

A Sword 651

Chapter 651: Lessons from My Father and Grandfather

The Dao Market resembled a sea of blood. Two terrifying forces erupted into battle, churning crimson waves akin to a relentless storm. It was an awe-inspiring and terrifying sight.

The two clashed ferociously, and the surroundings trembled with each thunderous blow.

After what seemed like an eternity of battle, a burst of fist energy shattered the blood sea, sending waves soaring into the sky.

Ye Guan and Old Zhao reappeared in the skies, ready for more.

Ye Guan stood tall, surrounded by the pulsing energy of his bloodline and a sharp sword intent.

Across from him, Old Zhao's gaze burned fiercely. The phantom behind him emitted a malevolent aura that shook even spacetime itself.

Old Zhao's expression darkened. He couldn't have expected that Ye Guan's bloodline would be so strong—strong enough to challenge even the might of his divine phantom.

Old Zhao started regretting what he had done. The fact that Ye Guan was so talented meant that a superpower was backing him.

However, with no retreat in sight, Old Zhao could only steel himself for the battle. He had to eliminate Ye Guan once and for all.

Old Zhao's gaze was unwittingly transfixed on Ye Guan. With a will on his end, the phantom roared to life, launching a furious punch toward Ye Guan.

Boom!

The impact sent shockwaves rippling through the air, echoing like thunder across the battlefield. Undeterred, Ye Guan met the attack head-on. He thrust his sword forward in a resolute manner using Space Overlap.

Kaboom!

Their clash unleashed a wave of energy that rippled outward with devastating force. Thankfully, the supreme elites in the area managed to take advantage of the ancient seals protecting the Dao Market to keep the shockwaves in check.

Witnessing Ye Guan's resilience, Old Zhao's desperation grew. He waved his hand and sent a drop of his blood essence into the phantom.

Bom!

The phantom surged with newfound strength.

"Be careful; that was a blood sacrifice," Shen Ye warned, "It is an ancient technique that uses one's own blood as a sacrificial piece for the divine phantom. While it can greatly increase the strength of the phantom, it takes a huge toll on the user. He is going to fight to the death with you."

Ye Guan's eyes slowly closed, and his mind ignored Shen Ye's voice. He was gradually succumbing to madness. Having absorbed waves of killing intent, the Mad Demon Bloodline reached another level, and it was becoming even stronger as time ticked by, pushing Ye Guan closer to madness.

In the shadows, Qi Mu and others watched the two combatants with unprecedentedly solemn looks. Their concern deepened further as they realized that Ye Guan had yet to summon his backers. They knew well that many prominent families would leave talents out to fend and train by themselves, but such individuals were typically accompanied by guardians. Qi Mu had just scanned the area with his divine senses, but he found no one else lurking in the shadows.

Is Ye Guan really an abandoned talent?

Qi Mu's brow furrowed deeply.

Meanwhile, in the Dao Market, the phantom behind Old Zhao emitted a faint crimson glow. The phantom had become even stronger, but Old Zhao's face grew a shade paler as if he had aged considerably in the blink of an eye.

With his eyes half-closed, Ye Guan gripped his blood-stained sword in silence. He resembled a monk in deep meditation.

The battlefield was plunged into an eerie calm—a rare tranquility amidst chaos.

However, it didn't last long.

The phantom behind Old Zhao took a step forward, and the Dao Market trembled violently as it charged straight at Ye Guan with a bunch.

Kaboom!

A colossal fist light erupted, sundering the skies.

The fist light contained an unprecedented might that sent shockwaves rippling through the entire Dao Market.

Qi Mu clenched his fists tightly as he watched the scene unfold from the shadows. He knew the climax of the battle was imminent, as both sides had unleashed their ultimate moves.

Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly in the face of the oncoming fist. His eyes seemed to reflect a crimson sea of blood.

Against the formidable punch, Ye Guan opted for a head-on confrontation.

He thrust his sword forward without any embellishments whatsoever. Bloodline power surged from his sword, and it was a power containing both his Mad Demon Bloodline and Mortal Bloodline.

BOOM!

The phantom's fist froze in place, and cracks spread rapidly along its right arm. The radiant fist light had dissipated into nothingness.

Old Zhao was in disbelief. "How...how is this possible? Two bloodline powers...?"

He couldn't quite comprehend that the young man before him had not one but two terrifying bloodlines.

This was simply absurd!

Qi Mu was taken aback, too. The coexistence of two bloodline powers hinted at a lineage far more remarkable than he had ever imagined.

Ye Guan had not one but two incredible top-tier supreme elites. The rest of the Qi Clan members were stunned as well.

After the powerful strike, Ye Guan's figure blurred, and he transformed into a towering pillar of blood light that descended upon the shattered phantom

Old Zhao, refusing to concede defeat, urged the phantom to retaliate. Upon contact with Ye Guan's sword, however, the phantom crumbled.

Blood burst out of Old Zhao's lips; he suffered a backlash at the destruction of his phantom.

Old Zhao cried out urgently, "Qi Mu, seize this opportunity. He's at his weakest!"

However, Qi Mu remained unmoved. Qi Mu stared deeply at Ye Guan in the distance without saying anything.

Although Ye Guan had suffered injuries, he didn't look like he was at his weakest at all!

Is Old Zhao trying to deceive me?

Qi Mu silently pondered.

Old Zhao became anxious at Qi Mu's silence, and he hurriedly shouted, "Qi Mu, attack him now! You can have seventy percent of his Ancestral Veins! The Dao Markey will only take thirty..."

Casting a stern gaze toward Old Zhao, Qi Mu shouted, "Old Zhao, you better keep your mouth restrained! My Qi Clan's investigation has revealed that the fault lies solely on you."

Qi Mu nodded respectfully toward Ye Guan and said, "Young Master Ye, on behalf of my clan, I deeply apologize for the disrespect we've shown to you. I hope you'll forgive our younger generation for their ignorance."

"Qi Mu!" Old Zhao roared, "You despicable bastard! Do you think that by stepping back now, he'll spare your Qi Clan? This man is a monstrous talent. Once he grows, your Qi Clan will be nothing but lambs to the slaughter in his presence. By then, it'll be too late for regrets—"

"Stop the nonsense," Ye Guan interrupted, "The Qi Clan merely had a misunderstanding with me. The misunderstanding has already been cleared up, so there is no need for revenge."

Hearing Ye Guan's words, Qi Mu breathed a sigh of relief and quickly responded, "Young Master Ye, you truly are more mature than your age..."

"Shall we join forces to destroy this Dao Market?" Ye Guan proposed.

Qi Mu was taken aback. Join forces? What?

Ye Guan added, "What do you think about joining forces to destroy this Dao Market?"

Qi Mu glanced at Ye Guan and chuckled awkwardly. "Young Master Ye, surely, you jest, right? But... I can't make that huge of a decision by myself. I must report back to the clan leader first..."

Qi Mu didn't outright refuse, afraid of angering Ye Guan.

Ye Guan didn't insist on the matter. Instead, he turned to Old Zhao in the distance and said, "You can leave."

With that, Ye Guan turned around and walked away. Both Old Zhao and Qi Mu were dumbfounded.

What's going on? Is he not going to fight anymore?

Realizing that Ye Guan was serious, Qi Mu hurriedly exclaimed, "Young Master Ye!"

Ye Guan turned back to face Qi Mu.

Qi Mu hesitated slightly before saying, "You must resolve the problem at its roots..."

Old Zhao glared at Qi Mu with a grim expression. This bastard actually wants to use that young swordsman to kill me.

Old Zhao no longer resented Ye Guan.

After all, it wasn't strange that Ye Guan and him were enemies.

However, Qi Mu's actions were simply despicable. Old Zhao swore to avenge himself one day if he ended up surviving today's ordeal.

He knew Ye Guan had spared him for that reason, but he couldn't care less. He just wanted to kill Qi Mu to die and destroy the Qi Clan.

At Qi Mu's words, Ye Guan furrowed his brows. "Resolve the problem at its roots?"

"Yes, yes, Master Ye," Qi Mu said, nodding hastily. "If you don't eradicate the problem completely at its roots, it will resurface later. So... please do not hesitate and address the issue at its roots!"

However, Ye Guan shook his head and said, "My father and grandfather taught me that mercy is imperative when possible. Spare others when you can, and leave a path for reconciliation. Following their teachings, I'm... not going to kill him."

Chapter 652: What a Scheming Brat

"How naive!" Qi Mu exclaimed. "The fact that your father and grandfather are so naive means that they probably didn't fare too well in life, am I right?"

Ye Guan nodded slightly and said in a serious tone of voice, "Indeed. My father was especially problematic. People used to call him the 'King of Relying on Others'."

The Qingxuan Sword inside of him trembled as if it was trying to say something.

Qi Mu advised, "Young Lord Ye, Old Zhao is already on his last legs, and he's your sworn enemy. If you don't kill him and he gets back on his feet, he'll surely gather the elites of the Dao Market to come after you. By then, it'll be too late for regrets..."

Ye Guan suggested, "Why don't you do the killing, then?"

Qi Mu's expression stiffened.

Ye Guan went silent. He turned around and hopped onto his sword, disappearing into the horizon.

Qi Mu's expression immediately soured, and he turned to look at Old Zhao upon sensing the latter's glare.

"What? Thinking of killing me?" Old Zhao asked.

Qi Mu fell silent. Indeed, he wanted to kill Old Zhao. He wasn't sure whether Old Zhao would seek revenge on Ye Guan or not, but he knew that Old Zhao would certainly come after him if Old Zhao was allowed to survive today's ordeal. However, killing Old Zhao meant antagonizing the Dao Market, and the Dao Market would never let him go. It could even escalate into a full-blown war. If that happened, the Qi Clan could simply abandon him. Old Zhao had an esteemed position in the Dao Market, after all.

Qi Mu was cursing Ye Guan deep inside. At the same time, he started regretting his decision. He had the chance to work together with Ye Guan and take down the Dao Market with him, but he refused to take it.

"Come on, kill me then," Old Zhao sneered. He was not afraid of Qi Mu, as he was sure that Qi Mu would not dare to kill him.

After a moment of silence, Qi Mu sighed softly and said, "Old Zhao, you can't blame me for what I did. That young man's background is too extraordinary!"

Obviously, this was Qi Mu's attempt to shift the blame away from him.

Old Zhao did not buy it and chuckled sarcastically before leaving.

Qi Mu's gaze gradually darkened, but he still decided not to kill Old Zhao, as it would give him room to maneuver.

If he had chosen to kill Old Zhao, the Qi Clan would have been forced into a corner.

Qi Mu couldn't help but curse. That damned swordsman is so scheming...

