

## A Sword 561

### Chapter 561: Get Them All At Once!

Ye Guan accompanied White Skirt Destiny to the Ancestral Demon World. He immediately sensed the presence of numerous powerful demonic beasts upon their arrival. Surveying the surroundings, he observed endless mountain ranges concealing ominous auras.

"Many demonic beasts lie dormant in slumber here," White Skirt Destiny softly remarked.

"To extend their lives?" Ye Guan inquired.

"Yes. Demonic beasts possess longer lifespans than humans, but they are not eternal. After enduring countless ages, these creatures must resort to special methods to delay the inevitable passage of time."

"Who should we seek help from, then?"

"Let's go find the Ancestral Phoenix."

White Skirt Destiny flew away with Ye Guan, eventually finding themselves in a scorching magma pool. The heat was so intense that Ye Guan only felt better when he fused with Ao Qianqian.

Feeling the searing power of the magma, White Skirt Destiny whispered, "The Ancestral Phoenix is still here."

Leading Ye Guan deeper into the magma, they eventually reached the heart of the fiery flames. However, as they entered, a powerful aura immediately seized them.

With a wave of her hand, White Skirt Destiny swiftly dispersed the oppressive aura.

Shortly after, a voice rang out. "Hm? Grasped the Dao."

White Skirt Destiny turned to Ye Guan. "Do you still have an Ancestral Origin with you?"

As Ye Guan revealed an Ancestral Origin in his palm, an illusory phoenix swiftly materialized before them.

The Ancestral Phoenix fixed her gaze on the Ancestral Origin, her fiery eyes showing her hunger for power.

"One Ancestral Origin in exchange for a drop of your blood," White Skirt Destiny proposed.

However, the Ancestral Phoenix outright refused. "No."

White Skirt Destiny's brows furrowed in surprise. Just as she was about to renegotiate, Ye Guan decided to leave, prompting a sudden change of heart from the Ancestral Phoenix.

Aren't you going to try to convince me?

Stopping them in their tracks, she finally shouted, "One Ancestral Origin in exchange for a drop of phoenix blood."

Ye Guan's brow furrowed. "Aren't you thinking too highly of yourself?"

With a firm tug, he led White Skirt Destiny away.

The Ancestral Phoenix's gaze followed them as they departed. A chilling aura soon surged toward the two.

She was the Ancestral Phoenix! How could anyone dare look down on her?

As she moved to strike, Ye Guan's gaze intensified. In a swift motion, White Skirt Destiny transformed into a streak of light, launching a counterattack.

Instantly shattering the Ancestral Phoenix's oppressive aura, White Skirt Destiny's strike sent her flying back hundreds of meters. The powerful sword energy also stirred the magma around them.

The Ancestral Phoenix looked back at White Skirt Destiny, a hint of fear in her eyes.

"One Ancestral Origin for your blood. A fair trade," Ye Guan said.

Fair? The Ancestral Phoenix's anger erupted.

Ye Guan frowned. "Are you trading or not? Otherwise, I'll just look for another demonic beast."

"You're too greedy, human."

"This Ancestral Origin can extend your lifespan. Decide. Trade or not?"

After glancing at him, she presented three white jade bottles of phoenix blood!

The Ancestral Phoenix stared at Ye Guan. "That's all I have to offer."

Frowning, Ye Guan turned to White Skirt Destiny.

"Give us two more," White Skirt Destiny demanded.

The Ancestral Phoenix glanced at White Skirt Destiny, then produced two additional bottles.

Handing over the Ancestral Origin, Ye Guan sighed softly. "What a loss."

A loss? The Ancestral Phoenix's flames burst outward. "Human, those bottles contain my blood—the most precious blood in this world. How dare you call this trade a loss?"

With a flick of his finger, Ye Guan sent a drop of essence blood flying toward her. She soon froze, sensing the power of three distinct bloodlines from it.

"The most precious blood in this world?" he asked.

The two left immediately after, leaving the Ancestral Phoenix deep in thought.

Ye Guan and White Skirt Destiny stopped in an isolated starry space. They then entered the little pagoda to cultivate.

White Skirt Destiny led Ye Guan to a glacier with biting winds that chilled them to the bone.

White Skirt Destiny handed him a bottle of Ancestral Phoenix.

"Drink it," she instructed.

Ye Guan nodded and swallowed without hesitation. With three different bloodlines already inside him, what was there to fear?

The Ancestral Phoenix's blood coursed through him, causing a fiery sensation to surge within him. Smoke wafted around him as his clothes were burned to ashes.

"Activate all three bloodlines," White Skirt Destiny said.

Ye Guan complied, unleashing a terrifying aura that shook the surroundings.

Boom!

While closely watching him, White Skirt Destiny quickly stabilized spacetime around them.

"Try controlling the Mortal Bloodline," she instructed.

Ye Guan nodded.

Truth be told, ever since his Mortal Bloodline awakened, he had been struggling to gain true control over it. Much like his Mad Demon Bloodline, it seemed to have a mind of its own, operating independently of his will.

After a moment of contemplation, Ye Guan's expression darkened.

White Skirt Destiny asked, "No luck?"

Ye Guan vigorously shook his head.

Controlling these two bloodlines seemed beyond his grasp.

Among the three bloodlines, the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline was a bit more cooperative, even occasionally lending its power to him. However, it refused to intervene to help subdue the two other bloodlines. Crafty as it was, it never made enemies with the others. As for Ye Guan, he was still far too weak for it to consider him a threat.

After a brief silence, White Skirt Destiny suggested, "Fully activate the Mad Demon Bloodline."

Ye Guan was taken aback.

White Skirt Destiny locked eyes with him. "I will fight you with your Mad Demon Bloodline fully activated. Fight fire with fire, so to speak."

Was combat the only way forward now?

Yet Ye Guan hesitated. "If I unleash the Mad Demon Bloodline completely, I might lose control—"

White Skirt Destiny chuckled.

"Are you worried that you'd hurt me?" she asked. At Ye Guan's lack of response, she urged, "Let's give it a try."

After a brief pause, Ye Guan conceded. "Alright."

He then stopped suppressing the Mad Demon Bloodline.

Boom!

Bloodline energy surged and erupted out of Ye Guan, painting the sky red with its intensity.

Fully awakened, the Mad Demon Bloodline took control.

Ye Guan transformed into a streak of crimson light and attacked White Skirt Destiny.

She countered with a swift sword strike.

Bam!

The clash sent Ye Guan hurtling hundreds of meters away. In the blink of an eye, he flew back toward her, sword in hand. The sole thought dominating his mind was slaughtering her.

As the Mad Demon Bloodline took full hold of him, his Mortal Bloodline sensed the impending danger and reacted with its own frenzy.

Along with the Ancestral Phoenix blood he had consumed, the three bloodlines converged within him, making Ye Guan feel as if he would explode at any moment.

He had to release all of the bloodlines' pent-up desires to fight.

As Ye Guan plunged into the frenzy of combat, the patterns on his body began to gradually resurface.

Observing this development, White Skirt Destiny felt satisfied. Their strategy seemed to be proving effective.

For the Mortal Bloodline to thrive, it required the stimulus of combat. Hence, White Skirt Destiny continued to fight Ye Guan, unfazed by his escalating madness. She remained resolute and unafraid. After all, she had lived far longer than him and could afford a certain confidence.

Although her innate talent paled in comparison to Plain Skirt Destiny, she was still a force to be reckoned with.

Ye Guan found himself constantly suppressed by White Skirt Destiny, which only further fueled his madness and amplified the strength of his bloodlines.

In the face of external threats, these two bloodlines set aside their differences, joining forces against a common enemy.

As Ye Guan's mad fighting intensified, the patterns adorning his body multiplied and deepened, a testament to the power escalating within him.

...

At the Temple of the Gods, an elderly man briskly walked quickly into the main hall, finding the Temple Master and Bishop Yuan the only ones inside.

The elder bowed deeply. Afterward, he began his report.

"Temple Master, we've located two of the swordsmen—one is clad in blue robes while the other is in a robe with cloud patterns. Our investigations reveal that the one in blue is Ye Guan's grandfather and key backer."

Setting aside the holy scriptures in his hands, the Temple Master fixed his gaze on the elder. "Two swordsmen?"

The elder confirmed, "Yes, Temple Master. Through the insights bestowed by the Divine Eye, we've traced their locations along the Time River."

"Where are they now?"

"In the Divine Ruins."

"The Divine Ruins!" The Temple Master's expression flickered with concern. "To think they would venture into such territory..."

The elder added, "However, it appears they are already preparing to depart."

A smile graced the Temple Master's lips. "With both targets together, we have a golden opportunity to get them in one fell swoop!"

Chapter 562: Surrounded

The Temple Master rose from his seat, his benevolent expression hardening.

"Begin the Divine War."

The Divine War!

The elder's demeanor darkened.



The Divine War meant unleashing divine power. Within the Temple of the Gods, divine power, bestowed by the gods to safeguard humanity, reigned supreme. Its use was restricted to moments of dire need.

Initiating the Divine War meant tapping into that sacred power.

Stepping toward the divine statues, the Temple Master bowed respectfully, his expression devout. "May the gods watch over us."

The Divine War.

The Temple of the Gods had attempted it twice before, but both times ended in defeat.

This would mark their third attempt!

"As the saying goes, the third time's the charm." The Temple Master truly believed this time would be a success.

Once Ye Guan and those behind him had been eliminated, the entire universe would finally belong to the Temple of the Gods.

The Past Clan's Clan Leader had promised them so.

Now, he intended to make good on that promise and usher in an era where divine light illuminated the universe.

From within the Temple of the Gods, a powerful army led by the Temple Master himself soon set forth for the Divine Ruins. This pivotal mission demanded his personal leadership. After all, it could secure his place in history.

...

In an empty void, a woman took deliberate steps.

Clad in white robes and wearing a half-mask, she exuded an aura of tranquility.

The Past Clan's Clan Leader!

As she continued forth, she traversed the void and reached a vast expanse of starry space. In front of her stood a bronze coffin. Beside it was a hunched old man bound by layers of iron chains, one end of which was tied to the coffin.

The old pallbearer.

The elder slowly opened his dull and lifeless eyes.

"You still can't let go?" the woman asked.

Raising his head, the elder's gaze grew firm. "Why should I?"

"The Old Era has passed. Some gods have perished, others have fled," the woman calmly replied. "What purpose does your resistance serve?"

The elder's resolve hardened. "The Old Era is not yet over. The gods and Ancient arts will return to this world!"

The woman shook her head. "As you wish."

As she continued her journey into the distance, the elder said, "Sifan Jing, the gods are always present."

Sifan Jing stopped and contemplated for a moment. She then answered, "Among the gods, only the First God truly commands respect in my eyes. As for the rest..."

She faintly shook her head. "They deserve to die."

The old pallbearer slowly knelt down. "Clan Leader Jing, you're the only mortal since ancient times to rival the gods. Your power knows no bounds. Can you perhaps open the Divine Dao and allow the First God..."

Sifan Jing shook her head. "Elder, the Old Era has passed."

The elder fell into a somber silence.

Sifan Jing continued, "Go beyond. There are many out there beyond your imagination."

She then resumed walking.

The old pallbearer's expression dimmed as he sighed softly.

Not long after, a figure materialized beside Sifan Jing. As she received a few whispered words, her brows furrowed. "Courting death."

She turned back.

...

Two men, one clad in a blue robe and the other in a robe with cloud patterns, strolled across the Divine Ruins.

At the far end of their gaze lay an expanse of endless ruins. At its heart stood two towering stone pillars, soaring thousands of meters high.

