

2029

Zhang Jue was also taken aback when he saw Eira, but he was pleasantly surprised.

He had all his attention on the fishing rod, so he did not notice Eira. he did not expect to meet his apprentice.

“Master!” Eira walked forward quickly; she sounded joyful. “Why are you fishing here? Now that the two continents are at war, the situation is quite chaotic. Aren’t you afraid of getting into trouble?”

Zhang Jue laughed and said boldly, “They can fight their battles while I fish. We have nothing to do with each other, so why should I be afraid?”

“But—”

Eira bit her lips. She felt conflicted. “My brother is now serving the North Moana. If you insist on fishing here and anger His Majesty, I will be put in an awkward position.”

“Alright, alright!” Zhang Jue chuckled and replied helplessly, “If you say so, I’ll go to some other places to relax.”

Zhang Jue muttered to himself. ‘Sigh, I finally felt like doing something and got interested in fishing, but I was interrupted over and over again. That’s it. I won’t fish here anymore.’

Zhang Jue seemed unhappy when he grumbled, but he remained kind and amiable to Eira, especially the way he looked at her. His clever disciple was his only relative left in the world.

Eira immediately cracked a smile when she heard that. She took Zhang Jue's hand and said sweetly, "I know that you will not make things difficult for me, Master. You're always good to me."

"Very well." Zhang Jue smiled and said to Eira, "I will continue to travel the world, and I'll look for you when I have the time."

With that, Zhang Jue turned and walked away.

Eira was unwilling to let him go; she felt like asking him not to go, but she resisted the urge.

She understood her master's personality. He liked to be free; he did not like to be troubled by trivial matters.

"Please, stay!"

Suddenly, Yang Jian spoke! Then, his figure moved to block Zhang Jue's path.

Zhang Jue immediately stopped in his tracks. He frowned and looked at Yang Jian. "Why?"

'Is Yang Jian angry that I hurt his royal guards and he did not want to let me go?'

Eira and Ambrose were also nervous and worried.

'What does His Majesty want? Hasn't he calmed yet?'

Yang Jian showed a slight smile and said, “You’ve managed to arrange a simple formation to trap my incompetent subordinates. Your methods are simply breathtaking. What’s your name?”

Yang Jian, like Zhang Jue, was an arrogant person. Yang Jian would never speak so politely under usual circumstances.

Yang Jian was still annoyed that they had lost on their first attempt in attacking Lilydale City. He was worried as he did not know how to break Darryl’s formations and traps. Jiang Wushaung had also seen Zhang Jue’s formation, and he was keen to recruit Zhang Jue.

Yang Jian thought that their victory at Lilydale City might come easy, after all.

“My name is Zhang Jue,” Zhang Jue responded with indifference.

Yang Jian was taken aback momentarily, and then he was ecstatic.

That man was Zhang Jue! Yang Jian chuckled discreetly.

Thousands of years ago, Zhang Jue had led an army of the Yellow Turban Rebellion and shot to fame on all the nine continents. So how could Yang Jian not know about him?

Yang Jian was shocked, and at the same time, Zhang Jue’s gaze got even hotter.

In the next second, Yang Jian said earnestly, “Oh, you are Senior Zhang. I’ve admired you for a long time, Senior Zhang—you are a legend! Would you like to conquer the nine continents with me and create a great cause for all ages?”

Yang Jian's eyes were filled with urgency!

He needed talented people if he wanted to conquer the other continents. He had enough generals to fight for him, but he needed someone in the military to make plans and arrange the troops.

Zhang Jue was brilliantly resourceful; Yang Jian thought he was most suitable as his military adviser!

Did he say conquer the nine continents with him? Zhang Jue frowned.

Then, Zhang Jue smiled faintly. "I'm sorry, I'm not interested."

If it were a thousand years ago, Zhang Jue would have been tempted to do that. However, after he was imprisoned for a thousand years within Lu Bu's ancient tomb and experienced life and death, Zhang Jue had become at ease with many things.

A grand life was only an ideal dream, and all Zhang Jue wanted was to travel the world freely.

'What?'

Everyone around was stunned to hear Zhang Jue's response.

'Did this person just reject His Majesty's decree?'

Yang Jian was very embarrassed. He immediately saw Eira, who was next to him, and he had an idea.

“Senior Zhang.” Yang Jian looked sincere when he persuaded Zhang Jue. “I know that you might not care about the disputes between the mainlands, but you have an apprentice who would come with me to every battle. She might encounter all kinds of dangers. As her master, aren’t you worried about her safety?”

Then, Yang Jian continued to say, “As long as you are willing, I will install you as my military officer, and you’ll be commanding the three armies on my behalf. You’ll also only report to me. How about that?”

Yang Jian could see that Zhang Jue adored Eira. As long as he used Eira as an excuse, Zhang Jue would definitely not refuse him.

Whoa!

Noises echoed around them, and all eyes were gathered on Zhang Jue. They were surprised, and some had mixed feelings about that.

It was glorious to be personally invited by the Emperor to join the army division.

Zhang Jue pondered for a few more seconds. He looked at Eira and finally took a deep breath, and nodded. “Very well!”

2030

Zhang Jue no longer wanted to be in a battle. Yang Jian had guessed it correctly—the person that Zhang Jue cared most about was his disciple, Eira.

Therefore, Zhang Jue had agreed to Yang Jian's invitation to make sure that Eira was safe in the war.

Yang Jian was elated that Zhang Jue had agreed to his request. He threw his head back and laughed heartily. "This is great! With Senior Zhang's help, I shall unite all the nine continents and reign over it!"

After Yang Jian said that, the generals around him knelt and chanted in unison.

"Your Majesty is wise. Long live the Emperor! Long live the Military Advisor!"

Zhang Jue was indifferent to what was happening.

He only cared about the safety of his precious disciple. He was not bothered by the union of any of the continents.

