

The Ages 1931

Chapter 1931

It was Sovereign Sanctquility's first time meeting Tianming. Seeing his white hair, her eyes brightened with a desire for conquest. She couldn't wait to bag herself that young thing.

"There's not much for us to talk about. If you really want a conversation, have your people stand down." Those were Tianming's first words to her, and they were rather cold.

"Not an issue," she chuckled and agreed right away. Then the wolf-shaped divine astralship roared. The six hundred million troops heeded their orders and remained fixed on the spot, much to Tianming's surprise. For a charge of their scale to be stopped with a single order was a huge sign of respect toward Tianming.

She must have ulterior motives to be willing to go this far, he thought. He gave her a plain look, whereas the sovereign shamelessly looked him up and down and had her fill without holding back. Perhaps that was just part of her personality. "Now, speak!"

"You should understand that just because you managed to kill the voidheart worm and bring up your astralguard formation, you still stand zero chance against Skywolf, right? Even though our ancestors failed to invade your world before, today is different," Sovereign Sanctquility said.

"It's still too early for you to say that. What else do you have for me?"

"I caught a few celestial orderians before, and according to what they said, you're a rare decabane, young and filled with future potential."

"A decabane's just 'rare' for you?" Tianming smirked.

"Definitely not just rare. Looks like you're aware that decabanes don't just spontaneously appear." Her troops patiently waited as she unhurriedly spoke her piece. "Your name is Li Tianming, and your talent is unmatched across the cosmic aether.... Not only that, we believe that your bloodline doesn't originate from this world. You're nothing like the natives here at all. This world has nothing to do with you, so you don't have to die with them. Why don't you come to Skywolf? Become one of ours and you'll gain far more power and status than you ever could here."

"Are you kidding? Over here, I'm the master of this world, but in Skywolf, I'd be nothing more than a servant. Not to mention, I'm a native born and raised in this world. This is my home. You can dream on if you want me to surrender to you and betray my homeland. If all you came here to do is bore me, we might as well just keep fighting!"

"Hahahaha...." She couldn't help but laugh after hearing what he had said. "You really are a cute one. I haven't seen any type like you before. So young, so talented, and so cute...." Her chuckling lasted for quite a while longer before she continued, "Don't be stupid, kid. The master of this world is the sun emperor. As far as I'm aware, your Myriad Solar Sects have been completely wiped out. You're nothing but part of the remnants of a losing team. I know you hate the sun emperor, so I'm giving you this chance to join us. We can help you kill the sun emperor!"

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"After that you'll make me the king of the sun and retreat back from whence you came? If we won't ever meet again, that would be a good deal."

"You truly are naive.

"You were naive enough to ask me to join you in the first place."

"I'll be frank with you. There's a terrifying force backing Skywolf, the likes of which you can't even fathom. It's a superior astral world, a home to true elites! We're able to send you to that place. If you are interested, I can let you witness what kind of world it is as proof." She seemed really serious as she talked about it, yet she didn't realize that what she'd said had cleared up some of Tianming's doubts.

Skywolf hadn't revealed the fact that Tianming was a decabane to the mysterians and wanted the credit of presenting him to the Mysterium Cluster! Sending him straight to the Mysterium Cluster instead of reporting and waiting for an envoy from there to fetch him away was completely different. In the former case, they would do all of it themselves and gain all the credit. If they captured a heliacal-class world in the process, they would earn even more merit! The mysterians would surely rather have him sent over than send their own people to pick him up.

In other words, the Mysterium Cluster and Skywolf aren't communicating about me at all. That way, the decision to ask the mysterians for help lay with Tianming alone. The specters of Skywolf were completely ignorant about everything, other than the fact that he was a decabane. All they knew was what they had learned from the celestial orderians. Tianming could still decide whether he would submit to the mysterians before Orderia was defeated.

He took a deep breath and asked, "What happens if I refuse?" He mustered all the distrust he could and made it apparent on his face.

"I never expected you to agree right on the spot. That's fine. As long as you want to protect this world instead of abandoning it to escape, we still have a chance to take you with us. Once you arrive at the world I told you about, you'll thank us," Sovereign Sanctquility said. In other words, whether Tianming cooperated with them or not, they would be taking him away. Little did she know that he'd already seen many mysterians and had learned about their world long ago.

"I see. Guess there's nothing else to say. If you want to take me and the sun, be ready to trade billions of lives for it!" he coldly snapped.

Even that only earned him the laughter of Sovereign Sanctquility. She shook her head as she laughed, awed by his apparent naivete for thinking he had a say in the things that went on in his life while he was still this young. That was also the extent of the mercy she would extend to the enemy. Her divine astralship howled once more and the attack immediately resumed.

"Kill!" The howls of the warriors and the wolf blended together. Countless specters of all kinds headed toward the Flameyellow Guard Formation. Though they were as spread out as they could be, they still looked like a huge swarm from afar. Before they arrived, they launched countless abilities toward the flaming clouds covering the surface of the sun.

For Skywolf to act so harshly despite knowing Tianming to be a decabane showed just how much they regarded merit. Even if Tianming got in the way of their conquest of the sun, they could just kill him and nobody would know better. A dead star told no tales, after all.

Sovereign Sanctquility had already stated favorable terms as well as an offer of surrender to him. She re-entered her divine astralship and accelerated until it zipped toward the Flameyellow Guard Formation like a beam of light. Her plan was clear: if Tianming didn't stop her then and there, she would attack the sun together with her army!

Chapter 1932

The divine astralship was quickly activated, howling like a wolf and attacking with a frost wave. Countless white dots rained down like hail. The entirety of Skywolf's forces didn't tone down the attacks in the slightest even knowing the potential that Tianming possessed.

The Sanctquility Ghostrain flew straight past the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb. The white mechanical wolf glowed from every corner of its body as its tree-thick hairs stood stiff and sharp, turning it into a porcupine. The sharp hairs shot out like spears, every one of them containing nova source, not to mention the frost that radiated off them. It was the ship's signature attack: Vaporizing Rain. Had it been used against the civilians living down below the Flameyellow Guard Formation, it would be able to cover about half of the Myriaddragon Mountains in a layer of frost that completely killed all life living in that area. The attacks of any divine astralship would always be more powerful than attacks of sovereign-level individuals.

The demonic wolf then shook its body, shaking the spikes on it, before charging toward the Flameyellow Guard Formation. Right then, a gigantic nine-colored ball of energy came smashing toward it, filling the skies with nine lights of destruction! The ensuing explosion caused a nine-colored vortex to manifest, completely eradicating all specters within the immediate area. The vortex fizzled outward as it split into many dragon-shaped aftershock attacks, scattering even more of the skywolf specters.

"That divine astralship's far too powerful!" Many specters, Sovereign Sanctquility included, saw nothing but the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb chasing behind them before charging up another blast at the fore of the ship. The nine-colored ball of light sent rumbles through the sky as it gathered into a huge mass. As the different colored energies intermingled, the massive ball of destruction was ready to be unleashed. It would be capable of dealing actual damage to a divine astralship!

"I'll take care of him, you all just have to focus on finding your way inside the formation to eradicate those animals," Sovereign Sanctquility said. Her gaze changed from admiring to vindictive savagery. With her brows furrowed, she looked even more like a wolf, which happened to be her true form.

With the guarantee of their sovereign, the Sanctvoid Army's fighting spirit soared. They completely ignored Tianming and attacked the formation according to their original plan. It was only now that some of them managed to close the distance and reach the formation. They were fourth-level constellers and above and they charged toward the flaming clouds beyond the formation.

