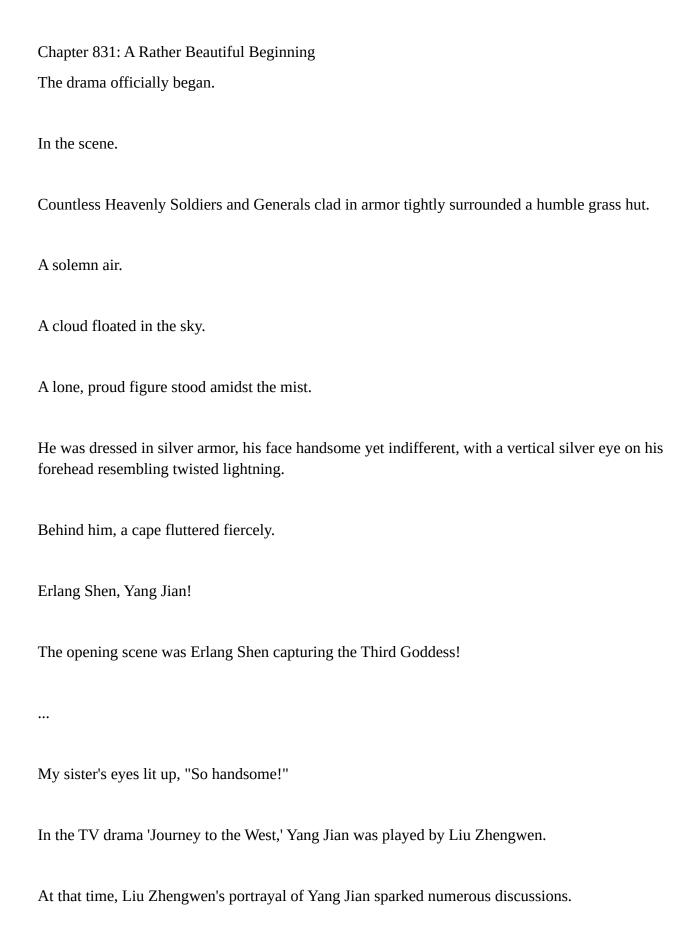
## All R. Artist 831



Everyone felt that Liu Zhengwen's Yang Jian, both in appearance and attractiveness, was truly outstanding. And in 'The Magic Lotus Lantern,' Liu Zhengwen continued the look from 'Journey to the West,' and with the director's specially arranged cool, impressive, and explosive shots, the visual impact was still very strong! Just then. A dog appeared beside Erlang Shen. My sister was instantly dumbfounded, turning to look at Antarctica, jokingly teasing, "You're playing Sky Roaring Dog again, and I lose immersion every time I see you!" "Woof!" Antarctica was smug, perking up. Lin Yuan laughed; Antarctica was brought by him to the crew. In fact, Antarctica only filmed for a few days before the production wrapped up. Most of the time, the character of Sky Roaring Dog was portrayed in human form by a specific actor. And as the camera continued. What the Magic Lotus Lantern was, the plot finally explained. It turned out to be a treasure that, reportedly, only someone with gentle mana could control, a truly precious item.

The Third Goddess only managed to contend with Yang Jian temporarily using this treasure.

Unfortunately, there was a problem with the treasure. She was no match for Yang Jian and ultimately, her brother, Erlang Shen, personally imprisoned her in Mount Hua, though her husband and son escaped with their lives.
Seeing this.
My sister said in dissatisfaction, "Why do I vaguely feel that this Yang Jian doesn't seem very kind?"
The Third Goddess having gentle mana indicates she's a good person.
Yang Jian imprisoning the Third Goddess, not sparing even his own sister, clearly sets him as the villain.
"Hard to say, the plot has just begun."
Mom shook her head, obviously an old hand at this.
My sister analyzed, "From the beginning, it seems that the Third Goddess violated heavenly laws by marrying a mortal and having a child. As the Judiciary God, Yang Jian had to capture his sister to enforce the law, it's just a matter of perspective, we'll understand as we watch more."
Indeed.
We'll find out as we watch.
In the first episode, when Yang Jian imprisoned his sister, nobody felt particularly shocked; after all, at this point, they had not yet developed feelings for the characters, and Yang Jian was the only one they were familiar with.
•••
In the second episode.

Chenxiang had grown up. Unlike his honest father, this Chenxiang was a bit mischievous and unexpectedly ended up in the underworld. The underworld judge prepared to throw him into the eighteen layers of hell for intruding into the underworld without permission. Black and White Impermanence were also demoted because of Chenxiang's involvement. Then. Erlang Shen entered the underworld and directly requested Yama to modify the Book of Life and Death, adding twenty years to Chenxiang's life. ... Mom said, "He still cares for his nephew." My sister remarked, "It seems that Yang Jian isn't a bad guy after all. He imprisoned his sister as a last resort. It's just that I'm a bit confused by the protagonist; it seems like Yang Jian isn't the main character of the drama, but Chenxiang is." "Chenxiang is the protagonist." My sister also nodded, "Yang Jian seems to be the secondary male lead? It's a bit different from the promotion." "Yes, but the plot is quite interesting." Mom seemed intrigued; the quality of 'The Magic Lotus Lantern' was quite appealing.

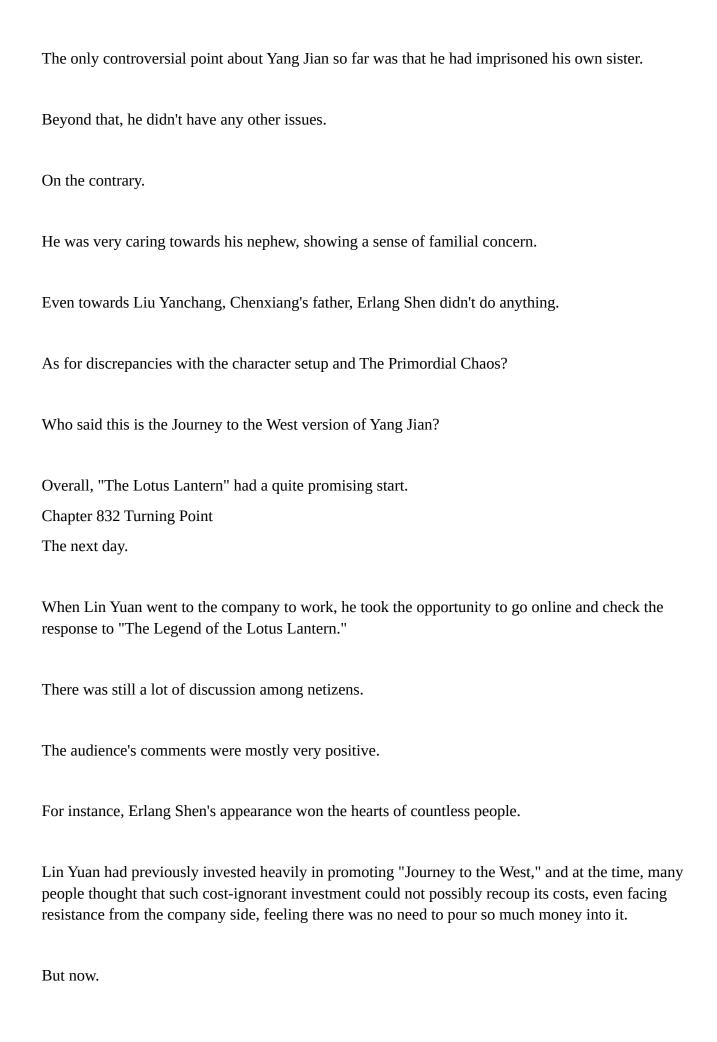
The sister next door nodded, "Could this plot be about the uncle helping Chenxiang in various

ways?"





Overall, the reactions to this drama were pretty good.
However, because just two episodes were released so far, people couldn't discern much more.
Of course.
Among the positive comments, there were some slightly harsh critiques.
"What's there to talk about in this crappy show? The first episode just has Yang Jian imprisoning his sister, which absolutely doesn't fit Erlang Shen's character!"
"That's ridiculous, since when did Erlang Shen become a Judiciary God?"
"Adaptation is not about making stuff up, Yi An should apologize. She has completely deviated from the setting of Erlang Shen, and it's so awkward for me to watch."
"I only recognize the Yang Jian from the Primordial Chaos!"
"If it were the Yang Jian from the Primordial Chaos, he definitely wouldn't imprison his sister; he'd fight the Heavenly Court for her!"
"The Erlang Shen in Journey to the West is just a joke."
Clearly, these were fans of The Primordial Chaos stirring up trouble.
However, the number of fans of The Primordial Chaos wasn't doing too well these days.
The provocative pacing was quickly suppressed by everyone's discussions about the plot.
The key point is
Everyone didn't think that the drama's portrayal of Yang Jian was in any way overdone.



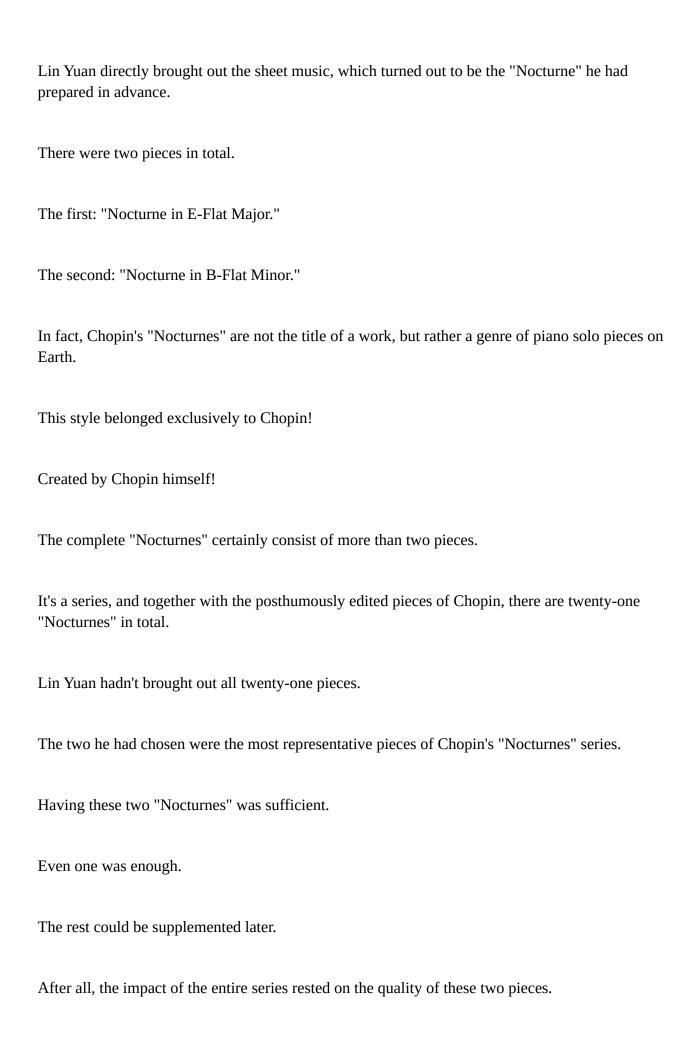
The related benefits had already become evident. Riding on the popularity of "Journey to the West," "The Legend of the Lotus Lantern," having only released two episodes, had gained considerable attention! On the three major video streaming platforms the company partnered with. "The Legend of the Lotus Lantern," with merely two episodes aired, almost simultaneously climbed to the top of the playback charts on several video websites! The daily streaming volume, all entering the top three! On one website, it even squeezed into the top spot on the daily charts! This was the trend of a hit drama; if there were no issues with the later plot, it was a surefire hit. "The beginning is very smooth." Lin Yuan quietly let out a sigh of relief. This was the first derivative work of "Journey to the West." In his plans, there would be other derivative works from "Journey to the West" in the future. If the first one failed, it might affect the other derivatives, so the current successful launch was indeed pleasing. However... The part of the drama that belonged to "Everlasting Regret" had not yet unfolded. The later plot was too heartwarming.