Eira's body trembled as she fixed her eyes on Zhang Jue; she felt very touched.

She knew that her master never liked to be restrained, but he had chosen to stay with the army for her sake.

...

Meanwhile, in Lilydale City.

Darryl had spent several hours on the deployment before sending the South Cloud Army to every corner of Lilydale City. They had activated the defense mechanism in full force to prevent any attack from the North Moana Army.

Of course, the arrangement was not made based on Darryl's whims and fancies. Pang Tong had given Darryl a lot of suggestions discreetly.

Pang Tong was a famous Military Adviser during the Three Kingdoms era. Therefore, Lilydale City would have a full-proof defense plan with Pang Tong's participation.

"I travel in the dark night for my desire to go home is like an arrow seeking its target. For my beauty is waiting in the lounge..."

Darryl hummed a song cheerfully as he walked under the moonlit night sky toward Quincy's room; he was very relaxed.

Quincy enjoyed a noble status as the Eldest Princess. Like the Empress, she lived in the Commander's mansion.

The Empress would usually build her temporary palaces in advance whenever she visited a place. However, the North Moana Army had attacked so suddenly, and the Empress rarely visited the border, so Lilydale City did not have a temporary palace. Instead, the Empress had to stay in Tosh Zayne's Commander's mansion temporarily. It was a significant compromise from the Empress.

After he entered the Commander's mansion, Darryl noticed that lights were out in the courtyard at the back.

It was apparent that the Empress and Quincy were both exhausted physically and mentally after the brutal fight against the North Moana Army during the day, and they had gone to bed early.

Ugh.

Darryl shook his head and sighed when he saw that.

'Quincy can't do this. She said she would honor her words and be at my service when I am ready to go to bed. So how can she be asleep before I'm back?'

Darryl muttered in his heart as he walked toward the small courtyard.

'Oh, f*ck!'

As soon as he entered the small courtyard, Darryl was immediately startled.

There were two identical rooms in the small courtyard. Which one was Quincy's room?

Darryl noticed that the appearance and layout of the two rooms in front of him were precisely the same; he could not distinguish them at all.

Darryl was confused.

'Forget it; I'll try the left one.'

After a few seconds, Darryl entered the left-wing slowly.

Hiss!

Darryl was shocked; he drew in a sharp breath as soon as he walked into the room and saw the scene inside it.

A golden threaded dragon robe and a slender and charming figure laid on the bed.

It was the Empress!

Darryl realized that the Empress was alone. It seemed like she had sent the palace maids and eunuchs away because she wanted to rest.

2031

'Oh, good!'

Darryl took a deep breath; he was relieved.

Fortunately, the palace maids and the eunuchs were not around to witness him when he entered the Empress' room. Otherwise, it would be hard to explain why he was there.

Hiss...

As he muttered in his heart, Darryl stole another glance at the Empress, and he drew in a sharp breath. He was stuck; he could no longer move his eyes away from the Empress.

The Empress laid on the soft bed, and she wore only silk innerwear. Her charming curves were simply indescribably beautiful. Her eyes were slightly closed as her long eyelashes trembled slightly. It was too sultry.

The Empress was really sexy.

Darryl finally recovered his senses after he stood there for a few minutes.

'Why did I get so fascinated? I better leave quickly while the Empress is asleep.'

Would the Empress forgive him if she woke up then?

Darryl thought to himself; he was about to leave.

Sigh...

As soon as he turned around, he heard the Empress sighed softly.

F*ck!

That shocked Darryl; his soul almost floated away.

‘Sh*t! Has the Empress noticed me?’

Darryl dared not move an inch or turn around to look backward. He could feel his heart pounding through his throat.

“Emperor...”

Just as Darryl felt nervous, he heard the Empress cry softly again.

“Emperor, do you know that I’ve been so tired in the past few years... I miss you so much...”

‘What’s going on?’

Darryl reacted. When he turned around to look, he was utterly dumbfounded.

The Empress laid on the soft bed with her eyes closed. She seemed asleep, but she continued to talk in her sleep. “In all these years, I have dealt with the continent’s affairs with all my heart. The South Cloud World has risen, and the people are living there happily. I did not embarrass you, but I feel so lonely, and I miss the days when you were around...”

Darryl frowned, but he finally understood something.

A few years ago, Darryl had also entered the Empress' bedchamber by mistake. At that time, the Empress was drinking alone, and she felt incredibly lonely. She was drunk, and she had mistakenly thought Darryl was her husband. Fortunately, Darryl was witty; he did not reveal the truth, and he managed to escape.

It was apparent that the Empress had mistaken him as her husband again.

It seemed like the Empress had a great relationship with the former Emperor. She even met her husband in her dreams at night.

What?

Suddenly, something attracted Darryl's attention.

He noticed that there was a delicate-looking vial on the table next to the soft bed. The vial was amber in color, and it was crystal clear with a few pills in it. A delicate fragrant scent wafted out of it.

F*ck...

Darryl walked forward slowly; he picked up the vial and studied it. His heart skipped a beat; he was shocked.

'This seems to be an extremely rare psychedelic drug.'

There was a record in the Infinite Elixir Manual about the Illusion Pill—it was a unique psychedelic drug. After one took it, one would begin to hallucinate and see the person they longed to see.

The materials used for refining the Illusion Pill were extremely rare. Darryl had thought about refining it, but the materials were too difficult to find, so he had given up. He did not expect the South Cloud Empress would have the ready-made Illusion Pill.

The Empress must have missed the Emperor so badly that she took the Illusion Pill before bed to meet him in her dream.

No wonder she talked in her sleep.

Darryl's guess was correct. The South Cloud Empress had taken the Illusion Pill. As a woman, it was a significant burden on her shoulder to be in charge of the entire South Cloud World. In addition, the North Moana Army attacks had exhausted her. Hence, she took the pill before bed with hopes to meet the Emperor in her dream to talk to him.