Outside the Dao Market, the three Gods had received news that Ye Guan had defeated Old Zhao, and the news painted their faces with disbelief.

Ye Guan is just a Heavenly Sovereign Realm cultivator! A Heavenly Sovereign Realm cultivator defeating a Divine Dao Realm cultivator? How is that possible?!

The Zhao Clan's God said in a low voice, "Could it be that Ye Guan has been hiding his true strength all this while?"

Mo'e shook his head. "I don't think so..."

The Zhao Clan's God frowned. "Does that mean his strength has improved by leaps and bounds in just a short period of time?"

Their expressions turned heavy. If that was the case, then it would be too terrifying of a fact.

"That young man... he's terrifying!" Mo'e exclaimed.

"Teacher's inheritance..." the Zhao Clan's God said.

Mo'e replied, "Let's return to the Daoist Temple first. The Divine Realm already knows that Ye Guan has Teacher's inheritance. Now, all we need to do is observe the situation quietly."

They were Gods, but they weren't the most powerful figures in the Daoist Temple.

The reason they tried to kill Ye Guan was that only a few from the Daoist Temple knew that Ye Guan had the First God's inheritance.

Unfortunately, the news had already spread like wildfire.

At this point, they wouldn't be able to keep the inheritance, even if they managed to take it away from Ye Guan.

Thus, they deduced that there was no need for them to take any unnecessary risks.

With that in mind, the three turned around and left.

For some reason, there was a luxurious palace amidst a silent starry sky.

The luxurious palace was none other than the Dao Palace—the headquarters of the Dao Market.

Old Zhao left the Dao Market and returned to the Dao Palace. He bowed deeply upon entering the main hall of the Dao Palace.

A middle-aged man wearing a long robe appeared in front of him.

Old Zhao hurriedly bowed again and greeted, "Palace Master."

The middle-aged man calmly said, "Speak."

Old Zhao recounted his experience.

After a while, the Palace Master walked to the entrance of the great hall and looked up at the starry sky.

"The First God..." muttered the Palace Master.

Old Zhao was a little curious, so he asked, "Palace Master, do you know him?"

"I met him once, and he was an extraordinary figure," the Palace Master replied. Then, he asked, "That young swordsman has the First God's inheritance?"

Old Zhao nodded.

The Palace Master then said, "Does it mean that all of First God's divine treasures are with him?"

Old Zhao hesitated briefly before answering, "Yes. Palace Master, do you want those Ancestral Veins?"

"Ancestral Veins?" The Palace Master chuckled and went silent.

Old Zhao explained, "Palace Master, he has two terrifying bloodlines. His background is definitely extraordinary..."

To be honest, Old Zhao didn't want to fight Ye Guan, nor did he want the Dao Market to keep on chasing after Ye Guan. Old Zhao was starting to become afraid of the young swordsman.

The recent fight with Ye Guan told him Ye Guan hadn't gone all out and that he had a few more trump cards up his sleeve. The most frightening thing was that Ye Guan's backers had yet to appear.

Simply put, he only wanted to deal with the Qi Clan, as they were easier to handle.

"Yes, the fact that he has two bloodlines means that he must have an extraordinary background. Did you manage to find more information about him?" asked the Palace Master.

Old Zhao shook his head and said, "We've only found out a little bit about him. He comes from the Time River..."

"Time River... It has produced two extraordinary figures. One of them is the Great Daoist Brush Master, and the other is the True God from the True Universe. I wonder if that young man is related to them..."

"I'm... not sure."

"Go and visit that young man. Ask him if he's willing to part with a divine treasure that the First God has left behind. It looks like a black ancient book... If he's willing to part with that book, then our Dao Market is willing to give him two Ancestral Veins for it!" Old Zhao chuckled bitterly. "Palace Master, I just fought him..."

The Palace Master chuckled. "Oh right, I forgot. But it's okay. Didn't he let you go?"

Old Zhao hesitated briefly before saying, "I'll give it a try, then."

The Palace Master nodded.

"What if he refuses?" Old Zhao asked.

The Palace Master's eyes narrowed, and his gaze flickered in a complicated glint.

Old Zhao's expression turned heavy at the sight. The Palace Master wouldn't let Ye Guan go so easily if he refused the offer. At the same time, Old Zhao was curious about the divine treasure that the Palace Master was asking for. Among the major forces, the Dao Market was extremely wealthy. The Palace Master had a myriad of divine treasures, as the owner of the Dao Market. In fact, even Ancestral Veins weren't much to him, so there weren't many divine treasures in this world capable of catching his eye.

The Palace Master said, "Go talk to him first and see how he feels about it."

"Understood!" Old Zhao replied and retreated.

Left all alone, the Palace Master pondered over something for a while before saying, "Guards."

Four mysterious figures dressed in black armor appeared behind him.

"Follow Old Zhao, and if that young man is unwilling to yield..." The Palace Master trailed off. Then, he let out a self-deprecating laugh before saying, "I never thought that I'd one day resort to such an underhand method... Well, I have no choice. That item is just too precious. Even if I don't make my

move, someone else will make their own move. If it's going to end up stolen anyway, then it's better if that item ends up with me..."

The Palace Master waved his hand, and the four mysterious figures bowed respectfully before disappearing into thin air.

Luo World, Mu Clan...

Mu Cheng's face darkened at the words of the old man before him. "Did he really defeat someone in the Divine Dao Realm with forty percent divinity?"

The old man nodded slightly. "Yes."

Mu Cheng stood up slowly, feeling a mixture of fear and relief. He realized that he was lucky that he didn't act rashly when that young man deliberately showed that he had seven Ancestral Veins.

If he had chosen to attack back then, the Mu Clan would face the danger of annihilation.

"What a scheming brat!" Mu Cheng remarked.

The old man added, "Clan Leader, he definitely has an extraordinary background, and it's proven by his achievements at such a young age."

Mu Cheng nodded. "I remember he said that he's from the Yang Family, but how come we've never heard of them?"

"Perhaps he's from a family that prefers to stay low-key?" the old man suggested.

"That's possible," Mu Cheng said, "Anyway, many people are definitely going to investigate the Yang Family after today's events. However, what they do is not our concern. Old Zhang, pass my orders down—from now on, the members of the Mu Clan mustn't bully the weak, and they must not be arrogant as well. They must keep a low profile when possible. If I find anyone abusing their power outside, they'll be expelled from the clan."

At this point, Mu Cheng no longer wanted to have anything to do with the Yang Family or the Dao Market.

He just wanted to keep a close eye on his own clan members, as he realized that the entire clan could get annihilated if his clan members ended up provoking the wrong person.

Old Zhao didn't immediately seek Ye Guan upon leaving the Dao Palace. Instead, he made a beeline for the Qi Clan along with a group of supreme elites. The matter involving Ye Guan could wait. He wanted to deal with that nuisance, Qi Mu, first before anything else.

Chapter 653: Turn Against Them

Qi Clan...

"You fool!" A furious roar echoed, shaking the surroundings.

Qi Mu's face was grim, and he dared not speak nor raise his head as he stood in the great hall of the Qi Clan.

A middle-aged man dressed in luxurious robes was glaring at Qi Mu with unmasked anger. The middle-aged man was none other than the leader of the Qi Clan, Qi Ling.

"You felt that the young man had an extraordinary background, so it wasn't strange that you refrained from making a move against him. However, you absolutely should have let that young man kill Old Zhao—no when he invited you to join him in dealing with the Dao Market, you should have accepted it. However, you refused his offer to kill Old Zhao... You're simply a fool! You're a stupid pig!"

Qi Ling was so mad that his lungs felt like they were going to explode. If Qi Mu had immediately withdrawn upon learning of the young man's extraordinary background, it would have been a wise choice.

However, Qi Mu didn't leave. Not only did he refuse the young swordsman's offer, but he even attempted to lure the young swordsman into attacking Old Zhao. It was like making two enemies at once.

The more Qi Ling thought about it, the angrier he became, and he continued his tirade, "You're a foolish pig—no, even pigs aren't as stupid as you!"

Qi Mu's face turned ashen from the scolding, but he dared not speak. He knew that he had made a grave mistake, and he needed the protection of the Qi Clan because Old Zhao would definitely not let him go for what he had done.

Qi Ling took a deep breath, and his figure emanated a terrifying aura as he did.

The Qi Clan originally had many choices, but Qi Mu had chosen the dumbest choice. He was truly a dumbass!

After a while, Qi Ling asked, "You said that that young swordsman has the First God's inheritance?"

Seeing that his clan leader's anger had subsided a little bit, Qi Mu hurriedly nodded and replied, "Yes."

Qi Ling's eyes flickered in contemplation.

Qi Mu froze at the sight. Is the Clan Leader thinking of taking that inheritance away?

"C-C-Clan Leader, he has an extraordinary background..." Qi Mu stammered.

"What else can we do at this point? Should I kill you to make it up to him?" Qi Ling asked.

Qi Mu fell silent, not daring to speak. Indeed, the Qi Clan and Ye Guan had already become sworn enemies. Unless they swallowed their pride and apologized, no one could guarantee that the young swordsman wouldn't attack them in the future.

Of course, Qi Mu knew that his clan leader was not worried about whether Ye Guan would retaliate against their clan or not. He was actually coveting the First God's inheritance. After all, the First God was an extremely powerful individual with a hundred percent divinity!

The divine artifacts left behind by someone like that were bound to be remarkable. The number of Ancestral Veins alone was tempting.

Just then, an elder walked into the hall. He bowed respectfully toward Qi Ling and said, "Clan Leader, Old Zhao from the Dao Market is here."

Qi Ling glanced coldly at Qi Mu before saying, "Invite him in."

The elder bowed slightly and left.

Shortly afterward, Old Zhao entered the hall with five top-tier supreme elites. One of them was even a Divine Dao Realm cultivator.

Qi Ling immediately got up and approached Old Zhao with a smile, saying, "Old Zhao, you..."

Old Zhao pointed directly at Qi Mu and said, "Old Ling, he must die."

Qi Ling's expression froze. Qi Mu's face darkened, and it was difficult to deduce his thoughts through his expression.

Old Zhao said, "Qi Ling, I'm a straightforward person when it comes to grudges. His actions do not represent the intentions of the Qi Clan, so I only want him dead."

Old Zhao was willing to compromise over anything else but this. He wouldn't be able to sleep and eat peacefully until Qi Mu was dead.

After a moment of silence, Qi Ling said, "Old Zhao, he had made a mistake, but isn't it too much to kill him for that?"

Of course, Qi Ling couldn't let Qi Mu die in Old Zhao's hands. Otherwise, the Qi Clan would suffer a massive blow to their reputation.

