

A Sword 461

Chapter 461: A Sword That Reverses Time

A lady was walking slowly with a man along the shore of a beach somewhere. The lady was wearing a plain skirt and her long hair fell past her shoulders. She exuded immense elegance that meshed well with her calm demeanor. Of course, she was as beautiful as a goddess.

Meanwhile, the man wore a mere white shirt. Despite that, his refined features and scholarly demeanor made him appear as composed and elegant as the young lady.

The two chatted and laughed as they walked along the shore, creating a warm atmosphere.

The plain-skirt lady held the hand of the man in the white shirt.

"Brother, he's here," the plain-skirt lady said.

The man in the white shirt nodded.

Two people were standing behind him—Ye Guan and Ao Qianqian.

The man in the white shirt looked at the plain-skirt lady and said, "If you don't want to leave, I will stay here with you."

The plain-skirt lady said, "Brother, how about you accompany me for another lifetime?"

Another lifetime? The man in the white shirt was stunned. Then, he smiled and shook his head, saying, "We can't die..."

The plain-skirt lady replied, "I have an idea."

The man in the white shirt reached out to the plain-skirt lady's hair and put a strand of her hair behind her ear before asking softly, "Why would you have such an idea?"

"Our fates in our first lifetime did not intertwine, and we were separated by life and death. In our second lifetime, we have had brief reunions, but we were often apart from each other.

"I want to stay close to you in my third lifetime. We can grow together and experience the ups and downs of life together."

The plain-skirt lady then hugged the man in the white shirt and said, "I'm not going to get greedy; I just want to have one lifetime together with you. Afterward, I'll kill the invincible beings of this vast expanse so that the little brat can establish a new order.

"Then, you and I will just become like unassuming boulders in the vast expanse. What do you think?"

"What if you end up forgetting me in your third lifetime?" asked the man in the white shirt.

The plain-skirt lady shook her head and said, "I'll recognize you as soon as I see you. It doesn't matter even if I reincarnate for a thousand lifetimes."

The man in the white shirt smiled. "That's good to hear."

A breathtaking smile tugged at the plain-skirt lady's lips.

The man in the white shirt chuckled. Then, he turned around to look at Ye Guan and Ao Qianqian.

"Come here."

Ye Guan pulled Ao Qianqian closer to the two and greeted them, "Father, Aunt."

The plain-skirt lady looked at Ye Guan with a faint smile, not saying a word.

Ao Qianqian bowed slightly and greeted, "Greetings, Sword Master."

The man in the white shirt smiled at Ao Qianqian. "We're all family here, so there's no need to be so polite."

Family! Ao Qianqian blushed, and her eyes were filled with delight.

The man in the white shirt examined Ye Guan from top to bottom before asking, "You're already a Great Time Sovereign?"

"Yes," Ye Guan said, nodding.

The man in the white shirt nodded in approval. "You've profited a lot since you came here."

"Yes, and it's all thanks to you sealing my cultivation," Ye Guan said.

The man in the white shirt laughed heartily and asked, "Are you still angry at me?"

Ye Guan shook his head. "No, not really. I know that you had good intentions. You wanted me to experience the mortal life at least once."

A satisfied light flashed across Ye Xuan's eyes. "I made a mistake allowing you to inherit the Guanxuan Academy too early. I didn't think things through. You're not mad at me for that, right?"

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "Well, it's not like I can beat you up."

Ye Xuan chuckled. The plain-skirt lady smiled and made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan.

Ye Xuan said, "Come with me for a stroll."

Ye Guan nodded, and the two father-and-son pair walked along the shore.

Meanwhile, Ao Qianqian was instantly nervous upon realizing that she was standing all by herself next to the plain-skirt lady. It couldn't be helped; the plain-skirt lady was Plain Skirt Destiny, after all!

The plain-skirt lady looked at Ao Qianqian and smiled. "Call me Aunt."

Ao Qianqian hesitated briefly before carefully muttering, "Aunt..."

The plain-skirt lady smiled and asked, "Do you know what dragon is the strongest and has remained the strongest all these years in this vast expanse?"

Ao Qianqian shook her head.

The plain-skirt lady replied, "There was a dragon called the Ancestral Dragon eight hundred billion years ago. The four major chaotic elements were in the middle of evolution at the time, and the Ancestral Dragon absorbed the Ancestral Origin tainted with such elements at the time, allowing its cultivation base to reach an unimaginable level.

"Would you like to join the Ancestral Dragon's lineage?"

Ao Qianqian nodded earnestly without any hesitation. She had no idea what the plain-skirt lady was talking about, but based on the latter's description, an Ancestral Dragon had to be incredibly strong.

Moreover, there was no way the plain-skirt lady would offer something mediocre to her.

The plain-skirt lady smiled and looked up. She waved her sleeve, and the Path Sword shot out.

Schwing!

The Time River abruptly manifested along with a massive space filled with nothing but a void.

The void was the vast expanse eight hundred billion years ago. The Path Sword had reversed the flow of time, allowing them to interact with the vast expanse eight hundred billion years ago!

Just then, Ao Qianqian clapped her eyes on an enormous creature. The colossal beast's color was pitch-black, and it had antlers like a deer, a head like a cow, a mouth like a donkey, eyes like a prawn, ears like an elephant, scales like a fish, beard like a human, abdomen like a snake, and the feet of a phoenix.

The beast was the epitome of colossal and towering! It seemed like the entire vast expanse couldn't contain it, and its head alone spanned millions of kilometers. The colossal beast glided across the starry sky, and the entire vast expanse seemed paltry before it—a true cosmic beast.

Ao Qianqian was overwhelmed by shock. So this is what a dragon looks like—a "true" dragon! In comparison, the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan—

Ao Qianqian's train of thought was interrupted by the Ancestral Dragon opening its eyes. Ao Qianqian felt a shiver down her spine, and her knees bent unconsciously; she was about to prostrate in worship when a gentle sword intent enveloped her, chasing away the primal fear that had enveloped her.

Ao Qianqian cast an incredulous gaze upon the Ancestral Dragon. It would be an insult to compare the mighty and colossal Ancestral Dragon before them to the dragons of the Ancient Heavenly Dragon Clan

The Ancestral Dragon's gaze fell on the plain-skirt lady, and its eyes were full of disdain as it roared, "How dare you interrupt my slumber?!"

The Ancestral Dragon's voice burst out of the Time River and swept across the present-day Milky Way.

The plain-skirt lady didn't beat around the bush and waved her sleeve. The Path Sword instantly manifested above the Ancestral Dragon's head.

Rumble!

A terrifying sword intent bored down on the Ancestral Dragon, and its eyes narrowed in shock as a sense of trepidation and shock gripped its heart.

The plain-skirt lady looked at the Ancestral Dragon and said, "This is a junior of mine. She wishes to join your lineage. Tell me whether it's possible or not."

In contrast to the plain-skirt lady's words, the Path Sword dug deeper into the Ancestral Dragon's head, rendering it speechless.

Ao Qianqian looked at the plain-skirt lady in awe. My aunt... she's so strong!

The Ancestral Dragon stared at the plain-skirt lady and said, "Let's be nice and talk about it, all right? I'm a reasonable dragon, so we can talk about it."

The plain-skirt lady nodded. "It seems that you have less than a hundred years to live. I'll borrow ten thousand years of lifespan for you from the Great Dao."

The plain-skirt lady looked up and pointed. The Path Sword responded immediately and tore through the starry sky, creating a massive rift of unknown origin. Moments later, a strand of Ancestral Origin descended and melted into the Ancestral Dragon.

Boom!

A violent tremor ran through the colossal Ancestral Dragon, and a powerful aura surged out of it. At the same time, its lifespan increased rapidly.

Rumble!

A dull rumbling echoed from the starry sky, accompanied by a wave of terrifying pressure. The Ancestral Dragon's expression instantly changed upon sensing the pressure. The Great Dao is here! The "true" Great Dao has arrived!

The Ancestral Dragon was in disbelief. If the Great Dao were to make a move against it, it would undoubtedly die. It was a supreme cosmic beast, but it was a mere ant before the Great Dao.

The plain-skirt lady directed a cold gaze at the vast expanse. "Get lost!"

Boom!

The terrifying pressure around the Ancestral Dragon disappeared, and the Ancestral Dragon's gaze became fearful as it stared at the plain-skirt lady

Did she just scare off the Great Dao with just two words? This is ridiculous! I've never met someone so ridiculously strong!

After the initial shock had passed, the Ancestral Dragon was overjoyed. It had just discovered that its lifespan had been extended by ten thousand years. It was so happy that it almost swooned.

The Ancestral Dragon's initial plan was to sit quietly and wait for its demise in a few hundred years. The True God's order did not allow any immortals to exist, which meant every living being in this vast expanse would eventually die.

The Ancestral Dragon was powerful, but its lifespan was finite. However, the Ancestral Dragon felt a bit more hopeful about the future upon receiving a ten-thousand-year extension of its life.

The Ancestral Dragon was extremely grateful, and its eyes were no longer filled with fear as it stared at the plain-skirt lady. However, instead of thanking the plain-skirt lady, it turned to look at Ao Qianqian and raised its claws slightly.

Swoosh!

A golden dragon pill flew out of its claw and melted into Ao Qianqian.

Boom!

Ao Qianqian's eyes widened as a terrifying power surged out of her.

Ao Qianqian instantly became a Great Sovereign!

The Ancestral Dragon looked at Ao Qianqian and tried to make its voice softer as it said, "You've just consumed the dragon pill that I painstakingly created myself. It will help you break through the shackles of your own bloodline, and it contains an inheritance, as well as some of the special Dragon Clan killing techniques and protection-type divine skills that I had created. I hope all those will be helpful to you."

Ao Qianqian took a deep breath and bowed respectfully, saying, "Thank you, Senior!"

The Ancestral Dragon smiled slightly and said, "From now on, you're a part of the Ancestral Dragon lineage. If you ever come across Time Reversers in the future, you can just say my name. Some of them will surely give you face if you do."

Ao Qianqian bowed again and said, "I understand."

The Ancestral Dragon nodded and looked at the plain-skirt lady once again. The plain-skirt lady did not say anything. Instead, she waved her sleeve and the Time River closed; the massive void vanished as well.

The plain-skirt lady looked at Ao Qianqian.

Ao Qianqian's aura was still surging, while the shackles of her bloodline had already fractured.

Ao Qianqian bowed slightly toward the plain-skirt lady. "Thank you, Aunt!"

The plain-skirt lady replied, "Don't mention it. Focus on absorbing the dragon pill."

Ao Qianqian nodded and sat down cross-legged. She put all of her focus on assimilating the Ancestral Dragon's inheritance as well as absorbing the remnant power of the dragon pill.

The plain-skirt lady turned to Ye Guan and Ye Xuan in the distance.

\Ye Guan and Ye Xuan were still walking slowly along the shore.

Ye Xuan asked, "Are you really sure?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

"You will have to go through many hardships."

"Well, I can avoid them right now, but I can't keep avoiding them forever, right?"

"I decided to force you into enduring many adversities because I wanted you to become strong. However, it seems that I have made a mistake by making that decision for you. If you don't want to have such a tough time, I will help you."

"It's my path, and I'll walk it on my own," Ye Guan replied after a brief hesitation.

How come he didn't choose to live an easy life with the help of his parents and relatives? Ye Guan had chosen not to do so, as he believed that it was a meaningless endeavor—becoming strong was better than relying on others.

Ye Xuan was quiet for a long while before saying, "All right, I understand."

"Father, can you tell me where you're going with Aunt?" Ye Guan asked.

Ye Xuan's mouth fluttered open to say something, but something up above caught his attention, prompting him to look up. "He's here."

Ye Guan looked up and saw the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign was here!

Chapter 462: Come At Me Together!

A group of powerful cultivators streaked across the starry skies above Blue Planet, and the Eternal Sovereign stood at the helm of the group. There were three people behind him.

One of them was a woman wearing a Daoist robe with a horsetail whisk in hand, and her gaze was icy cold. Of course, she emitted an extremely powerful aura.

A hunchbacked old man was on her left, and the hunchbacked old man's gaze was filled with sinister killing intent. Meanwhile, a middle-aged man was on the hunchbacked old man's left, and he exuded a terrifying killing intent as well.

Behind these three were tens of thousands of powerful cultivators—sixteen Great Destiny Sovereigns, hundreds of Great Time Sovereigns, and thousands of Ordinary Great Sovereigns. The rest were Divine Sovereigns.

It was a terrifying group, to say the least. The Eternal Sovereign had recruited so many people for his grand ambition—restoring the Eternal Civilization and establishing hegemony over the vast expanse!

The Eternal Sovereign suddenly stopped in his tracks, and his eyes narrowed as he stared at Blue Planet. "The plain-skirt lady and the other riffraffs are on this tiny blue planet?"

The hunchbacked old man nodded and said respectfully, "Yes."

The Eternal Sovereign asked, "Ye Guan and the True God are there, too?"

"Yes," the hunchbacked old man replied, "The Sword Master is there as well."

The Eternal Sovereign laughed boisterously. "Great! I can kill them all at once, then!"

The Eternal Sovereign took a step forward and was about to annihilate the Blue Planet when a massive spacetime rift abruptly manifested before him. Moments later, a young man walked out of the spacetime rift.