2032

Darryl breathed a sigh of relief and turned around to leave after he understood the situation.

Since the Empress was only talking in her dream because she was hallucinating, why would he be afraid of that?

“Your Majesty!”

Before he could turn around to leave, he saw the Empress’s body turned sideways, and her jade-like hand grabbed Darryl’s arm.

The Empress had begun to hallucinate under the influence of the Illusion Pill. Unfortunately, she did not realize that she had caught Darryl’s arm by accident.

“Your Majesty, the North Moana is coming for us. Today, we had managed to defend against their invasion, but I know that Yang Jian will definitely not give up—he will be back. I am so scared—” The Empress held Darryl’s arm as she mumbled to herself.

The Empress who was talking to the Emperor in her illusion was no longer her usual intimidating self. Instead, she looked gentle and weak, just like any other woman, which was a pitiful scene.

However, Darryl was not in the mood to appreciate the Empress’ gentleness—he was anxious.

‘D*mn it! The Empress grabbed me so tightly, and if I force myself out of her grip, I’ll risk waking her up from the illusion. But what if she grabs onto me all night long if I don’t break free?’

'How would I explain myself when the eunuchs and the palace maids come in the morning?'

Darryl dared not move; his palms were sweaty.

"Your Majesty!"

The Empress continued to speak softly. "Do you know that it was Sister's Prince Consort, Darryl, who managed to repel the North Moana Army today? He's the Elysium Gate's Sect Master from the World Universe Continent. I am going to hand the military power over to him, and I hope that he can defeat the North Moana Army..."

The Empress wrapped her arms around Darryl tightly. She could not hide her excitement. "Your Majesty, if you were still here, I would never need to be in such a difficult situation..."

The Empress was overwhelmed with emotions when she said that. Her delicate face looked gentle as she drew close to Darryl's chest.

Hiss!

Darryl drew in a breath of cold air as he looked at the perfectly curved Empress in his arms.

When the Empress hugged him so tightly, the unique scent on her body made Darryl's mind go blank—he was utterly stunned.

The Empress, guided by her emotions, pouted her red lips and kissed Darryl.

The Empress was utterly trapped in the illusion, and she thought that Darryl was the Emperor, so she let herself loose.

Buzz!

Darryl felt like he had been electrocuted; his brain buzzed, and he was stupefied.

Sh*t!

Finally, Darryl reacted, and he said, “Your Majesty, Your Majesty, wake up...”

Even though it was a heavy offence to break into the Empress’ room, albeit accidentally, it was a capital crime to take advantage of the Empress. He could be beheaded.

After he weighed the pros and cons, Darryl decided to wake the Empress.

However, the Empress was so emotional that she had completely lost her mind. There was no way she could wake up.

Mwah!

The next second, before Darryl could react, the Empress kissed him passionately.

“Your Majesty, Your Majesty?” Darryl was in a daze. He tried his best to wake the Empress.

However, the Empress failed to hear Darryl's voice; she hugged Darryl tightly.

Darryl had no idea how long it took, but the Empress fell asleep peacefully after it was over.

Darryl sat next to her with mixed feelings. 'No, I have to go. What if the Empress kills me when she wakes up?'

'I should leave before she wakes up!'

Darryl quickly put on his clothes and left the room quietly.

It was dawn, and the sky had brightened slowly.

Darryl frowned. It was too early for him to go to the city gate and manage the army.

Darryl looked at the next room, and he hesitated momentarily before he walked into the room.

'I've entered the Empress' room by mistake. This one must be Quincy's.'

As soon as he pushed the door and got into the room, Darryl was stunned by the scene in front of him. He drew in a deep breath.

Quincy wore a white dress as she sat on a chair; her delicate face looked tired.

It was apparent that Quincy had not slept all night.

“Darryl!”

Quincy’s trembled when she saw Darryl. She bit her lips and said, “Why are you back so late? Where did you go all night?”

Quincy’s tone was cold, but her heart pounded, and she was very nervous.

Yes, Quincy had stayed up all night.

She had lost a bet with Darryl, and she was meant to be at Darryl’s beck and call. Quincy was depressed. As the eldest princess, she had always been served by the others. When did she ever serve someone else?

After she lost the bet, Quincy had no choice but to keep her promise and waited in the room for Darryl to return.

That night, Quincy had been very nervous. She was afraid that Darryl would be excessively demanding when he was back. She dared not sleep and had been waiting all night for Darryl. It was almost dawn before she saw Darryl.

2033

Quincy no longer felt as nervous as before—she only felt anger.

The b*stard had made her nervous all night for nothing, and she waited all night for nothing.

D*mn it!

Darryl's heart skipped a beat when he felt her anger; he got a little nervous.

Quincy could not have found out about what had happened between him and the Empress, could she? After all, the two rooms were not far too away from each other.

Quincy did hear what the Empress said the previous night. However, she also knew that the Empress often took the Illusion Pill to see the Emperor in her dreams, so Quincy thought that the Empress was having an intimate time with the Emperor.

“I—”

Darryl scratched his head and said with a smile, “I was arranging for the army to deploy the defense mechanism for Lilydale City.”

Darryl did not look at Quincy in the eye when he said that.

After all, he did not even have the confidence to lie after he had done something wrong.

Quincy snorted coldly and said, “Did you need one night to do that? I think you did it on purpose; you deliberately made me wait for you in the room all night, right?”

Quincy’s tone became colder. “Don’t think that you can do whatever you want with me even though you’ve won the bet. You can sleep in my room before we are married, but don’t think that you can take advantage of me.”

Darryl breathed a sigh of relief after he heard that.

She was angry because she had been waiting for him all night for nothing.

Darryl smiled as he looked at Quincy. “Your Highness, you’re treating me as an outsider when you said that. Look, you have called me hubby. We’re living in the same room. We are a family. Why’re you so indifferent toward me? What kind of logic is this? Come, let me take a good look...”

