

E12 - Man of Destiny

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

SIGN True Cooking Master Boy

[01:33] Zhang

Your food sucks!

[01:36] Meili

Lei En's ultimate crab dish...

[01:39] Shirou

Sucks?

[01:43] He

Yeah, it sucks!

[01:45] Hu

Are you mocking us?

[01:47] Zhang

It's decided.

[01:49] Zhang

The second round of the banquet contest

[01:52] Zhang

featuring Chinese mitten crab
goes to Ten Feet of Blue Xiang!

[01:59] Xiang

And you swear not to reverse
your decision, no matter what?

[02:06] All

Yes!

[02:07] Shirou

You can't be serious!

[02:08] Shirou

They fell for Xiang's seduction!

[02:11] Meili

He can't possibly have lost
to mere crab and eggs!

[02:14] Sanjie

Yeah! Lei En put all his
strength into that dish!

[02:18] Sanjie

Claiming it sucks could

only be a false accusation!

[02:21] Zhang

Restrain yourself, Sanjie!

[02:24] Zhang

Remember what we said at the start.

[02:26] Zhang

Our job is very simple: to vote
for the better tasting dish.

[02:31] Zhang

That's all.

[02:33] Zhang

Try them, and you'll understand.

[02:34] Sanjie

He stuffed the crab shells with crab
meat and fried them to a golden-brown.

[02:42] All

So good!

[02:45] Sanjie

The fine, silky pieces of
crab meat are plump with fat.

[02:48] Sanjie

The bursting crab eggs are so luxurious.

[02:51] Meili

The innards are so thick and smooth,
and the roe is viscous and rich.

[02:55] Shirou

The moment you bite into the
fragrantly fried shells,

[02:58] Shirou

the Chinese mitten crab's
flavor comes bursting forth.

[03:00] All

It's a flood! A flood of crab!

[03:05] Shirou

All right, Sis.

Let's try the crab and eggs.

[03:07] Meili

Yeah. It's certainly good,

[03:10] Meili

but she didn't do anything
particularly special.

[03:12] Shirou

Right? I knew it was bogus!

[03:16] Shirou

No matter how you look at it,
your decision was clearly fishy!

[03:20] Zhang

Wh-What was that, boy?

[03:22] Mob

Hey, what's going on?

[03:25] Mob

If their reactions are this different,
then one side must be lying.

[03:31] Mao

Neither of them are lying.

[03:40] Mao

Xiang, you're a dishonest person!

[03:44] Shirou

What's wrong, Mao?

[03:46] Mao

Drink this, Shirou. Every last drop.

[03:49] Shirou

Huh?

[03:50] Shirou

Who cares about a side soup?

[03:57] Shirou

It's a rich crab soup.

[03:58] Shirou

It's full of crab shell extract.

[04:01] Mao

Now try Lei En's fried
crab shells again, Shirou.

[04:05] Shirou

What? Eating them again
won't change anything.

[04:08] Mao

Just do it!

[04:10] Shirou

Fine, Mao.

[04:16] Shirou

Gross!

[04:21] Shirou

It doesn't taste at all like crab.

[04:24] Shirou

It leaves only something
flavorless, flabby, and muddy

[04:27] Shirou

and a heavy greasiness in my mouth.

[04:29] Shirou

This isn't edible at all.

[04:31] Meili

What's going on, Mao?

[04:35] Mao

It definitely tastes like crab soup,

[04:37] Mao

but this is an ultra concentrated crab soup
made from thoroughly boiled crab shells

[04:42] Mao

to achieve a level of concentration
several times stronger than normal.

[04:47] Shirou

But...

[04:48] Meili

But why?

[04:50] Mao

Ever heard of olfactory fatigue?

[04:52] Mao

Even if a room smells bad,
if you stay in there long enough,

[04:56] Mao

your senses become numb to the smell.

[04:59] Mao

While it's not as extreme as your sense of
smell, your sense of taste behaves similarly.

[05:04] Mao

By drinking this extremely
concentrated crab soup first,

[05:07] Mao

their tongues became numb
to the flavor of crab,

[05:10] Mao

making them unable to taste the
crab flavor they ate afterwards.

[05:14] Mao

That's why they couldn't detect
the deliciousness of Lei En's dish

[05:18] Mao

loaded with crab flavor, leaving
only greasiness in their mouths.