The young man was none other than Ye Guan, and a young woman with an elegant demeanor and extraordinary beauty followed closely behind him. The young woman was none other than Cizhen!

A few moments later, two young women emerged from the rift—Cirou and Cishu!

Unbeknownst to them, there were two people standing in the starry sky a thousand meters away to their right, and those two people were the Sword Master and the plain-skirt lady.

The Eternal Sovereign swept his gaze across everyone, including the True God.

"Come at me together!" the Eternal Sovereign exclaimed and stepped forward.

Boom!

A terrifying aura instantly enveloped the Milky Way.

The Eternal Sovereign had recovered his terrifying strength completely. In other words, they were about to face the Eternal Sovereign in his prime!

The plain-skirt lady stared quietly at the Eternal Sovereign.

However, the Sword Master grabbed her hand and smiled. "Let that brat handle it."

The plain-skirt lady was quiet. The last time she met someone as arrogant as the Eternal Sovereign was tens of millions of years ago—an individual named Tian Ye!

Cizhen glanced at the Eternal Sovereign before turning to look at Ye Guan and leaning over to his ears.

"He's really weak," Cizhen muttered.

Ye Guan's expression froze.

The Eternal Sovereign was about to make a move when Ye Guan interjected, "I'm your opponent!"

The Eternal Sovereign frowned and asked, "You?"

Ye Guan nodded.

The Eternal Sovereign stared calmly at Ye Guan and sneered, "Do you really think you're worthy of even standing against me?"

Instead of getting mad, Ye Guan laughed. "Scared?"

"I'll kill you in one move!" the Eternal Sovereign roared.

Ye Guan smiled. "C'mere, then."

Then, Ye Gua stepped forward.

A sword burst out of him and rushed to the sky.

Xuanyuan!

Ye Guan opened his palm, and the sword flew to his hand. The moment his hand made contact with the sword, the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline in his body trembled ever so slightly.

Ye Guan didn't bother exchanging words as he abruptly disappeared, transforming into a ray of sword light that made a beeline for the Eternal Sovereign.

Time to die! Ye Guan roared inwardly, unleashing a sword move containing three Heavenrends with eight hundred stacks each, condensed into three Space Overlaps and compressed into one sword move!

The Sword Master waved his sleeve, reinforcing the surrounding spacetime.

The look of disdain on the Eternal Sovereign's face vanished upon witnessing Ye Guan's attack. The Eternal Sovereign's eyes narrowed into slits, and his heart was gripped by disbelief. How did he become so strong so quickly?

The Eternal Sovereign took one step and swung his fist.

Bam!

Ye Guan's radiant sword light was shattered, and he was blasted a few kilometers away from the resulting collision.

The Eternal Sovereign was also knocked away by at least five hundred meters.

The sight astounded the group of powerful cultivators behind the Eternal Sovereign.

He's strong enough to send the Eternal Sovereign flying?

The Eternal Sovereign was stunned as well. He truly didn't expect that such a young swordsman was capable of sending him flying. To make matters worse, a sharp pain radiated from his fist. The Eternal Sovereign looked down at his fist and was shocked to find that he had been injured.

The Eternal Sovereign glared at Ye Guan and said, "Three Heavenrends with eight hundred stacks each, condensed into three spacetime instances, and then finally compressed into one sword move."

Ye Guan didn't reply. Instead, he took one step forward, and a terrifying sword intent surged out of him. The powerful cultivators behind the Eternal Sovereign glared with ugly looks at Ye Guan.

The Eternal Sovereign's gaze became a bit more serious as he stared at Ye Guan. He truly didn't expect that Ye Guan would become so strong, as it hadn't been that long since he visited the Milky Way.

The fuck? What was he doing here?

Ye Guan looked down at Xuanyuan in his hands. He had just discovered that Xuanyuan was capable of establishing a connection to his bloodline. Ye Guan reckoned that Xuanyuan would become even more powerful if Ye Guan's Phoenix Emperor Bloodline were active.

Ye Guan stomped with his right foot, transforming into a ray of radiant, golden sword light.

Schwing!

A sword slashed out toward the Eternal Sovereign. The Eternal Sovereign's eyes flashed with a cold light, and he stepped forward before swinging his fist.

Boom!

A ray of golden light burst out of the Eternal Sovereign's fist. It transformed into a formidable fist imprint that made a beeline for Ye Guan's sword.

BOOM!

A deafening explosion boomed throughout the starry sky.

The Eternal Sovereign's fist imprint stopped Ye Guan's sword dead in its tracks. Ye Guan tried his hardest, but his sword wouldn't budge even an inch.

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes turned sinister as he swung his right fist.

Boom!

A kaleidoscope of golden lights erupted, and Ye Guan was blasted tens of kilometers away from just a single punch. Eventually, he stabilized himself in mid-air, but blood was trickling down the corner of his lips. Clearly, he had sustained internal injuries.

The Eternal Sovereign chuckled and jeered, "Is that all you got?"

Ye Guan wiped his lips clean and smiled wryly. Then, he turned to look at Cizhen nearby and said, "Sister Zhen, I finally understand what you told me last time."

Cizhen blinked in confusion and asked, "What did I say?"

Ye Guan smiled, "Hurdles are an inevitable part of growth, which is always painful, and you said, 'Once you get through it, you'll realize that the hurdle you've been trying to overcome wasn't really that much of a hurdle.'"

Cizhen broke out into a smile.

Ye Guan burst out laughing as well before disappearing and flying toward the Eternal Sovereign as a ray of radiant, golden light.

Long ago, he was too weak to withstand even a single attack from the Eternal Sovereign, but now, he could go toe-to-toe against the Eternal Sovereign. Of course, Ye Guan wasn't just being arrogant; it was the reality!

Ye Guan had finally understood what Cizhen was telling him at the time. Against hurdles, one had to persevere and not fall into despair. After overcoming such hurdles, one would eventually find that upon looking back, the hurdles they thought were impossible to overcome didn't seem that daunting anymore.

In other words, Cizhen had told him that every hurdle in the world could be overcome!

Ye Guan's mind cleared, and his sword intent surged crazily.

The Eternal Sovereign's narrowed eyes radiated intense killing intent. He made up his mind just then—he would kill Ye Guan in three moves. It would be his defeat if he couldn't kill Ye Guan in three moves!

He was the Eternal Sovereign, after all, the most powerful Great Sovereign throughout history. The Eternal Sovereign still had a pride to maintain!

The Eternal Sovereign lifted both of his hands, and the spacetime around him trembled violently. A kaleidoscope of golden lights manifested, and terrifying auras surged like torrents from all directions and rushed toward Ye Guan, suppressing Ye Guan's sword intent.

The Eternal Sovereign stepped forward, and a mysterious space unfolded.

The Eternal Sword Domain!

"Die!" the Eternal Sovereign roared.

The seemingly endless kaleidoscope of golden lights transformed into a myriad of swords that descended upon Ye Guan. Meanwhile, Ye Guan couldn't move at all. Terrifying forces had bound him, and Ye Guan felt as if there were mountains pressing down on his shoulders.

Ye Guan caught a whiff of the scent of death. He could feel it—he was about to die!

However, Ye Guan smiled in the face of death. His eyes closed slowly as Xuanyuan trembled violently in his hands.

Moments later, his eyes shot wide open.

Boom! Boom!

Two terrifying auras burst out of Ye Guan, and those terrifying auras were born from the bloodline power of Ye Guan's two bloodlines—the Mad Demon Bloodline and the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline!

The Eternal Sword Domain collapsed instantly as soon as the bloodline powers manifested. At the same time, Ye Guan charged out with his sword and slashed out.

Bam!

The oncoming myriad swords were reduced to ashes, and the Eternal Sovereign was blasted tens of kilometers away. Ye Guan's attack just now was strong enough to create cracks, even in the spacetime that the Sword Master had reinforced.

The Sword Master's lips curled up into a smile.

Meanwhile, the Eternal Sovereign looked down at his right arm and saw that it had cracked open, spilling blood everywhere.

The powerful cultivators behind the Eternal Sovereign stared at the sight with incredibly ugly expressions. They truly didn't expect that a young man could injure the Eternal Sovereign to such an extent.

Their plan was to establish hegemony over the vast expanse, but now... it seemed that their plan had become nothing but a pipe dream! The majority of the powerful cultivators cast doubtful gazes upon the Eternal Sovereign.

Perhaps he was hiding his true power? Praying with his prey or something like that?

The Eternal Sovereign looked bitter as he glared at Ye Guan, and he was truly dumbfounded. The young swordsman before him had shattered his Eternal Sword Domain in the blink of an eye. How was that even possible?

The Eternal Sovereign couldn't keep his gaze off Ye Guan as he ruminated in shock.

Meanwhile, Cirou looked at Ye Guan with utter amazement, not expecting that he had grown to such a terrifying level in such a short amount of time. However, Cirou's gaze soon became complicated. She had just realized that the young man didn't lack resources, talent, or support; what Ye Guan lacked was time.

Given enough time, Ye Guan would eventually become as powerful as his relatives.

Ye Guan closed his eyes once more. The two terrifying bloodline powers inside of him were still boiling, and they were making the nearby spacetime boil as well.

"You've truly surprised me," but..." the Eternal Sovereign trailed off before continuing, "Do you really think that this is enough—"

"Let's get it over with!" Ye Guan exclaimed, interrupting the Eternal Sovereign. Then, he cackled maniacally and added, "There's no need for us to talk nonsense to each other."

Boom!

Ye Guan didn't even wait for the Eternal Sovereign's reply as he transformed into a crimson streak of light that streaked across the starry sky.

Chapter 463: He's All Yours, Aunt

The power of Ye Guan's sword had increased several times under the enhancement of two bloodline powers.

The Eternal Sovereign's face turned serious. The young swordsman was no longer the same ant he once easily suppressed. The Eternal Sovereign had to start taking him seriously now!

Having made up his mind, the Eternal Sovereign adjusted his mindset.

When Ye Guan's sword came rushing toward him, the Eternal Sovereign opened his right hand and lowered it gently. The surrounding spacetime instantly became illusory.

The Eternal Sovereign pointed at Xuanyuan.

Bam!

Xuanyuan trembled violently and came to a screeching halt, unable to move even an inch forward.

The Eternal Sovereign then spread his fingers and clamped down on the sword. He squeezed powerfully, wanting to split the sword into two.

Bam!

Xuanyuan shook violently, but it remained intact.

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes narrowed in complete shock. He didn't expect that Xuanyuan was strong enough to withstand his immense power.

Ye Guan unexpectedly let go of Xuanyuan and swung his fist.

Eternal Moments!

BOOM!

A destructive force swept toward the Eternal Sovereign, inundating him in an instant and blasting him at least a kilometer away. Meanwhile, Xuanyuan returned to Ye Guan's hands, and Ye Guan himself vanished.

He reappeared right in front of the Eternal Sovereign with Xuanyuan in hand.

The Eternal Sovereign's gaze turned cold, and he disappeared like a ghost.

Swoosh!

Ye Guan struck nothing but air. Then, he frowned upon realizing that he couldn't feel the Eternal Sovereign's presence.

Moments later, Ye Guan looked up and saw a colossal, illusory hand descending upon him. Before Ye Guan could move, however, the spacetime around him solidified, immobilizing him completely.

Ye Guan raised his sword to attack but was astonished to find a mysterious force suppressing wanted to unleash a sword attack but was shocked to discover that there was a mysterious force restraining him along with the nearby spacetime.

Swoosh!

A faint beam of light manifested before Ye Guan and made a beeline for his glabella. Ye Guan's eyes narrowed, but he remained calm in the face of death. The faint beam of light moved fast, but a thought from Ye Guan's end stirred Xuanyuan.

Xuanyuan vanished and slashed out toward the faint beam of light.

Boom!

The starry skies trembled violently as Xuanyuan put an end to the faint beam of light's approach.

Ye Guan roared angrily, and his sword intent was reinforced by the combined power of two of his bloodlines. His sword intent soon manifested in the shape of a sword.

Crackle!

A crisp noise echoed as the colossal, illusory hand descending upon Ye Guan shattered into innumerable light fragments. However, an afterimage was speeding toward Ye Guan. Ye Guan's eyes narrowed into slits. Then, he opened his palm, and Xuanyuan appeared in his hand.

Ye Guan took a stance with Xuanyuan by sheathing it, and then he drew it quickly, executing a powerful move.

Hum!

A resonant sword hum rang out as Ye Guan unleashed a sword move containing three Heavenrends with nine hundred stacks each, condensed into three Space Overlaps and compressed into one sword move before being enhanced by the power of his bloodlines!

The sword attack was so powerful that everyone only saw a shadow being blasted away into the distance. Moments later, everyone was astonished to find that the shadow was the Eternal Sovereign!

The Eternal Sovereign looked down at his fist and saw that it had shattered completely upon taking the brunt of Ye Guan's sword attack. Blood flowed incessantly out of the Eternal Sovereign's wounds.

The Eternal Sovereign looked up and stared at Ye Guan in the distance.

"This doesn't make sense," the Eternal Sovereign muttered in disbelief. In his opinion, the entire situation did not make any sense at all. Ye Guan looks like he's in his early twenties, so how come he's already strong enough to injure me?

This doesn't make any sense at all!

The Eternal Sovereign's expression was ugly as he glared at Ye Guan.