Darryl walked toward her slowly, with a sordid smile on his face.

“You—”

Quincy’s body trembled. She stood up quickly and said nervously, “What are you trying to do?”

‘This b*stard! Is he trying to do something?’

However, Darryl merely went past her and laid on the bed. He stretched his body and said, “Your Highness, you promised to be at my service. I’m exhausted from the work I put in to deploy the defence

mechanism just now. Go and bring me a basin of water to wash my face...”

Darryl had a smirk on his face when he said that; he had put up a bossy front.

He laughed discreetly.

It was nice to have the dignified princess at his service.

The truth was that Darryl did not want to do anything with Quincy; he only wanted to see her reaction. Quincy always appeared like an aloof goddess in front of everyone. He thought that it would be priceless for the princess to be at his service.

Quincy’s body trembled.

‘This b*stard even asked me to bring him water to wash his face.’

However, she knew that she had to play by his rules if she had lost the bet. Quincy said nothing more. She stomped her feet and went to fetch a basin of water.

Darryl smiled triumphantly and washed his face. He felt refreshed.

“Your Highness!”

Then, Darryl sat on the bed lazily as he smiled at Quincy. “Your hubby’s legs are sore; come and give me a massage...”

Quincy blushed. She almost blew her top as she glared indignantly at Darryl. “Darryl, don’t go too far.”

Quincy trembled. She was the eldest princess. When had she massaged anyone?

“Your Highness.” Darryl smiled slightly and said, “You have to admit defeat after you lost the bet. Besides, I only asked you to massage my legs. I didn’t even ask you to do anything else. So why do you say I went too far?”

“You—”

Quincy was in a rage. She wanted to refute him, but she did not know what to say.

After all, Darryl was right; it was nothing at all to massage his legs.

Quincy bit her lips and said coldly, “Fine; I’ll do it.” Then, Quincy walked toward him.

She crouched in front of Darryl, balled her palms into fists and massaged Darryl’s legs gently.

It felt so nice.

Darryl enjoyed it very much as he could admire Quincy’s curves from such a short reach. He was unspeakably joyful.

He laughed discreetly.

The dignified eldest princess was actually massaging his legs—that could be a lifelong dream for any other man.

Bang...

Just as Darryl felt proud, Quincy raised her hand and sealed two of Darryl's acupoints without warning. She was so fast that it was like a lightning move.

Of the two acupoints, one was the Motionless Acupoint, and the other was the most sensitive Numbness acupoint.

D*mn it!

Darryl could not react at all; his body was frozen, and he could not move. Immediately after that, he felt sore and numb all over his body. It was an uncomfortable feeling, like an accidental electric shock.

“You—”

The perplexed Darryl looked at Quincy as his voice trembled. “Your Highness, what did you do to my acupoints? Do you want to murder your hubby? Release them...”

2034

Darryl sweated profusely. F*ck! He felt uncomfortable as his Numbing Acupoint was sealed.

Quincy smiled and said softly, “Didn’t you say that you are tired and that you want to relieve your fatigue? So I pressed on your Numbing Acupoint to help you relax.”

She was beaming, but her eyes looked like she had finally avenged herself.

Without waiting for Darryl’s response, Quincy said indifferently, “Take your time to enjoy it, and I will go and check on the situation outside.”

Quincy left the room without looking back after she said that.

‘Darryl—what a b*stard! Dream on if you want me to be at your beck and call.’

F*ck!

Darryl watched helplessly as Quincy left the room.

Quincy was too mean. Not only did she refuse to be at Darryl’s service, she even sealed his acupoints when he did not pay any attention.

Darryl wasted no time. He quickly mustered his internal energy to release those acupoints on his own.

Even though it was not fatal to seal the Numbing Acupoint, it had felt like extreme torture. Ordinary people would not be able to bear it.

Finally, two hours later, Darryl had managed to release his sealed acupoints.

Darryl took a deep breath and rejoiced discreetly. Fortunately, he had pure energy that had effectively helped him release his acupoints without suffering for a few more hours.

Darryl's eyes flashed playfully when he thought of Quincy.

"Okay, Quincy, I asked you to massage my legs, and you sealed my acupoints instead. Okay, let's play slowly. I'll entertain you."

As soon as he said that, a loud noise came from the direction of the city gate.

At the same time, a palace maid rushed into the room; her face was pale. She said to Darryl, "Prince Consort, the North Moana Army is here again. Your Majesty wants you to hurry and go there immediately!"

'What?'

Darryl was stunned, and then he chuckled.

'This Yang Jian is really persistent. He lost so badly yesterday, but he dares to come again today?' Darryl did not think much about it as he walked out of the room.

When he arrived at the city gates, he saw the Empress, Quincy, and hundreds of officials.

Quincy's expression was indifferent when she saw Darryl; it was as if she had not seen him.

“Darryl!”

The Empress was delighted when she saw the man. Then, she said, “We'll need you to stop the North Moana Army again today.”

The Empress' eyes were full of admiration when she said that.

The Empress' beautiful face was rosy and radiant after the event last night. However, her eyebrows frowned as she was a little worried.

At that time, the Empress did not realize that she had been in an intimate relationship with Darryl when she thought that he was the Emperor the previous night.

Darryl breathed a sigh of relief when he noticed the Empress' expression.

‘The Empress seems to have no idea that I had gone into her room by mistake last night, let alone what had happened between us.’

Darryl was relieved.

He smiled. “Your Majesty, don't worry. Leave everything to me.”

Darryl discharged his internal energy and levitated into mid-air. He glanced around the outside of the city and saw that the North Moana Army had arrived outside the city gate.

Yang Jian stood proudly in his golden armor at the forefront of the army—he looked magnificent as always.

Ambrose, Eira, and the other generals stood behind him, and they were all determined and solemn.

