

## **A Sword 551**

Chapter 551: Don't Leave a Single Hair for Them

A bandit!

Ye Guan's expression hardened.

This is bad. Aunt Little Jing isn't bringing me along to sacrifice me, right?

He glanced at Little Jing, who was beside him. She had a faint smile on her face, which he found somewhat abnormal.

"Master Pagoda, how about we slip away?" Ye Guan thought.

He now felt as though he was giving his life away by going to the Past Clan.

"Don't you think it's too late?" Little Pagoda asked.

Little Jing suddenly turned her head to Ye Guan. "What's on your mind?"

Ye Guan thought for a moment. "Aunt Little Jing, shouldn't we call for some more people?"

Little Jing waved her hand, "No need. Together, we are invincible."

Ye Guan fell silent.

He wanted to tell her to stop involving him, but after some thought, he decided against it.

Although Aunt Little Jing seemed amiable, his intuition told him that she had a temper.

Soon, the two disappeared into the Time River.

...

On the other side, Ye An and the others were still locked in fierce combat with Han Ling and her group.

Summoned by Little White, more and more Heavenly Dao joined the battle and suppressed the Ancient Dragon Riders on Han Ling's side. The Ancient Dragon Riders were eventually forced to retreat, but the Heavenly Dao still found it hard to kill them because of their top-grade divine armor.

With Time Immortal and the Sword Pavillion elites evenly matched, the battle entered a temporary deadlock.

Xu Wang retreated to the side of the woman in a green dress. With a solemn expression, she looked up at the sky. "Are those people from the Temple of the Gods?"

The woman in the green dress nodded.

Xu Wang frowned. "Will he..."

The woman faintly smiled. "Don't worry. Little Jing has gone to support him."

Seemingly remembering something, she suddenly looked puzzled. "Logically, they should have come back by now, but they..."

Xu Wang's expression slightly changed.

Little Jing! That woman is a lunatic!

When they were at the Guanxuan Universe, she often came up with absurd ideas like seizing power and creating a rebellion.

This is getting ridiculous.

Fortunately, the Chief of the Benevolence Department was an honest person. Otherwise, in the absence of the Sword Master and Qingqiu, she could have succeeded. Since the Guanxuan Committee couldn't control her, Ye Xuan suggested she explore the Time River. However, once there, she caused quite a stir.

Bandit Sovereign!

Little Jing was given that title for a reason. She engaged in daily robbery and unconventional actions within the Time River. Left puzzled, many powerful factions, including prominent ancient clans, avoided any confrontation with her.

Now, Ye Guan was tagging along with that woman.

Xu Wang felt uneasy, and the woman in a green dress shared the sentiment. They had heard rumors about Little Jing's exploits, but they believed she wouldn't go too far.

A black-clad figure soon appeared before the two women. Along with a respectful bow, they reported, "Madam, Little Jing is taking Young Master Ye to the Past Clan."

The two women were momentarily stunned. The woman in a green dress turned to the person in black. "To the Past Clan?"

The black-clad figure nodded. "Yes."

The woman in a green dress fell silent.

Xu Wang's expression filled with skepticism. What on earth is that woman up to?

"Inform Lady Qingqing, Lady Niannian, Lady Slaughter, Lady White-Skirt Destiny and Erya. Have them head to the Past Clan immediately!"

The black-clad person immediately left.

"What is she planning?" Xu Wang questioned.

After a moment of silence, the woman in a green dress suddenly asked, "Could she be planning to sell Little Guan?"

...

Within the Time River, Ye Guan and Little Jing continued their journey against the currents.

"Do you have Little Pagoda with you?" Little Jing suddenly asked.

"Yes."

"Can I borrow it for a couple of days?"

Before Ye Guan could respond, Little Pagoda quickly interjected, "No."

If Ye Qingqing was wild, then Little Jing was pure mischief. A real master of tricks with feats that were beyond conventional understanding! Ye Qingqing, for all her fiery temper, had some semblance of humanity. Unless provoked, she wouldn't actively target others. On the other hand, Little Jing had a cunning mind, always scheming to outsmart others.

Hearing Little Pagoda's scream, Ye Guan hesitated. His intuition was telling him not to pass him over to her.

Little Jing added, "Just for a bit..."

Looking at Ye Guan, she then teased, "You don't think I would snatch your Little Pagoda, do you?"

Ye Guan awkwardly chuckled. "I haven't really thought about it..."

Little Jing's eyes narrowed as her lips curved into a playful smile. She then extended her right hand. With the circumstances preventing him from refusing, Ye Guan handed over Little Pagoda to her.

Little Jing grinned at the little pagoda in her hand before stowing it away. "I'll study him for a bit. I'll give him back to you after."

"Aunt, I've always relied on Little Pagoda..." Ye Guan hesitantly commented. What he really wanted to say was, "Return him to me now!"

He was not exaggerating. Master Pagoda played a significant role in his swift recovery every time he got injured, allowing him to make it this far.

Little Jing smiled. "I know you've been through a lot. Don't worry, I got your back. Just relax."

Ye Guan stared at her in silence, finding her a bit unconventional.

At that moment, Little Jing looked into the distance. "We're almost there."

"Have you been to the Past Clan before, aunt?"

Little Jing shook her head. "No."

She then turned her head to Ye Guan. "That woman is tough. I can't beat her."

"What are the chances we'll make it past the Past Clan this time?"

"A hundred percent."

Surprised, Ye Guan asked, "What makes you so confident?"

Little Jing smiled. "Don't worry. For as long you follow me, I won't let you down."

Ye Guan remained silent.

Is she trying to deceive me? No, that can't be! She's my aunt! My aunt!

"Aunt" held great significance in his heart. After all, all the aunts he had encountered were not only powerful but also dependable.

Maybe I'm just overthinking things?

Smiling, Ye Guan shook his head. There was no way his aunt would deceive him.

"There are powerful auras around us," Little Jing suddenly said.

Ye Guan looked around, sensing several subtle auras.

Little Jing smiled. "They're probably from the Past Clan. It seems they already know we're heading to the Past Realm."

"They haven't stopped us. Are they planning to let us enter?"

Little Jing's eyes showed a hint of surprise. This dear nephew of hers was quite smart. Moreover, from his expression just now, it seemed like he had a slight guard against her.

Without much thought, Little Jing confirmed, "Naturally, they hope we enter the Past Realm. You're here, after all."

Ye Guan was stunned. Me?

Little Jing continued, "Don't you want to visit the Past Clan?"

"I do, but—"

"We're here," Little Jing interrupted.

Ye Guan looked into the distance. Thousands of meters away, a towering stone monument stood with two characters on it: Past Realm. He turned to Little Jing as she grabbed his arm. In no time, they disappeared and entered the Past Realm.

The two found themselves amid layers upon layers of clouds. Thousands of meters away, they could see ancient palaces standing tall. The largest of them bore two characters: Past Clan.

Ye Guan glanced around, sensing an unusual calmness in the surroundings. Surprisingly, no elites were making a move against them. After a moment of contemplation, he decided to shift closer to Little Jing. Right now, his only option was to trust her.

Little Jing had fixed her gaze on the distant Past Clan, her eyes reflecting a mysterious train of thought.

Soon, along with a thunderous echo, an elderly figure appeared before them.

Numerous elusive auras also materialized around them. Ye Guan's brows furrowed as he took a more cautious stance. He could sense the auras, but the individuals emitting them remained hidden.

The elderly man focused on Little Jing. "Bandit Sovereign. Ranked first on the Time List."

Ye Guan gave Little Jing a surprised look.

"This time at the Past Clan, I'm looking to borrow something from your esteemed clan," Little Jing said with a smile.

"Are you planning to rob the Past Clan?" the elderly man questioned.

"Rob? Why use such harsh words? I'm here to borrow! Borrow!"

"Spare us your theatrics, Bandit Sovereign. This is the Past Clan, not a place for you to wreak havoc. You—"

Little Jing abruptly raised and waved her hand.

Boom!

A powerful force sent the elderly man flying.

Casting a cold look at him, Little Jing declared, "I've come to be a bit unruly today!"

"Impudent!" the elderly man erupted in anger. As he charged forward, he turned into a thousand-meter black light.

Little Jing's eyes flashed with disdain. She raised her right hand and slammed it down.

Boom!

The thousand-meter black light instantly shattered. The elderly man was blasted away once more.

"Show yourselves!" Little Jing commanded.



"Haha!"

Laughter resonated from all sides. Soon after, the fabric of space-time tore open, and hundreds of top-tier elites emerged.

Ye Guan's expression slightly shifted, ready to intervene. However, he quickly realized that these individuals weren't from the Past Clan—they were Little Jing's people.

One of them laughed heartily. "If we can successfully pillage the Past Clan, our Bandit Corps will be in for a big win. Hahaha!"

Little Jing excitedly waved her hand. "Go! Leave not even a hair for them!"

Ye Guan was rendered speechless.

Chapter 552: Good Aunt!

"Attack!" Little Jing commanded.

The Bandit Corps burst into laughter. They transformed into streaks of light as they charged toward the Past Clan.

At the same time, powerful energies surged into the sky. Although Han Ling had dispatched most of the Past Clan's elites to hunt down Ye Guan, the Yang Clan's forces were ready to hold them back. Hence, while the Past Clan was comparatively sparse, it was by no means defenseless.

"Senior Zhen!" Little Jing suddenly exclaimed.

The spacetime behind her ruptured, revealing a massive array. Following closely behind, numerous golden beams of light burst forth like a torrential storm, each one aimed at the Past Clan in the distance.

The long-range attack didn't stop there. Over a hundred more arrays appeared amidst the Past Clan, momentarily stunning its elite members.

The arrays' relentless barrage forced countless members of the Past Clan to confront them. With the defenders preoccupied, the bandits rushed deep into the heart of the clan to accomplish their primary objective of seizing the clan's Dao Veins—spiritual veins capable of producing Dao Origin Crystals.

Dozens of the Past Clan's top-grade Dao Veins were looted clean in a short span. Afterward, the bandits began plundering various other treasures, including cultivation techniques, pills, and ancient texts. They took anything they could get their hands on.

Ye Guan was dumbfounded. The bandits seemed determined to leave nothing behind. He also noticed that each of them was highly skilled and accompanied by a treasure-seeking beast. Their lack of interest in prolonged battles showed their extensive experience in such activities.

Meanwhile, Little Jing just remained standing beside Ye Guan in pure silence.

"Does the Past Clan have no strong cultivators?" Ye Guan asked.

Although there were indeed some strong cultivators within the Past Clan, they were few and not as strong.