Meanwhile, the expressions of the Eternal Sovereign's followers looked as ugly as the Eternal Sovereign's expression. They had chosen to follow the Eternal Sovereign for the sake of a brighter future.

The Eternal Sovereign's plan was to overturn the current order throughout the vast expanse and re-establish it. By then, they would be able to live forever. However, they truly didn't expect that the Eternal Sovereign would be unable to defeat a young man,

At this point, everyone had the same thought in mind. Can he really do this?

Everyone silently got ready to bail.

"A divine sword and two bloodline powers," the Eternal Sovereign said, "Must you rely on external help to win?"

The Eternal Sovereign knew that Ye Guan's incredible combat prowess was all because of his two bloodline powers and the divine sword in his hands. If it hadn't been for those three, Ye Guan would have died at his hands long ago.

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "Eternal Sovereign, how can you bring yourself to say such shameless words? You're already bullying me by choosing to fight me, but you actually want me to fight you without a sword?"

"As for these bloodlines, they're my own blood, and they're a part of my body. What's wrong with me using their power? If you have bloodline power, you can use it, too!"

The Eternal Sovereign glared quietly at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan laughed and asked, "What's the matter, you don't have any?"

"Technically, your bloodline belongs to your ancestors, so it can be said that you're relying on them," the Eternal Sovereign said.

Ye Guan nodded and shrugged. "You can't blame me for having such a good father."

"Hahaha!" The Sword Master burst out into laughter, enjoying his son's flattery.

The Eternal Sovereign looked down at his right hand and saw that it had healed completely. Then, he raised his head to look at Ye Guan, saying, "Let me see just how good you are, then."

The Eternal Sovereign's figure flashed as he turned into a ray of golden light that rushed toward Ye Guan!

Ye Guan's eyes turned cold, and without any hesitation, he transformed into a radiant ray of sword light, charging toward the Eternal Sovereign as well.

It was time for another round!

A deafening explosion reverberated across the starry sky.

Ye Guan and the Eternal Sovereign were both extremely powerful, and their exchange of moves made the surrounding spacetime tremble non-stop.

Ye Guan became more and more imposing as he fought; he had gotten extremely strong, all thanks to his bloodline power. However, he could still become even more terrifying. If he were to allow his Mad Demon Bloodline to take over his consciousness, his combat prowess would skyrocket.

However, Ye Guan chose not to succumb to it and tried his best to remain in control

Upon seeing that Ye Guan and the Eternal Sovereign seemed to be on par with each other, the expressions of the strong cultivators behind the Eternal Sovereign turned grim. They initially thought that the Eternal Sovereign would make quick work of Ye Guan, but it was clear that they were mistaken.

The woman in Daoist robes exclaimed, "The Eternal Sovereign is holding back!"

Everyone looked at the woman in Daoist robes.

The woman in the Daoist robes stared alternately at the plain-skirt lady and the Sword Master before explaining, "From the reports that we've received, the plain-skirt lady, the Sword Master, and the True God are our strongest enemies.

"In other words, the Eternal Sovereign's real target is those three rather than Ye Guan."

Everyone nodded in understanding as they swept their gazes across the three figures nearby. There was something strange about those three people, and it was the fact that they couldn't sense their auras at all.

It was abnormal, as they were supreme elites in their own generation, yet they couldn't sense the auras of those three people. In other words, those three people couldn't be ordinary people.

"Don't overthink it," the woman in the Daoist robes said, "Everything is under the Eternal Sovereign's control."

Everyone nodded and stopped speculating. They were all first-hand witnesses of the Eternal Sovereign's power. Otherwise, they wouldn't have decided to follow him. In other words, they went silent, as they had chosen to trust the Eternal Sovereign.

On the other side, Cirou asked, "Big Sister, why is he so strong? Is it because of his bloodline powers and Xuanyuan?"

Cizhen looked at Ye Guan with a smile, but she didn't say anything at all.

Cirou rolled her eyes. "Look at you, acting all mysterious."

Cizhen didn't take her eyes off Ye Guan as she said, "His Sword Dao has already reached the limits of the Ephemeral Transcendence Realm..."

Cirou's eyes narrowed. "Are you saying that he's about to make a breakthrough?"

"It all depends on his decision."

Boom!

A deafening noise echoed as both Ye Guan and the Eternal Sovereign were forced backward. A kaleidoscope of golden lights and radiant sword lights erupted in all directions, creating a terrifying scene.

The moment Ye Guan came to a halt, he closed his eyes immediately and retracted his sword intent. Then, he opened his eyes and glared at the Eternal Sovereign in the distance. He flipped open his right hand and pressed it down slowly.

The surging bloodlines inside of him calmed down instantly as he suppressed them.

The Eternal Sovereign frowned. "What are you doing?"

Soon, the two bloodlines were suppressed.

Ye Guan then waved his sleeve, putting away Xuanyuan.

The Eternal Sovereign revealed a face full of confusion.

Ye Guan opened his palm, and his sword intent manifested above his palm.

Rumble!

A low rumbling echoed from inside Ye Guan as a terrifying aura burst out of him; at the same time, the sword intent above his palm took to the skies, creating a massive column of sword light that seemed to be in the middle of a qualitative change.

At the sight, Cizhen smirked and remarked. "That brat is truly a box full of surprises. I didn't expect that he'd choose to make a breakthrough; he has been suppressing even his cultivation base, after all."

"A breakthrough?" Cirou stared at Ye Guan and asked, "Is his Sword Dao about to enter the Divine Realm?"

Cizhen grinned. "He's half a step away from the Divine Realm. He still needs a world-shaking battle to prove the essence of his Sword Dao."

Cirou frowned.

"Little Rou..." Cizhen muttered, "You have to make sure to buy him a lot of time. A hundred years... yes, a hundred years should be enough."

Cirou glanced at Cizhen and clenched her fists.

The Eternal Sovereign's expression became gloomy. He was truly surprised to see the young swordsman making a breakthrough in the middle of their battle. Fuck! Is he cheating or something?

His followers had the same expression as him. They couldn't believe that Ye Guan was making a breakthrough during a fight.

Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly and looked at the Eternal Sovereign. He lifted his chin, full of unprecedented confidence. I can still kill you even without Xuanyuan or the power of my bloodline!

Ye Guan had become confident enough to defeat the Eternal Sovereign without relying on external help.

Ye Guan took a stance and was about to make a move when the Eternal Sovereign exclaimed, "Attack him together!"

Attack him together? The Eternal Sovereign's followers were stunned. Are we going to gang up on him?

The Eternal Sovereign looked at Ye Guan and warned, "I have many people here."

Ye Guan asked, "Are you sure you don't want to fight fairly?"

The Eternal Sovereign burst out into laughter and said, "I told you I have many people here!"

Ye Guan fell silent.

"Unhappy?" the Eternal Sovereign sneered, "Go and call your own people, too!"

Hearing that, Ye Guan decisively turned around to face the plain-skirt lady. Then, he bowed slightly and said, "He's all yours, Aunt."

In response, the plain-skirt lady started walking toward the Eternal Sovereign.

Chapter 464: Today, They Are Going to Kill the True God

Ye Guan wasn't dumb. He was more than willing to die in a fair one-on-one battle to the death, but he wasn't dumb enough to allow his enemies to besiege him.

Anyone could call for backup, and Ye Guan could do the same.

The Eternal Sovereign cast a wary gaze upon the plain-skirt lady. He had been observing the plain-skirt lady even whilst fighting Ye Guan. Of course, he had been doing the same to the Sword Master and the True God.

He had been biding his time, hoping that he was mistaken, but he wasn't mistaken at all. He truly couldn't feel their auras, and it felt like those three people didn't even exist in reality.

Once his theory was confirmed, the Eternal Sovereign promptly ordered the others to attack with him. The Eternal Sovereign reckoned that he had no chance of winning against them by himself.

The expressions of the Eternal Sovereign followers turned grim as the plain-skirt lady got closer and closer to them. Their guard instantly shot up through the roof; they dared not underestimate the plain-skirt lady.

The Eternal Sovereign didn't take his eyes off of the plain-skirt lady.

"They're outnumbered, so let's attack them together."

BOOM!

A terrifying aura burst out of the Eternal Sovereign, and it was so strong that it made even the starry sky tremble, seemingly boiling beneath the Eternal Sovereign's might. His followers did the same and decisively rushed toward the plain-skirt lady.

The Eternal Sovereign was right. Even though those three people were definitely extraordinary cultivators, what could they possibly do against their overwhelming numbers?

How terrifying was an army of cultivators whose cultivation bases were Divine Sovereigns at the very least? They reckoned that if they were to attack together, they would be strong enough to annihilate even the entire Milky Way.

The plain-skirt lady opened her palm, and the Path Sword appeared. Then, it turned into a ray of sword light that disappeared from everyone's eyes.

Schwing!

A cold arc was left in the air as tens of thousands of heads flew up along with tens of thousands of streams of blood that were like fountains, haphazardly spraying blood all over the place.

It seemed that the cultivators still had no idea that they had died, as they were still running toward the plain-skirt lady with their weapons in hand. However, the harsh and cold reality was that they were already dead—the plain-skirt lady had killed them in an instant!

No, someone was still alive. The plain-skirt lady had chosen not to kill him immediately, and he was none other than the Eternal Sovereign.

The Eternal Sovereign froze, and his mind went completely blank, looking as if he had been struck by lightning. His followers had just died before his eyes, and they were decapitated in the blink of an eye at that!

His powerful followers had perished as if they were mere chickens!

The sight was so surreal that the Eternal Sovereign couldn't quite believe it.

Meanwhile, Cirou and Cishu's expressions turned grim. Clearly, the plain-skirt lady was much stronger than they had imagined. The plain-skirt lady had just annihilated an army made up of supreme elites.

Ye Guan sighed with admiration while staring at his aunt. The plain-skirt lady's strength defied logic, and Ye Guan wondered if he would ever become as strong as his aunt.

The plain-skirt lady looked down at the Eternal Sovereign and asked, "So what if you outnumber us?"

The Eternal Sovereign glared at her and roared, "What is your cultivation base?!"

The plain-skirt lady shook her head. "You're a paltry ant in my eyes, and I can kill you with a pinch."

The plain-skirt lady waved her sleeve, sending a ray of sword light toward the Eternal Sovereign. The Eternal Sovereign's pupils constricted. The moment he laid his eyes on the oncoming sword light, he instantly knew that the sword light would kill him.

However, the Eternal Sovereign remained defiant. His expression became ferocious as he clenched his fists tightly and roared, "Come!"

A terrifying aura burst out of him as he charged toward the ray of sword light. He was too weak to resist the attack, but it didn't matter. He was going to die anyway, so he chose to die in battle.

The Eternal Sovereign let go of all the distractions and reservations in his heart. His eyes no longer reflected fear as he rushed to meet the oncoming sword light.

BOOM!

A deafening noise echoed inside the Eternal Sovereign. He had just made a breakthrough. The Eternal Sovereign hadn't been able to make a breakthrough over the past millions of years, and his cultivation base meant that it would be extremely difficult for him to make any breakthroughs, but...

The Eternal Sovereign's aura surged crazily, and his might made the entire starry sky tremble violently.

Finally, the ray of sword light reached him and...

Crackle!

The Path Sword shattered the Eternal Sovereign's aura and pierced his forehead, immobilizing him completely. The Eternal Sovereign had made a breakthrough, but he was still as insignificant as an ant in the plain-skirt lady's eyes.

The Eternal Sovereign's eyes widened in shock and despair. His breakthrough was supposed to help him overcome the hurdle before him, but it turned out that he was still too weak to withstand the plain-skirt lady's sword move.

He truly didn't expect to die in an instant. The Eternal Sovereign chuckled, realizing that he had never really been strong—he was nothing but a mere ant in the eyes of certain beings.

The Eternal Sovereign's fleshly body began to crumble, and he eventually vanished into nothingness.

The Eternal Sovereign was no more!

Ye Guan remained quiet all throughout. He wasn't happy at all. For some reason, he felt a sense of urgency and crisis. The plain-skirt lady had broadened his horizons once more.

Ye Guan didn't think of the Eternal Sovereign as a mere ant; he reckoned that the reason the Eternal Sovereign became so arrogant was the fact that he had never really encountered someone stronger than the Great Daoist Brush Master.

In the Eternal Sovereign's eyes, no one was stronger than the Great Daoist Brush Master. However, the plain-skirt lady was much more powerful than the Great Daoist Brush Master.

Ye Guan pondered that if the plain-skirt lady and Ye Xuan weren't his relatives, would he be just as ignorant as the Eternal Sovereign? Ye Guan would most likely think that the Great Destiny Sovereign Realm was the limit.

He would be akin to a frog in a well! People mock others for their ignorance, not realizing that they were frogs inside a well as well—a bigger well than where the other frogs were located.

The vast expanse was incredibly vast, so it was inevitable for someone out there to be more powerful than anyone. In other words, one had to remain humble and not let their strength get to their head.

Ye Guan emptied his mind and opened his palm.

A tiny golden pagoda flew toward his palm.

Master Pagoda is back! Ye Guan said, "Long time no see, Master Pagoda!"

"Were you even worried about me while I was gone?" Little Pagoda asked, sounding annoyed.