"There's something peculiar about this place, Brother Xiao," the blue-robed man remarked.

The Unfettered Swordsman subtly nodded. "I sense it too."

The blue-robed man chuckled. "I wonder what those so-called gods were really made of back then. Do you truly believe in their existence?"

"It matters not. All that does is the sword."

"You're becoming quite the master of pretense."

The Unfettered Swordsman smiled. "No pretense, just stating facts."

"You're at it again with the pretense."

Taking in the view of the ruins, he softly added, "I've often pondered about how this universe and its myriad beings came into existence. The origin of life..."

His eyes narrowed slightly.

Despite already becoming quite powerful, he still hadn't found the answer to that.

Who was the first being?

How did the universe come to be?

Surely, there was a purpose behind it all.

This was mere curiosity, however. Such matters held little importance to him. With their current might, they had nothing to fear. Even if they one day discovered that they were mere frogs at the bottom of a well, they'd likely welcome it with open arms.

They were on a constant quest for greater challenges even if it meant having to fight gods or other beings. They yearned to be mere frogs at the bottom of a well!

Anything else would simply be too boring.

The Unfettered Swordsman looked at the vast sky.

"Brother Yang, I want to face my end," he whispered.

Yang just quietly listened.

He understood his friend's sentiment all too well.

Over the years, Xiao had truly been seeking death. His travels with the Unfettered Swordsman were an attempt to alleviate the latter's loneliness, but it seemed to have little effect. His sole desire was the embrace of death. Unlike him and Plain Skirt Destiny, who had attachments and aspirations, the Unfettered Swordsman had none. His only obsession was his own end, which naturally led to profound loneliness.

The Qingshan Sword Master's ties to his family prevented him from asking for death. Plain Skirt Destiny's fixation on her brother had the same effect. For as long as he was around, she wouldn't entertain thoughts of ending her life. However, the Unfettered Swordsman was different. His one and only obsession was to draw his final breath.

"Brother Xiao, why don't you find yourself a wife?"

The Unfettered Swordsman shook his head. "Women slow me down when I draw my sword."

The blue-robed man chuckled in response. While others would only utter such words in jest, he knew that his companion was serious. Besides his sword, the Unfettered Swordsman had no interest in anything else.

"Destiny..." the Unfettered Swordsman muttered.

"Do you think she can let go of her obsession?"

He couldn't answer.

No one knew for sure if Destiny could really let go of her obsession. He truly hoped that she could since that would undoubtedly lead to earth-shattering changes, but would she truly let go?

The Unfettered Swordsman sighed softly. If it were anyone else, Destiny might be able to, but... that little man had quite a lot on his mind. He was truly capable of handling Destiny even though that was only because Destiny willingly allowed herself to be handled.

The Unfettered Swordsman sighed again.

Eventually, the two arrived at the center of the ruins. Not far ahead of them stood a grand hall, its gates towering a thousand meters high.

Inside the hall were several broken statues and a colossal, blood-stained altar.

After carefully inspecting the altar, the blue-robed man remarked, "This thing might come in handy for my grandson in the future."

With a flick of his sleeve, he enveloped the altar in a mysterious force. However, just as he was about to take it away, a furious roar erupted from within the altar.

"How dare you touch a sacred artifact!"

A terrifying aura surged forth and bore down on him. As his brows furrowed, he flicked his sleeve.

Boom!

The terrifying aura was instantly shattered.

"You...!" the voice inside the altar exclaimed in horror.

The blue-robed man chuckled. "My grandson is a great guy. Follow him, and you'll live a comfortable life, understand?"

He then proceeded to retrieve the altar.

The Unfettered Swordsman shook his head as he laughed. "Brother Yang, why is there such a big difference in how you treat your son and your grandson?"

Back then, the blue-robed man had truly left Ye Xuan to his own devices.

"Destiny spoiled him when she was with him. If I were to spoil him too, wouldn't he think he's invincible?" After a deep sigh, he continued, "My grandson is the really unfortunate one. He was left alone from a really young age. He didn't have anyone by his side. If I don't lend him a helping hand, how is he supposed to survive?"

Rendered speechless, the Unfettered Swordsman simply smiled.

No wonder your son holds such a grudge against you!

The two stepped into the grand hall. The statues lined up inside were in horrible condition, some even missing limbs.

Glancing at the statues, the blue-robed man exclaimed, "These must be some of the gods that people worshiped in the past!"

The Unfettered Swordsman nodded in agreement. He extended his divine sense toward the statues but found nothing—no souls, no consciousness. They seemed to be mere lifeless objects.

Disappointment flickered in the Unfettered Swordsman's eyes at the sight. What a futile trip it had been!

The man in the blue robe shook his head, sharing the sentiment. They had hoped for something divine, but all they found were lifeless statues.

With his interest waning, the Unfettered Swordsman suggested, "Let's move on."

Brother Yang nodded. However, just as they were about to depart, he turned toward a specific spot in the hall, seemingly noticing something. With a casual flick of his sleeve, an ancient book materialized in his hand.

"This will come in handy for my grandson!"

As he stowed the book away, the Unfettered Swordsman shook his head in amusement.

Upon exiting the temple, they were met by a group of elites led by none other than the Temple Master.

With a faint smile, the leader said, "Gentlemen, you've been surrounded."

Chapter 563: Draw Your Sword!

Surrounded? The two men froze in place at the Temple Master's remark. What was happening? They exchanged a puzzled glance, confusion evident in their eyes. What was all this about?

The Temple Master smiled lightly upon seeing their confused faces. Then, he turned to the man in the blue robe and asked, "You're Ye Guan's grandfather?"



The man in blue nodded slightly. "That's right."

"Then, we've found the right person."

The man in blue blinked. "Has my grandson done something wrong?"

The Temple Master stared deeply at the man in blue. "Yes, and it was quite serious."

The man in blue laughed heartily. "Whatever my grandson has done, I'll take full responsibility for it."

"Do you know who we are?" asked the Temple Master.

Shaking his head, the man in blue admitted, "I don't."

Before the Temple Master could speak, the man in blue added, "But it doesn't matter who you are."

A cold glint flashed in the Temple Master's eyes narrowed eyes. "Such arrogance."

The Temple Master suddenly stepped forward and flipped his palm. A blazing divine light surged toward the man in blue.

"Is that all?" asked the man in blue with furrowed brows. Then, he flicked his sleeve, shattering the blazing divine light.

The Temple Master was stunned.

"Not bad," the Temple Master remarked after a while.

The man in blue was silent, and the Temple Master dared not underestimate him any longer. His figure trembled, and he took to the sky before chanting an ancient incantation in a low voice.

Boom!

A divine light erupted from within the Temple Master, piercing the deep void and opening a golden pathway. The golden pathway was emanating an ancient aura.

The elites of the Temple of the Gods knelt down before the ancient aura.

"We welcome the divine power."

Divine power!

The man in blue and the Unfettered Swordsman looked up at the sky. Streams of golden light rushed out of the golden pathway, and they converged at one point, transforming into a golden giant under everyone's gaze.

The golden giant stood hundreds of meters tall, and it was wielding a golden colossal sword. It emanated a devastating aura that was seemingly capable of destroying the vast expanse.

The Temple Master was thrilled to see the golden giant, and he bowed deeply toward it. Naturally, he genuinely respected the gods, as his current strength and status had all been bestowed upon him by the gods.

The kneeling members of the Temple of the Gods were thrilled as well. After many years, they were witnessing the legendary divine power once again. Although they had entered the Temple of the Gods long ago, they had never really seen a real god before; the gods were like vague concepts to them until now.

At times, they couldn't help but question: were there truly gods in this world?

Upon clapping their eyes on the golden giant, however, they knew without a doubt that gods did exist. The golden giant's appearance was a profound affirmation of their faith, and their belief had gotten even stronger than before.

From afar, the two men observed the towering figure in the sky with a mix of calmness and disappointment in their eyes. The Unfettered Swordsman also shook his head slightly in displeasure.

The golden giant lowered its gaze and swung its colossal sword downward.

Bam!

The starry skies split open, and the vast expanse trembled. The colossal sword carried with it an unstoppable force that rendered everything insignificant.

However, the man in blue remained composed, and he casually lifted his sword, thrusting it toward the oncoming colossal sword.

A resounding hum echoed, and the man in blue's sword shattered the giant's colossal sword—no, even the towering giant itself shattered into pieces. The divine giant was vanquished in just a single move.

The Temple Master and the members of the Temple of the Gods stood dumbfounded.

The giant died just like that? Didn't that giant contain the power of the gods? How come it died with a mere sword thrust?

Their bewilderment was so thick that it was palpable.

Meanwhile, the man in blue turned to the Temple Master and calmly asked, "Why not summon your 'god' to face us?"

The Temple Master, shaken to his core, couldn't comprehend how the divine power he had invoked had been dispelled so effortlessly. Doubt and disbelief consumed him: were the gods truly omnipotent?

His faith wavered, and the inner conflict made him feel anguished. The man in blue glanced at the golden pathway before directing his attention to the temple behind them.

"Are your gods the same as those worshipped in this ruin?"

The Temple Master hesitated before responding, "Not exactly..."

Sensing the ambiguity, the man in blue robes pressed on. "So what are they?"

With a heavy sigh, the Temple Master confessed, "I'm not well-versed in ancient history, but I know one thing for sure: there were once numerous gods being worshipped in the Temple of the Gods, and there were perhaps over a hundred of them.

"However, an internal strife among them led to the downfall of many. Our Temple of the Gods is worshipping the gods that had survived that."

The man in blue furrowed his brow in confusion. "Internal strife?"

The Temple Master nodded solemnly in response. "Yes."

The man in blue asked, "Do you know where to find those surviving gods?"

The Temple Master shook his head and replied, "No, we've never had the means to reach out to the gods; it's always been the other way around."

The man in blue nodded in understanding.

"I see," the man in blue acknowledged before turning to the Unfettered Swordsman with a determined grin.

"Time to make a move," the man in blue declared.

The Unfettered Swordsman nodded. "Let's go."

The unique aura that they had sensed here had lured them to this place, and the divine power that the Temple Master had used not too long ago felt the same as that unique aura.

The gods of the ancient era!

The two were intrigued by the ancient era's gods.

Meanwhile, the Temple Master chose to flee. He turned around and ran away, entering a rift in spacetime in a hurry. However, the man in blue and the Unfettered Swordsman intercepted him in no time.

The Temple Master froze, and he realized that he had been cornered. The man in blue stared at the Temple Master with a wry smile. "I'm not interested in you, but you're targeting my grandson, so I cannot let you—"

The man in blue stopped mid-sentence upon sensing a presence. He whipped around along with the Unfettered Swordsman. There was a spacetime rift in the distance, and a woman clad in white robes had walked out of it.

The woman was none other than Sifan Jing!

The man in blue and the Unfettered Swordsman were taken aback by her sudden appearance. Sifan Jing approached them slowly, and her gaze landed on the man in blue.

The man in blue smirked, asking, "Are you here to protect him?"

Sifan Jing glanced at the Temple Master, who hurriedly bowed.

"Clan Leader Jing," the Temple Master said.

Sifan Jing then turned to the man in blue and commanded, "Draw your sword!"

Chapter 564: This Dao, I Ask You To Break!

Draw your swords!

"All right!" The man in blue burst out into laughter and flicked his sleeve, sending a streak of sword light flying toward Clan Leader Jing.

Clan Leader Jing remained calm. The next moment, her lips parted. "Immobilize!"

Boom!

The man in blue's sword curved in mid-air and unexpectedly pinned itself to the ground.

It happened the moment Clan Leader Jing's words echoed through the air.

"Shatter!" Clan Leader Jing exclaimed.