Even if Qi Ling wanted Qi Mu dead, he still wouldn't hand him over to Old Zhao so easily.

Old Zhao's gaze turned cold. "So, there's no room for negotiation?"

Qi Ling sighed and said, "Old Zhao, this matter is my clan's fault. How about this? We are willing to offer three hundred strands of Ancestral Origin to make it up to you. Let's put this matter behind us and maintain peace between our clans."

Old Zhao scoffed and said sarcastically, "Three hundred strands of Ancestral Origin? Do you really think that I lack Ancestral Origin?"

Qi Ling frowned, and his gaze turned cold as well. "Old Zhao, are you really not going to let this slide?"

Old Zhao thought for a few moments before saying, "It seems that the Qi Clan is not willing to hand him over. Since that's the case..."

Old Zhao abruptly threw a punch toward Qi Mu.

Boom!

A terrifying wave of energy erupted, reducing the entire hall to rubble.

Qi Ling and Qi Mu were both caught off guard by Old Zhao's sudden attack, and Qi Mu was sent flying thousands of meters away.

"How dare you!" Qi Ling roared. Old Zhao's audacity to attack Qi Mu under his eyes meant that Old Zhao had completely disregarded Qi Ling's status and reputation.

"Guards!" Qi Ling yelled, and the supreme elites of the Qi Clan rushed to the scene.

However, Old Zhao remained undaunted as he charged at Qi Mu while his companions fought the Qi Clan's reinforcements. Old Zhao was truly determined to kill Qi Mu.

They had agreed to join forces against Ye Guan, so Old Zhao was truly caught off guard by Qi Mu's betrayal. Not only did Qi Mu renege on their agreement, he even wanted him to die. Old Zhao couldn't let this slide at all.

Qi Mu was startled to see Old Zhao running toward him.

"Old Zhao, have you lost your mind?! This is the Qi Clan's territory, you—"

Boom!

Qi Mu was blasted away, and every inch of spacetime around him shattered into innumerable pieces. Despite being a powerful Divine Dao Realm cultivator, he was still no match for Old Zhao. Meanwhile, the reinforcements from the Qi Clan were increasing, and the people that Old Zhao brought with him were starting to get overwhelmed.

Just as Old Zhao was about to strike again after sending Qi Mu flying, Qi Ling stood in his way, glaring at him. "Old Zhao, do you know what you're doing right now?"

The expression on Old Zhao's face became fierce as he retorted, "Of course, I know what I'm doing! Let me tell you, I will not let the Qi Clan off the hook!"

With that, he charged at Qi Ling.

Qi Ling's expression turned grim, and he charged at Old Zhao as well.

Just like that, a fierce battle ensued between Old Zhao and the Qi Clan.

Even though Old Zhao's reinforcements were being completely suppressed, the Qi Clan couldn't kill Old Zhao at all. Divine Dao Realm cultivators were so strong it was hard for them to die.

The battle raged on for half a day, causing widespread devastation and countless casualties. The longer they fought, the fiercer the battle became; Old Zhao's relentless fighting style posed a significant challenge to Qi Ling.

Meanwhile, Qi Mu was shocked. He didn't expect that Old Zhao would be so determined to kill him and that he'd be so bold to fight the Qi Clan without any regard for their status.

When the battle was about to reach its climax, a furious roar echoed from the Qi World, "Stop!"

Old Zhao halted and turned around to see a white-robed old man.

Old Zhao immediately frowned. "Old Gu!"

"Old Zhao, have you forgotten the Palace Master's instructions?" Old Gu asked, sounding solemn.

"Of course, I haven't forgotten the Palace Master's orders. I'm just here to handle this matter first before carrying out the Palace Master's orders."

Old Gu said, "Old Zhao... The Palace Master has told me to tell you that you must temporarily set aside the matters concerning the Qi Clan."

"What?!" Old Zhao exclaimed and frowned. "Set this aside?"

Old Gu nodded. "The Palace Master wants us to keep the bigger picture in mind."

Old Zhao's expression darkened, but he remained silent.

Old Gu added, "I know you're angry, but you should also understand that you won't be able to kill anyone important here. Furthermore, the Palace Master intends to cooperate with the Qi Clan..."

Cooperate with the Qi Clan?! Old Zhao's face immediately became extremely ugly. He didn't expect that the Palace Master would even think about working together with the Qi Clan.

Old Gu advised, "Old Zhao... you should let go of this matter for now."

Old Zhao pointed at Qi Mu and exclaimed, "He has tried to kill me multiple times at this point, and you want me to let him go? How can I let him go?!"

"These are the Palace Master's orders," Old Gu replied, "Old Zhao, that young swordsman has a divine treasure that is incredibly important to the Palace Master, so... forgive me for being blunt, but... which do you think is more important? This issue of yours or the Palace Master's orders?"

Old Zhao chuckled. He was truly caught off guard by the Palace Master's decision to make him abandon the matter, albeit temporarily.

Old Zhao was disheartened, and to make matters worse, the Palace Master had chosen not to support him, too. Old Zhao had toiled for many years for the Dao Market, so he truly didn't expect to receive such a treatment.

"Old Zhao, I know you don't like this, but—"

"Forget it," Old Zhao interrupted with a wave of his hand. The reinforcements that he had brought here were all working for the Dao Market. The Palace Master had already given his orders, so they would no longer help him fight the Qi Clan.

"I'll go find Ye Guan," said Old Zhao before turning around to leave. His gaze became extremely cold as he left the Qi World. Damn it! If this is how the Dao Market is going to treat me after so many years, I might as turn against them and jump onto Ye Guan's ship!

Chapter 654: He's About As Strong As I Am

Qi Ling's gaze turned extremely cold as he stared at Old Zhao's departing figure. Old Zhao's actions here clearly showed that he had no respect for the Qi Clan at all. If not for his considerations about the Dao Market, Qi Ling would have detained him and killed him here. Qi Ling also knew that the Qi Clan's relationship with Old Zhao was way beyond repair, and Old Zhao would definitely find ways to avenge himself in the future.

Just then, Old Gu turned to Qi Ling and said, "Clan Leader Ling, you should control your members properly."

Then, he glanced at Qi Mu, whose face immediately fell.

Qi Ling also glanced at Qi Mu. He wasn't going to execute Qi Mu, as nurturing a Divine Dao Realm cultivator was extremely difficult and consumed a ton of resources. In fact, even the Qi Clan only had a few Divine Dao Realm cultivators.

"Clan Leader Ling, shall we have a chat?" Old Gu asked.

Qi Ling set aside his thoughts and nodded.

After Ye Guan left the Dao Market and returned to the First God Universe, he found a secluded place before entering the world inside the tiny pagoda.

Ye Guan sat cross-legged, and his crimson figure was giving off a terrifying killing intent.

Shen Ye, Erya, and the rest walked over to him. Upon sensing Ye Guan's aura, Shen Ye's expression became serious as he remarked, "Such a terrifying killing intent. I've never seen anything more terrifying than this..."

Erya licked her candied hawthorn and said, "I've seen one!"

Shen Ye looked at her in surprise. "You've seen a killing intent more terrifying than this?"

Erya and Little White nodded.

Shen Ye's curiosity was piqued. "Who has a killing intent more terrifying than this?"

"Brother Yang," Erya replied calmly. Then, she glanced at Ye Guan and shook her head. "Little Xuan and Little Grandson's killing intent isn't as terrifying as Brother Yang's killing intent..."

"Who is that Brother Yang?"

"His grandfather," Erya said, gesturing at Ye Guan.

Grandfather? Shen Ye hurriedly asked, "How strong is his grandfather?"

Shen Ye had to admit that he was becoming increasingly curious about Ye Guan's background as time ticked by.

Erya replied, "He's about as strong as I am!"

Little White whipped her head around to look at Erya and blinked at her. Erya's expression remained calm, and her heart rate remained steady as well.

Shen Ye was about to say something when Ye Guan opened his eyes slowly. The killing intent emanating from him wasn't weakening but had become even stronger.

Shen Ye's face darkened. "What's happening to him?"

Erya explained while licking her candied hawthorn, "His bloodline power has become stronger, and it has gotten strong enough that he's struggling to control it."

Erya was right.

Ye Guan was in a pickle right now. He was having trouble suppressing the Mad Demon Bloodline. He dared not activate his Mortal Bloodline, as doing so now would only make things worse.

In fact, he had to suppress the Mortal Bloodline as well. He couldn't agitate the Mad Demon Bloodline anymore, or he wouldn't be able to contain it.

Erya suddenly asked, "Do you need any help?"

"How can you help me?"

"By fighting you."

"Fighting... Won't that make the Mad Demon Bloodline stronger?"

"Let me correct myself. I can help you by turning you into my punching bag."

Ye Guan was speechless.

Erya asked again, "So? Do you want to be my punching bag?"

"Is that really going to help?"

"Won't you know after you've tried?"

Ye Guan fell silent. However, the Mad Demon Bloodline was becoming increasingly restless, so he could only nod and say, "Bring it—"

Bam!

Ye Guan couldn't even finish his sentence as he was blasted away, transforming into a black dot that disappeared into the distant horizon.

Shen Ye was bewildered. Is this girl going to go all out?

Erya chased after Ye Guan.

Soon, Ye Guan was beaten to a pulp. Of course, Erya controlled her strength, or he wouldn't be able to withstand Erya's punches, even with Ao Qianqian's help.

Half an hour later, Erya finally stopped the beatdown.

Ye Guan sprawled out on the ground, devoid of any strength.

Erya walked up to him. The Mad Demon Bloodline was still active, but it seemed to have been humbled.

Erya nodded slightly and said, "Now you can suppress it."

Ye Guan laughed bitterly at her words, realizing that Erya was right. The Mad Demon Bloodline dared not have a temper against Erya. In fact, it wasn't just the Mad Demon Bloodline; even Master Pagoda would rather offend Ye Xuan or Sword Master Qingshan than offend Erya or Little White. Offend Erya or Little White, and they'd remember it for life.

Ye Guan sat down and began to suppress the Mad Demon Bloodline. After about half an hour, the bloodline calmed down, and the crimson hue on Ye Guan disappeared. He took a deep breath, feeling somewhat excited. He did not expect that he would be able to strengthen his Mad Demon Bloodline. He had truly reaped a ton of profit!

Just then, Ye Guan recalled something and turned to Shen Ye. "Senior, does Old Zhao have forty percent divinity in the Divine Dao Realm?"

Shen Ye nodded. "Yes, and it's true power."

A complicated light shimmered in Shen Ye's eyes. Ye Guan was just a Heavenly Sovereign Realm cultivator, but he was already strong enough to defeat a Divine Dao Realm cultivator with forty percent divinity. His talent was truly monstrous, and Shen Ye reckoned that Ye Guan would have no match once he became a Divine Dao Realm cultivator.