Ye Guan laughed out loud and said, "Master Pagoda, you've followed my father and my grandfather before. You've seen so much of the world, so how could the Eternal Sovereign be a match for you at all?"

Little Pagoda laughed and said, "You're still as clever as ever. You're right. I, Master Pagoda, have seen it all. The Eternal Sovereign is just a slightly bigger ant. If Sister Destiny hadn't made a move today, I would have killed him myself."

Ye Guan smiled at Little Pagoda's bragging. Yes, Little Pagoda's bragging was annoying, but it sounded refreshing to Ye Guan, who hadn't seen Little Pagoda for a long time.

Just then, the plain-skirt lady and the Sword Master walked over to Ye Guan. The plain-skirt lady opened her palm, and a pile of storage rings flew toward Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was ecstatic at the sight. The storage rings once belonged to the Eternal Sovereign and his followers.

Ye Guan was thrilled by the fact that the plain-skirt lady hadn't annihilated the storage rings along with their owners. Ye Guan quickly pocketed them, and he started grinning at the thought of how many spiritual cores he had just earned.

Ye Guan believed that he had hit the jackpot!

"We're leaving," the plain-skirt lady said.

Leaving? The smile on Ye Guan's face immediately vanished.

"Father?" Ye Guan asked while staring at the Sword Master.

The Sword Master walked up to Ye Guan and smiled. "We're going somewhere—somewhere distant from this part of the vast expanse."

Ye Guan asked, "Is it very far away?"

"Yes," the Sword Master replied.

Ye Guan fell silent, feeling unwilling to part with his father.

The Sword Master asked, "Do you really want to walk on this path on your own?"

Ye Guan nodded. He didn't want to take the easy route and truly become the King of Relying on Others.

The Sword Master was silent for a few moments before he patted Ye Guan on the shoulder and said, "All the best, son."

Ye Guan asked, "Will I ever see you two again?"

The plain-skirt lady replied, "It depends on whether you want to see us or not."

Ye Guan was confused by the plain-skirt lady's response.

The plain-skirt lady glanced at Cizhen and saw that Cizhen was staring at her. It was the first time these two exceptionally talented women made eye contact with each other.

However, the plain-skirt lady didn't say anything as she turned around and left with the Sword Master. Following her departure, a certain someone on Mount Fanjing heaved a sigh of relief. She's finally gone!

However, the Great Daoist Brush Master's eyes narrowed upon noticing something, and he clenched his fists tightly.

A certain someone on Red Star looked up and stared into the starry skies.

Ye Guan's expression was gloomy. Even though he was unwilling to part with his aunt and his father, he knew that they had something to do.

Shaking off all his thoughts, Ye Guan walked up to Cizhen.

"We should also leave," Ye Guan said, smiling.

Cizhen smiled back. "You guys can go ahead without me."

Ye Guan was confused. "Are you planning to stay in the Milky Way?"

Cizhen shook her head and said, "No, I'm going somewhere else."

Ye Guan asked, "Where?"

Cizhen didn't say a word as she smiled.

Ye Guan and Cirou immediately became nervous.

Cirou grabbed Cizhen's hand, and her voice was trembling as she said, "B-big Sister..."

"All good things must come to an end, and it is time for us to part ways," Cizhen said.

Ye Guan asked, "Is it because of the Universe Tribulation?"

Cizhen's gaze landed in the depths of the starry sky. "There's more."

There's more? Ye Guan frowned. What is she talking about?

Boom!

A terrifying aura burst out of the depths of the starry sky. Ye Guan turned and realized that the aura was coming from so far away that he couldn't quite see where it had come from. However, one thing was for sure; the aura was so strong that it seemed to have enveloped everything.

"What is that?!" Ye Guan exclaimed.

Cizhen smiled lightly. "It's the Universe Tribulation."

Ye Guan was shocked. "Is it about to erupt?"

"They've been waiting a long time," Cizhen nodded.

They? Ye Guan turned to look at her and wanted to ask her what she meant when the multiple spacetime rifts abruptly manifested around them. Shockingly, the spacetime rifts contained hundreds of thousands of Time Rivers.

The largest Time River appeared directly in front of them, and a woman slowly emerged from the Time River. The woman was wearing a white robe, and a golden mask covered half her face.

Meanwhile, two mysterious powerful figures dressed in black robes followed her closely from behind.

Ye Guan's pupils constricted upon seeing the white-robed woman. It's her! She actually came here?!

More and more cultivators walked out of the nearby Time Rivers, and Ye Guan trembled like an aspen tree upon realizing a grim fact. Every single one of the cultivators radiated auras far stronger than the Eternal Sovereign's aura after his breakthrough!

Ye Guan was stupefied. W-what does this mean? Are Great Destiny Sovereigns just mere ants now? What's going on? Where are these people from? What are they trying to do here?

Today, they were going to kill the True God!

Chapter 465: Humanity For You

Ye Guan's expression was grim as he stared at Cizhen.

"What's going on, Sister Zhen?"

Cizhen held Ye Guan's hand and smiled. "You want to know how they are?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Cizhen looked around with a smile and explained, "They were once mighty individuals from bygone eras. You know them as Time Reversers, and they were once the pinnacle elites of their own respective eras."

Perplexed, Ye Guan asked, "Are they here to fight you?"

Cizhen nodded.

Ye Guan frowned and asked, "But why?"

Cizhen merely smiled.

However, Ye Guan was struck by realization just then, and he muttered grimly, "The Universe Tribulation..."

Cizhen nodded without saying anything.

Ye Guan's expression turned grim as he asked, "Do they not want you to quell the Universe Tribulation?"

Cizhen nodded once again.

"Why? If the Universe Tribulation erupts, the vast expanse will be annihilated, so why are they—" Ye Guan stopped mid-sentence; his pupils constricted as he exclaimed, "Is it because they won't face death despite the Universe Tribulation's eruption?"

"You got it right," Cizhen said.

Ye Guan swept his gaze across the Time Reversers. Then, he gripped Cizhen's hand tightly and said, "Sister Zhen, you've been maintaining the order you've established while suppressing the Universe Tribulation at the same time, so...

"Their goal is to destroy the order you've established and become immortal!"

"That's right." Cizhen smiled and praised, "How quick-witted of you."

Ye Guan's expression grew somber.

Cizhen's Great Dao order meant that no one could attain immortality. In other words, those seeking immortality would naturally rebel against her, and they didn't really care about the lives of everyone else in the vast expanse.

Ye Guan turned to Cizhen and said, "You've been maintaining the Great Dao order, and the Universe Tribulation is inherently tied to the Great Dao, so why is it helping these people?"

Cizhen chuckled as she clarified, "The Dao takes two forms, virtuous and evil. The Universe Tribulation represents the evil form. The virtuous Dao's choice involves sacrificing the top-tier supreme elites to establish order, allowing all other living beings to live. The evil Dao's choice is to sacrifice all living beings and spare only the strongest elites. These Time Reversers follow the evil form of the Dao, and they want to trigger the Universe Tribulation to wipe out the myriad beings."

Ye Guan fell into silence, and his face was incredibly dark.

Cizhen gazed at Ye Guan and asked, "Remember what you said before?"

Ye Guan turned to her.

Cizhen smiled and said, "You told me that we have no right to make decisions for all living beings. Everyone should have the opportunity to cultivate."

Ye Guan nodded.

With a chuckle, Cizhen added, "You were right. We don't have the right to decide for all living beings. After becoming invincible, we shouldn't cut off the path of cultivation for future generations. It's a harmful decision."

Ye Guan gripped Cizhen's hand tightly and whispered, "Sister—"

"My time is running out," Cizhen interrupted, "Listen to me. Once I'm gone, take care of the True Universe for me, and take care of my sisters, too."

Cizhen stroked Ye Guan's cheek gently and said, "I trust you the most, Ye Guan. But I worry the most about you, too. You're more clever and quick-witted than most people, but you can be a bit foolish sometimes."

Ye Guan's eyes turned a bit red as he trembled and said, "Sister Zhen, you've been suppressing the Universe Tribulation for the longest time now, so is it possible that—"

"Is this conversation even going to end?" a black-robed elder interrupted in a cold tone of voice, "If you're just going to talk about love, then—"

Cizhen glanced at the black-robed elder with a faint smile.

Boom!

The black-robed elder exploded into a bloody mist.

The supreme elites in the distance wore grave expressions, and their gazes were filled with fear as they stared at Cizhen.

The white-robed woman remained silent as she stared intently at Cizhen.

Cizhen turned to Cirou and Cishu with a smile and beckoned. "Come closer."

Cirou and Cishu walked up to Cizhen.

Cizhen looked at Cirou and said, "I know you've always wanted to share the burden of the Universe Tribulation with me. I'm aware of everything you've done so far."

Tears welled up in Cirou's eyes at Cizhen's remark. Cizhen wiped away Cirou's tears and continued, "I want you to support Little Guan upon my departure. He's talented, and he has a good nature, but he lacks experience. He needs enough time to grow, and I want you to do your best to provide him with enough time.

Cirou stared at Cizhen with tears in her eyes. "Is there really no other way?"

Cizhen merely smiled.

Rumble!

Just then, a figure enveloped in what looked like a blood-red mist emerged from the depths of the starry sky. The entire Milky Way was instantly shrouded by the same blood-red light, seemingly transforming into this massive blood-red canvas.

An ominous pressure bore down on everyone.

The supreme elites' expression changed drastically.

The Universe Tribulation was here!

Ye Guan turned to face the blood-red silhouette, and a deep sense of solemnity washed over him. He felt insignificantly small before the blood-red figure; everyone else felt the same, aside from the white-robed woman and Cizhen.

The incarnation of the Great Dao's evil form was here!

The blood-red mist vanished, revealing a woman underneath. The woman seemed to be made out of blood. Her blood-red hair fell casually over her shoulders, and even her eyes were in a terrifying blood-red.

The blood-red woman stared at Cizhen and said, "You'll inevitably fail to save this world."

"Let's put it to the test," Cizhen said with a smile.

The blood-red woman lifted a strand of her blood-red hair and teased, "Then, go ahead, try and suppress me again. Do you... dare?"

Cizhen chuckled. "If I were to do that, you'd make a breakthrough. The Evil Dao will completely engulf the Virtuous Dao inside of you, and you'll assimilate the Virtuous Dao, recovering your full strength as a result."

The blood-red woman remarked, "I wouldn't stand a chance against you if you were to abandon your humanity. Unfortunately, your heart has too many ties for you to abandon your humanity. I'm talking about the people around you and the myriad beings of your True Universe."

"Sister Zhen, why not let go of your humanity?" Ye Guan asked.

Cizhen smiled wryly. "Silly, I'd be no different from them if I were to do that."

Ye Guan froze and went silent.

The blood-red woman declared, "Holding on to your humanity today will cost you your life."

Cizhen ignored the blood-red woman and caressed Ye Guan's cheek, whispering, "Humanity carries attachments, while divinity is free from desires, unburdened by any constraints. Promise me—promise me that you won't sacrifice your humanity for the sake of invincibility.

"I want you to stay as a person with real emotions, not some indifferent divine being."

Tears welled up in Ye Guan's eyes as he said, "Sister Zhen, my aunt—"

"This is my own affair," Cizhen interrupted, smiling. "Why am I going to ask for help?"

Cizhen had her own pride to maintain, too!

Ye Guan wanted to say something when Cizhen continued, "This is our affair!"

Ours! Ye Guan went silent.

Cizhen gazed at Ye Guan and said, "If someone's going to help me, then it has to be you. Do you understand what I'm saying?"

Ye Guan shook his head as tears streamed down his face quietly. "I don't want to understand! I refuse to understand!"

Cizhen stepped forward and kissed Ye Guan. Moments later, she stepped back and stared into his eyes, saying, "Let's face this challenge together without asking for anyone's help, okay?"

Ye Guan shook his head vigorously and held Cizhen's hand with unwavering determination. "I don't care! If you're in danger, and I can't resolve it myself. I'm definitely going to ask for help!"

Cizhen lowered her head and muttered, "You will never be able to become invincible if you do that..."

Ye Guan looked at Cizhen and declared, "For you, I'm willing to be the King of Relying on Others. Please just don't complain that I'm too weak in the future!"

Cizhen lowered her head, and tears cascaded down her fair cheeks like pearls falling to the ground. When she looked up, however, her face beamed with a smile. Cizhen then tiptoed and kissed Ye Guan once more.

The blood-red woman stared alternately between Cizhen and Ye Guan, feeling uneasy for some reason. Eventually, her gaze landed on Ye Guan, and she said, "He's a variable that has to be eliminated. I'll restrain her, so kill him for me!"

Boom!

A mere thought from the blood-red woman was all it took for the Universe Tribulation to shatter Cizhen's suppression and erupt. A series of devastating attacks struck Cizhen, and a violent tremor ran across the entire vast expanse encompassing the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe.

A myriad beings trembled in the face of the Universe Tribulation's overwhelming pressure, and the pressure was so powerful that even Great Destiny Sovereigns and Cosmic Spirits felt as if they were a paltry ant before it.

Everyone felt as if the vast expanse was about to be annihilated, and everyone trembled violently.

A violent tremor ran through all living entities!

The white-robed woman stepped forward and stared at Ye Guan in the distance. She was about to speak when Cizhen lifted her right hand.

Boom!