Little Jing chuckled as she turned to Ye Guan. "This clan is not as simple as it seems. Just watch."

Not long after their conversation, deep within the Past Clan, a giant hand suddenly shot into the sky and slammed down on the arrays.

Boom!

The hand shattered countless arrays in a single blow, an explosive roar thundering on impact.

Ye Guan narrowed his eyes. A true elite had appeared.

In the distant sky, a middle-aged man with flowing hair descended from above. Clad in a luxurious robe, he exuded an extremely domineering energy.

The man's gaze fell on Little Jing. Without even a word, he raised his hand and threw a powerful punch.

Smiling coldly, Little Jing countered with a punch of her own.

Boom!

The two streams of fist energy clashed, unleashing a terrifying shockwave.

Much to Ye Guan's surprise, the resulting explosion did not shatter the surrounding space.

At that moment, he realized that the space here was much more solid than the one outside.

As they exchanged equally powerful blows, the middle-aged man calmly looked at Little Jing. Although he didn't make any further moves, the space around them cracked open. One after another, figures dashed out from the fissures and immediately made their way to the group of bandits in the distance.

These were the Past Clan's cultivators!

Little Jing chuckled. "They're calling back their cultivators!"

"What about the Clan Leader of the Past Clan?"

"She wouldn't be interested in matters like this."

Ye Guan fell silent. That woman did give me the impression of indifference. As if she disregarded everything. Perhaps she didn't think the Past Clan was that important?

The middle-aged man in front of them suddenly took a step forward, sending terrifying pressure toward Little Jing.

Little Jing's lips curled with disdain as she transformed into a burst of fist energy and disappeared.

Boom!

With a deafening explosion, the middle-aged man was sent flying!

After the middle-aged man was blasted away, Little Jing intended to pursue him again. But in the next moment, she seemed to sense something. Her brows furrowed, and she swiftly turned around, charging towards Ye Guan.

At that moment, every hair on Ye Guan's body stood on end. Danger! That was his immediate feeling! A sense of impending death crept closer to his heart.

Ye Guan swiftly brought out the ancient shield and held it in front of him. At the same time, Ao Qianqian released the Dragon Ancestral Armor, enveloping Ye Guan.

Hiss!

The space in front of Ye Guan suddenly split open, and then a sword emerged, slashing towards him.

Bang!

In an instant, Ye Guan, along with the shield, was sent flying tens of thousands of meters away!

At that moment, Ye Guan felt like his entire body was starting to shatter. And as he came to a stop, another sword attack was already upon him.

Ye Guan's pupils suddenly contracted. Just as he was about to draw his sword, Little Jing appeared in front of him. She clenched her fist tightly and then unleashed a punch.

Her fist clashed with the sword.

Bang!

Both of them were sent flying backward simultaneously!

Ye Guan looked towards a figure not far away. Standing there, an elder held a long sword. His right hand gripped the sword and his gaze was calm. There was no hint of Sword Intent or sword energy emanating from him. He seemed almost non-existent.

A swordsman!

Ye Guan's expression turned serious. Along his journey, he hadn't encountered many swordsmen, only a few, but each one was extremely formidable. And the sword wielded by the elder before him was undoubtedly the strongest among the opponents he had encountered so far!

Great Sword Sovereign Gu Nanrong's sword was also very powerful. However, after she broke through, they never fought again. So he didn't know the extent of Gu Nanrong's sword.

The elder paid no attention to Little Jing, his gaze fixed firmly on Ye Guan.

Suddenly, the elder's body became ethereal.

In the distance, Ye Guan's hair stood on end. He wielded the Qingxuan Sword fiercely as he struck out. As the Qingxuan Sword descended, another sword instantly struck, piercing the tip of the Qingxuan Sword.

Bang!

Crack!

Ye Guan was sent flying!

However, the sword in the elder's hand cracked, and a spiderweb pattern appeared on his sword.

Seeing this, the elder's brow furrowed slightly, a hint of emotion appearing in his calm eyes.

This sword had accompanied him through countless years, never breaking in battle. Yet today, it shattered. The elder slowly raised his head and looked towards Ye Guan in the distance. His gaze fell on the Qingxuan Sword in Ye Guan's hand.

"I've heard of the Sword Master's reputation for a long time. It's a pity that I have never had the chance to spar with him. I never thought that even just his sword is so formidable. Very impressive."

Ye Guan glanced at the elder, then wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth. At this moment, he was also shocked. The elder's sword was truly terrifying. It was much stronger than the lady in the cloth dress and Han Ling!

At this time, Little Jing walked up to Ye Guan and glanced at him, smiling. "Not bad, kid, you've got some strength."

She couldn't help but feel impressed by Ye Guan's strength. This guy's talent was much better than his father's!

Ye Guan looked at the elder, still wanting to make a move, but he was stopped by Little Jing. "They are still calling people back!"

With that, she whistled. In the distance, the group of bandits from the Past Clan no longer lingered as they started to retreat.

Little Jing smiled. "Let's go."

With that, she turned around and took Ye Guan away.

The elder frowned slightly, his figure trembling. In an instant, a sword energy broke through the air, aiming straight for Ye Guan and Little Jing.

Sensing the sword energy behind them, Little Jing turned around and unleashed a punch. An immense fist energy directly collided with the sword energy.

Boom!

The fist energy and sword energy exploded simultaneously! Little Jing didn't linger to fight, she disappeared into the end of the sky with Ye Guan and the group of bandits. This time, the elder didn't pursue them because he knew that even if he did, it would be useless. With his personal strength, he couldn't do anything to the Bandit Sovereign.

At this moment, some of the elites from the Past Clan came to stand behind the elder, their faces extremely grim.

The Past Clan had been looted! If this news got out...

One of the middle-aged men looked at the elder. "Master Yu, this matter..."

Master! The elder, a swordsman, was Master Yu, a high-ranking figure in the Sword Pavilion.

Master Yu looked towards the sky with calm eyes. "Inform the Saint Master Gu."

The middle-aged man paused for a moment, then said, "Alright."

With that, he stepped back.

Master Yu's eyes revealed a hint of concern. This time, the Past Clan had prepared extensively to kill Ye Guan, mobilizing countless elite cultivators. However, Ye Guan's strength had only grown stronger, and more and more elites had gathered around him.

The Past Clan has always been shrouded in mystery, but at this moment, Master Yu felt that the Yang Clan behind Ye Guan was the true enigma. Even now, the Past Clan hadn't fully understood the Yang Clan's background.

Was it still a pursuit?

It was no longer just about chasing Ye Guan. It had escalated into a conflict between two forces. The Past Clan could no longer dominate as it had before.

After a moment, Master Yu turned and left.

...

On the other side, Little Jing led Ye Guan and the group of bandits into an unknown world. Ye Guan noticed that all the bandits were extremely excited, indicating that they had gained a lot this time.

It wasn't just about what they had gained.

After all, they had just robbed the Past Clan, the most powerful force in the Time River. From today onwards, their Bandit Corps would be renowned throughout the Time River. It was exhilarating.

One of the elderly men took out a storage ring and handed it to Little Jing respectfully, saying, "Leader."

Little Jing accepted the storage ring, glanced at it, and then handed it directly to Ye Guan, saying, "This is for you."

Ye Guan was stunned.



Little Jing chuckled, "What are you waiting for? Take it."

Ye Guan hesitated for a moment and then said, "But... why?"

Little Jing replied, "We obtained a total of a hundred and twenty Dao Veins this time. I'm giving you thirty. In addition to that, you can have all the ancient books and techniques from the Past Clan, and there are over three billion Dao Origin Crystals, of which I'm giving you one billion..."

Ye Guan looked at Little Jing, puzzled, "But why?"

Little Jing smiled, "The reason we were able to infiltrate the Past Clan and rob them is because the cultivators from the Yang Clan held back their elites. Otherwise, with our numbers, we wouldn't stand a chance against them. Furthermore, having you with us acted as a protective talisman. Without you, the Clan Leader of the Past Clan could have easily killed us with a single strike. But with you there, she had to abide by the rules and couldn't harm us. So, this time, you deserve the most credit!"

With that, she returned the Little Pagoda to Ye Guan. "Here, this is yours too."

Ye Guan glanced at Little Jing but remained silent.

"You've been quite wary of me all along. What's wrong? Were you afraid I'd borrow your pagoda and never return it? And maybe even sell you off?"

Her words made Ye Guan feel ashamed. He felt extremely ashamed! How could he have harbored such thoughts before? Little Jing had been such a good aunt to him! He had actually thought of her in such a lowly manner...

At this moment, Ye Guan felt regret and shame.

But soon, he would change his mindset.

Seeing Ye Guan's remorseful expression, Little Jing's lips curled up slightly, her eyes flashing with a mysterious glint...

Chapter 553: Three Swords Unite

Ye Guan accepted the storage ring. Looking at it in his hand, he felt deeply moved.

This aunt is such a good person! I've been too unfairly suspicious of her.

"Little guy, can you do me a favor?" Little Jing asked.

Out of guilt, Ye Guan quickly replied, "What is it, Aunt?"

Little Jing blinked, "Do you have Ancestral Origins?"

Although a little surprised, Ye Guan nodded. "Yes..."

"Can you lend me some?"

Ye Guan momentarily hesitated. Ancestral Origins were extremely precious.

Little Jing sighed softly. "Forget it. You're afraid I won't return it. Even though I'm your aunt, Ancestral Origins are so precious that it's only natural for you to be cautious when lending it to another. Don't worry. I understand."

Ye Guan smiled wryly. "I didn't mean to make you feel that way."

"It's okay, I was just joking. Don't take it seriously."

Ye Guan opened his palm, revealing a strand of Ancestral Origin.

The sight made everyone in the vicinity excited. Some even failed to conceal the greed in their eyes.

Dao Veins and Dao Origin crystals were valuable to them, but Ancestral Origins were even more so. After all, they not only greatly enhanced their strength but also extended their lifespan.

Those who had entered the River of Time and went against the path of time generally had short lives.

Ye Guan handed the strand of Ancestral Origin to Little Jing with a smile. "Aunt Little Jing, this is for you."

"For me?"

Much to Little Jing's surprise, Ye Guan nodded. "We're family, which means we're related by blood. Borrowing something feels too formal, so I'm giving this to you instead."

"Are you sure?"

"What's there to be unsure about? Here."

Ye Guan put the strand of Ancestral Origin into her hand.

After a moment of contemplation, Little Jing glanced at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan immediately changed the subject. "What are you planning to do now, Aunt?"