Darryl was very relaxed after he saw the lineup. He laughed at Yang Jian. “Grandmaster Erlang, you’re so thick-skinned. You ran away so miserably yesterday, and yet you’re here again today. Why? Have you not lost badly enough?”

Darryl had not noticed Zhang Jue, who stood behind Yang Jian.

Darryl thought that if he managed to defeat the North Moana Army again that day, he must find a way to keep Ambrose and Eira with him. After all, they were his family, and it was not appropriate for them to continue to meet each other on the battlefield.

Yang Jian was so angry when he heard what Darryl had said. He stared at Darryl and yelled, “Boy, don’t be so proud. We don’t know who’ll win today.”

Yang Jian could not wait to charge forward and kill Darryl, but he held back from a rash decision.

Yang Jian knew that Darryl was very cunning, and he was relying on the Military Adviser’s command that day, so he could not be impulsive.

Yang Jian suppressed his anger and tilted his head to look at Zhang Jue. Then, he said politely, "Military Advisor, we shall put our trust in you today."

2035

Yang Jian had intentionally described the situation in detail to Zhang Jue the night before; he also mentioned Darryl's Thousand Woods Mystery Formation. After he learned about the situation, Zhang Jue chuckled and assured Yang Jian that he could handle it.

Zhang Jue was also familiar with the Thousand Woods Mystery Formation.

"Your Majesty, don't worry. You can just watch the battle from the side and see how I break Lilydale City's defense," Zhang Jue responded plainly before he raised himself into the air.

"Everybody, listen to my order! Attack!" A few cold words echoed from Zhang Jue's mouth—he was not loud, but his voice spread throughout Lilydale City.

"Attack!"

The North Moana Army issued an earth-shattering howl upon the command, and they went forth like a tide toward Lilydale City.

What?

Darryl was stunned, and he watched Zhang Jue in surprise. He was puzzled.

'Who is this? I didn't see him yesterday. Is he their new recruit?'

Darryl stopped brooding about it and restored a confident smile on his face.

No matter who Yang Jian had, it would still be difficult to break his Thousand Woods Mystery Formation as it was an extremely clever formation. There were only a handful of people in the nine continents who knew how to unravel the formation.

Darryl raised his commander's badge and shouted his command at the South Cloud Army. "Everyone, set up the formation! I told you in detail last night where you should be. Quickly!"

The South Cloud Army moved swiftly. They quickly deployed a huge Thousand Woods Mystery Formation upon Darryl's command.

Darryl laughed.

He was pleased with the formation. Darryl looked at Yang Jian and then at Zhang Jue with a triumphant smirk on his face.

The Thousand Woods Mystery Formation that Darryl had set up was almost invulnerable.

Even if Yang Jian had gotten guidance, he would not even be able to crack the advanced formation and take Lilydale City down.

Zhang Jue frowned when he saw the scene before his eyes; he gave Darryl an approving look.

'This kid sure knows the Thousand Woods Mystery Formation.'

The formation might be incomprehensible to others, but it was an easy task for Zhang Jue.

Zhang Jue's mouth curled upward to reveal a faint smile, and then he commanded, "Listen to my order, 50 thousand soldiers on the left go 100 steps south, 50 thousand soldiers on the right go 100 steps north, and 50 thousand soldiers at the front take 50 steps backward. Get into position and start attacking!"

The North Moana Army, which the South Cloud Army had initially encircled, changed its formation according to Zhang Jue's order without any hesitation.

In an instant, the South Cloud Army's large formation had a few gaps.

'What?'

Darryl, the Empress and all the other officials were shocked to see what had happened.

They saw a fixed formation that went into chaos after the North Moana Army shifted their positions.

Darryl was startled; he stared wide-eyed at Zhang Jue in shock.

He was taken aback. 'F*ck, who the hell was that? He knew the way to crack the Thousand Woods Mystery Formation!'

Apart from shock, Darryl felt bitter as he had been careless.

The Empress was even more astounded; color had disappeared from her delicate face.

'Is this God's will?'

The Empress knew that despite Darryl's resourcefulness, it was impossible to defend against the North Moana Army's invasion all the time. After all, the opponent's commander was the renowned Grandmaster Erlang.

However, she did not expect they would lose so quickly.

"Your Majesty!"

Zhang Jue, who was suspended in mid-air, cracked a smile. Then, he turned around and shouted at Yang Jian, "The enemy's formation has been broken, and it's time for Your Majesty to flex your power."

Prior to sending the troops, Zhang Jue had reached a consensus with Yang Jian that once he had broken Darryl's formation, Yang Jian would attack immediately.

Yang Jian threw his head back and laughed; he was overjoyed. "Military Adviser, you're indeed a master. You've unraveled the formation!"

Yang Jian's eyes flickered with a cold, menacing look. He pointed his Tri-point Double-edged saber at Lilydale City and roared, "Listen up. Break into Lilydale City and wipe out all the enemy forces; no one is to be spared..."

Yang Jian mustered his internal energy and discharged a terrifying aura as he dashed toward the South Cloud Army.

"What?"

Yang Jian was like a warlord descended from heaven as he raised his Tri-point Double-edged saber, and a dozen South Cloud soldiers fell in a pool of blood. There were continued screams from the South Cloud Army. In the blink of an eye, the South Cloud Army had completely disintegrated!

2036

Darryl was shocked and furious to see the South Cloud soldiers fall, one after another. He shouted in a rage, “Everyone, don’t panic! Resist with all your strength.”

Darryl went right into the battlefield to help the South Cloud army. While he went all out to kill the enemies, Darryl continued to shout commands and prepared to deploy other formations to hinder the North Moana Army.

However, Yang Jian did not give Darryl a chance to rework his formation at all. Within a few minutes, Yang Jian had led his men to the foot of the city gate.

“Withdraw!”