The surrounding spacetime jerked violently, and a mysterious force swept across the crowd of supreme elites. The white-robed woman's eyes narrowed, and she immediately shouted, "Defend!"

Crackle!

An illusionary shield made out of what seemed like the abyss itself materialized above the heads of all the supreme elites in the crowd. It effortlessly dissipated Cizhen's attacks.

The white-robed woman glared at Ye Guan and exclaimed, "Die!"

Bam!

An inscrutable, mysterious flame ignited inside Ye Guan, consuming both his fleshly body and soul. Ye Guan panicked, but he couldn't do anything about the flame.

Meanwhile, Cizhen was focused on suppressing the Universe Tribulation. However, an extremely powerful aura gushed out of Cizhen, and her hair slowly became white.

The blood-red woman in the distance cast an incredulous gaze at Cizhen and exclaimed, "You're going to abandon your humanity?!"

The white-robed woman's eyes narrowed as she stared at Cizhen.

Cizhen placed her right hand on Ye Guan's shoulder.

Boom!

The mysterious flame inside Ye Guan was snuffed out. Cizhen let go of Ye Guan just then, and Ye Guan was astonished to see that the white-haired Ye Guan's eyes seemed indifferent to every living being.

The warmth of Cizhen's eyes was no more and had been replaced by that detached indifference.

However, the indifference vanished quickly and was replaced by the warmth Ye Guan was incredibly familiar with. Cizhen hugged Ye Guan and kissed him softly, whispering, "I'll entrust the final vestiges of my humanity to you. With you, I am Cizhen, and without you, I am the True God."

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Chapter 466: The Yang Family Must Agree

The True God!

Ye Guan's mind went blank as he stared at Cizhen. Cizhen turned and appeared in the white-robed woman. Cizhen stared indifferently into the white-robed woman's eyes, and a silent exchange unfolded between them.

However, the white-robed woman was devoid of any fear.

She wouldn't die if she didn't want to die. It didn't matter even if Cizhen had decided to abandon her humanity.

"Stall her, and I can make a breakthrough!" the blood-red woman exclaimed.

The white-robed woman shook her head gently. "It's too late."

"What do you mean?" the blood-red woman asked. However, a realization struck her almost immediately, and she stared at Cizhen, asking, "Are you crazy?"

Cizhen neither replied nor took her gaze off of the white-robed woman.

Cizhen was waiting for the white-robed woman's answer.

In the worst-case scenario, Cizhen could flip the entire table, ending everything. The white-robed woman knew that, and he turned to look at Ye Guan. Cizhen's final vestiges of humanity were with Ye Guan.

After a while, the white-robed woman said, "Do you really think that he will be able to surpass the Great Dao within the hundred years of time you've decided to buy for him?"

Cizhen said, "Perhaps he might not even need a hundred years."

The white-robed woman stared at Cizhen for a long time before nodding. "We will wait and see, then."

The white-robed woman turned around, and the Time River appeared in front of her.

The white-robed woman started walking toward the Time River, prompting the blood-red woman to cry out, "Are we going to give up just like that?!"

The white-robed woman stopped and replied, "She's become ninety percent divine, and I cannot stop her anymore."

The blood-red woman stared intently at the white-robed woman.

"What if we join forces?"

The white-robed woman shook her head. "It's not going to be enough."

The blood-red woman was astonished. However, she remained undeterred and pointed at Ye Guan in the distance. "What if we kill him?"

The white-robed woman shook her head once again and replied, "We cannot kill him because four swordsmen who are ninety percent divine are standing behind him."

The blood-red woman's pupils constricted as her expression darkened.

"Evil Dao, she's going to suppress you once more, but you'll make a breakthrough by then. A hundred years later, nothing can stop us anymore. You will merge with the Virtuous Dao by then, and we can kill her together."

The white-robed woman glanced at Ye Guan and remarked, "If he calls for help one more time in his lifetime, he will never be able to become invincible."

The white-robed woman turned around and entered the Time River.

The rest of the supreme elites entered the Time River as well. As they left, they cast one last glance at Ye Guan. If Ye Guan ended up dying, the True God would lose all of her humanity, and she would no longer suppress the Universe Tribulation.

The blood-red woman stared at Cizhen as if she were pitiful and said, "How dumb. You actually chose to shed your mortal coil and abandon humanity to suppress me in your true form, all for the sake of a man. You are going to lose this gamble."

"He's not going to become invincible in just a hundred years!"

The blood-red woman's figure became more and more blurry as she spoke, and when the final syllable of her sentence echoed, the blood-red woman vanished completely.

Cizhen with a bed of white hair was quiet as she started flying away.

Ye Guan called out, "Sister Zhen!"

Cizhen stopped, but she didn't turn around. Ye Guan walked up to her and stared intently at her back. Cizhen's voice was losing its warmth as she said, "Do you still remember what I told you earlier? This is our affair..."

"I know," Ye Guan said, nodding, "I have a deadline of a hundred years, and I have to save you before time is up."

Cizhen clenched her hands tightly, but she didn't say anything in response.

"I also know that you did all this to stop me from calling for help.

"The reason my father managed to achieve Divine Transcendence and become invincible despite calling for my aunt's help was that my aunt's final vestiges of humanity were with him.

"However, I'm not in the same situation as my father. I don't have my aunt, my father, or even my grandfather's final vestiges of humanity, so I can't ask for their help."

Ye Guan lowered his head slightly and said, "Sister Zhen, I understand what you're trying to do, but I really can't bear to let you go..."

Tears welled up slowly in Cizhen's eyes as she stared into the distance. After a long time, she said, "I'll be waiting for you in the Tribulation Realm."

Cizhen resumed walking, and her figure became more and more blurry with each step while the Universe Tribulation that had pervaded the starry sky was fading away along with Cizhen's figure.

Ye Guan stared at Cizhen with his fists clenched and eyes bloodshot.

When Cizhen vanished, the Universe Tribulation disappeared as well.

The starry sky was calm once more, but Ye Guan remained frozen and silent.

Cirou and Cishu walked up to Ye Guan.

Cirou asked, "Do you have any plans?"

Ye Guan pondered for quite a while before saying, "First of all, let's go and meet the Great Daoist Brush Master. I need to know the identity of that white-robed woman."

Ye Guan vanished with the two women in tow, arriving on the summit of Mount Fanjing in the proverbial blink of an eye.

Ao Qianqian was in the middle of a breakthrough inside the world in the tiny pagoda, so only Ye Guan, Cirou, and Cishu were around.

The Great Daoist Brush Master was sitting on the stone steps, and his expression didn't even change upon seeing Ye Guan.

Ye Guan asked, "Which side are you on?"

"Strictly speaking, I am on neither side," replied the Great Daoist Brush Master.

Ye Guan's brows furrowed instantly.

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Ye Guan and said, "Their goal is to suppress the Virtuous Dao and allow Evil Dao to destroy all living beings in the vast expanse. The vast expanse's healing is their goal, but it's only because it's aligned with their true goal of achieving immortality."

Ye Guan frowned deeply and asked, "I thought that white-robed woman is already immortal?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master replied, "She's immortal, but the people around her aren't immortal. Like the True God and your father, they've entrusted the final vestiges trace of their humanity to someone else!"

"Who is she?" Ye Guan asked.

"I'll tell you later. Anyway, technically, you can say that they've been maintaining the order of the universe as well because destroying all living beings in the vast expanse and allowing them to propagate naturally is a part of the Great Dao's cycle."

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head and said, "In fact, the Evil Dao is supposed to annihilate all living beings. However, she knows that she cannot be public enemy number one, so she gathered a group of supreme elites by promising them eternal life. She promised to bestow them with eternal life as soon as the myriad beings of the vast expanse are annihilated."

"She gathered those experts?" Ye Guan asked.

The Great Daoist Brush Master rolled his eyes and said, "Do you really think that the incarnation of the Evil Dao is dumb? I'm sure you have no idea, but the supreme elites from the distant past are already on her side."

Ye Guan asked, "What about the Virtuous Dao?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master went silent. After a while, he replied, "The goal of the Virtuous Dao is to turn the entire universe into something similar to the Milky Way. A myriad beings will have limited lifespans, and they cannot cultivate as well!"

Ye Guan's frown deepened.

"It seems that you have the same goal as the True God: suppress Evil Dao without cutting off the path of cultivation."

"Doesn't that mean that if we follow the Virtuous Dao..." Ye Guan trailed off.

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded, confirming Ye Guan's doubts. "You have to kill every single living supreme elite or cripple them. The True God hasn't been able to do such a thing, and I'm sure you can't do it as well."

Ye Guan nodded. There's no way I can do that!

How could I possibly kill every single supreme elite throughout the vast expanse?!

Crippling them was an impossible task as well. The Great Daoist Brush Master stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "I'm not going to stand on the side of that white-robed woman, but I'm not going to stand on your side, too.

"I'm on the Virtuous Dao's side!"

Ye Guan was silent. He finally understood. The Great Daoist Brush Master ended up getting suppressed because he had chosen to kill every single supreme elite at the time to establish a vast expanse similar to Blue Planet.

"All three factions can't have their cake and eat it, too," the Great Daoist Brush Master said with a smile and added, "You have to make a decision. The True God has given you a hundred years to decide.

"She knows that the Universe Tribulation can't be suppressed forever and that she has to make a decision eventually. However, she decided to give you the option to choose."

Ye Guan was quiet. The Great Daoist Brush Master stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "Between the Virtuous Dao and the Evil Dao, you must choose one. If you choose the Virtuous Dao, then I will assist you!"

"I choose the Virtuous Dao!" Ye Guan immediately replied.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's deep gaze remained on Ye Guan as he said, "You better make an oath first. The Yang Family lacks credibility, and each one of you has a penchant for deceiving others!"

"Aside from the Virtuous Dao, are there any other choices?" asked Ye Guan.

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head. "No, but you can annihilate the Great Dao itself. Unfortunately, doing that means annihilating the vast expanse, too."

Ye Guan nodded. "I choose Virtuous Dao, then."

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Ye Guan and snapped, "I'm not going to believe your nonsense!"

"If there's no better choice for me to take a hundred years later, then I'm going to choose the Virtuous Dao and establish a new order so that the vast expanse will become akin to Blue Planet. What do you think of this plan?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master was quiet for a long time. "Are you not lying to me?"

Ye Guan nodded. "The Yang Family never lies—"

However, Ye Guan stopped himself mid-sentence.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's eyes narrowed, but he didn't say anything in the end.

"You don't have a choice as well, do you?" Ye Guan pointed out.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's eyes flashed coldly. "What do you mean?"

Ye Guan stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master and said, "Even if I don't choose the Virtuous Dao, who in the world would dare to eliminate the Yang Family? The Yang Family must agree, or a new order cannot be established."

The Great Daoist Brush Master was silent. Ye Guan was right!

In reality, the biggest threat to the universe was the Yang Family! The Yang Family had to agree, or a monumental decision about the vast expanse couldn't be made.

And who would dare to eliminate them? Those daring enough were already dead.

Establishing a new order required the approval of the Yang Family, regardless of whether you had chosen the Evil Dao or the Virtuous Dao! Establishing any order would remain nothing but a pipe dream without the Yang Family's approval.

In other words, only the members of the Yang Family could establish a new order.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's expression was complicated as he said, "I know what you're thinking, but you have to understand that the vast expanse cannot thrive while supporting so many immortal cultivators.

"How can a myriad beings live if even the vast expanse cannot live?

"I also want the survival of a myriad beings, and I want them to cultivate freely while pursuing immortality. However, the vast expanse simply cannot carry the weight of so many immortal cultivators!"

"I understand." Ye Guan nodded and stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master before asking, "You still haven't told me that woman's identity? Who is she? Is she really immortal?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master was quiet for a long time before explaining, "She is the Clan Leader of the Past Clan, and she's infamous for slaughtering an entire era.

"Come to think about it, she actually has a connection with you."

Ye Guan frowned.

Chapter 467: Goodbye

A connection with him?

Upon hearing the words of the Great Daoist Brush Master, Ye Guan was immediately puzzled. Seeing Ye Guan's confusion, the Great Daoist Brush Master explained, "The Past Clan appeared in your father's era."

Ye Guan frowned. "My father's era?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded but went silent. Seeing that the Great Daoist Brush Master was unwilling to provide more details, Ye Guan didn't press on with the question. He stared deeply at the Great Daoist Brush Master and asked, "Are you willing to assist me sincerely?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master met Ye Guan's gaze and said, "If you're genuinely willing to establish a completely new order and make this vast expanse a better place, then I'm going to assist you sincerely."

"How are you going to assist me? Or rather, how can you help me?"

Ye Guan knew it was unrealistic for him to fight the Time Reversers by himself. Moreover, he couldn't ask for help anymore, so he needed to build alliances and create a team.

Was establishing order something an individual could do by themselves?

No, it was impossible for a lone individual to do such a thing!

Ye Guan reckoned that even his plain-skirt aunt couldn't do it by herself.

However, she could destroy an order by herself.

Ye Guan needed allies—capable allies who would help him resist the Evil Dao and establish a new order. The Great Daoist Brush Master was definitely strong enough for that, so Ye Guan knew that he had to get the Great Daoist Brush Master's help.

He couldn't let the Great Daoist Brush Master join the opposing camp!