The Sanctvoid Army had a combined roster of six hundred million, but the sun emperor himself might be fighting off another two billion enemies. That would be the main invading force. Tianming wasn't sure

where the sun emperor's confidence that the Flameyellow Guard Formation would hold up had come from, so he decided he would wipe out as many enemies as he could to take the burden off.

The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb let out a sky-shaking roar as it descended to the surface of the Flameyellow Guard Formation, upon which countless skywolf specters were raining down.

"Die!" Flames filled Tianming's mind as a slaughterer's rush replaced any trace of mercy or hesitation he had previously held. Ninedragon Apotheosis went blasting away after it was charged to full. A spherical mass as large as a lunar world exploded, wiping out even more specters. The same vortex could be seen spreading out, forming nine-colored clouds across the surface of the formation. It looked like the sun was finally opening its eyes!

"Perish! Begone!" cried the many fighters of the Myriad Solar Sects from within the ship. They were already itching to join the brawl.

Ninedragon Apotheosis charged up every ten breaths, unleashing constant and nightmarish destruction on the nearby specters. However, they were spread too far and thin for there to be any stopping power.

The Sanctquility Ghostrain didn't stop the blast either, instead charging straight for Ninedragon Imperial Tomb's flank. Using its sharp talons and fangs, it bit the ship and latched on.

"I didn't think that beast-shaped ship could fight like a beast, too!" The divine astralships of Skywolf were indeed rather special in that regard. Even so, divine astralships were still ships, not actual cosmic wildbeasts. Tianming got the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb to pull off Lan Huang's signature crocodile death roll to send the white wolf smashing into the Flameyellow Guard Formation. The impact resounded far and wide as the repelling force from the formation sent it flying back into the sky, covered in explosions.

Tianming easily spotted many craters and cracks on the surface of the wolf-shaped ship. There were severe signs of destruction. "Was the Flameyellow Guard Formation this powerful all along?!" He was quite taken aback by the discovery. The blowback from the formation had hit harder than his ship! He was sure that the enemy sovereign was just as shocked by that fact. While the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb was large, it wasn't lacking in any impact!

Tianming and the others on board watched with horror as quite a few specters found their way into the formation, around a hundred million of them. All of them had slipped through the defenses the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb could provide. The physically tough specters that were armed with abilities were quite similar to Ying Huo. They were quite agile and didn't fear the attacks from the formation at all—they would easily find their way past the flaming clouds below. As for the normal astralguard formation beyond that, they didn't really fear that, either.

However, Tianming could see that once some of them had made their way into the Flameyellow Guard Formation, it began converting the nova source it'd sapped away into gigantic flaming beasts. There were far too many of those undying abominations; the Flameyellow Guard Formation had finally started to actively resist the threat.

In fact, it was highly likely that the same had occurred on the sun emperor's side of the battle quite some time ago. Not to mention, the formation layer of flaming clouds seemed to also be absorbing nova

source and becoming a part of the massive waves of flaming beasts. In total, they outnumbered the specters by leagues!

Chapter 1933

Flaming roars were coming from the Flameyellow Guard Formation, an imperial-class divine formation. After countless years of dormancy, the beasts within seemed to be venting their pent-up rage toward the invaders.

"What in the world?!" The specters had made sure to spread out to minimize losses when the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb attacked. Right after entering the formation, they were greeted by a sea of flaming beasts that took the form of dragons, phoenixes, qilins, shenwus, and kunpengs. All of them seemed to be beasts from apex bloodlines. They menacingly stared down the specters before charging straight at them!

"The hell?!"

They cried in shock and surprise as they hurried to arm themselves. Then they paved a way down with their abilities and sheer physical capability.

"This astralguard formation isn't like the one in the records!"

Many echoed that exact sentiment, yet they didn't have time to overthink it for they were in dire need of an answer to the incoming attacks. One after another, their abilities scattered the flaming beasts, which returned to the ocean of flames, formless. But the next instant, even more flaming beasts formed to replace them, even fiercer than before!

The specters, in a moment of carelessness, let their defense line falter, allowing the beasts to ram into them and claw away at them. Wounds covered their bodies and the blood they spilled immediately burned up. The heat entered their wounds and put them in even more pain! A good number of perfectly fine specters were torn apart by the beasts in mere moments, their severed limbs burning to ash not long after.

"Why are there so many?!"

"What kind of astralguard formation is this?! There's never been any this strong!"

"This can't be! The historical records don't line up! This isn't the sun!"

All kinds of theories popped up amidst the confusion; their communication was a mess, as they had spread out before descending onto the formation. The beasts around them roared so loudly that they overwhelmed all sound, and even transmission stones were burned up before the messages arrived. Most crucially, the flames obscured the view of those behind them, so they continued swarming toward the formation, ignorant of what lay in wait for them like moths to fires!

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The main takeaway of the specters about the Flameyellow Guard Formation was that it was incredibly noisy. Fiery explosions shook their eardrums, causing them to basically enter the formation as if they were blind. They shouted so loud that they lost their voices. This was far more terrifying than being in

lava. Apart from the flames, there were strong winds in the formation that carried waves of flaming beasts toward them. It took almost no time for them to be blown into the stormy abyss of fire.

The flaming clouds had never been as chaotic as they were now. The sight even sent chills down Tianming's spine. "Looks like the six hundred million specters here will have a hard time infiltrating the formation, though I wonder what the sun emperor's side is like. We still have an astralguard formation below that, so we stand a real chance of winning!"

The sheer power of the flaming beasts raised his confidence back to the top. While the sun emperor may have destroyed the defensive formations of the many sects, he had brought back the Flameyellow Guard Formation, which was no doubt a net benefit to any and all that lived on the sun. It was something that ran on nova source and didn't consume any lives to sustain it. The sun emperor himself also had three hundred million troops to fend off the enemy, while Tianming didn't even need anyone fighting in the formation to take care of the enemies on his side. Even though the consumption of nova source could possibly shorten the lifespan of the sun by hundreds of thousands of years, that was still far preferable to sacrificing lives in a desperate clash or allowing the enemy to wreak havoc on the civilian population.

"An imperial-class astralguard formation could possibly be stronger than the astralguard formation of Skyway Monostar...." Without it, the normal astralguard formation and two hundred and fifty million troops alone wouldn't be enough. While he wasn't sure how long the Flameyellow Guard Formation would be able to last, the present circumstances had no doubt dealt a huge blow to the confident Skywolf.

"Regardless of how the sun emperor is doing, I have to fulfill my responsibilities as the leader of the Myriad Solar Sects and get us an edge in the fight!" Tianming felt like the heavens were smiling upon him.

"Li Tianming, let us out! We want to contribute too!"

"Even though there's only thirty million of us, we're considerably more powerful in terms of cultivation level. Not to mention, the formation will come to our aid. We should fight as well!"

Tianming said, "Very well! But make sure to prioritize your own safety above all. Don't stay within the Flameyellow Guard Formation to prevent being wiped out by the sun emperor if he pulls any shenanigans. Instead, go under it to the astralguard formation that I control. I'll leave you all to weed out the ones that manage to slip past the two formations! Don't let even a single skywolf specter trample on our homes!" He had to consider many aspects as the leader of all those people. He always had to keep his guard up, especially against the madman of a sun emperor.

While the elites with him number only thirty million, they were at least of the eighth level of the Constellation stage, with tens of millions of them being solarians. They stood at the very top of the hierarchy of the Myriad Solar Sects and would no doubt be quite effective as a last line of defense. The Flameyellow Guard Formation had already made sure that few were able to make it through the flaming clouds. Coupled with the fact that the enemy had been scattered by the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb and weren't in formation, it was likely that the confused rabble that snuck through would be easy pickings for the fighters waiting beneath the flaming cloud layer.

"Understood!" they answered.

