

"He's Ba Wang," replied Mu Niannian with a smile. She stared deeply at the middle-aged man and exclaimed, "So you were here all this while, Ba Wang!"

Ba Wang was one of the Sword Master's subordinates, but he had fled at the start of the great war many years ago. No one knew where he went, so Mu Niannian never thought that she would meet him here.

And from his words just now, it seemed that he had been waiting here for around thirty million years now, which was an absurd amount of time to stay in one place. He was a man of patience—no, the king of patience!

Ba Wang hurriedly asked, "Lady Nian, is... the Sword Master still around?"

Mu Niannian smiled and replied, "No, he's not around anymore."

A complex light flashed in Ba Wang's eyes.

"So he failed to defeat the True Universe..." he muttered.

Mu Niannian added, "He was successful in taking that step."

Ba Wang raised his head in disbelief. "He... he has achieved Divine Transcendence?!"

Mu Niannian nodded. "Yes."

Ba Wang sighed and muttered, "I never thought he'd actually take that step... how impressive."

Mu Niannian asked, "Have you been here all this while?"

Ba Wang nodded. During the great war between the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe, the Guanxuan Universe was at a disadvantage. He decided to slip away upon realizing that the Guanxuan Universe was losing.

He had stumbled upon this place, obtained an inheritance, and chose to cultivate here diligently. Over the years, he dared not leave because he had betrayed both the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe.

In other words, he would meet a terrible fate if he were to venture out prematurely.

Thus, he decided to focus on practicing cultivation until he was strong enough.

Ba Wang was worried that the Sword Master would hold a grudge against him.

"Ba Wang, congratulations on your breakthrough!" Mu Niannian said with a smile.

Ba Wang was about to speak when his eyes landed on Ye Guan.

Upon seeing Ye Guan's features, he froze and stammered, "H-h-he... who is he?"

Mu Niannian smiled and teased, "Guess!"

Ba Wang immediately knelt down with a plop.

"Young Master, please accept my greetings," he said solemnly.

Ye Guan was stunned speechless.

Ba Wang suddenly wept and exclaimed, "Young Master, I've committed a great sin!"

Ye Guan stared quietly at Ba Wang.

Ba Wang's heart sank at Ye Guan's silence. It seemed that he couldn't trick the Young Master, so he decided to confess. "Young Master, I was afraid of dying back then, so I decided to run away. Please punish me."

Ye Guan looked at Ba Wang before asking, "You're a Cosmic Spirit?"

Ba Wang nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan looked at Mu Niannian.

Mu Niannian smiled at him and said, "You decide."

Ye Guan turned to Ba Wang and smiled at him. "You can leave."

Ba Wang froze. He looked like he couldn't believe his ears.

Ye Guan explained, "It's normal to be afraid of death, and everyone is scared of dying."

Ba Wang's expression was complicated, but Ye Guan was right. He was indeed afraid of dying! His top priority had always been his survival. For him, survival was more important than anything.

Ye Guan suddenly asked, "Ba Wang, where are we?"

Ba Wang hurriedly said, "We're in the sect grounds of a sect that existed during the Divine Dao Civilization. It's called the Exotic Beasts Sect, and they specialize in raising exotic beasts. I obtained an ancient inheritance from them, so I decided to stay here and cultivate until I eventually became a Great Destiny Sovereign[1]."

Exotic Beasts Sect. Ye Guan nodded.

Ba Wang suddenly asked, "Young Master, you've seen the stone pillars, right?"

Ye Guan turned to the stone pillars where images of ferocious-looking beasts were carved.

Ba Wang explained, "Every beast depiction on the pillar is a real beast, and they're currently being sealed. However, you can control them with the Beast Orb."

The Beast Orb? Ye Guan made a sidelong glance at Little White. She blinked and opened her tiny paw. The Beast Orb appeared in her paw.

Ye Guan smiled and asked, "Can you lend it to me?"

Little White nodded and gently blew on the Beast Orb. The Beast Orb flew to Ye Guan, who extended his palm to catch it. After observing it for a while, he then looked at Little White and asked, "Can I just have it?"

Little White blinked, but she didn't wave her tiny paws.

Ye Guan took out a string of candied hawthorns and offered them to Little White.

She hesitated for a moment before raising both of her tiny claws.

Ye Guan pulled out another string of candied hawthorns.

Little White grinned at the sight. She put away the candied hawthorns before patting the Beast Orb with her paw. The Beast Orb trembled slightly before turning into a beam of dark light that melted into Ye Guan's glabella.

Swoosh!

A powerful aura erupted from Ye Guan. Soon, he felt the presence of countless sealed beasts, and the Beast Orb served as an intermediary, allowing him to control every single sealed beast.

"Awaken!" Ye Guan roared, and the Dao Imprint flew out of his glabella. It trembled violently before taking off to the skies. A Great Dao rune appeared in the dome of heaven, and it shattered when the Dao Imprint collided with it.

