

A Sword 431

Chapter 431: Sword Master Qingshan

Ye Guan was bewildered; he never expected that his bloodline would suddenly start boiling. He knew that he had three different bloodlines coursing through his veins. The Mad Demon Bloodline he had inherited from his father, the bloodline he had inherited from his mother, and another bloodline.

The bloodline he had inherited from his mother was boiling for some reason. What was going on? Ye Guan's knitted brows abruptly loosened up. He turned to Xuanyuan Ling and asked, "Miss Ling, do you have a special bloodline?"

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes narrowed, and she asked, "How do you know?"

Ye Guan hurriedly added, "Can you tell me its name?"

Xuanyuan Ling hesitated.

Ye Guan saw that and asked, "Is it not a good idea to tell an outsider about it?"

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head. "No, it's fine. I'm just surprised. Mr. Ye, why are you asking?"

Ye Guan was transfixed on Xuanyuan Ling, and he urged, "Can you answer me?"

Xuanyuan Ling replied, "The Phoenix Emperor Bloodline is coursing through my veins." free(w)eb

Ye Guan's brows furrowed. "The Phoenix Emperor Bloodline?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded and stared deeply at Ye Guan. "But why the sudden interest in my bloodline, Mr. Ye?"

Ye Guan asked earnestly, "Can you let me explore your bloodline?"

Xuanyuan Ling blushed instantly, and she shook her head vehemently. "No!"

Ye Guan was taken aback.

"Mr. Ye, please refrain from such suggestive remarks..." Xuanyuan Ling muttered in a voice that sounded more like a mosquito's droning.

Ye Guan blinked in confusion.

"Miss Ling, I think you've misunderstood me..." Ye Guan muttered, smiling wryly.

Xuanyuan Ling remained silent with her head lowered and her cheeks flushed red.

Ye Guan remained confused. Did I say something wrong? Explore your bloodline... suggestive? Is it another slang here?

Just then, the car came to a halt. Xuanyuan Ling flung the door open and alighted.

Ye Guan's expression froze.

A third party would definitely misunderstand Xuanyuan Ling's desperation to alight from the car and think that Ye Guan had done something inappropriate to her.

Xuanyuan Ling ran away, but she came to a halt upon recalling something. She turned back and walked up to Ye Guan while blushing all throughout. "Mr. Ye, come with me, please."

Ye Guan nodded. "Certainly."

Ye Guan followed closely behind Xuanyuan Ling. He looked around and found a luxurious mansion built on the summit of a mountain a kilometer away. The mansion was built in an architectural style that allowed it to exude grandeur and might. Ye Guan also sensed a few concealed auras inside the mansion.

Xuanyuan Ling was quiet as she walked ahead of Ye Guan.

Ye Guan hesitated briefly before saying, "Miss Ling, I think you misunderstood me."

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "I know."

"Can you tell me why you reacted that way, then?" Ye Guan asked.

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head. "I can't."

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

The two soon reached the summit, and the mansion gates opened. Xuanyuan Ling led Ye Guan into the mansion. Ye Guan looked around curiously and saw a dozen ancient halls on the mansion grounds.

A black tower with nine floors also stood in the distance.

The entire mansion exuded an ancient aura, and Ye Guan felt like he had entered a whole new world, as the contrast was simply too big to the urban environment outside.

Ye Guan became even more curious as they walked deeper into the mansion. The bloodline power inside of him became increasingly restless as the seconds went on, and Ye Guan reckoned that there had to be something related to his bloodline here, or perhaps he had a relative here.

Xuanyuan Ling led Ye Guan into a quaint courtyard, and a man emerged, blocking their path. The man resembled Xuanyuan Ling.

"Second Brother!" exclaimed Xuanyuan Ling.

The man glanced quietly at Ye Guan before nodding.

Xuanyuan Ling saw that and turned to Ye Guan. "Let's go."

Ye Guan nodded, and the two ventured toward an inner hall.

Ye Guan's gaze landed on a middle-aged man seated inside the inner hall. He was wearing an elegant robe in a style that would make any Huaxia citizen think that he was cosplaying.

The middle-aged man's gaze was fierce, and he emitted a domineering air.

An elegant woman in her forties was sitting next to him.

The elegant woman and the middle-aged man stared deeply at Ye Guan.

The middle-aged man's gaze carried a hint of assertiveness, and he looked as if he was trying to see through Ye Guan. Meanwhile, the elegant woman seemed to be only curious about Ye Guan, nothing more, nothing less.

A sense of unease abruptly swept past Xuanyuan Ling; she felt that something wasn't quite right.

Undeterred, Ye Guan cupped his fist toward the two.

"Hello, Uncle, Auntie!" Ye Guan greeted, bowing slightly. He considered Xuanyuan Ling as a friend, so he decided to give her parents the same respect he had been giving her.

The middle-aged man stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "Please, take a seat."

Ye Guan nodded and sat down in a nearby chair.

The elegant woman observing Ye Guan seemed a bit surprised. The young man displayed no sign of nervousness upon arriving. He exuded a cultured, composed air—a presence that certainly distinguished him from other young men.

The middle-aged man scrutinized Ye Guan and remarked, "Mr. Ye, judging by your poise and speech, you're definitely not an ordinary person. Are you from a distinguished family?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes, I am."

The middle-aged man was curious. "May I ask about your family's name?"

Ye Guan replied, "I belong to the Ye Family."

The middle-aged man's brow furrowed slightly. There was no Ye Family among the four major families of Yanjing, and the middle-aged man also couldn't recall hearing of the Ye Family, even among the families just below the four major families.

However, the middle-aged man didn't look down on Ye Guan just because he wasn't a member of a prestigious family in Yanjing. In fact, he became even more curious. The young man had to be from an exceptional lineage, at the very least.

Ye Guan shattered the ice by asking, "Miss Ling has told me that Uncle wishes to meet me. Is it true?"

The middle-aged man nodded and explained, "I've heard that Ling'er had befriended someone remarkable, and it got me curious, so I've been wanting to meet you. I hope you can pardon the impromptu request."

Xuanyuan Ling was a bit surprised to see her father being so respectful toward someone else.

Ye Guan graciously responded, "Uncle, you're too kind. I am unfamiliar with Yanjing, so I owe Miss Ling and the Xuanyuan Clan for your assistance. I should have come here and paid my respects to you earlier, but I've been too busy to do so lately."

The elegant woman smiled lightly as she stared at the courteous exchange.

"Mr. Ye, Ling'er told me that you're a swordsman, is that right?" asked the middle-aged man.

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

The middle-aged man glanced at Xuanyuan Ling standing nearby, and he sighed upon sensing Xuanyuan Ling's nervousness. This girl... she dares to deceive even her own father.

The middle-aged man looked at Ye Guan and smiled warmly. "Mr. Ye, I'm sure you understand the beauty of swords as a swordsman. It just so happens that the Xuanyuan Clan has a penchant for collecting swords. Let Ling'er guide you to our collection, and should you find a sword to your liking, feel free to take it away."

The middle-aged man then turned to Xuanyuan Ling and said, "Take Mr. Ye to the Sword Pavilion."

"Alright," Xuanyuan Ling said, nodding. Then, she grabbed Ye Guan's hand and led the latter away.

Ye Guan became perplexed. Why was Xuanyuan Ling holding his hand?

The middle-aged man sighed. "She actually dared to deceive her parents...."

The elegant woman couldn't help but chuckle. "They're not a couple, but it's clear that she likes Mr. Ye's company—no, I'd say she likes him rather than his company."

The elegant woman revealed an amused smile upon recalling how Xuanyuan Ling had taken the initiative to hold Ye Guan's hand.

The middle-aged man's expression turned serious as he pointed out. "That young man's remarkable charisma means that he's no ordinary individual. It would have been acceptable to let him try and awaken the Ancestral Sword if they were a real couple.

"However, they're not a real couple, so the clan elders will surely not agree to let him try and awaken the Ancestral Sword."

The elegant woman nodded thoughtfully and said, "Indeed."

The middle-aged man cast a complicated gaze outside and muttered, "It's all our fault. We're too weak to awaken the Ancestral Sword."

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Xuanyuan Ling let go of Ye Guan's hand and stared at Ye Guan with flushed cheeks.

Ye Guan hesitated briefly before asking, "Miss Ling, is everything okay?"

"Yes," Xuanyuan Ling said, nodding. "Yes. Let's go to the Sword Pavilion!"

"All right, let's go," Ye Guan replied with a nod. He was also curious about the Xuanyuan Clan's sword collection.

Xuanyuan Ling led Ye Guan to the Sword Pavilion, and the two soon arrived at the Sword Pavilion. Ye Guan entered and was astonished to see the breathtaking array of swords. Some swords adorned the walls, while others were arranged on racks.

Ye Guan wasn't sure just how many swords were in the pavilion, but he reckoned that there had to be at least ten thousand swords here.

A tremor seemed to run across the swords as soon as Ye Guan stepped into the Sword Pavilion.

Xuanyuan Ling's expression changed slightly.

Ye Guan waved his hand, quelling the swords.

Ye Guan looked around and nodded in acknowledgment. The swords here were of high quality, considering that they were on the barren Blue Planet.

Unfortunately, these swords were nothing but ordinary swords to him. Ye Guan's standards when it came to swords were exceedingly high. He had started his journey with the Path Sword, after all!

Xuanyuan Ling suddenly said, "Mr. Ye, there's something I'd like to discuss with you."

Ye Guan turned to Xuanyuan Ling and smiled. "Of course, go ahead."

Xuanyuan Ling hesitated before muttering, "I actually lied to you, Mr. Ye. I told my parents that you're my—"

"Boyfriend?" Ye Guan interrupted with a smile.

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes widened, "You..."

Ye Guan chuckled and explained, "Your parents and brother's gazes toward me felt a bit strange."

Xuanyuan Ling smiled bitterly and sighed.

Ye Guan's curiosity was piqued upon recalling something.

"So, why did you actually decide to bring me here?"

Xuanyuan Ling explained, "Mr. Ye, I genuinely have no ill intentions."

Ye Guan nodded in understanding. "I know. I'm just curious."

Xuanyuan Ling calmed down instantly upon hearing that, and she eventually started speaking, "Our Xuanyuan Clan has an ancestral sword named Xuanyuan. Our ancestor, Xuanyuan Emperor, once wielded it in battle. It's a sword that has been passed down in our family for many generations, but it only had two masters so far."

"Only two owners?" Ye Guan asked with knitted brows.

"The first owner was our ancestor, of course, but we don't know the identity of the second owner," Xuanyuan Ling said, "All we know is that the sword itself left the Milky Way and was acquired by a mysterious swordsman."

"The swordsman used it for a while and eventually returned the sword to the Xuanyuan Clan in the Milky Way."

"Mysterious swordsman?" Ye Guan asked, looking intrigued.

Xuanyuan Ling nodded and explained, "Yes. We call him 'mysterious swordsman,' as we have never uncovered his true identity. Our ancestor's account says that the swordsman liked wearing a long blue robe, and he was always accompanied by a white-furred beast."

Ye Guan's face stiffened at Xuanyuan Ling's revelation.

Chapter 432: I Am Just A Grandson!

A mysterious swordsman who likes wearing a blue robe and is always accompanied by a white-furred beast? Could it be Grandfather? Fuck! Ye Guan inwardly cursed out of surprise.

Xuanyuan Ling noticed the subtle change in Ye Guan's expression.

"Young Master Ye, could that swordsman be you?" she asked tentatively.

“Do you know if the mysterious swordsman has any other distinctive features?” Ye Guan asked, sounding serious.

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head. “I’m not sure. It has been so many years, after all.”

Ye Guan fell silent. Xuanyuan Ling's description made Ye Guan feel that the mysterious swordsman was Yang Ye. He truly didn't expect that Yang Ye had a connection with the Xuanyuan Clan, and the revelation made Ye Guan feel even more curious about the so-called Ancestral Sword of the Xuanyuan Clan.

A sword that Yang Ye once wielded couldn't be ordinary.

"As I said, it's a sword that's been passed down in the family, but over the years, none of our Xuanyuan Clan descendants have been able to draw it, so it has never seen the world again since it was returned," Xuanyuan Ling said.

Ye Guan snapped back to reality and asked. “Do you want me to give it a shot?”

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "Yes!"

Ye Guan smiled. “I can give it a try!”

Xuanyuan Ling went silent upon hearing that.

Ye Guan asked, “What’s wrong?”

Xuanyuan Ling smiled wryly. “Outsiders aren't allowed to try and draw it out.”

Ye Guan smiled bitterly and asked, “Why did you even ask me to come here, then?”

"Wait," Ye Guan said, realizing something. "Can a partner of a Xuanyuan Clan member try it?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded and said, "Yes."

Ye Guan stared deeply at Xuanyuan Ling and began to mull over it.

Should I trade my body for a sword? Ye Guan hesitated. Honestly, Xuanyuan Ling was a great person.

Xuanyuan Ling blushed upon seeing Ye Guan's strange expression.

"Don't jump to conclusions. Pretending to be a couple is enough."

Ye Guan frowned. "Pretend?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "Exactly."

Ye Guan asked, "How do we go about pretending?"

Xuanyuan Ling glanced at Ye Guan's face before saying, "We just have to be a bit more intimate."

Ye Guan pondered for a moment before asking, "Like holding hands, you mean?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "Yes."

"Alright," Ye Guan said, nodding. His curiosity about the sword his grandfather once wielded overcame any reservations he had about the idea.

Xuanyuan Ling continued, "Since we're basically performing, we have to give it our all. From now on, I want you to address me as Ling'er rather than Miss Ling, okay?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Sure."

Xuanyuan Ling nodded as well and added, "Also, during our time together, try to make our interactions seem more intimate. Remember, it's just acting, don't overthink it, okay?"

Ye Guan nodded once more. "Got it."

Xuanyuan Ling smiled. "Has any sword here managed to catch your eye?"

Ye Guan shook his head.

"How about I show you around outside?" Xuanyuan Ling suggested.