Boom!

The Sword Precursor trembled violently and cracked!

The man in blue laughed boisterously. His figure blurred as he transformed into a streak of sword light that rushed toward Clan Leader Jing.

Clan Leader Jing narrowed her eyes. "Annihilate!"

Boom!

The Time River was set ablaze—no, it wasn't just the Time River; thousands of Great Daos were burning as well!

Meanwhile, the Temple Master had already decided to run away the moment the battle erupted. If he hadn't run earlier, he wouldn't have been unable to run away forever.

A streak of sword light shattered thousands of Great Daos, making a beeline for Clan Leader Jing. The man in blue's sword light remained unstoppable amidst the sea of flames created by the burning of Great Daos.

Clan Leader Jing's eyes—one black and one white—narrowed into slits. She clenched her right hand behind her and exclaimed, "Tribulation!"

Boom!

A vast sea of tribulations manifested, and every single tribulation contained a terrifying power that seemed capable of destroying star fields. To make matters worse, the tribulations didn't belong to this vast expanse!

However, the man in blue's streak of sword remained unstoppable.

When the streak of sword light was just half a meter away from Clan Leader Jing, she closed her eyes abruptly and exclaimed, "Dao!"

Rumble!

An illusory hand manifested and grabbed the sword light....

The illusory hand contained an inscrutable power that made even time come to a screeching halt!

Sifan Jing opened her eyes slowly and muttered, "I hereby open a Dao of my own—a Dao beyond the three thousand Great Daos. This Dao, I ask you to break it!"

...

The Temple Master escaped the Time River with a group of Divine Knights. They fled nonstop until they finally made it back to the Temple of the Gods. Upon returning to the temple, the Temple Master entered a secret chamber.

He sat in front of five divine statues for several days without uttering a peep.

Divine power!

The Temple Master had initiated three divine wars since taking over the Temple of the Gods, and they all ended in failure. The Temple Master couldn't help but feel a bit puzzled. How come he had failed every time so far? Was it because the gods were too weak to ensure success, or had the gods never exerted their full power?

To be honest, his faith in the gods was beginning to waver.

Were the gods truly invincible and omnipotent?

Were the gods truly the creators of the universes throughout the vast expanse?

If that were the case, how could those two swordsmen shatter their divine power?

And what about the former Clan Leader of the Past Clan, Clan Leader Jing?

The Temple Master felt somewhat lost as he stared at the statues of the gods before him.

"Temple Master." Bishop Yuan's voice abruptly echoed from the outside.

Snapping out of his thoughts, the Temple Master glanced at the five statues of gods before turning around to leave the chamber.



Bishop Yuan bowed slightly and said, "The divine war..."

The Temple Master calmly replied, "They managed to escape."

"Escaped?" Bishop Yuan was taken aback, seemingly unable to comprehend it.

The Temple Master nodded slightly and said, "They were extremely fast, and we couldn't catch up."

The truth of their defeat couldn't be revealed. Some matters needed to be handled discreetly. Otherwise, the faith system of the Realm of the Gods would collapse, which would be a disaster for the Temple of the Gods.

Bishop Yuan's face darkened. He didn't expect that the two swordsmen would actually be able to escape the Temple Master's pursuit.

The Temple Master stared at Bishop Yuan and said, "I will seclude myself for a period of time. You will have full authority over the Temple of the Gods while I am in seclusion."

With that, the Temple Master turned around and left. The Temple Master had many burning questions that needed answers. The Old Era that even the Divine Book had no records about was especially concerning. Most importantly, the Temple Master had to know the reason behind the gods' disappearance.

The Temple Master had to reaffirm his faith. He had never considered betraying his gods, as they had helped him in his most desperate times. He wouldn't betray the gods, but he wanted to know the truth.

Bishop Yuan froze in place, wanting to ask something, but the Temple Master had already left. Bishop Yuan frowned. His intuition was telling him that something was amiss. What exactly had happened during the recent divine war?

Just as Bishop Yuan was about to fall into deep contemplation, an old man suddenly appeared behind him. The old man bowed respectfully and said, "Bishop, there's a report. Two extremely talented students have emerged from the Divine Academy"

Bishop Yuan was curious, "Extremely talented?"

"Yes."

"How talented are they again?"

"Extremely talented."

"Train them well," Bishop Yuan said with a nod. Then, he seemed to have recalled something and asked once again, "Have they found the whereabouts of that lady in white and the Sword Master?"

"We are still investigating."

Bishop Yuan's eyes narrowed. "Tell them to pick up the pace and keep a close eye on Ye Guan."

The old man bowed and left.

...

Meanwhile, Ye Guan was still locked in a fierce battle against White-Skirt Destiny in the world inside the tiny pagoda. The two had been battling for months; more and more Mortal Veins had been appearing on Ye Guan's fleshly body. His Mortal Bloodline had also become stronger to the point that even the Mad Demon Bloodline could no longer suppress it completely.

Ye Guan's combat prowess was off the charts, and it was all due to the fact that he had been fighting while mad. It was his first time maintaining such a state of mind for such a long time.

It had to be known that the madness of the Mad Demon Bloodline had the special characteristic of strengthening him endlessly. Moreover, Ye Guan also had the Mortal Bloodline and the Phoenix Emperor Bloodline, which provided him with strength.

Ye Guan's strength had reached a terrifying level, but White-Skirt Destiny was still fighting him as if she were an adult fighting a baby. She seemed to be growing stronger alongside Ye Guan, and she didn't allow Ye Guan to surpass her at all.

Just then, White-Skirt Destiny forced Ye Guan to retreat with a sword strike.

Ye Guan flew backward, and White-Skirt Destiny swiftly closed the distance between them, appearing right in front of Ye Guan. Ye Guan attempted to attack, but a terrifying sword intent enveloped him.

Boom!

Ye Guan was instantly suppressed!

White-Skirt Destiny placed her right hand on Ye Guan's shoulder and pressed down.

The three bloodlines within Ye Guan were instantly suppressed, but shockingly, the three bloodlines actually fought back, forcing back White-Skirt Destiny's sword intent.

A hint of astonishment flashed in White-Skirt Destiny's eyes.

Ye Guan's strength had brought her many surprises, and his bloodlines had astounded her the most, as they seemed capable of providing Ye Guan with an endless stream of power.

White-Skirt Destiny reckoned that Ye Guan would become even stronger until the battle was over. In the end, White-Skirt Destiny had no choice but to take Ye Guan seriously.

It was worth noting that Ye Guan wasn't merged with Ao Qianqian. Once the two were merged, Ye Guan's prowess would skyrocket once again.

White-Skirt Destiny suppressed the three bloodlines within Ye Guan.

After an unknown amount of time, Ye Guan's demeanor returned to normal.

Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly and stood up straight upon seeing White-Skirt Destiny.

He looked down at himself and saw that he was covered with many different strange patterns. Ye Guan looked up at White-Skirt Destiny and asked, "Aunt, what happened to me?"

White-Skirt Destiny replied, "It's ninety percent complete."

Ye Guan was stunned. "Ninety percent complete?"

White-Skirt Destiny nodded and stared at the patterns on Ye Guan. "Feel it for yourself."

Ye Guan closed his eyes and clenched his right hand into a fist.

Boom!

Ye Guan instantly felt the existence of extreme power inside him. It surged from within him, billowing out like the wind. The power seemed endless, and he felt like he had just activated the Mad Demon Bloodline, even though it was currently inactive.

Mortal Power!

Ye Guan exclaimed, "Aunt, is this the legendary Mortal Power?!"

White-Skirt Destiny nodded. "Yeah, kinda."

Ye Guan sensed something amiss in White-Skirt Destiny's words, "Kinda?"

White-Skirt Destiny smiled, "Your Mortal Bloodline is inherited; you were not enlightened to it yourself. In other words, it's an "acquired" Mortal Bloodline, not an innate Mortal Bloodline.

"There's a huge difference between your Mortal Bloodline and her Mortal Bloodline."

Ye Guan fell silent. He had never really thought about that. His aunt had risen to fight the heavens, and her efforts had resulted in her obtaining the Mortal Bloodline and a Mortal Physique. In contrast, he hadn't done anything extraordinary, but he still ended up with a Mortal Bloodline.

Ye Guan couldn't help but think that his Mortal Bloodline was a watered-down version of his aunt's Mortal Bloodline.

Mortal Bloodline: "..."

At first, it was just an assumption, but White-Skirt Destiny's words convinced Ye Guan that there was a huge difference between his Mortal Bloodline and his Plain-Skirt Aunt's Mortal Bloodline.

White-Skirt Destiny added, "The reason your Mortal Physique hasn't truly reached its peak is that it's still lacking something, but I don't know exactly what it needs to reach the peak. It's just a feeling, but... fighting won't allow us to take that final step..."

"What if I need enlightenment to take that step?" Ye Guan asked.

"Enlightenment?" White-Skirt Destiny was stunned.

"I can also feel that my physique and bloodline have encountered a bottleneck. I think fighting and cultivating isn't enough to squeeze through that bottleneck.

"I think it's similar to my Mad Demon Bloodline. I need to become 'mad' for the bloodline to unleash its true power. Perhaps this Mortal Bloodline needs something like that as well..." Ye Guan said.

White-Skirt Destiny smiled. "Well, it's all on you to find out."

"Back when I met Aunt Plain Skirt Destiny, I really regret not asking her for advice," Ye Guan remarked, and a hint of worry flashed in his eyes.

Plain-Skirt Destiny!

Ye Guan wondered whether she had managed to escape from the clutches of the Evil Dao or not, and an inexplicable pressure bore down on Ye Guan at the thought.

Seeing the concern in Ye Guan's eyes, White-Skirt Destiny smiled and pointed out. "Are you worried about Plain-Skirt Destiny?"

Ye Guan nodded. "The Evil Dao is just too terrifying that I..."

"Don't worry about her. She can't defeat her, but she'll definitely have no issues escaping with how fast her sword flight is..." White-Skirt Destiny muttered, but she suddenly felt a pang of guilt.

Chapter 565: First God

Fleeing? Ye Guan still found it hard to believe that his plain-skirt aunt couldn't defeat the Evil Dao. In fact, he was suspicious of it. His instincts were telling him that something was wrong here.

Ye Guan's days as a greenhorn were long over. His strength still wasn't on par with top-tier supreme elites like the Evil Dao, but he wasn't considered weak. Plus, he had seen quite a bit of the world as well, which meant his horizons had been broadened.

The Evil Dao was strong! However, Ye Guan felt that Plain-Skirt Destiny was stronger than the Evil Dao. Could it be that Plain-Skirt Destiny was in cahoots with White-Skirt Destiny to deceive him?

Ye Guan thought about it, but he felt that it was unlikely. After all, top-tier supreme elites like his plain-skirt aunt were unlikely to deceive people, and White-Skirt Destiny seemed honest and upright; she didn't seem like the type to deceive others.

Seeing Ye Guan lost in thought, White-Skirt Destiny feared he might be overthinking and quickly said, "Don't dwell on it. The priority is to improve your strength. You know, your Sister Zhen only has less than ten years left..."

Sister Zhen! Ye Guan instantly sobered up. That's right! Despite Sister Zhen's strength, she only had less than ten years left—ten years!

Ye Guan clenched his fists. Could he become invincible in just ten years? It wasn't a matter of possibilities; he had to do it—he had to become invincible in just ten years!

Otherwise, who would be able to oppose the Evil Dao once she had broken free and assimilated the Virtuous Dao?

"Aunt, let's return to the Dark Emperor World!" Ye Guan urged. He needed to go back and discuss with his mother how to become even stronger in a short period of time!