Tianming immediately changed course and headed into the Flameyellow Guard Formation, leaving the Sanctquility Ghostrain outside and unable to follow.

"Did he run away?" Sovereign Sanctquility was still unaware of the potency of that formation. By then, at least three hundred million troops from the Sanctvoid Army had already made it into the sea of flames. Only a few had managed to emerge from it and return to the sovereign to report everything they'd experienced. At the same time, she also received a transmission stone from the troops on the other side of the sun.

"The two billion troops there haven't managed to breach it?" This came as quite a shock. While a certain number of casualties was certainly expected, Skywolf should still have the advantage.

"Skywolf Blaze said that we shouldn't be facing much opposition here, so we should charge into it to disrupt enemy lines before they join us in a pincer attack!"

Naturally, Skywolf Frost would obey Skywolf Blaze's instructions. This was a heavy responsibility. Sovereign Sanctquility bore the burden of carrying that order out, and there was already nobody left to stop her with the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb gone.

"Sanctvoid Army, mount a full-on attack!"

The specters that had witnessed what laid in store for them entered a blind frenzy of rage. All of their remaining troops charged straight into the Flameyellow Guard Formation, spreading its defenses thin. The countless flaming beasts weren't able to stop so many people from coming in at once.

"No matter how strong the formation is, it's pointless if there's nobody coordinating it! Once we reach the other side, this star will be ours!" The words of the sovereign immediately raised the morale of her minions. Instilled with courage, they calmed down as they faced the onslaught of the wave of flaming beasts.

"That's right! This is just a formation!"

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"How could weaklings like them possibly have a formation this good? It's even stronger than Skywolf Blaze's! This is ridiculous!"

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Their morale had peaked, and no number of people being turned into ash would be able to slow them down. Not to mention, the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb was nowhere to be seen, so they were free to gather together and use their numerical advantage against the flaming beasts. It didn't take long before they were able to pave a way through the formation that measured about a hundred thousand meters wide!

The defense line of the battlefield was under heavy threat. The specters put on a terrifying display of bravery, savagery, and coordination much like a pack of wolves hunting in synergy. The Sanctvoid Army was also known as the cold-blooded wolves. Two hundred million of them fought fearlessly and savagely in the flames. Based on that alone, it wasn't hard to imagine how much pressure the sun emperor and

his troops were facing off against. Fortunately, the elites of the Myriad Solar Sects had been brought to the lower layer of the astralguard formation in advance. Once the doors of the ship opened, around three million cultivators flooded out from each of the nine heads.

"Get in formation and slaughter the specters!" With Long Wanying leading them, they should hold quite fast in their positions. Once all of them had left, only Tianming, Lingfeng, Qingyu, Weisheng Moran, and Yu Ziqian were left on board.

The Flameyellow Guard Formation shook as the countless flaming beasts clashed with the specters. Deafening blasts and cries could be heard ringing out from up above.

"That commotion probably means that the specters have all fought their way into the formation. They'll be able to open a path if they're left to their devices!" Tianming's gaze turned bloody. "Very well... I'll let you all be buried in Flameyellow's embers."

The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb soared skyward once more. There was no turning back on this path of bloodshed. With the gigantic ship now empty, those that were left appeared quite nervous, save for a purple-haired youth that hugged his legs and smiled as if he was watching a show unfold. "It's time I found another person to leech on...." He rolled up his sleeves, revealing a purple boil on his arm.

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Chapter 1934

After the thirty million troops from the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb were deployed, the ship reactivated its scaly divine astralship formation and shot through the clouds like a sword. The firestorm was about hundreds of thousands of meters thick, and near the airspace of the Azurecloud Continent were at least four hundred million skywolf specters. Their savage howls could be heard all the way from the ground below, punctuated by the deep roars of the flaming beasts that fought them.

Within the flaming clouds, ear-shaking explosions rang out nonstop as a light show of abilities went on full display. Fire rained down from the skies as many meteorites fell to the ground below, shaking the Land of Three Skies. Almost every lifeform on the sun knew what this day was going to be like. Whether

they were cultivators or common folk, beastmaster or totemancer, everyone's fate was bound together with that of this star. Even those within the Sky Palace Formation, like the Saintdragon Emperor, Northdipper Swordsage, and the rest, left the formation to join the fight despite knowing they were being monitored by the celestial orderians. They didn't want to wait like a sitting duck, either, as they were also descendants of the flameyellow divinities.

Tianming's presence also served to anchor their faith as they protected their homeland and the people in it. Their feelings and thoughts also fed back to him, allowing him to learn what it truly meant to be the ruler of a star world.

The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb flew straight into the Flameyellow Guard Formation. Within it, the Sanctquility Ghostrain was at full battle stations, surrounded as it was by countless flaming beasts as it attempted to break out of the encirclement. But unlike the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb, the Sanctquility Ghostrain wasn't given any passage by the flaming beasts. Instead, the beasts joined the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb in its charge toward the alien ship. Surrounded by the flames of battle, the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb performed like the ultimate war machine across the vast skies.

"The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb is able to perform about three times better than normal within the Flameyellow Guard Formation! It's a huge edge for me in this war!"

Skywolf Frost's specters had quickly regrouped to break through the Flameyellow Guard Formation faster, but that was after Tianming's ship had left. Now that he had returned, there was nothing stopping him from blasting the nine-colored beam of light toward them. The ship coursed straight at them, fangs bared like a gigantic cosmic wildbeast.

"What in the world is that?!" The huddled specters suddenly saw the flaming clouds disturbed, right after which loud roars could be heard. Then a gigantic nine-colored sphere appeared and expanded. The flaming clouds had helped hide the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb as it was charging up, allowing the blast to reach its full potency. From the continent below, the skies were seemingly painted nine colors by an empyrean brush. A huge explosion rocked the clouds as nearly a third of the sky above was swallowed up by a nine-colored vortex. The aftershock of the terrifying blast spread far and wide, pushing the flaming clouds apart and raining countless body parts onto the astralguard formation below. The blast of the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb didn't just shake Skywolf Frost, but also those that lived on the lands below. They were confused as to who the attacker and attacked were, while only gods and above could tell that it was the might of their ruler!

"Li Tianming!"

"Ruler of the Myriad Sects!"

"Ruler of All Gods!"

Words of praise were targeted at Tianming, which he could clearly feel. His Imperial Will had reached beyond the realm of mere gods and spread all through the sun, letting those of the Myriad Solar Sects know of his existence. His Omniscient Threads increased to no end as the denizens of the sun all took him as their ruler, walking the same path he did. He was a true sovereign that didn't stand above his subjects, but with them! The resonance of their hearts became his greatest strength. Bearing their

power, he felt a serene calm as he massacred the enemy with the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb. "I must not disappoint those that trust me! The specters can't be let through the astralguard formations!"

The flaming beasts and the ship alone couldn't sweep up all six hundred million troops of the Sanctvoid Army. Even if Tianming tried his best, some were bound to slip through the net. But right as they were about to rush through the formation, they were suddenly shocked by what they saw. It was a white-colored barrier—yet another astralguard formation!

"Impossible! How could a mere heliacal-class world have two astralguard formations?!"

"It might just be an illusory formation! This can't be real!"

"That isn't right... this white one is the astralguard formation in our records...."

"Then what was the one before this?!"

Their shock was compounded by confusion. They had thought that victory was within their grasp, only to find that they were merely halfway there.

"It's fine. This astralguard formation shouldn't be that powerful, and this world can't possibly support two formations of that caliber. All we have to do is bust through this and attack them from inside!"

"The sovereign ordered us to press the assault!"

"Kill!"