Boom!

The stone pillars trembled. Soon, frightening beasts emerged from every stone pillar, and they all took to the skies. Thousands of beasts quickly pervaded the airspace and blotted out the sun; their presence alone was enough to crumble mountains.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed as he swept his gaze across the group of beasts. There were three beasts at the level of a Great Destiny Sovereign, twelve at the level of an Ordinary Great Sovereign, and over a thousand of them were at the level of a Divine Sovereign.

The remaining beasts were at the level of a Time Immortal Realm cultivator.

They weren't as strong as the elites of the Supreme Sword Sect, but they couldn't be underestimated.

Just then, a beast appeared in front of Ye Guan.

It stared at him and spoke, "Human, return that Beast Orb to our Exotic Beasts Sect."

Ye Guan didn't respond. Instead, he looked at Little White.

Little White blinked, and then she looked at Erya.

Erya pulled out a candied hawthorn and took a step forward before letting out a roar.

Boom!

A terrifying beast-like aura burst out of her. The expressions of the surrounding beasts changed drastically, and they all recoiled in fear. Their eyes were full of dread as they glanced at Erya.

Erya swept her gaze across the beasts and said, "Fine, I'll return it to you. However, I have to seal you again."

The beasts were afraid, but displeasure fled across their faces at Erya's remark.

The leader of the beasts spoke in a deep voice, "We cannot submit to a human!"

Clearly, they were looking down on Ye Guan!

Killing intent flashed in Erya's eyes at the leader's remark.

"Does my grandson need you to submit?" she asked and threw a punch.

The beast leader was caught off guard, and it had no choice but to face the punch.

Boom!

A mighty collision occurred in mid-air, and everyone watched as the Great Destiny Sovereign beast was blasted away by Erya's punch. It flew thousands of meters before it managed to stop. Before it could even stabilize itself, Erya threw another punch.

Boom!

A shrill cry echoed as the beast flew like a shooting star across the sky.

Erya proceeded to rush to the beast and give it a good beating. The other beasts exchanged looks, and their faces were marred with fear as they retreated.

The beast started begging for mercy, as Erya's beating had pushed it to the brink of death. At this rate, it was definitely going to die if Erya didn't stop beating it.

Fortunately, Erya stopped.

The other beasts looked at Erya with fear in their eyes.

Erya turned around and glanced at the beasts before saying, "If you don't want to submit to my grandson, that's fine. You can go back to your seal and stay there!"

A beast comparable to a Great Destiny Sovereign cultivator suddenly flew to Ye Guan and bowed deeply toward him, saying, "I, Zhen Mang, am willing to serve you, Master!"

Ye Guan smiled and said, "All right, you're their leader from now on."

Zhen Mang was delighted. "I appreciate your grace, Master!"

The other beasts looked at each other, hesitating.

When Zhen Mang saw that, he roared, "What's up with the hesitation?!"

He was glaring at the other beasts, but Ba Wang was in the periphery of his vision.

My god! What is that energy fluctuation? Isn't that unique to Cosmic Spirits?! He must be a Cosmic Spirit! There's no doubt about it. Following this young man means becoming the follower of that Cosmic Spirit, right?

We're going to lead a great life from now on!

Why are these dumbasses even hesitating! We need a ton of spiritual energy to recover our strength, as we've just been unsealed. Becoming the followers of a Cosmic Spirit means we'll never run out of spiritual energy!

It's like having a never-ending rice bowl—no, a never-ending iron rice bowl!

Some beasts noticed the strange light in Zhan Mang's eyes. They glanced at Ba Wang and deduced Zhan Mang's thoughts. They then bowed in a hurry, as if afraid that Ye Guan would change his mind.

Ye Guan smiled while staring at Erya and Little White. He realized that the two were the best reinforcements—the ultimate support team!

Ye Guan emerged from his train of thought and swept his gaze across the beasts in front of him. He was suddenly in a dilemma. How could he take care of so many powerful beasts?

Zhan Mang deduced Ye Guan's thoughts and hurriedly said, "We can stay in the Beast Orb, but... we need a lot of spiritual energy..."

"Ah, you don't need to worry about running out of spiritual energy," Ye Guan said with a smile. "Go ahead and stay inside the Beast Orb."

"Okay!" Zhan Mang exclaimed, delighted. He wasted no time and entered the Beast Orb. The remaining beasts followed closely behind him.

Ye Guan inserted quite a few spiritual cores into the Beast Orb before putting it away.

Swoosh!

An old man in black suddenly appeared in front of him. The black-robed old man said, "Young Master, we just received news that the cultivators of the Eternal Civilization are rushing toward the Milky Way. They'll reach the Milky Way in just a few days."

Ye Guan frowned and asked, "Why?"

The black-robed old man replied, "To kill your plain-skirt aunt!"

Ye Guan froze and went silent.

The black-robed old man hesitated before asking, "Should we assist her?"

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.