"Sure," Ye Guan replied with a grin. He turned on his heel and strolled toward the exit.

"Hey!" Xuanyuan Ling called out.

Ye Guan cast a confused gaze at Xuanyuan Ling.

Xuanyuan Ling blinked playfully. "Have you already forgotten it?"

Ye Guan hesitated briefly before grabbing Xuanyuan Ling's hand. "Let's go!"

A furious blush painted Xuanyuan Ling's cheeks, and her heart started to pound madly against her chest. She tried her best to keep her composure, but her efforts seemed futile.

Out of the blue, Ye Guan asked, "Ling... er... um, what will you gain from helping me get your family's ancestral sword?"

Xuanyuan Ling glanced at Ye Guan and replied, "You'll find out in due time."

Ye Guan nodded and went silent.

The two exited the Sword Pavilion; Xuanyuan Ling then led Ye Guan toward the mountain behind the Xuanyuan Mansion. Along the way, the pair attracted the attention of quite a few Xuanyuan Clan members.

Word spread quickly to every corner of the Xuanyuan Clan, and Xuanyuan Ling's face was as red as a beetroot. Fortunately, a veil obscured her furious blush.

Ye Guan suddenly came to a halt. He let go of Xuanyuan Ling's hand and stared with a serious gaze at her, saying, "Miss Ling, I think this isn't right."

"What do you mean?" Xuanyuan Ling asked, sounding puzzled.

Ye Guan explained, "This isn't going to affect me that much, but this will tarnish your reputation. Won't this impact your marriage in the future if word gets out that you're so intimate with a man outside of marriage?"

Xuanyuan Ling met Ye Guan's gaze but remained silent.

Ye Guan continued earnestly, "It's my fault. I didn't think it through. We'll clarify things with your parents later; hopefully, we can still salvage the situation."

"I thought you were interested in that sword?" Xuanyuan Ling questioned.

"I'm interested in it, and I definitely want to see it, but this isn't right," Ye Guan said, shaking his head. "This is going to have a huge negative impact on you."

Xuanyuan Ling smiled and grabbed his hand.

"It's okay," she reassured.

However, her reassurance made Ye Guan feel even more confused.

"It's normal for girls to have a few boyfriends here until they're married," Xuanyuan Ling explained.

Ye Guan had no idea what to say.

"I'm not joking," Xuanyuan Ling chuckled and said, "Come here, follow me."

Xuanyuan Ling then dragged Ye Guan away.

"Does it also apply to men?" Ye Guan asked.

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "Yes, but not at the same time..."

Xuanyuan Ling then frowned and looked at Ye Guan. "Why do you ask?"

Ye Guan hastily shook his head. "I was just curious..."

Xuanyuan Ling fixed her gaze on Ye Guan and warned, "Don't overthink it, okay?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yeah, I was just curious, really!"

"Is that so?" Xuanyuan Ling chuckled and said, "Let's go, then. I'll take you somewhere."

The two continued on their journey, and they soon reached the summit of the mountain behind the Xuanyuan Residence. From the summit, they could see the entire Xuanyuan Residence and even Yanjing in the distance.

"Hey!" Xuanyuan Ling called out.

Ye Guan turned to her.

Xuanyuan Ling smiled and said, "I didn't bring you here to sightsee. Feel the air."

Feel the air? Ye Guan was confused. He closed his eyes, and his eyes shot wide open almost immediately.

"Spiritual energy!" Ye Guan exclaimed. A significant amount of energy was in the air on the summit of this mountain.

Xuanyuan Ling grinned and explained, "It's tiny, but there's a spiritual vein here. I remember you saying you needed spiritual energy, so I brought you here. You can go ahead and absorb some spiritual energy here."

"Why?" Ye Guan asked, sounding hesitant. The Blue Planet was barren, so spiritual energy had to be an extremely precious resource here. In addition, Ye Guan reckoned that the spiritual vein he was standing on at the moment could be the Xuanyuan Clan's one and only spiritual vein.

"What do you mean?" Xuanyuan Ling asked, looking puzzled.

Ye Guan cast a serious gaze upon Xuanyuan Ling and said, "Miss Ling, the spiritual energy in the air here is extremely precious. I'm sure you know that."

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head slightly and looked away, seemingly a bit irritated.

Ye Guan was confused.

"Have you ever thought about the value of the gifts you gave me?" Xuanyuan Ling asked, "Aren't they even more precious than a bit of spiritual energy? I reckon that I wouldn't be able to find anything similar to what you gave me, even in the Milky Way Clan."

Ye Guan went silent.

Xuanyuan Ling turned to face him with a hint of annoyance. "I just told you to absorb some spiritual energy. Why overthink it?"

Ye Guan sighed, "It's not what I meant. The spiritual energy here is too valuable. You brought me here to absorb it without your parents' permission, so I'm afraid that they might scold you."

Xuanyuan Ling chuckled. "They aren't that petty. Go ahead and start absorbing."

Ye Guan still seemed hesitant despite Xuanyuan Ling's reassurance. Still, he truly needed spiritual energy, so he could only nod and say, "Alright."

Ye Guan sat cross-legged and circulated his cultivation method. The spiritual energy in the air soon converged above him, creating a vortex.

Ye Guan decided to absorb the spiritual energy in the air rather than directly absorbing the spiritual energy inside the spiritual vein beneath him. Ye Guan was afraid that the spiritual vein would wither if he were to do such a thing.

After a while, Ye Guan stood up. He had gathered a ton of spiritual energy—ten times more spiritual energy than he had before he started absorbing, yes, ten times!

This meant that Ye Guan would no longer have any issues fighting a Master.

Xuanyuan Ling smiled. "How does it feel?"

Ye Guan took a moment to sense the spiritual energy inside him and smiled. "Ever thought about flying?"

Xuanyuan Ling blinked and asked, "On a sword?"

Ye Guan nodded.

"Yes!" Xuanyuan Ling said eagerly.

A thought was all it took for Yunxiu to take to the skies. The elegant sword carved beautiful arcs in the air. Ye Guan held Xuanyuan Ling's hand and assisted her in hopping onto the sword. Then, the sword transformed into a streak of light that zipped through the sky.

Ye Guan chose to employ the Royal Sword Art to manipulate the sword rather than to use the meager spiritual energy that he had gathered painstakingly.

Xuanyuan Ling screamed and clung desperately to Ye Guan as the two of them flew across the skies. Ye Guan stiffened. He didn't expect that Xuanyuan Ling would end up screaming and clinging to him for life.

Ye Guan felt a bit awkward as Xuanyuan Ling clung desperately to him. After a moment of hesitation, he said, "Miss Ling, don't be scared. Open your eyes and take a look around."

Xuanyuan Ling cautiously opened her eyes, but she immediately closed her eyes upon seeing that the mountain beneath them had shrunk to the size of a basketball, and she went beyond pallid at the realization that they were so high up in the skies.

Ye Guan frowned, sensing something amiss. "What's wrong?"

"I-I-I'm afraid of heights!" Xuanyuan Ling exclaimed.

Afraid of heights? Ye Guan was taken aback. Moments later, he shook his head and smiled. He then held Xuanyuan Ling's waist and said, "Don't be scared. I'm here to support you."

However, Xuanyuan Ling shook her head vigorously.

Ye Guan chuckled and pointed out. "I thought you wanted to become a swordsman and that you wanted to fly on a sword? What's the point of learning how to fly on a sword if you're afraid of heights?"

Xuanyuan Ling trembled upon hearing Ye Guan's remark. Moments later, she opened her eyes slowly. She was still afraid, but she was no longer as afraid as she was earlier.

Ye Guan also decided to slow down.

After a while, Xuanyuan Ling let out a lengthy exhale. Then, excitement filled her eyes as she exclaimed, "I really am flying on a sword!"

Ye Guan smiled. "Yes, you really are flying on a sword."

As Xuanyuan Ling was about to speak, a sudden realization painted her face red. They were very close to each other, and her hands were still wrapped around Ye Guan's waist. In addition, there was a pinkish air around them.

Xuanyuan Ling was about to retract her hands out of embarrassment, but she stopped, clearly conflicted.

Ye Guan sensed Xuanyuan Ling's hesitation and gradually steered the sword back to the mountain summit. The two soon descended, and Ye Guan helped Xuanyuan Ling alight from the sword. Xuanyuan Ling promptly let go of Ye Guan's hand upon alighting from the sword, but her eyes glimmered with a bit of disappointment.

Ye Guan grinned. "How was it?"

"It was pretty great..." Xuanyuan Ling muttered. Then, she stared excitedly at Ye Guan and asked, "One day, can I fly on a sword like you?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Certainly! The spiritual energy on this summit and your talent are more than enough for you to learn how to fly on a sword! It's all a matter of time!"

Xuanyuan Ling lowered her head and said softly, "But... I'm scared."

Ye Guan chuckled and said, "No worries. I'll be your guide by then, and I'm sure you'll overcome the fear of heights after a few flights."

"You're going to guide me?" Xuanyuan Ling said, "That's a promise, okay?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Xuanyuan Ling grinned and said, "Okay, let's go down!"

The two then went down the mountain while holding hands. During their descent, Xuanyuan Ling suddenly asked, "Is your desire to see my family's Ancestral Sword related to that blue-robed swordsman?"

Ye Guan nodded without saying anything.

Xuanyuan Ling stared at Ye Guan and asked, "Do you know that swordsman?"

Ye Guan responded, "Yes, I do."

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes shone in curiosity, and she asked, "If you can use the entirety of your cultivation, who is stronger between you and him?"

Ye Guan shook his head and chuckled. "I'm just a 'grandson'[1] in front of him!"

Xuanyuan Ling had no idea what to say.

Chapter 433: The Entire Family Is Harmonious

"Grandson?" Xuanyuan Ling paused. She then shook her head and said, "I find it hard to believe that you're nothing but a grandson before him. You're pretty formidable. I think you're stronger than that blue-robed swordsman!"

Ye Guan merely smiled.

One had to be cautious with words, especially now that he was under scrutiny from his father. Offending his grandfather would make his life even more challenging. His relationship with the old man had to be handled with care.

Xuanyuan Ling suddenly asked, "Do you know that blue-robed swordsman personally?"

Ye Guan snapped back to the present and nodded, "I do."

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes widened. "Are you perhaps some ancient being?"

Ye Guan chuckled and said, "No way, I'm young. I'm just eighteen. Time here in the Milky Way flows differently than in the stars beyond."

Understanding dawned on Xuanyuan Ling, and she nodded. "I see."

Ye Guan glanced at the sky and suggested, "Shall we keep heading down the mountain?"

Xuanyuan Ling agreed with a nod. Once they descended, they were promptly invited to a grand hall. The atmosphere inside was vibrant, with about twenty prominent members of the Xuanyuan Clan gathered around a lavishly set table.

Seated at the head was Xuanyuan Ling's father, Xuanyuan Qi, and beside him sat Xuanyuan Ling's mother. The table was adorned with a feast, showcasing the Xuanyuan Clan's high regard for Ye Guan.

As they entered hand in hand, the gazes of the Xuanyuan Clan members turned peculiar. Blushing, Xuanyuan Ling tightly gripped Ye Guan's hand.

Xuanyuan Qi acknowledged their arrival, "Take a seat."

Once settled, Xuanyuan Qi raised his wine glass and turned to Ye Guan with a warm smile. "Welcome to the Xuanyuan Clan, Mr. Ye."

Ye Guan returned the gesture in kind. "Thank you for the warm welcome, Uncle."

They two then sipped from their glasses, marking the start of dinner. As everyone sat down to eat, the formidable members of the Xuanyuan Clan showed no particular interest in Ye Guan. At most, they casually inquired about his background.

The elites of the Xuanyuan Clan were present as well. Initially, they were curious about Ye Guan. After all, this was the first time Xuanyuan Ling had brought a man home.

Owing to the Xuanyuan Clan's esteemed social standing, they felt they were superior to Ye Guan. It wasn't strange, as the Xuanyuan Clan carried significant status throughout Huaxia. However, they kept their attitude in check, knowing that they had to respect Xuanyuan Ling. A clan also needed a united front when facing outsiders.

If Xuanyuan Ling were to lose face, the entire Xuanyuan Clan would lose face!

As the conversation unfolded and they observed Ye Guan's refined manners and impressive demeanor, their initial reservations began to dissipate. They realized that Ye Guan was a wise person who had experienced a lot in life.

Consequently, the elites of the Xuanyuan Clan in the hall grew increasingly intrigued by Ye Guan. They started raising their glasses to him, and after a couple of rounds, Ye Guan found himself a bit lightheaded.

Glancing at Ye Guan beside her, Xuanyuan Ling's lips blossomed with a smile. She knew that her parents and clan members had exceptionally high standards; the average person couldn't possibly get on their radar.

However, they were actually treating Ye Guan with utmost courtesy.

Xuanyuan Ling was also curious about Ye Guan's true identity. The confidence that he was exuding was unprecedented for a young man. He navigated every single situation effortlessly and talked to everyone smoothly, regardless of their status, displaying neither fear nor worry.

There was no way his confidence was fabricated.

Just who are you, really? Xuanyuan Ling thought while staring at the red-faced Ye Guan.

Xuanyuan You was about to raise a toast to Ye Guan, but he stopped upon receiving a harsh glare from his sister. Xuanyuan You pursed his lips and reluctantly put down his wine glass. After a while, the majority of the people at the table were full.

Xuanyuan Ling suddenly spoke, "Father, Little Guan is a swordsman, so I hope he can have a go at the Ancestral Sword!

Silence immediately descended upon the dining hall.

Xuanyuan Qi put down his wine glass and looked at Xuanyuan Ling.

"Are you sure?" he asked.

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. After a thoughtful silence, Xuanyuan Qi looked at the other members of the Xuanyuan Clan.

Just then, an elder said, "Little Ling, I'm sure you know that only the members of our Xuanyuan Clan can attempt to awaken the Ancestral Sword. How far have Mr. Ye and you... progressed?"

Xuanyuan Ling instantly blushed, and she lowered her head in silence. Witnessing this scene, the onlookers were left speechless. Clearly, their relationship had reached that point!