[05:23] Mao

Honestly, this crab dish Lei En
made is the best in Shanghai.

[05:27] Mao

It's the reason the tastier a crab dish is,

[05:30] Mao

the worse it tastes after
you drink this soup.

[05:39] Mao

That's why Xiang started
by observing her opponent.

[05:42] Mao

She chose this strategy once she knew
Lei En was making stuffed crab shells.

[05:47] Mao

Ignoring the pursuit of true deliciousness

[05:50] Mao

to cook something just to
discredit your opponent

[05:54] Mao

isn't something an honest chef does!

[05:56] Sanjie

That's unfair.

[05:58] Xiang

It's no wonder he recognizes
your superiority, Liu Maoxing.

[06:03] Xiang

I'm impressed you saw through the
underworld's taste paralysis technique.

[06:08] Xiang

However, the decision can't be reversed.

[06:11] Leien

I-I failed.

[06:16] Xiang

You've fallen so far, Lei En.

[06:17] Xiang

Despite your abundance of talent,

[06:19] Xiang

your naivete made you lose
to such a basic trick.

[06:23] Xiang

I can hardly believe you're the chef

[06:25] Xiang

who killed a man in order to become the best.

[06:27] Xiang

You're no longer worthy of
possessing the Seven Star Knives.

[06:34] Leien

You're absolutely right.

[06:40] Xiang

Victory is mine!

[06:42] Xiang

And I alone am the chef who should
possess the Seven Star Knives!

[06:47] Xielu

I see.

[06:50] Xielu

I get it now, Xiang.

[06:56] Xielu

I know why you have a set of Seven Star Knives that shouldn't exist.

[07:02] Meili

What do you mean, Xie Lu?

[07:04] Shirou

Why does Xiang have a set of Seven Star Knives?

[07:07] Xielu

The Seven Star Knives are the greatest masterpiece

[07:09] Xielu

made by the extraordinary knife-maker, Lang Tie.

[07:12] Xielu

That's why one year ago, when Lei En lost his way, he killed Lang Tie

[07:16] Xielu

after he completed the Seven Star Knives so he could never forge a better knife.

[07:20] Xielu

It doesn't make sense for there to be a second set of Seven Star Knives.

[07:25] Xielu

Xiang seemed to suggest her Seven Star Knives

[07:28] Xielu

were made by Lang Tie's hatred itself,

[07:31] Xielu

but that's not possible.

[07:34] Xielu

In that case, there's only one answer.

[07:38] All

What?

[07:39] Xielu

The injury Lei En inflicted probably wasn't fatal.

[07:49] Xielu

I've heard the underworld possesses all manner of medical secrets.

[07:54] Xielu

When Xiang discovered the dying Lang Tie,

[07:56] Xielu

she must have used all the underworld techniques at her disposal

[08:00] Xielu

to save him so he could forge knives again.

[08:05] Xiang

Indeed. That's exactly right.

[08:10] Xiang

It was one year ago.

[08:12] Xiang

*I traveled into the mountains
to reach Lang Tie's workshop.*

[08:16] Xiang

But on the way...

[08:24] (Flashback) Xiang

Hey! Are you all right?

[08:30] (Flashback) Langtie

Lei En...

[08:31] (Flashback) Xiang

Lei En? Lei En the chef?

[08:34] (Flashback) Xiang

He did this to you?

[08:43] Xiang

*The underworld's greatest secrets even
include techniques that control life and death.*

[08:48] Xiang

*With my surgery and medicines,
Lang Tie returned to life.*

[08:54] (Flashback) Langtie

I can't believe a strange
young woman stayed with me

[08:57] (Flashback) Langtie

in the mountains for a whole month.

[09:00] (Flashback) Langtie

Thank you, Xiang.

[09:01] (Flashback) Langtie

I can't find the words to thank you enough.

[09:04] (Flashback) Xiang

What are you talking about?

[09:06] (Flashback) Xiang

As a knife-maker, you're a national treasure.

[09:09] (Flashback) Xiang

And helping the injured recover
is also the duty of a chef.

[09:15] (Flashback) Langtie

I'm no more than a single knife-maker.

[09:18] (Flashback) Langtie

I'm not capable of much, but if there's
anything I can do for you, just ask.

[09:23] (Flashback) Langtie

I won't be satisfied until I thank you.