After a long silence, the Great Daoist Brush Master said, "You only have a hundred years, just a hundred years..."

Ye Guan shook his head. "I don't have a hundred years. Those supreme elites will soon come after me. There's no way they'll actually give me a hundred years, which is why my top priority right now is to withstand their attacks..."

Ye Guan cast an expectant gaze at the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's expression changed subtly. "Why are you staring at me? Do you really think I can defeat all of them?"

Ye Guan adopted a serious tone as he said, "You're one of the Four Swords. If you can't even stop them, then there's no need for us to even talk about establishing a new order.

"They'll definitely attack me, but I need enough time to grow to defeat them. With that in mind, I will need you to stall them. Buy some time for me."

"Wait!" the Great Daoist Brush Master felt uncomfortable upon hearing Ye Guan's words, and he urgently cried out, "We need a long-term plan!"

Ye Guan looked into the Great Daoist Brush Master's eyes and nodded. "I'm open to your suggestions."

The Great Daoist Brush Master cast an odd gaze upon Ye Guan. He couldn't shake off the feeling that he was being lured into a trap.

Meanwhile, Cirou was staring at Ye Guan with a complicated expression. She had feared that Cizhen's departure would cast Ye Guan into a prolonged state of sadness, but her concerns proved unfounded.

Cirou finally understood why her big sister chose him.

Ye Guan was young, but given enough time, he would blossom into a true powerhouse among supreme elites. Cirou realized just then that her opinion of him had been wrong all this while, and it was all because she had always been nitpicking his shortcomings, ignoring Ye Guan's young age.

The moment Cirou considered Ye Guan as equal to her, she realized that the latter was brilliant with a ton of potential.

"The True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe's elites working together are enough to stall those from the Time River for a hundred years. In other words, there's no need for me to intervene.

"Elites? Who are they?" Ye Guan asked with narrowed eyes.

The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Ye Guan. "You have to make some sacrifices."

"Sacrifices?" Ye Guan inquired, sounding curious.

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan's voice deepened. "What sacrifices are you talking about?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master opened his palm and asked, "Is the Universe Map with you? If so, give it to me."

Ye Guan decisively handed over the Universe Map to the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master waved his sleeve, and the Universe Map spread open. Pointing to a region south on the map, the Great Daoist Brush Master explained, "This place has an ancient empire called Eternal Night Empire. Its denizens possess a unique energy—the Eternal Energy. It's second only to Dao Origins and Ancestral Origins.

"In fact, they are so strong that you will lose without the True Universe's help. Their Eternal Night Army is especially strong, and they are a terrifying force made out of Great Sovereigns."

Ye Guan asked, "Are you suggesting that we establish an alliance with them?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master stared at Ye Guan and said, "They won't do that."

"Why? They'll die if the Universe Tribulation is allowed to erupt," Ye Guan said.

The Great Daoist Brush Master questioned him, "Who is the target of those Time Reversers?"

Ye Guan sighed. If he were in the shoes of the Eternal Night Army, he wouldn't establish an alliance with himself as well. It sounded cold, but it was simply human nature.

"It's not impossible," the Great Daoist Brush Master said.

Ye Guan asked, "What do I have to sacrifice?"

"Your body," the Great Daoist Brush Master replied calmly.

Ye Guan frowned. "What?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master stared at Ye Guan and explained, "An alliance is impossible, but a marriage alliance can be established."

Ye Guan's voice turned solemn as he asked, "Are you saying that I have to marry into them?"

"I'm talking about you, of course."

"No, no, no," Ye Guan said, shaking his head. Then, he grabbed Cirou and Cishu's hands and said, "My heart only has room for Little Rou and Little Shu."

The Great Daoist Brush Master remained silent in the face of Ye Guan's declaration.

Cirou glanced at Ye Guan and asked, "Just in your heart?"

Ye Guan smiled wryly and asked, "Do you really want me to marry into them?"

Cirou looked away and teased, "Who can say that you actually dislike the idea?"

Cirou attempted to free herself from Ye Guan's grasp, but he refused to let go. In the end, she relented and stopped struggling.

Ye Guan smiled bitterly. Cirou was really difficult to handle. Ye Guan decided to turn to Cishu, but Cishu merely smiled before saying, "What if she's incredibly beautiful?"

Ye Guan gave the hands of the two women a firm squeeze and said, "Does their beauty really matter to me when you two are the most important to me?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master cast a contemptuous gaze upon Ye Guan and said, "If I hadn't been aware of your numerous marriages, I would have for your words."

Ye Guan lifted an eyebrow.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's expression turned serious as he said, "Stop it with coaxing, will you? Can you hear me out first? The leader of the Eternal Night Realm is the Eternal Night Clan, and they possess a unique bloodline—the Eternal Night Bloodline.

"It is on par with your Phoenix Emperor Bloodline, but it is slightly inferior to your Mad Demon Bloodline and your last remaining bloodline. You have three distinct, incredibly powerful bloodlines, which means you can significantly enhance their bloodline. I believe they'd find it difficult to refuse a marriage alliance with you."

"Senior, I'm forging the path of invincibility," replied Ye Guan in a deep voice.

The Great Daoist Brush Master sighed. "You're being too narrow-minded. Your grandfather and father have embraced more shameless paths to invincibility. Would a marriage alliance truly tarnish your pursuit of invincibility?"

Ye Guan fell into silence.

The Great Daoist Brush Master continued, "With the Eternal Night Empire's aid, both the True Universe and Guanxuan Universe will become incredibly strong, and you will see a significant reduction in casualties for the upcoming battle. The Eternal Night Empire also has a unique array—the Eternal Night Array. It's capable of sealing the spacetime of the vast expanse, suppressing powerful intruders."

Ye Guan inquired, "Senior, why not form an alliance rather than a marriage alliance?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head. "I know you're hesitant, but think about it. As I said earlier, the Time Reverers are after you, so why would the Eternal Night Empire be worried? Why would they assist you if they stood nothing to gain?"

Ye Guan remained reluctant. "Must it be a marriage alliance?"

"It's the path with the highest chance of success," the Great Daoist Brush Master explained, "I actually think that they might even refuse your offer. The Eternal Night Clan of this vast expanse is extremely prideful, after all."

Ye Guan went silent.

"Just give it a shot!" Cirou chimed in.

Ye Guan stared at Cirou.

Cirou added, "No need to overthink it. I'm not saying that you should sacrifice yourself outright. Let's just try talking to them."

Ye Guan smiled. "I get it."

Cirou shot him a look but went silent.

Ye Guan turned to the Great Daoist Brush Master and said, "Senior, we still have to visit the Eternal Night Realm. When should we depart?"

"Tomorrow. I've got some matters to attend to today," the Great Daoist Brush Master replied.

"Tomorrow it is, then," said Ye Guan with a nod before turning around to leave.

The Great Daoist Brush Master cast a worried gaze upon Ye Guan's departing figure. Ye Guan's situation was growing increasingly dire.

Just then, a fat monk rushed up to the Great Daoist Brush Master and pointed at him. "You're slacking off again. Do you not want to eat anymore?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master glared at the fat monk and pointed at the massive stone lion before them.

"Watch this!" the Great Daoist Brush Master exclaimed and slapped the half-a-ton stone lion.

Boom!

The stone lion crumbled.

The fat monk was so shocked that he collapsed. "W-w-what?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master walked over to another stone lion and slapped it.

Boom!

The stone lion was reduced to mere dust. The Great Daoist Brush Master then turned to the pale and terrified fat monk, saying, "Yes, I do not want to eat. What? You wanna hit me?"

...

Ye Guan entered Cizhen's room along with Cirou and Cishu.

The three were struck by sorrow upon stepping into the room.

Just then, Ye Guan walked up to the desk and found a letter as well as a book on the desk. The book was the final volume of Cizhen's book—she had truly completed her book!

Ye Guan put away the book and shifted his gaze to the letter.

After a moment's hesitation, Ye Guan unfolded it and started reading it.

"Hehe, I knew you'd come back here... I have many things I want to say, but I don't want to appear too sentimental, so let's keep it simple: Buddy, I really wish we could get drunk together again, visit that tribal village again, and wear those beautiful tribal clothes again. Anyway, look after those three rascals for me. Take care of yourself, too, and goodbye..."

Chapter 468: Who Would Dare to Turn Me Away?

Goodbye!

Ye Guan's eyes reddened, and a wave of emotions filled his heart, making it feel heavy in his chest. Beside him, Cirou and Cishu gripped each other's hands tightly, shedding silent tears.

After a while, Ye Guan returned the letter into the envelope and put it away.

Then, he turned to the two women behind him and said, "She's going to be okay."

Cishu nodded, but Cirou was silent as she lowered her head and looked down at the ground.

Ye Guan grabbed Cirou's hand and spoke with conviction, "Trust me."

Cirou gazed up at Ye Guan as tears welled up in her eyes. Ye Guan wiped her tears away and reassured, "If I fail, I'll give up my pursuit of invincibility and become the King of Relying on Others instead. I'll do it if that's what it takes to keep her safe."

More and more tears dripped down Cirou's cheeks.

Ye Guan chuckled at the sight before asking, "Why are you crying?"

Cirou shook her head, refusing to answer.

Ye Guan suggested, "Let's sleep."

The two women blushed instantly as Ye Guan carried them one by one and laid them down gently on the bed. Ye Guan sat in the middle of the two women and felt incredibly comfortable. This was a scenario that only a few people could enjoy.

Cirou felt a bit uneasy. She tried to get up, but Ye Guan grabbed her hand and said, "Stay put!"

Cirou glanced at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan reassured her, saying, "Relax, I'm not going to do anything bad."

Cirou hesitated briefly before scooting a bit farther from Ye Guan.

"Will you accompany me to the Eternal Night Realm?" Ye Guan asked.

Cirou shook her head. "No."

Ye Guan looked at her, seemingly asking for an explanation.

Cirou replied, "We still have to get ready to confront the Time Reversers, so I have to go back to the True Universe."

"I see. Indeed, the True Universe truly needs your guidance," Ye Guan replied. Then, he turned to Cishu and muttered, "Little Shu..."

Cishu smiled. "Don't worry, I will take care of myself and the child."

Ye Guan's hand stroked Cishu's abdomen. Cishu neither resisted nor scolded him for it. Cishu wasn't exactly the reserved type, and she had already given herself to him, so a light stroking was nothing.

"I didn't expect to become a father so soon," Ye Guan said.

Cishu looked up at Ye Guan and asked, "Are you happy?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes, I am very happy."

Cishu's eyes narrowed into a smile, but she soon glared at Ye Guan upon realizing that his hand was sliding downward. However, Ye Guan showed no signs of giving up; Cishu's cheeks flushed.

Cirou noticed that and said, "Why don't you guys have fun here? I'll sleep in another room."

Cishu shot a disapproving look at Ye Guan and signaled at him discreetly.

Ye Guan stopped Cirou before she could stand up. Cirou's expression was calm, and she didn't say anything as Ye Guan laid her gently on the bed.

"Let's talk. Who knows when we'll meet each other again?"

Cirou nodded and asked, "Do you trust the Great Daoist Brush Master?"

Ye Guan nodded. "I do."

"Why?"

Ye Guan explained, "Aunt wouldn't have released him if he were a threat to me."

Cirou was silent.

Ye Guan shared his thoughts, saying, "He is not evil. We can choose not to work with him, but we must ensure that he doesn't stand on the Past Clan's side."

Cirou nodded in acknowledgment. Things would become incredibly dangerous for them if the Great Daoist Brush Master decided to stand on the Past Clan's side.

Cirou recalled something and asked, "What about the Eternal Night Empire?"

Ye Guan replied, "Sister Zhen had mentioned them to me, and she told me that the Eternal Night Empire is located in a place fortified with many restrictions, preventing outsiders from entering and its denizens from leaving so easily."

"If the Great Daoist Brush Master hasn't lied to me, then the Eternal Night Array is going to be incredibly useful to us."

The True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe would find it difficult to handle the Time Reversers, so the Eternal Night Array would be immensely helpful to them.

Ye Guan's face revealed deep concern as he thought about the upcoming battle. He had no confidence at all, considering the prowess of the Past Clan's clan leader.

Cirou noticed the tumultuous emotions inside Ye Guan, and she took the initiative to hold his hand before reassuring him softly, "No matter what, we'll stand by your side."

Ye Guan turned to meet Cirou's gaze, and Cirou immediately looked away.

Ye Guan smiled lightly and closed his eyes. The Dao he had chosen—the Invincible Sword Dao was proving to be a challenging one.

After a while, Ye Guan was reminded of something, and he said, "Little Rou, I want you to reach out to Aunt Niannian and tell her everything."

The Guanxuan Universe had to be prepared as well.

Cirou nodded. "You don't need to worry about the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe. I'll take care of them."

Ye Guan chuckled and smiled brightly. "I'm not worried; I have faith in you, after all!"

Cirou's heart fluttered at Ye Guan's bright smile.

The trio talked to each other until sleep finally embraced them.

However, Ye Guan found the experience to be both heavenly and hellish at the same time. He regretted sleeping together with both of them on his side. He couldn't do anything, as the other would get up and attempt to leave if he were to try and do something on the other.

When Ye Guan opened his eyes once more, the room was still shrouded in darkness. Ye Guan looked out the window and noticed Cirou lying peacefully in his embrace. Cirou was dressed in a qipao[1], a distinctive clothing found only on the Blue Planet. The qipao stuck closely to her skin, accentuating her captivating figure.