The skywolves were covered in hair and about twenty meters tall. After a short moment of hesitation, the physically powerful skywolf specters charged straight for the next formation and used their abilities to carve out a path.

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"This astralguard formation is indeed not as strong."

"That's how it should be!"

The white astralguard formation used fog, storms, and sword ki and covered the entire star. As such, it wasn't too powerful and drew far less blood than the Flameyellow Guard Formation. But right as the specters excitedly anticipated the upcoming slaughterfest, human and beast silhouettes could be seen beyond the fog. They weren't the flaming beasts like before, but rather the lifebound beasts of the Myriad Solar Sects. Tianming could use the formation to cover and guide them on surgically precise ambushes! While thirty million troops weren't a huge number, there were still more of them than those that had made it through the Flameyellow Guard Formation.

"We have to get rid of those that slip through as fast as possible to maintain our numerical advantage! If too many gather together, we'll be in trouble! We're the last line of defense of the sun and there's nowhere for us to escape to! Once these beasts land, they'll engage in endless slaughter!" Long Wanying shouted.

"Understood!"

The so-called 'prey of Orderia' had been laying in wait for quite some time.

"Specters detected!"

"There's some here too!"

"Get ready!"

"Wipe them out! Don't leave any alive!"

With the formation aiding them and Yin Chen helping with their coordination, they had perfect clarity within the formation no matter the number of specters they faced. Yin Chen was basically spread out through the gap between the two formations in its butterfly form.

"Silverdragon Army, head east! There's a group of more than two hundred thousand!"

"Imperialdragon Army, head southeast around five hundred miles! Eight hundred specters just broke through!"

It was much easier to breach the Flameyellow Guard Formation with a large concentration of people. Even then, those of the Myriad Solar Sects quickly filled the holes and got rid of those that slipped past. They were also individually stronger than most of the specters. Dead specters rained down all over the battlefield as the battle soared to a climax. The specters that had thought they would have an easy time with the second formation were once more greatly humbled.

"What in the world is with this place? It has two layers of defense!"

Had they been able to see the troops waiting for them beyond the second formation, they could probably move aside to avoid them. The problem with that was the fog, which had effectively forced them to go in blind. The fact that only a small number of specters could get through the first formation at a time was thanks to the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb and the flaming beasts.

Once more, Ninedragon Apotheosis was unleashed, putting another nine-colored mini-sun in the sky that then shattered into a nine-colored vortex, erasing all life in its vicinity. Tianming wasn't worried that they would gather at all! The ship worked greatly to fill the gaps of the formation. The flaming beasts forced the enemy to gather, only for the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb to force them to scatter again. The futile effort of switching tactics every few moments sowed endless casualties among the specters. More importantly, the Flameyellow Guard Formation was far too loud, greatly inhibiting communication. Most people couldn't even hear their orders, clueless as to whether they should retreat or press the attack. The entire invading army was utterly befuddled.

Chapter 1935

The synergy between the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb and the flaming clouds made for an impressive combination. Had it been only the single astralguard formation that the sky plunderers left behind, they wouldn't have been able to fend off the two billion or so specters!

"Kill!"

A climax was brewing across the entire battlefield. On the Azurecloud Continent, people could see blood and body parts raining down from the sky. Cries and shouts sounded like resounding thunder, a cacophony of war cries and howls that sent chills down the spine of those that heard it.

The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb charged toward the pillars of people, straight into millions of specters. The sheer force of the impacts caused their innards to splatter out all over. The beasts and cultivators that followed behind the ship slaughtered the rest without mercy. Right that instant, a white mechanical wolf appeared from the side. It turned into a spear formation that hung in the air and shot toward the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb, too fast for it to block! The ship received heavy damage as the spears pierced into the dragon scales around it before exploding. The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb uncontrollably shook as its scales crumbled from the explosion, resulting in the divine astralship formation being pierced. Tianming didn't scoff at the shocking damage the surprise attack done by the Sanctquility Ghostrain had managed to deal.

"If they have to rely on surprise attacks to damage us, there's no way we won't be able to give them a good beating!" The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb suddenly turned around without hesitation to chase down the enemy ship. As it did, it charged up another blast at a terrifying pace.

"You shall not run!"

The Sanctquility Ghostrain had immediately bolted after the surprise attack, only for it to enter the zone of influence of the Flameyellow Guard Formation once more. As if it had entered an abyss, it was immediately assaulted by the flaming beasts within the boundary. They bit the ship from all directions; no matter how it struggled, it wasn't able to run far. Meanwhile, the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb flew faster than it normally did as it metamorphosed. A sharp horn had manifested at the very front of the ship thanks to the divine astralship formation. The more Tianming learned about it, the more surprised he was by it. The ship now looked like a swordfish in the sea, emanating a nine-colored light as it accelerated faster and faster toward the escaping mechanical wolf!

That's right! Bust through his metal ass! Let's goooo!" Ying Huo chirped excitedly, as if that was the ship's sole and true function. "Wait, Tianming, hold on! Sovereign Sanctquility is a woman, so her ship's a female wolf too! You're aiming for the wrong hole! Don't defile the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb!"

"Can you shut up for once?!" Even at a moment like this, that birdbrain would never miss a chance to play the fool. If it weren't for the fact that both his hands were occupied, Tianming would have tied Ying Huo to the tip of the ship to be inserted into the mechanical wolf.

The Sanctquility Ghostrain howled and ran even more desperately as the gigantic swordfish approached from behind. It struggled and unleashed even more of its rain attack, putting out many of the flaming beasts around it. However, they had already played their part.

"This is payback for the surprise attack!" Tianming's rage fused with the rage of the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb and that of the flaming beasts! The Sanctquility Ghostrain had only freed itself from the beasts, only to feel a chill down its back. The sovereign inside looked back and turned pale at the sight of the nine-colored storm behind it. The light at the very tip of the enemy ship alone seemed able to vanquish them from the inside.

"Huh?!" The eyes of the sovereign suddenly changed as she was swallowed up by the nine-colored brilliance. The many specters around them witnessed a shocking sight of the gigantic ship burrowing itself into the rear of their own ship using the spike at its very front. At the same time, it unleashed a Ninedragon Apotheosis. The impact from the spike alone had pierced through at least two-thirds of the mechanical wolf, and the blast that soon followed wrought fatal devastation. The entire rear of the wolf,

including its hind legs, instantly blew apart. Countless shrapnel was scattered by the energy of the blast, piercing through countless specters. Even the aftershock of the blast caused explosions and fires all across the ship, which now seemed completely charred inside and out. Even worse, its hind legs, tail, and a third of its body were gone, having been unmade into their constituent parts. Though its divine celestial patterns desperately tried to undertake repairs to maintain the integrity of the ship, they weren't much help.

It was a blow the likes of which the specters had never experienced before, far more humiliating than the death of Sovereign Greenvoid! After all, sovereigns appeared every generation, while divine astralships were treasures inherited through the clan! The wolf was nothing more than a dog with broken legs and a missing tail now, and all it could do was howl and crawl.

Sovereign Sanctquility seemed to be trying to flee, having completely neglected to consider the mere possibility that her ship would be this badly damaged. The danger they were experiencing during this expedition had far outstripped their initial projections. According to the original plan, the voidheart worm would have taken care of the astralguard formation. Not to mention, the ongoing civil war of the Orderians would have also resulted in countless casualties, giving Skywolf the perfect opportunity to invade. Yet one after another, those expectations had fallen like dominoes in her mind. They had come to do some 'fishing', only to lose an eye to a seagull and a finger to a shrimp.

In terms of flexibility, the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb was inferior to the Sanctquility Ghostrain. However, the Flameyellow Guard Formation was too powerful in suppressing the wolf-shaped astralship's capabilities. On the other hand, Tianming's ship was made from far more robust materials than the enemy's, and it possessed a better divine astralship formation to boot.