The elder shook his head, dismissing the matter. The rest of the people remained silent. The Xuanyuan Clan was rather conservative. If Xuanyuan Ling had reached that stage with this young man, it meant that they were just one step away from getting married.

Xuanyuan Qi glanced deeply at Xuanyuan Ling. He sighed softly and refrained from saying anything. Xuanyuan Ling looked at her father and asked, "Father, is it okay?"

Xuanyuan Qi calmly replied, "Let him visit the Sword Tower tomorrow."

Xuanyuan Ling was overjoyed.

The rest of the clan members didn't object, either.

The Ancestral Sword was extremely valuable, but it hadn't chosen a new master among the descendants of the Xuanyuan Clan for many years now. In addition, one of its only two masters was an outsider.

The Xuanyuan Clan didn't dare to be stubborn, and it would also be great if an in-law of the Xuanyuan Clan ended up drawing the sword.

With Xuanyuan Qi's decision, the group no longer regarded Ye Guan as an outsider.

Another round of toasts ensued, and the banquet eventually ended.

Xuanyuan Ling assisted Ye Guan back to their room; she helped him lie down on the bed, but just as she was about to leave, Ye Guan grabbed her hand.

Xuanyuan Ling's heart skipped a beat as she turned to face Ye Guan and found that he was staring intently at her. Xuanyuan Ling hesitated briefly before asking, "Are you... not drunk?"

Ye Guan shook his head. "A bit tipsy, but I'm not drunk."

He then patted the bed next to him and said, "Take a seat."

Xuanyuan Ling hesitated but complied.

Ye Guan grinned and teased, "Are you afraid I'll take advantage of the situation?"

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head. "You wouldn't do that."

She then sat down on the edge of the bed.

"Miss Ling, truth be told, I can live without seeing that sword," Ye Guan said in a serious tone of voice.

Xuanyuan Ling lowered her gaze without uttering a word.

"You mentioned that it's fine as long as we're a couple, but their gazes earlier were strange. I think they believe that we've already done that" Ye Guan trailed off and shook his head. "This will tarnish your reputation, Miss Ling. We really don't have"

"Did I trouble you?" Xuanyuan Ling interrupted.

Ye Guan smiled wryly. "Why does it seem like you're not listening to me at all? I'm really worried that what we're doing will tarnish your reputation."

"I don't mind it," Xuanyuan Ling said, reassuring him.

Ye Guan cast a deep gaze upon Xuanyuan Ling. "Why?"

Xuanyuan Ling smiled. "Didn't you mention that your cultivation is being sealed by someone? The Ancestral Sword in my family is incredibly powerfulthe sharpest in Huaxias history. If the sword somehow acknowledges you, you might just be able to break the seal on your cultivation base and kill the culprit who sealed you."

Ye Guan's expression stiffened. He tightened his grip on Xuanyuan Ling's hand, and there was a hint of nervousness in his voice as he stammered, "P-Please don't say that. I've never thought about harming others nor the culprit."

Xuanyuan Ling blushed furiously at Ye Guan's tight grip. She wanted to retract her hand, but she found herself holding his hand as well.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan was visibly shaken by the implications of Xuanyuan Ling's words.

Kill Ye Xuan? No way! The Yang Family members were so close to each other, and he was particularly fond of his father. There was no way he would do such a thing!

Just then, Ye Guan realized that he was holding Xuanyuan Ling's hand. He hurriedly let go of her hand and smiled awkwardly. "Sorry, that wasn't intentional."

Xuanyuan Ling remained silent while looking down at her feet.

Ye Guan felt a stir of emotion as he looked at her. He had not expected that she would still be weighed down by the words he had said. A sense of guilt crept in as he realized that she had essentially sacrificed her innocence for him.

All of a sudden, they heard oncoming footsteps from outside. Xuanyuan Ling's expression changed abruptly; she swiftly climbed onto the bed and lay down next to Ye Guan.

Ye Guan looked utterly perplexed, and he looked at her with curiosity, seeking an explanation.

Xuanyuan Ling explained, "The elders are coming. They're probably thinking that I lied to them. The Ancestral Sword of the Xuanyuan Clan is important, and it's the symbol of the clan."

"The Xuanyuan Clan will never give it to an outsider even if they can't pull it out. Of course, it's a different story for in-laws, but they still have to be cautious just in case."

Ye Guan sighed. "What should we do?"

Xuanyuan Ling lowered her head slightly and said, "T-tonight, I'll sleep here."

"What else can we do, then?" she added in a low voice.

Ye Guan smiled wryly and asked, "Are you not afraid that I'll do something inappropriate?"

Xuanyuan Ling murmured, "You won't do anything inappropriate."

"Oh?" Ye Guan teased, "Did I strike you as a gentleman?"

Eventually, Ye Guan sighed and said, "Miss Ling, this really isn't right..."

Xuanyuan Ling calmly replied, "Haven't I told you? It's perfectly normal for girls to have a few boyfriends here. Your way of thinking is too old-fashioned."

"Does that mean you'd do the same with other men?" Ye Guan asked.

Xuanyuan Ling's face and gaze instantly turned cold at Ye Guan's remark. She then turned her back on Ye Guan and declared indifferently, "Tomorrow, I'll help you have a go at pulling out the Xuanyuan Sword. Afterward, we will owe each other nothing."

Ye Guan realized that he had said something wrong. He gently tugged at Xuanyuan Ling's sleeve and said softly, "I'm sorry, Miss Ling. I didn't mean to say it."

Xuanyuan Ling remained silent.

Ye Guan tried again. "Miss Ling?"

Xuanyuan Ling remained silent.

Ye Guan sighed and wondered why he had uttered those words.

Surely, it was the Mad Demon Bloodline's fault!

Ye Guan tried again and again, but Xuanyuan Ling remained silent. Eventually, Ye Guan reached out and placed his hand on Xuanyuan Ling's waist. "I'm going to take advantage of you if you remain silent."

Xuanyuan Ling remained silent.

Ye Guan suddenly pushed himself up and leaned over Xuanyuan Ling. However, he was stunned to see her crying. Her eyes were bloodshot from the tears that streamed down her cheeks without stopping.

Ye Guan was immediately inundated with guilt. He was about to say something when Xuanyuan Ling turned away and said, "Let's sleep."

Ye Guan sighed. People really do make mistakes while they're drunk!

The night passed, and when Ye Guan opened his eyes, Xuanyuan Ling was nowhere to be seen. Ye Guan sighed upon recalling last night's incident. After a moment of silence, he got out of bed, freshened up, and pushed open the door.

The sun was bright, and the weather was excellent.

Just then, Xuanyuan Ling suddenly approached from the side.

Today, she was adorned in a flowing green dress. Her face was still veiled, which meant only her eyes could be seen. However, her eyes no longer held the warmth and friendliness from yesterday; they had become cold and unfamiliar.

Ye Guan opened his mouth to speak, but Xuanyuan Ling beat him to the chase.

"Let's go to the Sword Tower," she said before turning around and walking away.

Ye Guan shook his head and followed her. The two were quiet throughout their journey to the Sword Tower. Ye Guan tried his best to talk to Xuanyuan Ling, but she remained unresponsive.

Just then, Ye Guan's brows furrowed. His blood was starting to stir. He looked up and stared at the Sword Tower, wondering could the sword inside of that somehow connected to my bloodline?

Chapter 434: Transforming Words to a Law

The bloodline power within Ye Guan boiled even more intensely as they approached the Sword Tower. Ye Guan had three bloodlines, but only the Mad Demon Bloodline was active. The other two bloodlines were dormant so far.

Technically, even the Mad Demon Bloodline had yet to be fully activated because Ye Guan had never really gone mad. Ye Guan had to descend into complete madness for him to tap into the full power of the bloodline.

As for his remaining two bloodlines, Ye Guan had no idea how they worked.

Still, the fact that they could coexist with the Mad Demon Bloodline hinted at their extraordinary nature. Otherwise, the Mad Demon Bloodline would have destroyed them long ago.

Soon, they arrived at the Sword Tower. The tower was an ancient structure exuding an aura of antiquity. Mysterious runes adorned its exterior, resembling inverted swords, but it seemed as though the runes were suppressing something.

Ye Guan turned to Xuanyuan Ling, but she ignored him and proceeded toward the entrance. After a few steps, she sensed something and turned around to find that Ye Guan was standing still.

Xuanyuan Ling stared quietly at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan approached her with a sincere expression and said, "Miss Ling, I apologize about last night."

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head. "No need for apologies. Let's enter and have you try to pull out that sword!"

Xuanyuan Ling then turned around and entered the Sword Tower.

After a moment of contemplation, Ye Guan followed suit.

The tower stood tall with nine floors, and the duo ascended gradually. Ye Guan noted the intricate murals on each floor, seemingly narrating ancient tales.

Xuanyuan Ling suddenly said, "These are remnants of history from ancient times."

Ye Guan looked at Xuanyuan Ling and asked, "Ancient history?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded. "The ancient history of an era long gone."

"I guess this blue planet had quite a few supreme elites back then, am I right?"

"You're right," Xuanyuan Ling replied, nodding.

Curiosity piqued, Ye Guan asked, "So, where are they now?"

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head gently and replied, "I have no idea."

Ye Guan fell into thoughtful silence. He reckoned that the Great Daoist Brush Master would have some idea. After all, the Great Daoist Brush Master knew that the Milky Way had one hundred and fifty civilizations in the past.

Ye Guan wanted to ask more questions, but they were already on the ninth floor. A stone platform was in the middle of the ninth floor, and a magnificent golden sword hovered above the stone platform.

The sword's name was Xuanyuan, and it measured one meter in length and two and a half fingers in width. It was emitting a radiant light as if it was telling the world that it was still alive.

Xuanyuan Ling promptly explained, "You're staring at Xuanyuan, and it is an embodiment of the Dao. The depictions of the sun, moon, and stars are carved on one side of its blade, while the other side showcases mountains, rivers, and flora. The hilt bears inscriptions on agriculture, husbandry, and the unification of the four seas. Of course, even the hilt itself contains boundless power."

The Xuanyuan Sword!

Ye Guan started walking toward Xuanyuan, and it trembled ever so slightly as if it had sensed Ye Guan's approach.

Xuanyuan Ling clenched her fists tightly in nervousness.

Responding to a feeling within him, Ye Guan calmly opened his palm and beckoned, "Come!"

A resonant hum echoed from the Sword Tower as the radiant light from Xuanyuan erupted, pervading the entire Sword Tower in the proverbial blink of an eye. At the same time, Xuanyuan flew into Ye Guan's open hand.

The unexpected event sent shockwaves throughout the entire Xuanyuan Clan. Many turned their gaze toward the distant Sword Tower. The clan elders had refrained from going with Xuanyuan Ling and Ye Guan to the Sword Tower, as they had never thought that Ye Guan would succeed. Xuanyuan had remained asleep for countless years, defying generations of attempts to awaken it by the clans descendants.

How could it possibly accept an outsider when it wouldn't even accept the Xuanyuan Clan's descendants as its master?

Consequently, none of them had given much thought to the matter. However, they were utterly bewildered by the radiant light that the Sword Tower was emitting at the moment. Had the holy sword truly submitted to a new master?

On Mount Fanjing, a man in the middle of sweeping a stone step abruptly came to a halt. He turned to stare at the distant horizon, and his expression was complicated as he muttered, "Xuanyuan..."

...

Xuanyuan Ling's expression was complex as she stared at Ye Guan. Her intuition had been screaming at her all this while that Ye Guan was capable of making Xuanyuan submit, and her intuition had just been proven to be correct.

Ye Guan gripped Xuanyuan tightly in his hand, and his expression turned serious as he sensed the boundless power hidden within the sword. Xuanyuan was definitely not an ordinary sword, and among all the swords he had ever encountered so far, Xuanyuan was the closest in power to the Qingxuan Sword and the Path Sword.

The revelation left Ye Guan astounded.

He hadn't expected to find such a divine item on Blue Planet.

Just then, Xuanyuan trembled ever so slightly. Before Ye Guan could react, a radiant light burst out of it and engulfed Ye Guan in the blink of an eye.

Xuanyuan Ling's heart jumped at the sudden turn of events, and she ran frantically toward Ye Guan.

Boom!

The radiant golden light engulfed the two, and they vanished into thin air.

When they opened their eyes once more, they found themselves in a vast, desolate land. The wasteland seemed endless, and the air was dry, scorching, and extremely hot.

Where are we? Ye Guan furrowed his brow deeply.

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes widened, and she exclaimed, "We're in the Red Star Battlefield!"

Ye Guan raised an eyebrow. "Red Star Battlefield?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded slightly with an incredulous look. She was just about to explain when something caught her attention. She pointed toward the distant void, and her voice trembled as she cried out, "Look!"

Ye Guan followed her gaze and saw a large group of human beings clad in armor standing in the void just above the wasteland.

A middle-aged man adorned in golden battle armor was standing at the helm of the ground. A majestic golden sword was in his hand, and he radiated a solemn presence.

He was like a celestial being, radiating a profound sanctity

Xuanyuan Ling trembled upon seeing the middle-aged man.

"That's... our ancestor!" Xuanyuan Ling exclaimed. Then, she tried to run toward the middle-aged man, but Ye Guan held her back and calmly said, "You're looking at nothing but a mirage."

A mirage? Xuanyuan Ling was stunned.

Ye Guan's gaze landed on a two-clawed colossal dragon just beneath the middle-aged man. Ye Guan also noted the intricate patterns on the two-clawed colossal dragon's wings.

The dragon was crouching before the middle-aged man, and its towering figure instilled a primal fear in just about anyone staring at it. Its intense gaze was fixed on the distant void, and clearly, it was hostile toward what was in the distant void.

Another middle-aged man was standing next to the middle-aged man wearing golden armor. The middle-aged man's hair and sideburns resembled sharp swords, and his eyes were incredibly fierce. A shield was strapped to his left hand, and a colossal axe was in his right hand. His fierce demeanor and menacing presence made him appear as though he was a war god.