When he realized that more South Cloud soldiers had fallen in pools of blood, Darryl knew that Lilydale City was gone. He yelled, “Hurry! Protect Her Majesty! Retreat and evacuate Lilydale City.”

After he said that, he managed to deflect several enemies in front of him. Then, he flew upward and returned to the top of the city gate.

Darryl did not want to withdraw.

However, he had no choice. The opponent had broken his formation. Besides, Yang Jian’s strength was so strong; they could not fight back then.

Pitter-patter...

The officials panicked, and they immediately formed a circle of protection around the Empress to escort her down the city tower. Then, the army escorted the group to evacuate Lilydale City quickly.

Boom!

Immediately after they were evacuated from Lilydale City, the city gate was blasted to pieces. Then, the few hundred thousand North Moana soldiers poured into Lilydale City like a wave in the ocean.

“All hail Military Adviser!”

“All hail Your Majesty!”

After they occupied Lilydale City, the few hundred thousand North Moana soldiers cheered in unison. They were so loud.

Yang Jian was still suspended in mid-air; a smile appeared at the corners of his lips, and his majestic voice spread throughout Lilydale City. “Listen up. We’ll take a rest here. Enjoy the city’s fine wine and women. We’ll set out tomorrow morning.”

“Thank you, Your Majesty!” The entire army shouted in unison.

Eira went to Lilydale City with Ambrose. She realized that Lilydale City’s citizens were left homeless after the North Moana Army burned and looted their properties. She bit her lips; she was heartbroken.

She wondered if she should persuade her brother and master to leave Yang Jian since the man could not care less about the lives of ordinary civilians.

Eira regretted joining the army with Ambrose.

If it were not for her, her master would not stay to help Yang Jian to invade Lilydale City.

...

On the other side.

Darryl and the South Cloud Army escorted the Empress and hundreds of officials to the Royal City. They did not even make a pitstop during the journey.

Darryl had managed to regain his strength in two days; he continued to lead his army to continue the fight against the North Moana Army. During that period, he displayed all of his military talents and even asked for help from Pang Tong. However, he was still defeated in the end.

Zhang Jue was initially a vicious man with harsh methods. When he led the Yellow Turban Rebellions in the battles, he had used many malicious methods to harm the civilians and created an intense sentiment of anger.

After he was imprisoned for a thousand years, Zhang Jue's attitude had changed. However, he still used many inhumane methods to help Yang Jian in the battle.

Whenever he attacked a city, Zhang Jue would ask the North Moana Army to capture civilians and use them as human shields in front of the army to advance slowly.

In Zhang Jue's view, one should not have the benevolence of a woman if one wanted to achieve great things in life, and that coincided with Yang Jian's opinion.

However, Darryl and Pang Tong were compassionate people. They cared about the lives of civilians, and so, their hands were tied. Therefore, Darryl continued to lose the battle.

For two days, Zhang Jue had used ruthless methods to destroy a dozen cities in a row—things had been smooth and easy for the North Moana Army.

In the hall in the South Cloud Palace...

The Empress looked exhausted and anxious, and Quincy, who was next to her, wore a serious expression on her face.

Darryl and hundreds of officials stood in front of the throne. All of them looked disheartened, and they were quiet.

2037

There were reports that the North Moana Army had camped on a mountain dozens of kilometers north of the South Cloud Royal City. After a few hours of rest, they would probably attack the Royal City. Once the Royal City had fallen, the entire South Cloud World would be completely finished.

“Everyone!”

The Empress looked around her; she was worried and sorrowful. “Is there any way to stop the North Moana Army?”

The civil and military officials looked at each other, and no one came forward to make a suggestion. The entire hall fell silent.

Alright!

The Empress breathed a long sigh as she looked at Darryl. “Not even you, Darryl?”

There was a glimmer of hope in her eyes when she said that.

Darryl smiled bitterly and shook his head. He said, “Your Majesty, I can’t do anything as well.”

Darryl was dejected.

Since he became a cultivator, Darryl had been extremely confident in everything he did, especially about formation techniques. Darryl believed that he could be the most well-learned person in formations.

After all, he had the Bai Qi Formations, which included all the formations in the world. Therefore, any opponent who confronted him was simply looking for death.

After he knew that his opponent was Zhang Jue, the leader of the Yellow Turban Rebellion during the Three Kingdoms period, Darryl knew that he had been overconfident about the whole thing.

During the Three Kingdoms period thousands of years ago, Zhang Jue led the Yellow Turban Rebellion and caused great turmoil to the world. There was no other force that could fight against the Yellow Turban Rebellion. It was Lu Bu who had joined forces with other elites to defeat Zhang Jue.

Even Lu Bu needed help to subdue Zhang Jue. So how could Darryl take him down single-handedly?

Furthermore, Zhang Jue was a ruthless man, and he did not care about the life and death of other people. Darryl was not the same as him.

Darryl felt bitter in his heart.

It was over.

The Empress shuddered when she heard Darryl's answer. Her beautiful face was ashen, and her heart was completely broken.

However, Darryl could not help her; the South Cloud World was finished.

The next second, the Empress breathed a long sigh and said softly, “If this is the case, then we shall give the South Cloud World to Yang Jian.”

The Empress took the royal jade seal and handed it to the eunuch beside her. “Send an envoy to hand this royal jade seal to Yang Jian immediately. Tell him that we will not carry on with this battle; we do not want to hurt more innocent people.”

The royal jade seal was a symbol of the Emperor’s status in the South Cloud World. The Empress was ready to hand it over—it meant she had given up the South Cloud World.

The Empress might have seemed weak, but her mind was strong. Otherwise, she would not have become the Empress.

In her heart, she would never surrender, let alone submit to Yang Jian. The only way she could help under the circumstances was to hand the royal jade seal over and give up on the South Cloud World. That was the only way they could avoid the scourge of war.

“Sister!”

Quincy, who was next to the Empress, became anxious. Finally, she said, “You can’t hand the royal jade seal to him. Maybe there is another way out...”