Shen Ye shook his head with a smile. There were many people with talent that couldn't be explained, just like Young Lord Ye here.

If he hadn't witnessed Ye Guan's might with his own two eyes, he wouldn't have believed that a Heavenly Sovereign Realm cultivator could defeat a Divine Dao Realm cultivator.

His keen intuition also told him that Ye Guan had yet to use all of his trump cards.

"It seems like I still have to fight more..." Ye Guan muttered. Then, he frowned and asked, "Those three Gods haven't made any moves yet?"

Shen Ye said in a low voice, "The Qi Clan realized that you're not an easy opponent at all, so they retreated. As for those three Gods... perhaps they've reached the same conclusion as the Qi Clan?"

Ye Guan shook his head and said, "I don't know."

Shen Ye grinned. "I'll send someone to investigate them."

"I'd appreciate that. Thank you."

"You're welcome. We're allies, so it's only right that I help you."

Shen Ye had some reservations about their alliance, and it was all due to Ye Guan's cultivation base. But now, Shen Ye felt that he had made the right decision.

Having a powerful ally was beneficial to him. It was necessary to have friends in the wild, outside world.

Just then, Ye Guan sensed something. He left the world inside the tiny pagoda, and the spacetime in front of him trembled.

It split open, and an old man walked out slowly from the rift. The old man was none other than Old Zhao!

Old Zhao was surprised to see Ye Guan standing right in front of him, but he was afraid that Ye Guan would misunderstand his intentions for coming here, so he hurriedly said, "Young Lord Ye, I came on behalf of the Dao Market to talk to you."

Ye Guan chuckled softly. "Is there still anything to talk about between us?"

Old Zhao hesitated briefly before saying, "Let's just have a chat first?"

"Go ahead," Ye Guan said.

"The owner of the Dao Market knows that you are in possession of the First God's inheritance, and he'd like to purchase an item from you using Ancestral Veins."

Ye Guan was curious. "Purchase an item from me?"

Old Zhao nodded. "Yes, it looks like a black ancient book."

Ye Guan frowned. The black ancient book was a mysterious item that the First God had left behind, and he still hadn't figured out its identity.

Old Zhao sounded cautious as he asked, "Are you selling it?"

"Why does he want to buy it?"

"I don't know."

"I'm not selling it."

Old Zhao fell silent.

Ye Guan asked, "Is there anything else you'd like to talk about?"

Old Zhao replied, "If you aren't willing to sell it, I'm afraid the Dao Market will—"

"Snatch it away from me?" Ye Guan interjected.

"Yes," Old Zhao admitted.

"The Dao Market is quite domineering, it seems."

"Young Lord Ye, I know that your background isn't simple, but the Dao Market is really powerful. You still need to be careful..."

"Aren't you from the Dao Market?"

"Young Lord Ye, if my predictions are right, the Dao Market will dispatch the Four Great Dao Generals, and they are all in the Divine Dao Realm with forty percent divinity. Most importantly, they're brothers. Together, they're capable of killing a Divine Dao Realm cultivator with fifty percent divinity. You mustn't be careless, and you must not underestimate them..."

"Why are you telling me that?"

"Young Lord Ye, if you don't mind, I'm willing to serve you faithfully."

Ye Guan was stunned. Why is Old Zhao switching sides?

Sensing Ye Guan's confusion, Old Zhao added, "Young Lord Ye, we were enemies before, so it's normal for us to be at odds. However, I've decided to leave the Dao Market and stop working for it. If you don't mind, I'm willing to serve you. My only goal is to annihilate the Qi Clan..."

Annihilate the Qi Clan? Ye Guan instantly understood Old Zhao's intentions.

Old Zhao added, "Young Lord Ye—"

Ye Guan suddenly raised a hand, silencing Old Zhao.

Old Zhao cast a puzzled gaze at Ye Guan.

"Powerful experts are heading toward us," Ye Guan said with narrowed eyes.

Chapter 655: God Clan

Old Zhao's expression fell. "It must be those four Dao Generals."

"Let's chat somewhere else. Do not resist," Ye Guan said.

Before Old Zhao could react, a golden light enveloped him, and a mysterious power teleported him away. He was about to resist, but hearing what Ye Guan said made him hesitantly decide against it.

Very quickly, he was absorbed into the tiny pagoda.

Ye Guan hopped on his sword and disappeared into the vast mountain range.

The tiny pagoda stunned Old Zhao at first. After a while, he began to look solemn. His heart sank.

Time flows differently here!

The difference in the flow of time between this place and the outside world was simply terrifying!

Ten years in the tower was equivalent to just one day in the outside world? What kind of logic was this?

At that moment, Old Zhao realized that he had greatly underestimated the young swordsman. Even the Dao Market did not possess such divine treasures! If the outside world knew about the presence of this divine treasure, everyone would be shaken.

Soon, Ye Guan appeared in front of him.

"Young Master Ye," Old Zhao hurriedly said.

Ye Guan smiled. "You said earlier that you wanted to serve me?"

Old Zhao nodded.

"Just because of the Qi Clan?"

"You could say that," Old Zhao replied.

Ye Guan stared blankly at him. Old Zhao fell silent as well, waiting for Ye Guan to make his decision. He knew that this young man would be able to discern if his words were true or not.

"You're welcome to join the Guanxuan Academy," Ye Guan then said.

Puzzled, Old Zhao asked, "The Guanxuan Academy?"

"Yes."

"I haven't heard of this organization before."

"You'll learn about it soon enough."

If everything had gone according to plan, then his mother should be entering the Old Era with her people soon.

Old Zhao quietly glanced at Ye Guan. He knew that this young man had to be from a hidden major clan. Moreover, from what he could infer, the clan was likely very, very powerful.

"Tell me more about the Dao Market."

Breaking out of his thoughts, Old Zhao replied, "The first master of the Dao Market was known as Gu Yinhe. He comes from a place known as the Milky Way."

"Milky Way?"

Old Zhao nodded. "You know about it?"

"Yes."

The mention of the Milky Way reminded him of two people. He naturally would not forget that there were two women there who were waiting for him. He needed to find some time to go back! To be honest, he quite liked the Milky Way.

Old Zhao continued, "After he established the Dao Market, under his leadership, it gradually grew and became the largest merchant guild in the world. The Dao Market is quite extraordinary. Quite a lot of powerful forces have invested in it, a term our founder coined."

"The term 'invest'?"

"Yes. It's because of this that the Dao Market holds a very special position that no one dares to provoke."

"Tell me about the various major organizations in the world."

Old Zhao looked at Ye Guan, somewhat puzzled. It seemed like Ye Guan did not know much about the major powers in the world, which was unexpected.

Without thinking too much about it, Old Zhao answered, "Among the worlds, the most powerful forces are divided into three factions: the God Clan, the Zhen Clan, and the Ancient Wilderness' Desolate Demon Clan. The First God came from the God Clan."

Ye Guan was momentarily stunned. "The First God is from the God Clan?"

Old Zhao nodded. "Yes. However, for some reason back then, he left the God Clan and went to the Old Era, creating a whole new universe and era... If the God Clan had the First God's assistance back then, they would have undoubtedly become the most powerful organization. Unfortunately, their parties seemed to have had internal conflicts. They never did manage to establish a friendly relationship with each other."

Ye Guan did not expect that the First God came from the God Clan.

Old Zhao continued, "The God Clan has always been powerful. Even now, only the Zhen Clan and the Desolate Demon Clan can contend with them to some extent. The Daoist Temple was a top-tier organization as well when the First God was still around. It even stood on equal grounds with the three factions. He himself was unmatched, too.

"His inheritance is highly coveted because he managed to reach a hundred percent divinity back then. To this day, he's still the only one who has been able to achieve such a feat."

Ye Guan asked, "That means more people are coming to cause trouble for me, doesn't it?"

Old Zhao nodded. "Yes. His inheritance might be able to help someone reach one hundred percent divinity, after all."

Ye Guan fell silent. The cultivators in the Divine Dao Realm made him realize that the more divinity one possessed, the stronger they were. However, his path was of humanity, not divinity. Did that mean that he had to create a whole new cultivation realm for himself?

He could feel a headache coming.

"Young Master Ye, are you worried?" Old Zhao asked.

Ye Guan snapped back to reality. "Worried? Why would I be?"

"Well, you've just learned that powerful people are out to hunt you down."

"Ah. Well, no, not really."

Old Zhao was surprised. He didn't expect such a reply.

Ye Guan then asked, "What about the Temple of the Gods? How do they compare to other forces?"

Old Zhao answered, "They are plagued by internal strife. Hence, their strength can only be considered to be slightly above average. Ever since the First God self-destructed, the Temple of the Gods fell into turmoil, and those self-proclaimed Gods..."

He shook his head with a faint, mocking smile.

Ye Guan chuckled. "You seemed a bit displeased with them proclaiming themselves as Gods."

"I was. When the First God proclaimed himself a God, no one had any objections. After all, he was the only cultivator in the Divine Dao Realm to have achieved one hundred percent divinity. All those so-called Gods do is prop up their chairs within their circle. Outside of it, nobody pays them any mind. Still, I have to admit that Xuanzong is indeed pretty strong."

"The First God's student?"

"Yes, he is one of the two strongest students of the First God..."

Seemingly recalling something, Old Zhao glanced at Ye Guan. Despite being the First God's successor, Ye Guan seemed quite unfamiliar with the Temple of the Gods.

Did this young man just spring out of nowhere?

"Tell me more about the Desolate Demon Clan."

"The Ancient Wilderness is the Sacred Land of all demonic beasts," Old Zhao began.

"Sacred Land?"

"Yes. That place is full of Ancestral Veins and legendary Sacred Springs, which can greatly enhance the bloodline and physique of the demon race. It is precisely because of this that the strength of the Desolate Demon Clan is so terrifying. It's also worth mentioning that the Mountain Sea World was once

a part of the Ancient Wilderness too. However, due to unknown reasons, it eventually separated from them."

"That's right," Shen Ye suddenly chimed in. "Our Mountain Sea World used to be part of the Ancient Wilderness, but that was a very long time ago."

"Why did it break away from the Ancient Wilderness, then?" Ye Guan asked.

Shen Ye explained, "Just like there are internal conflicts in the human race, the demon race also had theirs. The internal strife within the Desolate Demon Clan made a demon king from the Mountain Sea World leave with his followers. However, due to the Sacred Springs in the Ancient Wilderness, the development of the Mountain Sea World's demonic beasts could not keep up. Over time, many powerful demonic beasts returned to the Ancient Wilderness, causing the power of the Mountain Sea World to decline..."