"How could you be so rough? The enemy's a fair lady, you know! Yet you just mercilessly snapped her legs off!" Ying Huo gasped.

"Scram!" This was a chance to strike at a fallen enemy, and Tianming knew all too much how important it was to stack their odds. His intervention had completely overwritten the strategic edge Skywolf had by deploying the Sanctquility Ghostrain. No doubt, the war would only intensify from there.

Chapter 1936

"Chase it down!" Tianming cried with his eyes bloodshot. The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb adjusted its course straight toward the crippled astralship while the flaming beasts followed suit. After witnessing the allied ship deal so much damage, tens of millions of flaming beasts swarmed the mechanical wolf. At that point, the mechanical wolf could no longer move fast, let alone fight back. The dragons, phoenixes, and qilins that burned around it ravaged the ship and pressed it down as it unleashed its death throes. It proceeded through the Flameyellow Guard Formation at a snail's pace. Entering it was easy, but breaking a leg and trying to leave was beyond difficult.

"One more time!" Tianming's eyes flashed as he accelerated again, aiming the spike at the enemy ship once more. "Break apart!"

A rumble echoed through the space around them. The Ninedragon Imperial Tomb was like a lion that pounced on a crippled wolf that had left a trail of blood in its path. It was yet another fatal strike, accompanied with another Ninedragon Apotheosis. An apocalyptic scene out of a nightmare once more

unfolded. The rear half of the Sanctquility Ghostrain exploded once more, sending even more shrapnel flying. Yet another hole had been made in its back, pushing it near its breaking point. Metal rained down on the astralguard formation below, much to Yin Chen's glee. Much of that shrapnel was made of top-class divine ores, which was a great treat for the metal insect swarm.

Less than half of the Skywolf ship remained intact, pushing its divine astralship formation to the limits. It was already beyond repair, especially after having lost three legs. A legacy that had been passed down for tens of thousands of generations was left destroyed in the Flameyellow Guard Formation just like that! Even in their nightmares, the specters wouldn't be able to fathom such a result. While they had lost the Greenvoid Abyss, it could still be recovered as it was still intact, but the Sanctquility Ghostrain had been nearly completely destroyed! Tianming could already hear them crying and sobbing from the sense of loss. Needless to say, it was the greatest blow their morale had ever suffered.

Tianming had nothing else to say to them apart from asking them to perish. He didn't hold back and delivered the coup de grace, charging up as the flaming beasts swarmed what was left of the ship. The nine-colored ball of energy smashed directly against the head of the mechanical wolf and its divine astralship formation crumbled away at a rate the naked eye could see, leaving the ship nothing more than an empty metal husk. The low whimper that escaped the mechanical wolf marked the end of Skywolf Frost's legendary artifact.

More and more metal shards rained down from the flaming clouds. The specters were visibly disheartened by that staggering loss. Fortunately, the flaming clouds were far too chaotic for many of them to catch sight of their flagship being completely eradicated. Otherwise, all of them would have lost the will to fight. But it was a pivotal moment, and Tianming wouldn't miss the chance to boast. He had Yin Chen spread the word of the destruction of Skywolf Frost's divine astralship to the masses. Word reached the troops that had left with the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb first, resulting in a wave of cheers.

"Let's get rid of Sovereign Sanctquility!" all of them yelled with a look of fervor in their eyes. There was no way they would let a figure of that station slip away after taking down the enemy ship. Tianming resonated with the countless people of the sun and his followers in the Myriad Solar Sects in that desire. The Sanctvoid Army's six hundred million troops were no joke—no matter how powerful the Flameyellow Guard Formation was, it wouldn't be able to stop them all. It was only a matter of time before they broke through the two lines of defense before going on to slaughter the masses. Hence, it was imperative for Tianming and the rest to press the advantage while they had it.

"The Sanctquility Ghostrain's eradication has significantly crushed the morale of the enemy. If their sovereign follows in the steps of their ship, their forces will turn to mush!" If that happened, the invasion from Skywolf Frost would have failed even without Tianming's forces having to hunt them down.

No doubt, Sovereign Sanctquility had abandoned the ship and it would be quite difficult to track a single individual through the chaotic flaming clouds. Fortunately, Tianming had already made preparations. He had sent out ten million Yin Chens to latch onto the enemy ship during the fight. Even though some of its bodies burned up in the flaming clouds, losing them to keep tabs on the sovereign was no big deal. Additionally, Lingfeng was also out on the prowl, having been sent out during Tianming's second assault. Someone with a fourth imperial soul like his could easily track another through the chaotic battlefield. Not to mention, he had been gathering terra throughout the battle, gradually increasing his strength!

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Even after the ship was destroyed, the flaming beasts continued gnawing at the wreck. Tianming's ship coursed through the sky as Lingfeng and Yin Chen attempted to track down their target.

"Quick... we have to find her, quickly!" He was almost desperately praying. It didn't take much longer before Yin Chen relayed a message to him.

"I need the rest of you to stay put," he instructed Weisheng Moran, Qingyu, and Yu Ziqian, before charging out of the ship in the direction given to him. Without him to pilot the ship, it hovered there dormant.

Lingfeng had been the one to track down the sovereign using one of the soul-tracing tricks he gained from the legacy of the Primordial Demonlord. He opened up his Primordial Gate, using it to track down the other individual apart from him that possessed a fourth imperial soul as he absorbed terra from his surroundings. The sovereign's achievements with regards to soul cultivation proved to be to her detriment in this case.

Not much time had passed since the Sanctquility Ghostrain's destruction, so the sovereign hadn't been able to flee far. If it weren't for the flaming clouds around them, Tianming would have been able to keep an eye on her without needing Lingfeng to do the tracking. He entered the flaming clouds and experienced the might of the Flameyellow Guard Formation firsthand. Even he was shaken at the sight of those roaming beasts of flame, let alone the skywolf specters.

"Onward!" He directed Meow Meow toward Lingfeng, who was already engaged with Sovereign Sanctquility. Meow Meow completely ignored any interference of the Flameyellow Guard Formation and made it to the battle zone in mere moments. It was much nearer than expected. Having crossed the ocean of flames, Tianming saw the two fighters. Had he been able to use the ship to kill the sovereign, he wouldn't have left it. However, the sovereign was far too agile a target for the divine astralship, so he needed to dirty his own hands.

"Feng!"

Lingfeng hadn't yet managed to absorb that much terra, so he was having quite a hard time fighting the sovereign alone. Fortunately, Tianming had arrived in the nick of time. "I'm alright!" He backed off, but not far away. Instead, he opened his Primordial Gate to absorb even more terra, having completed his main objective.

Tianming unleashed all of his totems and beasts, then slammed the prime wonder down on the sovereign's head at the first instant. His pandemonium and cyclic sacrosuns also made their appearance. Having been enhanced by the power from the Omniscient Threads, all aspects of his combat ability were strengthened to their limits. This war had greatly boosted his reputation across the mortal realm, which wasn't lacking in numbers one bit. The twenty billion threads soon grew to thirty billion, then forty billion, and beyond. Though most of the people connected to them only had heavenly wills rather than divine wills, the combined number alone was no doubt able to inspire a new change in him. Every single one of those people considered him the undisputed ruler of the sun!

The flaming beasts worked in tandem with Tianming to surround the sovereign. The beauty that had once been wild and proud wore nothing but a pale face. Even her tanned skin seemed much paler than

usual. Her sinister gaze from before had been replaced with a timid one as she beheld the youth before her. The moment her ship had been rammed through, her willpower had already taken a huge hit. She had never considered that a hunter in her position would end up being the hunted. Not even her minions had any idea where she was in the chaotic formation. Though her army was still pushing the invasion effort and applying huge pressure on the troops on the other side, she was in grave danger herself.