White-Skirt Destiny was about to speak when a figure in black suddenly appeared not too far away from Ye Guan. The person in black bowed respectfully and said, "Young Master, the Pavilion Master has told you to return to the Dark Emperor World immediately."

Ye Guan's heart tightened. "What happened?"

"The Pavilion Master is planning to attack the Past Clan."

Attack the Past Clan? Ye Guan and White-Skirt Destiny exchanged glances, both somewhat surprised. They had not expected Qin Guan to plan an attack against the Past Clan. Without further thought, Ye Guan said, "Let's go."

The three of them disappeared on the spot.

...

Dark Emperor World...

Ye Guan saw many familiar faces in the Dark Emperor World. An Nanjing, the maidens of the Nether Palace, people from Ye Xuan's father's era, people from the Yang Clan, and even people from the True Universe. These top-tier supreme elites had all gathered in the Dark Emperor World!

Obviously, it was Qin Guan's doing.

Was the Yang Clan easy to bully? Certainly not!

The Past Clan mobilized all its forces and called upon countless powerful individuals from the Time River just to kill Ye Guan. The Past Clan's actions had forced Ye Guan into dire states, and there were a few times when he almost died.

They couldn't let the Past Clan go.

A lady in green stood next to Qin Guan, and her name was Su Qingshi.

Ye Guan sat beneath them, feeling a bit pathetic. He was the weakest in the entire hall.

His older sister, Ye An, was standing next to him. In terms of seniority, the two siblings were at rock bottom; even Erya and Little White often referred to them as their grandchildren.

Ye Guan glanced at Ye An beside him.

Ye An was wearing a light red long dress, and as usual, her expression was rather cold.

The siblings didn't say anything to each other despite meeting gazes. Ye Guan had also figured out his older sister's personality, so he knew that she was the type who wouldn't take the initiative to speak.

Ye Guan tugged at Ye An's sleeve and said, "Big Sis."



Ye An turned to look at Ye Guan and asked, "What's wrong?"

Ye Guan thought for a moment before asking, "Do you want to inherit the family business? You can become the ruler of the Guanxuan Universe."

"Are you asking for a beating?"

"... "

"If I inherit the family business, what are you going to do?"

"I'll go and cultivate."

Ye An cast a sidelong glance at Ye Guan. "Dream on."

Ye Guan was speechless.

Ye An suddenly asked, "Do you have strands of Ancestral Origin?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Mhm."

Ye An extended her right hand.

Ye Guan was stunned. What does that mean?

Ye An turned to Ye Guan and explained, "Father said that siblings should share the good stuff."

"Why don't you share yours with me?" Ye Guan said, feeling a bit dumbfounded.

"I don't have any strands to share. How can I share when I have none?"

Ye Guan had no idea what to say, but Ye An's hand was still extended toward him.

Ye Guan hesitated before taking out a strand of Ancestral Origin and handing it over to Ye An.

Ye An looked at it before putting it away. "Thank you."

"..."

Just then, Qin Guan took out a map. She examined the map and then pointed at a certain location. "First of all, let's take down the Past Clan."

Su Qingshi suddenly said, "The Temple of the Gods is one of the Past Clan's backers."

"Yes, I've investigated the Temple of the Gods. They're from a hundred billion years ago, and the so-called gods they worship come from the Old Era. However, the Old Era is an era shrouded in mystery, so we haven't been able to find any information about it so far."

Qin Guan swept her gaze across everyone and added, "But from what I know, the Temple of the Gods is related to the Evil Dao..."

Everyone in the hall stared deeply at Qin Guan.

Ye Guan also looked at her and asked, "Related to the Evil Dao?"

Qin Guan nodded. "Recorded history only spans a hundred billion years, and the period beyond that is referred to as the Old Era. The Evil Dao does not belong to any of the known eras and her origin..."

Qin Guan looked up at the entrance of the hall and said, "Great Daoist Brush Master, why don't you come and explain to everyone?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master? Ye Guan turned and saw a middle-aged man walking slowly into the hall. The middle-aged man was none other than the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master swept his gaze across everyone and smiled.

"Hello, everyone!"

Everyone merely looked at him.

The Great Daoist Brush Master felt a bit embarrassed, as he was the only outsider among them. It was the reason he had been hesitating earlier. It was a family meeting, so what was an outsider like him going to do in such a meeting?

Qin Guan smiled. "Elder, please enlighten us."

Who understood history the best? Without a doubt, it was the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master said, "The Great Dao is actually connected to the Temple of the Gods."

The people in the hall frowned.

Ye Guan sounded solemn as he asked, "Isn't the Great Dao above everything?"

"Of course not." The Great Daoist Brush Master chuckled and said, "The one above everything is the so-called the First God in the Temple of the Gods."

Ye Guan was curious. "The First God?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded slightly, and there was a hint of respect in his eyes as he explained, "He was the first god of the Old Era, and he was a true god in the truest sense of the word."

The Great Daoist Brush Master swept his gaze across everyone before continuing, "He's the creator of both the Old Era and the current era."

The expressions of the people in the hall changed slightly.

He's the creator of the vast expanse?

"The Great Dao, destiny, and reincarnation—he was the one who proposed these three concepts. There was order in his era, and a myriad beings lived harmoniously. It was the best era in history, as there was no war at the time.

"During that era, initiating wars and committing evil deeds would attract divine retribution. Moreover, the myriad beings had truly submitted to him..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master sighed softly and added, "And he became a god, not because he had said so, but because the myriad beings at that time had acknowledged him as a god. They revered him as a god..."

Ye Guan was moved. The myriad beings had acknowledged him as a god?

The Great Daoist Brush Master said, "The myriad beings at the time respected him genuinely, so he had accumulated a terrifying amount of faith power. Of course, he was so strong that faith power was nothing to him."

The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Ye Guan and added, "Moreover, he was the only god possessing all aspects of humanity."

Ye Guan asked in a low voice, "All aspects of humanity?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded and explained, "Yes. He did not have even a trace of divinity. He had established the Great Dao, established both reincarnation and order, civilized all races, and created a truly peaceful vast expanse.

"Unfortunately..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master sighed and shook his head.

Ye Guan asked, "What happened?"

"Upon becoming invincible, someone would eventually become bored. After all, it was lonely at the top. He got so bored that he did something drastic..." The Great Daoist Brush Master trailed off.

"Are you intentionally trying to keep us in suspense?" Ye Qingqing chimed in.

At Ye Qingqing's remark, the Great Daoist Brush Master chuckled awkwardly and continued, "He wanted to know what it feels like to possess divinity. My guess is that he wanted to ascend to a higher level, so he attempted to possess all aspects of divinity while ascending.

"Unfortunately, he had overestimated his humanity and had underestimated divinity."

Ye Guan asked, "Did his divinity overpower his humanity?"

"That's right." The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "After possessing all aspects of divinity, his temperament changed drastically. The myriad beings and his beloved vast expanse became insignificant in his eyes.

"Moreover, he began to have desires—the desire to seek defeat and to become even stronger."

Ye Guan frowned. Wasn't that similar to the Unfettered Swordsman's quest?

Ye Guan collected his thoughts and asked, "And then?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master replied, "Self-destruction."

Ye Guan frowned. "Self-destruct?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded, "What I know is that in order to prevent himself from endangering his beloved vast expanse, he chose to self-destruct.

"The divinity he possessed had transformed him into the most dangerous god that this vast expanse has ever witnessed. However, I don't know why he chose to self-destruct for the sake of the vast expanse, even though he had already become divine.

"My speculation is that perhaps someone or something has somehow managed to awaken a trace of his humanity."

Qin Guan asked, "What about the gods after him?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master's face showed disdain as he replied, "Those so-called gods after him were nothing more than self-proclaimed idiots playing around."

Ye Guan suddenly asked, "Elder, who is more powerful? The First God or my father?"

All eyes in the hall turned to the Great Daoist Brush Master.

The Great Daoist Brush Master's expression stiffened. He had no idea what to say.

Chapter 566: Father Will Return It

What kind of question is that? The Great Daoist Brush Master had no idea what to say.

Everyone stared at the Great Daoist Brush Master, and Ye Qingqing's gaze was particularly unfriendly.

The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Ye Guan before saying, "The Sword Master is invincible!"

He naturally knew what to say at this critical juncture. This wasn't the time for jokes, as everyone in Ye Guan's family was here! If he had chosen the First God, he would have simply courted his death.

Moreover, the Great Daoist Brush Master felt the gazes of the three Destiny landing on him. Their deep gazes were enough for the Great Daoist Brush Master to deduce that they'd pull out their swords and cut him down if he had given the wrong answer.

At the Great Daoist Brush Master's words, Ye Qingqing calmly said, "You don't have to sugarcoat things. We're not unreasonable people."

The Great Daoist Brush Master fell silent. You're the most unreasonable among every single Destiny, so how dare you say that!

The Great Daoist Brush Master was really at a loss. Of course, he could never express his thoughts out loud. The Great Daoist Brush Master believed that Black-Skirt Destiny would chase him with her sword for hundreds of years.

She had that kind of temperament, after all...

The Great Daoist Brush Master composed himself and said, "After the First God's self-destruction, the Dao Hall he had founded was renamed the Temple of the Gods. At first, his followers remained steadfast and abided strictly by the order and the rules he had established.

"However, their ambitions and desires began to show up. For the sake of power and position, they created conflicts. The civil war within the Temple of the Gods caused the collapse of the order and the Great Dao, bringing upon a period of darkness to the vast expanse."

"What happened next?"

"Five gods emerged victorious, and they became controllers of the Temple of the Gods. However, their attitude toward all living beings had shifted from service to enslavement."

Ye Guan sounded solemn as he asked, "What about the Great Dao?"

"Without the First God, the Great Dao developed its own ambitions and desires. The Great Dao was established to maintain the order of the universe, but it eventually became the supreme Great Dao and started manipulating the myriad beings..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head and said, "In short, everyone has ambitions and desires. Those desires and ambitions had to be culled, or they'd grow wildly like weeds until they had eventually devoured everything..."

After a moment of silence, Ye Guan asked with some confusion, "Why is the Temple of the Gods working with the Past Clan?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master explained, "The gods who won are not from this era, and the current leader of the Temple of the Gods is too ambitious for his own good. It is unfortunate, but he's a few brain cells short, and he's too weak as well."

"The Clan Leader of the Past Clan had promised him that the Temple of the Gods would have their own private chunk of the vast expanse to control in exchange for killing you."

Ye Guan frowned. "Their own private chunk of the vast expanse to control?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "Actually, I suspect that the Clan Leader is being influenced by quasi-gods behind the scenes."

"Those quasi-gods have always been looking for ways to reach the First God's level and become true gods themselves. Unfortunately, I have zero evidence, and those pseudo-gods have been missing for a very long time now. I've sent people to investigate them, but there's been no news so far."

Ye Guan asked, "How does one become a true god?"



The Great Daoist Brush Master looked at Ye Guan and replied. "You cannot become a god by proclaiming yourself as one. If you want to become a true god, then you need the acknowledgement of the myriad beings, and they have to acknowledge you from the bottom of their hearts. In addition, they must also be willing to worship you as a god.

"Once those conditions are met, you can then say that you're a true god."

"I think the Clan Leader of the Past Clan is more dangerous compared to the Temple of the Gods," Ye Guan said.

The white-robed woman and the Evil Dao were the strongest enemies that Ye Guan had encountered so far. To make matters worse, Ye Guan felt like the white-robed woman was beyond the Evil Dao.

In a nutshell, the white-robed woman was an extremely dangerous individual!