Shen Ye then sighed softly. The Mountain Sea World used to be glorious. It was a pity that its resources could not compare to the Ancient Wilderness', which caused its development to slow down and eventually fall far behind.

"Senior, have you ever thought of returning to the Ancient Wilderness?"

Shen Ye smiled but remained silent.

"If Brother Shen Ye wants to return, the Ancient Wilderness will surely welcome him with open arms," Old Zhao commented. "However, they may not necessarily accept the Mountain Sea World itself. After all, the Ancient Wilderness considers them as traitors."

Old Zhao was shocked when he first met Shen Ye. He did not expect that such a powerful demonic beast from the Mountain Sea World would choose to follow Young Master Ye. Even though the strength of the Mountain Sea World was far inferior to that of the Ancient Wilderness, Shen Ye was by no means weak. Even in the Ancient Wilderness, he would still be considered very powerful.

Shen Ye nodded slightly. "The Ancient Wilderness indeed views us in a negative light, but it doesn't matter. As long as we can coexist peacefully, it's fine."

He then looked at Ye Guan. "Young Master Ye, you are not in a good situation right now. The temptation of the First God's inheritance is too strong since it can help its owner attain one hundred percent divinity. Many powerful organizations are definitely eyeing them..."

"I understand. However, I am not going to fight them alone," Ye Guan replied.

Old Zhao and Shen Ye looked puzzled.

Ye Guan was about to say something when he suddenly frowned. "So fast!"

Then, he left the tiny pagoda. As soon as he left, four terrifying divine senses locked onto him.

Chapter 656: Settling Scores

Ye Guan furrowed his brows in surprise. His enemies arrived much sooner than expected.

At that moment, Old Zhao's voice echoed in his mind. "Young Master Ye, those are the four Dao Generals, all elites in the Divine Dao Realm. Don't underestimate them."

Before Ye Guan could digest Old Zhao's warning, the space before him abruptly split open, revealing four elders dressed in identical black robes. They emanated a daunting presence and shared such an uncanny resemblance that they could be seen as brothers.

"Young Master Ye, our lord has extended a proposal," their leader said. "I presume Old Zhao has briefed you. What's your stance?"

"Am I allowed to decline?"

"Certainly, but it's not advisable."

"Even if I agree to cooperate, you won't spare me, will you?"

"Indeed."

They couldn't afford to take chances with Ye Guan. Once fully developed, he'd pose a grave threat to the Dao Market. Ye Guan's smile faded, and he remained silent.

The leader continued, "You have another option. It's up to you whether you're willing to consider it."

"Let's hear it."

"Hand over your soul and your spirit. Join the Dao Market."

Ye Guan chuckled softly. "Your lord is quite ingenious. If I join, all of my possessions will be transferred to the Dao Market, and I'll be at your beck and call. That's quite the proposal."

"But you get to live, don't you?"

Ye Guan's smile vanished. He transformed into a streak of sword light and vanished.

Simultaneously, the four black-robed figures attacked.

Boom!

The combined force of their fist lights shattered Ye Guan's sword light, sending him flying thousands of meters away. Mountains crumbled around them, and everything was thrown into chaos.

As Ye Guan came to a halt, he glanced at his fractured right arm, his bones were starkly visible.

Looking at the four Dao Generals, Ye Guan felt a pang of shock. Their collective power was truly terrifying.

"Qianqian," he called.

Boom!

A surge of golden light erupted from within Ye Guan, piercing the sky and casting an otherworldly aura over the entire landscape.

Fused with Ao Qianqian, Ye Guan's aura surged. The world turned into an eerie illusion.

The four Dao Generals' brows furrowed in concern. Ye Guan's sudden burst of power felt anything but ordinary; he had far surpassed what one would expect from someone in the Heavenly Sovereign Realm.

"Don't underestimate him," the leader of the Dao Generals warned.

At that moment, he too realized that the young man before them was extraordinary. Underestimating him could bring about their downfall.

Ye Guan slowly closed his eyes, feeling a torrent of boundless power coursing through him. It was the first time he had merged with Ao Qianqian since she reached the Ancient Sovereign Realm. The extent of her newfound strength took him by surprise.

He reopened his eyes and fixed his gaze on the four Dao Generals in the distance. Wasting no time, he transformed into a streak of sword light and charged at his opponents.

Shwing!

With a swift strike, the entire world seemingly shattered into pieces.

The eyes of the Dao Generals' leader narrowed in response. "Be careful!"

A tremendous force erupted from the four Dao Generals.

Kaboom!

The explosion shattered the world into darkness, turning their surroundings into what seemed like a gaping black hole.

Ye Guan engaged in a fierce battle with the four Dao Generals. Unfortunately, despite his efforts, he found himself at a disadvantage.

Despite having already combined his strength with Ao Qianqian, he was still no match for the overwhelming power of the four Dao Generals. Nevertheless, he stood his ground, growing stronger with each passing moment. Shocked by his growth, the four Dao Generals used their strongest techniques. Contrary to their expectations, though, they failed to kill him in one shot. Inside the pagoda, Shen Ye and Old Zhao watched the battle unfold with astonishment.

"If Ye Guan reaches the Ancient Sovereign Realm..." Old Zhao wondered out loud.

If both of them were Ancient Sovereigns, how strong would their combined powers be?

Shen Ye was equally shocked. The fact that Ye Guan was holding his own against four Divine Dao Realm cultivators, each with forty percent divinity, was nothing short of miraculous.

Despite his opponents' combined might, Ye Guan refused to back down. He grew stronger and stronger with each passing moment.

He hadn't even tapped into the full potential of his two bloodlines yet. If he did, the tide of the battle would turn completely. Shen Ye also knew that Ye Guan possessed a divine sword.

Outside the pagoda, the clash continued.

The battle fiercely raged on. After merging with Ao Qianqian, Ye Guan's physical defense underwent a remarkable transformation. His regeneration speed also increased, causing his fighting style to shift

drastically. He now fought with recklessness, prioritizing offense over defense, exchanging blows without regard for his own safety.

While Ye Guan could afford such a daring approach, the four Dao Generals couldn't. They lacked his physical defense and healing capabilities.

As a result, although their collective efforts were suppressing Ye Guan, the latter was able to go blow for blow against them.

The four Dao Generals grew increasingly impatient, launching a relentless assault on Ye Guan.

Boom!

Ye Guan was forcefully pushed back by a terrifying blow. As he retreated, the leader of the Dao Generals rushed toward him once more. However, at that moment, Ye Guan's sword transformed into the Qingxuan Sword. He thrust it forward.

Boom!

The tremendous force before Ye Guan shattered, and the leader of the Dao Generals was sent flying, his fleshy body cracking and his blood spraying in all directions. By the time he had finally stopped, he looked utterly bewildered.

The other three Dao Generals were also stunned.

What is happening?

Ye Guan glanced at the leader of the black-robed figures in the distance. He then suddenly transformed into a streak of sword light and vanished.

Shocked, one of the Dao Generals exclaimed, "It's that sword! Watch out—!"

However, before he could finish, Ye Guan had already reached their leader.

As his expression drastically darkened, their leader summoned a golden ancient shield to protect himself. However, the Qingxuan Sword just easily destroyed it, then sent his head soaring into the sky, gushing out blood like a fountain.

The remaining three Dao Generals froze in place. However, when Ye Guan charged at them, they finally snapped back to reality.

The three turned to flee. Their leader's death had made them lose all their desire to fight.

However, Ye Guan was faster.

Swish!

A streak of sword light flashed across the sky, and their heads flew off.

In less than a second, Ye Guan had slain all four Dao Generals.

Old Zhao broke out in a cold sweat. When he had fought Ye Guan, he had asked him to use his sword. However, Ye Guan refused. If he hadn't, Old Zhao might have met his end.

Incredible! Absolutely incredible!

Four Dao Generals were killed just like that.

Having slain all his enemies, Ye Guan slowly closed his eyes. The Qingxuan Sword in his hand trembled, emitting a faint red glow. Although his Mad Demon Bloodline remained dormant, his mind was consumed with thoughts of vengeance.

"Old Zhao," Ye Guan suddenly called.

Old Zhao appeared, his demeanor markedly respectful. "Young Master Ye."

"Where is the Dao Market's headquarters?"

"The... Dao Market's headquarters?"

"Yes."

Old Zhao paused for a moment. He then cautiously asked, "Are you planning to...?"

"I don't believe in delaying retribution. I settle scores immediately."

Old Zhao's expression darkened. He didn't think Ye Guan would want to retaliate against the Dao Market.

"Please be careful," he warned. "The Dao Market is powerful."

Although Ye Guan was strong, Old Zhao knew that the Dao Market's power ran deep. Even with his and Shen Ye's help, Ye Guan would still find taking down Dao Market a daunting task.

"Lead the way," Ye Guan urged.

"Very well."

Ye Guan surveyed his surroundings and opened his palm. Four storage rings floated into his hand, each containing an Ancestral Vein. He now possessed twelve. Although these four weren't as good as the ones the First God had left him, they were valuable nonetheless.

After stowing the rings away, Ye Guan waved his sleeve, swiftly collecting the heads of the four Dao Generals. Afterward, he and Old Zhao vanished.

Meanwhile, the plain-skirted and the Sword Master continued to observe from afar.

Chapter 657: Ancestor White

As Ye Guan departed, the Sword Master smiled. "He's grown considerably stronger."

The lady in the plain skirt smiled softly but remained silent. When the Sword Master turned to her in anticipation, she gave him a gentle smile.

"Let's wait," she said.

"I sense many lurking in the shadows, plotting against him..."

"It's alright. Let's stay by his side a while longer."

"Alright."

Right after, the two departed.

...

Dao Palace.

The slain Dao Generals' bloody heads suddenly dropped before the palace gates, prompting a surge of powerful auras and enveloping the surroundings.

Ye Guan approached calmly from the starry skies. Inside the tiny pagoda, Old Zhao felt a hint of anxiousness. He didn't think Ye Guan would audaciously stomp into the Dao Palace.

Shen Ye was equally surprised. After all, Ye Guan was confronting the Dao Market, a powerful force with deep roots.

Ye Guan reached the palace gates unhindered.

Soon, Dao Ran, the Palace Master of the Dao Palace, emerged.

Dao Ran regarded Ye Guan with a soft chuckle. "I underestimated you."

He didn't think Ye Guan could eliminate four Dao Generals, let alone dare intrude into the Dao Palace.

Fascinating!

Dao Ran wore a calm smile. The Dao Market would always stand firm unless they were against one of the three major powers. Moreover, they maintained good relations with two of those three.