The royal jade seal had been passed down for thousands of years in the South Cloud World, and it was a piece of treasure that had belonged to all the previous Emperors. It was a symbol of the supreme authority of the South Cloud World Royal. So how could they give it to Yang Jian?

Quincy wanted to say something else, but she was interrupted by the Empress.

“Sister, don’t say anything else.” The Empress sighed softly; her beautiful face looked bitter. “Perhaps this is our fate. What else can we do if we don’t hand the royal jade seal to them?”

That could be true...

Quincy suddenly felt sad to hear that. The North Moana Army was unstoppable, and Yang Jian—Grandmaster Erlang—had the unfathomable power to shake the world. There was no way for the South Cloud World to win the war. If there were a possibility, South Cloud World would not have lost so many cities.

However, Quincy was unwilling to give up.

The next second, Quincy’s gaze fell on Darryl, and she growled, “Darryl, it’s all your fault! If you hadn’t angered Yang Jian, the South Cloud World would not have ended in such an ill fate.”

2038

F*ck!

Darryl was taken aback for a moment after he heard Quincy's statement. He did not know how to react to that.

Then, Darryl finally recovered his senses; he smiled bitterly at Quincy. "Your Highness, how can you blame this on me? Yang Jian would still conquer the South Cloud World even without me."

Quincy was very interesting. She blamed Darryl because she hated him.

That was too unreasonable!

Darryl saw the Empress hand the royal jade seal to the eunuch; they were prepared to send it to Yang Jian.

What?

The royal jade seal immediately caught Darryl's attention. He had not cared to look at it before that. However, when the eunuch passed by him, he discovered that the royal jade seal was crystal clear, and it gleamed in dazzling colors.

Oh, f*ck!

Darryl was extremely shocked, but he was also delighted on the inside.

He laughed discreetly.

It looked like the royal jade seal was a Heaven Repairing Stone—the colorful stone that Empress Nuwa used to patch the sky. Its shape coincided with the concave on the fourth floor of Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower!

“Hold on!”

Darryl stopped the eunuch immediately as he studied the royal jade seal.

Even though he did not hold it in his hand, Darryl could feel the jade seal’s unique spiritual power. Besides that, it also exuded a sense of chilliness—even the surrounding temperature had dropped a little.

Suddenly, the hundreds of officials in the main hall focused their attention on Darryl; they were all stunned.

‘What is Darryl doing? Does he want to grab the royal jade seal?’

“Darryl!”

Quincy’s expression immediately changed; her eyebrows furrowed as she rebuked coldly, “What are you doing?”

‘Darryl is such a b*stard! The South Cloud World is in danger. He can’t even help us, and now he wants to grab the South Cloud World Royal’s treasure?’

Like everyone around them, Quincy also believed that Darryl wanted to steal the royal jade seal. Even the Empress frowned slightly at Darryl.

Darryl did not care about everyone's gazes. He sighed before he smiled. Then, he said to Quincy, "Your Highness, don't be so nervous. Why do you want to give such a good thing to Yang Jian? You might as well give it to me."

Then, Darryl continued in a relaxed tone, "Since we've decided to give up the South Cloud World, let's just leave. Why should we give Yang Jian something so good?"

Yang Jian's ambition was to unify the nine continents. So he would not be attracted to a royal jade seal.

Besides, he urgently needed the royal jade seal; he could open the fourth floor of Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower with it...

"You—"

Quincy was enraged after she heard that; she stamped her feet furiously. "This is the South Cloud World Royals' treasure; why should we give it to you?"

The Empress also spoke softly, "Darryl, I understand what you mean. I don't want to hand the royal jade seal over to him as well. However, if we simply leave, Yang Jian would vent his anger on the civilians. At least with this royal jade seal, he would not be so angry, and perhaps we can save more innocent people that way."

Then, the Empress said in a severe tone, "When I hand this to Yang Jian, I will ask him to treat the South Cloud World civilians well. Therefore, I am giving him this royal jade seal not to protect my life but

to protect the lives of all South Cloud World civilians. Do you understand?”

Her words, though they sounded soft and weak, had a strong sense of righteousness.

That was right—the Empress would hand the royal jade seal over for the sake of the South Cloud World civilians.

Darryl put away his smile as he looked admiringly at the determined Empress.

He had never expected a woman would be so committed to the country and its civilians. Her heart had gone out to her country and her people.

She was worthy of her title, indeed.

2039

Darryl pondered that as he stopped smiling. He looked at the Empress and said, "Your Majesty, you are wrong. Yang Jian may be a gentleman on the surface, but he is a cunning and despicable villain. If you hand this royal jade seal to him, he will only agree to your conditions verbally, but he will never honor his words after he gains control over the South Cloud World."

As soon as Emperor Hou Yi died, Yang Jian had usurped the throne almost immediately and proclaimed himself the next Emperor. He claimed to have found out the truth about Hou Yi's death, but what had happened in the end? He merely wanted to capture Chang Er and forced her to be his woman. Then, he began to send his troops to conquer other continents.

He was not someone who would honor his words, so he was a villain, was he not?

Err...

When she saw Darryl's serious expression, the Empress knew that he was not joking. She bit her lips and pondered her next move.

'That's true. What if Yang Jian turned back on his words? Would I not lose the royal jade seal for nothing?'

The Empress thought about that before she looked at Darryl and asked, "Why do you want the royal jade seal?"

"Of course, I can make use of it." Darryl felt anxious, but he said quickly, "Furthermore, I'm a Prince Consort. We are a family, so it's not

a loss to give it to me. Why would you want to give this advantage to Yang Jian, an outsider?”

Pooh!

Quincy immediately blushed, and she snarled, “Cut the crap. Who is your family?”

Quincy turned to the Empress and said, “Sister, don’t give it to him.”