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded slightly at Ye Guan's words and said, "Indeed, she poses a greater threat than that of the Temple of the Gods. However, I believe that for now, we should deal with the Past Clan and the Temple of the Gods before dealing with her.

"I even think that we should prioritize the Realm of the Gods, which is under the Temple of the Gods. The Realm of the Gods is extremely vast; It is a universe with countless worlds and billions upon billions of living beings. Upon conquering that universe, we can then begin to establish a new order."

"Establish a new order?"

"Yes. Establishing a new order is like opening up a new path..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master stared at Qin Guan in the distance and smiled. "I believe that Pavilion Master Qin has the same idea, right?"

Qin Guan smiled faintly. "Yes."

The Great Daoist Brush Master was right. She was indeed planning to open up a new path, but it was all for Ye Guan's sake.

Assisting Ye Guan in establishing a completely new order and helping him forge a path for himself was the Time Pavilion's raison d'etre. Qin Guan couldn't just stand idly by, as the following events would affect her son's future.

Ye Guan glanced at Qin Guan beside him, but he did not say anything. However, he felt incredibly warm inside. He had known long ago that his mother had done many things for him behind the scenes. She had never said anything about it and had simply done what she had to do in silence.

The Great Daoist Brush Master suddenly asked, "Are you sure you want to launch an attack against the Past Clan?"

Qin Guan nodded. "We need to take down the Past Clan before anything else. Once we're done with them, we can then handle the Time Reversers."

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded. "Indeed. When do we begin?"

Qin Guan rose slowly and said, "Now."

Now? The Great Daoist Brush Master glanced at Qin Guan and nodded. "All right."

With that, he turned around and was about to leave when Ye Guan grabbed the Great Daoist Brush Master's arm.

"Wait."

The Great Daoist Brush Master cast a wary gaze upon Ye Guan. "What is it?"

"Well..." Ye Guan sounded innocent as he said, "To escape, I had to issue some rewards in your name, and those rewards are strands of Ancestral Origin..."

The Great Daoist Brush Master's expression changed drastically. "No, no, I do not honor any of those!"

Ye Guan smiled wryly and said, "Senior, you'll have to contribute something. Otherwise, our reputation will be completely ruined."

The Great Daoist Brush Master glared at Ye Guan. "Why did you have to issue rewards in my name? Couldn't you use your own name?"

"No one would have believed me if I had done that," Ye Guan replied.

The corners of the Great Daoist Brush Master's mouth twitched.

Ye Guan pulled the Great Daoist Brush Master outside the hall and said, "Senior, you really have to contribute something."

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head. "Strands of Ancestral Origin are too precious... I actually don't have any strands."

Ye Guan's expression turned grim as he replied, "Senior, if you were someone else, I would have believed you, but we're talking about you here, after all."

The Great Daoist Brush Master was puzzled. "What do you mean?"

"Have you already forgotten who you are, Senior? You're the most extraordinary person to have ever existed. Strands of Ancestral Origin are indeed precious, but I believe they should be easy for you to obtain."

The Great Daoist Brush Master shook his head. "You can't imagine the value of a strand of Ancestral Origin, especially in this era."

Ye Guan asked, "Were there strands of Ancestral Origin in the Old Era?"

"Yes, but they were scarce, even in the Old Era," the Great Daoist Brush Master said. Then, he sighed softly and added, "During the era of the First God, there were countless strands of Ancestral Origin, much like today's spiritual energy.

"However, the internal strife among the higher-ups of the Realm of the Gods, the collapse of that universe itself, and the Great Dao's breakdown have led to the increasing rarity of Ancestral Origin.

"The gods at the time had monopolized them as well, which made strands of Ancestral Origin extremely rare. Nowadays, there are barely any strands of Ancestral Origin, and only a few top-tier supreme elites can acquire a few through special means."

"The gods had monopolized the strands of Ancestral Origin at the time?"

The Great Daoist Brush Master nodded and explained. "Yes, and it's all because they didn't want to witness the rise of supreme elites. Strands of Ancestral Origin were keys to becoming invincible. Without them, the absolute limit at the time was becoming a Sovereign.

"In other words, having control over strands of Ancestral Origin means having control over the number of supreme elites."

Ye Guan nodded in understanding. "I see."

The Great Daoist Brush Master opened his palm and presented a storage ring to Ye Guan. "There are five strands of Ancestral Origin in this ring. Remember, these strands are extremely precious, so you better not give them away so easily."

With that, the Great Daoist Brush Master turned around and walked away.

Ye Guan hurriedly exclaimed, "Thank you, Senior!"

The Great Daoist Brush Master waved his hand before disappearing into the distant sky.

Ye Guan was about to put the storage ring away when a young woman walked up to him. She was none other than Ye An.

Ye Guan hurriedly put the storage ring away.

Ye An calmly said, "Lil Bro."

"Mmm?"

Ye An looked at Ye Guan without saying a word.

"Big Sis, if you have something to say to me, just go ahead and say it..."

Ye An glanced at the storage ring on Ye Guan's hand but remained silent.

Ye Guan said firmly, "Big Sis, stealing is not appropriate between siblings!"

Ye An looked at Ye Guan calmly and said, "I'm not that kind of person."

Ye Guan breathed a sigh of relief, but Ye An suddenly said, "I need to borrow something from you. Lend me some strands of Ancestral Origin. Father will pay you back for me."

Little Pagoda was speechless, and Ye Guan was speechless as well—no, he went completely numb.

My father is going to pay it back for you? Damn it! You're the one who's going to borrow from me, and I'm supposed to go and collect payment from Father? Ye Guan couldn't believe that his sister would say such shameless words. It was just too absurd!

"If you don't believe in our father, then surely you'll believe in our grandfather's integrity."

Ye Guan and Little Pagoda were dumbfounded.

Ye An stared at the quiet Ye Guan, "Brother, you won't refuse to lend me, will you?"

Ye Guan thought briefly before opening his palm and sending a strand of Ancestral Origin toward Ye An.

Ye An accepted the strand.

Ye Guan suddenly smiled, "No need to return it; what's mine is yours. If you need anything, don't hesitate to ask me. I won't bat an eyelid even if you want to take Master Pagoda from me.

Little Pagoda was speechless.

Ye An looked at Ye Guan. "Are you serious?"

"Absolutely."

"Then, lend me a bit more strands of Ancestral Origin."

Ye Guan didn't hesitate and handed over the storage ring that the Great Daoist Brush Master had handed over to him. Four strands of Ancestral Origin were inside, excluding the strand that Ye Guan had taken out earlier.

Ye An accepted the storage ring and left.

Ye Guan didn't say anything.

After taking just two steps away, Ye An turned to look at Ye Guan. Moments later, she opened her palm, and a storage ring flew to Ye Guan. Ye An did not even wait for Ye Guan's response and left directly.

Ye Guan smiled, but he was stunned to see what was inside the storage ring.

The storage ring contained a whopping ten strands of Ancestral Origin!

Ye Guan looked up and stared deeply at Ye An in the distance. "Big Sis?"

Ye An didn't even look back as she said, "Mother gave me ten strands of Ancestral Origin, and I'm giving you half."

Ye Guan looked down at the storage ring in his hand and felt warm inside.

Chapter 567: The Young Man He Once Was

The meeting was over by the time Ye Guan returned to the main hall.

Qin Guan was the only one left in the main hall, seemingly waiting for Ye Guan.

Qin Guan smiled at Ye Guan and said, "We'll attack tomorrow."

"All right."

Qin Guan suddenly grabbed Ye Guan's hand. "Activate your Mortal Bloodline."

Ye Guan immediately activated his Mortal Bloodline, and his arms were instantly riddled with Mortal Veins.

Qin Guan stroked his Mortal Veins gently with surprise flashing in her eyes. "You truly have the Mortal Physique."

Ye Guan was somewhat surprised. "Mother, do you know anything about the Mortal Bloodline?"

Qin Guan smiled. "I know a little."

"Please tell me."

"We would have to talk about your aunt, Plain-Skirt Destiny. She's an extraordinary person, and she has never really cared about the Mortal Bloodline and the Mortal Physique. At her level, the bloodline powers have no meaning."

Ye Guan solemnly said, "So, I have no choice but to embark on this journey blind?"

Qin Guan chuckled. "Going at it blind may not necessarily be a bad thing."

Ye Guan was stunned, and then he smiled, saying, "I understand."

Ye Guan understood what Qin Guan was trying to say. In a nutshell, there were many things Ye Guan had to do by himself, and this was one of those things.

Qin Guan held Ye Guan's hand as they walked out of the hall. When they reached the door, she looked up at the sky and said softly, "Your father and I once argued about you. We argued about letting you live freely. My wish is for you to live happily and not suffer as he did."

"Then, why did you change your mind?"

"Because your father was right. Nobody wants to live an ordinary life in this kind of world. He said that we should let you choose, and you definitely wouldn't settle as a nouveau riche."

"True."

"This world needs an order. Your father was supposed to establish it, but he's not suitable."



"Is it because of his divinity?"

Qin Guan shook her head and said, "It's because of your aunt, Plain-Skirt Destiny."

Ye Guan was stunned.

"Do you know who's the most dangerous person in this world?"

"Is it... my plain-skirt aunt?"

"Bingo!"

Ye Guan was puzzled. "Why?"

Qin Guan whispered, "Because her divinity is the purest..."

Ye Guan still looked puzzled.

Qin Guan smiled at that and asked, "What do you think of her? She's pretty nice, right?"

Ye Guan nodded. "I haven't spent much time with her, but she's really nice to me."

"Well, she's only nice to you. Do you know how she treats others?" Qin Guan shook her head and said, "She'd show some humanity while she's with you and your father, but her indifference toward others is like how you would treat an ant..."

Ye Guan remained silent.

Plain-Skirt Destiny could indeed be very cold, but her coldness wasn't in a haughty way; her coldness was indeed as Qin Guan had described. It was like she was looking down on others as if she was at a height they couldn't even imagine reaching.

"Her divinity and humanity are both very pure; you could say that they're extremely pure..."

"Mother, are you worried that her divinity will one day suppress her humanity?"

"That is not going to happen, but I'm afraid she might do something unexpected. Your father is worried, too. It's a worry that did not come out of nowhere. We feel that she might do something drastic.

"That's the reason your father agreed to let her reincarnate."

An uncontrollable Plain-Skirt Destiny? Damn! Ye Guan's expression darkened. The mere thought of having to deal with an out-of-control Plain-Skirt Destiny was enough to send a shiver down Ye Guan's spine.

"She's worried about your father, and she'll stay that way until your father takes that final step. Considering that, she's not going to do certain things. However, it might be a different story once your father can finally protect himself..."

Qin Guan looked up at the sky with eyes full of worry. "She said that she wants to live once more by reincarnating. But... what is the point of that? Is it to have no regrets before taking that final step, or is it for her humanity to suppress her divinity?"

Seeing Qin Guan's worried expression, Ye Guan smiled and said, "Mother, perhaps we're both overthinking it."

Qin Guan looked at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's expression was solemn as he said, "Plain-Skirt Aunt is not someone who can be measured by ordinary standards. Regardless of what she intends to do, I believe she won't abandon Father.

"I think it's really great to have someone or something to care about. It doesn't matter even if you're a god or a mere human. What's the point of becoming invincible when one has lost their desires and beloved ones?"

Qin Guan chuckled. "Indeed."

Ye Guan smiled. "Let Plain-Skirt Aunt and Father handle their own affairs!"

"Yes, I'll let them decide."

"Mother, I want to go somewhere else and experience things on my own once we're done with everything here."

Qin Guan was surprised. "What do you mean?"