Little Jing smiled. "I'm making it up as I go along."

"I'm going back to finding my sister. What about you?"

"We have some things to take care of."

"Well then, Aunt Little Jing, until we meet again."

He turned and flew away on his sword.

Little Jing quietly watched Ye Guan disappear toward the end of the Time River. She then faintly smiled at the Ancestral Origin in her hand.

...

As Ye Guan hurried back, Little Pagoda said, "She's playing you."

"I know."

Little Pagoda was incredulous. "Yet you still gave her the Ancestral Origin?"

"Why wouldn't I?"

"What?"

"Master Pagoda, do we stand a chance against her?"

"We don't!"

"Then why shouldn't I just give it to her?"

"You knew she wouldn't return it, so you chose to give it to her instead..."

Ye Guan chuckled. "It's fine actually. After all, she's my aunt. We didn't lose anything by giving her a strand of Ancestral Origin."

Since she's one of us, why bother worrying so much?

Little Pagoda quieted down. This little guy's pretty good to his own people. He doesn't play tricks or deceive them.

Picking up the pace, Ye Guan transformed into a streak of sword light and disappeared into the distant end of the Time River. However, his brows soon furrowed. Mysterious auras were appearing around him.

They're here.

Gripping the Qingxuan Sword tightly, Ye Guan coldly and warily surveyed his surroundings. The space in front of him soon collapsed. The next thing he knew, he was in a vast unknown expanse of the starry sky.

Not far from him stood an elderly figure clad in a divine robe, holding a staff in his right hand and wearing a crimson cloak over his head. He coldly glared at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's expression darkened. Damn it! The cultivators from the Temple of the Gods are here.

With his eyes still on him, the elderly figure pointed the Divine Staff in his hand toward Ye Guan.

Boom!

The space in front of Ye Guan suddenly broke, unleashing a burst of blood-red lightning.

Ye Guan's pupils abruptly contracted as he fiercely swung his sword forward.

Bam!

Ye Guan cut the lightning bolt apart. However, the immense force it contained soon pushed him away.

Giving him no time to rest, the old man took a step forward and once again pointed the Divine Staff toward him.

Snap!

The space around Ye Guan tore open, causing his expression to darken. Countless blood-red lightning bolts thundered toward him.

Damn it! Another Divine Mage!

Ye Guan opened his left hand and summoned his mysterious ancient shield. Roaring, he swung the Qingxuan Sword with his right hand while constantly blocking attacks with the shield in his left.

Boom!

The onslaught of lightning repeatedly pushed Ye Guan back.

The old man in the divine robe gradually closed his eyes and rose into the air while muttering an ancient incantation. A hexagonal blood-red array gradually formed in the starry sky.

The sight shocked Ye Guan. The old man seemed to be unleashing his ultimate move.

Just as he was about to disrupt the spell, the old man suddenly pointed his Divine Staff toward him.

"Divine punishment!"

Boom!

A towering blood-colored lightning suddenly struck down on Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's expression drastically darkened. Instead of confronting the attack head-on, he raised the mysterious ancient shield above his head.

Boom!

The moment the lightning hit his shield, Ye Guan was thrown back and sent falling from the starry sky.

The robed old man waved his staff.

"Imprison."

Ye Guan frowned as mysterious blood-colored lightning appeared around him. As if forming a prison, it tightly coiled around his vicinity.

In response, he raised his hand and swung down.

Swoosh!

The sword strike tore apart the lightning, creating an opening.

Frowning, the old man stepped forward and pointed his staff at Ye Guan again, sending him yet another lightning from the sky.

Boom!

Looking up, Ye Guan became ethereal. Thousands of sword lights shot out from him and converged into a single sword.

Bang!

As the sword shattered the pillar of lightning, Ye Guan shook and turned into a streak of sword light. He rushed toward his enemy.

Narrowing his eyes, the old man responded by creating a blood-colored lightning shield in front of him.

Bang!

The shield exploded as Ye Guan's sword pierced it, sending countless fragments flying in every direction. However, the collision had given the old man enough time to retreat thousands of meters away.

Examining the sword in Ye Guan's hand, he frowned slightly. He couldn't help but feel a little surprised that it could cut through his Divine Punishment.

Glancing at his opponent, Ye Guan turned into a streak of sword light and disappeared once more.

The old man held his staff forward.

Boom!

A wave of lightning surged out from his Divine Staff.

Boom!

Although the Qingxuan Sword quickly shattered it, before Ye Guan could feel relieved, a lightning flame suddenly swept over him. He quickly raised his shield to defend himself.

Bang!



Ye Guan roared as he was blasted tens of thousands of meters away. When he finally came to a stop, the same attack rushed toward him again. A hint of ferocity flashed in his eyes as he sheathed the Qingxuan Sword and drew it out in one, continuous motion.

Heavenrend Quickdraw!

Buzz!

The sword's cry echoed out as it unleashed overlapping sword lights.

Boom!

The lightning flame soon shattered into countless energy fragments, throwing the entire galaxy universe into chaos.

The old man's expression darkened upon witnessing the scene. He fixed his gaze on the Qingxuan Sword, his shock swiftly turning into amazement.

Not even my lightning flame, a Creation Realm divine object, can withstand the power of his sword! Is it a divine object beyond the Creation Realm?

The old man's brow deeply furrowed.

Ye Guan, who had been pushed back, glared at his opponent. Although he had the Qingxuan Sword, the old man in front of him was terrifyingly powerful. Moreover, since the old man never engaged him in close-quarters combat, it would be difficult for him to kill his opponent with his melee weapon.

I can't waste any more time here!

Looking around him, Ye Guan decided to retreat for now.

He had to prioritize finding his older sister and the others!

However, before he could leave, three extremely terrifying powerful auras appeared in his surroundings. Towering Divine Generals soon manifested around him.

Ye Guan's expression turned grim.

Damn it! Here they come again! There's no escaping from this.

Ye Guan coldly stared at the three Divine Generals. Just as he was about to take action, the space behind him cracked open. Immediately after, three women slowly walked onto the battlefield.

Finally identifying them, he couldn't help but be stunned.

His aunts Ye Qingqing, Slaughter, and White Skirt Destiny—three of the Four Swords—had arrived!

Chapter 554: I Want A Child

Three of the Four Swords had joined hands!

Ye Guan was momentarily stunned. All my three aunts are here?

On the opposite side, the robed old man's brows furrowed as his gaze fell on Ye Qingqing and the other two. A hint of solemnity could be seen in his eyes.

He was about to speak when Ye Qingqing suddenly disappeared and the hum of a sword suddenly echoed in the arena.

Following closely behind, Slaughter and White Skirt Destiny also vanished.

The three attacked at the same time!

Roaring in anger, the three Divine Generals in the distance simultaneously slammed their palms down.

Three fierce galaxies came crashing down on Ye Qingqing and the others.

"Aunt Qingqing!" Ye Guan worriedly shouted. "Use this!"

Ye Qingqing turned to Ye Guan, finding him with his palm open. He had thrown the Qingxuan Sword toward her hand.

With her eyes still on him, she caught the Qingxuan Sword. She then transformed into a sword light and charged toward one of the Divine Generals.

Woosh!

Using decay and collapse, Ye Qingqing instantly shattered the galaxy coming toward her and cut apart the Divine General who had unleashed it.

Ye Guan couldn't help but sigh in relief. With Ye Qingqing wielding the Qingxuan Sword, she seemed nigh-invincible.

His aunts made quick work of the three Divine Generals. Realizing that things were not going in his favor, the old man in the divine robe escaped. They had been completely suppressed!

Ye Qingqing turned around and slowly made her way to Ye Guan. She then handed the Qingxuan Sword back to him.

Just as Ye Guan was about to catch the sword, it transformed into a sword light and soared into the sky until it disappeared from view.

Ye Guan froze. What just happened?

Ye Qingqing watched the speechless Ye Guan with amusement.

Noticing the situation, White Skirt Destiny offered him some comfort. "Your father is likely afraid that you will rely too much on external objects. Don't overthink it. You are definitely his biological son."

Ye Guan was dumbfounded.

He hadn't thought about it that way. White Skirt Destiny's reminder made him feel that something was wrong.

"That aside, the three of us have come up with an idea. Would you like to hear it?"

"I don't need to hear it," Ye Guan immediately answered.

The three women's eyebrows furrowed.

Much to their surprise, however, Ye Guan quickly added, "I'll just do whatever you say."

White Skirt Destiny smiled. "You little rascal!"

Slaughter shook her head and smiled as well. This kid certainly inherited some traits from his old man. He can be a bit mischievous at times.

"We've decided to take you on an adventure. Will you come with us?" Ye Qingqing asked.

Ye Guan was somewhat surprised. "With you three?"

She glared at him as she rested her left thumb on the hilt of her sword. "You wish! You can only choose one! Now, decide!"

Ye Guan's expression hardened. What the hell are they trying to say?

All three women were expectantly staring at Ye Guan.

Ye Qingqing's expression was as cold as a block of ice, while White Skirt Destiny's gentle smile seemed like a warm summer breeze. Slaughter was also smiling, but hers had a hint of playfulness in it.

Ye Guan was in a dilemma.

Whom should I choose?

No matter who he chose, it would definitely offend the other two.

Ye Guan looked at Ye Qingqing. She has to be doing this on purpose. This is hard!

"Don't think too much. Hurry up and choose," Ye Qingqing demanded.

After thinking about it for a moment, Ye Guan began, "I want to learn from you all, but if I can only choose one..."

He looked at the three. "Can I ask a question before I answer?"

"No, you have to answer now," Ye Qingqing replied.

Ye Guan's expression darkened.

Smiling, White Skirt Destiny countered, "Go ahead."

"If my father could only pick one out of you three to be his sister, whom would he choose?"

The smiles on his aunts' faces disappeared.

"I'll choose whomever he would pick."

I see nothing wrong with this method.

Little Pagoda couldn't help but admire Ye Guan. The bastard was really unbeatable at shifting the blame. Rather than the King of Relying on Others, he should be called the Blame-Shifting King instead.

Ye Qingqing coldly sneered at Ye Guan, who, in turn, pretended not to notice.

White Skirt Destiny smiled. "You just passed the problem to your father, you sneaky kid."

Ye Guan smiled awkwardly. He definitely couldn't answer Ye Qingqing's question. Although his aunts were understanding, they would still be offended no matter his answer. He didn't want to offend anyone. I'll let my father handle this! What else is he good for if not to bear the blame?

At this moment, Slaughter said, "Go with Qingqing."