Xuanyuan Lings voice quivered as she muttered, "That's an ancestor of the Chi Clan..."

Four demonic beasts loomed over everyone in the rear. Every single one of the four demonic beasts was ferocious beyond description, and all of them exuded a terrifying killing intent.

Ye Guan's expression turned grave upon seeing the four demonic beasts. The killing intent they were exuding was incredibly terrifying, second only to Erya.

Ye Guan was curious about their identity, so he asked, "Miss Ling, what are those four?"

Xuanyuan Ling seemed transfixed on the four as she exclaimed, "They are the Four Ancient Demonic Beasts Taotie, Hundun, Qiongqi, and Taowu..."

"Four Ancient Demonic Beasts?" Ye Guan's eyebrows knitted together. Shifting his attention behind the four ancient demonic beasts, he saw around eighty men, each exuding a fierce aura and overwhelming power.

A group of individuals were standing in the void opposite the four ancient demonic beasts. A middle-aged man holding a bronze divine cauldron was standing at the helm of the group.

Xuanyuan Ling's gaze lingered on the man as she muttered, "The ancestor of the Yan Clan. Unfortunately, the Yan Clan"

Xuanyuan Ling shook her head, leaving her words unfinished.

A group of warriors were standing behind the middle-aged man holding a bronze divine cauldron. Every single warrior within the group emitted imposing auras, but one of them stood out in particular. It was a man with a shield strapped to his hand with an axe in his other hand. The man exuded a powerful martial intent that made Ye Guan's eyes narrowed into slits.

Ye Guan could feel it even though the man was just a mirage the man was more powerful than the Eternal Civilization's Battle Sovereign.

Ye Guan was stupefied. These individuals were undoubtedly the supreme elites who had once graced the Blue Planet. They each possessed formidable strength and terrifying abilities.

Ye Guan felt a complicated mixture of emotions. He had underestimated the Blue Planet. This planet was once home to a flourishing and powerful martial civilization, but the Blue Planet experienced a decline for some reason many years later.

Ye Guan cast his gaze once more upon the gathering of powerful warriors. Ye Guan noticed that they seemed to be waiting for something.

Just then, the spacetime in the distance began to ripple.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed, and the gathered elites grew solemn as well as the spacetime tremors began to become more and more violent.

Just then, the fabric of spacetime was torn open, and a radiant spacetime tunnel manifested before the onlookers.

The middle-aged man holding a golden sword exclaimed, "A Passageway of Time!"

Ye Guan knitted his brows, and a realization dawned upon him. His eyes constricted, and his heart started to pump wildly against his chest. Was he about to meet a legendary Time Reverser?

The Great Daoist Brush Master had talked about this before, but Ye Guan hadn't quite understood it. Had a Time Reverser breached the defenses of the Blue Planet a long time ago?

Just then, a woman emerged from the radiant spacetime tunnel, interrupting Ye Guan's line of thought. The woman was wearing a flowing white robe and a jade belt wrapped around her waist. Her long hair flowed down freely behind her, and she was wearing a golden mask that covered most of her face, exposing only her mouth.

There were two figures behind the white-robed woman, and they were towering figures clad in black robes. Their faces were covered by a hood, and their auras seemed to have been obfuscated by something indescribable.

There were more powerful auras behind the two figures in black robes, but none of them stepped forward. Ye Guan's expression was grim as he stared at the white-robed woman at the helm of the group.

The white-robed woman before Ye Guan was just a mirage, but Ye Guan's heart still skipped a beat in fear the moment he clapped his eyes on her.

Ye Guan clenched his fists tightly as he desperately tried to suppress the creeping fear within his heart. Unfortunately, he found it impossible for some reason. To make matters worse, he was only getting more afraid as time went on.

Ye Guan frowned deeply, and his visage began to turn pale. He attempted to resist the fear, but the more he struggled against it, the stronger it gripped his heart.

Just then, Xuanyuan Ling saw Ye Guan's distress.

"Are you okay? What's going on with you?" she asked softly after a brief hesitation.

Ye Guan remained unwittingly transfixed on the white-robed woman, but he chose to remain silent. Xuanyuan Ling turned toward the same white-robed woman with a puzzled gaze.

All of a sudden, one of the black-robed figures spoke in a booming voice, "Since you've decided to resist, then what are you waiting for? Come! Let me see if the Great Daoist Brush Master can help you protect this Blue Planet."

The middle-aged man wielding a golden sword cackled maniacally and roared, "Everyone, let's go! Let's go and defend our homeland, Huaxia!"

The middle-aged man wielding a golden sword charged forward, and the elites behind him rushed after him soon afterward. At the same time, their figures turned blurry until they faded away. Even the two figures in black eventually faded away, but the white-robed woman remained!

The white-robed woman turned and stared directly at Ye Guan and Xuanyuan Ling.

Ye Guan's eyes abruptly narrowed, and he instinctively stood in front of Xuanyuan Ling.

Meanwhile, a man sweeping a stone step on Mount Fanjing suddenly looked up. His eyes shone in a dazzling mix of tension, excitement, and anticipation.

Cizhen was in the middle of her writing when her pen abruptly came to a halt. She looked up and uttered not a single word as she resumed writing, but her handwriting had become erratic and fierce.

Meanwhile, the white-robed woman locked eyes with Ye Guan and uttered, "Destiny that transcends Dao Destiny!"

Ye Guan frowned, utterly confused by her cryptic words.

Without warning, the white-robed woman roared, "Die!"

Boom!

Ye Guan's figure unexpectedly erupted into flames! The white-robed woman's words had become a law, transforming her words into reality.

"Hmm?" A thunderous voice echoed throughout the void, and a sword let loose a shrill cry as it pierced the void and made a beeline for the white-robed woman.

"Stop!" commanded the white-robed woman.

The sword instantly froze in place, and the white-robed woman demanded, "Shatter!"

Crack!

The sword fractured and started breaking apart.

Astonishingly, the sword was none other than the Qingxuan Sword!

Chapter 435: Almost Time To Leave

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. The Qingxuan Sword actually shattered?!

Just then, a piece of paper with words written haphazardly suddenly flew in from somewhere and landed on Ye Guan's head. The conflagration that had engulfed him instantly vanished. Covered in sweat, Ye Guan staggered backward with a pale face.

Xuanyuan Ling rushed over to support him, and her voice was trembling as she muttered, "Are you okay?"

Ye Guan didn't say anything. He stared at the white-robed woman on the horizon.

The white-robed woman ignored the Qingxuan Sword and turned to look in the direction of a certain county.

Cizhen smiled slightly while writing on her desk, but she didn't say a word.

"Wait!" the white-robed woman exclaimed. She glanced at Ye Guan before she turned around and left.

At a certain lakeside, a white-robed man stood quietly with a frown while staring at the Qingxuan Sword floating in front of him. He looked up and thought about confronting the other party personally, but he ultimately decided against it, as the other party's true body wasn't around.

Just then, a lady wearing a plain skirt walked over to him while carrying two slices of watermelon. The lady saw the shattered Qingxuan Sword, but she didn't say anything about it. She quietly extended the paper plate of watermelon slices in her hand toward the white-robed man.

The white-robed man smiled slightly. Then, he took a bite of the watermelon and remarked, "It's delicious."

The plain-skirt lady also took a bite of the watermelon.

The white-robed man's gaze landed on the Qingxuan Sword, and he flicked it with his fingers.

Clang!

A resonant noise echoed, and the Qingxuan Sword was restored in the blink of an eye. The white-robed man then looked at the sky again and said softly, "It seems that it's time for us to go."

The plain skirt lady looked up and stared at the distant void with a calm gaze.

...

Ye Guan's face was as pale as a sheet of paper as he lay in Xuanyuan Ling's arms. The mysterious piece of paper had saved him, but he still ended up sustaining heavy injuries. He also felt utterly exhausted.

Xuanyuan Ling felt helpless and could only ask nervously, "Are you okay?"

Ye Guan shook his head slightly. He wasn't going to die, but he felt extremely weak.

Xuanyuan Ling was about to say something, but Xuanyuan Qi and the other members of the Xuanyuan Clan had already arrived at the ninth floor. Their expressions turned heavy upon seeing the sword in Ye Guan's hand.

Xuanyuan Qi walked up to the two and wanted to speak, but Xuanyuan Ling beat him to the chase and said, "Let's tend to his injuries first."

Xuanyuan Qi hesitated briefly before nodding. "Okay."

Then, Xuanyuan Qi turned around and left with the others.

Xuanyuan Ling took out two pills and fed them to Ye Guan. Ye Guan swallowed the pills and closed his eyes. Then, he circulated his cultivation method to absorb the spiritual energy in the air.

Ye Guan had sustained injuries that were too heavy for mere pills to heal. He had to absorb some spiritual energy as well to speed up the healing process.

Xuanyuan Ling looked at him with a complicated look on her face. She also had many burning questions. The scene earlier made her realize that Ye Guan's identity was definitely extraordinary.

Who exactly are you? Xuanyuan Ling thought. She shook her head slightly, her heart full of confusion and frustration.

Just like that, Xuanyuan Ling held him in her arms until night fell.

Ye Guan's pallid face had regained some color.

Xuanyuan Ling saw that Ye Guan's eyes had opened, so she said, "You're awake."

Ye Guan nodded.

"Are you feeling better?" Xuanyuan Ling asked.

"Yes. I still feel weak, but it's nothing serious," Ye Guan said, smiling sheepishly. He then stood up on his own.

Xuanyuan Ling tried to stand up, but she frowned as soon as she tried to move. She hadn't moved at all, and her legs had gone completely numb from not moving for an entire half a day.

Ye Guan bent down, lifted her up, and exited the Sword Tower.

Xuanyuan Ling stared at him without saying a word.

The two stumbled upon Xuanyuan Qi and the others waiting outside the Sword Tower.

They were all staring at them with curious and bewildered looks.

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "Uncle, Miss Ling will tell you everything tomorrow."

Xuanyuan Qi glanced at Xuanyuan Ling before he nodded. "Okay."

Xuanyuan Qi then turned around and left with everyone else.

Ye Guan brought Xuanyuan Ling back to his room and put her down gently on the bed before asking, "How are your legs? Are they feeling any better?"

Xuanyuan Ling nodded.

"Are you still angry at me? I'm really sorry about last night," Ye Guan said softly.

Xuanyuan Ling didn't reply, but she started crying.

Ye Guan wanted to wipe away her tears, but Xuanyuan Ling was wearing a veil. He was about to remove her veil, but he stopped and asked hesitantly, "Is there something special about this veil?"

Xuanyuan Ling had been wearing a veil since they met, and she had never removed it, which meant Ye Guan had never really seen her true appearance, making him feel curious about what she actually looked like.

Xuanyuan Ling lowered her head and said, "Take it off if you want. I'm not going to stop you."

Ye Guan was silent. There was something off about her tone of voice.

Xuanyuan Ling looked at him and asked, "What's wrong?"

Ye Guan smiled slightly and set aside his reservations before gently removing her veil. Ye Guan was instantly stunned, even though he had seen quite a few beautiful women before.

Xuanyuan Ling was that beautiful—she possessed an unparalleled and perfect visage. Ye Guan smiled at the breathtaking sight and said, "You're so beautiful."

Xuanyuan Ling looked at him and asked, "Really?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

Xuanyuan Ling's lips curled up, revealing a barely perceptible smile.

Ye Guan asked, "How come you're wearing a veil when you're such a beauty?"

Xuanyuan Ling replied, "To avoid trouble."

"True, you'll surely attract a ton of suitors."

"You're the first person to have seen my true appearance since I came of age."

Ye Guan was stunned.

"One day, you'll have to leave, right?" Xuanyuan Ling asked.

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes, and it's almost time for me to leave."

Xuanyuan Ling went silent and looked down. Eventually, she looked up at Ye Guan and stared intently at him, saying, "C-Can you just stay here?"

Ye Guan shook his head. This place was nice, but he couldn't stay here forever. He was still the King of the Guanyuan Universe, after all, and it was his responsibility to take care of the Guanyuan Universe.

Xuanyuan Ling clenched her fists and muttered, "But... what about Su Zi? Are you going to take her with you?"

Su Zi! Ye Guan was silent.

"Do you really not know that she likes you?" Xuanyuan Ling asked.

"I know that she likes me," Ye Guan replied.

"So, are you going to take her with you or not?" Xuanyuan Ling asked.

Ye Guan didn't reply.

Xuanyuan Ling was a bit annoyed, and she exclaimed, "Are you really going to just abandon her after everything? She really likes you! Have you never thought about how she would feel if you abandoned her?"

Ye Guan smiled, but he didn't reply. He tucked her in and said, "It's been a long day, so I'm sure you're tired. Rest well."

Ye Guan then got up and turned around to leave.

However, Xuanyuan Ling grabbed his hand. "I want to know more about you."

Ye Guan was quiet.

Xuanyuan Ling asked, "You can't tell me?"

Ye Guan shook his head and explained, "I don't think you'll believe me."

"Try me."

"I've really eaten dragon meat before, and I've eaten lots of it."

"What else?"

"Why do you want to know more about me?"

"I just want to!"

"I'll tell you more once I'm no longer as tired as I am right now. Is that okay?"

"Fine, but you're not going to leave without saying goodbye, are you?"

"No."

"All right, sounds great."

Ye Guan took out Xuanyuan. Xuanyuan trembled ever so slightly, and his mysterious third bloodline began to boil. Ye Guan's expression turned heavy, and he hurriedly returned Xuanyuan to its sheathe.

Ye Guan turned to Xuanyuan Ling and said, "Miss Ling, I'd like to ask you something, and it's a very important question."

Xuanyuan Ling's curiosity was piqued. "What is it?"

"Bloodline," Ye Guan answered.

Xuanyuan Ling's face flushed instantly.

Ye Guan chuckled sheepishly and explained, "Miss Ling, I have a mysterious bloodline, and it started boiling the moment I came here. I feel like it's about to awaken, and that feeling has gotten stronger after I held Xuanyuan."