Ye Guan locked eyes with Dao Ran. "You want to kill me, don't you? Well, here I am. Come and try."

His words echoed with calm yet thunderous authority.

Dao Ran's smile faded. "How audacious."

Instead of wasting time with words, Ye Guan transformed into a streak of sword light and vanished. He then reappeared before Dao Ran.

Dao Ran pointed his finger at the Qingxuan Sword.

Boom!

As Ye Guan was violently pushed back, Dao Ran's brows furrowed, realizing that his finger was broken.

His expression turned solemn as he looked at the Qingxuan Sword. "Did the First God leave that sword to you?"

Ye Guan didn't reply, however. He simply transformed into a streak of sword light and disappeared again.

Dao Ran didn't dare physically confront Ye Guan head-on again. With a wave of his sleeve, he made a terrifying force surge out like tidal waves. The Qingxuan Sword shattered it, but it still sent Ye Guan flying.

Ye Guan looked up at Dao Ran as he came to a halt. From what he had gathered so far, Dao Ran was definitely stronger than the four Dao Generals he had fought earlier.

Slowly, Ye Guan closed his eyes and activated his bloodline power, causing his aura to erupt in rage.

Boom!

Dao Ran's brows furrowed. "Your bloodline power—"

Before he could finish, a blood-red sword light appeared before him.

Dao Ran punched the attack, the resulting impact forcing both combatants away from each other. By the time he had come to a stop, he noticed cracks on his right arm, from which blood gushed out incessantly.

Dao Ran's expression darkened. Gazing at Ye Guan, he opened his hand and made a dark golden spear materialize in his palm. It had a smooth surface that resembled jades, and streams of light flowed within it. As he tightened his grip on the spear, his presence transformed dramatically, now resembling a war deity.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan grew more determined. Once again, he turned into a streak of sword light and vanished.

Shwing!

The fabric of spacetime split open as the sword light surged toward Dao Ran.

Nevertheless, Dao Ran didn't block or evade. Instead, he faced it as a spear cultivator, thrusting his spear forward with a cold glint.

The spear and sword collided, creating a powerful shockwave that blasted Dao Ran and Ye Guan away. As Dao Ran steadied himself, he realized that his spear had shattered into countless fragments and scattered on the ground, which only turned his disbelief into a trace of greed.

His spear was not just any ordinary divine treasure; it was crafted with a raw material that had ten percent divinity. Nevertheless, Ye Guan had destroyed it with ease!

What an incredible weapon!

If he could get that sword, his power would skyrocket!

Now driven by desire, Dao Ran roared, "Activate the formation!"

Boom!

With a thunderous roar, a black pillar of light surged from the depths of the Dao Palace and pierced the starry sky. Following closely, a massive black vortex appeared, and a divine consciousness locked onto Ye Guan.

At that moment, Ye Guan heard Old Zhao's voice in his mind. "Young Master Ye, that's the Dao Market's Dao Slaughter Array. It has the power of a hundred Divine Dao Realm experts, each with over fifty percent divinity. Don't underestimate it."

"Dao Slaughter Array?"

Quickly, Old Zhao answered, "Yes. The Dao Market makes Divine Dao Realm elites infuse their power into this array whenever they can. Many of them do it for the sake of establishing good ties with the Dao Market. Hence, over the years, it has amassed formidable power."

Ye Guan gazed into the swirling depths of the black vortex. From inside it, powerful energies surged relentlessly. It looked like a fierce tide setting the entire starry skies ablaze. Ye Guan's expression grew increasingly grave as he sensed the imminent danger. The might of this vortex was beyond what he could handle even with Ao Qianqian's support.

Seemingly struck with an idea, Ye Guan took out Little White.

Little White blinked, puzzled by the situation. Ye Guan gestured toward the black vortex and asked, "Ancestor White, can you handle this?"

Little White's eyes gleamed at the title. Others called her 'Little White,' which she had grown accustomed to. She had always found it boring, though. To her, 'Ancestor White' felt superior.

She grinned at Ye Guan, then extended her white paw.

Sweet words won't cut it. There needs to be some incentive.

Quick to respond, Ye Guan produced a hawthorn candy and placed it on Little White's paw. Delighted, she licked the treat before turning her attention back to the black vortex, her paw moving in a flurry as if communicating.

Dao Ran's brows furrowed upon noticing Little White. He could sense an unsettling change coming. With a swift gesture, he commanded the black vortex to prepare to unleash its terrifying power, causing it to tremble. However, before it could erupt, Little White waved her paw.

As the vortex quivered, a phantom emerged, causing the tumultuous energies to immediately calm down.

Dao Ran was left dumbfounded. Little White had swayed the spirit of the Dao Slaughter Array.

The spirit danced excitedly before Little White, who then pointed at Dao Ran. Alarmed, Dao Ran quickly put his guard up. In a sudden twist, the vortex convulsed and unleashed a devastating force toward him.

In a flash, Dao Ran was hurled thousands of meters away. The Dao Palace behind him was reduced to ashes and the starry skies in the surroundings fractured.

With Little White in tow, Ye Guan retreated swiftly, stopping only after he had opened a considerable gap in between. He then watched the scene with relief.

Thank goodness I did not have to face that myself.

However, he couldn't fathom how Little White managed to sway the spirit of the array.

Neither Ye Guan nor Dao Ran could have foreseen this outcome. Dao Ran, who was just as baffled by the array spirit's betrayal, had lost his fleshy body and he was reduced to his mere soul.

Seizing the opportunity, Ye Guan transformed into a streak of sword light and sped toward Dao Ran. However, as his strike neared, an icy glimmer appeared before Dao Ran.

"Stop him!" Dao Ran commanded. A dozen elites swiftly materialized around them.

In response, Ye Guan summoned Old Zhao, Shen Ye and the other Divine Generals in the tiny pagoda.

While they stopped the Dao Market's forces, Ye Guan charged onward, confronting Dao Ran head-on. Watching Ye Guan's lethal strike close in on him, Dao Ran quivered with terror.

At that moment, a cold glimmer of light suddenly shot past him and blasted Ye Guan away with a mighty force.

Regaining his composure, Ye Guan turned toward the meddler. He then frowned deeply.

Chapter 658: Family

Several dozen meters away to the right, an elderly man wearing a large robe approached with a staff in hand. He had snow-white hair and an intimidating icy gaze.

"Young Master Ye, that's Gu Su, the second Palace Master of the Dao Market," Old Zhao explained.

Ye Guan's brows furrowed. "How many Palace Masters does the Dao Market have?"

"Just three."

"Not too many, then." Ye Guan chuckled.

As Gu Su drew nearer, he looked at the Qingxuan Sword. The danger he could sense coming from it made him wary.

"Who are you?" Gu Su asked.

"Shouldn't you know who I am? The Dao Market wants to kill me, after all."

With a deep frown, Gu Su turned to Dao Ran. "This man has a deep grudge against the Dao Market. What is the issue?"

"He openly killed in the Dao Market and slaughtered four of our Dao Generals."

Gu Su's gaze grew colder as he looked back at Ye Guan.

Before Gu Su could speak, Ye Guan waved his hand dismissively. He couldn't be bothered to explain the situation to this old man.

"I'm not in the mood to debate right and wrong with you. Erya!"

Upon hearing her name, Erya emerged from the tiny pagoda. Clad in her usual attire, she licked the hawthorn candy in her hand.

Erya initially seemed harmless. However, the next moment, she charged at Gu Su.

In that instant, Gu Su's expression changed drastically. He could sense an overwhelming force bearing down on him, making it hard to breathe. Reacting swiftly, he clenched his fist and struck Erya.

Boom!

The thunderous roar threw Gu Su hundreds of meters away.

A massive black hole had materialized in front of Erya.

Everyone was dumbfounded, especially Dao Ren. After all, Gu Su was an elite Divine Dao Realm cultivator with fifty percent divinity, yet he had been sent flying with a single blow.

What on earth just happened?

Gu Su himself was bewildered. He didn't expect the girl before him to overpower him.

Impossible!

Shock filled Gu Su's eyes.

As Erya prepared to strike again, Little White suddenly flew to her side, her small paw moving rapidly.

Erya licked her hawthorn candy once more, nodded, and unclenched her fist.

At that moment, Little White waved her paw, and the array spirit beside her sprang into action. Soon, the black vortex's terrifying power surged toward Gu Su.

Gu Su's expression shifted drastically. Why would the Dao Slaughter Array turn against its own people?

He had been in seclusion since he had stepped down from his position. Hence, he had been oblivious to the Dao Market's current affairs.

With a wave of his sleeve, Gu Su summoned an energy shield in front of him.

Boom!

However, the attack easily shattered his defenses and blasted him backward.

Dao Ran's face darkened. Unfortunately, just as he tried to retreat, a sword light loomed over him. Alarmed, he quickly threw a punch and unleashed terrifying soul energy.

His efforts proved futile. The moment his soul energy touched the Qingxuan Sword, it dissipated like snow dropped in boiling oil. Now, Dao Ran could only stand frozen in place.

Hiss!

The Qingxuan Sword pierced in between Dao Ran's brows, pinning him in place.

"Stop!" Gu Su roared in anger.

Ye Guan swung his sword, and Dao Ran's soul was absorbed into the Qingxuan Sword. He then silently pocketed Dao Ran's storage ring and turned to Gu Su. "Who do you think you are?"

"You!" Gu Su erupted in fury. He was once the master of the Dao Market. No one dared disrespect him.

I will not allow a young sword cultivator to openly insult me in public!

Stepping forward, Gu Su summoned a colossal statue of a god behind him, which seemingly made the entire galaxy boil.

Ye Guan turned to Erya. "Your turn."

Erya licked her hawthorn candy and confidently jumped ahead. She dashed to the front of the statue and punched it.

Gu Su roared in anger, making the statue meet Erya's attack with a punch of its own.

Boom!

A terrifying shockwave spread. The divine statue was continuously pushed back by the impact.

Gu Su's eyes widened in disbelief. "This..."

Ye Guan was also somewhat shocked by Erya's astonishing strength. At that moment, he realized that no matter how strong he became, Erya remained just as powerful.

Has she been hiding her strength all this time?

The statue came to a halt. It was now somewhat illusory, which made Gu Su panic. Erya's strength was unbelievably overwhelming.

Having realized that the strength of these people before them was extraordinarily powerful, the Dao Market's elites also wore extremely ugly expressions now. They had thought that they were only dealing with easy targets; they had never expected their opponents to be so tough.

After pushing back the divine statue, Erya charged and threw another punch at Gu Su.

Boom!

As the statue crumbled, Gu Su suddenly turned to Shen Ye. "Shen Ye, do you remember me?"