In her awe, she recalled that Tianming had even fought the sun emperor before, but the recollection of his age made her calm down a bit. Mastering her thoughts, she addressed him, "Perhaps I should give you one final chance. If you choose to surrender now, I'll take you to a place suited to you. Needless to say, you're a truly amazing specimen. Someone like you definitely knows how vast this astralscape is and how many stars there are that are many, many times larger than the sun, right?"

"Me? Surrender?" Tianming shrugged and laughed. Right as the sovereign furrowed her brows and was about to say more, he hushed her. "Not a word from you. Lend me your head. I'll use it and your ship to send a clear message to the rest of your kind. You'll serve as an example of the fate of wild wolves that dare to tread the ground of the sun."

Chapter 1937

Time was of the essence for Tianming and his allies and they couldn't afford to squander even a single instant. While he wasn't aware of how the sun emperor was doing on his side, Tianming knew that the Flameyellow Guard Formation near him was under huge pressure. More and more specters had managed to make it through the wave of flaming beasts to attack the astralguard formation beneath them. The thirty million troops he had brought there through the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb were stretched to their limits. The moment they failed to sweep away the specters at a good enough pace, they would be in a passive position.

Thanks to Yin Chen, Tianming had clear and timely information about the state of the battle. He had to react to any changes in the shortest time possible. That was why he didn't let the sovereign's 'greetings' drag on and immediately proceeded to attack! His lifebound beasts were sent to dispatch the specters that came fighting while Tianming wielded the Godsins against the fierce sovereign. His decapath era godswords manifested behind him as his body permeated with seven grade-eight divine hazard sword ki strands, filling the weapon he held in his hand. Having fought the sun emperor, he already had enough experience fighting a sovereign-level figure. Not to mention, he had grown much more than before, not only in might, but also in willpower and resolve.

Through his Omnisentient Threads, he could also broadcast what he saw to those that were connected to him! When his people knew that he was about to face off against a sovereign of Skywolf, they burst with excitement and fighting spirit and their rage turned into blazing strength, funneled straight to Tianming through the threads. He now appeared to be a god of the sword before the sovereign.

Seeing that her efforts to sue for peace were futile, and even looked down upon, her gaze turned cold like frost as a wave of killing intent emanated from her. She raised her head high and let out a sharp howl that reverberated across the Flameyellow Guard Formation, drawing the ears of the hundred thousand specters around her. They seemed like they were heeding the call of their ruler.

"The sovereign has summoned us!"

"Quick! Go toward the sound!"

A hundred thousand out of an army of six hundred million was but a minuscule drop in the ocean, yet if they surrounded Tianming and his beasts, they would have a hard time breaking free. The sovereign herself was no pushover, either. He was facing a real threat of dying, which was why he couldn't spare even a single moment. Even now, there were already thousands of specters in the vicinity, while he only had himself to rely on. Thankfully, Ying Huo and the rest were able to wipe out the thousands of others without much issue, but they could feel the rate of specters swarming toward them increasing by the moment.

"You take care of her! We'll watch your back!" Ying Huo said with much bravado. It flew all around the area, followed by countless phoenixes made of flames. It was as if it had rejoined its long-lost siblings.

"Alright!" Tianming trusted them, especially with the pandemonium sacrosun around.

Could what you're holding be the Godsins?!" the sovereign said with a look of utter disbelief. "I heard that it had been lost at a star called Violetglory! How could it be in your hands?!" She looked at Tianming with heavily furrowed brows. Her gaze grew more savage by the moment, though it didn't ruin her striking visage.

Tianming, however, didn't care for her looks in the slightest, nor did he want to answer her. He could tell that Skywolf was among the backwater factions in the Voidsky Organization. After all, their main role was to hunt weaker prey. The mysterians wouldn't let normal people in their sphere of influence interact with them, let alone learn of their existence.

What Tianming didn't expect, however, was for Sovereign Sanctquility to take out a grade-nine divine artifact. Not even Sovereign Greenvoid had one, which showed that she was probably higher in status. Tianming did somehow find that weapon familiar. It was an incredibly light and thin blade, seemingly made of the same material as the Godsins. However, its blade seemed to be infused with frost.

"Are you curious? You see... this sword I hold here is also a 'Godsin'. Its other name is Frostmoon Edge. It was mainly forged on a base of formless glacier, but the divine hazard used for it is Frostriver Godsins. Compared to your sword, mine is much colder! The blades were made to be a pair, forged by the ancestors of Skywolf Frost! Your Godsins originally belonged to the greenvoid skywolves." Her eyes seemed sharper and colder than before. She seemed clearly intent on retrieving the treasured blade, a symbol of Skywolf Frost. The Galactic Godsins had a more toxic effect, while Frostriver Godsins edged much closer to frost and ice.

Tianming looked at the thin blade more closely and felt a chill down his spine. It was ridiculous, especially considering how the heat of the Flameyellow Guard Formation was able to make even the specters around them red. But with that weapon in the picture, Sovereign Sanctquility didn't seem like she would be a pushover. She wouldn't hold back against Tianming, either, given that he was in full fighting form. Underestimating him just because of his youth was a surefire way to get herself killed.

Even though this is his territory, he's alone and without help. If we take him down here, the ones he left in the ship will be stranded and helpless!

She focused her mind on attaining that single goal. Daintily grasping her slender blade with her fingers, she smiled and revealed her canines to him. The next moment, her body enlarged till it reached the size

of Meow Meow's Regal Chaosfiend and her bones audibly snapped into place. An even colder frost emanated from her body, creating a pale white veil around her amidst the flames. All the while, she continued growing in size, and the blade in her hand followed suit. By the time she was about a hundred meters tall, the Frostmoon Edge was around forty meters in length to match. Silver fur sprouted all over her body, enhancing her snow-white lupine features. Her exotic-looking face lengthened to fit a more canine profile. Her eyes shone like the moon and her fangs and talons were weapons comparable to divine artifacts.

She was the largest specter Tianming had ever witnessed, not including the abomination of fleshy mass that Jiang Wuxin had become. Her werewolf form was almost what the fusion of a beastmaster and their beast would look like, yet specters still had their intelligence intact and were able to cultivate battle arts while also using the abilities normally reserved only for lifebound beasts. Not to mention their much tougher constitutions! There was also quite a diverse range of specters, like the faceless specters of the mysterians that seemed more elegant and noble.

The white mist of frost surged around the gigantic werewolf form. The gigantic beast drew her minions to her. The sudden increase in size didn't result in a loss of agility, either. Sovereign Sanctquility had achieved a perfect fighting form, and it appeared menacingly tall before Tianming.

Chapter 1938

Specters also used universal manna. Sovereign Sanctquility herself had just about as many stars in her eyes as Lan Huang. Despite being in the Flameyellow Guard Formation, Tianming felt a sudden chill seeping through his limbs, causing his bones great pain.

"You're nothing but a clueless child. You don't know how vast this universe is." White beams shot out of her moon-like eyes toward Tianming as she used her ability, Boneburning Frostwave. The two streams of light seemed endless and shot out like two large pillars of water, freezing every flaming beast they swept across. The next moment, snow-white fog emanated from her eyes and her whole body. It spread out around them, seemingly forming a frosty lake in the midst of a flaming ocean. Not only did the lake freeze Tianming, even his swords were frozen stiff—the world of flame around him had instantly been turned into one of ice. The cold seeped through his body and bones into every single albus inside, reaching even his five-layered astral discs.