[09:27] (Flashback) Xiang

In that case, I do have one request.

[09:37] (Flashback) Langtie

The Seven Star Knives.

[09:39] (Flashback) Langtie

Perhaps they're so terribly cursed
that they lead people astray.

[09:44] (Flashback) Langtie

I was hesitant to make these again,

[09:46] (Flashback) Langtie

but if that's what you want, I can't refuse.

[09:48] (Flashback) Langtie

This is greatest thanks I can offer you.

[09:51] (Flashback) Langtie

Take them, Xiang.

[09:53] (Flashback) Xiang

Thank you, Lang Tie!

[09:56] Xiang

*At my request, Lang Tie forged a second
set of the miraculous Seven Star Knives*

[10:01] Xiang

that he was not meant to have made again.

[10:05] Leien

So that's what happened.

[10:07] Leien

If that's true, then Lang Tie...
Lang Tie is alive...

[10:13] Leien

Xiang, is Lang Tie still alive?

[10:23] Leien

Y-You didn't...

[10:26] Xiang

I'm not as naive as you.

[10:29] Xiang

This time, I actually finished him off.

[10:46] Xielu

You healed Lang Tie with
the intention of killing him

[10:49] Xielu

so he would make you a second
set of Seven Star Knives.

[10:52] Xielu

What a terrifying woman.

[10:55] Xiang

Open your eyes, Lei En.

[10:57] Xiang

I did it all for the world ruled by
chefs that will someday come to be.

[11:03] Leien

I should never have survived this long.

[11:08] Leien

I'm taking you to hell with me, Xiang.

[11:15] Leien

Don't worry. I'll be right behind you.

[11:21] Mao

Lei En!

[11:27] Xiang

Is this how you'll atone for
what you did to Lang Tie?

[11:31] Leien

This act is motivated by
my anger against you alone!

[11:34] Leien

Once I kill you, I'll kill myself!

[11:44] Xiang

What is this?

[11:46] Leien

An illusion?

[11:47] Both

L-Lang Tie!

[11:50] Langtie

Lei En, why do you still draw your
blade against another person?

[11:56] Langtie

Remember what I told you.

[11:58] Langtie

The stars of the Big Dipper
govern life and death.

[12:02] Langtie

The noble duty of the Seven Star Knives

[12:04] Langtie

is to channel the lives of ingredients
into the lives of people.

[12:09] Langtie

To lead people to happiness
with their sublime cuts.

[12:16] Langtie

The path of suffering you've followed

[12:19] Langtie

with the Seven Star Knives
since that day wasn't wrong.

[12:24] Langtie

Do not stain the Seven Star Knives
with blood and lose your way again.

[12:29] Langtie

I won't permit you to die.

[12:31] Langtie

Continue living, Lei En.

[12:33] Langtie

Use my Seven Star Knives to keep on working

[12:38] Langtie

for as many new lives as possible.

[12:46] Xiang

Impossible!

[12:50] Mao

The Seven Star Knives... shattered?

[12:57] Xiang

Impossible!

[12:59] Xiang

My Seven Star Knives!

[13:06] Mao

Lei En's Seven Star Knives
are shining even brighter.

[13:10] Mao

I see. This must be the answer given

[13:12] Mao

by the soul of Lang Tie
that's been living inside

[13:15] Mao

the two sets of Seven Star Knives.

[13:18] Mieli

Yeah. While suffering from burning agony,

[13:23] Mieli

Lei En has used his Seven Star
Knives to make people happy.

[13:28] Meili

Lang Tie's soul has recognized him as
the true owner of the Seven Star Knives!

[13:37] Xielu

You may have fooled the judges,

[13:40] Xielu

but you can't fool the
Seven Star Knives, Xiang.

[13:45] Xielu

The dish you made was a mockery.

[13:47] Xielu

I doubt you've ever used your Seven
Star Knives for anything decent.

[13:52] Xielu

You're the one who was unworthy of
holding these great knives, Xiang!

[14:04] Leien

*The smell of blood that
stained my hands is gone.*

[14:09] Leien

Lang Tie, does this mean you forgive me?

[14:15] Leien

Then I swear to you, I will bear
your soul for the rest of my life

[14:20] Leien

and continue fighting for the
people's happiness until I die!