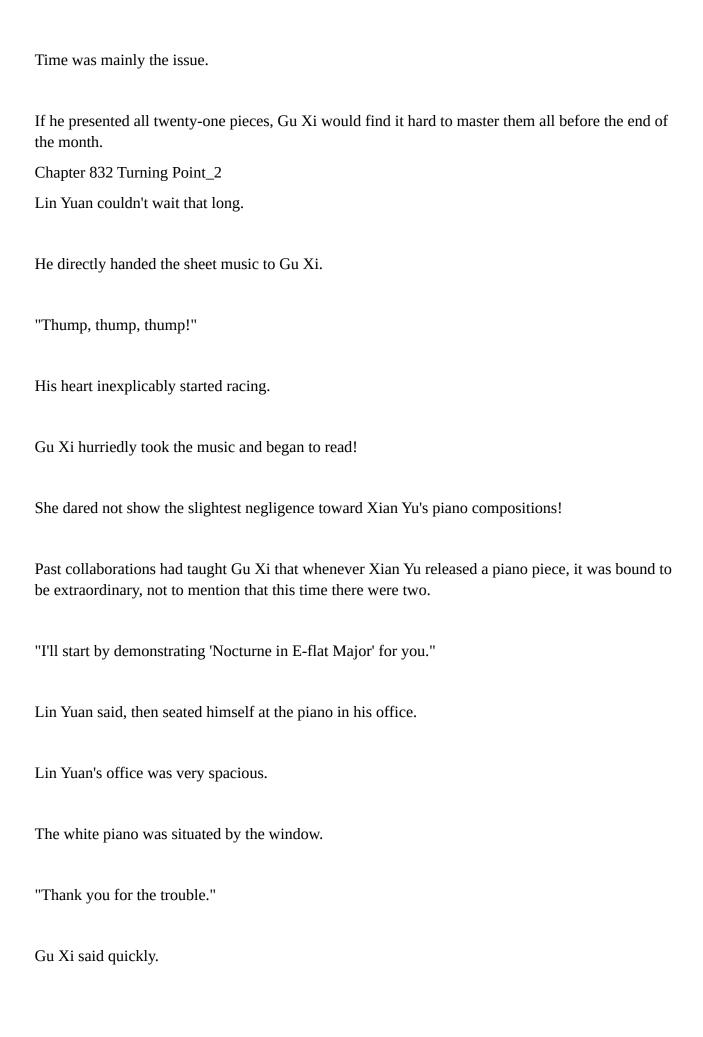
As to what the future held, Lin Yuan himself couldn't say for sure but was generally optimistic.
The Blue Star audience could even accept "Yang Xiaofan and Qin Tiange," so a drama that was more extreme in its playfulness shouldn't pose any problem, right?
Thinking this way.
Lin Yuan arrived at the company.
Inside his office.
A lovely figure sat on the couch, anxiously waiting.
Suddenly.
The door opened.
The lovely figure immediately stood up and looked towards Lin Yuan as he entered, her tone slightly excited:
"Teacher Admirable Fish!"
"Sorry for the wait."
Lin Yuan spoke and looked at the woman in front of him.
It was November by now, and there was a hint of chill in the air; the woman in front of him wore a slim-fitting white jacket for warmth, and underneath her delicate makeup, she had a perky nose and large eyes, the very image of a goddess.
Indeed, she was a goddess, the "Piano Goddess," to be precise.
That's right.

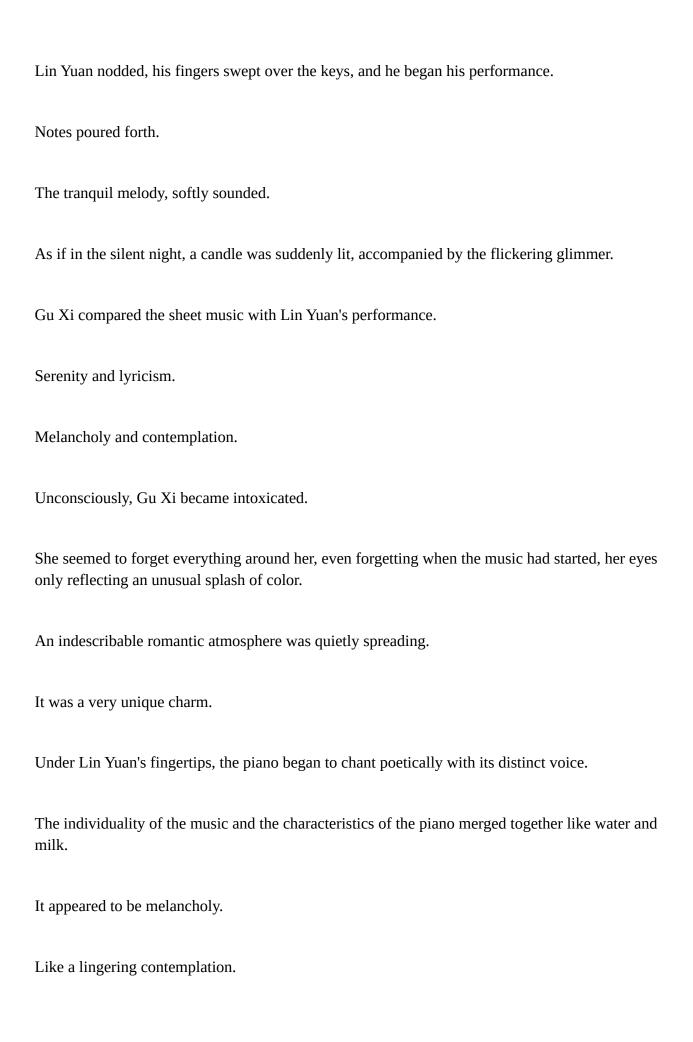
This woman was Gu Xi.
Gu Xi was summoned by Lin Yuan.
For the Song of Gods battle in December, Lin Yuan planned to perform "Nocturne."
Considering that Zhong Continent was sending two individuals, one of whom was Maestro, who excelled at classical piano, Lin Yuan had already decided to release Director Zhou's "Nocturne" while also taking Chopin's pieces out!
To let Chopin go up against Maestro!
And he had chosen Gu Xi as the performer.
After all, Gu Xi was the only pianist Lin Yuan was familiar with and whose level was sufficiently high.
Lin Yuan could also perform himself, yet his piano skills remained at a professional level.
Compared to the near-master level of Gu Xi, there was still a gap.
So, Lin Yuan thought it would be better to save his effort.
Just as one would choose a singer for a song.
Lin Yuan was certainly going to choose the most suitable pianist to play "Nocturne."
Since his own level wasn't enough to be the most suitable interpreter for "Nocturne" at the moment, there was no need to force it.
But speaking of which.

There was another reason for choosing Gu Xi: She had previously helped Lin Yuan out a bit. Sometimes when recording songs at Yu Dynasty, they would get her to handle the piano part. Any one of Chopin's "Nocturnes" could be considered a classic masterpiece. Lin Yuan could casually give any one of them to a capable pianist, and it would directly contribute to their career to a certain extent because performing this piece had huge benefits! And Lin Yuan chose to give this opportunity to Gu Xi. When it comes to matters of assistance, there must be reciprocity; otherwise, even if he didn't know any other piano masters, he would surely be able to find some if he tried. He believed there wouldn't be a pianist on Blue Star who could resist the charm of "Nocturne." "What is it that Teacher Admirable Fish wanted to see me about?" Gu Xi looked at Lin Yuan with eagerness and anticipation. Upon receiving his call, she immediately postponed many things and rushed to Starlight, even arriving before Lin Yuan. There were generally only two reasons when Lin Yuan sought out Gu Xi. The first reason was that Lin Yuan needed help; the second reason was that Lin Yuan had a new piece of music. "I have two pieces that I'd like you to perform."

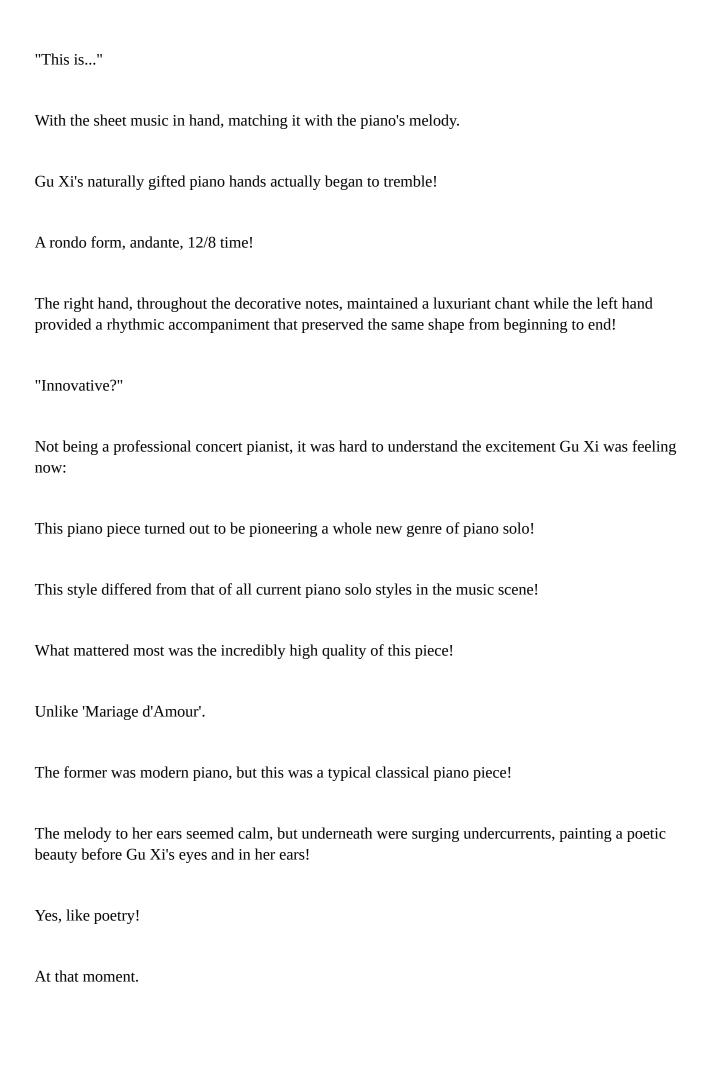
This time it was the second reason, and the one that Gu Xi was most looking forward to!