Darryl asked her to prepare some water to wash his face and massage his legs that morning. Quincy remembered all of that, and there was a sentiment of hate in her heart. She did not care why he wanted the seal; she would never let him have it.

F*ck!

Darryl was speechless.

A saying went—a loving and compatible couple would achieve great things together. However, Quincy did everything contrary to Darryl. Darryl thought that he needed to educate her more in the future.

Darryl was depressed when he turned toward Quincy and said, “Your Highness, this is your fault—”

Quincy interrupted him before he could finish his words.

“Shut up! This royal jade seal is the treasure of our royal family. Even if we do not give it to Yang Jian, we will not give it to you either,” Quincy said coldly with a firm expression.

“|—”

“What? You should give up on the royal jade seal...”

The officials in the hall were perplexed by the scene, but none of them spoke.

The Princess and her Prince consort had an argument. However, it was their family affairs, so who would dare to interrupt them.

“Alright.”

Finally, the Empress raised her hand to stop the argument. “Darryl, Sister, stop quarrelling. We are no longer the royal family; why do we need this royal jade seal?”

The Empress looked at Darryl and said softly, “Since you need this royal jade seal, then I’ll give it to you.”

The eunuch handed the royal jade seal to Darryl hurriedly.

Darryl laughed discreetly.

He was extremely excited. He took the royal jade seal happily and brought out the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower. Then, he recited the spell to enlarge Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower silently.

Whoa!

Suddenly, the entire hall was in an uproar.

‘What kind of treasure is that? It could expand and contract...’

The Empress and Quincy shuddered; they were startled. They were dumbfounded as they stared at the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower.

Then, another shocking scene appeared.

Darryl stuck the royal jade seal between the gap of the tower's fourth floor. Subsequently, a glimmer of golden light shone through, and the royal jade seal was integrated into the pagoda's fourth floor.

Buzz!

Then, a tyrannical breath of aura surged from the tower. It permeated the hall, and before long, a group of figures came out from the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower's fourth floor!

2040

There were a hundred figures!

Darryl was inexplicably excited when he looked at the hundred people and felt the breath of aura coming off them.

Darryl clearly remembered that when he opened the first floor, there were a total of 500 people, including Pang Tong. When he opened the second floor, there were 200 people, including Yuan Tiangang. Whereas, on the third floor, there were 150 people, including Yang Jian's Senior Brother, Bradley Young.

Then, when he finally opened the fourth floor, he had a smaller number of people than before, but he believed that those people were extraordinary people, and they must have been some famous characters.

'Oh my goodness.'

The whole hall went into tumult in an instant. Whether it was the Empress, Quincy, or the hundreds of civil and military officials, they were all stupefied by the 100 elites in front of them.

They realized that each of the 100 people was powerful. There were at least more than a dozen of them who were in the Heaven Ascension level.

More than in the Heaven Ascension level! That was so powerful!

What shocked the Empress and everyone else, even more, was that after those 100 people appeared, most of them were extremely respectful to Darryl, some even called Darryl master servilely.

‘This... What the hell is going on?’

‘There were so many powerful people and they called Darryl their master?’

The Empress and Quincy exchanged looks. They were shaking and still recovering from the shock. They were at a loss for speech. The hundreds of civil and military officials were even more confused by the situation.

After a full ten seconds, the Empress reacted. She bit her lip and asked Darryl softly, “Darryl, they are...”

“Your Majesty.” Darryl smiled and explained, “My treasure here is called the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower. It contains many powerful people who appeared in history, but only the Heaven Repairing Stones can open it up. The royal jade seal is the Heaven Repairing Stones...”

‘What?’

The Empress was shocked to hear that. She stared blankly at Darryl.

Completely shocked.

‘The tower that Darryl took out was the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower?’

As the ruler of the South Cloud World, the Empress was knowledgeable. Of course, she knew about the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower. It was an ancient artifact with boundless divine power. It could subdue all living beings, so it is also called the Demon Trap Pagoda.

Over the past thousands of years, countless experts were taken into Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower and it had changed owners many times. The last owner of Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower appeared 500 years ago.

After that, the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower disappeared completely.

Unexpectedly, it appeared in Darryl's hands.

The Empress looked at Darryl closely, her eyes shining with a strange luster.

Darryl was indeed not an ordinary person. He even had the Seven Treasures Exquisite Tower. It seemed that she had made the right decision to insist on him being the Prince Consort to her sister.

Darryl walked quickly to the elites and asked a man with the appearance of a studious student. "Who are you? What identity were you before?"

The student smiled slightly and said, "Master, my name is Boris Jobs. I used to be.

.

Gosh, he turned out to be an official.

There were many more...

Darryl wanted to ask the next one, but suddenly his eyes flashed, and he turned his head to stare at Boris excitedly. "You... are you the grass sage, Boris?"

Darryl's voice was breaking apart.

Damn it.

To be honest, Darryl was a little puzzled but he wondered why an official would be locked up on the fourth floor. He turned out to be the famous grass sage, Boris Jobs.

In the Tang Dynasty, Boris was famous for his cursive style of writing and Li Bai was a poet. Pei Min was good with the sword, and together they all three became the three musketeers. Li Bai was a poet, Pei Min was a swordsman, and Boris was a cao sage.

These people were in the Tang Dynasty before and they could be worse.

Finally, Darryl reacted and patted Boris on the shoulder with a smile. "It turned out to be Mr. Jobs. I have heard your name for a long time. I also like calligraphy. Let's have a few drinks together and exchange some views..."

Darryl knew that Boris liked to write when he was drunk, and the words he wrote while drunk were wild and unruly. It was very beautiful.

"My pleasure, master," Boris responded modestly.

Darryl smiled and continued to ask others.

Darryl was getting more and more excited after asking more people. Because his guesses were right that those who were locked up on the fourth floor were all well-known elites in history. They were masters from the various fields who gathered together.