Ye Qingqing snorted, "Forget it. Little Seven, you should take him! He likes gentle people."

Ye Guan did not dare to speak. If he said anything at this moment, it would just be asking to die.

White Skirt Destiny laughed. "He's a bit cunning. It would be best for you to take care of him, Qingqing. If you put him under my care, I'd likely end up spoiling him."

Ye Guan turned to White Skirt Destiny. Among all his aunts that he had interacted with, she was undoubtedly the gentlest. Aunt Qingqiu was gentle too, but he hadn't spent that much time with her.

Noticing Ye Guan's gaze, Ye Qingqing said, "He likes your gentle demeanor, Little Seven. Bring him with you."

White Skirt Destiny exchanged glances with Slaughter. Smiling, she shook her head.

Why were they behaving so awkwardly?

"Why not take care of me in turns? I want to learn from you all anyway."

"I like that proposal," White Skirt Destiny said.

Slaughter nodded. "I see no problems with it."

Ye Qingqing simply glanced at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan couldn't help but smile. He was looking forward to learning swordsmanship from them.

Although he had grown a lot stronger, his enemies had also been becoming increasingly powerful. Moreover, he still had a lot to learn about the Sword Dao Realm and other realms. He had relied solely on fighting to improve himself all this time, but it was no longer enough!

"Little Seven, you go with him first. Slaughter and I will distract the Past Clan," Ye Qingqing suggested.

White Skirt Destiny nodded. "Alright."

Curious, Ye Guan asked, "Distract the opponents from the Past Clan?"

Ye Qingqing glanced at him. "Next time we meet, I want to spar with you. Prepare yourself."

Ye Guan's face darkened. Just say you want to beat me up. No need to mask it as sparring.

Slaughter and Ye Qingqing soon turned and left, leaving behind Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny.

White Skirt Destiny smiled. "Would you like to see your partners first?"

"Will our journey take long?" Ye Guan asked.

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "I don't know, but you don't have much time either way since the Past Clan definitely won't be letting you roam free forever. I'm not sure how long Qingqing and the Yang Clan can hold them off either."

"I'll go see them, then."

"Alright." She opened her palm. "I'll take you there."

Ye Guan momentarily hesitated. Instead of holding her hand, he grabbed her sleeve.

White Skirt Destiny shook her head with a smile. "You're quite thoughtful."

She grabbed Ye Guan's arm with her other hand. Trembling, she turned into a streak of sword light and disappeared.

...

Dark Emperor World.

The war in the Dark Emperor World was still underway. With Qin Guan personally guarding the place, breaking through it proved difficult. The Gui Clan, the invaders, had already suffered heavy losses, yet they still hadn't mobilized their entire clan.



Upon returning to the Dark Emperor World, Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny met up with Nalan Jia. She had arrived not long ago, but Ye Guan had already left to save Cijing by then.

Ye Guan's return made the heavy stone in Nalan Jia's heart fall. Although married, they had been apart for so long. Hence, they naturally clung to each other when they finally reunited.

Unfortunately, Ye Guan only had a day!

In the room, by the window, he gently held Nalan Jia. She was wearing a long, light-red dress and had her long hair cascading down her shoulders. Aware that Ye Guan would be leaving soon, her unmatched beauty bore a faint sadness.

"How is the situation in the Guanxuan Universe?" Ye Guan softly asked.

Despite being the king of the Guanxuan Universe, he had hardly paid attention to its affairs. Since inheriting the family business, he had either been fighting or on the way to battle. Life was proving too difficult.

"Everything is fine. Don't worry," Nalan Jia whispered as she opened her palm.

A strand of sword energy appeared in her hand. Plain Skirt Destiny had left it to her.

Unlike others, this strand of sword energy didn't disappear after use. Considering it only appeared whenever Nalan Jia was in mortal danger, it could be considered the strongest protective talisman.

Nalan Jia handed it to Ye Guan. "Keep it."

However, Ye Guan shook his head.

Before Nalan Jia could say anything, Ye Guan said, "Aunt gave that to you. Keep it."

Nalan Jia looked straight into his eyes. "You're in more danger out there."

Ye Guan smiled. "Danger can make me grow. If I have this strand of sword energy on me, I really will have nothing to fear."

The only exception to that would be the lady in white.

"I want a child," Nalan Jia suddenly whispered.

Ye Guan was stunned. A child?

Nalan Jia looked at Ye Guan. "Is it okay?"

Ye Guan nodded. He then threw Little Pagoda out of the room.

Little Pagoda was speechless.

Outside the window, a pillar-like thunderbolt pierced through the deep, dark sky. Soon, raindrops began to fall. It started small, gentle, and slow. The thunder was no different, rolling in softly. However, as time passed, the thunder grew louder and louder, and the rain became increasingly heavier. Eventually, the downpour became more like silver threads fiercely piercing through the flowers and grass...

The thunder, the rain, and the splashes on the ground echoed across the area. After who knew how long, a loud thunderclap echoed. The rain suddenly surged, like a dam bursting and allowing water to pour down for miles...

Chapter 555: True Family

The rain lasted a few hours. Perhaps that was why Ye Guan and Nalan Jia were exhausted. They lay embracing each other, their expressions showing signs of fatigue.

The next day.

Heavy rain fell again, causing flowers and grass to burst forth from the earth and plead for mercy.

Nalan Jia slowly opened her eyes, finding Ye Guan already gone. Staring at the empty space beside her, she felt a sense of loss. However, she soon turned red due to the mess on the bed. Maybe it was because the rain was so heavy, but the bed was soaked through.

...

Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny had left the Dark Emperor World. This time, he only brought Little Pagoda with him.

Little White and Erya stayed in the Dark Emperor World to help. The Yang Clan cultivators were also rushing back to the Dark Emperor World.

The Dark Emperor World was an important place for them now.

In the Time River, Ye Guan turned to White Skirt Destiny, who was beside him. "Where are we going?"

"We're following in the footsteps of your grandfather and the Unfettered Swordsman," White Skirt Destiny replied with a smile.

Grandfather and the Unfettered Swordsman? Ye Guan couldn't help but be curious. "Where are they now?"

"I don't know."

Hesitantly, Ye Guan asked, "Are they just wandering around because they're bored?"

White Skirt Destiny chuckled. "They're not bored. They're waiting."

"Waiting? For what?"

"You don't know?"

"No."

Confused White Skirt Destiny blinked at him.

"Are you hiding something from me?" Ye Guan questioned.

His aunt subconsciously nodded but quickly shook her head, which surprised him.

What is wrong with you...

"It's just some trivial matter, unrelated to anything important," she answered.

"Can you tell me about it?"

White Skirt Destiny hesitated.

"Can't you?" he prodded.

After some consideration, she answered, "They concern you. I can tell you about one of them, but not the other."

"Why?"

"It's for your own good."

Ye Guan didn't know what to say.

White Skirt Destiny smiled. "Although I don't agree with the way they are doing things, I can't do anything about it."

"Can you really not tell me?"

"For the time being, no."

"Then just tell me what you can," Ye Guan requested.

"They want to establish an order," White Skirt Destiny finally confessed.

Ye Guan's brows furrowed. "They?"

"Plain Skirt Destiny, your father, your grandfather, and the Unfettered Swordsman. Oh, the Great Daoist Brush Master, too."

"Wasn't the Great Daoist Brush Master the only one who wanted that? Why would my father and the others..."

"The Great Daoist Brush Master was initially alone in it, but the others eventually felt that the world needed a certain order. They didn't want to do it themselves because it's too troublesome, though, so..."

"So they let me do it?" Ye Guan concluded.

"Yes."

"Why didn't my father establish it himself when he founded the Guanxuan Academy?"

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "He couldn't."

Puzzled, Ye Guan replied, "Why not?"

"Because his humanity doesn't reside among all living things."

"Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny?"

White Skirt Destiny nodded.

"Aren't you jealous of her?" Ye Guan wondered.

"Not really."

"Why not?"

"Because if it weren't for her, your father wouldn't have come back. She never talks about it, but she has already accomplished so many things."

Ye Guan fell silent.

White Skirt Destiny smiled at him. "As long as your father is fine."

Ye Guan sighed.

His father truly was living the good life.

He was born with so many invincible sisters, and they all treated him so well without asking for anything in return.

Unlike him, Ye Guan had nothing.

No... that wasn't right. He had quite a lot.

All his aunts treated him really well.

White Skirt Destiny continued, "To establish order, one must possess humanity that suppresses divinity. Otherwise, divinity would suppress humanity. In their world, sentient beings are like ants. Ordinary people cannot comprehend such a feeling."

"So if I want to establish order, I cannot rely on invincible divinity alone?"

"That's right."

But now, most of the invincible individuals are based on divinity. How can I achieve invincibility through humanity?"

White Skirt Destiny thought about it for a moment. "I don't know the specifics, but I do know that they won't let you walk their path."

Ye Guan fell silent. If he couldn't walk the path those before him had taken, then...

"I have to forge my own path?"

"Yes," White Skirt Destiny answered.

Ye Guan smiled bitterly. "They think too highly of me."

White Skirt Destiny smiled gently. "Don't underestimate yourself. When your father and grandfather were your age, they were far weaker than you are."

Ye Guan shook his head. "That's because I'm standing on their shoulders. I started from a higher point than they did."

"That's one reason, but you have many other strengths. You also have many shortcomings, but that's normal. After all, you're still young and need time to grow. We cannot demand perfection from you."

Ye Guan smiled at White Skirt Destiny. "I still can't help but feel a lot of pressure, though."

"I know, but you have to understand that you cannot go back now."

"I know."

"You're very talented. I believe you will succeed in the future."

"Why?"

"There's no specific reason. I just feel that you will succeed."

Ye Guan laughed. "Only two people have ever believed in me like this. You're one of them, Aunt."

"Who is the other?" White Skirt Destiny asked.

"Sister Zhen."

The True God.



White Skirt Destiny briefly nodded. "That lady is also very powerful. I have seen what Universe Tribulations are like. She can suppress that and Evil Dao. I have to say, she is really amazing."

"Right now, I don't want to think about anything else. I just want to rescue my sister as soon as possible."

"Our first stop is the Tribulation Realm."

Ye Guan's expression changed. "The Tribulation Realm?"

"Yes."

"What are we going to do there?"

"You'll know when we get there."

The mention of the Tribulation Realm filled his mind with multiple thoughts.

"What's wrong?" White Skirt Destiny asked.

"I'm so weak right now. If I see my sister in the Tribulation Realm..."

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "Don't think too much about it."

"I just can't help but be anxious. I want to be invincible before I rescue her. Going now, I..."