Xuanyuan Ling frowned and asked, "Are you talking about bloodline power?"

"Yes. In fact, I think there's a resonance between our bloodlines," Ye Guan replied.

Xuanyuan Ling immediately sat up and asked, "Can you show it to me?"

Ye Guan nodded. He took out Xuanyuan, and his bloodline started to boil the moment he gripped the sword. He then grabbed Xuanyuan Ling's hand and allowed the power of his bloodline to sink into Xuanyuan Ling's hand.

Xuanyuan Ling's eyes shot wide open, and she stammered, "Y-y-you...!"

"What's wrong?" Ye Guan asked.

Xuanyuan Ling's face was full of disbelief as she exclaimed, "Phoenix Emperor Bloodline! You actually have the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline! And it's so pure... How is this possible...?"

Ye Guan frowned. "The Phoenix Emperor Bloodline?"

"How is this possible... You're not even from Blue Planet, so how can you have the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline? You—"

"My mother is from here."

"Your mother?"

Ye Guan nodded.

"No wonder..." Xuanyuan Ling muttered. She then grabbed Ye Guan's hand and said excitedly, "You have an extremely pure Phoenix Emperor Bloodline, and at least ninety percent of it has been awakened!"

"You have the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline, too?" Ye Guan asked.

"Yes, I have it, too."

"So we're siblings?"

Xuanyuan Ling was taken aback. Then, she smacked his head gently and replied, "What are you talking about? The citizens of Huaxia have the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline running through their veins."

"What do you mean?" Ye Guan asked.

Xuanyuan Ling smiled and explained, "The citizens of Huaxia are descendants of the Phoenix Emperor. However, bloodline awakenings are incredibly rare, and it has become even rarer since we entered the Low Martial Era. Even my Xuanyuan Clan has only seen a few people awaken such a bloodline after so many years.

"To make matters worse, everyone's Phoenix Emperor Bloodline has long mutated after so many years of reproduction. Our clan actually calls our bloodline the Xuanyuan Bloodline instead of the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline."

"I see..."

Xuanyuan Ling smiled. "So you're from this planet as well... No wonder Xuanyuan submitted to you."

Ye Guan smiled, but he didn't say anything. Qin Guan was from Huaxia, so he could be considered a half-Huaxian.

Just then, Ye Guan recalled something and asked, "Can I take a look at your bloodline?"

Xuanyuan Ling blushed, and she glared at him in embarrassment.

Ye Guan smiled bitterly. I just want to take a look at your bloodline. Why do you always glare at me whenever I ask you to take a look at it?

"Do you really want to take a look?" Xuanyuan Ling asked in a low voice.

Ye Guan nodded almost immediately.

Xuanyuan Ling grabbed Ye Guan's hand and pushed him onto the bed before pressing him down beneath her. Xuanyuan Ling's actions seemed decisive and determined, but her face looked as red as a tomato.

Ye Guan was starting to feel a little nervous as well. What the fuck? I just wanted to take a look at your bloodline, so why are you... why are you seducing me?

Chapter 436: Suppress Everything!

Xuanyuan Ling closed her eyes and took a deep breath. When she opened her eyes once again, her expression showed determination as if she had come to a decision.

She clenched her fists, and the bloodline inside of her boiled swiftly, erupting into a conflagration that reduced all of her clothes to ashes.

Ye Guan's mind immediately went blank. He finally understood why she had always glared at him whenever he asked her to show him her bloodline!

Ye Guan pulled on the blanket near him and was going to cover her up, but Xuanyuan Ling suddenly pressed herself against him. Xuanyuan Ling's voice was trembling as she said, "Don't move. I want you to feel it."

Ye Guan felt a faint energy seeping out of her.

Bloodline power! Ye Guan closed his eyes to feel it, and he soon realized that Xuanyuan Ling hadn't lied to him at all. Her bloodline was markedly different from his but was similar as well at the same time.

"Can you feel it?" Xuanyuan Ling asked in a quivering voice, and she was trembling along with her voice.

Ye Guan decided against pushing her away and covering her with a blanket. He pulled the blanket over the two of them before placing his hands on her waist. Ye Guan's heart skipped a beat the moment her hands landed on her soft waist.

Meanwhile, Xuanyuan Ling became even more nervous, and she buried her head into Ye Guan's neck; she dared not to look him in the eye.

Ye Guan's hands slid down, and they slowly made their way over to—

"No!" Xuanyuan Ling exclaimed as a tremor ran through her.

Ye Guan snapped out of his trance and asked himself. What am I doing?

After taking a moment to compose himself, he pushed her aside gently and tucked her in. Then, he got off the bed and walked straight to the bathroom. He sobered up by taking a cold shower.

Ye Guan looked into the mirror and laughed mockingly at himself. He couldn't suppress his desires without his cultivation base, and the realization made Ye Guan feel like he was such a failure.

It also became clear to Ye Guan that his mind wasn't exactly that firm, so he might have done the same even if he could still access his cultivation base.

Ye Guan closed his eyes. He had to admit that he had discovered quite a few weaknesses he never knew he had since he came to the Milky Way. In addition to such weaknesses, he also realized that he had many obsessions and that his mind was a bit too weak to withstand temptations.

Ye Guan took a deep breath before going back into the room. Xuanyuan Ling was still lying on the bed, seemingly frozen in shock after Ye Guan had stood up and rushed into the bathroom.

"Miss Ling, I'm sorry about what happened just now," Ye Guan said. He placed Xuanyuan on the table and continued, "This is a treasure of the Xuanyuan Clan, and I can't take it away with a clear conscience, so I'm returning it to you."

With that, Ye Guan turned around to leave.

Xuanyuan Ling stared at the Xuanyuan on the table, but her heart felt incomparably empty.

...

Ye Guan left the Xuanyuan Residence and told Xuanyuan Ling's chauffeur to send him to Yanjing. Ye Guan decided to take a stroll on the streets. It was already late in the night, but the streets were still bustling with people.

Ye Guan reckoned that evenings were probably the most enjoyable time of the day for the majority of ordinary people. After all, they often enjoyed barbecues and drinks with their friends during the evenings.

Just then, Ye Guan came to a halt upon recalling something. He took out his mobile phone and called Su Zi. The call was answered almost immediately, and Su Zi's voice echoed from the other end of the line.

"I thought you already forgot about me!" Su Zi exclaimed.

Ye Guan smiled upon hearing her voice. "I really miss you."

Su Zi replied belatedly, "I miss you, too."

Ye Guan smiled. "Are you busy?"

"Yes. I've been handling many things since the project started," replied Su Zi.

Ye Guan said, "Go ahead and do what you need to, then."

"Did something happen?"

"No. Don't stay up too late; rest early."

"Okay."

Ye Guan ended the call, and he walked toward a quiet street alleyway.

The alleyway was deserted and dark, so not many people would deliberately take a turn into this alleyway. However, a middle-aged man appeared behind Ye Guan.

The middle-aged man was the same Master who had attacked Ye Guan when he first met Cizhen.

Ye Guan smiled lightly and said, "It seems that you haven't given up on me yet."

The middle-aged man glared at him and said, "You lured me here?!"

Ye Guan was about to say something, but the middle-aged man was already running away.

Ye Guan was stunned, and he couldn't quite believe what he had seen. He ran away just like that? What the hell? Running away at the first sign of danger? Are the people of this Blue Planet a bunch of cowards?

Ye Guan shook his head. He truly had no idea what to say. He wanted to use his sword energy to kill the middle-aged man, but he couldn't have expected the middle-aged man to run away without even attempting to fight Ye Guan.

Ye Guan looked around for a few moments before exiting the alleyway and making a beeline for the pedestrian bridge where Cizhen peddled her books. Ye Xuan and the plain-skirt lady had apparently visited the pedestrian bridge once, so he wanted to try his luck and see if he would stumble upon them here.

Unfortunately, he wasn't that lucky. However, Cizhen was on the pedestrian bridge.

Today, she was wearing a light yellow long dress. Her long hair fell past her shoulders, and as usual, she was extremely beautiful. Her books were placed neatly in front of her as she sat quietly on a stool, waiting for a customer.

Cizhen attracted quite a few heads, as she was simply too beautiful. She was a stunning sight on the dull pedestrian bridge. When Cizhen saw Ye Guan, she smiled at him as a greeting.

"Sister Zhen," Ye Guan greeted before sitting down on a stool next to her.

Cizhen looked at Ye Guan's face and said, "You look sad today."

"Sister Zhen, have you heard of the Time Reversers?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen nodded. "Yes."

"Have you fought with them before?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen nodded once again.

Ye Guan asked, "What kind of people are they?"

Cizhen replied, "They exist outside the Order but within the Dao at the same time."

"Outside the Order but within the Dao?" Ye Guan asked in confusion.

Cizhen nodded and said, "Those that can become a Time Reverser are the strongest of their own generation. They possess infinite strength, and they are capable of transcending the Order, allowing them to break free from the constraints of the universe's rules and order. Of course, they still can't transcend the Dao."

Ye Guan asked in a low voice, "Since they're so strong, why do they even bother attacking the Blue Planet?"

"They're extremely powerful, but they still have enemies."

"Is one of them the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

"No, I'm talking about the Great Dao behind the Great Daoist Brush Master."

"The Great Dao is a tangible existence?"

"The support of the Great Dao is the reason behind the Great Daoist Brush Master's rise. If it hadn't been for the Great Dao's support, he would have been unable to establish rules and order throughout the vast expanse.

"He understands the Great Dao the most, so you can say that he is a spokesperson of the Great Dao."

"So the archnemesis of the Time Reversers are the Great Daoist Brush Master and the Great Dao!"

Cizhen nodded and explained, "Yes, they're like fire and water. They've been fighting since ancient times because of some irreconcilable differences between them."

"How about the Universe Tribulation? Just what exactly is it?"

"It's the Great Dao."

Ye Guan was confused.

Cizhen smiled and explained, "The vast expanse is a part of the Great Dao. You can think of the Universe Tribulation as the dark side of the Great Dao. Of course, the Universe Tribulation isn't really evil in the eyes of the vast expanse itself.

"However, we see the Universe Tribulation as a bad thing. Of course, everyone has their own opinion when it comes to the Universe Tribulation."

Ye Guan stared deeply at Cizhen and asked, "Are you a Time Reverser, too?"

Cizhen shook her head and laughed. "I'm not."

Ye Guan was confused. "But you're going against the Universe Tribulation, which means going against the Great Dao."

"All I can say is that there are many things in existence capable of making people feel a sense of helplessness," Cizhen replied.

"Sister Zhen, I have a few relatives who are extremely powerful. If they work together with you, will you guys be able to deal with the Universe Tribulation?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen shook her head.

"They're really strong!" Ye Guan emphasized.

Cizhen smiled. "It doesn't matter."

"Why?" Ye Guan asked, sounding confused.

Cizhen blinked and explained, "Actually, I can destroy the Universe Tribulation."

"What happens if you do that?"

"The Universe Tribulation is a part of the Great Dao, so destroying it means destroying the Great Dao of this vast expanse. Once the Great Dao is destroyed, a myriad of living beings will die, aside from a few extremely powerful supreme elites and those who exist outside of the Dao."

"Those Time Reversers..."

"They won't die. Those people have relied on the Dao Origin of their respective world to become even stronger, but the Great Dao ended up becoming their constraint after they had taken that step and transcended their world.

"That is the reason they're striving to transcend the Great Dao. Unfortunately, the Great Dao will remain a threat to them even after they transcend it. They knew that the Great Dao would prevent them from achieving their goal of eternal life, so they decided to find a way to destroy the Great Dao itself.

"A myriad of living beings will be annihilated as a result, and they will achieve their goal of eternal life. Of course, things aren't that simple. You'll start to understand it once the time comes."

Ye Guan pondered silently for a while. Eventually, he summarized what she said, saying, "So, the Great Dao wants to annihilate all living beings, while the side effect of the Time Reversers' goal is the annihilation of all living beings."

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled wryly as he pointed out. "Either choice results in the death of all living beings.

Cizhen smiled and said, "There's a saying in the Milky Way that goes, 'During good times, the people suffer; during bad times, the people suffer as well.' The rulers of ancient times thought of their subjects as tools for their power struggles. How many rulers have truly cared about the interests of their subjects?"

Ye Guan sighed and asked, "Can I change the current course of events?"

"Do you want to change the current course of events?" Cizhen asked.

"Yes."

"Are you sure?"

"I can try. Sister Zhen, what can I do to change the current course of events?"

"I only have one word of advice: Kill!"

Ye Guan was stunned.

Cizhen smiled and explained, "Kill the Time Reversers, kill until the Great Dao submits, kill to the point that no one in the future would dare to claim that they're a god or claim that they're invincible. Re-establish the rules and order of the vast expanse and suppress everything! Everyone will listen to you by then!"

Chapter 437: I'm Expecting

Ye Guan clenched his fists at Cizhen's remark. Invincible! So that's what it means to be invincible! The ability to suppress everything! One has to become invincible to re-establish the Order of the vast expanse.

The thought of it alone brought Ye Guan immense stress, not to mention doing it. He knew that if he embarked on such a path, he would have to go back to that miserable life he once had—the fast-paced life filled with danger.

Cizhen saw Ye Guan's grimace and asked, "Feeling the pressure?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Cizhen smiled and said, "It's normal to feel that way. I used to think the same as you, but I decided never to overthink again. Overthinking is just too tiring, and I can no longer do that as well."

"Why can't you?"

"Half of me is divinity, while the other half is still human. If I were to suppress everything and re-establish the order and rules of the vast expanse, I would have to extinguish my humanity. By then, I'll become the vast expanse's public enemy."

"If that's the case, won't I suffer the same problem as you?"

"Right now, your humanity is completely suppressing your divinity. It is quite hard to get to where you are whilst keeping your humanity completely intact. I can see that in your heart, your loved ones are more important than your Great Dao," Cizhen said.

Ye Guan merely smiled at Cizhen's words.

Cizhen looked at him and asked, "So, are you willing to do what I told you to do?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes, I have no other path to embark on, anyway."