The sight ignited a fire within Ye Guan. After a brief contemplation, he turned and lowered his lips to kiss Cirou. Ye Guan kissed her gently, but it was a kiss full of unspoken emotions.

Cirou opened her eyes slowly and met Ye Guan's gaze. However, she didn't say anything upon realizing that he was kissing her. Ye Guan took Cirou's silence as acknowledgment, so Ye Guan became bolder.

As the atmosphere grew more and more intimate, Ye Guan's lips and hands became increasingly more playful. Cirou bit Ye Guan's lip, unable to withstand Ye Guan's daring movements.

Ye Guan backed away and stared at Cirou's flushed face.

"If you want to do it, Little Shu should—"

Ye Guan shook his head.

Cirou was a bit uneasy. "What are you..."

Ye Guan hugged Cirou and asked, "You're not comfortable with all this, are you?"

Cirou lowered her head without a word, but she scooted away from Ye Guan.

Ye Guan noticed that and sighed. Then, he let go of Cirou and said, "I apologize."

Ye Guan had no intention of forcing those unwilling. Ye Guan could also sense that Cirou still had some reservations about him. The entire room went silent as Ye Guan sprawled out on the bed and closed his eyes.

Cirou tugged at Ye Guan's sleeve.

Ye Guan turned to Cirou.

"Are you upset?" Cirou asked.

Ye Guan shook his head.

Cirou stared quietly at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan pondered briefly before saying, "I may have deduced your feelings for me wrongly, as I made a deduction based on our past interactions. I apologize for that. Anyway, we have a common goal of helping Sister Zhen, so I believe we can still work together as friends or partners for a common goal."

Cirou stared at Ye Guan; she wanted to say something, but she found herself unable to speak.

Ye Guan looked out the window and saw that it was daybreak. He glanced at Cishu, who was sound asleep, before standing up and heading into the bathroom. Ye Guan freshened up with cold water.

When Ye Guan stepped out of the bathroom, he found Cishu and Cirou standing in front of him.

Ye Guan was surprised to see them.

Cishu stared at Ye Guan with narrowed eyes. "Were you planning on leaving without saying goodbye?"

Ye Guan chuckled. "Of course not. Besides, a trip to the Eternal Night Empire won't take much time. If everything goes smoothly, I won't have to stay there for a long time. Otherwise, I'll immediately go back."

Cishu walked up to Ye Guan and tiptoed to fix his messy collar. Then, Cishu leaned closer to his ear and whispered, "Take care, all right. If things start to feel off, don't hesitate to make a break for it, okay?"

"I'm going with the Great Daoist Brush Master, so don't worry," Ye Guan said, chuckling. "That guy definitely has a few tricks up his sleeve."

"Still, it's better to err on the side of caution," Cishu replied.

Ye Guan nodded and hugged Cishu. "Look after yourself and the little one. If there's ever any danger, I want you to head to the Guanyuan Universe and seek out Senior An's help."

Ye Guan was talking about An Nanjing with an incredibly powerful backer, who was none other than Ye Guan's grandfather.

Cishu nodded.

Ye Guan kissed Cishu's lips and finally turned to Cirou. "Lady Cirou, I'll leave the True Universe, the Guanyuan Universe, and Little Shu in your care."

With that, Ye Guan wasted no time and vanished into thin air.

Cirou lowered her head and went silent.

Cishu held Cirou's hand and sighed to herself, saying nothing. Cishu knew that Ye Guan was now regarding Cirou as a friend or a partner with a common goal by addressing Cirou as "Lady Cirou."

Unfortunately, it wasn't a matter Cishu could get involved in.

"Second Sister, let's go," Cishu said.

Cirou nodded, and the two vanished into thin air.

...

Ye Guan soon arrived in the starry sky above the Milky Way.

A middle-aged man was standing in that patch of the starry sky, waiting for him.

The Great Daoist Brush Master eyed Ye Guan and said. "How handsome. You're perfect for a marriage alliance."

"Senior, I heard that outsiders can't enter the Eternal Night Empire. Can we really get in there?" Ye Guan asked.

The Great Daoist Brush Master burst out laughing and said, "Have you already forgotten my identity? Who would dare to turn me away?"

Ye Guan narrowed his eyes at the Great Daoist Brush Master's words.

"If that's the case, then it's great," Ye Guan remarked.

The Great Daoist Brush Master smiled proudly and said, "Let's go."

The two soon disappeared into the depths of the starry sky.

...

Milky Way Academy.

Xuanyuan Ling arrived early at the Sword Dao Department, feeling both nervous and anxious. She wanted to speak to Ye Guan. During their last meeting, Xuanyuan Ling wanted to draw a clear, demarcating line between them, but she found it difficult to do so.

Upon learning that Ye Guan was about to leave Blue Planet, Xuanyuan Ling was instantly nervous, allowing her to confirm that she truly had feelings for Ye Guan.

Xuanyuan Ling was both nervous and expectant as she walked into the Sword Dao Department's training grounds. However, she only found Mu Wanyu, Shuang Shuang, and Mu Yun. Ye Guan was nowhere to be found.

Mu Wanyu rushed over to Xuanyuan Ling and said, "Good morning, Sister Ling!"

Xuanyuan Ling looked around and asked, "Where is he?"

"Little Guan?" Mu Wanyu asked.

Xuanyuan Ling nodded.

Mu Wanyu's expression darkened as she said, "He already left."

He left? Xuanyuan Ling froze.

Mu Wanyu's heart clenched, and she muttered, "Sister Ling..."

Xuanyuan Ling looked at Mu Wanyu and interrupted, "Did he say goodbye to you?"

Mu Wanyu nodded.

Hearing that, a wave of bitterness swept past Xuanyuan Ling's heart. Xuanyuan Ling looked up, and her eyes glazed over in contemplation. It was painful, but the reality was that she might never stumble upon him again in this lifetime of hers.

Chapter 469: Start A New Lineage

Under the vast expanse of stars, Ye Guan flew on his sword, accompanied by the Great Daoist Brush Master.

It had already been three days since they left Blue Planet. Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master had done nothing but travel across the starry sky over the past three days. Ye Guan could no longer count how many star fields they went through, as they were strong enough to traverse an entire star field with just a single thought.

The vast expanse was indeed vast and boundless!

Ye Guan suddenly asked, "Senior, are we in the territory of the Eternal Night Empire?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master replied, "We're in another splendid civilization."

Ye Guan looked at the Great Daoist Brush Master and asked, "Another civilization?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "Their martial arts is very advanced, especially the Eternal Night Clan's. Their clan leader cultivates the King Dao, which is a special kind of Dao that utilizes the wishes of sentient beings."

Ye Guan asked, "Faith power?"

"Something like that, but there's a difference. Wish power is more terrifying than faith power."

"In what way?"

"To explain this, I will first need to talk about the system in the Eternal Night Empire. Apart from the Eternal Night Clan, there is another clan known as the Eternal Clan. These two clans originally belonged to one lineage. The first ancestor of the Eternal Clan was a woman who left the Eternal Night Clan to start a lineage of her own..."

Ye Guan was shocked. Starting a whole new lineage sounds really impressive!

The Great Daoist Brush Master suddenly asked, "What? Would you like to start your own lineage as well?"

Ye Guan shook his head. "No! I have no such thoughts!"

You must be kidding. If I were to try and start my own lineage, I'm going to die without knowing why.

The Great Daoist Brush Master smiled. "It seems like you have such thoughts, though."

Ye Guan was at a loss for words.

The Great Daoist Brush Master continued, "Later on, the two clans vied for control over the Eternal Night Empire, and the conflict caused significant damage to their empire."

Ye Guan asked, "Who won in the end?"

"They both won," the Great Daoist Brush Master replied.

Ye Guan was puzzled. The Great Daoist Brush Master smiled. "Do you know how the emperor of the Eternal Night Empire is decided?"

"How?"

"It's decided by competition!"

"The emperor of the Eternal Night Empire can only rule for a maximum of three hundred years. The emperor can cultivate the King Dao Art during those three hundred years. If the emperor wins the favor of the people, the masses will elect him to be the emperor again.

"If they fail to do so, they must step down after three hundred years. Once they step down, they will no longer be able to cultivate the King Dao Art. Hence, every emperor will do everything they can to gain the favor of the people."

Ye Guan was silent. It was an unprecedented ruling system.

The Great Daoist Brush Master continued, "Every three hundred years, the two clans would send out a talented individual to compete for the emperor position."

Then, he looked at Ye Guan and said, "Speaking of which, the election is coming up soon. Upon arriving, let's stay quiet and observe the situation from the sidelines. Then, we'll form an alliance with the winner. After all, both clans have the King Dao Bloodline."

Ye Guan asked, "Senior, you mentioned earlier that I have three bloodlines, and you seem to be quite familiar with them. Can you tell me more about my third bloodline?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Ye Guan with surprise and asked, "You don't know about it?"

"I don't..."

"Then you'll find out soon enough."

Ye Guan frowned.

The Great Daoist Brush Master said, "Focus on your Mad Demon Bloodline and your Phoenix Emperor Bloodline first. We'll talk about your third one once you've stabilized them."

"Is my third bloodline perhaps even stronger than the Mad Demon Bloodline and the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan's pupils constricted, and he exclaimed, "That's impossible! The Mad Demon Bloodline is the strongest!"

The Great Daoist Brush Master smiled. "Your third bloodline is indeed stronger than the Mad Demon Bloodline. Actually, it can be said to be the most powerful !"

Ye Guan said, "My father has the Mad Demon Bloodline, and my mother has the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline. Where did my third bloodline come from?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master chuckled, rendering Ye Guan speechless.

This guy is really teasing me! Fuck! I really want to give him a good beating! Ye Guan lampooned inwardly. However, there wasn't really anything he could do if the Great Daoist Brush Master wasn't willing to tell him anything.

Ye Guan was really curious about his third bloodline. Bloodline power couldn't appear out of nowhere, unless there was a mutation in his blood. Ye Guan was sure that his blood hadn't mutated, so his third bloodline had to have come from somewhere.

Stronger than the Mad Demon Bloodline? Ye Guan glanced at the Great Daoist Brush Master. I think this guy is just messing with me.

The Great Daoist Brush Master suddenly said, "I know you're against arranged marriages, but if we can get the support of the Eternal Night Empire, you'll earn more time, and we all know that what you need is time. Relying solely on the True Universe and the Guanxuan Universe will not be enough."

Ye Guan was silent.

"Your grandfather also had arranged marriages back in his day..." The Great Daoist Brush Master trailed off.

Ye Guan looked at the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master earnestly added, "It's true. He had many wives, and many of them were arranged marriages..."

Feeling a little guilty for talking about Ye Guan's grandfather behind the latter's back, The Great Daoist Brush Master surreptitiously looked around.

Ye Guan thought for a few moments before saying, "Senior, we're going to the Eternal Night Empire with a purpose, and they're not fools as well; how could they possibly..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head with a smile and said, "You're still a bit too naive."

Ye Guan looked baffled.

The Great Daoist Brush Master explained, "Who wouldn't want to gain ultimate power and strength? Social status and marriages between influential families are frequent, even in a small place like Blue Planet.

"We must get the Eternal Night Empire's support, or we will be in an extremely difficult situation once those Time Reversers make their move."

Ye Guan stared into the starry sky and went silent.

Ye Guan felt helpless. He finally understood what it meant to feel helpless. He finally realized that oftentimes, things wouldn't go according to one's desires. It was even more pronounced for Ye Guan, as his sword was far from invincible.

the Great Daoist Brush Master suddenly said, "I've already sent someone to investigate those Time Reversers."

Ye Guan emptied his mind and asked, "Investigate?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "We need to know more about the strength of those Time Reversers and the information that's being exchanged between them. Otherwise, we'll suffer a big loss."

Ye Guan was slightly curious. "Who did you send to investigate them?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master replied, "That's a secret!"

Ye Guan shook his head and chuckled wryly.

"Little bastard, I've put everything on the line for you. I even made enemies out of those people just for you. You should know that we used to stay out of each other's business. In other words, I've been neutral, but it's a different story now.

"I've decided to stand against them, so you better not fool me. Otherwise, you'll become a failure of a human being."

Ye Guan said, "Senior, if I can't think of a better idea by then, I'll follow your suggestion."

"I believe in you," the Great Daoist Brush Master said.

Ye Guan asked, "Senior, have you also considered choosing my father?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded.

Ye Guan was a little puzzled. "Why did you not choose him in the end?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head and said, "Your father was too unpredictable and really likes to fool people. If I had chosen him, he would have taken everything from me, including my underwear!

"You're not exactly an honest individual, but you're not as unpredictable as your father, so I decided to pick you."

Ye Guan smiled without saying anything.

The Great Daoist Brush Master stared into the depths of the starry and said, "The world has been chaotic for way too long. It needs a new order, a system that will allow the universe and all living beings to grow peacefully."

Ye Guan stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master with a complicated expression. He used to be wary of the latter, but now, it seemed like the Great Daoist Brush Master wasn't exactly a bad person.