"I know. Don't worry. We'll become even stronger."

After some time, she asked, "Do you like the True God?"

Ye Guan nodded.

White Skirt Destiny chuckled. "Does she like you too?"

"Why would she like someone so weak?"

"Silly boy, affection has nothing to do with strength, especially not for someone who is already invincible."

Ye Guan didn't know what to say to that.

"You want to become stronger and help her, which is a good thing, but don't let that turn into an obsession. Most importantly, don't be too chauvinistic, okay?"

He nodded. "Got it."

"Feelings should be pure, disallowing money, power, or any other factors to complicate it. Liking someone is just liking them, and not liking someone is just not liking them..."

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "People nowadays complicate relationships too much. Even in the Milky Way, when a man and a woman are together, the first thing they ask about is whether the man has a house, a car, savings, and so on."

Ye Guan chuckled. "Finances are important when two people are together."

"It is, but shouldn't the future of a family be something that both partners strive for together? Can't a couple work together without a car or a house?"

Ye Guan intently listened.

"Women should also strive for excellence like the True God. After all, only when you are sufficiently outstanding can you ignore material things and do what you truly want. That's why the True God likes you purely because you are you, not because of your invincible family background or how many connections you have. She doesn't think those things are important."

Ye Guan faintly smiled. "I see."

White Skirt Destiny smiled back.

"Aunt, have you ever liked someone?"

White Skirt Destiny chuckled. "Romantically?"

Ye Guan nodded.

"Not really," she answered, her gaze falling on the end of the Time River. "Having my brother is enough."

"My father is really lucky."

White Skirt Destiny blinked at him. "Aren't you lucky too?"

Ye Guan didn't know how to react.

She added, "We care about you a lot too. You're our family."

Only two people had ever been truly important to the Five Destinies: Ye Xuan and Ye Guan. Although they didn't have much to do with the Yang Clan, in their hearts, those two were the ones closest to them. That was why they were always so deeply involved whenever Ye Guan was in trouble. An Nanjing and the others considered Ye Guan as part of the Yang Clan, but the Five Divinities saw him and Ye Xuan as their own kin.

Chapter 556: Hurt Him If You Dare

White Skirt Destiny's words warmed Ye Guan's heart. His aunts had certainly been very good to him.

"We're here," White Skirt Destiny announced.

Ye Guan snapped out of his thoughts. Filled with anticipation and apprehension, he looked into the distance.

Sister Zhen.... I wonder how she's doing now.

Ye Guan slowly closed his eyes, feeling the immense pressure on his shoulders more prominently now.

A hundred years! Can I become invincible within a hundred years? Will the Past Clan give me that much time?

White Skirt Destiny glanced at Ye Guan, feeling a pang of sympathy. She knew that he was under tremendous pressure, especially since his elders had begun hiding things from him. Unfortunately, although she didn't agree with this approach, it seemed to be their best option for now. After all, everyone was running out of time.

"The highest realm I have ever come across is the Great Destiny Sovereign. What's beyond it?"

"Imperial Sovereign."

"Imperial Sovereign?"

White Skirt Destiny nodded. "Only the Time River has Imperial Sovereigns since only Time Reversers who have gone against the Passageway of Time for the past five hundred billion years can reach it. Considering how hard it is to reverse the flow of time by five hundred billion years, Imperial Sovereigns can be considered genuinely powerful."

Ye Guan briefly nodded. He had encountered many Imperial Sovereigns. Their strength was indeed terrifying.

"What about the realm above the Imperial Sovereign?"

"That would be the Heavenly Sovereign. Those powerful, top-level beings can independently reverse the flow of eight hundred billion years in the River of Time."

Ye Guan fell silent.

Great Sword Sovereign Gu Nanrong had likely become a Heavenly Sovereign after experiencing a breakthrough.

When Ye Guan looked at her, White Skirt Destiny smiled. "Beyond the Heavenly Sovereign is the Ancient Sovereign."

"What's that?"

"Ancient Sovereigns are powerful beings who can reverse nine hundred billion years, allowing them to traverse to the ends of the known ages in the Time River. They are extremely rare even within the Time River."

Ye Guan nodded. The Ancestral Dragon had to be in the Ancient Sovereign Realm. The leader of Gu Clan, too.

His brows soon furrowed as he came to a realization. "Something doesn't seem right."

"What's wrong?"

"Aunt Qingqing said that she has reached the Grasping Dao Realm... Isn't that realm above the Ancient Sovereign one?"

White Skirt Destiny nodded. "Yes."

"Why did she seem to struggle against Imperial Sovereigns, then?" Ye Guan asked, then suddenly quieted down.

When Ye Qingqing had fought several Imperial Sovereign cultivators, she seemed somewhat overwhelmed. Logically speaking, she should have been able to easily defeat them since she was several realms higher than those Imperial Sovereigns. Moreover, she was a swordsman. The combat power of swordsmen far surpassed that of their peers at the same level.

White Skirt Destiny blinked, noticing the situation was turning sour. The kid was getting carried away with his thoughts.

Ye Guan stared at her, waiting for an answer.

Faintly smiling, she explained, "Well, that's because the Grasping Dao Realm is very special!"

"How so?"

"The Grasping Dao Realm emphasizes one's state of mind. Your Aunt Qingqing has a hot temper and unstable emotions, which are causing some issues."

Ye Guan remained silent, a hint of doubt in his eyes.

In a more serious tone, she added, "It's true."

"You have reached the Grasping Dao Realm as well, right, Aunt?"

"Yes."

"Yet you've got an excellent temperament..."

White Skirt Destiny fell silent.

Oh no. This kid isn't easy to deceive.

After a brief hesitation, he prodded, "You rarely trick people, don't you?"

"Hardly ever. This is the first time," she answered, rendering him speechless.

You're so straightforward that I don't know how to handle it.

"You should ask your Aunt Qingqing about this another day. She should answer you herself."

Smiling, Ye Guan shook his head.

Ask Aunt Qingqing? Forget trying to fool me. She would just outright whack me.

He wanted to keep prying for answers, but before he could further interrogate her, she said, "We're almost there."

Noticing her attempt to change the subject, he decided to stop pushing.

Aunt is gentle and has a good temper. I should cherish her! I'd be the one at a loss if I drove her away.

Ye Guan stopped asking questions, much to White Skirt Destiny's relief.

This kid is sharp-witted and hard to trick.

"Aunt, do you know my grandfather?" Ye Guan asked.

"Yes. I met him when he was still weak."

Her answer made his interest in the subject suddenly skyrocket. "He used to be weak?"

White Skirt Destiny smiled. "That's right. Your grandfather was quite weak back then, but it didn't take long for him to become powerful."

"You, Aunt Slaughter, and Aunt Qingqing are all extremely talented. Why did you..." he trailed off.

This question had puzzled him for so long now.

His aunts were all terribly and terrifyingly talented, yet even after so many years, they still had not reached the state of invincibility.

This, from his perspective, seemed somewhat abnormal.

"This world has a saying. 'Small wealth depends on hard work, while great wealth depends on fate.' Do you agree with it?"

"In a way, it does make sense."

"Throughout history, very few individuals have managed to truly surpass the Great Dao and carve out their own path."

"Is it because of obsession?"

A hint of surprise flashed in White Skirt Destiny's eyes. "You..."

At that moment, she realized that she had been underestimating her nephew.



Ye Guan couldn't help but sigh. Based on her reaction, he already knew that he was right. It really was because of obsession! For them, that obsession was his father.

Although Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny also had obsessions, not everyone could surpass the Great Dao with that alone.

His intuition told him that she had far more strength than necessary to surpass the Great Dao.

What a mysterious aunt!

White Skirt Destiny's lips curled up. "I don't have too much desire for invincibility. I only want sufficient strength. Anyway, my brother won't face any danger now."

Ye Guan smiled. "Aunt, if my father were to have another chance at life, would you follow him?"

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "Not right now."

Ye Guan was puzzled. "Why not?"

White Skirt Destiny smiled, "He exclusively belongs to your Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny right now."

"Would she get jealous?"

"Not in this world. In that world, she definitely would."

Ye Guan grew even more curious.

What would happen if Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny got jealous? Would she end up destroying the world in a snap?

Ye Guan couldn't help but shake his head.

"We're here," White Skirt Destiny announced, bringing Ye Guan out of his thoughts.

She grabbed his arm, and they soon disappeared.

After an unknown amount of time, Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny reached a vast, starry sky. As they entered the starry expanse, Ye Guan's expression turned extremely solemn.

The blood-red sky looked like a sea of blood. Just stepping into it made him feel an unprecedented sense of oppression.

Universe Tribulation!

Ye Guan couldn't stop trembling. The extremely terrifying pressure had to be at least a hundred times worse than the draconic pressure that he had encountered in the past.

Like vines, fear crawled from the depths of his heart and enveloped him.

White Skirt Destiny swiftly grabbed Ye Guan's arm and protected his front with a powerful sword aura, making him feel much better.

Ye Guan looked up. In the depths of the sky, blood-colored lightning powerful enough to destroy the world continuously struck.

White Skirt Destiny became quite solemn as well. "That's where the Evil Dao is."

"Didn't Sister Zhen suppress her with her true form? Why does the aura of the Evil Dao..."

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "She can't hold her down."

"What do you mean?" Ye Guan asked, his voice quivering.

"The True God has suppressed her for too long. The strength of the Evil Dao greatly increases every time she's suppressed, which means this is the last time she'll be holding her down. Under normal circumstances, the True God's true form could certainly suppress her, but..."

"Is this about the former Clan Leader of the Past Clan?"

White Skirt Destiny nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan's expression darkened.

She added, "We might not even have a hundred years."

"Aunt, I want to see Sister Zhen."

White Skirt Destiny didn't know what to say.

Looking straight into her eyes, he pleaded, "Aunt, please."

Crossing the tribulation area in the distance wasn't that simple.

"The True God possesses ninety percent divinity right now..." White Skirt Destiny reasoned.

Ye Guan faintly smiled. "To me, she is still Sister Zhen."

After a moment of silence, White Skirt Destiny finally conceded. "Alright. I'll protect you."

"Thank you."

White Skirt Destiny opened her palm, sending the sword in her hand flying out.

Swish!

This sword tore through the air, splitting open a path through the tribulation area.

"Quick!" White Skirt Destiny urged.

Ye Guan transformed into a streak of sword light and flew along the path.

As he passed through the tribulation area, a blood-red lady appeared in front of him. She grabbed him by the throat faster than he could react.

Evil Dao!