Cizhen blinked and said, "Indeed. Once your son becomes the King of the True Universe, the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe will become your subjects. This planet is also part of your territory, so even if you don't go against them, they will still try and kill you."

Ye Guan nodded. "That's right."

He had no choice but to embark on his path; he had no other path to choose from, after all. Ye Guan was destined to be more than just an ordinary person. Of course, he didn't want to be ordinary, nor did he want to live an ordinary life.

How could he waste his life away and do nothing?

If my grandfather, father, aunt, and uncle can walk down the path of invincibility... Why can't I?

I have to become invincible and suppress everything! Ye Guan closed his eyes and vowed that he wouldn't be inferior to his elders.

Cizhen stared quietly at Ye Guan with a smile.

Just then, a young man suddenly walked up to Cizhen and Ye Guan. The young man sported a flat-top hairstyle. He wasn't "that" handsome, but he wasn't ugly either. He was above average in terms of appearance.

More importantly, he was holding a big bouquet of roses.

Ye Guan wasn't surprised to see the young man. Cizhen was just so beautiful that there was no way for her not to have any suitors.

The young man handed the bouquet of roses to Cizhen and stared at the latter with a sincere expression before saying, "Miss Cizhen, I—"

Cizhen grabbed Ye Guan's hand. "He's my boyfriend!"

Boyfriend?! The young man and the stall vendors on the same pedestrian bridge as Cizhen were stunned. Cizhen actually has a boyfriend?

Needless to say, even Ye Guan was shocked, and he looked at Cizhen to find that she was smiling at him.

The young man hurriedly said, "Miss Cizhen, don't be fooled by his appearance. I'm convinced that he's nothing but a pretty boy!"

Ye Guan frowned in dissatisfaction, "What are you talking about?"

The young man glared fiercely at Ye Guan and said, "Did I say something wrong? Was I lying when I said that you have nothing but your good looks?!"

"Well, I'm living a good life," Ye Guan replied calmly.

"Fuck you!" The young man cursed. Then, he pointed at Ye Guan and yelled, "You're shameless!"

Cizhen started putting away her books and smiled. "Time to close up shop!"

Then, Cizhen pulled Ye Guan's hand, dragging him away to leave. However, the young man hurriedly blocked their path and earnestly said, "Miss Cizhen, please don't let this guy deceive you. There's no way he can give you a future..."

Cizhen blinked and said, "I'm expecting."

Huh?! The young man was stunned. "Expecting what?"

"A child!" Cizhen replied.

Ye Guan was rendered speechless.

The young man's expression froze in disbelief.

However, Cizhen didn't bother to explain herself as she hurriedly left with Ye Guan.

Ye Guan cast a questioning gaze at Cizhen.

Cizhen smiled and explained, "Cishu's baby is my baby as well. Of course, Cishu's man is my man as well, so you're mine."

Ye Guan was dumbfounded, and he stammered, "W-w-what?"

"The four of us share everything. Do you have any objections?" Cizhen asked.

Ye Guan fell silent. Since you've put it that way. Of course, I have no objections!

Ye Guan could only follow Cizhen as they passed by a store selling meat skewers. Cizhen bought a huge bag of skewers, and she took out quite a few bottles of white wine once they returned home. Ye Guan's head started to ache upon seeing Cizhen take out so many bottles of white wine.

"Sister Zhen, we don't have to drink. You can ask me anything. I'll tell you," Ye Guan said in a hurry.

Cizhen shook her head. "A drunk mind speaks a sober heart."

Ye Guan had no idea how to retort to that.

Cizhen opened a bottle and passed it to him, saying, "I might be leaving soon."

"You're leaving?"

"My book is almost finished, and I'm leaving once it's done."

"Are you leaving to continue suppressing the Universe Tribulation yourself?"

"Yes."

Ye Guan went silent. Eventually, he opened his mouth to speak, but before he could say anything, Cizhen waved her hand and said, "Drink, drink, drink! Just go ahead and drink in the meantime!"

Ye Guan stared deeply at her before taking a few swigs of the white wine. It tasted as strong as he last tasted it, but he was getting used to its strength and taste.

Cizhen stared at Yanjing's night scenery outside and muttered, "You've gotten pretty strong, but you'll still have no choice but to eat the knuckle sandwiches of those Time Reversers."

Ye Guan sighed. "I thought I just had to deal with Eternal Sovereign, and that's it, but to think that I still have to deal with those Time Reversers."

Ye Guan shook his head and added, "I'm starting to suspect that the Great Daoist Brush Master is targeting me."

"Pfft!" Cizhen burst out laughing and said, "He's not targeting you. Your identity is the reason you have to deal with so many enemies."

"My identity?" Ye Guan asked.

"Your identity has already decided your enemies in the future," Cirou said. She paused to take a big swig of her white wine before continuing, "I know that I'm about to leave, but I still can't let go of a few things."

Ye Guan cast a deep gaze upon Cizhen.

Cizhen smiled and explained, "I'm talking about my three sisters, especially Cirou. She's quite introverted and strong-headed. I'm afraid that she'll do some bad things after my departure."

Ye Guan frowned upon noticing something off with Cizhen's words. In the end, he couldn't suppress his curiosity and asked, "Sister Zhen, are you going to sacrifice yourself to suppress the Universe Tribulation?"

Cizhen blinked and asked back, "What do you think?"

"I don't know, but I hope that you'll be okay," Ye Guan said after a moment of silence.

Cizhen smiled but did not say anything. She then raised her bottle and gently clinked it against Ye Guan's bottle before taking a few sips of the white wine.

"Sister Zhen, your cultivation base is still under suppression, right?"

"Yes, you're right."

"How come you never get drunk?"

"My alcohol tolerance is higher than yours, that's it."

"Have you ever gotten drunk during your time here?"

Cizhen was quiet.

"You should try getting drunk. It feels pretty great to be drunk." Ye Guan suggested.

"Really?" Cizhen asked, sounding curious.

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

Cizhen fell into deep contemplation. Moments later, she emerged from her thoughts and said, "I'll try getting drunk, then!"

Cizhen then quaffed the bottle of white wine in one gulp. Ye Guan smiled and did the same. The white wine was a bit strong, but strong alcohol was great for getting drunk as soon as possible, and it was a great catalyst for an honest conversation.

The two sat by the window and chattered as they ate and drank.

Ye Guan eventually started to feel a bit dizzy.

Cizhen was also starting to get drunk, as she had decided to get drunk today. As the two were getting drunk, they became more and more honest and unrestrained in their conversation. Sometimes, people truly needed to get drunk to get their frustrations off their chest.

"Sister Zhen, let me ask you a question!" Ye Guan exclaimed.

"Okay!" Cizhen exclaimed, nodding.

"Have you ever liked anyone?"

"You mean to ask if I have ever liked a man?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Cizhen shook her head. "Nope."

"What is your type of man?"

"I've never thought of that, actually..."

"Why?"

"Because I've always been busy..."

"Can you think about it right now?"

"Sure. Let me see... hmm, I think you're pretty good!"

"Me?"

"Yes!"

"Erm... It's true that I'm pretty handsome and rich. My family background is decent as well, but I don't really have any other notable qualities aside from what I mentioned just now."

Cizhen reached out and pinched Ye Guan's cheek. "Well, your skin is quite thick."

Ye Guan chuckled and replied, "Sister Zhen, I know you're teasing me. Someone of your level will never be interested in a weakling like me. If it weren't for Cishu and Cijing, I would have been no different than a passerby in your eyes."

Cizhen smiled faintly and said, "No wonder Cirou told me that you're dumb."

Ye Guan was stunned.

Cizhen emptied another bottle of white wine and said, "Try to look at it from another perspective. Let's take Miss Su Zi as an example. You're stronger than her, and your status is more esteemed than hers as well. Does that mean you'd dislike her?"

Ye Guan shook his head. "No, of course not."

Cizhen chuckled and said, "Same goes for me. I've really never cared about status and strength. Considering the other person's status and strength will make it so boring, don't you think so? Furthermore, I'm already invincible; do I even need a strong man in my life?"

Cizhen then looked out of the window and added, "Of course, you're right. I only met you because of Cishu and Cijing. You're their man, so in my heart, you are also my ma—no, you are my kin. Moreover, it's quite fun to hang out with you this way."

Cizhen then looked at Ye Guan with a smile. "You really overthink things sometimes."

Ye Guan sighed. "My cultivation base is far too inferior compared to yours."

Cizhen said, "It's normal because you're still extremely young. When I was your age, I don't think I managed to accomplish what you've accomplished. Of course, if I were to be honest, I'm not a big fan of how your father brought you up."

Cizhen paused briefly before continuing, "Too many parents are hoping for their children to be more outstanding than the children of other parents, so they'll end up having all sorts of expectations for them."

"They claim that it's for your own good, but they have never considered that what they had achieved at your age can't even be compared to what you've achieved. It's not really fair for them to tell you to achieve what they couldn't achieve at your age."

Cizhen stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "I think you're excellent. I've never judged you based on my current strength as a standard. I've been judging you as an equal since we met and even right now."

"When I was nineteen, I was just a big sister of my little sisters in Stone Village. In terms of both mentality and strength, I was inferior to you at that age."

Ye Guan lowered his head slightly without saying anything.

Cizhen turned to look at the starry night sky outside.

"Young man, once I'm no longer around, please take good care of them for me."

Ye Guan's heart tightened at those words.

"Sister Zhen...!"

"Just kidding," Cizhen said, grinning.

Chapter 438: Special Way of Saying Thank You

Just kidding?! For some reason, Ye Guan felt uneasy over what she said. He somehow felt like something was going to happen to her soon.

Cizhen clinked bottles with Ye Guan and said, "Drink."

Cizhen quaffed her bottle of white wine; Ye Guan did the same.

The cheeks of both Ye Guan and Cizhen were as red as tomatoes. Cizhen's cheeks were redder than Ye Guan's cheeks, and her flushed cheeks made her look even more beautiful.

Cizhen looked so beautiful that Ye Guan couldn't help but say, "You're so beautiful!"

Cizhen turned and revealed an amused and mysterious smile at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan smiled as well. His expression remained unchanging, as his words just now were just an expression of awe, nothing more, nothing less.

Cizhen didn't say anything upon seeing Ye Guan's clear gaze.

All of a sudden, Ye Guan collapsed and sprawled out on the floor. He closed his eyes and asked, "Sister Zhen, can you give me some pointers while I'm still here? I mean, when it comes to my cultivation and martial arts."

Ye Guan knew countless life-and-death battles were waiting for him once he left the Milky Way. The Eternal Sovereign, the Universe Tribulation, the Time Reversers, and even more unknown dangers.

Ye Guan knew that he had to make some preparations in advance.

Otherwise, he would have no choice but to eat knuckle sandwiches in resignation.

Cizhen nodded and said, "I'm writing during the day, so you can visit me at night. I'll try and make you understand the things you don't understand."

Cizhen then sprawled out on the floor. Ye Guan turned to look at her, and Cizhen turned to meet Ye Guan's gaze upon sensing his gaze on her. They stared at each other for a long time.

Ye Guan suddenly leaned in and kissed Cizhen's soft lips.

Cizhen blinked, clearly taken aback.

After a moment, Ye Guan pulled away and stared at the dazed Cizhen. Then, he smiled and explained, "That was just a special way of expressing gratitude here in the Milky Way. There's no other meaning behind it."

Cizhen stared quietly at Ye Guan. Kissing to express gratitude? Does that really exist here?

Cizhen's beautiful face was frozen in disbelief, and Ye Guan couldn't help but lean in to kiss her again.

"That's another 'thank you' from me!" Ye Guan exclaimed before turning his back on Cizhen and closing his eyes to sleep.

Cizhen stared at Ye Guan's back for quite a while before closing her eyes and eventually falling asleep.

The next day at daybreak, Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly. He looked down upon noticing a weight on his arm and saw Cizhen resting comfortably on his arm. She was curled up and was leaning against him. Ye Guan's blood boiled with desire at the softness of Cizhen's gorgeous figure, but he immediately suppressed it.

Ye Guan smiled and closed his eyes again.

He still felt a bit dizzy and hungover from last night's drinking.

Time Reversers... Ye Guan was reminded of the white-robed woman he had encountered yesterday. They had just met gazes, and the woman decisively attacked him without even attempting to talk to him.

Ye Guan was the King of the Guanxuan Universe, but he still wasn't a stranger to people attacking him for no rhyme or reason.

The existence of the Time Reversers meant that Ye Guan's time was running out. He had to become even stronger, and he had to do it as soon as possible.

Ye Guan's Sword Dao had improved a lot, and he reckoned that a Great Destiny Sovereign wouldn't be his match once he recovered his cultivation base. However, Ye Guan knew that he still had to become even stronger.

The Great Sovereign Realm! Ye Guan had to find a way to reach the Great Sovereign Realm as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, even a cultivation base at the Ordinary Great Sovereign Realm wasn't enough, as he would have to deal with the Universe Tribulation, the Time Reversers, and even more powerful enemies in the future.

I'm running out of time! Ye Guan's expression became heavy.

After all, he couldn't rely on Senior An and the rest of his relatives forever.

All of a sudden, Cizhen started moving in Ye Guan's arm. Ye Guan looked down at Cizhen, and the latter's eyes eventually opened. The two made eye contact, and they stared at each other for quite a while.

Cizhen revealed a light smile before burying her head into his chest.

"So this is what it feels like to be in a man's arms."

Ye Guan smiled and embraced her.

Cizhen looked up at Ye Guan, but Ye Guan didn't avoid her gaze and stared straight into her eyes.

The corners of Cizhen's lips curled up into a smile. "Your thoughts have become more wholesome."

"I don't know why but embracing you gives me a sense of security."

"A sense of security?"

"Yes."

"So you're not going to have weird thoughts anymore?"

"Maybe occasionally..."

Cizhen's smile widened. "That's not too bad."

"Do you mind it?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen merely smiled.

Ye Guan had no idea what to say. Cizhen was markedly different from every other woman he had encountered so far. He couldn't tell what she was thinking, and he always felt like she had a tight leash on him.