"I want to settle down," Ye Guan said solemnly. He truly wanted to settle down. He had been missing those days in the Milky Way, and he believed that those days were what life was all about!

Moreover, Ye Guan felt that one didn't necessarily have to fight to cultivate. His circumstances had been pushing him along all this time; he had gotten really strong, but he was aware that he had reached a bottleneck. Simply put, his strength had reached a certain level, but his state of mind was lagging behind.

After a moment of silence, Qin Guan nodded and said, "All right, no matter what you do, I'll support you."

Ye Guan felt warm inside. "Thank you."

Qin Guan tapped Ye Guan's head lightly, feeling a bit dissatisfied, "Who says 'thank you' to their own mother? Don't say that next time."

Ye Guan grinned. "Okay."

Qin Guan ruffled Ye Guan's hair, and her eyes were filled with tenderness as she said, "I want you to remember that if you no longer want to shoulder these burdens one day, then go ahead and quiet. Live whatever life you want to live, and I will support you."

Qin Guan would be happy if Ye Guan managed to reach that step, but it was fine even if he couldn't reach it.

Ye Guan nodded. "Okay."

"Go ahead and greet those girls from the True Universe," Qin Guan said, smiling.

Cirou and Cizhen! Ye Guan smiled awkwardly, but he didn't say anything.

Qin Guan shook her head and said, "Handle your affairs yourself, but let me say one thing: don't disappoint them."

"I won't," said Ye Guan with a nod.

Qin Guan chuckled. "Go!"

Ye Guan nodded and turned around to leave.

Just then, Little Pagoda sighed softly.

Ye Guan was puzzled, "Little Pagoda, why sigh?"

"Nothing..." Little Pagoda whispered, "Just feeling a bit emotional."

Ye Guan asked, "What's wrong?"

"It's just that..." Little Pagoda said, "If Master's mother hadn't died back then... I believe he wouldn't have become so extreme..."

Master? Is Master Pagoda talking about Grandfather?

Ye Guan's voice grew heavy as he said, "Little Pagoda, you've said that multiple times by now, but is he really that extreme?"

"Your Grandfather used to be truly indifferent to life and death, and he used to be the type to do whatever he wanted. He had endured more hardships than you and your father combined. At that time, he had neither sisters nor relatives; it felt like we were walking down the path to self-destruction rather than to the summit."

Ye Guan pondered for a moment before replying, "I'm grateful for Grandfather's past hardships. After all, his hardships had led to me and father's prosperous days."

Little Pagoda remained silent.

Soon, Ye Guan arrived at a hall where Cirou was handling official business. Her abilities were unquestionable, and her main task at the moment was to assist Qin Guan in handling a variety of affairs.

Cirou was slightly surprised to see Ye Guan. "Cijing is in the cultivation room."

With that, Cirou looked down at the documents on her desk and continued working.

"I came here to find you," said Ye Guan. Then, he smiled wryly and added, "I'm sorry."

Cirou stared calmly at Ye Guan and asked, "Do you need something?"

"Can we talk?"

Cirou gestured toward the pile of documents in front of her without saying a word.

Ye Guan remained silent as well.

After a moment of silence, Cirou nodded. "Okay."

The two left the hall and walked toward a distant garden.

Ye Guan whispered, "I'm sorry."

Cirou cast a bewildered gaze at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan smiled wryly and explained, "Actually, I've been wanting to apologize to you for a while now, but I've never really had the chance until now."

"Apologize for what?" Cirou asked.

Ye Guan whispered, "You know..."

Cirou was silent.

"I've experienced many things and learned many things. I realized that I was a bit childish. I was self-righteous, and I had been refusing to handle my affairs properly; my ridiculous ego has also led me to act in a certain extreme way..."

Ye Guan stared at Cirou and shook his head. "I feel ashamed just talking about it."

Cirou was still silent.

Ye Guan added, "After discovering my family's existence, I often thought that others were only treating me well because of my relatives. Looking back, I think I simply lacked confidence. I was not only weak, but I also had an ego along with a bad temper..."

Ye Guan looked up at the distant horizon, and his hands clenched slowly into fists.

"What kind of person would I become without my relatives? Perhaps I would still be hard-working, but there are definitely some people I'd never get to meet in my lifetime. Like you, Aunt Qingqing, and the people of the Yang Clan..."

The ruthlessness of the world became clearer and clearer to him as he climbed up the ranks. There were some circles that were simply inaccessible, and it wasn't a matter of hard work.

And there were lucky people born into those circles...

People were truly unique from one another.

Was it really my own efforts that brought me to where I am today at such a young age?

To put it harshly, even a pig could easily reach my position if they had the same headstart as me. I've been avoiding that fact all this while, and I've often boasted about relying only on myself and no one else... how absurd is this ego of mine...

Ye Guan smiled bitterly. He finally had a deeper understanding of himself.

What was scarier than ignorance was unknowingly being ignorant, and the scariest scenario that could happen was harming one's beloved ones through one's ignorance.

Ye Guan took a deep breath and stared at Cirou, "I'm really sorry..."

Just then, Cirou grabbed Ye Guan's hand.

Ye Guan was taken aback.

"There were times when you'd become unfamiliar in my eyes, and it all started when you discovered your roots. Thinking about it now, however, I realized that it wasn't actually that strange.

"I mean, who can always remain steady throughout the ups and downs of life? Who can always stay true to themselves with power in their hands? Who hasn't struggled with their identity and self-confidence?"

"I've been waiting..." Cirou trailed off. Then, she smiled before continuing, "Good thing I've been waiting for you—the young man from Ancient Desolate City..."

Chapter 568: Five On One, We Have The Advantage

Life itself was cultivation, and it was impossible for everyone to stay true to themselves without committing any mistakes

Everyone would inevitably experience moments of confusion.

Everyone would inevitably feel confused.

Of course, Ye Guan was not an exception.

It was like a beggar suddenly inheriting billions. Could they stay grounded and not be swayed?

Ye Guan stared at Cirou and whispered, "Have you been waiting for me all this time?"

Cirou nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan smiled. "Are you not angry at me?"

Cirou said, "I am, but I understand. After all, everyone was once young."



Everyone was once young! Ye Guan held Cirou's hand and bowed slightly without saying anything.

Cirou didn't resist, allowing Ye Guan to hold her hand.

"We're attacking them tomorrow. How do you feel about it?"

Ye Guan chuckled. "Mother has arranged everything; I'm just going along for the ride."

Cirou's voice grew solemn. "I'm more concerned about the Past Clan's Clan Leader."

Ye Guan's brow furrowed slightly. "Are you afraid that she'll break the rules?"

Cirou nodded.

Ye Guan chuckled. "That's exactly what I want."

Cirou was momentarily surprised. Then, she smiled and said, "Indeed."

If the white-robed woman broke the rules, it wouldn't necessarily be a bad thing for Ye Guan.

"I've met Sister Zhen," said Ye Guan.

Cirou's heart tightened, and she stared at Ye Guan with a trembling gaze.

Ye Guan smiled and said, "Don't worry, I'll handle Sister Zhen's matters."

Ye Guan had made up his mind. He'd do his best to become even stronger in the next ten years. If he failed to become invincible before the ten-year deadline was up, then he'd gather Ye Xuan, Plain-Skirt Destiny, Yang Ye, the Unfettered Swordsman, and Qingqiu to deal with the Evil Dao.

Do you really think you're strong, Evil Dao? If Plain-Skirt Destiny can't defeat you by herself, I'll bring five people to fight you at the same time!

"..."

Cirou reached out and held Ye Guan's hand, whispering, "Don't put too much pressure on yourself. Just do your best."

Ye Guan nodded. "Don't worry, I know my limits."

Cirou smiled softly. "Go ahead and see Little Jing."

Ye Guan held Cirou's hand. "Shall we go together?"

"What would I do there?" Cirou said, rolling her eyes at Ye Guan. Her eye roll was pretty charming in Ye Guan's eyes. Ye Guan fell into a daze. After a brief hesitation, he leaned down and kissed Cirou's forehead.

Cirou didn't resist and nestled slowly into Ye Guan's embrace. "Do you know? I really envy the time you spent with Big Sister in the Milky Way."

Ye Guan asked, "Why?"

"Because it was so wholesome..." Cirou muttered.

Ye Guan wrapped his arms around Cirou's slender waist, whispering, "Once Sister Zhen has returned, what do you think about going back to the Milky Way and living there for a while?"

Cirou looked up at Ye Guan and asked, "Really?"

Ye Guan nodded.

Cirou smiled brightly. "Okay, let's do it."

Then, she tiptoed and whispered into Ye Guan's ear, "Make sure to prepare a super large bed in advance..."

Ye Guan blinked. "For what?"

"To play cards!" Cirou said shyly.

Ye Guan leaned down and kissed Cirou on the lips.

Cirou trembled slightly, intending to resist, but she found herself powerless.

They kissed for a while before their lips eventually parted.

Ye Guan looked at the captivating Cirou in his arms and smiled. "I'll remember to prepare the big bed. Haha..."

Ye Guan eventually left.

Cirou looked at the strand of Ancestral Origin in her hand, and a charming smile tugged at her lips. She wasn't smiling because of the gift of Ancestral Origin but because Ye Guan had finally found his former self.

Cirou was genuinely happy about it.

After parting ways with Cirou, Ye Guan visited Cijing.

Cijing was slightly surprised to see Ye Guan.

Ye Guan was about to speak, but Cijing beat him to the chase, saying, "Let's spar!"

Ye Guan was taken aback.

Cijing looked at Ye Guan. "Come on."

Ye Guan smiled. "Okay."

The two drew their swords at the same time.

Buzz!

A buzzing noise pervaded the air as two sword lights streaked through the air.

Boom!

A ray of sword light exploded, and the two were forced to retreat.

After coming to a halt, a hint of surprise flashed in Cijing's eyes. "You..."

Cijing was extremely shocked. Cijing knew that Ye Guan was a monstrous talent, but he was so weak at the time that it would be an insult to compare him to her. However, Ye Guan's strength had already reached an unprecedented level, even though it hadn't been that long since they first met.

Ye Guan chuckled. "This rate of progress is just normal for the quality and amount of resources that my family is giving me."

Cijing nodded. "Let's continue."

However, Ye Guan shook his head. "I don't want to spar anymore."

Cijing frowned. "Why?"

"Because we will be fighting side by side tomorrow..."

Cijing stared at Ye Guan but remained silent.

Ye Guan walked up to Cijing, took her hand, and whispered, "I have many things to say to you."

He had always felt guilty toward the woman before him. Cijing had not only risked her life to save him, but she was even willing to oppose the True Universe for him. This debt of gratitude was something Ye Guan could never fully repay in his lifetime.

Cijing looked at Ye Guan. "You and Big Sis..."

Ye Guan nodded.

Cijing gave Ye Guan a thumbs up. "Impressive."

Ye Guan hesitated briefly before asking, "You... aren't jealous?"

Cijing glared at Ye Guan as if she wanted to draw her sword.

Ye Guan dared not tease Cijing anymore. He had known long ago that Cijing's skin was thin and that she wouldn't be able to withstand his teasing.

"Tell me about your time with Big Sister in the Milky Way!" Cijing demanded. Moments later, she added, "Don't hide anything! Tell me everything!"

Ye Guan blinked. "Should I also mention some things that are not suitable for children?"

"Go ahead."

Ye Guan smiled and recounted his time with Cizhen in the Milky Way. Of course, he still ended up hiding a few things that were not meant to be shared with other people.

Cijing sighed and said, "So she ultimately chose to suppress the Universe Tribulation."

Ye Guan looked at Cijing. "You knew she was going to do that?"

Cijing nodded. "Little Rou and I had known long ago that she was going to do that in the end."