The Evil Dao stared at Ye Guan, her face twisted into a terrifying expression.

At that moment, an emotionless voice came from behind the Evil Dao. "Hurt him if you dare."

Chapter 557: Evil Dao, Plain Skirt Destiny

That voice is familiar!

Ye Guan faintly trembled. Looking behind the Evil Dao, he saw a woman wearing a long, light-blue dress. Her hair was as white as snow, her gaze as cold as ice.

Cizhen!

Memories he had made with her flashed in his mind like sparks.

The Evil Dao abruptly released Ye Guan and turned to Cizhen, her expression filled with ferocity. "You can't even protect yourself, yet you want to protect this man?"

Cizhen gelidly stared at her.

The Evil Dao scoffed, then looked back at Ye Guan. "Invincible for a hundred years? Is this all you've got? Trash."

Sensing a terrifying force speeding toward her from behind, she swiftly whirled around.

Boom!

Along with a dull thud, the Evil Dao was sent flying thousands of meters away!

Upon skidding to a stop, she gave Cizhen a resentment-filled death glare.

Ignoring her, Cizhen turned to Ye Guan. Her gaze was void of emotions.

Ye Guan walked straight toward her. However, just as he was about to take the last step to reach her, an invisible force stopped him from approaching any further.

Cizhen shook her head, turned around, and said, "Leave."

Slightly taken aback, Ye Guan called, "Sister Zhen..."

"What are you doing here?" she coldly asked.

"I came to see you," He softly replied.

Cizhen was rendered speechless. Ye Guan tried to approach her once more, but the invisible barrier stopped him again, causing a sigh to escape his lips.

"If you don't want to see me, I'll leave."

He turned around and began to walk away. Deep down, he was a little anxious.

Sister Zhen will try to stop me from leaving, right?

After walking for a while, his face began to darken. Cizhen still hadn't called her back.

Soon, however, he heard footsteps behind him. Quickly turning around, he found Cizhen standing right in front of him.

"Sister Zhen."

Contradicting his excitement, Cizhen remained calm and collected. "What is it?"

Ye Guan suddenly grabbed onto her hand, but she didn't resist. Intently staring into her eyes, he could feel that she was not truly indifferent to him despite her icy gaze.

"Wait for me," he whispered.

He then turned and walked away again. Cizhen, watching him leave, was slightly taken aback. This time, he really was leaving.

Ye Guan did not leave any sweet words or show any romantic gestures. What Cizhen really needed right now was assistance, not corny lines. The best thing that he could do for her was focus on becoming stronger.

Watching him disappear into the distance, she found herself wanting to say something but didn't know how to say it. After a while, she let out a soft sigh and turned to leave.

However, at that moment, the Evil Dao suddenly appeared in front of Ye Guan. He frowned when he saw her.

She stared at him and said, "You're useless."

Ye Guan looked at her blandly and said, "Are you trying to start a verbal battle with me?"

The Evil Dao's eyes were full of disdain. "What else are you if not useless? A hundred years... Do you think that woman can last a hundred years?"

Ye Guan frowned. "What do you mean?"

The Evil Dao scoffed. "You still don't understand? Haha... What made you think suppressing the Universe Tribulation is that easy? The Universe Tribulation arises from all living beings. Hence, restricting it is no different from going against Dao. Even as we speak, she continues to face the backlash of all beings' countless evil beliefs. Oohh, to be able to taste that... hahaha!"

Ye Guan's expression darkened.

With a wave of her right hand, the Evil Dao created a light projection screen a hundred meters away from him. It showed Cizhen's true body in an unidentified but chaotic space. The energy of countless evil beliefs was endlessly surging toward her.

They were tirelessly consuming her, rapidly depleting her vitality day after day.

"You think she's only suppressing me? No, she's suppressing the collective karma of all living beings. She was lying to you when she said she had a hundred years. At most, those evil beliefs will finish devouring her in ten years."

Ye Guan clenched his fists as he looked at Cizhen, who was already walking away. With his voice trembling, he asked, "Sister Zhen, is that true?"

Sister Zhen lied to me? Will she really be consumed by the evil beliefs of all living beings in ten years? She doesn't even have a hundred years!

Cizhen stopped in her tracks. After a few moments of silence, she finally replied, "Yes, I lied."

Ye Guan roared, "When are you going to stop lying to me?"

Cizhen didn't know what to say.

"You only have ten years left..." he trailed off, his eyes reddening.

Cizhen replied softly, "Do you remember what I told you last time? We..."

He shook his head. "I don't. I don't remember anything. You told me you had a hundred years when you actually only have ten... Sister Zhen, why did you lie to me?"

Standing with her back facing him, she asked, "Don't you want to be invincible?"

"You're far more important than invincibility!"

Cizhen faintly quivered. As Ye Guan slowly walked toward her, she suddenly said, "Even if I only have ten years left, I believe you will still become invincible."

"You do?"

"Yes."



"But you've decided to sacrifice yourself, haven't you?"

Cizhen did not reply.

"Sister Zhen, I don't want you to die."

Before Cizhen could say anything, the Evil Dao laughed out loud. "You don't approve of her dying? Who do you think you are? Oh right, you are the King of Relying on Others. You have a powerhouse to rely on, don't you? Come on, call them here, then! Do it!"

Ye Guan frowned at her. Has this woman been suppressed for so long that even her brain has been damaged?

The Evil Dao glared at him, resentment evident in her eyes. "You worthless little insect—"

Boom!

The spacetime in front of Ye Guan suddenly tore open. Plain Skirt Destiny slowly walked out of it, much to Ye Guan's surprise.

"Aunt..."

She turned to Ye Guan. "Close your eyes."

"What? Why?"

Gently ruffling his hair, she answered, "Just be good and listen to me."

Ye Guan hesitated for a moment but still slowly closed his eyes.

Still feeling somewhat uneasy, Plain Skirt Destiny waved her sleeve and sealed off the space that Ye Guan stood in, preventing him from seeing or feeling anything. It was as if he had been shut in a little black room.

Afterward, she slowly approached the Evil Dao. "Constantly calling others useless... What makes you think you're that strong?"

The Evil Dao fiercely glared at Plain Skirt Destiny. "I'm the Great Dao, the essence of all beings—"

Before the Evil Dao could finish her sentence, Plain Skirt Destiny suddenly reached out with her left hand and tightly gripped the Evil Dao's throat. "Great Dao? You're nothing but a weak dog!"

She then slapped the Evil Dao across the face with her right hand.

Pa!

The crisp slap echoed throughout the area.

Chapter 558: Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny Is Good At Escaping

"Ah!"

After being slapped by Plain Skirt Destiny, the Evil Dao went berserk. So much anger consumed her that her eyes looked as if they were about to shoot out flames. "How dare—"

Bam!

Before she could finish her sentence, Plain Skirt Destiny lifted her and violently slammed her into the ground, shattering spacetime in the process!

The Evil Dao was at a complete loss for words.

Plain Skirt Destiny stepped on the Evil Dao's face with her right foot and then looked down at her. "You keep thinking highly of yourself, completely unaware that you are as insignificant and weak as an ant."

She put even more strength in her foot, causing the Evil Dao's face to contort. Had the Evil Dao ever experienced such humiliation? Roaring in rage, she unleashed countless tribulation lightning bolts. However, before they could even materialize, they were shattered and crushed by a terrifying force.

Before her might, the evil beliefs of all living beings and tribulation forces were rendered useless. They couldn't even resist!

Panic spread in the Evil Dao's heart, causing her to tremble uncontrollably and her eyes to fill with disbelief.

Plain Skirt Destiny just kept emotionlessly staring at her. "Weakling."

The Evil Dao looked back at her with terror-filled eyes.

"Y-you..." she stammered, her voice trembling.

Bang!

Plain Skirt Destiny kicked the Evil Dao's face, sending her flying thousands of meters away!

"You can fight him, but you can't humiliate him. Understood?"

Shaken to her core, she looked back at Plain Skirt Destiny in fear. "You..."

Has this woman transcended the Great Dao? Even so, it should still be impossible for me to be this powerless against her! How is this possible?!

She was utterly bewildered. The martial faith in her heart collapsed, having realized that her opponent's capabilities were beyond even her understanding of martial arts. Before this battle, she had always thought that she had reached the ceiling of power.

Plain Skirt Destiny glared at her. "Come here!"

The Evil Dao's expression darkened. She wanted to retreat, but a terrifying aura had locked her in place.

Plain Skirt Destiny raised her hand and delivered another slap.

Pa!

Blood sprayed from the Evil Dao's mouth. Plain Skirt Destiny pressed her fingers together and captured a drop. After smearing it on the corner of her mouth, she tore off a piece of her clothing...

Now, she looked as if she had just fought a fierce battle.

The Evil Dao was bewildered. What is she doing?

Plain Skirt Destiny turned around and waved her sleeve, releasing Ye Guan from the seal.

He couldn't help but be surprised to see her seemingly wounded. "Aunt, you..."

Plain Skirt Destiny calmly glanced at the Evil Dao. "She is very strong. I am no match for her."

The Evil Dao didn't know what to say. Meanwhile, Ye Guan's expression darkened, and his heart was filled with shock.

Even Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny can't defeat her?

He had always thought that she was invincible. Now...

He turned to the Evil Dao. He never expected her to be even stronger than his aunt.

That's ridiculous! I'm doomed!

Ye Guan went completely numb. His martial faith was starting to collapse.

"Go on without me. I'll stay behind to deal with her," Plain Skirt Destiny said.

"Aunt, I..."

"Focus on cultivating. You are our final hope."

She then glanced sideways at White Skirt Destiny.

Catching onto Plain Skirt Destiny's plan, White Skirt Destiny grabbed Ye Guan by the arm. With her voice trembling, she said, "Let's go. If we don't leave now, we won't be able to escape."

White Skirt Destiny led him away, eventually disappearing into the distant sky.

Once Ye Guan was gone, Plain Skirt Destiny turned to the Evil Dao. Her expression immediately changed, causing the Evil Dao to hastily back away.

"Even a dog is stronger than you," Plain Skirt Destiny blandly remarked.

She then transformed into a ray of sword light and disappeared into the depths of space.

Evil Dao's sour expression showed how terrified she was. She had heard of Plain Skirt Destiny before and knew that she was Ye Guan's aunt, but she had never fought against her before. She expected Plain Skirt

Destiny to have only transcended the Great Dao at most. Someone of such caliber would not have been much of a threat to her. After all, she was the manifestation of the Great Dao itself.

However, Plain Skirt Destiny proved to be far more fearsome than she imagined. The Evil Dao still couldn't even believe that she was completely helpless against her.