[14:29] Leien

Judges,

[14:31] Leien

I accept that your decision cannot
be reversed, no matter the reason!

[14:36] Leien

I have lost this battle!

[14:39] Mob

He's Lang Tie's chosen chef.

[14:41] Mob

He accepts their judgment
regardless of the reason for it.

[14:44] Mob

Impressive, Lei En!

[14:53] Leien

I'm sorry, Mao.

[14:55] Leien

My weakness resulted in
a painful loss for us.

[15:00] Mao

Lei En, you couldn't have fought better.

[15:06] Zhang

It's finally time for the final round!

[15:09] Zhang

Are you both ready?

[15:12] Shirou

Judges, clear your ears and listen closely!

[15:16] Shirou

It's finally time our unbeatable
captain made his appearance!

[15:19] Shirou

He is the youngest Super
Chef ever, Liu Maoxing!

[15:26] Zhang

And who will represent the underworld?

[15:30] Xielu

You've been putting on airs this whole time!

[15:32] Xielu

Who's your third competitor, Xiang?

[15:36] Xiang

Don't get carried away after
beating underworld dropouts

[15:41] Xiang

like the masked Li Yan
and Lei En, Liu Maoxing.

[15:45] Xiang

A man who once became famous in your
hometown of Szechuan will be your opponent.

[15:51] Mao

Famous in Szechuan?

[15:54] Xiang

He's already arrived on this ship.

[15:58] Xiang

A man who knows you very well.

[16:08] Mao

Could it be? Could it be?

[16:11] Mao

Could it be?!

[16:15] Shaoan

Born deep in Szechuan, from which the
headwaters of the Yangtze River flow,

[16:20] Shaoan

we spent ten years together.

[16:23] Shaoan

Now we meet again two
thousand kilometers away

[16:26] Shaoan

at the end of the Yangtze River in Shanghai.

[16:30] Shaoan

It's been a while,

[16:34] Shaoan

Mao.

[16:36] Mao

S-Shao An?

[16:40] (Flashback) Sister

A new head chef is finally
coming to this restaurant.

[16:43] (Flashback) Sister

Mao, you asked for this contest.

[16:47] (Flashback) Sister

If you lose, we'll have
to leave this restaurant.

[16:51] (Flashback) Mao

I'll beat him, no matter what.

[16:55] (Flashback) Shaoan

Bei's mapo tofu?!

[16:57] (Flashback) Li

That's precisely why you
were given this task.

[17:01] (Flashback) Li

You solved the mystery of
this meat. Impressive work.

[17:05] (Flashback) Li

You are the new head chef, Mao!

[17:11] (Flashback) Mao

Thank you!

[17:13] (Flashback) Li

And Shao An, the loser is stripped
of the right to be a chef forever.

[17:19] (Flashback) Li

You know this.

[17:22] Shaoan

Stripped of my right to be a chef forever?

[17:25] Shaoan

I swear this won't end like this.

[17:28] Shaoan

You'll pay for this, Mao!

[17:36] Meili

The former apprentice of Mao's mother,

[17:40] Meili

the Szechuan Fairy Master Bei.

[17:42] Sanjie

He's the evil man who walked
off with all the chefs

[17:46] Sanjie

and money from Mao's family restaurant

[17:49] Sanjie

and drove Bei to work herself to death.

[17:54] Xielu

He's famous in Szechuan for disappearing
after losing to Mao in a mapo tofu contest

[17:59] Xielu

to determine the next head chef and
being stripped of the right to work

[18:05] Xielu

as a chef according to the regulations.

[18:08] Leien

The young prodigy from Szechuan who
experienced exceptional success

[18:13] Leien

after entering the underworld, Shao An.

[18:17] Leien

I've heard his name before.

[18:20] Leien

This truly is a battle of destiny.

[18:25] Mao

Why did you join the cooking underworld?

[18:28] Shaoan

Why?

[18:30] Shaoan

You think I had anywhere else to go

[18:32] Shaoan

after losing everything
to you in that contest?

[18:38] Shaoan

The cooking underworld with
their Black Cloud Kirin

[18:43] Shaoan

were the only ones to extend a hand to me.

[18:46] Shaoan

I joined them without hesitation.

[18:48] Shaoan

It's where my dream was.

[18:51] Shaoan

Let me tell you about the wonderful
significance of our rematch, Mao.