Shen Ye's brows furrowed.

Meanwhile, Ye Guan signaled Erya to stop. He then gazed at Shen Ye.

Shen Ye sighed. "We were acquaintances, but we never established deep relations."

Understanding Ye Guan's temperament, Shen Ye knew that if Gu Su had approached without hostility, perhaps there would have been room for reconciliation.

"You're siding with these people? What did my Dao Market do to offend you?"

"Your Dao Market didn't offend me, Gu Su."

Gu Su's expression darkened. It seemed it was his own Dao Market's greed that had caused this disaster.

After a moment's hesitation, Gu Su turned to Ye Guan. He had to swallow his pride and acknowledge their superior strength.

"Young Master Ye, can we settle this matter amicably?"

However, Ye Guan glanced at Shen Ye and smiled. "You were once a friend of Senior Shen Ye, so I can let you off. However, I must clean the Dao Market up."

After a moment of silence, Shen Ye stepped beside Ye Guan. "Leave, Gu Su."

Although their friendship had faded over the years, Shen Ye still chose to help Gu Su. After all, one should always lend a hand when possible, be it when dealing with humans or monsters. Sometimes, being too pragmatic wasn't ideal.

Gu Su's expression soured.

"Go!" Shen Ye shouted.

After a brief silence, Gu Su remarked, "Shen Ye, you should understand that there's more to the Dao Market than meets the eye."

Shen Ye remained silent.

Gu Su glanced at Ye Guan. "Your goal is probably to swallow up all the assets of the Dao Market, Young Master Ye. Forgive me for being blunt, but you will probably fail to swallow it all. Behind the Dao Market—"

"Are you leaving or not?" Ye Guan interrupted.

Gu Su froze.

After a moment's hesitation, Shen Ye suggested, "Ye Guan, perhaps it's wise to hear what he has to say about the forces behind the Dao Market. It'll give us a better understanding of our enemy and prevent any surprises."

Ye Guan pondered for a moment. He then nodded. "Alright. I'm all ears."

Shen Ye smiled subtly, acknowledging Ye Guan's respect.

In the distance, Gu Su continued, "Behind the Dao Market are the Demon Clan of the Ancient Wilderness and the Zhen Clan..."

He looked at Ye Guan.

Ye Guan's brows furrowed slightly. "Is that all?"

"Isn't that enough?"

"Understood. You may leave."

Demon Clan and Zhen Clan were two of the strongest superpowers.

Gu Su cleared his throat. "Again, Young Master Ye, the Dao Market is backed by the Demon Clan of the Ancient Wilderness and the Zhen Clan—"

"Yes, you've already told me that."

Gu Su's expression stiffened.

He remains indifferent even after learning about that?

Shen Ye glanced at Ye Guan with a grave expression, realizing that Ye Guan might truly not care.

Previously, he had concerns, but now...

With a glance at Erya and Little White in the distance, a complex expression flashed in Shen Ye's eyes. These two clearly stood behind Ye Guan.

A Spirit Progenitor and an Evil Beast.

What sort of family could raise such powerful individuals?

No, what kind of family could allow such beings to follow Ye Guan?

Chapter 659: That's Funny

Shen Ye was increasingly curious about the mysterious individuals backing Ye Guan up. He wanted to know exactly how strong they were. Throughout their journey, he discovered that Ye Guan seemed to have one trick after another up his sleeve. Even now, his intuition told him that Ye Guan had even more trump cards that he hadn't used yet. He was eager to see just how terrifying those trump cards were.

Just then, Ye Guan said, "From now on, everything in the Dao Market belongs to me..."

Then, he called Old Zhao over, and Old Zhao bowed respectfully to him.

Shen Ye was shocked. He couldn't have imagined, even in his wildest dreams, that Ye Guan would eventually kill Dao Ran.

Ye Guan was truly terrifying.

Even though he knew that Ye Guan's strange sword was a big part of the reason that Ye Guan managed to do it, it was still a terrifying feat. After all, Ye Guan was only in the Heavenly Sovereign Realm!

Old Zhao couldn't be happier that he had made a wise choice in the past to side with Ye Guan. If he hadn't made that choice, his fate would have been quite different today.

Old Zhao set aside his thoughts and said, "Young Lord Ye, the annual income of the Dao Market is stored in the Dao Treasury, and this treasury can be found in Dao Ran's storage ring..."

Ye Guan opened his palm, and a storage ring appeared in his hand. This storage ring was acquired after he killed Dao Ran.

Upon seeing this storage ring, Gu Su's face instantly changed. He said, "Young Lord Ye, many of the things inside this ring belong to the various major powers..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Ye Guan looked at him with a calm gaze, yet it made Gu Su's heart tighten. He no longer dared to speak, as he knew that this young man already had the intention of killing him.

Shen Ye frowned. Gu Su was seriously lacking manners. Shen Ye had asked Ye Guan for a favor because of his past relationship with him, but instead of cherishing this second chance, Gu Su was shooting his mouth off.

Gu Su sighed when he saw Shen Ye's face. He finally understood that this young man did not fear those major powers at all. If he were fearful of them, he would be worried about them instead of going straight for the Dao Market. However, Gu Su was puzzled about one thing. Apart from the God Clan, who else in the world could be stronger than the Zhen Clan and the Ancient Wilderness?

Meanwhile, Ye Guan did not immediately open the storage ring after taking it out. Instead, he turned to look at Erya and Little White beside him. He smiled slightly, then handed the storage ring over to them, saying, "You two can pick first. Take whatever you like and leave the rest to me."

Shen Ye shook his head and smiled. Young Master Ye is truly a generous person!

Erya and Little White also smiled, feeling glad to see Ye Guan's filial piety.

Erya took the storage ring and they both took a look at it. Very quickly, they retrieved a large crimson seal from it.

Old Zhao and Gu Su's expressions changed upon seeing the crimson-red seal.

Gu Su wanted to say something, but Shen Ye glared at him.

Meanwhile, Old Zhao could only laugh bitterly with a hint of envy in his eyes.

Ye Guan looked at the crimson-red seal. Since this seal had caught the attention of Erya and Little White, he knew that it had to be something extraordinary. These two had very high standards, and if it was something ordinary, they would not even bother to look at it.

Ye Guan asked curiously, "What is that?"

Old Zhao explained, "This is the Milky Way Seal that's left behind by the founder of the Dao Market. It is a divine treasure in the Divine Dao Realm, and it possesses its own divinity, making it extremely powerful. In the hands of a strong cultivator in the Divine Dao Realm, its power is even more terrifying. However, this item has its own ego. The last two Palace Masters could not make it acknowledge them as its master..."

Gu Su frowned upon hearing those words. Indeed, when he took over the Dao Market, he had also obtained this Milky Way Seal. However, it did not acknowledge him as its master.

Gu Su said in a low voice, "This divine item is quite sentimental. Apart from the first Palace Master, it won't acknowledge anyone else as its master..."

Before he could finish his sentence, the Milky Way Seal burst into a golden light and entered Little White's forehead. It acknowledged her as its master!

Gu Su's expression stiffened.

Ye Guan shook his head and smiled. He realized now that there was no divine treasure that Little White could not tame. Despite her flashy appearance, she indeed possessed remarkable abilities.

Erya passed the storage ring back to Ye Guan and said, "This is the only thing that we want."

Ye Guan asked, "Do you want to pick a few more items?"

Erya shook her head and declined, "That's alright; the rest are just some rubbish."

Ye Guan's face darkened.

Gu Su frowned as well. What? The Dao Market's treasures are just some rubbish?

Old Zhao said, "Young Lord Ye, there's also the Qi Clan. They were involved in the attempt to kill you."

He harbored deep hatred toward the Qi Clan.

Ye Guan nodded slightly and said, "Then, let's head to the Qi Clan."

Old Zhao was delighted. "I'll lead the way."

Ye Guan nodded, before he brought Erya and Little White with him as he followed Old Zhao.

Shen Ye looked at Gu Su and said, "Let's go!"

Gu Su sighed and said, "Shen Ye, I know that Young Lord Ye has extraordinary origins, but you should know how terrifying the Ancient Wilderness and the Zhen Clan are. That storage ring contains a lot of their treasures."

Shen Ye replied, "I know that."

Gu Su was getting curious now. "What exactly are his origins?"

"I don't know either."

"You don't know?"

"I don't know any more than you do, but I am sure that his origins are extremely extraordinary. Just look at the Spirit Progenitor and that evil beast..."

Then, he thought about the tiny pagoda. Apart from Erya and Little White, the tiny pagoda was very terrifying, too! Ten years in the little pagoda was equivalent to one day in the outside world. Wasn't that crazy?

From Ye Guan's followers to his possessions... everything was extraordinary.

Gu Su looked around quietly with a complex light in his eyes. From now on, the Dao Market belonged to someone else. Although he felt slightly reluctant at the fact, he was powerless to do anything about it.

He turned around and left. For some reason, he appeared much older than just a few seconds ago.

Shen Ye looked at his departing figure and sighed to himself before leaving as well.

Qi Clan.

The elites of the Qi Clan had gathered as if they were about to face a great enemy.

They had received the news of Dao Ran's death at the hands of Ye Guan. Qi Ling was stunned upon hearing the news. Clearly, he didn't expect that Ye Guan would go straight for Dao Ran after making his way to the Dao Market.

Dao Ran was a Divine Dao Realm cultivator, and the Dao Market was also covered with terrifying formations along with powerful experts.

Once the initial shock was over, Qi Ling was afraid. He knew very well that the Qi Clan's strength was far inferior to that of the Dao Market's strength.

Since Ye Guan was strong enough to annihilate the Dao Market, then he could surely annihilate the Qi Clan as well.

Qi Ling closed his eyes slowly and called out, "Qi Mu."

Qi Mu walked out slowly from the crowd with an ashen face. Everyone in the Qi Clan was staring at him. If Qi Mu had not targeted Ye Guan back then, the Qi Clan would not have been teetering on the edge of total annihilation today.

He was a disgrace to the entire clan!

Meanwhile, Qi Mu was feeling nervous. He knew that Ye Guan and Old Zhao would soon come here to take revenge. Unfortunately, the Qi Clan would no longer find a way out for him.

Qi Mu was truly regretting his actions. Especially when he had rejected Ye Guan's offer to work together and attack the Dao Market together.

If he hadn't rejected Ye Guan at the time, the Qi Clan would have taken down the Dao Market alongside him. They would have reaped a ton of profit.

What a shame... Qi Mu sighed. No use crying over spilled milk.

Qi Ling said, "Elder Mu, I have to borrow something from you."

Qi Mu was alarmed and asked cautiously, "What?"