"Do you know how weak you are now?" the True God queried.

The Evil Dao turned to her. "You should worry about yourself! In ten years, you will be consumed by the evil beliefs of all living beings. When that happens—"

"Oh, no! I'm scared! I'm so scared," Cizhen sarcastically replied.

She sympathetically glanced at the Evil Dao before turning to leave.

The Evil Dao couldn't help but feel displeased. What was that look in her eyes? Was that sympathy? What right does she have to pity me? How dare she?

She could vaguely sense that she was missing something but could not quite put a finger on it.

The Evil Dao took a deep breath, choosing not to further dwell on it. In ten years, Cizhen would die, and she would be able to break free. She would then suppress the Virtuous Dao and merge with it to become a complete entity. That would make her power reach unprecedented heights!

The Evil Dao looked at the distant end of the starry sky with resentment. I will pay you back for the humiliation I endured today!

Her eyes filled with murderous intent. Tribulation lightning bolts emanated all around her.

...

After being led away from the Tribulation Realm, Ye Guan entered the Time River with White Skirt Destiny. He hadn't spoken a word since, and his expression remained grim.

"Aunt, will Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny be okay?" he asked, finally breaking the silence.

White Skirt Destiny reassuringly smiled. "She'll be fine. Even if she can't defeat the Evil Dao, she can at least protect herself."

Ye Guan looked at the distant sky, a hint of confusion in his eyes. "I never imagined that the Evil Dao would be so powerful..."

"Well, she is the embodiment of the Great Dao. Furthermore, as the Evil Dao, she grows stronger every time she is suppressed. Since the True God has suppressed her multiple times already throughout the years, her power has now reached a terrifying level..."

She then looked at him with a serious expression. "Now, you are our final hope."

Ye Guan took a deep breath. He had to admit that he was starting to feel the pressure. He had always thought of Plain Skirt Destiny as an invincible and untouchable god. Today, however, the Evil Dao defeated her, shattering his godly image of her.

No longer able to rely on Plain Skirt Destiny or his father as his last resort, he could only depend on himself now.

Apart from the Evil Dao, he also had to worry about the Clan Leader of the Past Clan, who could shatter even the Xuanyuan Sword. His enemies were very powerful, and his side was now at a disadvantage.

He tightly clenched his fists as his eyes filled with determination. "Aunt, please help me grow stronger!"

The corners of White Skirt Destiny's lips curled up. "Of course! Let's go look for that Ancestral Dragon."

Ye Guan was puzzled. "Ancestral Dragon?"

White Skirt Destiny nodded. "We need to enhance not only your strength but Ao Qianqian's as well. We also need the Four Great Ancestral Beasts to help you shape your Mortal Body."

Ye Guan's expression became even heavier. He thought that constant battles would be enough to shape his Mortal Body, but to his surprise, he hadn't made any progress at all.

"Let's go," his aunt urged.

She took him deeper into the current of the Time River.

Along the way, his expression remained grim. He couldn't shake off the image of blood on the corner of Plain Skirt Destiny's lips.

She must have been heavily injured!

He worriedly looked behind him, making White Skirt Destiny feel a bit guilty. However, she knew that it would be better for Ye Guan to have no god in his heart.

With a faint smile, she proceeded to reassure him. "Don't think too much about it. Your aunt is good at escaping!"

"Master Pagoda, do you feel like something is off?" Ye Guan asked in his mind.

"What do you mean?" Little Pagoda replied.

"I don't know. I feel like I'm missing something."

"Don't overthink it. You are our last hope now. Focus on becoming even more powerful. To that end, you have to prioritize shaping your Mortal Body. Do not dwell on anything else. You'd only waste your time if you overthink things. Got it?"



Ye Guan briefly nodded. "Yes."

Following Little Pagoda's advice, Ye Guan stopped dwelling on his thoughts.

White Skirt Destiny heaved a sigh of relief when he stopped asking questions. This little lad is hard to deceive.

After some time, she looked into the distance. "We're almost at the Ancestral Dragon World."

"When you mentioned the Four Great Ancestral Beasts earlier, which beasts were you referring to?" Ye Guan asked.

"The Ancestral Dragon, the Primordial Turtle Ancestor, the Ancestral Phoenix, and the Primordial Tiger Ancestor."

The Primordial Turtle Ancestor?

Ye Guan frowned.

"We're here," White Skirt Destiny said.

With a wave of her sleeve, she tore open the spacetime before them. She then led Ye Guan into the Ancestral Dragon World.

Ye Guan's frown deepened the moment they entered. He could feel a very unusual energy. Something's wrong!

Upon reaching a vast expanse of stars, White Skirt Destiny frowned as well. The two were stunned by the scene before them.

Chapter 559: Solve The Problem At Its Root

Floating in the expanse of stars was the bloody head of the Ancestral Dragon, and surrounding it were its scattered remains. There was also a strong metallic taste of blood in the air.

The scene stunned Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny.

The Ancestral Dragon had been beheaded!

They exchanged a shocked glance, both unable to think of anyone who could have done this.

Ao Qianqian soon appeared. Seeing the Ancestral Dragon's corpse, she frowned deeply.

At the same time, the eyes of his severed head slowly opened.

"Senior," Ye Guan quickly greeted.

Looking at Ye Guan and Ao Qianqian, the Ancestral Dragons said softly, "You're both here."

"Senior, what happened here?" Ye Guan quietly asked.

"Temple of the Gods."

"Why did they target you?"

The Ancestral Dragon looked at Ye Guan. However, before it could reply, it sensed something. Almost at the same time as it narrowed its eyes, its head exploded, sending parts of its brain flying in all directions. Its soul was completely destroyed!

Ye Guan's expression drastically darkened. Turning to his right, he found a mysterious person in a red cloak standing thousands of meters away.

White Skirt Destiny narrowed her eyes at the mysterious figure.

Staring right back at Ye Guan, the man tightened his right fist.

Ka-cha!

The spacetime all around Ye Guan instantly split open. A silent yet fierce slash from a blood blade rushed toward Ye Guan. In response, White Destiny stood in front of him and thrust her sword forward.

Clang!

The blood blade was knocked away.

"He's from the Temple of the Gods," she said.

The mysterious figure smirked coldly. He then turned into an illusion.

"Can you stop him?" Ye Guan asked.

She nodded. "Yes."

She waved her sleeve, sending out her Transcendence Sword. Soon after, it transformed into a cage, imprisoning her opponent.

Frowning, the mysterious figure tightly clenched his right fist again, causing a powerful force to erupt from within him.

Boom!

The sword cage created by White Skirt Destiny violently rattled. However, the cloaked man failed to break free from it.

Thousands of meters away to the right of the cloaked mysterious figure, spacetime suddenly ruptured. From within it slowly walked out a man in white robes. He lightly waved the white bone fan in his hand.

Boom!

The attack knocked away White Skirt Destiny's Transcendence Sword. She opened her hand and recalled the sword, making it fly back into her grip.

Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny looked at the white-robed man as he faintly smiled. "White Skirt Destiny."

White Skirt Destiny frowned. The white-robed man continued, "Do not be surprised. We naturally had to investigate who you were."

"Are you from the Temple of the Gods?" Ye Guan asked.

"Yes," the man answered.

"I don't remember there being any grievances between us."

"Young Lord Ye, your beliefs differ from ours."

Ye Guan fell silent. The Temple of the Gods was clearly siding with the Evil Dao.

The white-robed man lightly waved his fan. "I have to admit that you have caught us by surprise. We did not expect your allies to be so immensely powerful. It truly caught us off guard."

Ye Guan replied, "Are you changing your approach now, then?"

"It was mentioned in the records that you are extremely intelligent. It seems they are right."

"The Ancestral Dragon was not on my side. Why did you kill it?"

"Because it not only refused to submit to the Temple of the Gods but even looked down on us."

Ye Guan was rendered speechless. The white-robed man suddenly turned his head to glance at something. With a frown, he said, "We will meet again, Young Lord Ye."

He and the cloaked figure disappeared.

Ye Guan frowned. He knew nothing about the Temple of the Gods.

Reaching a realization, Ye Guan looked sideways at Ao Qianqian, who was staring at the Ancestral Dragon's corpse with a melancholic expression.

He sighed and held her hand tightly to comfort her. The Ancestral Dragon was like a mentor to her. Witnessing its demise must be weighing heavily on her heart.

"They may be trying to subjugate all of the Ancestral Beasts in this world," White Skirt Destiny said.

Ye Guan was about to say something when the spacetime in front of him slightly quivered. His expression soon turned grim.

"What is it?" asked White Skirt Destiny.

Ye Guan replied, "Mother just sent word. The powerful figures from the Past Clan and the Gui Clan have retreated."

"Retreated?"

"Yes. All of them. They must be hatching a new plan."

After a moment of silence, she concluded, "Let's not worry about them for now. We have to prioritize quickly shaping your Mortal Body."

"But..."

"I refuse to believe that the Temple of the Gods can make all the Ancestral Beasts submit to them."

"Can Erya help me?"

Erya was a demonic beast too—an incredibly powerful one.

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "No."

"Why not?"

"Erya's bloodline is strong and shares the same origin as yours. Letting her enter your body will just help your Mad Demon Bloodline suppress your Mortal Bloodline. How would that help us shape your Mortal Body?"

After a brief pause, she then asked, "Can you get your Phoenix Emperor Bloodline to help your Mortal Bloodline?"

Ye Guan shook his head.

"Why not?"

"The Phoenix Emperor Bloodline does not intervene in such things."

Every time the Mad Demon Bloodline and the Mortal Bloodline clashed, the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline just sat on the sidelines and watched quietly. Perhaps it was trying to profit from their fights.

Eventually, he realized that the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline had become much stronger, but he had no idea how it happened.

"Let's go to the Ancestral Demon World and see if we can find some powerful beasts," White Skirt Destiny said. "We can borrow their bloodline power to shape your Mortal Body."

Ye Guan nodded. "Okay."

Their priority was to shape his Mortal Body, which he eagerly anticipated as well. White Skirt Destiny brought him back into the Time River and led the way to the Ancestral Demon World.

On the way there, Ye Guan asked, "Aunt, how do you think the Temple of the Gods will target me next?"

White Skirt Destiny shook her head. "I don't know."

Ye Guan quieted down. His intuition was telling him that the Temple of the Gods was up to something big.

...

Realm of the Gods.

The Realm of the Gods was located at the far end of the known Time River. Within this realm existed tens of thousands of worlds, both large and small. It was like an independent universe on its own.

