

Multiverse 52

Chapter 52: The Hero Faction's Mission

Cao Cao's understanding of Kaiser's strength was limited to what he had seen firsthand.

Thus, his assessment of their relative power was based only on what he currently knew.

If Kaiser had hidden abilities, then Cao Cao's evaluation would be flawed.

Given this, his assessment focused solely on their normal combat strength, without factoring in Balance Breaker.

"Do you think he has reached Balance Breaker?"

Cao Cao asked his two companions while observing the battle.

Siegfried and Georg exchanged glances.

"He should have, right?"

"Yeah, I think so too."

Their responses were surprisingly in sync.

Logically speaking, considering how recently Kaiser had awakened his Sacred Gear, he shouldn't have reached Balance Breaker yet.

Balance Breaker was a state of transcendence—an extreme enhancement of a Sacred Gear beyond its normal limitations. Although every Sacred Gear had this potential form, achieving it required an intense shift in the wielder's mindset, to the extent of defying the very flow of the world.

Only those who had mastered their Sacred Gear completely could reach this level when undergoing a significant transformation in their spirit. Such a requirement was not something that could be fulfilled easily.

In fact, even among the Khaos Brigade's Hero Faction, which dared to challenge the major mythological factions, those who had attained Balance Breaker were few and far between. Even on a global scale, they were extremely rare.

Under these circumstances, it was almost inconceivable that Kaiser, who had only recently awakened his Sacred Gear, could have mastered it so completely, let alone reached the Balance Breaker state.

However, anyone observing Kaiser's control over True Longinus could recognize one undeniable truth.

His mastery of the True Longinus had already reached the pinnacle of perfection.

This was far beyond mere proficiency—it was absolute mastery, a level where there was no room for further improvement.

For someone like him, claiming that he had not yet reached Balance Breaker would be difficult for anyone to believe.

"As I expected."

Cao Cao agreed with Siegfried and Georg's conclusion, chuckling. "But then, what exactly is his Balance Breaker?"

"Will it be the standard form of True Longinus? Or will it be an Sub-Species like mine?"

"If it's an Sub-Species, what kind of abilities will it manifest when fully unleashed?"

"Haha, this is getting exciting."

Hearing Cao Cao's laughter, Siegfried and Georg immediately knew that his fighting spirit had already surged to an uncontrollable level.

Only his close allies knew that Cao Cao had always been searching for the wielder of the True Longinus. He had long wanted to cross swords with the one wielding the so-called strongest Longinus.

He wanted to prove that his spear was no weaker than the legendary one. He wanted to know whether his spear could, like the True Longinus, pierce through even the gods.

And now, the wielder of the True Longinus was standing right before him. If not for Kaiser's affiliation with the Hero Faction, he would have already challenged him to a duel.

Now that he saw Kaiser demonstrating power equal to or even capable of threatening him, Cao Cao felt exhilarated rather than fearful.

After all, if the True Longinus was powerful but its wielder was weak, then defeating him wouldn't prove anything.

Only when the wielder was strong—just as strong, or even stronger than himself—would defeating them prove that his spear was not inferior to the legendary weapon.

Kaiser had not disappointed him. He had displayed a level of power worthy of being his opponent.

Since that was the case, how could he possibly hold himself back any longer?

Of course, the combatants in the arena were even more eager than Cao Cao.

Especially Heracles.

Seeing that he had been unable to defeat Kaiser for so long, Heracles let out an enraged roar.

"Balance Breaker!"

With Heracles' bellow, his massive body began to glow.

Light gathered around his hands, feet, and back, forming protrusions.

These protrusions spread across his entire body, transforming him into a humanoid artillery battery.

Numerous cannon muzzles emerged from Heracles' body, their shapes resembling missiles.

"Detonation - Mighty Comet"

Heracles roared the name of his Balance Breaker, prompting gasps from the audience.

"He activated it!"

"It's Balance Breaker!"

"Heracles has entered Balance Breaker mode!"

As the crowd erupted in excitement, a soft chuckle rang out near Kaiser.

"Then I suppose I'll start too?"

With a bright, almost playful smile, Jeanne parted her lips.

"Balance Breaker!"

The moment her words fell, countless Holy Swords emerged around her feet.

The Holy Swords continued to pour out, surging together with overwhelming momentum, gradually forming an enormous entity.

Before long, a colossal figure took shape behind Jeanne, spreading its wings, raising its long neck, and letting out a deafening roar that sent shockwaves through the air.

It was a dragon.

A massive dragon forged from countless Holy Swords.

"[Holy Dragon of Judgement]!"

As Jeanne activated her Balance Breaker, the entire arena fell silent.

"Has the climax arrived?"

Cao Cao rested his spear on his shoulder, his expression filled with excitement.

"Now, let's see what happens next."