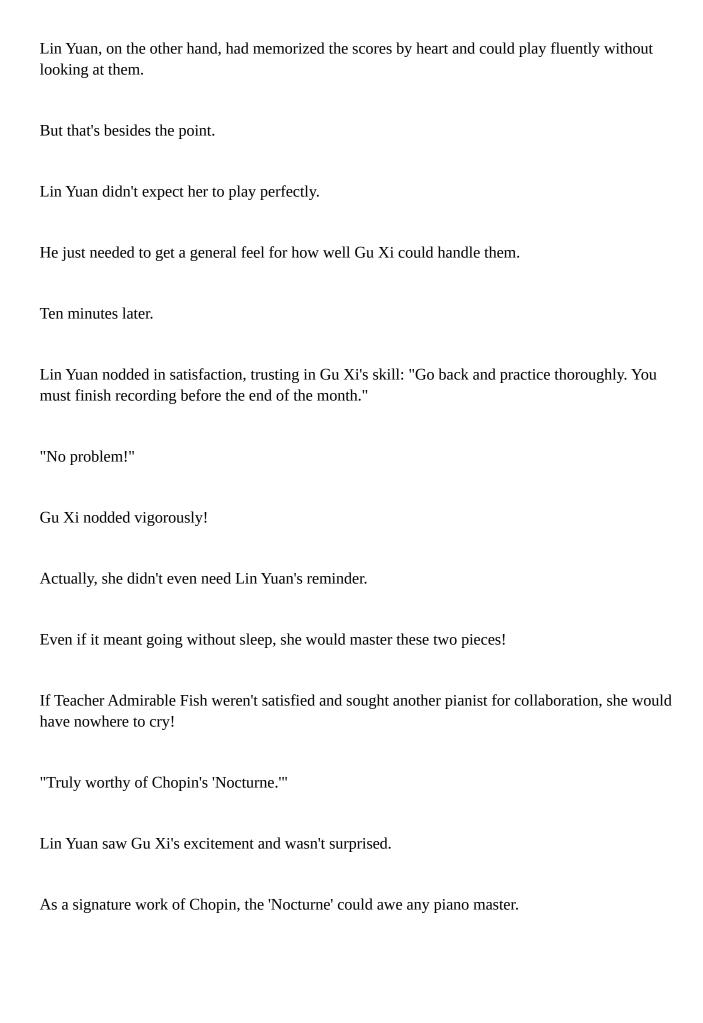
The rhythm was long and dreamlike.
In the piano's lower register, Lin Yuan's playing was fast then slow, unpredictable, as if a myriad of emotions were entwining!
His fingers danced upon the keys.
Unbeknownst to her, the steps became increasingly brisk.
This caused the piano's sound to grow more animated, as if it was spiraling upwards!
Within the intensifying melody, waves began to rise!
Excitement, sighs, exhilaration, and restlessness—a range of rich and subtle emotions emerged one after another in the music!
"Is this 'Nocturne'?"
The style of the night was so consistent, yet the mood within it was so different!
Nocturne!
Gu Xi stared at the name on the sheet music, the unusual hue in her eyes slowly blossoming, as if she were drunk!
And as the climax approached.
Her breathing became hurried, her chest heaving violently, and a flush quickly spread across her beautiful face!
It was as if her entire being was enveloped in a colossal shock!

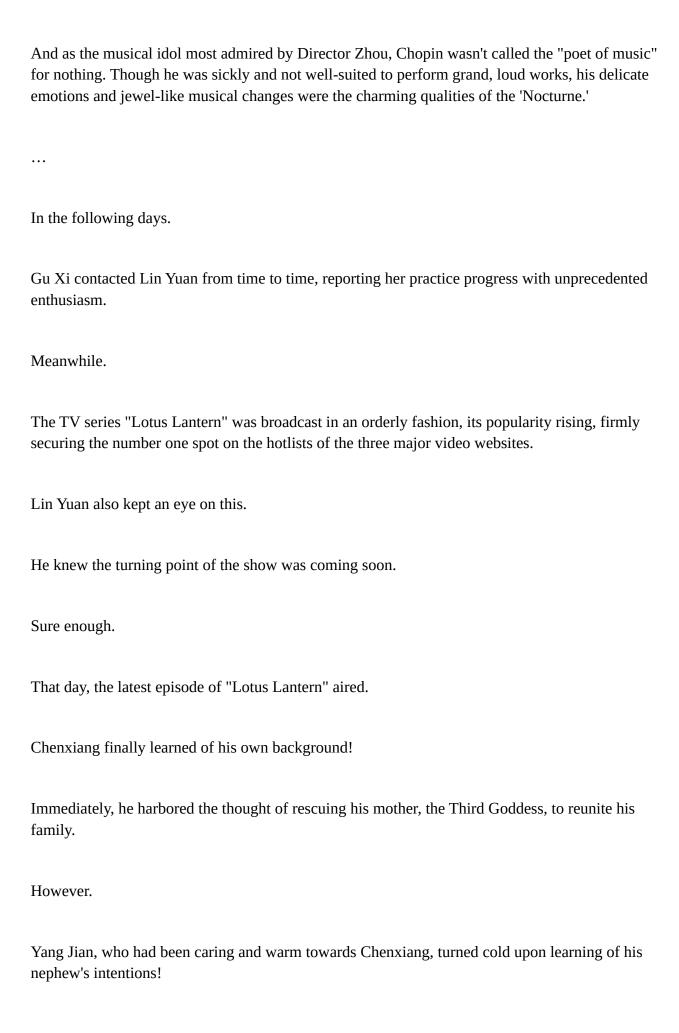


Lin Yuan, to Gu Xi's eyes, seemed like a piano poet, completely indulging in his talent!
At a certain change in the music.
Gu Xi even felt a sensation like alcohol numbing her heart, lungs, and scalp!
Goosebumps arose!
An unprecedented impact!
This impact was tremendous for any Blue Star pianist!
In the midst of these surging emotions, Gu Xi's mind flashed back to the various encounters she'd had since meeting Xian Yu.
At this moment, she felt fortunate!
Fortunate to have met Xian Yu; fortunate to have ultimately earned his favor; fortunate to have the honor to play the piece that Xian Yu was interpreting at this moment!
Suddenly.
The piano music stopped.
Lin Yuan turned to ask Gu Xi:
"How did it go?"
There was no immediate answer.
Gu Xi seemed to have lost herself in a moment of reverie, having forgotten when the piece began.



Lin Yuan nodded. Without Chopin's world, he certainly had to accept this title. This was something he was very familiar with, no need to be pretentious, otherwise, it would seem duplicative and self-defeating. "Alright, the first piece is roughly like this; now try the 'Nocturne in B-flat minor." Lin Yuan stated, then gave up his seat. Hearing what Lin Yuan suggested, Gu Xi almost immediately sat down at the piano. She had been eager to start! But less than thirty seconds into the second piece, Gu Xi's mood was stirred once again! The quality of this piece was hardly inferior to the first! The two pieces Teacher Admirable Fish brought out today were absolutely divine works! Gu Xi treasured them like the most precious gift! Her performance, of course, was not smooth sailing. Gu Xi even stumbled occasionally, far from the fluidity Lin Yuan had just displayed. It wasn't that Gu Xi's skills were inferior to Lin Yuan's. It was just that this was her first time seeing the pieces, so she wasn't as practiced.





He not only refused to support Chenxiang but blocked his rescue plan at every turn!
To dissuade Chenxiang from his mission, he even went as far as to hurt those close to Chenxiang!
Cold!
Heartless!
In that moment, Yang Jian seemed to revert to that unrecognizable Judiciary God from the first episode, the one who didn't acknowledge any kin and forcibly suppressed his sister, the Third Goddess!
On major forums.
This plot twist suddenly sparked a huge controversy!
Chapter 833: The Audience's Anger and Outburst
No one expected the latest plot twist in "Lotus Lantern," where Yang Jian suddenly turned evil!
This sudden turn of events made many viewers jump out of their seats!
"Damn it!"
"What the hell is going on with the latest plot in 'Lotus Lantern'?"
"Wasn't Yang Jian supposed to be a good guy? How could they portray Erlang Shen so negatively?"
"Though I understood when Yang Jian previously suppressed his own sister, the Third Goddess, since he was the Judiciary God of the Heavenly Court and couldn't help but follow orders, this latest development is outrageous! The director and scriptwriter have actually portrayed Yang Jian as a villain who bullies the weak and fears the strong, and is cold-hearted and merciless!"
"I feel the same way, this plot twist is infuriating!"

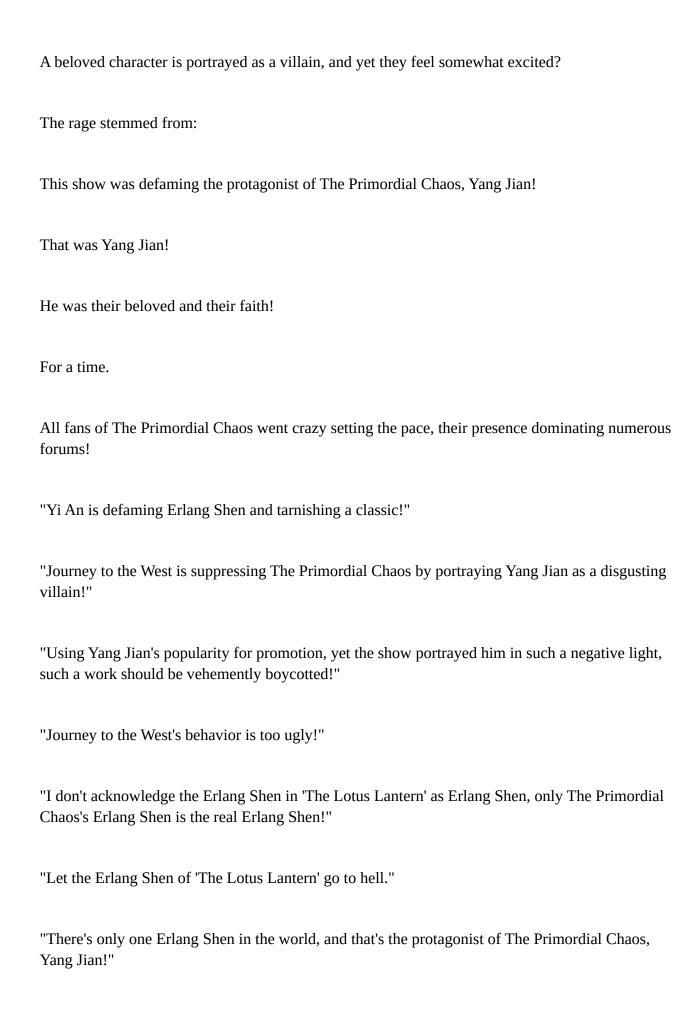
"Yang Jian didn't have the courage to defy the Heavenly Court and save his own sister, and now he's even trying to stop Chenxiang from rescuing his mother, really just bullying the weak and fearing the strong, and they call it for his nephew's good?"
"Is this the Erlang Shen I remember?"
"What the heck is Yi An thinking? The previous 'The Legend of Wukong' was great, why suddenly create such a disgusting plotline!"
"What kind of junk is this?"
"Magic changing Erlang Shen's personality, magic changing his background, magic changing his identity, and even inventing a sister and a nephew for Erlang Shen—I can accept all of these. But making Erlang Shen a villain—I absolutely cannot accept!"
Yang Jian's image suddenly collapsed!
Audiences across the continents are outraged!
The previous episodes were just fine!
No matter what trouble Chenxiang caused, Yang Jian always chose to be understanding.
Whatever Chenxiang wanted, Yang Jian would give, creating an enjoyable image of a good uncle for the audience.
Over several episodes.
Everyone had a very positive impression of this Erlang Shen!
Even though Erlang Shen started off ruthlessly suppressing his own sister, everyone firmly believed that Erlang Shen had no choice, given that he was fulfilling his duties as the Judiciary God.
However.

When Chenxiang learned the truth and wanted to save his mother, Yang Jian suddenly turned coldhearted!
He did everything to stop Chenxiang, even going so far as to fall out with Chenxiang and even harm Chenxiang's friends, which made it hard for the audience to accept!
Turns out Yang Jian is a villain?
Is there something wrong with Chenxiang wanting to save his own mother?
Moreover, what wrong did the Third Goddess do?
The Third Goddess simply bravely pursued her own love!
And the prudish rules of the Heavenly Court are unreasonable to any modern person!
The plot is also telling everyone:
This heavenly decree is a scourge across the realms!
Under such circumstances, by choosing to stand on the opposite side of the protagonist and uphold this heavenly decree, Yang Jian has directly become a villain!
So the audience is angry!
Some are angry about Erlang Shen's behavior;
Others are angry that Yi An, as the scriptwriter, dared to turn Erlang Shen's character into a villain!
The latter group far outnumber the former.
Yes.