"It'll be hard for you to even move after I use my ability. How do you plan to resist me, Li Tianming?" she said, her voice ringing cold. She broke through the frost wave and appeared before him before swinging Frostmoon Edge toward him!

With a loud clang, she struck the Prime Mountain. Being the perfect fusion between brute physical force and astralforce, the sovereign boasted insane fighting ability. With but one strike, she managed to split the prime wonder into two and the wave of frost continued sweeping toward Tianming. "So, you totemancers and beastmasters think you have many helpers, eh?" she said with a dismissive tone.

Even more frost emanated from her body, forming around twenty dire wolves similar to her in size. They were all formed from pure ice, yet they behaved like living animals that were eager to maul! This was yet another ability, Sanctquility Shadows. A sovereign like her no doubt had many tricks up her sleeves. If Tianming hadn't inherited the legacy of the Primordial God-Emperor and got Omniscient Threads

through it, he definitely wouldn't be her match. Without borrowing the power of the masses, he would stand no chance against a sovereign.

"Hahaha!" Sovereign Sanctquility laughed in triumph. Her gigantic physique suddenly shuddered, after which she came charging. Frost filled the atmosphere around her as the dire wolves leapt toward Tianming in tandem. Being the only sovereign of Skywolf Frost, she seemed even more confident after her divine astralship had been destroyed! Using the Frostmoon Edge, she executed a divine art. The Frostriver Gods in her sword shot a torrent of water toward Tianming, turning the world around them into a waterscape. Tens of millions of crescent moons seemed to hide beneath the surface, all of them threatening to cut his throat! The attack was called Frostmoon Ghostswings. It used the unique properties of the Frostriver Gods, rendering any fighter that was weaker than sovereigns completely helpless. It was an attack that could probably even take out a hundred thousand troops in one go. With so many attacks emerging from the ubiquitous water, most normal people would surely perish.

Tianming stopped in his tracks and faced the terrifying lake of frost by himself. He was as small as an ant compared to the crescent blade strikes, seemingly at risk of being vaporized by them at any moment, yet he merely smirked and said, "So this is the best a sovereign from Skywolf Frost can do?!"

Those audacious words implied the ability to back it up. In fact, Tianming did indeed have that, especially with thirty billion people believing in him. He wasn't fighting alone! Half of those that backed him were the denizens of the sun, who were fighting for their survival and their homes. They contributed the most to his current power, making him so mighty that even he began fearing what he was capable of.

So what if Sovereign Sanctquility had the Frostriver Gods, Frostmoon Edge, terrifying abilities, ultimate divine arts, or an amazing physique? Would she really be able to take him on? He gripped the Gods in tight amidst the chilling storm. The ten totems behind him split into millions of smaller providence swords, slashing their way through the lake of frost and forcing the frost away with unparalleled sword ki. The totem swords had absorbed far too much Omniscient Will and were bursting at the seams with power.

The same was the case with Tianming! This time around, he used his left hand to wield the sword, as he realized that his arm had been considerably strengthened by the solar core. Not to mention, when the black dots on the outer circle fused into the Plundering Eye, his arm gave off an explosive black glow. At the very least, it would be able to match up to Sovereign Sanctquility's insane constitution.

"Come!" he roared, his eyes fiercer than even hers. When he struck, millions of swords followed suit! All of them surrounded him and formed a sea of swords around him, while his own sword was the sharpest among all of them. He executed the Ninedragon Tribulation, eight moves fused into one, utilizing the technique to its full potential, including the totem aspect of the move. Millions of dragons roared as Tianming's storm of swords instantly expanded far past the frost lake of the enemy. Many of the specters that had come close were witness to a battle of epic proportions! The commotion that the fight had generated stood out almost as much as the clash of divine astralships within the formation had.

"Sanctquility!" the many wolves howled in excitement, only to see the crescent strikes from the lake of frost being torn apart by a storm of swords in the next instant. It was a dance between dragons and sword ki. The countless dragon-shaped sword ki tore through any and all incoming attacks, shattering

the frost lake right away. A single white-haired youth stood amidst the storm of swords and charged straight for the sovereign! Faced with the giantess, he didn't seem the least bit fazed. He thrust the Godsins forward as countless providence swords trailed behind him. His control over his sword far exceeded the giantess' control over her forty-meter-long sword!

"Hah!" Tianming smiled in the face of the humongous odds.

Sovereign Sanctquility hadn't expected Tianming to be powerful to this extent. Her expression immediately changed, but her status and pride didn't allow her to process any fear. The two long-lost Godsins, one sword and one blade, clashed fiercely against one another as the power of their divine hazards shot out to corrode each other. Tianming's black arm pushed fiercely against the specter's terrifying power.

That alone might not be much, but Tianming had the power from thirty billion believers. The Frostmoon Edge was knocked flying as Tianming charged at it like a meteor, shooting toward the throat of Sovereign Sanctquility. With an audible squelch, blood was spilled and Tianming emerged from the back of the sovereign, his body entirely covered in blood. The giantess stood in the lake of frost with a gaping hole through her throat.

Chapter 1939

Specters were heavily reliant on their bodies. With Sovereign Sanctquility's throat pierced through, her spine had also snapped, cutting off the link between her head and body!

"Aaagh...." The light from her eyes seemed to vanish. Death had come far too quickly and fiercely, much like a storm. She didn't have any time to mentally prepare herself for it before she was on her way into its abyssal depths, going the way of Sovereign Greenvoid.

"No... don't!"

No matter what she said, it was already too late after Tianming had struck. Perhaps she had thought that Skywolf would be taking a star that didn't have any astralguard formation defending it. No doubt, Sovereign Greenvoid had also thought the same. It was already too late for them to regret not making proper preparations beforehand.

"Li Tianming... those that back us are the Myst—" Her face paled even more as she unintelligibly howled. She was struggling to turn her head back and beg to be spared, yet Tianming's millions of totem swords swept through the space her body had inhabited, poking countless holes in her in the process! It was a gruesome and awesome sight to see millions of holes being opened in a single body. Even though a single totem sword wasn't enough to pierce through, the countless more that followed behind them helped push them through. Once a single perforation was made, countless more swords could enter through the wound!

The prime wonder reformed in the sky and slammed down on the sovereign's head like a mountain. The lupine head of the sovereign had been knocked aslant, causing it to start falling. Nothing but a few strands of tissue and skin still connected the head to the body. The dire wolves made a melancholic howl, yet that didn't stop death from claiming them. The final thing Sovereign Sanctquility managed to see was the angry flaming clouds, which seemed to scatter all of a sudden to reveal a serene view. Yet that didn't stop the many specters around from witnessing her horrid death.

The fact that her humiliating defeat had been witnessed by so many was the final and hardest blow she received. As the supreme leader of Skywolf Frost, dying on the front line in the opening volley of the invasion after losing a divine astralship was appalling, to say the least. Never had it ever occurred to her that this would be her fate. Not only that, her death would go on to affect the fighting spirit of the remaining troops from Skywolf Frost. It was already over, as far as their state of mind was concerned. At the very end, she felt her gigantic wolf head wrapped around by Godsin's sword-chain form before Tianming pried it off her body. Fortunately for him, she was in her bestial state rather than the beauty she appeared to be, making his job much easier.

"You—" She saw a white mist surrounding the youth right before her soul scattered. The mist seemed to stretch out into countless tiny threads, much like formation spirit threads! But even after seeing them, she had no idea what they were, though she instinctively knew it was because of those threads that she had been defeated. The fear was marked deep in her soul.