Establish a new order... Ye Guan closed his eyes slowly. The scale had changed from the Guanyuan Universe to the entire vast expanse. Knowing that, Ye Guan had to make sure that his choices were the right choices. Was establishing a new order going to be difficult? Of course, it would be difficult, but it seemed to be the right choice!

Just then, the Great Daoist Brush Master said, "We're almost there."

Ye Guan looked up and realized that the surroundings had gotten significantly dark.

"Senior, why did the Eternal Night Empire decide to isolate itself?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master answered, "For two reasons. First of all, they're not interested in the outside world. Secondly and lastly, they don't want people from the outside world to enter their territory, either.

"After all, they're strong, and they're afraid that outsiders will covet their power, especially those Time Reversers."

"I've never really encountered Time Reversers before. How come they're like cabbages now?"

"The laws of Time and the Great Dao have been restricting them. Back then, if they were to travel from the past to the present, they would end up getting targeted by the laws of Time and the Great Dao, but now..."

"The Clan Leader of the Past Clan is helping them resist the laws of Time and the Great Dao?"

"Yes..."

"That woman... she's giving me a headache."

"She wanted to kill me the moment she laid eyes on me."

"Well, she recognized your value as a variable. It was a good thing the True God stopped her from killing you."

Ye Guan wanted to ask more questions, but the Great Daoist Brush Master said, "We're here."

Ye Guan retracted his thoughts and looked into the distance.

They were about to enter a star field. There was silence all around, and the star field was extremely dim. There was also a heavy and oppressive feeling that bore down on the two of them.

Soon, a terrifying pressure enveloped them.

Ye Guan's eyes narrowed. The terrifying pressure was an aura that belonged to a Great Destiny Sovereign, at the very least.

The Great Daoist Brush Master adjusted his clothes and took a step forward. "Tell your emperor that the Great Daoist Brush Master is here. Get him to come out and welcome me properly."

"The Great Daoist Brush Master?" A voice echoed from the distant star field.

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded with a smile. "Yes, it's me."

"I've never heard of the Great Daoist Brush Master or something. Get lost!"

Ye Guan: ...

Chapter 470: Showing Off

They've never heard of the Great Daoist Brush Master?

Ye Guan looked at the Great Daoist Brush Master with a strange expression. Seems like this guy's reputation isn't as widespread as I thought.

Meanwhile, the Great Daoist Brush Master's face turned ugly. He stared into the distance, and his face became increasingly sour as he asked, "Are you sure you've never heard of me?"

Rumble!

Just then, the spacetime thousands of meters away from Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master trembled.

A spacetime rift was torn open, and an old man slowly walked out of it.

The old man was wearing a gray long robe with a bed of white hair, and he looked quite frail. However, the cold gaze in his eyes made it clear that he was anything but frail. His aura locked onto Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master, and it carried a thick hostility.

The gray-robed old man glared at the Great Daoist Brush Master.

"What? Are you a celebrity or something?"

Ye Guan became somewhat confused. Has he really never heard of the Great Daoist Brush Master? How could that be?

The Great Daoist Brush Master had also told Ye Guan that he had quite a few acquaintances here, and the former even said that no one would dare to turn him away here.

Was this guy just bragging? Ye Guan looked at the Great Daoist Brush Master and saw that the latter's face was incredibly sour.

After a few moments of hesitation, Ye Guan decided to mediate. He turned to the gray-robed old man and smiled. "Senior, we're from the Guanxuan Universe—"

However, the gray-robed old man rudely interrupted, "I don't care where the both of you had come from. If you don't want to die, then you better leave!"

The terrifying pressure that had locked onto Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master intensified.

Ye Guan turned to the Great Daoist Brush Master and said, "Senior, your reputation... Erm, no, I'm aware of your strength and reputation. I think there's a misunderstanding here. Yeah, a misunderstanding."

Ye Guan quietly stepped aside.

The Great Daoist Brush Master glared at the gray-robed old man.

The gray-robed old man didn't back down and glared at the Great Daoist Brush Master, too; he even revealed a hint of killing intent, as the two had yet to scamper off. The gray-robed old man was about to make a move when the Great Daoist Brush Master waved his sleeve.

Boom!

A deafening explosion echoed, and the gray-robed old man was inexplicably blasted away, flying hundreds of kilometers away. When he finally stopped, the gray-robed old man was shocked to find that his fleshly body had been annihilated.

The gray-robed old man—in his soul form—stared blankly in complete shock.

What happened? The gray-robed old man couldn't quite believe that his fleshly body had been annihilated in the blink of an eye. I couldn't withstand even one blow?

The gray-robed old man's eyes were filled with horror as he stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master.

"Who the hell are you?!" exclaimed the gray-robed old man.

The Great Daoist Brush Master remained expressionless as he said, "We're not leaving. Come and kill us if you dare."

Ye Guan's lips twitched at the Great Daoist Brush Master's remark. I think he's bragging again.

The gray-robed old man was shocked. Clearly, he had provoked a true powerhouse. However, the gray-robed old man didn't panic. After all, he had the backing of the Eternal Night Empire.

The gray-robed old man became confident once more as he stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master and said, "You're encroaching on the territory of the Eternal Night Empire!"

The Great Daoist Brush Master raised his hand and delivered a resounding slap.

Slap!

The gray-robed old man was blasted hundreds of kilometers away. His soul had become so illusory that it was almost transparent, teetering on the edge of extinguishing.

The Great Daoist Brush Master stared back at him and said, "That slap wasn't just for you—it's for the entire Eternal Night Empire, too!"

Ye Guan was speechless.

The fear in the gray-robed old man's eyes intensified upon realizing that the Great Daoist Brush Master was truly going to kill him. The gray-robed old man took out a transmission talisman and crushed it to call for reinforcements.

Ye Guan remarked, "I think he just called for backup. Shouldn't we leave?"

"Why would we leave?" the Great Daoist Brush Master replied blandly.

Ye Guan fell silent. Clearly, the Great Daoist Brush Master was determined to show off today.

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at the gray-robed old man and said, "Calling for reinforcements? Come on, better call the best. How about you call the emperor, too? I'd love to see just how powerful he is..."

The gray-robed old man was instantly anxious upon hearing the Great Daoist Brush Master's remark. This man is really extraordinary, but the Great Daoist Brush Master?

The gray-robed old man frowned and thought about it for a while, but he truly had never heard of the Great Daoist Brush Master before.

Rumble!

Just then, rumbling noises echoed from the depths of the starry sky as over a dozen powerful auras abruptly emerged. Ye Guan's pupils constricted, as the owners of those auras were at least Great Destiny Sovereigns.

Ye Guan was astonished upon realizing that the Eternal Night Empire had over a dozen Great Destiny Sovereigns.

Soon, a group of elites appeared in front of Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master. A woman stood at the helm of the group, and she was dressed in men's clothing for some reason, which was a jade-colored robe along with a jade belt.

Dressed in men's clothing, she exuded a handsome charm. The woman's delicate eyebrows and sharp eyes made her appear exceptionally charming. Additionally, her hair, which was tied up in a bun, had a precious-looking jade hairpin.

The woman bowed slightly to the Great Daoist Brush Master and said, "Junior Zhiyan greets Senior."

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at her and asked, "You know me?"

Zhiyan revealed a light smile and said, "An elder in my family has mentioned your name to me before. He said that if it hadn't been for your assistance, the Eternal Night Empire wouldn't have been founded.

"It is unfortunate, but many of us are unaware of your esteemed name. After all, it has been so many years since you were last scene. Please allow me to apologize for any offenses."

Zhiyan bowed deeply to the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The gray-robed old man's expression turned extremely ugly, and his eyes were filled with disbelief as he stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master. Who exactly is he?

The Great Daoist Brush Master asked, "An elder in your family? Who is he?"

Zhiyan replied, "His name is Song Xian."

The Great Daoist Brush Master frowned. "Him?"

"Yes."

"Is he still alive?"

"His lifespan came to an end ten years ago, and he has already passed away."

"I remember meeting him five hundred million years ago. Back then, he was full of ambition, and he even declared that he would surpass the Great Dao, becoming the most carefree person throughout the vast expanse."

"I had no idea that on my next visit, he would already be..." the Great Daoist Brush Master said, trailing off and sighing.

Zhiyan said, "Cultivating the Dao is going against the natural order of the vast expanse. Regardless of the outcome, only the cultivators themselves can be blamed, no one else."

"Are you now the Clan Leader of the Song Clan?"

"Yes."

"You're pretty remarkable," the Great Daoist Brush Master praised.

Song Zhiyan laughed and asked, "May I ask the purpose of Senior's visit to the Eternal Night Empire?"

"I'm seeking a marriage alliance," the Great Daoist Brush Master replied.

Song Zhiyan was stunned.

The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Ye Guan and said, "This is Ye Guan, and he's from the Guanyuan Universe. However, he represents both the Guanyuan Universe and the True Universe."

The True Universe?! Song Zhiyan was shocked. "Are you talking about the True Universe that the True God has founded?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded.

Song Zhiyan cast a curious gaze upon Ye Guan.

They couldn't leave the Eternal Night Realm, but they weren't ignorant of the outside world. Many years ago, the True God invaded the Eternal Night Realm, and the might that she had displayed was so terrifying that it left an indelible mark on the denizens of the Eternal Night Realm.

The True God had single-handedly defeated the Eternal Night Empire's supreme elites; none of them were her match at all.

Since then, the Eternal Night Empire isolated itself in the Eternal Night Realm.

However, they were especially knowledgeable about anything related to the True Universe.

The Great Daoist Brush Master suddenly said, "The election is nigh, right?"

Song Zhiyan emerged from her thoughts and nodded. "It'll start officially in a month."

"Who are the candidates?"

"Ye Anjun from the Eternal Night Clan and Ye Shurou from the Eternal Clan."

"Which of them is the Song Clan supporting?"

Song Zhiyan blinked, remaining silent.

The Great Daoist Brush Master smiled. "Would you mind if I visited the Song Clan?"

"It would be an honor. Senior, Young Lord Ye, this way please!" Song Zhiyan said.

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded and looked at Ye Guan. "Let's go!"

Ye Guan nodded, and the two of them followed Song Zhiyan and the others, disappearing into the depths of the starry sky.

They traveled across the quiet star field until they finally arrived at the boundary of a realm.

The boundary was shut tight. However, just a few gestures from Song Zhiyan were all it took for it to become illusory. The group then entered the boundary at Song Zhiyan's signal.

Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master soon appeared in front of a city gate.

The city before them was extremely majestic; the walls were about a hundred meters high, and they seemed boundless in width. Anyone standing in front of such city gates would inevitably feel tiny.

Ye Guan saw three large characters written on a plaque—Eternal Night City.

Song Zhiyan smiled. "You're staring at the imperial capital of the Eternal Night Empire. It's also the largest city in the empire, capable of accommodating up to a billion people."

"What a majestic city..." Ye Guan praised.

"Please follow me," Song Zhiyan said.

Soon, Ye Guan and the Great Daoist Brush Master found themselves inside the Song Residence. The Song Clan was a major clan, so their residence was rather grand.

Song Zhiyan led them into the main hall, and then he turned to look at Ye Guan and asked, "Do you have any clan in mind that you wish to marry into?"

"He's going to marry into the clan that emerges victorious from the elections," the Great Daoist Brush Master replied.

Song Zhiyan nodded, but she clearly didn't expect the Great Daoist Brush Master's answer.

Ye Guan hesitated briefly before saying, "Senior, you know the other party has to be willing, too, right?"

"Those two clans will even let you choose among their daughters once they learn that you have three special bloodlines," the Great Daoist Brush Master remarked.

"You're making it sound like I'm selling my bloodline, senior."

The Great Daoist Brush Master chuckled. "I know you want to talk to them first and see whether it's possible to form an alliance with them or not. That's fine, you can talk to them, but if it doesn't work out, then we can talk about marriage right away."

Ye Guan fell silent. He disliked the idea of an arranged marriage. He felt that the Universe Tribulation was something that concerned all living beings, and he believed that they could simply work together without any marriages.

The Universe Tribulation would affect everything in the vast expanse at all.

Still, a marriage alliance was worth giving a shot if negotiations were to break down.

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Song Zhiyan and said, "Lass, don't tell anyone about our visit. We'll observe the situation silently and see which of those two clans is more suitable for us."

Song Zhiyan nodded. "Okay."

The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Ye Guan and said, "I'm going out to see just how many of my old acquaintances are still alive."

Then, the Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Song Zhiyan and said, "Lass, please bring him around to familiarize himself with the Eternal Night Empire. If possible, introduce him to the two young ladies from those two clans."

"We're here for a marriage alliance, but it'd be great if they fell in love naturally."

Song Zhiyan glanced at Ye Guan, whose expression had turned slightly unpleasant, and said, "Okay."

The Great Daoist Brush Master got up and was about to leave, but he came to a halt upon recalling something. Then, he turned around slowly and stared at Ye Guan, asking, "You're not going to cause any trouble, right?"

Ye Guan replied, "I'm not a troublemaker but a dignified scholar!"

The Great Daoist Brush Master said, "Don't give me that nonsense."

Ye Guan was speechless.

"We're here to ally with them, not to make an enemy out of them. Please keep a low profile."

"What if others provoke me first?"

"Endure it, and it shall pass."

"What if I encounter someone like that gray-robed old man?"

"Handle it cleanly, and leave no traces."

Ye Guan was at a complete loss for words.