Qi Ling glared at him and answered, "Your head!"

Qi Mu's expression immediately changed.

A few minutes later, Ye Guan and Old Zhao arrived at the Qi Clan and saw that Qi Ling had already gathered all his clan members, obviously waiting for their arrival.

A bloody head was in Qi Ling's hands, and it obviously belonged to Qi Mu.

Ye Guan felt slightly bewildered upon seeing it.

Old Zhao's expression darkened, but he was shocked deep inside. He didn't expect the Qi Clan to go that far.

Qi Ling bowed deeply toward Ye Guan and said, "Young Lord Ye."

Qi Ling knew that he had to act this way. Receiving humiliation was better than losing one's life.

Ye Guan smiled and said, "Clan Leader Qi, what's the meaning of this?"

Qi Ling replied, "Young Lord Ye, I have just discovered that Qi Mu has chosen to collude with Dao Ran without my permission, and he wanted to harm you... Sigh, it really is our bad luck to have had such a corrupt person in our clan!"

Ye Guan was quiet as he stared at Qi Ling.

Qi Ling's expression fell. He knew that he had to do more than this, so he took out a storage ring and passed it to Ye Guan, saying, "Young Lord Ye, this is my Qi Clan's token of goodwill. Please accept it."

There were two Ancestral Veins inside the ring.

Old Zhao made a sidelong glance at Ye Guan, but he didn't say anything.

Ye Guan smiled slightly and said, "A token of goodwill?"

Qi Ling nodded. "Yes."

Ye Guan replied, "That's funny. Everything the Qi Clan has will still end up in my hands by killing you all. Anyway, let's get started!"

Swoosh!

Then, Shen Ye and Erya charged at the enemies.

Chapter 660: My Son Will Repay It In The Future

Qi Ling's expression immediately changed, and he roared, "Now!"

He didn't expect that Ye Guan would attack them right away, but the elites of the Qi Clan reacted quickly and made their moves the moment Qi Ling's order to attack echoed in their ears. However, they were too weak against their opponents, especially against Erya. Erya crushed dozens of Qi Clan supreme elites, and she continued her charge at Qi Ling.

Qi Ling's face darkened upon seeing Erya charging at him. He opened his hands, and a long saber appeared out of nowhere. He swung it forward, and a wave of saber light erupted.

Bam!

Erya's punch shattered his attack, and Qi Ling was blasted thousands of meters away!

The moment he stopped, the long saber in his hands shattered as well.

Qi Ling was startled. However, Erya was rushing toward him again, causing the spacetime in front of him to collapse bit by bit. A powerful destructive force pressed down on him, making it hard for him to breathe.

"Activate the array!" Qi Ling yelled while retreating. He dared not confront Erya's attacks head-on, as Erya's punch had not only shattered his saber but had injured his organs as well.

To make matters worse, his fleshly body was teetering on the edge of destruction! Erya was just too terrifying.

Boom!

In response to Qi Ling's orders, hundreds of divine lights surged to the sky and formed a massive light projection screen. Terrifying auras poured out of the light screen, making everything appear illusory.

Old Zhao's voice suddenly rang out in Ye Guan's head: "This is one of the Qi Clan's great defensive arrays, the Tianyuan Array. It was created by one of the Qi Clan's founding ancestors, and it is extremely strong..."

Ye Guan nodded slightly before he turned to look at Little White.

Little White revealed a cunning smile and waved her tiny paw. The Tianyuan Array trembled, and the next moment, an extremely terrifying force erupted and swept toward the Qi Clan, stunning them.

What's going on? Is our array switching sides? What the hell?

Even Old Zhao couldn't believe his eyes.

The array sided with the enemy just like that? Outrageous!

He took a long look at Little White, suddenly realizing that this white creature was the most terrifying one out of Ye Guan's followers. She looked harmless, but her abilities were unimaginably powerful.

Meanwhile, Qi Ling was feeling taken aback. What's wrong with this array? Why is it attacking our own people? What's going on?

Suddenly, the array activated once again, and another wave of terrifying energy surged toward the members of the Qi Clan. A deafening explosion sounded, and dozens of them were killed in the blink of an eye.

Just then, Erya finally reached Qi Ling. Shocked, Qi Ling took out an ancient token and crushed it.

Boom!

A ray of white light surged out from the broken token, and an ancient aura pervaded throughout the place.

Ye Guan looked at the sky and saw a middle-aged man standing there. The middle-aged man's eyes were slightly closed, and both of his arms were placed behind his back. Of course, he was emitting a powerful aura.

Shen Ye walked to Ye Guan and said, "He must be the founding ancestor of the Qi Clan. When he was alive, he was a cultivator in the Divine Dao Realm with sixty percent divinity."

A Divine Dao Realm cultivator with sixty percent divinity! Ye Guan's expression turned solemn as he stared at the middle-aged man. The middle-aged man before them was just an avatar, but it could still emit an aura stronger than everyone here except for Erya.

Shen Ye sounded solemn as he said, "Achieving fifty percent divinity is extremely difficult already. Every increment beyond that is even harder to achieve, but if you do get there, your strength will increase by a tremendous amount."

Ye Guan nodded slightly. "I see."

When the elites of the Qi Clan saw the middle-aged man, they all knelt on the ground.

The middle-aged man opened his eyes slowly and looked around with a complex gaze. Finally, his gaze landed on Erya, who was licking her candied hawthorn.

Then, the middle-aged man looked at Ye Guan. Naturally, he could tell that Ye Guan was the mastermind behind this situation. A hint of surprise flashed in his eyes as he mumbled to himself, "Three different bloodlines..."

Ye Guan was also surprised. He had asked Master Pagoda to help him conceal his aura, but the middle-aged man saw through him instantly.

It seems like Master Pagoda needs an upgrade.

The middle-aged man opened his palm, and a strand of his aura locked onto Qi Ling, who was kneeling below. After a few moments, he had obtained all the information he needed. He looked at all of the members of the Qi Clan and remarked, "You reap what you sow."

Then, his figure slowly started to dissipate into countless light crystals.

All of the members of the Qi Clan froze. What is the meaning of this?

Qi Ling hurriedly exclaimed, "Ancestor, please save our Qi Clan!"

The middle-aged man remained silent, and he glanced at Ye Guan once more before disappearing entirely.

Qi Ling and the remaining members of the Qi Clan turned pale at the sight.

Expressionless, Ye Guan said, "Kill them."

The moment his order was given, Shen Ye, Old Zhao, and Erya made their moves, slaughtering everyone in just under a minute.

Ye Guan held out a token to Erya with a smile and said, "You guys can pick first."

Erya and Little White glanced at each other and shook their heads. Nothing caught their eye.

Ye Guan put away the storage ring. Having possessed the storage rings from the Qi Clan and the Dao Market, he was now incredibly wealthy. They contained a total of twelve Ancestral Veins, of which eight originally belonged to the Dao Market. It must be said that the Dao Market was indeed very rich.

With these twelve Ancestral Veins, he now had twenty-one in total. Apart from these Ancestral Veins, he now had hundreds of divine treasures and various spiritual herbs and pills... As for Ancestral Origins, he now had tens of thousands of them, most of which were obtained from the Dao Market. The divine treasures were also valuable. If he sold them, they would most certainly fetch a considerable amount of Ancestral Origins as well.

To put it simply, he had made a fortune this time.

Ye Guan seemed to have recalled something and opened his palm.

A storage ring flew to Shen Ye, and it contained an Ancestral Vein.

Shen Ye was surprised. "Brother Ye, what's the meaning of this?"

Ye Guan smiled. "You helped me during the battle on the Dao Market. This is what you deserve."

"It was nothing," Shen Ye said, shaking his head. He knew that Ye Guan won the battle at the Dao Market because of Erya, Little White, and Ye Guan's own abilities. He had nothing much to do with it.

However, Ye Guan insisted that he keep it, "Keep it."

Shen Ye hesitated for a moment before relenting, "Thank you, Brother Ye."

Ye Guan turned to look at Old Zhao, saying, "Even though the Dao Palace has been destroyed, the Dao Market must continue to operate."

Old Zhao hurriedly nodded and agreed, "Indeed it should."

The Dao Market could bring about huge annual profits. It would be a huge pity for them to give up on it.

Ye Guan continued to stare at Old Zhao, which made him a little nervous. Of course, Old Zhao was also a little excited, and it was all because he knew that he was the best candidate to manage the Dao Market.

Ye Guan said, "Go and contact everyone in the Dao Market and have them come and meet me."

Old Zhao was immediately disappointed, but he nodded and said respectfully, "Alright."

Old Zhao then embarked on the mission to gather everyone.

Shen Ye asked, "Brother Ye, are you thinking of getting Old Zhao to help you run the Dao Market?"

Ye Guan shook his head, making Shen Ye feel a little puzzled. He explained, "I will let my mother's people run it instead."

It wasn't that he did not trust Old Zhao. It was all because his family members were just better at running a business compared to him. If he were to allow it to continue at this rate, issues would eventually arise.

Ye Guan said, "Senior Shen Ye, please tell me more about the Ancient Wilderness and the Zhen Clan."

"Why?"

"A portion of the Dao Market belongs to them. Do you really think they'll let us take over the Dao Market that easily?"

"I think that you don't really care about them at all..."

"It's not that I don't care about them, but rather, I don't have any choice. Since the Dao Market looked down on me, I could only wipe them out. I was prepared for the consequences of doing that. However, before they come looking for me, I'd like to know more about them."

"To be honest, I don't know much about them. They rarely venture into the outside world. Simply put, they're very mysterious."

He glanced at Ye Guan and added, "You're quite mysterious too!"

Ye Guan laughed. "My grandfather and father are too low-profile. As for my aunt..."

Shen Ye interjected, "She's very mysterious too?"

"Yes, my whole family is like that," Ye Guan remarked.

Erya said, "Your father is great at deceiving people."

Little White quickly nodded, expressing her agreement with the statement, causing Ye Guan's expression to freeze.

"Your father is always tricking people..." Erya trailed off. Then, she looked at Ye Guan and said, "Compared to your father, you seem a bit more honest."

Ye Guan chuckled awkwardly, not daring to respond.

Erya was daring enough to talk about his father, but he wasn't that daring. He knew that his father would not dare to talk back to Erya, but it was not the same for him. He would totally get beaten up by his father if he were to gossip about his father!

Regardless, Ye Guan was quite curious, so he asked, "Was he good at tricking people?"

Erya nodded. "Yes. He did it all the time. He borrowed many things from me and Little White, and he said that his son would repay it in the future..."

Both Erya and Little White turned to Ye Guan at the same time, casting him a look that demanded to be repaid.

Ye Guan: "???"