"After all, the Universe Tribulation is getting stronger and stronger every time it acts up, and Big Sister has been suppressing it for many years now."

"The Universe Tribulation's strength is beyond our imagination at this point. At first, we all thought that Big Sister might sacrifice herself to suppress the Universe Tribulation, but fortunately, there was still room for maneuver."

Cijing stared deeply at Ye Guan and said, "It's also fortunate that Big Sister left behind a trace of humanity. Otherwise, she would have lost herself, and she would no longer be our big sister."

Ye Guan nodded. Fortunately, Cizhen had chosen not to fully abandon her humanity. If she had chosen otherwise, then Cizhen would have lost all of her attachments to this world.

Cijing suddenly asked, "Have you been to the Tribulation Realm?"

Ye Guan nodded. "Yes."

Cijing looked at Ye Guan, seemingly hesitating.

Ye Guan held her hand firmly and smiled. "Don't worry, I will definitely save her."

"Yes, I believe you," Cijing said.

Big Sister! Ye Guan looked up at the distant sky with a gaze full of determination. Anyway, he had already made a plan for the worst-case scenario. If necessary, he would gang up on the Evil Dao!

Five against one! The advantage is mine.

The next day, many supreme elites gathered in the starry sky above the Dark Emperor World. The supreme elites of the Yang Family's three generations were present along with the Time Reversers that Qin Guan had recruited. Qin Guan had talent at recruiting people, and she also had Ancestral Origin.

The Ancestral Origin pills that she had created had become a hard currency of the Time River.

Ye Guan walked up to Little White and Erya, who was licking a candied hawthorn.

Erya sized Ye Guan up and asked, "What's up?"

Ye Guan smiled and took out two strands of Ancestral Origin. Then, he wasted no time, handing them to Erya and Little White. "These are for you two."

Erya glanced at the strands of Ancestral Origin in Ye Guan's hand, feeling puzzled. "What are these for?"

"I'm sure you know that this is the most precious resource throughout the vast expanse. Take it and use it to cultivate."

Erya stared at Ye Guan without saying a word.

Little White's furry face was full of curiosity as she played with the strands of Ancestral Origin.

Ye Guan said earnestly, "It's really precious..."

Erya shook her head. "No, thank you."

"Why not?" asked Ye Guan, sounding puzzled.

Erya calmly replied, "It's too precious; you should use it yourself, Grandson."

Little White waved her tiny paw and then pointed at the strands of Ancestral Origin while shaking her head. Ye Guan had no idea what she was trying to say.

Ye Guan was confused. "What is she saying?"

"She said that you should use it yourself," Erya translated.

Ye Guan smiled wryly. "Erya, Little White, these strands really are precious. This is the only thing I can offer to show my filial piety to both of you."

Erya and Little White exchanged glances before reluctantly accepting the two strands of Ancestral Origin.

Ye Guan was speechless for a moment. Did I give strands of Ancestral Origin to the wrong people?

Just then, Qin Guan exclaimed, "Activate the array!"

Boom!



A beam of light fell from the distant sky, and the light coalesced into a colossal teleportation array. The teleportation was large enough to accommodate tens of thousands of people.

Ye Guan walked up to Qin Guan and asked, "Mother, have there been any movements from the Past Clan?"

"Of course," said Qin Guan with a smile. "There's no way they'll sit idly by."

Ye Guan looked at Qin Guan and asked, "What are our chances in this battle?"

Qin Guan shook her head. "We won't know until we fight."

Ye Guan nodded slightly. "Then, let's fight!"

Fight! It was time to end the conflict between the two sides!

Qin Guan took Ye Guan's hand and smiled before glancing at Ye Qingqing and the two other Destiny.

Ye Qingqing and the other two Destiny stared alternately between Qin Guan and Ye Guan. After a while, Ye Qingqing nodded slightly and left along with the other two Destiny.

Ye Guan was curious. "Mother, what are they going to do?"

Qin Guan smiled. "They're the strongest people in our camp, along with Lady An, so I have to make them do things that ordinary supreme elites can't do."

Ye Guan's face darkened. His intuition was telling him that this attack was a bit more complicated than he could ever imagine.

Seeing the light of worry in Ye Guan's eyes, Qin Guan smiled and said, "Don't worry, just pick an opponent to fight and leave the rest to me."

"All right," Ye Guan said, nodding.

Qin Guan turned to look at the teleportation array and declared, "Let's go!"

Everyone walked into the array one after another. Soon, the teleportation array came to light and sent beams of light to shroud everyone before whisking them away.

Chapter 569: Who's Invincible?

Past Realm.

Today, the supreme elites of the Past Clan gathered in a starry sky, and they were led by Han Ling. A group of exceptionally formidable supreme elites stood next to her, and they were all ready for action.

Evidently, they had received news of an impending attack from the Guanxuan Universe.

Han Ling's eyes were narrowed, and her aura was restrained as she gripped her sword tightly. A woman in a tight-fitting skirt stood next to Han Ling with closed eyes and even breathing.

The Clan Leader of the Gui Clan and other supreme elites stood behind them. The Past Clan had mobilized everything and had decided to go all out, as they knew that the decisive battle was nigh.

Boom!

A terrifying aura suddenly swept over from the depths of the starry sky above the Past Clan. Everyone looked up to see hundreds of colossal flame pillars traversing through space and descending upon the Past Realm.

Each flame pillar contained a terrifying power capable of destroying heaven and earth. Additionally, there were countless fireballs that were hurtling toward them at the same time. The sky was filled with densely packed meteors as if there were a meteor shower.

The entire starry sky seemed to boil beneath the combined power of the oncoming enemies.

The faces of the Past Clan's supreme elites turned grim.

Han Ling opened her eyes slowly and said, "Array."

The Pavilion Master of the Sword Pavilion roared, "Activate the array!"

Millions of swords took to the sky in response to his order.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Mushroom clouds appeared one after another above them, and terrifying waves of heat spread afterward, sweeping across the Past Realm.

The Past Realm itself started crumbling beneath the waves of heat and annihilation, while the supreme elites of the Past Clan retreated quickly. However, it turned out that colossal fireballs were hiding behind the waves of heat, and they made a beeline for the Past Realm.

Han Ling's eyes narrowed into slits upon sensing the cataclysmic power of the fireballs.

"Array!" she exclaimed.

Rumble!

Countless beams of white light rose into the sky, heading straight for those fireballs.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Deafening explosions could be heard one after another as the light beams shattered upon making contact with the fireballs. A terrifying wave of spiritual energy swept across the Past Realm, plunging the realm into chaos almost instantly.

Many supreme elites were blasted away upon getting hit, and the weaker ones perished outright.

Han Ling shouted, "Sword Pavilion!"

The supreme elites of the Sword Pavilion stepped forward, and countless rays of sword lights surged out, dispersing the waves of heat and spiritual energy.

A massive beam of light manifested just then, and it descended at the speed of lightning toward the Past Realm. Moments later, a colossal teleportation array appeared. Immediately afterward, countless supreme elites walked out slowly from the teleportation array under Qin Guan's lead.

Han Ling stared at Qin Guan without a word.

Qin Guan calmly said, "Leave no one alive."

Leave no one alive!

At her command, the supreme elites behind Qin Guan rushed out in unison. There were no words; everyone rushed at each other with their cultivation bases rotating at maximum speed. At this point, words were meaningless.

Ye Guan's gaze fell upon Han Ling. He took a step forward and appeared in front of her in the blink of an eye.

Han Ling flicked her thumb, and her sword flew out.

Ye Guan drew his sword as well—a head-on confrontation!

Bam!

Sword light erupted, and both of them were forced backward at the same time.

However, Han Ling managed to stop in just a few seconds, and her figure became illusory as soon as she stopped. Countless afterimages appeared around Ye Guan, and tens of thousands of sword lights came rushing toward him.

Ye Guan remained calm. He gripped the hilt of his sword with his right hand and slashed out—  
Heavenrend!

A deluge of sword lights rushed out of Ye Guan, shattering the afterimages one after another. Soon, a figure was blasted away, and it was none other than Han Ling!

Han Ling came to a halt and looked down at her right arm. Her right arm had split open, and blood rushed out of the wound as if it were a broken dam. Han Ling stared at Ye Guan in the distance, realizing that his strength had improved significantly.

Ye Guan looked back at her and challenged, "Again!"

Ye Guan stepped forward and thrust his sword toward her, which reached her in less than a second.

Han Ling raised her hand and swung her sword.

Bam!

Sword light shattered as soon as it appeared, and Han Ling was once again blasted away. When she stopped, Han Ling frowned and looked at Ye Guan in disbelief. "How come you've become so strong in such a short period of time?"

When she fought against Ye Guan before, they were evenly matched and she even had a slight advantage over him. But now, Ye Guan was suppressing her completely.

Instead of answering, Ye Guan closed his eyes. He had to admit that he had seen huge improvement after training with White-Skirt Aunt. Even without activating the power of his three bloodlines, he was still strong enough to dominate Han Ling.

Soon, Ye Guan opened his eyes and looked around. They had obtained the upper hand in the battle. Ye Guan then looked at Han Ling and exclaimed, "Again!"

Ye Guan took a step forward, and a ray of sword light, which was thousands of meters long, rushed toward Han Ling.

Han Ling's eyes narrowed, and she no longer dared to underestimate Ye Guan's attacks. She raised a finger and pointed it at her glabella before swinging the same finger at Ye Guan.

Swoosh!

A sword flew out of her glabella, and it collided with Ye Guan's sword light, shattering it into smithereens. A fierce light flashed in Han Ling's eyes as she gripped the sword firmly and pushed forward.

Boom!

Ye Guan's sword lights shattered, but a kaleidoscope of sword lights erupted before Han Ling.

Seven Space Overlaps!

Han Ling's eyes narrowed at the oncoming attack.

BOOM!

The spacetime before Ye Guan collapsed, and Han Ling flew like a kite that had lost its strings. Blood trickled down the corner of her lips, and she saw at least a dozen slash wounds on herself.

Ye Guan's Space Overlap had actually inflicted so many injuries on her!

Han Ling wiped away the blood on her lips and looked around. The Past Clan had been suppressed completely; even the strongest supreme elites of the Sword Pavilion were losing against the enemy. It was only a matter of time before they were defeated.

Han Ling frowned deeply, and her heart filled with regret. She had the perfect opportunity to kill Ye Guan, but it was too late now.

Ye Guan's people had gathered, and their strength was beyond that of the Past Clan's strength. Of course, the main reason was that many Time Reversers had chosen to side with the Guanxuan Universe. There was simply no way those Time Reversers could ignore the Guanxuan Universe's offer.

Those Time Reversers were a force to be reckoned with, especially those who had reached the level of Imperial Sovereigns. They were top-tier supreme elites even throughout the entire Time River, and Ye Guan had dozens of them at his side.

Han Ling frowned, staring at the depths of the starry sky.

"Are you waiting for the Temple of the Gods?" Qin Guan asked. Then, she smiled and continued, "Don't bother waiting for them. The reinforcements sent by the Temple of the Gods will not be able to reach this place."

Han Ling stared at Qin Guan before abruptly disappearing into thin air. However, she didn't reappear in front of Ye Guan. Instead, she appeared before Qin Guan. She was going to kill Qin Guan first!

Ye Guan's expression changed drastically, and he vanished into thin air.

Han Ling glared at Qin Guan and mercilessly thrust her sword toward the latter.

Qin Guan remained calm as Han Ling's sword approached her. When the sword was just a few inches away from her, a Tai Chi Diagram suddenly appeared beneath her feet.

Bang!