"Get up, and let's eat breakfast. Then, you can go out and get to work," said Cizhen.

Cizhen was about to stand up when Ye Guan asked, "Sister Zhen, you're showing your human side, right?"

Cizhen smiled. "Are you afraid that I'm two-faced?"

Ye Guan nodded.

"Don't overthink it. I'm just being me. You're looking at the most genuine side of me."

"I see," Ye Guan said, nodding.

"I'll go cook some noodles for us," Cizhen said. She then stood up and went to the kitchen.

Ye Guan sprawled out on the floor for a few minutes before standing up and walking into the bathroom. He took a cold shower and felt much better afterward. He changed into new clothes and walked out of the bathroom.

Cizhen was done cooking and had placed the bowls of noodles on the dining table.

Ye Guan sat down at the dining table and started eating.

Cizhen smiled while staring at Ye Guan, who was eating with relish.

"Is it good?" she asked.

Ye Guan nodded. "It's great. What noodles are these?"

"Instant noodles!" Cizhen replied.

"It's pretty good," Ye Guan remarked.

Cizhen smiled but did not say anything.

Ye Guan finished his meal and put down the chopsticks.

"I'm going first, Sister Zhen," Ye Guan said.

Cizhen nodded. "Okay."

Ye Guan got up to leave.

"Wait," Cizhen called out.

Ye Guan came to a halt and turned around.

"Come back here tomorrow morning. I'll bring you somewhere," Cizhen said.

"Where are we going?" Ye Guan asked out of curiosity.

"Secret~"

"I can't be here tomorrow morning, but I'll be here tonight," Ye Guan replied and turned around to leave.

Cizhen shook her head and smiled to herself. After she finished her own bowl of noodles, she waved her sleeve, and the bowls were cleaned by a mysterious power before flying back to the cabinets.

Cizhen then got up and walked up to her desk. Before she sat down, she was reminded of something and walked over to her window. Then, she looked down and saw Ye Guan hailing a taxi on the streets. Moments later, Ye Guan entered the taxi, and the taxi disappeared after turning the next corner.

Cizhen retracted her gaze and sat in front of her desk. She then picked up one of her pens to start working for the day.

...

Ye Guan decided to go to the Milky Way Academy to fulfill his class obligation as a teacher. Mu Wanyu, Mu Yun, and Shuang Shuang were present, but Xuanyuan Ling was nowhere to be found.

Mu Wanyu grinned and walked up to Ye Guan, saying, "I've reached the Third Stage[1]!"

Third Stage? Ye Guan was shocked. "Really?"

Mu Wanyu nodded. "I'm also a martial artist now."

Ye Guan replied, "The cultivation method I gave you was for cultivators. Keep it up, and you'll become a cultivator in the future, too."

A cultivator! Mu Wanyu's expression became solemn. She was no longer ignorant and had become aware of the world of cultivation, all thanks to Xuanyuan Ling and the rest of the Sword Dao Department students.

Mu Wanyu also learned from them that cultivation methods were priceless, which was why she was stupefied to find out that Ye Guan had actually given her a cultivation method.

Mu Wanyu suddenly recalled something and looked down at the interspatial ring on her hand with a grin.

Ye Guan turned to Shuang Shuang and Mu Yun. Shuang Shuang had already reached the Ninth Stage, and she would enter the Yaoguang Realm, becoming a Master after making just another breakthrough.

Frankly, it wouldn't be too difficult for her to make a breakthrough using the cultivation method that Ye Guan had bestowed upon her. However, the spiritual energy in Blue Planet was just too thin. Otherwise, they would be able to go even further, especially Mu Wanyu, who was using the Universe Beholdment Skill.

Shuang Shuang and Mu Yun viewed Ye Guan with a ton of respect, and they would always greet Ye Guan whenever they stumbled upon Ye Guan outside.

Ye Guan proceeded to teach the three basic sword moves before leaving the Sword Dao Department, but Mu Wanyu quickly chased after him.

"What is it?" Ye Guan asked, smiling.

Mu Wanyu hesitated briefly before asking, "Can we talk?"

"Sure," Ye Guan said with a nod. He then took a deep breath before saying, "Wanyu, there's really no need for you to keep your distance from me. I was lucky that I met you when I first arrived here. Otherwise, I would have become a vagrant, scavenging for food to eat. Something unfortunate had ended up happening between us, but I never blamed you for it. I mean it."

Mu Wanyu started crying. Large tears fell down her cheeks, and she walked up to Ye Guan to hug him lightly. Mu Wanyu's shoulders trembled ever so slightly as she sobbed.

Ye Guan sighed. She was the first woman that he had ever met on this planet, so he had a soft spot for her. Furthermore, she was an extremely kind woman. If it weren't for that, he wouldn't have given her his storage ring.

Mu Wanyu's sobbing attracted many gazes, and their burning gazes made Mu Wanyu feel embarrassed. She took a step backward with her face flushed, but she looked a little dejected.

Ye Guan smiled. "What did you want to talk to me about?"

Mu Wanyu looked at the storage ring on her hand with a gaze full of reluctance. Still, she took it off and passed it to Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was puzzled.

Mu Wanyu stared intently at Ye Guan and said, "You told me before that this is your most precious possession. This interspatial ring definitely contains many precious items, so I'm returning it to you.

"But I have a small request... Once you're done taking out everything from this ring, can you return the ring to me?"

Ye Guan stared quietly at Mu Wanyu.

Mu Wanyu became a bit nervous. "Is it okay?"

Ye Guan grabbed her hand and said softly, "Do you still remember when I was discharged from the hospital? Back then, I had neither money nor documents on me. You gave me two dollars, but when you realized that I had nowhere else to go, you gave me a place to sleep in and even gave me more money.

"I actually find it funny now. I spent all the money you gave me in just one day, and you were so angry with me back then!"

Mu Wanyu lowered her head slightly and said, "I had no idea that you were so capable at the time..."

Ye Guan smiled. "That's precisely why I will remember what you did for me forever."

Mu Wanyu looked up at Ye Guan, and tears welled up in her eyes.

Ye Guan gently placed the storage ring on her palm and said, "For me, the items in this storage ring will never be as precious as the bowl of noodles you cooked for me back then."

Mu Wanyu's tears finally fell, and she started sobbing once again.

"Why are you crying?" Ye Guan asked.

Mu Wanyu shook her head while gripping the storage ring in her palm tightly.

Ye Guan gently wiped away the tears from her face and said, "Cultivate well. Once you've become strong enough to open that storage ring, you'll become the richest person throughout the Milky Way."

Mu Wanyu nodded. "I'll try my best."

Ye Guan smiled. "I'll get going now."

Mu Wanyu nodded and stared quietly at Ye Guan's departing figure. She balled her tiny hands into fists and muttered, "Once many years have passed... will you still remember the girl who once cooked noodles for you?"

Tears started falling down Mu Wanyu's eyes once again.

Chapter 439: Terrible Soundproofing

After parting ways with Mu Wanyu, Ye Guan made a beeline for Ao Qianqian's classroom. When Ao Qianqian saw him, she instantly declared, "Class dismissed."

The bewildered students turned their gaze toward Ye Guan.

Their eyes were filled with clear discontent.

Ao Qianqian's classes were extremely popular because of her profound understanding of martial arts. She had surpassed many of the other teachers, so her classes were always full of students. However, Ao Qianqian would immediately conclude her class the moment Ye Guan arrived at her classroom.

Disregarding the students' reactions, Ao Qianqian walked up to Ye Guan and suggested, "Let's go grab a meal."

"Sure!" Ye Guan exclaimed with a grin. Then, she held her hand and led her away, but a male student blocked their way. The male student greeted Ao Qianqian before turning to Ye Guan. "I heard that you're a teacher of the Sword Dao Department?"

Ao Qianqian frowned and questioned, "Chu Xuan, what are you up to?"

Chu Xuan was the most remarkable student in her class; he was a Ninth Stage martial artist and was one of the top four talents in the entire Milky Way Academy.

Ye Guan stared at Chu Xuan and smiled. "Yes."

"I've long heard of your skills, and I admire you. Would you do me the honor of a friendly match?" Chu Xuan asked, smiling.

A challenge! The classroom erupted into murmurs. While the outside world leaned toward peace and harmony, the Milky Way Academy was different, as it embraced a martial ethos. Moreover, many students resented Ye Guan.

The students thought of Ao Qianqian as a goddess, and they thought of Ye Guan as a mere mortal who had somehow captivated her. In other words, it wasn't strange that they were dissatisfied with Ye Guan.

Ao Qianqian frowned deeply at Chu Xuan's proposal.

Ye Guan caught the tension in the air and asked, "Is this because of Qianqian?"

"Not everyone is worthy of Teacher Ao," Chu Xuan said with a smile that carried a hint of disdain.

The rest of the students immediately cheered in support of Chu Xuan.

However, Ao Qianqian suddenly raised her hand and slapped Chu Xuan.

Smack!

Chu Xuan was blasted tens of meters away, dumbfounding the nearby students.

Ao Qianqian then swept a cold gaze across the bewildered students. "Do you have any business meddling with the man I've chosen? It seems all of you are in need of a lesson."

The students were stunned.

Ao Qianqian ignored them and walked away with Ye Guan. The pair soon arrived at a garden; there weren't any students around, but Ao Qianqian's expression remained cold as she walked down the garden without saying anything.

Ye Guan saw that and asked, "Why are you angry?"

Ao Qianqian shook her head. "I like you, and that's my business. Our relationship has nothing to do with others. I don't want anyone to interfere in our affairs."

Ye Guan chuckled. "You're bound to be disappointed with that kind of expectation."

Ao Qianqian stared at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan smiled and explained, "You're so beautiful, so I'm sure there are many people here who like you."

Ao Qianqian shook her head and retorted. "I don't want anyone else to like me aside from you."

Ye Guan held Ao Qianqian's waist with both hands and kissed her forehead gently.

"I really like you a lot," Ye Guan confessed.

Ao Qianqian instantly blushed. Then, she pressed her face against Ye Guan's chest and muttered, "Unfortunately, you seem to like many other girls..."

"I can assure you that whenever I'm with you, you're my favorite."

Ao Qianqian closed her eyes and replied, "More—flatter me a bit more!"

Ye Guan felt a warm feeling well up in his chest as he stared at the gorgeous woman before him.

"Qianqian, I want to marry you..."

Ao Qianqian's face became as red as a tomato as she chided, "Don't mess around, or I-I'll complain to Little Jia when the time comes!"

Ye Guan's expression froze.

Ao Qianqian realized her mistake and suddenly felt embarrassed.

Ao Qianqian proceeded to give Ye Guan a playful smack, but Ye Guan flew several meters away upon getting hit. Ao Qianqian stiffened in disbelief. Moments later, Ao Qianqian came to her senses and rushed over to Ye Guan.

Ao Qianqian helped Ye Guan up and asked, sounding nervous, "A-Are you okay?"

Ye Guan spat out a mouthful of blood and revealed a wry smile. Ao Qianqian's eyes shone in a mixture of guilt and self-blame as she gently wiped away the blood from the corner of his mouth using her sleeve.

"I'm sorry..." Ao Qianqian muttered.

Ye Guan shook his head, and a hint of sadness suffused his expression as he sighed and said, "It was my fault... If you don't want to marry me, then I won't bring it up again."

Ao Qianqian lowered her head and muttered, "I didn't say that I don't want to..."

Ye Guan grabbed Ao Qianqian's hand and asked eagerly, "Really?!"

Ao Qianqian nodded slightly. "Mmhmm."

Ye Guan grinned and said, "It doesn't hurt anymore."

Ao Qianqian shot him a dismissive glance as a warm feeling suffused her heart. She was about to carry Ye Guan in her arms, but the latter hurriedly said, "No need to carry me. I can walk by myself. Let's go grab a bite."

Ye Guan then rose to his feet and held Ao Qianqian's hand before leading her away. Ao Qianqian glanced at Ye Guan, and her lips unconsciously curled into a smile as they headed outside.

Ao Qianqian told Ye Guan the directions to the canteen, and Ao Qianqian effortlessly ordered an array of dishes upon arriving at the canteen. As it turned out, Ao Qianqian had become quite the foodie upon arriving at Blue Planet.

The dishes were eventually served, and Ao Qianqian picked up a lamb leg with her chopsticks, saying, "This one is pretty delicious. Have a taste."

Ye Guan smiled and took a bite without hesitation. His eyes narrowed in delight as he savored the exquisite flavors of the lamb leg. Ao Qianqian grinned upon seeing Ye Guan's reaction, and then she proceeded to eat her ordered dishes with relish.

They two ignored dining etiquette as they ate. Ao Qianqian tore into her food, eliciting a smile of tenderness from Ye Guan. Ye Guan realized just then that Ao Qianqian's love for food definitely came from her dragon heritage.

Ao Qianqian looked up at Ye Guan and asked, "Do I look unattractive when I eat?"

Ye Guan shook his head and chuckled. "I enjoy watching you eat."

Ao Qianqian smiled softly and continued eating.

After a while, Ye Guan said, "I think we might have to leave soon."

Ao Qianqian hesitated briefly before replying, "Sure."

"If you prefer staying here..." Ye Guan trailed off.

Ao Qianqian shook her head. "I will go wherever you go."

"All right," Ye Guan said, nodding.

The leisurely meal soon ended, and Ao Qianqian looked up at Ye Guan.

"Will we have to face more life-and-death battles?"

Ye Guan nodded in confirmation, while Ao Qianqian nodded in understanding.

"While we're here, I'm going to try and track down my father," Ye Guan said.

"Mmhm," Ao Qianqian replied, nodding. She was also hoping to receive the blessings of Ye Guan's parents and then tie the knot with him under their watch.

Ao Qianqian wiped the table clean before smiling at Ye Guan and saying, "Let's go!"