In the end, what everyone finds most intolerable is Erlang Shen transforming into a villain.
If Erlang Shen were not Erlang Shen but just a regular character, then no matter whether this character turned evil or whatever, audiences across all continents wouldn't be so upset.
You should know.
Through "The Primordial Chaos" and other works, Erlang Shen Yang Jian has already made a very deep impression on audiences across all continents.
People deeply love this character.
Just like how everyone who watches "Journey to the West" likes Sun Wukong.
In any audience's concept, Yang Jian is absolutely unrelated to being a villain.
But this show just went ahead and made Yang Jian a villain!
That is the root of the controversy.
Some people even started cursing loudly because of this!
In fact.
Not just ordinary viewers.
Even fans of "The Primordial Chaos" were baffled by "Lotus Lantern's" move!
What the hell?
Why did the antagonist suddenly self-destruct?

They had always been trying to set the narrative for "Lotus Lantern," but never managed to take off. The audience didn't strongly resist the departure from traditional character and background settings of Erlang Shen in "Lotus Lantern." This deeply disappointed the fans of "The Primordial Chaos." They could only watch helplessly as "Lotus Lantern" became more popular, watching a portrayal of Erlang Shen that didn't fit with the traditional setting of "The Primordial Chaos" being accepted by the audience. Result. Just when the fans of "The Primordial Chaos" thought they could no longer malign "Lotus Lantern" and could only helplessly observe its success, this show suddenly self-destructed! That's right. Self-destructed! Erlang Shen was actually portrayed as a villain! How is that different from self-destructing? How brainless must Yi An be to dare to tarnish the image of Erlang Shen like this? Doesn't she realize how highly regarded Erlang Shen is in the hearts of the audience? Or is it that: Yi An wants to follow the pattern of Chu Kuang adapting "Yang Xiaofan and Qin Tiange" to completely overturn the audience's impression of the classics?





The rhythm!
The rhythm of boycott rolled in wave after wave!
It must be admitted, the fans of The Primordial Chaos led the rhythm very successfully this time.
If it weren't for the self-destruction of 'The Lotus Lantern', no one would have paid attention to their voices, as the fans of Journey to the West were simply too numerous.
But now, no one knew whether it was Yi An or the TV show's director whose brain had malfunctioned.
The tables had turned!
Blackening of Erlang Shen was not only unacceptable to fans of The Primordial Chaos.
It was unacceptable to the general audience!
So much so that even though everyone knew The Primordial Chaos fans were leading the rhythm, some still empathized deeply.
Shortly after.
'The Lotus Lantern', which had been smooth-sailing since its broadcast, was sucked into a vortex of controversy and criticism for the first time.
Everyone naturally assumed:
Journey to the West, in order to suppress The Primordial Chaos, had deliberately vilified the image of Yang Jian.
Now that The Primordial Chaos was waning, yet it was suppressed like this by Journey to the West, this ignited the sympathy of many people.

Empathy for the underdog is human nature.
Moreover, no matter how much The Primordial Chaos had declined, people's affection for Erlang Shen still existed; Yang Jian was a classic character who had accompanied countless people as they grew up, how could he be so defiled!
Fortunately.
There were still some rational voices soothing everyone:
"Guys, don't rush to conclusions, trust in Teacher Yi'an's character. Perhaps Erlang Shen has his own reasons for targeting Chenxiang, just watch a few episodes before making a judgment, after all, Erlang Shen was extremely concerned about his nephew, Chenxiang, in the earlier episodes."
These voices somewhat calmed the audience.
In the following days.
Apart from The Primordial Chaos fans and a few extreme viewers who were still protesting, most people temporarily suppressed their anger, patiently continuing to follow the drama.
However.
The seventh episode
The eighth episode
The ninth episode
The tenth episode
As the audience continued to follow the subsequent episodes of 'The Lotus Lantern', the expected turnaround never happened!

On the contrary.
A brutal fact gradually unfolded before everyone:
Yang Jian had no hidden motives at all; he was merely the lapdog of the Heavenly Empress, an unmitigated villain!
All his actions were for the sake of the Judiciary God's power!
Blinded by greed, Yang Jian showed no regard for familial bonds, ruthlessly persecuting Chenxiang, even intensifying his malice!
Sky Roaring Dog abused his power through association!
The Mount Mei Brothers pursued and blocked Chenxiang!
In innumerable instances of targeted oppression by his own uncle, Chenxiang struggled to survive and grow, enduring relentless suppression!
The audience's patience was gradually worn thin.
Dissatisfaction with Yang Jian's character kept accumulating.
If the plot of the drama itself hadn't been captivating, the audience would have exploded long ago.
Not to mention that during this process, The Primordial Chaos fans continued endlessly stoking the fire and leading the rhythm.
The Primordial Chaos fans were desperate!
After watching so many episodes!

Why hasn't this darned TV show cooled down yet!
Yi An has already blackened Yang Jian so much, why are you still watching, and watching so eagerly at that?
Alright.
The reason is actually quite simple: although the portrayal of the character Yang Jian has displeased countless viewers, the plot of the drama itself is very exciting, which is why everyone temporarily suppressed their inner frustrations.
But
No matter how exciting the plot, it could not withstand the constant provocation by the scriptwriter Yi An, some feelings, if not exploded, only accumulated deeper.
That day.
The plot finally progressed to the fifteenth episode.
This episode.
Yang Jian pushed Chenxiang to a complete dead end!
He wanted to kill Chenxiang!
As Chenxiang grew up, Yang Jian actually harbored the intention to kill his own nephew!
However.
Just as Yang Jian made his move.
The Fourth Princess of the East Sea blocked Yang Jian's fatal blow with her body!

Under Chenxiang's desperate gaze, the Fourth Princess of the East Sea was instantly killed, her life extinguished! The Fourth Princess of the East Sea. This character was kind-hearted and had an excellent reputation in all three realms, and she was Chenxiang's aunt who had always silently helped him from behind. The audience had a very positive impression of this character! Yet such a character was executed in front of Chenxiang by Erlang Shen! This moment! Even without The Primordial Chaos fans leading any rhythm. The audience's eyes reddened, their dissatisfaction accumulated over many days completely erupted! Chapter 834: Everlasting Regret Because the plot of "The Lotus Lantern" was exciting enough, the audience had been restraining themselves, but this time the story touched their bottom line, and Erlang Shen, as portrayed by Yi An, had been vilified to the point of no return, which finally ignited the viewers' fury! Countless curses! Many people were implicated! The comments section of the TV show director Ding Xiao's social media was besieged! "Crap director, did Erlang Shen eat your family's rice, to be so smeared by you!" "Director Ding's bias is too obvious, made a show to smear Erlang Shen, The Primordial Chaos" protagonist, all for the sake of Starlight's 'Journey to the West'!"

"Is this the 'The Lotus Lantern' director? thumbs down!"
"I didn't find you hateful when you made 'Yang Xiaofan and Qin Tiange,' but this time you really crossed the line!"
"Director, your conscience is broken!"
"After finishing 'Yang Xiaofan and Qin Tiange,' the director has completely gone to an extreme, creating such an image of Erlang Shen definitely for the controversy, and he succeeded, but such behavior is truly disgusting!"
<b></b>
As a director, Ding Xiao cannot shirk responsibility.
He must have known the show would vilify Erlang Shen, yet he still made it this way, so the audience did not let him off the hook!
Similarly,
Liu Zhengwen, the actor playing the lead male role, who had always been well-liked by passersby, was also sprayed by the audience.
His situation was similar to the director's.
Why did Liu Zhengwen take up the role of this villainous version of Erlang Shen?
"Liu Zhengwen, you really dare to pick up any drama!"
"Why did you choose to play such a character, aren't you afraid of losing fans?"
"Are you happy earning dirty money?"



"Really fed up!" "I smell the nauseating stench of fandom manipulation; don't forget that Yi An is a Chu Kuang fan, and the dispute between 'Journey to the West' and 'The Primordial Chaos' has been longstanding, so Yi An just took the liberty to smear Erlang Shen in the drama. No matter how talented, this does not change the fact of poor character!" "I will never acknowledge this Erlang Shen as the one I know!" "Fans of 'The Primordial Chaos' are right, there's only one Erlang Shen, and that's the Erlang Shen of 'The Primordial Chaos'!" And that's not all! Director, actors, screenwriters. The TV drama "The Lotus Lantern" core behind-the-scenes team was thoroughly blasted by the audience, not to mention under the official Weibo of Starlight was also filled with countless curses! "Starlight really lost integrity with this move." "Why invest in such a drama that smears Erlang Shen?" "Butt dictates brain; 'Journey to the West' is Starlight's ace work, 'The Primordial Chaos' and

"What's infuriating is that Starlight used to promote Erlang Shen!"

"Using Erlang Shen for promotion and now smearing him in the drama, I am really sold on this tactic!"

'Journey to the West' are at odds, so Starlight has no burden in smearing Erlang Shen."

"Riding on the coattails of 'The Primordial Chaos' is how 'Journey to the West' started." "Because of Fish Papa, I have always had a good impression of Starlight, but even Fish Papa can't salvage Starlight's reputation this time." In the entertainment industry, Many people were flabbergasted. Starlight has truly botched it this time! As the first standalone character series derived from 'Journey to the West,' since the broadcast of "The Lotus Lantern," the situation had been overwhelmingly positive! It was a wildly successful beginning. The industry was also closely watching this drama, everyone thought the IP of 'Journey to the West' was going to explode! But who would have thought that "The Lotus Lantern" would cause an audience's reputation to collapse because it excessively vilified Erlang Shen in the story? "Looks like Starlight has really messed up this time." "Yi An's script is indeed problematic, the relationship between 'Journey to the West' and 'The Primordial Chaos' is too sensitive, yet this drama just had to target Erlang Shen, turning him into a major villain." "No matter how 'Bracing the Chill' 'The Primordial Chaos' gets, Erlang Shen still has popularity." "Perhaps Starlight thought 'The Primordial Chaos' had already cooled down, so stepping on Erlang Shen was no big deal, they got a bit too arrogant."

"Actually, 'The Lotus Lantern' plot is still very exciting."

"The drama's plot is indeed amazing, or else the audience's dissatisfaction with the collapse of Erlang Shen's character wouldn't have erupted until today; if Yi An were any smarter, he would've swapped Erlang Shen with another deity, and in the end, it would have surely been both critically acclaimed and popular. He cleverly outwitted himself by using Erlang Shen as the antagonist; compared to Chu Kuang's grasp of the audience's bottom line, Yi An still has a lot to learn."

Provoking the readers?

Stirring up the audience's nerves?

That's what Chu Kuang is best at!

However, the terrifying thing about Chu Kuang lies in:

No matter how he plays with the audience, he always stays clear of crossing their bottom line, he has complete control over everyone's psychology, so the audience's perception of Chu Kuang is a blend of love and hate!

Ultimately, everyone still loves Chu Kuang.

Chapter 834: Everlasting Regret Part 2

The so-called old rascal is often just a topic of jest, a little insider joke shared between the readers, the audience, and Chu Kuang, or even a bit of harmless fun.

Yi An seems to have a leaning in this direction too.

As a fan of Chu Kuang, Yi An is indeed talented; the plot of "Lotus Lantern" is fantastic!

However, Yi An is ultimately not Chu Kuang, and she crossed a line with the audience she should never have crossed, resulting in a total loss of control and a thorough crash and burn.

I'm afraid no one will seek Yi An to write scripts anymore.

A screenwriter who alienates the audience, no matter how good their scripts, only increases the audience's aversion.

Even Yi An's future development may be negatively affected by this.