[19:11] Sanjie

Dad!

[19:12] Mob

Sir!

[19:13] Mao

What?

[19:14] Shaoan

I know.

[19:16] Shaoan

In addition to the legendary utensil,
let's wager the life of Tang Li,

[19:21] Shaoan

top man of the Shanghai culinary
world, on this contest.

[19:26] Shaoan

If I somehow lose to you,

[19:30] Shaoan

then Xiang will report
everything to the higher ups,

[19:34] Shaoan

and I will lose everything again.

[19:37] Shaoan

But if I win and Tang Li dies,

[19:41] Shaoan

then not only will I rule all of Shanghai,

[19:45] Shaoan

but my future in the underworld
will be guaranteed,

[19:49] Shaoan

and I'll get to see you cry with
the shame, pain, and sadness

[19:54] Shaoan

over being personally
responsible for the death

[19:58] Shaoan

of Longzhen Restaurant's head chef!

[20:04] Sanjie

You can't be serious! Release my father!

[20:07] Shaoan

In other words, Mao, defeating you
and forcing you to grovel at my feet

[20:14] Shaoan

will be the glorious starting
point of my dream!

[20:20] Mao

You kidnapped Sanjie's father for *that*?

[20:25] Mao

Why?

[20:26] Mao

Why are you always like this?!

[20:33] Shaoan

It's to make you taste the hell of losing!

[20:37] Meili

Mao!

[20:38] Shirou

Mao!

[20:39] Shaoan

You know nothing!

[20:41] Shaoan

You don't know the misery
of being swatted away

[20:42] Shaoan

like a fly despite possessing
first-rate talent!

[20:45] Shaoan

You don't know the pain of
having rocks thrown at you,

[20:47] Shaoan

or the bitterness of drinking mud!

[20:49] Shaoan

You even abandoned the head chef's position

[20:51] Shaoan

at the Chrysanthemum Tower
that I failed to win!

[20:54] Shaoan

And on top of that, you're a Super Chef!

[20:58] Xielu

I'll crush you!

[21:00] Leien

You fiend!

[21:03] Xielu

Mao?

[21:18] Meili

Those scars...

[21:20] Mao

Just like the masked chef Li Yan,

[21:24] Mao

did you get those enduring the unimaginably
difficult training of the underworld?

[21:32] Xiang

Do you understand now?

[21:33] Xiang

Just surviving in the
underworld is no small feat.

[21:37] Mao

You stay out of this.

[21:42] Mao

Very well. The pain of your scars.

[21:45] Mao

The pain of my mom's death.

[21:48] Mao

Let's settle everything from
our mangled pasts, now!

[21:57] Shirou

Mao...

[21:58] Mao

There's only one ingredient we
can use to settle our pasts.

[22:03] Shaoan

The ingredient I've rued since
the Chrysanthemum Tower.

[22:09] Mao

Yes. It is...

[22:13] Both

Tofu!

[22:20] Zhang

So the theme is tofu?

[22:23] Zhang

Ready-made tofu would be a wet blanket

[22:27] Zhang

on the final round of such an exciting cooking contest.

[22:31] Zhang

How do you feel about making the tofu itself from scratch?

[22:36] Hu

Besides, we're full from eating too much good food.

[22:40] Hu

Could you give us a break?

[22:42] Shaoan

No objections here. Well?

[22:46] Mao

No objections.

[22:48] Zhang

It's decided, then.

[22:49] Zhang

This time of year, the beans need to be soaked for about nine hours.

[22:54] Zhang

It will take about 12 hours total for the tofu to be completed.

[22:59] Zhang

Including time to plan and prepare your dishes as well as breaks,

[23:03] Zhang

we'll reconvene 18 hours from now.

[23:05] Zhang

I'm looking forward to it.

[23:07] Shaoan

No matter how many hours we wait,

[23:09] Shaoan

you'll still be the one to break at the end of the Yangtze River!

[23:13] Shaoan

Tomorrow I will achieve my long-cherished dream!

[23:19] Mao

As someone who bears this crest, you should know.

[23:23] Mao

This contest isn't the starting point of your dream.

[23:27] Mao

Shanghai, this city at the end of the

two thousand kilometer Yangtze River,

[23:30] Mao

is where you rotten dream *ends*, Shao An!

[23:50] Fei

So that's the great warship pavilion.

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