After settling the bill, the duo left the restaurant. Ao Qianqian led Ye Guan down the street at a leisurely pace while holding the latter's hand. Ao Qianqian was grinning as she recounted her adventures here with Ye Guan. Occasionally, she would let out a peal of laughter that would drown out every single noise in the streets. .com

The two eventually reached a tranquil lakeside. The midday sun was strong and intense, but the autumn breeze softened its rays, creating a pleasant air. There were other couples and individuals enjoying themselves by the lake.

Ye Guan bought two sticks of candied hawthorn from a vendor.

Ye Guan handed one to Ao Qianqian, and the latter accepted it with a smile.

Ye Guan was reminded of Erya and Little White as she stared at Ao Qianqian enjoying the candied hawthorn. For some reason, Ye Guan felt like those two had completely forgotten him.

Were they not worried that he was in distress and needed help?

Ao Qianqian stared at the lake shimmering beneath the golden sunlight.

"How long has it been since we last merged?"

Ye Guan pondered for a moment before responding, "It's been a long time."

"I have a little surprise for you the next time we merge," Ao Qianqian said, smiling mysteriously at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was instantly intrigued. "What do you mean 'surprise'?"

"Well, you won't be surprised if I tell you, so it's a secret," Ao Qianqian replied, sounding playful, which made Ye Guan laugh.

Ao Qianqian wrapped her arm around Ye Guan's arm and rested her head on his shoulder before muttering, "This feels really great..."

Ye Guan held Ao Qianqian's waist and started smiling in satisfaction as the two of them walked down the streets of Yanjing, exploring every nook and cranny of Yanjing until nightfall in a rare moment of leisure.

It was night, so the two had decided to part ways. They were standing right in front of Ao Qianqian's dormitory building, and Ye Guan couldn't help but suggest, "Shall I send you upstairs?"

Ao Qianqian declined. "No need."

Ye Guan said, "I'll just pop in for a quick sip of water."

Ao Qianqian shot Ye Guan an embarrassed glare, but she chose not to respond. Ye Guan could only let out a sigh of resignation.

Just then, Ao Qianqian tiptoed and pecked his lips. Then, Ao Qianqian blushed and said softly, "The dormitory's soundproofing is terrible."

With that, she swiftly turned around and dashed up the stairs.

Terrible soundproofing? Ye Guan stood blankly before bursting out into laughter moments later. After a while, Ye Guan finally decided to leave.

Just as he was about to walk out of the academy to call it a day, a group of people surrounded him. Chu Xuan stood at the helm of the group of students. Ye Guan recognized them, as they were all Ao Qianqian's students.

Ye Guan remained calm as he faced them.

Chu Xuan locked eyes with Ye Guan, and his expression darkened as he said, "I initially thought you were a man, but it turns out that all you do is hide behind a woman. You pathe—"

Swoosh!

A cold silver trail was left in the air as a beam of sword pierced Chu Xuan's forehead, interrupting his tirade. Everyone stared in shock as Ye Guan swept a cold gaze across them.

Fortunately for them, Ye Guan merely glanced at them before he hopped onto his sword and transformed into a streak of sword light that vanished into the night sky.

Ye Guan flew in circles for a few moments before disappearing into the horizon, leaving behind a trail of light that made him appear like a shooting star.

The students could only stare at the sky in a daze. It turned out that Ye Guan was a Sword Immortal all this while. They stared in disbelief at the lingering trail of sword light that Ye Guan left behind.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan skilfully guided his sword down to land. As soon as he landed, his face immediately turned pale. Sword Manipulation was clearly taking a toll on him, and he felt incredibly weak at the moment.

Ye Guan shook his head with a wry smile; the cool display had left him utterly exhausted. Ye Guan stood still, taking a moment to recover some of his energy before making a beeline for Cizhen's residence. Ye Guan stood before her door and knocked politely on the door instead of barging in without knocking.

The door was opened quickly, revealing Cizhen standing behind the door. Clad in an elegant ice silk nightgown, Cizhen's striking beauty instantly captivated Ye Guan.

Ye Guan felt his blood boil at the captivating scene. However, even Ye Guan himself was startled by his reaction, and he couldn't help but mutter to himself, This damned Mad Demon Bloodline is seriously perverted...

Mad Demon Bloodline: What the heck?

Chapter 440: A Guardian on Red Star

After entering the room, Cizhen ushered Ye Guan to the desk. She placed a stack of manuscripts before him and said with a smile, "Help me spot any typos."

"All right," Ye Guan said, nodding. He then focused on the manuscripts.

Cizhen glanced at Ye Guan before sitting down to continue her writing.

Just like that, time went by quickly. Cizhen wrote nonstop, while Ye Guan checked Cizhen's work meticulously. It took Ye Guan a few hours to finish reviewing the manuscripts. He stretched and turned to find Cizhen sleeping with her head on the desk.

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled wryly before gently laying down the pieces of paper in his hands. He lifted Cizhen carefully and started moving toward the bed. He was just about to set her down, but he stopped upon seeing Cizhen staring at him.

Ye Guan was briefly taken aback, but he smiled gently and placed her down on the bed. Then, he sat on a chair next to the bed and asked, "Sister Zhen, where are we going tomorrow?"

Cizhen chuckled and replied, "You'll find out tomorrow."

Ye Guan nodded and replied, "Alright."

"You should rest early," Cizhen suggested.

Ye Guan nodded.

"Are you going to sleep on the chair?" Cizhen asked.

Ye Guan stiffened and hesitated. Eventually, he got up and walked up to the bed. He couldn't shake away his nervousness. Ye Guan thought of himself as an upright person devoid of perverted thoughts, but his Mad Demon Bloodline would sometimes act up, tainting him.

Cizhen suddenly grabbed Ye Guan's hand. Then, she dragged him onto the bed and leaned on his shoulder. Cizhen wrapped an arm around Ye Guan's waist and tapped Ye Guan's chest with her other hand before saying, "Don't let your mind wander. You can do it. I have absolute faith in your character."

Ye Guan's expression stiffened, and he tensed up. This is just outrageous.

Cizhen's eyes were twinkling with mischief as she stared at Ye Guan. She clung to her as if she were a koala before closing her eyes to sleep.

Ye Guan sighed inwardly. He couldn't afford to overthink whenever he was drunk, and he also thought that he could use his drunkenness as an excuse. However, he was perfectly sober tonight, so his current situation felt like torment.

After a while, Cizhen shifted, and she ended up leaning entirely on Ye Guan. Cizhen showed no signs of embarrassment nor reservation as she hugged his waist with a smile gracing her face.

Ye Guan's heart suddenly felt much calmer as he looked down at Cizhen. The desire within him subsided, and he tightened his grip on Cizhen's shoulder as he closed his eyes and drifted off to dreamland.

Just like that, the two slept while in each other's embrace.

At daybreak, Cizhen opened her eyes slowly and discovered that she had wrapped her four limbs around Ye Guan. Cizhen blushed slightly but quickly regained her composure. She looked up at Ye Guan and revealed a charming smile.

Ye Guan opened his eyes just then.

"What's so amusing?" Ye Guan asked upon seeing the amused light in Cizhen's eyes.

Cizhen shook her head. "I don't know what you're talking about."

Ye Guan was astonished.

"You know... I've never been this close to anyone else aside from Little Rou and my other sisters. In fact, you're the first man I've ever been this close to throughout my entire life," Cizhen said.

"Do you have any feelings for me?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen looked up at Ye Guan and remained silent, seemingly taken aback by Ye Guan's question.

Ye Guan chuckled and said, "It seems that you don't really care about love, do you? Perhaps the idea of having a lover has never crossed your mind. I feel like you don't particularly dislike my presence. After all, you can enjoy the comfort and sense of security of having someone beside you while sleeping. But that's pretty much it, isn't it?"

Cizhen smiled without saying anything.

"Am I right?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen finally nodded.

A myriad of emotions swirled within Ye Guan. He had never even thought of Cizhen liking him. They were pretty intimate with each other, but Ye Guan had always stayed grounded, knowing that she was a divine being.

Ye Guan was sure that Cizhen definitely had a different perspective when it came to emotions and feelings. In fact, Cizhen was emitting the same air as the plain-skirt lady, who thought of everyone as mere ants aside from Ye Xuan.

Divinity was truly frightening, but it made sense at the same time.

How could those who had taken millions of lives still consider life itself as precious?

Ye Guan inwardly sighed. He envied his father, as he was capable of evoking the plain-skirt lady's humanity. Of course, the plain-skirt lady was also fortunate to have Ye Xuan preserving her humanity.

Just then, Cizhen asked, "So, do you like me?"

Ye Guan nodded without hesitation.

Cizhen asked, "Why?"

Ye Guan leaned down and kissed her hair gently. "I don't know."

Cizhen stared at Ye Guan without saying anything.

Ye Guan grinned and asked, "How do you interpret the fact that I like you?"

Cizhen pondered briefly before asking, "If our feelings are mutual, we'll need a larger bed."

Ye Guan was confused. "Why's that?"

Cizhen looked at Ye Guan seriously. "Where will Little Rou and the others sleep?"

Ye Guan froze.

Cizhen's lips curled in a playful manner. "Ever thought about sharing a bigger bed?"

Ye Guan shook his head and chuckled. "Do I sound very naïve to you?"

Cizhen smiled but didn't reply.

Ye Guan said, "Let's drop this topic. Where are we headed today?"

Cizhen sat up and stretched lazily.

"I'll whip up some noodles for you first," Cizhen said before getting out of bed and heading toward the kitchen.

Ye Guan followed her to the kitchen and stared at her as she cooked their breakfast.

Cizhen's bowl of noodles wasn't that difficult to replicate, as she simply used instant noodles. Ye Guan noted that she had simply opened the packaging, poured water into a pot, and stood by, waiting for it to boil before cooking the noodles.

Ye Guan finally understood why they were called instant noodles.

Cizhen carried two bowls over to the dining table.

"Give my culinary skills a try," Cizhen said smugly.

Ye Guan shook his head and chuckled before digging in.

The noodles were surprisingly flavorful, even though they were instant noodles.

Cizhen looked over Ye Guan's shoulder and saw a young woman.

She was none other than Cirou.

Cirou's cultivation wasn't under any suppression, so Ye Guan failed to sense her presence. Cirou revealed a wacky face while glaring at Ye Guan from behind.

Cizhen responded with a shake of her head and a smile.

Ye Guan looked at Cizhen and asked, "What's funny?"

Cizhen chuckled. "Little Rou told me that you're a kind person, and I think she's right."

Ye Guan shook his head. "I don't hesitate to take lives."

Cizhen smiled. "I believe kindness with a bit of edge is what defines a 'kind' person. Otherwise, they're not kind—just naive." .c(o)m

Ye Guan nodded slightly. "Little Rou's plan is for my son to rule the True Universe and for me to face the Universe Tribulation, right?"

Cizhen nodded in confirmation.

Ye Guan smiled wryly. "She's quite the strategist. Once my son takes over the True Universe, I will have no choice but to take on the Universe Tribulation. It really is a great scheme!"

Cirou's hands clenched slowly into fists, but she remained silent while standing behind Ye Guan.

Cizhen suddenly grabbed Ye Guan's hand and whispered, "I know that you're angry..."

"Angry?" Ye Guan shook his head and said, "I'm sure you have no idea how much respect I once had for her. I considered her my closest confidante, but... sigh, what's the use of bringing that up at this point? She had indeed schemed against me, but she had also helped me a few times before. I guess I can say that we're even."

Cizhen let out a soft sigh.

Cirou stood silent behind Ye Guan for a long time before she turned around and left.

Ye Guan finished his bowl of noodles and said, "Are we going now?"

Cizhen nodded. "Yes, wait for me here. I'll change into something else."

Cizhen headed toward the bedroom. When she returned, she had changed into an elegant pale white gown adorned with delicate orchid patterns. Her gorgeous figure was accentuated nicely by the dress, and it gave her a tinge of gracefulness.

Cizhen smiled, looking like a flower in full bloom. "How do I look?"

Ye Guan nodded in approval. "You look stunning!"

"Let's go," Cizhen said with a charming smile. Then, she walked up to Ye Guan and held his hand, leading him outside. The two soon found themselves at the airport, and Ye Guan followed Cizhen blankly until they settled down in their plane seats.

Ye Guan could no longer hold back his curiosity. "Sister Zhen, where are we going?"

Cizhen grinned. "You'll find out soon."

Ye Guan shook his head, smiling.

Cizhen gazed out the window and said, "You know, there are many interesting things here. I've always been wondering about the limits of this civilization."

"The Great Daoist Brush Master once told me that cultivators at your level can catch glimpses of the future. Was he right?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen nodded. "That's correct."

"Then why not take a peek into the future?"

Cizhen smiled faintly. "The future is uncertain; the present is where meaning lies."

Ye Guan nodded. "True."

Cizhen held Ye Guan's hand and said, "Rest. We'll reach our destination in a few hours."

Ye Guan smiled and gazed out of the window. The white clouds outside resembled a boundless sea of clouds, creating a mesmerizing scenery. This was Ye Guan's second time on an airplane. He had gotten involved in a terrifying incident during his first time, so he was hoping that there wouldn't be any incidents this time.

Regardless, Ye Guan was still a bit afraid of encountering any issues while on a plane. Just then, Ye Guan recalled something and asked, "Sister Zhen, during my visit to the Xuanyuan Clan, I discovered that Time Reversers had once visited the Blue Planet. Do you have any idea why?"

Cizhen revealed a mysterious smile. "They were here for something."

Ye Guan frowned and asked, "What is it?"

"They were looking for a divine item," Cizhen replied.

"What exactly was it?" Ye Guan asked.

"Our destination holds a divine item, which was the reason behind their visit. I'm sure you already know that they're powerful, but there's a special reason behind their failure to seize that divine item," Cizhen said.

"Yes, that white-robed woman was exceptionally strong," Ye Guan said, sounding serious. "The people of the Blue Planet should have been unable to stop her, so how come she ended up failing?"

Cizhen calmly replied, "This place has a guardian."

"A guardian? Who are they?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen shook her head. "I don't know. All I know is that they're on Red Star, and they've been guarding this place since its conception."

Ye Guan froze and fell into deep contemplation.