Being notorious for excessively vilifying Yang Jian in "Journey to the West" will likely be an indelible stain on Yi An's record.

•••

In the midst of the overwhelming criticism directed at "Lotus Lantern,"

the Blue Star Primordial Chaos Association finally spoke out!

"Recently, a TV drama titled "Lotus Lantern" has smeared and besmirched the classic image of Erlang Shen, which we find deeply distressing. We accept the scriptwriter's reimagining of Yang Jian, but we cannot accept the disordered storytelling. We hope that such chaos can be controlled, and we hope someone will restore justice to Yang Jian. We have reported to the Literature and Art Association, requesting a ban on the drama, and we strongly condemn Yi An..."

The Primordial Chaos Association snitched!

Previously, due to its connection with "Journey to the West," the association was severely criticized and had kept a low profile for a long time.

Not until the reputation of "Lotus Lantern" took a nosedive did the Primordial Chaos Association dare to emerge, seizing the opportunity very well!

The adversary has given them a chance!

If the Primordial Chaos fans know to seize the opportunity, how much more so the Primordial Chaos Association?

Under these circumstances, even netizens indifferent to the association felt that its statement had merit.
And at this moment,
something unexpected happened!
Tribe also made a statement!
It's strange to say, as logically, Tribe wouldn't have much to do with Primordial Chaos or Yang Jian.
But just now!
Tribe suddenly announced that it would be collaborating with the Primordial Chaos Association to create a film starring Erlang Shen, Yang Jian!
Quite sudden?
Not really.
Because the broker of this partnership turned out to be
The head of the comics department under Tribe, Ling Kong!
After taking over the project, the first thing Ling Kong did was publish a long essay, criticizing Starlight for smearing Erlang Shen, Yang Jian!
In the article.
Ling Kong claims to be a die-hard fan of The Primordial Chaos, with Erlang Shen, Yang Jian, being his most adored spiritual idol since childhood. He could not sit by and watch "Lotus Lantern" tarnish Yang Jian and decided to make a movie to vindicate him



"I suspect Ling Kong has ulterior motives. His relationship with Shadow is so bad; he must be enemies with the Three Bros too, likely seizing the chance to step on Starlight. I don't believe capitalists have any conscience or sense of justice."

"Why assume the worst in people? I think Ling Kong is fine!"

The allure of being the Tribe Crown Prince is undoubtedly dazzling, and the exposition of his identity as a top-tier rich second generation immediately escalated the incident's impact!

...

The media side is bustling!

"Primordial Chaos Association Reports Starlight's New Drama!"

"Tribe Crown Prince Ling Kong Blasts Lotus Lantern!"

"The True-Hearted Heir of Tribe, Ling Kong: Yang Jian is a Hero, Not to Be Smeared!"

"Should 'Lotus Lantern' Be Banned?"

"When the Wall Falls, Everybody Pushes: Tribe Crown Prince Blasts Starlight!"

"Capital Competition or Genuine Sentiment? Big Reveal of Tribe Crown Prince Ling Kong's Identity, Discovering What Kind of Rich Second Generation He Is!"

" "

In these news stories, Ling Kong's deeds were brought to light.

Apart from creating friction with Shadow and causing Tribe Comics to stumble in the league, this Ling Kong turns out to be quite impressive.

He invested in a state and reaped astonishing profits, earning several times the returns.
He led a department within Tribe to dominate 80% of the market in a certain field.
He has
In short, Ling Kong's resume is impeccable!
This has also garnered Ling Kong higher attention and even a significant boost in followers. The news has shaped him into a successful, hardworking second generation rich kid.
By comparison, "Lotus Lantern" is in a bind.
Director, screenwriter, actors, and even Starlight have all come under fire!
The united front of the Primordial Chaos Association and Tribe, along with the rhythm set by the fans of Primordial Chaos, has pushed "Lotus Lantern" into the spotlight!
Moreover
Due to Tribe's influence, after Ling Kong's identity revelation, many well-known vloggers joined in the siege!
Chapter 834: Everlasting Regret Part 3
Tribe, the large capital, is never short of pawns.
At this moment,
anyone with discernment could see:
Tribe was making a move against Starlight, looking to cut at Starlight through "Lotus Lantern".
In fact,

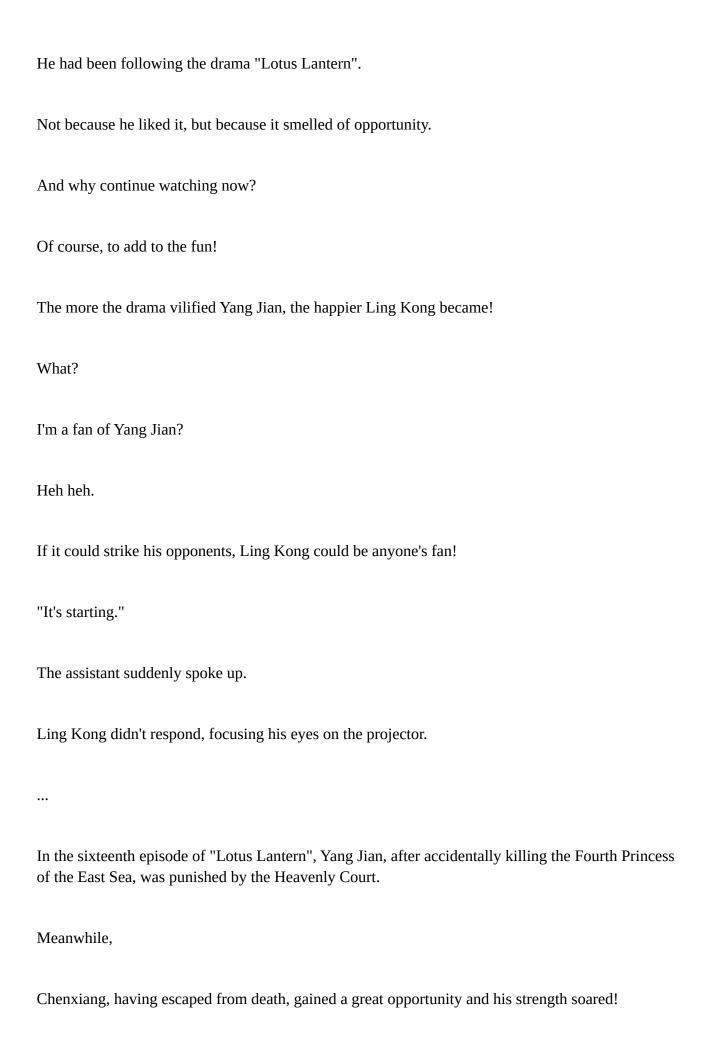
the feud between this massive capital and Starlight had been brewing ever since Xian Yu led the Yu Dynasty to leave Tribe.
There were not a few who saw clearly.
The cooperation between Starlight's films, TV series, and artists with Tribe was becoming increasingly sparse, which many could perceive.
Yet no one expected Tribe to intensify the conflict and choose this moment to take action.
It appeared that going forward, Starlight and Tribe were thoroughly burnt bridges.
Come to think of it,
Starlight had connections with the Three Bros.
And guess what, Xian Yu, Chu Kuang, and Shadow were linked to the bloggers, inflicting no small blow on Tribe.
In such circumstances,
a complete break between Tribe and Starlight was almost inevitable sooner or later.
Now that Starlight had exposed its own weakness, Tribe merely seized the opportunity at hand.
At this time,
even die-hard "Journey to the West" fans found it hard to defend "Lotus Lantern".
The portrayal of Yang Jian as a villain by Yi An is an undeniable fact, and attempting to defend "Lotus Lantern" at this juncture might only worsen the situation.

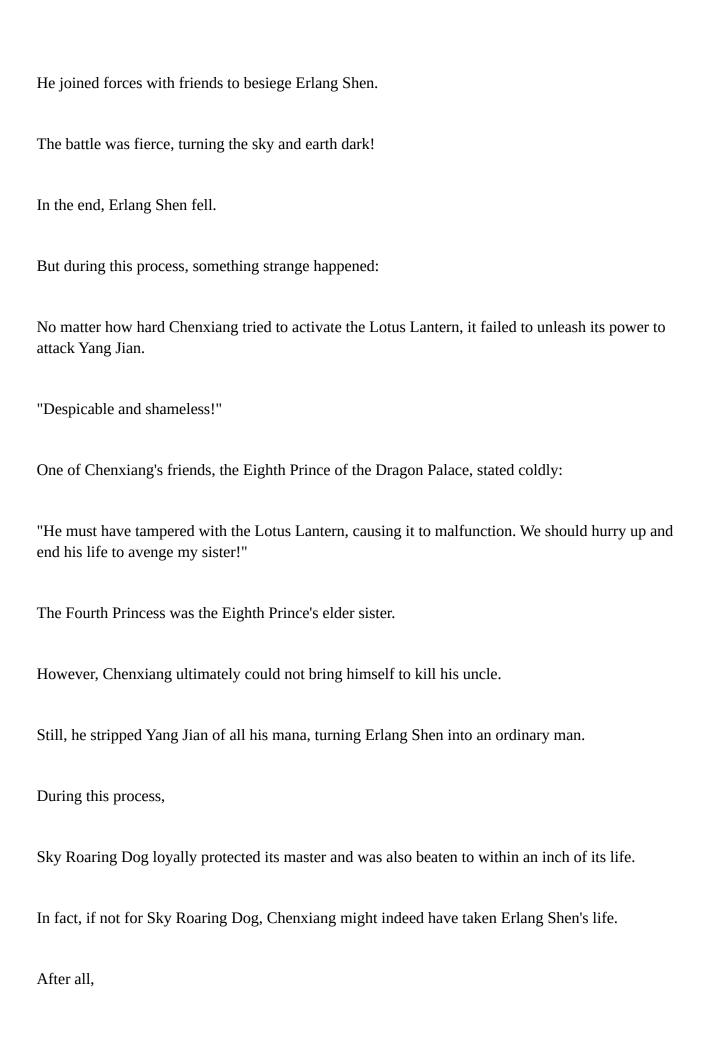
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Ling Kong might not have heard this saying, but his actions matched its meaning. He seemed to be targeting "Lotus Lantern", but really, he was targeting Starlight, Xian Yu of Starlight, Chu Kuang the original author of "Journey to the West", and even Shadow closely associated with Starlight. If anything went wrong with "Lotus Lantern", the impact would be far beyond just the drama itself! It would also affect the "Journey to the West" IP. If Starlight ran into trouble, the Three Bros would be affected as well. At this moment, Ling Kong even felt grateful to that Yi An. What a great assist! If he didn't know it was impossible, he would suspect Yi An was a mole Tribe had planted in Starlight! Next, he didn't need to do anything. He just had to sit back and enjoy the drama. In a good mood, he actually patted his assistant's shoulder: "Play 'Lotus Lantern'. The sixteenth episode should have been updated by now, right?" "Yes." The assistant smiled and said, "Please wait a moment." Ling Kong nodded.

When Xiang Zhuang dances, his intention is to kill Pei Gong.





though Sky Roaring Dog targeted Chenxiang due to Erlang Shen's orders, it wasn't truly evil and had never seriously attempted to kill Chenxiang.

This fact was clear to both Chenxiang and the audience.

Sky Roaring Dog was a good dog.

As the story developed to this point, Erlang Shen was isolated and had received his comeuppance for his cold-bloodedness and ruthlessness!

Even the Mount Mei Brothers, who were originally loyal to Erlang Shen, turned against him!

It turned out that the Mount Mei Brothers couldn't stand Erlang Shen's deeds either.

Only Sky Roaring Dog remained by his side.

Blind loyalty.

Erlang Shen sought the Queen Mother's help, but she coldly dismissed him.