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"Huh?" After dealing the final blow, Tianming picked some things up while Ying Huo and the rest fended off attacks from the nearby specters. The first was the spatial ring the sovereign had hid in her ship. It seemed incredibly intricate, being a grade-seven divine artifact with a vast space inside. It should contain a large amount of the sovereign's wealth. Tianming gave it a rough look and saw that there were not one, but four manna imperius! Given that it was still wartime, he didn't really have the time to appraise the types of manna they were, but a rough look told him that there was one suited for Xian Xian.

"Sovereign Sanctquility's possessions should be among the best items in Skywolf Frost. They were hunters, after all, so she no doubt had a lot of treasures to boast of." The spatial ring also contained mountains' worth of cultivation resources, ranging from divine ores, herbs, pills, artifacts, and even manna of all levels. It also contained an entire sea's worth of caeli!

Apart from that ring, he also got the other Godsin weapon, the Frostmoon Edge. The death of the sovereign had made it a masterless artifact. Interestingly, the artifact soul of the blade was also a yellowspring fish. Given that Tianming had defeated the sovereign wielding the blade, he should be recognized by it. When he laid his hands on it, the blade didn't outright resist him even though it hadn't quite acknowledged him as its new master yet. It also seemed to develop some kind of relationship with the yellowspring fish in Tianming's Godsin. It was clear that the two were made for each other, and they had finally been reunited thanks to him. From how it felt, Tianming believed the Frostmoon Edge wouldn't be one bit inferior to the Godsin.

"This blade is probably much more suited to Qingyu. She's suffered quite a bit lately, so a gift is long overdue. Let's hope it manages to cheer her up a bit in these dark times." Even if she wouldn't be able to take ownership of the blade just yet, given her talent, Tianming believed it would only be a matter of time. "I haven't seen a true smile from her heart for quite a while. I hope she likes this gift. At least it can probably help distract her from other matters. The busywork should keep her mind occupied." He was her brother, so he tried thinking of what was best for her as much as he could.

The instant he took the blade, the flaming clouds spanning a large area around him vanished from sight! The cloudless region also seemed to expand at breakneck speed. It didn't take long before the site of the

chaotic battle from before had turned completely transparent. It was as if the Flameyellow Guard Formation and the flaming cloud layer had disappeared. Tianming could see countless specters all around him. In fact, the transparency seemed to have begun manifesting while Tianming was still fighting Sovereign Sanctquility.

"Why'd it vanish? Did the sun emperor backstab me?! Or was he defeated?!" His heart shook from the shock. If the cloud layer's disappearance was a sign of the sun emperor's death, it was over for Orderia. He couldn't imagine the sun emperor backstabbing him right after Tianming helped their side gain an edge. It would be far too short-sighted and reckless!

Chapter 1940

Tianming's shock vanished the next moment as he realized that the formation hadn't disappeared and the flaming beasts and flaming clouds were still around. They had turned transparent, but they were just as effective at deterring the enemy. The Sanctvoid Army still seemed to be held back for now. However, a large reason that they were unable to coordinate well was the flaming clouds obscuring their line of sight. The chaotic sounds had also served to confuse and strike fear into them. The sudden clarity allowed them to start finding their bearings.

Since that was the case, what reason could the sun emperor have to make the Flameyellow Guard Formation see-through? Tianming thought that it had been a sneaky move on his part, but when he saw the expressions of the specters, he suddenly understood the sun emperor's intent. Tianming was still dragging along the bloody and mangled wolf head of their sovereign with his sword-chain. The rubble of the Sanctquility Ghoststrain could be seen all around him, and the giant, headless pincushion of a body was still in the middle of burning to ash. The entire sight had far too much of an impact.

The death of Sovereign Greenvoid and the loss of his ship had been a huge blow to Skywolf Frost to begin with, and now the specters were once more greeted with a similar sight not long after the start of the battle. Both of their moral supports had collapsed; it was an inconvenient truth that tore their hearts apart. The barrier, made transparent, hid no secrets. Not to mention, the specters that the sovereign had summoned before her death had witnessed the events with their own eyes. The entire battlefield fell silent in an instant before the flames returned to normal. Flaming beasts roamed the barrier, letting out deafening roars that intermixed with the crackling sound of burning. The entire world had turned back into a flaming purgatory that enveloped even Tianming.

The transparency had only lasted for a few seconds, yet that was enough for the Sanctvoid Army to see the death of their sovereign. Losing one's commander before the battle had truly started didn't bode well for them. Given that it seemed intentional on the sun emperor's part, he was obviously able to monitor Tianming's activities to an extent using the Flameyellow Guard Formation. The sun emperor also seemed to have made the flaming beasts more powerful to help him.

"Sovereign Sanctquility is dead and her ship is destroyed! Skywolf Frost has lost far too much! Hahaha!" The voice of the sun emperor came ringing from the mouths of every flaming beast in the formation for the ears of all specters to hear. "Myriad Solar Sects, begin your counterattack! First, we take down Frost! Then, we go for Blaze! We'll rid the astralscape of the trash that is Skywolf!" He spoke as if they were his subordinates, but even then, it was still a great help to Tianming. The announcement had reached the ears of everyone, even the mortals across the sun!

Tianming had brutally killed Sovereign Sanctquility; that was the first piece of good news they had received since the start of the invasion. Once more, Tianming hadn't disappointed them! His legend continued to spread and grow, even to the people who were on the lowest rung of cultivators. Many young cultivators from backwater mountains and villages had begun worshipping this twenty-something-year-old legend as their god! Their faith formed more and more Omniscient Threads. While they were only connections to heavenly wills, a substantial number of them was still significant.

Tianming was feeling on top of the world. He dragged the head of the sovereign around with his sword, intent on tying it to the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb before he continued slaughtering his enemies. "The specters have already seen her die and their ship is now gone. No doubt they're in a state of shock and don't even know to retreat. The sun emperor's trick also poured a bucket of ice water down on their heads, numbing them with shock. It's time for us to turn the tide!"

This was the opportunity to push for victory. The invading army had to be dealt heavy casualties for Skywolf Frost to be able to feel it. Tianming didn't waste one bit of time on figuring out if the sun emperor was scheming. The two stars of Skywolf were powerful, and the slightest mistake could result in their loss. Now that they finally had a chance to strike back, it wasn't time for them to fight among themselves. Applying pressure on the enemy also helped lighten the burden on the other side, thereby protecting the sun.

"Feng, Ying Huo!" Those two had been watching Tianming's back and were under heavy assault from countless raging specters. It was thanks in huge part to those two that Tianming had been able to fight and kill the sovereign uninterrupted. Lingfeng had absorbed enough terra to be able to fight on the level of a sovereign, helping Tianming stop seas of enemies!

"Let's head back!" With the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb, there wasn't a need for Tianming to remain fighting outside. All of his lifebound beasts, Lingfeng, and his Soulfiend returned to his side near the ship. All of them were filled with hope for their little victory. Things had been smooth sailing so far!

"Let's keep fighting!" Following that, nobody could stop the assault of the Ninedragon Imperial Tomb. Even if the dejected specters managed to pierce the Flameyellow Guard Formation, there was still the astralguard formation and another army to deal with beneath it.

Tianming's fighting spirit had risen to a new high. But when he expected it the least, he felt like he had an ice bath of his own! Yin Chen said, "Come back! Your sister! In danger!"

Tianming's mind was scrambled at the mention of Qingyu. The ship should have been just as safe as the Sky Palace Formation and it was almost impossible for any celestial orderian to sneak their way in, unlike the latter. How could anything possibly happen to her? He was going to go back to the ship in the first place. Rushing, he entered it with Lingfeng.

"It's Gan... Gan Gan... Gan Gan!" Yin Chen said, its tone angry.

"Yu Ziqian, you mean?!" It sounded like Yu Ziqian was posing a threat to Qingyu!