Han Ling's sword came to a screeching halt as if it had entered a quagmire. It wouldn't budge even half an inch. Han Ling's eyes widened, and she stammered, "Y-You..."

Swoosh!

Ye Guan had finally arrived, and he slashed out with his sword, forcing Han Ling to turn and defend herself.

Clang!

The two swords collided, and Han Ling was sent flying by the terrifying power contained within Ye Guan's sword attack.

After coming to a halt, Han Ling looked at Qin Guan in the distance.

Qin Guan calmly asked, "Are you thinking what I'm thinking? It doesn't matter. Even your master can't kill me, not to mention you."

Han Ling revealed a sinister grin and sneered, "Arrogant."

"Tell your master to come here and try," Qin Guan said.

Han Ling glared at her.

Qin Guan turned her gaze to Ye Guan, who had rushed to her side. She smiled faintly at him and reassured him, "She can't hurt me."



Ye Guan nodded, feeling relieved. Then, he turned to look at Han Ling with thick killing intent in his eyes. Without wasting any more time, he transformed into a ray of sword light and disappeared on the spot.

Han Ling also disappeared.

Clang!

A burst of sword light erupted, and Han Ling was blasted away.

Ye Guan was no longer holding back. He charged at Han Ling with the Xuanyuan Sword in hand. A kaleidoscope of sword lights rained down on Han Ling, making the latter feel as if she were in the middle of a storm.

Rumble!

A series of explosions echoed throughout the battlefield.

Han Ling was completely overwhelmed, and she couldn't retaliate at all.

Meanwhile, the scales of the battlefield were tilting in favor of the Guanyuan Universe.

Qin Guan beckoned at Little White and smiled. "Summon a wave of Heavenly Dao."

Little White nodded and cast a summoning spell. Soon, countless Heavenly Dao from many different worlds manifested in the air above everyone. Their terrifying aura filled the entire Past Realm.

Heavenly Dao Manifestation!

The faces of the Past Clan's supreme elites changed dramatically. They were already at a disadvantage, so how were they going to resist these Heavenly Daos?

They fell into despair, and some were even thinking of deserting, especially the members of the Ancient Time Clan.

Bang!

Ye Guan unleashed another devastating sword move toward Han Ling. Just as he was about to deliver his fatal blow, a woman suddenly appeared in front of him. The woman was wearing a white robe, and there was a mask on her face.

Clan Leader Jing!

The spacetime behind Ye Guan was torn open, and a woman walked out slowly from the spacetime rift.

Chapter 570: Feel Free to Kill

The woman who appeared behind Ye Guan was not a stranger. She was Qingqiu, and she was dressed in a lotus skirt. Qingqiu exuded a tranquil and elegant aura as she stood quietly behind Ye Guan.

Qingqiu glanced at Clan Leader Jing before staring at Ye Guan with a faint smile tugging at her lips. Ye Guan smiled and greeted, "Aunt Qingqiu!"

Qingqiu nodded and sized him up before saying, "You've progressed really quickly."

Ye Guan grinned. To be honest, he was somewhat surprised. Among his aunts, he had the least contact with Aunt Qingqiu, so he didn't expect her to come. Aunt Qingqiu was similar to White-Skirt Destiny; they had great temperaments and had always left Ye Guan with a warm feeling.

Qingqiu turned to look at Clan Leader Jing and smiled, "Clan Leader Jing, are you sure you want to get involved in the juniors' squabbles?"

Clan Leader Jing opened her palm, and a mysterious energy enveloped the supreme elites of the Past Clan, attempting to whisk them away.

Ye Guan's face darkened. She's actually going to intervene. Fuck! Is she going to disregard all martial ethics?

Qingqiu's eyes narrowed. She took a step forward and raised her hand, unleashing a sword strike.

Schwing!

A ray of sword light rushed toward Clan Leader Jing.

Clan Leader Jing remained calm and said, "Freeze."

Boom!

Qingqiu's sword attack froze in place. The next moment, Qingqiu suddenly disappeared from where she was standing and slashed out with her sword.

Bang!

The mysterious energy shattered beneath the force of her sword.

Qingqiu waved her sword gently, and the fabric of spacetime around them collapsed, revealing a strange dimension. Qingqiu had opened her sword domain with just a slash of her sword!

Qingqiu then looked at Ye Guan and said, "Feel free to kill."

Ye Guan nodded and led a group of supreme elites from the Yang Clan against the supreme elites of the Past Clan.

Qingqiu and Clan Leader Jing were inside Qingqiu's sword domain.

Qingqiu stared at Clan Leader Jing and said, "You must follow the rules."

"And what if I don't?" Clan Leader Jing retorted.

The corner of Qingqiu's lips curled up. "Then I'll kill you."

"Try it."

"Let's give it a try then."

Qingqiu transformed into a ray of sword light and disappeared on the spot. In an instant, terrifying forces and waves of sword light engulfed the entire sword domain.

The eruption of sword lights was so dazzling that onlookers couldn't see what was going on inside the domain.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan led a group of Yang Clan members to attack the elites of the Past Clan. The supreme elites of the Past Clan felt fearful upon seeing their clan leader fighting Qingqiu.

They relied heavily on their clan leader, as she was invincible in their eyes. However, someone else was actually on par with their own leader, which was just utterly absurd.

The supreme elites of the Yang Clan didn't give them any time to recover. Under An Nanjing's lead, they encircled and besieged the Past Clan's supreme elites.

Erya charged to the front lines, but no one from the Past Clan dared to confront her head-on. Erya was ruthless and focused only on offense. Every single one of her punches seemed capable of sundering the heavens and splitting the earth. Erya killed dozens of supreme elites from the Past Clan in just the blink of an eye.

Meanwhile, the Heavenly Daos that Little White had summoned were also extremely powerful. Little White herself also brought out many different divine artifacts, which strengthened both the Heavenly Daos and the supreme elites of the Yang Clan.

The Past Clan was already at a disadvantage, even before the battle had started, so they were in a worse situation than earlier. However, it was the Gui Clan that suffered the most, as they were nowhere near as strong as the Past Clan.

Bam!

Han Ling was sent flying away by a ray of sword light. Her fleshly body erupted into flames, leaving only her soul. Han Ling looked up at Ye Guan and was about to say something when Ye Guan disappeared into thin air.

The next moment, a sword pierced Han Ling's forehead. Han Ling was pinned to the ground, and she could not move at all. To make matters worse, Ye Guan did not even glance at Han Ling before he rushed toward the woman in a tight-fitting skirt, who was fighting Ye An at the moment.

The woman in a tight-fitting skirt was stupefied to see Ye Guan rushing toward her. In response, she turned around and unleashed rapid sword strikes that collided with Ye Guan's sword attack.

Boom!

Countless sword lights were shattered in an instant, and the woman in a tight-fitting skirt was sent flying. She had just come to a halt, but a ray of sword light was already a few meters away from her.

She tried to block the attack, but...

BOOM!

The woman in a tight-fitting skirt was blasted a few kilometers away!

Right when Ye Guan and Ye An were about to make another move, the woman in a tight-fitting skirt was whisked away by a mysterious energy and disappeared without a trace.

Ye Guan immediately frowned. What the heck?

Ye Guan looked up at the sword domain and saw a sea of sword lights inside it. He couldn't see anything else aside from sword lights, and he felt slightly worried.

"Let's kill the others first," Ye An suggested. Then, she transformed into a crimson streak of light that disappeared into the distance. Ye Guan set aside his thoughts and did the same, transforming into a ray of sword light.

The duo were unstoppable, and heads would go flying into the air wherever they went. Ye Guan was shocked upon discovering Ye An's true strength, as she was not inferior to him at all in terms of strength or talent!

Of course, Ye Guan set that thought aside and focused on eliminating his enemies.

Just like that, the Past Clan and Gui Clan members diminished rapidly. Some of the Time Reversers on their sides had chosen to escape because they could no longer see any hope. They did not belong to the Past Clan, nor did they belong to the Gui Clan, so it was an easy choice to make. For them, it was more important to stay alive.

The battlefield had become a one-sided slaughter.

Just then, the Clan Leader of the Gui Clan turned toward Qin Guan.

"Pavilion Master Qin, my Gui Clan is willing to surrender."

The Gui Clan had already lost the majority of its members. At this rate, the entire clan would be annihilated. There were still no signs of any reinforcements from the Temple of the Gods, so he decisively chose to surrender.

Qin Guan stared indifferently at the Clan Leader of the Gui Clan. "Too late."

It was too late to surrender.

The Clan Leader of the Gui Clan took on a ferocious expression. "Then, let's all die together."

He gestured with both hands and said, "Blood Sacrifice."

Boom!

The members of the Gui Clan abruptly exploded into bloody mists. Their blood coalesced into streams of crimson that flew toward the Clan Leader of the Gui Clan.

The aura of the Gui Clan's Clan Leader surged crazily. This was the result of the Blood Sacrifice, which was the Gui Clan's cruelest forbidden technique. It allowed one to obtain greater power by sacrificing their own clan members.

Qin Guan stared calmly at the Clan Leader of the Gui Clan. However, the Clan Leader of the Gui Clan turned around and tore a rift in the spacetime before decisively jumping into it.

The Clan Leader of the Gui Clan had chosen to run away!

The Past Clan members were dumbfounded. What the heck? You sacrificed all of your clan members just to escape?

Qin Guan stared at the spacetime rift and said, "Senior An, don't bother chasing him."

An Nanjing stopped in her tracks. Then, she turned to look at the remaining supreme elites of the Past Clan. There were only a few of them left, but they were fighting with all their might.

An Nanjing went to Qin Guan's side and said, "It's over."

Qin Guan shook her head and said, "It's only just begun."

"You're a good mother," An Nanjing said. She understood what Qin Guan meant. Qin Guan had never been looking at the present. She was always looking at the future. In other words, Ye Guan had been walking on a path that his mother had paved for him.

"It would be better if you let him walk it on his own," An Nanjing remarked.

Qin Guan nodded. "Of course... as long as they don't break the rules."

If it hadn't been for the Past Clan's relentless group attacks against Ye Guan, Qin Guan wouldn't have intervened. She was also hoping that Ye Guan would walk his own path by himself, but Qin Guan wouldn't stand idly by against bullies.

The entire Past Clan had decided to attack Ye Guan and had even issued an arrest warrant for him, causing countless Time Reversers to target him as well. If she had not intervened, Ye Guan would have certainly died.

It was cruel, but the world had always been cruel. Oftentimes, reasoning and rules weren't enough to resolve an issue, as others could simply choose not to abide by the rules and reasoning. It was unfortunate, but people like that were everywhere.

An Nanjing nodded slightly without saying anything. She also didn't wish for Ye Guan to experience what the Sword Master had gone through.

The Sword Master was completely left to his own devices, and he had become estranged from the Yang Clan. It was a rift that had yet to heal even after so many years. However, it made sense; why would he rely on his parents the moment he became an adult when he had gone through his childhood years all by himself?

At first, the Yang Clan didn't pay much attention to him—no, it was more like the Qingshan Sword Master didn't really care much about him. It was only after many years did the Yang Clan realize that giving their children too much freedom would only result in estrangement.



Qin Guan had obviously seen through that issue, so she had never truly left Ye Guan to grow up on his own. She would let him walk on his own path, but she would never allow this world to trample on him.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan had just killed a supreme elite of the Past Clan and was about to kill another when he sensed something strange. He turned to look at Qingqiu's sword domain.

A terrifying aura could be felt from the sword domain, and the aura was so powerful that it stupefied everyone.

Ye Guan's expression became heavy. Is it finally over?

Boom!

The sword domain shattered with a thunderous boom.