Having lost his mana, Erlang Shen was no longer of any use.

Chapter 834: Everlasting Regret Part 4

...

Moreover, because Erlang Shen killed the Fourth Princess of the East Sea, violating the celestial decree, the Heavenly Court could no longer harbor him.

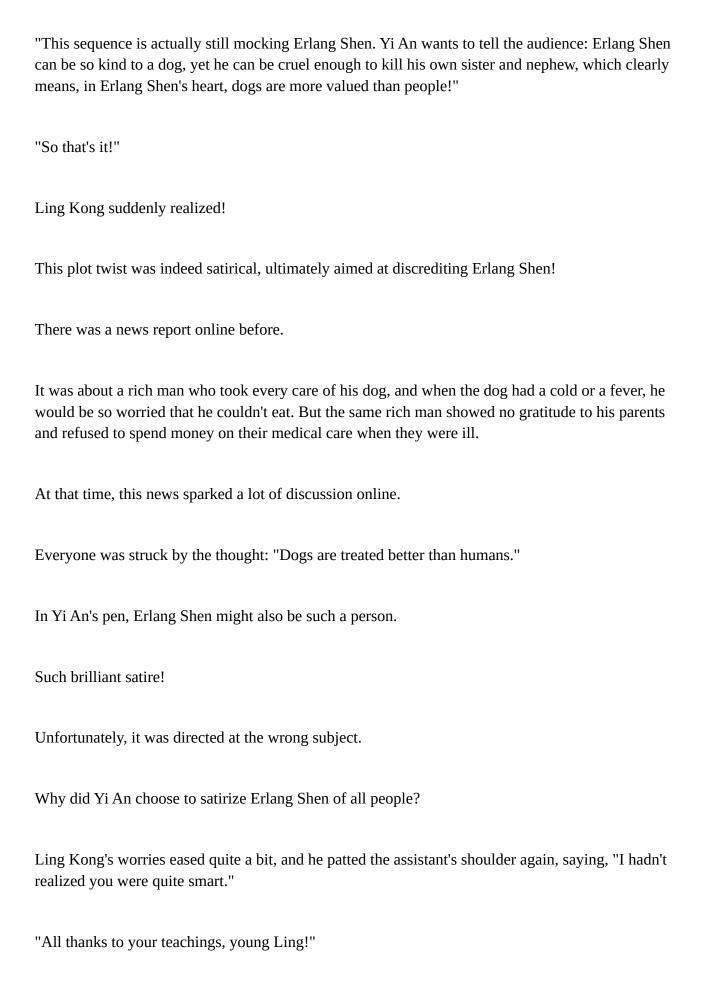
Erlang Shen was beyond redemption!

He lost his mana and was bruised all over.

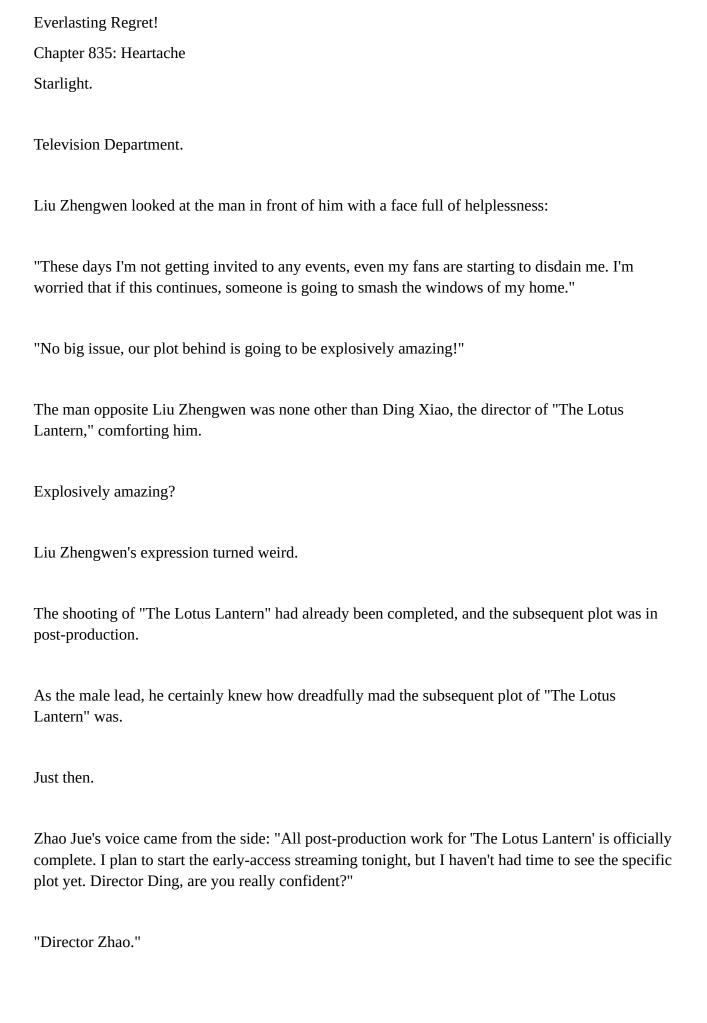
In order to eat, he demeaned himself and begged a peasant family for food.



The assistant burst into laughter!
Ling Kong said impatiently, "What are you laughing at?"
He was somewhat uneasy because he had actually begun to feel a bit of sympathy for Erlang Shen, a sentiment that seemed very wrong.
Could Yi An be trying to whitewash Erlang Shen?
To let Erlang Shen realize his wrongs when he was utterly desolate?
The assistant, as if having seen through everything, said with some profoundness, "You're probably worried that Yi An is whitewashing Erlang Shen."
"Isn't he?"
Ling Kong frowned but did not deny it.
If Yi An did whitewash Erlang Shen, although "The Legend of Lotus Lantern" would still be criticized, his own efforts to undermine Starlight would be greatly diminished.
"This time you are wrong, young Ling!"
The assistant's eyes shone brightly: "But that's precisely the cleverness of Yi An. Although his action of smearing Erlang Shen's image is foolish, his screenwriting skills are indeed high!"
"What do you mean?"
Ling Kong was a bit confused.
The assistant, holding wisdom like a gem, as if possessed by Conan:



The assistant subconsciously lowered his body to make Ling Kong's pat more comfortable.
"Let's keep watching tomorrow. It's such a good show!"
Ling Kong praised and couldn't resist taunting, "Assuming the show hasn't been banned by then."
Someone had reported it to the Literature and Art Association.
"The Legend of Lotus Lantern" had now sparked a myriad of criticisms, and it was possible that the Literature and Art Association would ban the work.
In fact, Ling Kong did not want the show to be banned.
It would be better to let Yi An continue on his path, smearing Erlang Shen beyond recognition, which would, in turn, have the most damaging influence on Starlight.
At the same time.
Netizens had also finished watching the sixteenth episode's update.
At this moment, they had not yet realized that the perspective of the show had started to shift.
The main character was previously Chenxiang.
But now, Erlang Shen Yang Jian, had become the protagonist of "The Legend of Lotus Lantern!"
What they were even less aware of:
The groundwork that Yi An had laid for Erlang Shen's image reversal was already densely woven!
Just as the saying goes:



Liu Zhengwen greeted him. Ding Xiao then showed a smile: "It's finished? Let's just air it all in one go tonight then. Director Zhao can watch it himself this evening; it just so happens that the audience needs to be soothed." Soothed? Liu Zhengwen's expression turned strange once again. In this world, probably only Ding Xiao would think that the subsequent plot of "The Lotus Lantern" would soothe the audience. Zhao Jue was still somewhat doubtful: "Really?" Because of "The Lotus Lantern," the company had been under a lot of pressure. Everyone outside was saying Starlight deliberately demeaned the protagonist Erlang Shen of The Primordial Chaos for the sake of Journey to the West. This had even affected Starlight's stock price today! As the company's stock fell, many executives sought answers from Director Zhao. Zhao Jue had no choice but to brave it out and explain that there would be a plot twist later to reassure the leaders. However, the truth was: Zhao Jue had been dealing with various public relation crises brought by "The Lotus Lantern" all day and simply had no time to finish watching the subsequent plot. She had only followed the parts of the story that had already been aired, just like the ordinary

audience.

If she were to consider "The Lotus Lantern" from the audience's perspective, Zhao Jue also felt that the character portrayal of Erlang Shen was ludicrous, and excessively vilified. As for the explanations she gave to the leaders, they all came from the main creative team of the show. Tonight she had to finish watching the remaining plot to see how the portrayal of Erlang Shen could be reversed. At the same time. Lin Yuan also received the news. "The Lotus Lantern" would start early-access streaming tonight. The final fourteen episodes about Yang Jian could be watched in one go! Lately. Lin Yuan had been paying attention to the sniping "The Lotus Lantern" encountered. But he didn't have much of a solution. Unless he spoiled it, telling the audience there would be a twist later on. However, Lin Yuan felt that spoilers were the least interesting thing; many stories needed to be experienced firsthand to truly be impactful. Luckily, Starlight didn't have to continue bearing this pressure anymore.

Now that the plot had been completely filmed, the truth would be revealed tonight.

As for the audience's reactions before the truth came out, Lin Yuan was somewhat prepared.

It was only a pity that Yi An had unfairly received quite a bit of scolding.
The only unexpected point for Lin Yuan was that Tribe had actually made a move!
This made Lin Yuan realize that behind Xia Fan losing her role, there really might have been manipulations from Tribe.
Now with Tribe stepping into the film and television arrangements, it was the most obvious evidence.
On another note.
Without this round of targeting, Lin Yuan and Tribe would have already become openly hostile.
Luckily, Lin Yuan had prepared two big surprises for Tribe.
Tonight's "Everlasting Regret" was the first gift.
Time ticked by.
Online, the voices decrying "The Lotus Lantern" for smearing Erlang Shen still hadn't stopped and were even intensifying!
"Ban 'The Lotus Lantern'!"
The fans of The Primordial Chaos spared no effort in stirring the pot!
"Yang Jian must not be slandered!"
All sorts of demons and goblins emerged as well!