With that declaration—one only heard by Siegfried and Georg—the battlefield's intensity reached its absolute peak as the clash of Balance Breakers unfolded.

"Take this!"

Heracles made the first move, raising his arms as every cannon on his body locked onto Kaiser. Without hesitation, he unleashed a storm of missiles.

"Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom—!"

Countless missiles struck their target, triggering massive explosions that sent shockwaves roaring into the sky.

The sheer force of the blasts engulfed everything within several hundred meters, fire and smoke expanding violently.

However, the explosion never reached the ground.

Instead, it was intercepted mid-air.

"Boom!"

Standing at the center of the missile storm, Kaiser's expression remained utterly unchanged. He simply raised the True Longinus, its spearhead gleaming as it unleashed an immense wave of divine energy, intercepting the incoming missiles and detonating them prematurely.

Then, without pause, Kaiser pointed the spear at Heracles.

In an instant, the True Longinus transformed into a blinding flash of light, extending at terrifying speed. It sliced through the flames and smoke, hurtling directly toward Heracles.

"Shk!"

Heracles raised both hands in front of him, attempting to block the piercing thrust of the True Longinus using the protrusions on his arms, which had transformed into missile launchers. However, the spear's razor-sharp tip effortlessly pierced through his hands, puncturing those protrusions in an instant.

"Gaaahh...!"

Heracles let out a roar of agony as he endured the excruciating pain.

"Boom!"

At that moment, the massive dragon forged from Jeanne's Holy Swords had unknowingly positioned itself behind Kaiser. It lifted its colossal forelimb and slammed it downward, shattering the ground and sending shards of rock flying in all directions.

But Kaiser was already gone.

His entire body surged with Touki, and like a meteor, he streaked through the battlefield, charging directly toward Jeanne, who sat atop the dragon.

"Not that easy!"

Jeanne immediately conjured a massive number of Holy Swords, arranging them into a barrier before her.

In response, Kaiser simply raised the True Longinus once again, its spearhead splitting open as holy energy gathered at the tip.

A deep hum resonated through the air.

Sacred energy coalesced at the spearhead, forming a radiant Blade of Light several meters in size.

"Bang!"

Gripping the massive Blade of Light with both hands, Kaiser swung the spear horizontally with immense force. The Blade of Light expanded into a crescent-shaped slash, obliterating the Holy Sword barrier in the blink of an eye.

"Shk!"

Before Jeanne could react, the True Longinus extended at astonishing speed once more, its tip piercing straight through the hand that held her rapier.

"Ah...!"

Jeanne gasped in pain. Her grip on her rapier loosened, and the blade slipped from her grasp. Blood streamed from the hand that had been impaled by the True Longinus.

Mere seconds later, the dragon beneath Jeanne was shredded into countless fragments by Kaiser's swift attacks, reduced to nothing more than a pile of broken Holy Swords.

The terrifying sharpness and precision of the True Longinus were on full display.

A slow, deliberate applause echoed across the battlefield, marking the official conclusion of the fight.

"Truly impressive. To think you defeated two Sub-Species Balance Breakers with just the normal form of the True Longinus. My, my, it really is the strongest Longinus."

Descending from above, Cao Cao made his way toward the center of the battlefield, Siegfried and Georg following closely behind, all while clapping in admiration.

"See? I told you that you weren't a match for him," Siegfried remarked, stepping in front of Heracles. His grin mirrored the same taunting expression Heracles had once shown him.

"Damn it!"

Heracles, his arms still covered in fresh wounds, had already deactivated his Balance Breaker. His face was twisted in frustration.

"Even when we teamed up, we weren't a match for him... That True Longinus really might have the power to slay gods," Jeanne mused, her gaze filled with awe and reverence as she looked at Kaiser.

"Hold on, I'll heal you both," Georg said as he gathered them together and activated a Magic Circle to begin their recovery.

The rest of the Hero Faction members gradually gathered around, murmuring among themselves, their expressions carrying a mix of astonishment and admiration.

"And what's next?"

Kaiser, still unfazed and composed, turned his gaze toward Cao Cao.

"Who am I fighting next?"

It was clear that he still had plenty of stamina left.

No, even if he were to fight several more rounds, it wouldn't bother him.

The reason he was here, clashing with the Hero Faction, was because Cao Cao had gathered them for live combat training.

It had already been a week since his meeting with Ophis.

During that time, Kaiser had remained here, either engaging in battles against the Hero Faction members or training alone to refine his own Balance Breaker.

Thanks to this, his past week had been incredibly productive—fighting against powerful opponents daily, gaining countless insights.

Now, he was nearing the completion of his Balance Breaker.

With such progress, Kaiser was in a great mood, eager to continue his fights.

Unfortunately...

"That's enough training for today."

Cao Cao unexpectedly put a stop to it.

"Instead, I have a mission I need you to undertake."

At those words, Kaiser raised an eyebrow.