This place was quite special. Many years ago, the Gods had forcibly separated it from the Time River. Hence, it could be said that it no longer belonged to the Time River. Hence, although no longer a part of the past, it was still a part of the present.

The Gods here were not mere idols or decorations. As long as one showed their sincerity, their prayers could be answered. Hence, in front of the Temple of the Gods, countless devout individuals came to kneel and pray every day.

The square in front of the Temple of the Gods could accommodate millions of people, yet it was crowded every day! Fortunately, the Realm of the Gods had at least tens of millions of temples like these.

Within the main hall of the temple were five statues, four males and one female. They all exuded a majestic and solemn aura that made people hesitate to look directly at them.

An elderly man dressed in divine robes was sitting in that hall, holding a scepter and reading a divine scripture. Soon, a middle-aged man enveloped in a graceful and refined aura entered the hall. He was wearing a white robe and had a white bone fan in his hand.

He bowed to the elderly man in divine robes and respectfully greeted him. "Temple Master."

The Temple Master was the representative of the Gods in the mortal realm, making him the most authoritative figure and undoubtedly the most powerful being in the Realm of the Gods.

"Is it dead?" the Temple Master asked.

The white-robed man nodded. "The Ancestral Dragon refused to submit."

The Temple Master's eyes were filled with sympathy. "The Gods are kind and merciful, bestowing grace upon the world, yet it refused to accept them... Ah, ignorance. Did you at least obtain its Dragon Pill?"

The middle-aged man nodded and opened his palm, revealing a fist-sized pill. It slowly floated before the Temple Master.



Gazing at the pill, the Temple Master's eyes flashed with pity. "Bishop Yuan, as you know, I wanted to let it come into the embrace of the Gods. I never intended to kill it."

"I met Ye Guan."

"How was he?"

"Even among the younger generations in the Realm of the Gods, he is unmatched."

"Such a talent should be brought into our temple, under the protection of the Gods..."

Getting Ye Guan to join the Temple of the Gods?

"That might be difficult." Bishop Yuan replied.

The Temple Master sighed. "Such is the great ignorance of the people. We must work harder to educate them. That way, they'll join our temple and receive the protection of the Gods much sooner."

"The reason the Past Clan repeatedly failed in the past was that they targeted the wrong individuals. We should not focus on Ye Guan. He is so fearless because of the powerful swordsmen supporting him. As long as they are alive, Ye Guan will never die. Hence, my suggestion is to target them first."

He lightly waved his fan as he added, "Kill the king before killing the thieves. Let's launch a divine war against those swordsmen, eradicate them in one fell swoop, and solve the problem at its root."

Chapter 560: Eliminate Ye Xuan First

'Launch a divine war'?

When the Temple Master heard what Bishop Yuan said, his expression turned serious. Throughout its history, the Temple of the Gods had only launched two divine wars—one was against heretics, and another against the leader of the Past Clan. Unfortunately, they lost both divine wars.

Bishop Yuan continued, "I've carefully investigated Ye Guan and the people supporting him. Whenever he encounters trouble, he always manages to turn the situation around mainly because he has guardians like the Great Daoist Brush Master and even Plain Skirt Destiny.

"Targeting Ye Guan directly would be meaningless. Even if he was killed, they would be able to cultivate another one just like him. Killing him would only be treating the symptoms and not targeting the root cause. Hence, we need to deal with the people behind him first. After they are dealt with, eradicating Ye Guan will be easy."

The Temple Master intently listened. When Bishop Yuan briefly paused, he asked, "What does the leader of the Past Clan have to say about this?"

"She gave us full authority to over this," Bishop Yuan replied.

"Where is she now?"

"I don't know."

The Temple Master quieted down again. A divine war wasn't just some trivial matter.

"Temple Master, if we do not eliminate the people backing him up, he will continue becoming stronger. Even as we speak, he's out there in the Time River, his strength rapidly advancing. He's not a threat right now, but at the rate he's improving, even the Temple of the Gods will soon have to take him seriously."

The Temple Master slowly got up and paced around. He then stared at Bishop Yuan. "You of all people should know what launching a divine war entails."

"Of course, but we have no other choice now. Ye Guan is not the core issue now. The real problem lies with the people who back him up. As long as we get rid of them, eliminating Ye Guan will be a piece of cake."

After pondering for a moment, the Temple Master softly sighed. "So be it. For the sake of all living beings, we will initiate another divine war."

"Let's start by eliminating Ye Xuan."

The Temple Master frowned. "The Sword Master from Guanxuan Universe?"

"Yes. According to what I've gathered, the Sword Master and his sister, Plain Skirt Destiny, have already reincarnated. They should be the easiest to kill."

"Where did they reincarnate?"

"We're still looking into it."

"Since we plan to eradicate everyone behind Ye Guan, we should investigate the others as well."

"Of course."

"Did the clan leader of the Past Clan say anything before she left?"

"No. She just gave us full authority over this matter."

Full authority.

The Temple Master frowned.

Bishop Yuan continued, "She had an agreement with the True God not to attack Ye Guan herself, so we can only handle this matter ourselves. Now, the elites from the Past Clan and the Gui Clan will heed the commands of the Temple of the Gods."

The Temple Master's eyes lit up. "Is there a chance that we can persuade them to convert to our Temple?"

"There isn't. I highly advise against it too. Attempting to convert them will provoke opposition from the Past Clan. If we get on the bad side of their clan leader..." He trailed off.

The clan leader of the Past Clan was not someone to be trifled with.

The Temple Master narrowed his eyes. After a few moments, he faintly smiled. "I was simply joking. I was not planning to actually do it."

Bishop Yuan heaved a sigh of relief. They could not afford to take this opportunity. They could not handle the clan leader of the Past Clan right now.

The second divine war was triggered precisely because of matters of faith. Considering the situation, they absolutely must not cross that line again.

"So, how should we deal with Ye Guan? Do we just let him develop freely?" the Temple Master asked.

Bishop Yuan chuckled. "What harm can his development bring? Do you really think he can become invincible in just a few decades?"

The Temple Master shook his head. "We should still try to create some trouble for him to impede his progress."

"I'll make the arrangements," Bishop Yuan replied.

"Mobilize all of our forces. Find the swordsmen behind him," the Temple Master ordered. After a slight pause, he continued, "Once you do, report back to me. Do not attack them yet. When we strike, we should deliver a fatal blow."

Bishop Yuan nodded. "Of course."

He then turned around and left.

Inside the hall, the Temple Master slowly closed his eyes, his expression showing his devotion.

An elderly man soon entered the hall and bowed before him. "Temple Master, it's time to meet with the believers."

The Temple Master nodded and slowly got up. When he stepped out of the hall, a vast sea of people greeted him.

The believers immediately knelt in reverence. Many were so overwhelmed with emotion that they fainted.

The Temple Master smiled. Radiating kindness, he began, "May the Gods have mercy on us all."

He spoke softly, yet everyone in the crowd could hear him.

In unison, they all echoed, "May the Gods have mercy on us all."

...

Dark Emperor World.

Instead of returning to Guanxuan Universe, Nalan Jia stayed by Qin Guan's side. Every day, besides tending to political affairs, Qin Guan helped Nalan Jia familiarize herself with the various departments of the Time Pavilion.

Today, they strolled through a garden.

Qin Guan looked at her daughter-in-law. "Little Jia, are you more familiar with the various departments of the Time Pavilion now?"

Nalan Jia nodded. "Yes."

Noticing the melancholy in her expression, Qin Guan softly asked, "Missing Little Guan?"

"I am," she replied.

Qin Guan smiled. "Don't worry about him. He'll be alright."

"I don't want to take over the Time Pavilion anymore. I just want to focus on cultivating so that I can fight alongside him."

"I get what you mean, Little Jia, but we can only entrust the Guanyuan Universe, the Immortal Treasures Pavilion, and the Time Pavilion to you or Little Guan."

"Why?"

"Little Guan wants to establish a new order that can only be controlled by our own people. If others gain control of it... well, people are selfish, and so are we. If others try to use it to suppress the Yang Family, do you think we would agree with them?"

Nalan Jia was rendered speechless.

Qin Guan chuckled. "You probably don't know about this yet, but the Three Swords—no, the Five Swords don't really want an order."

Nalan Jia was astonished. "That's..."

"They have almost achieved full divinity. Hence, in their eyes, all living beings are..." Qin Guan trailed off. She then shook her head. "Order is like a shackle that binds all cultivators. They don't see it as necessary, but they also understand that the world is better off with it. After all, without it, the universe will not be able to exist for long since its resources are finite."

"Do they hope that Little Guan will be the one to bring about this order?"

"Yes."

"Why must it be him?"

"Because Little Guan is one of us. Moreover, he also has the support of the entire Yang Family. Getting his grandfather's support means getting the Unfettered Swordsman's support. Since he is my and Ye Xuan's son, Destiny will also stand behind him. Most importantly, he has also brought the Great Daoist Brush Master and True God to his side. Those people's aid is indispensable. Establishing an order is about how many friends you have, not how many enemies."

"But he must already be so exhausted.... Ever since he left the Ancient Desolate City, he has been burdened by many responsibilities and hasn't had a chance to breathe..."

Qin Guan nodded. "I know..."

Still walking into the distance, she continued, "At first, I hoped that he would just live happily, but I eventually realized that since he's a member of the Yang Clan, he would neither be able to live an ordinary life nor be content with mediocrity. He'll keep going down this path until he has transcended the Great Dao."

Nalan Jia sighed. She was also well aware that Ye Guan would not be happy living an ordinary life. Even if he was not from the Yang Clan, he would still choose to walk on this path of invincibility even though his progress would be much slower.

"After his current lifetime ends, the fate of the Yang Family will end too," Qin Guan concluded.

"The fate of the Yang Family?"

Qin Guan nodded. "His grandfather suffered a lot, and his father had a tough time in his early years. As for Little Guan..."

She shook her head, then turned to Nalan Jia. "You should have a child soon."

Nalan Jia's face immediately reddened. She then recalled the last time they were intimate, causing her to blush even more.

Qin Guan chuckled. "I know you are trying to help him, but you won't be able to catch up to him in terms of cultivation. Help him in other ways instead, like establishing a powerful organization. He definitely would not have the time to manage the organizations under the Yang Family, so it'll be up to you to take care of them."

Be it the first or the second generation of the Yang Family, it was always the women who managed their businesses.

Nalan Jia nodded. "I understand."

"Come. I'll take you to Aunt Su and the others. They really want to meet you too."

The two soon disappeared into the distance.