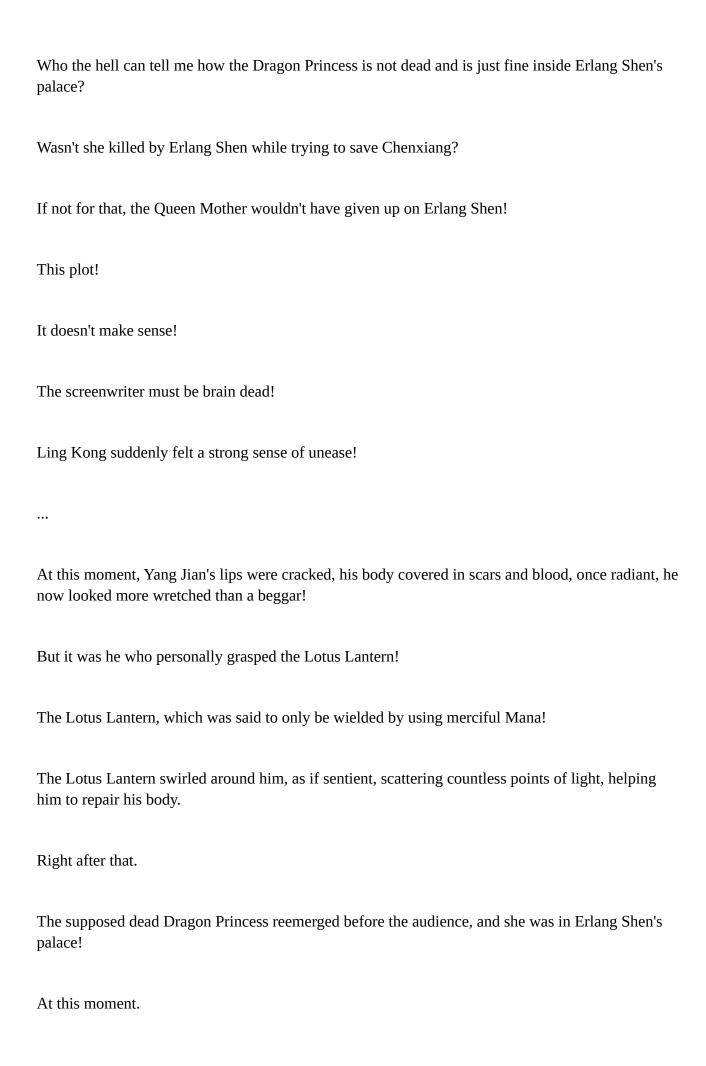
Boycott!
Protest!
This was a coordinated campaign targeting Starlight!
And then, when the clock hit seven, the update time for "The Lotus Lantern" arrived!
The netizens who were furiously calling out the slanderous actions against Yang Jian in "The Lotus Lantern" noticed a very unexpected situation.
The website of Qiyigu Video.
A recommendation suddenly popped up.
"Watch 'The Lotus Lantern' tonight with early access! Pay to view the grand finale in advance. Have you really understood this drama?"
Immediately after.
Catmill Video.
A similar recommendation appeared:
"Tonight 'The Lotus Lantern' grand finale passionately airs, a plot reversal that moves the heart to the extreme, completely overturning your understanding!"
Then came next.
Penguin Video.
The website pulled up a huge banner:

"Unlock the grand finale of 'The Lotus Lantern' with payment, binge-watch fourteen episodes for a shocking ending, high energy ahead, non-combatants please evacuate!"
All three websites!
All were broadcasting platforms in partnership with "The Lotus Lantern"!
Instantly!
The curses directed at the creators of "The Lotus Lantern" all paused for a moment.
Some sneered.
Was Starlight unable to bear the pressure, afraid that dragging it out would cause trouble, so they decided to release the grand finale early?
Many more were puzzled.
What did the recommendations from the three websites mean?
A subverting finale?
Wasn't the portrayal of Yang Jian already disruptive enough?
High energy ahead?
Wasn't it just Chenxiang successfully rescuing the Third Goddess? What's so high-energy about that, when everyone could guess it, it's just that the process might have a few more twists, right?
Netizens began to complain:

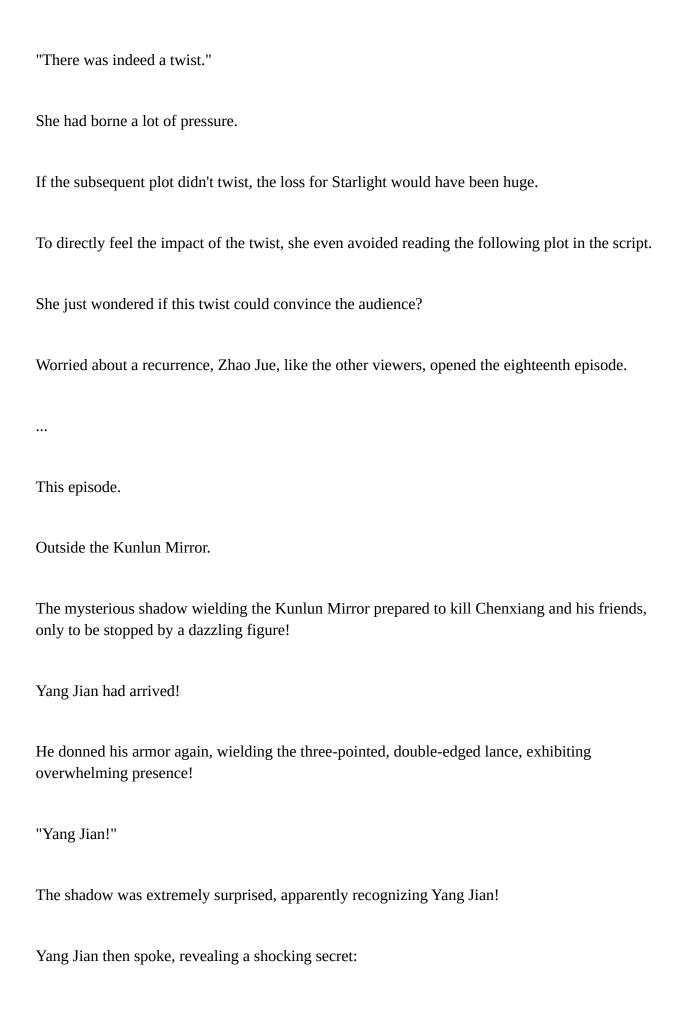


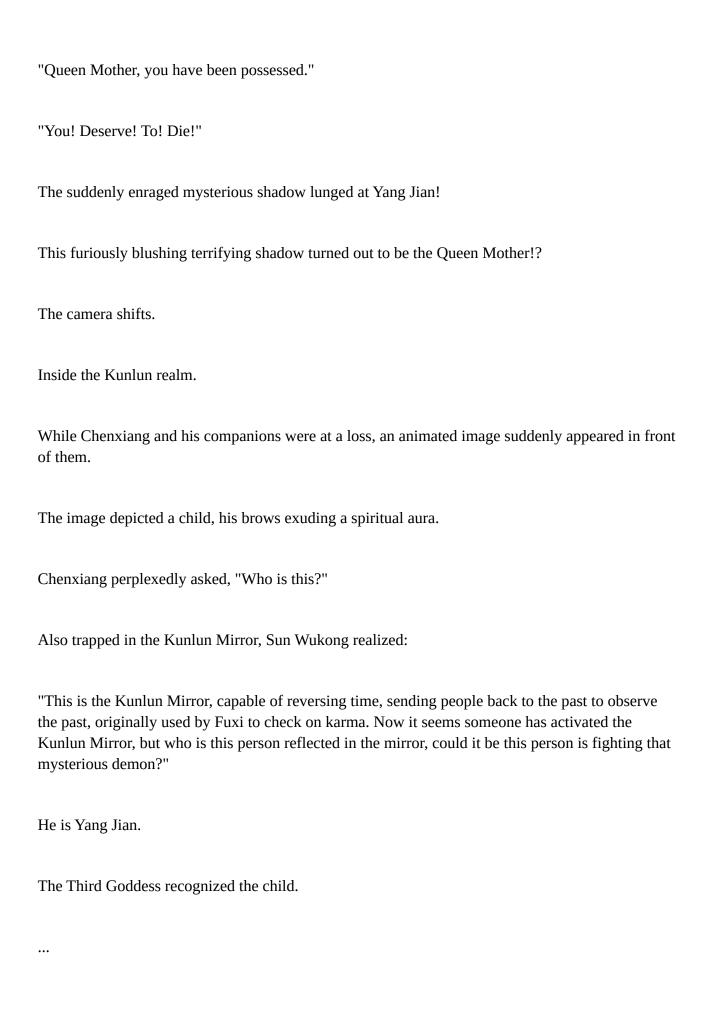
This episode.
Chenxiang was about to save his mother.
He had already arrived at Mount Hua with his friends.
Suddenly!
An anomaly occurred!
A mysterious shadow, brandishing the ancient artifact, the Kunlun Mirror, surrounded Chenxiang and his companions, preparing to deal a deadly blow!
Just as Chenxiang and his friends fell into despair.
The Lotus Lantern on Chenxiang suddenly transformed into a stream of light, flying towards a very distant direction!
Whoosh!
In the distance.
A hand grabbed the Lotus Lantern.
The Lotus Lantern emitted an unprecedented radiance!
And in the glow, the audience was dumbstruck to see the owner of this hand:
Yang Jian!
He was actually using the Lotus Lantern to repair his broken body!











In front of the computer.
Zhao Jue opened her mouth wide!
This design is simply brilliant!
Yang Jian doesn't need to explain anything himself.
Chapter 836: Epic Awkward Moment Part Two
Zhao Jue knew that although "The Magic Lotus Lantern" would vindicate Yang Jian in its later stages, she had always been worried
Would the audience accept the twist?
Was the plot persuasive enough?
Wouldn't people feel it was an attempt to forcibly whitewash a character?
Not until Zhao Jue had seen the past reflected in the Kunlun Mirror did her worries finally vanish.
This was a trap!
Reflecting on the plot, this drama recalled countless details worth scrutinizing—
Despite being a mythological drama, it portrayed the cruelty of reality so vividly!
A carefully woven benevolent conspiracy, a group of gods with high mana, yet blinded by appearances just like the mortals.
Life's furnace, the dazzling mortal world, who is the pawn, and who is the grandmaster?
It turned out that those foreshadowings had been laid down since the very first episode; Yang Jian had turned himself into a chess piece, and he was the one who sacrificed the most!

At this moment!
Tears streamed down Zhao Jue's face!
And at this time, across the continents, there were countless people staying up late in front of their computers watching "The Magic Lotus Lantern."
Tonight.
Everyone was Zhao Jue!
Compared to them, Zhao Jue was even lucky.
Having a director's godlike perspective, she had known all along that the drama never intended to smear Yang Jian; on the contrary, it was reshaping him in a very special way.
And the real protagonist of "The Magic Lotus Lantern" wasn't Chenxiang.
Chenxiang's existence was merely to provide an external perspective for audiences to view Yang Jian's actions.
The more it was so, the more the twist played out in the Kunlun Mirror was heart-shaking!
This impact was not only conveyed to the characters in the drama but to every viewer!
Therefore.
When the truth was revealed.
Everyone's perceptions of Yang Jian, established over the previous dozen episodes, shattered like a violently broken mirror!
In the clinking sounds!

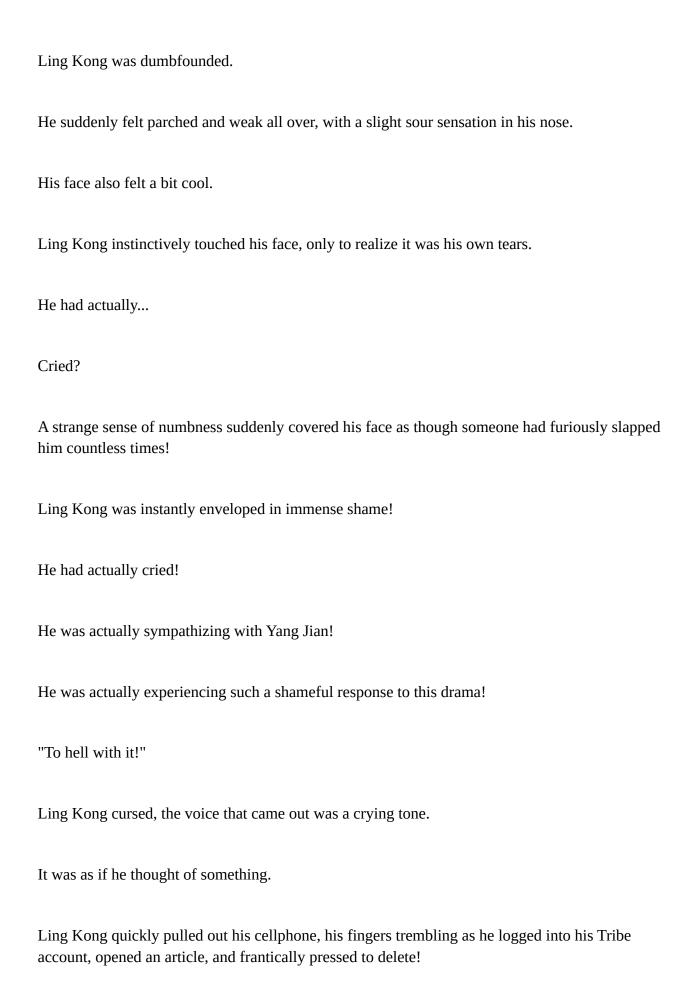
Glass shards littered the ground!
At this moment, the whole network was stunned!
It turns out Yang Jian was never the villain; persecuting Chenxiang or even killing the dragon princess were just acts of his self-sacrifice!
Is he a good person?
No!
It should be said:
In the world of "The Magic Lotus Lantern," is there anyone better or greater than Yang Jian?
Wrong!
Everyone was wrong!
Recalling the countless curses thrown at "The Magic Lotus Lantern" for allegedly smearing Yang Jian, numerous people's hearts trembled!
Shame!
Heartache!
Withdrawal!
From the moment the Kunlun Mirror first unveiled the foreshadowing, related topics exploded online, causing unprecedented shock and a mental breakdown across the network!
"I'm going crazy!"

"I feel so sorry for Second Master!" "Do they have to be this torturous in the middle of the night!" "Why does Yang Jian have to do this? You give so much for friends and family, even for the Three Realms, what do they give you back? After years of meticulous planning, suffering indignities in the Black Waters, only to be hated by even your closest ones. Knowing this path is despised by heaven, you almost died at Chenxiang's hand, was all this worth it? Sorry, I got a bit emotional, this part of the drama really killed me!" "We all misjudged Yi An, the director, and the actors!" "Just cried like crazy in my room, my mom thought I'd had a breakup. She came over to comfort me in the middle of the night, ended up watching two episodes of 'The Magic Lotus Lantern' with me, and then I had to comfort her. Now we're both sitting here crying like fools!" "Yi An, sorry!" "Everyone owes Yi An an apology. From the start, he never once smeared Second Master. It's our fault for not watching the show closely enough, not noticing the many clues already planted!" "Instant shutdown!" "Got treated to a full-on depressive episode in the middle of the night, I've watched countless TV dramas over the years, and 'The Magic Lotus Lantern' is by far the most torturous. It made me want to jump through the screen and hug Yang Jian!" "Just a heads up, you should delete your posts now; we've all been smacked in the face by Yi An!" "..." Damn, almost forgot!

This reminder came just in time!

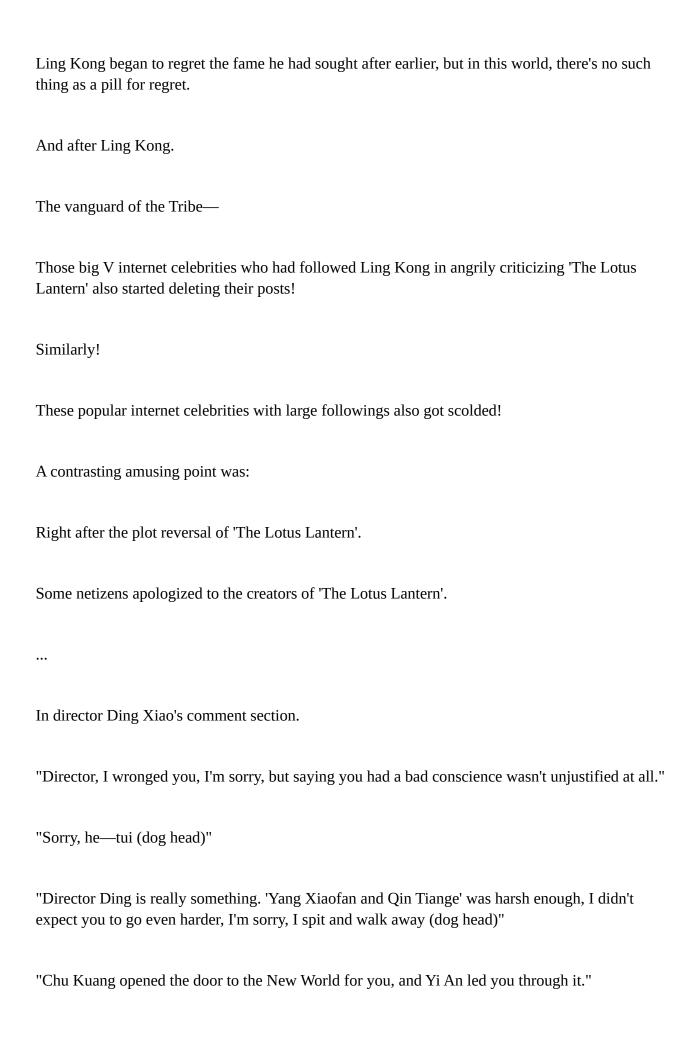
Netizens began deleting their posts!
Throughout the broadcast of "The Magic Lotus Lantern," numerous people had vehemently criticized the drama for slandering Yang Jian.
Curse the scriptwriter!
Curse the director!
Curse the actors!
Curse Starlight!
Stereotypical internet troll!
Not until this moment did everyone realize that they hadn't smeared Yang Jian, but instead had painted a Second Master for whom everyone felt pity!
This moment.
Everyone was stirred into action!
The symmetry with which everyone was deleting posts was incredible!
Online, a deletion storm like none ever seen before suddenly occurred!
God knows what the netizens felt when they saw the vitriol they had previously posted about this drama!
There's no better example of public humiliation than this, right?
The meaner everyone had sprayed earlier, the louder their faces were slapped now!

At this moment, would you still not delete your posts and keep them for the New Year?
Some people were practically crying while they deleted their posts, clearly not yet over the depressive shadow of "The Lotus Lantern."
Likewise.
Someone described this scene as "one of Blue Star's five most epically embarrassing moments."
Each case among Blue Star's five most epically embarrassing moments made onlookers want to curl their toes from cringe, the common feature being the wide swath of people getting slapped in the face. It was truly terrifying!
Previously.
The same Blue Star's five most epically embarrassing moments also traced back to the Han people reviewing "Farewell Kiss," saying that the song only topped the season charts due to the advantage of being in Mandarin, only to be severely slapped by the quality of the song's English version. That incident pioneered Blue Star's history of epic embarrassing moments (manual prompt, chapter six hundred and twenty-two).
Years later.
Many still couldn't forget that night, when they cried like dogs while frantically deleting posts.
At the same time.
In a wealthy household.
In the spacious living room, the scenes reflected from the Kunlun Mirror completely overturned the entire plot of the previous dozens of episodes
In front of the screen.

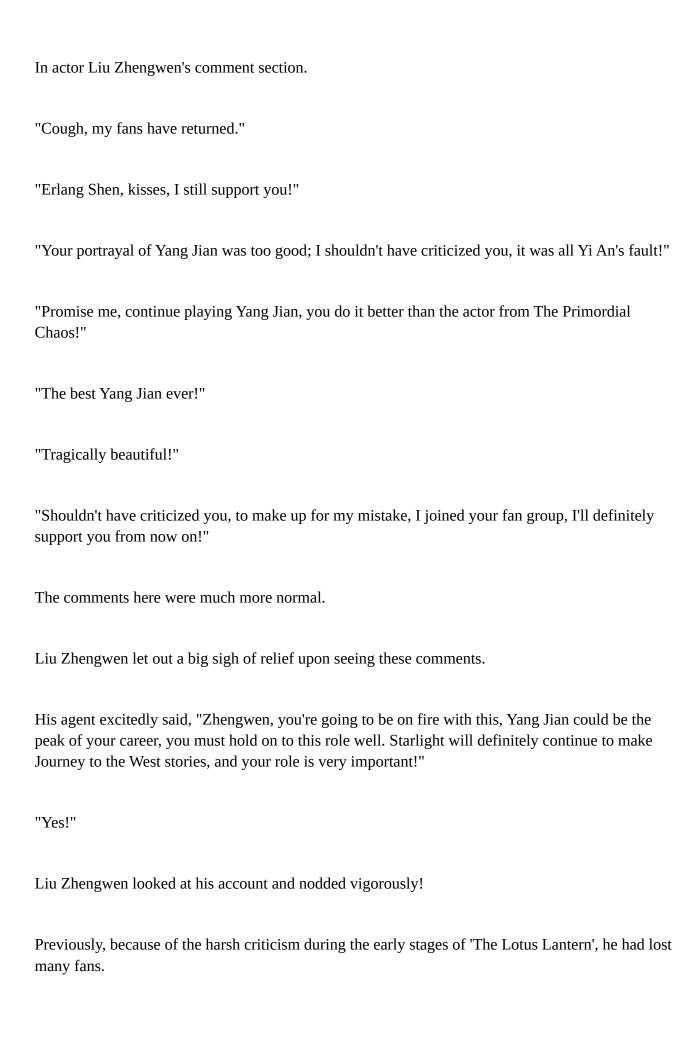


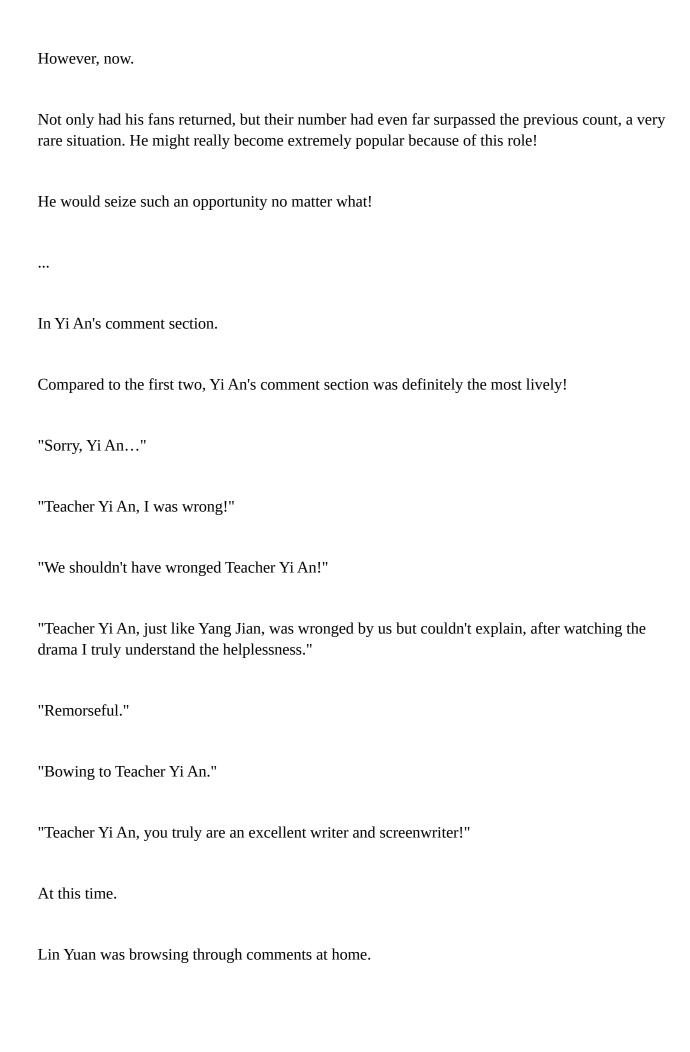


Suddenly, a wave of nausea. Ling Kong actually did feel like he had eaten shit. Chapter 837: The Male Lead Has Been Snatched Away This was a post-deletion tidal wave! Netizens were deleting their posts, and Ling Kong was deleting posts too! It's just that ordinary netizens' actions of deleting posts went unnoticed, while Ling Kong had now become a celebrity and, consequently, a focal point of attention for many! Once he started deleting posts, a wave of scolding followed in the comments of his other updates: "This guy deletes posts faster than I do!" "Heard you're planning on making a movie related to Yang Jian?" "Still going to shoot it?" "You think you're worthy of portraying Yang Jian?" "Sorry, when it comes to Yang Jian, I only recognize Journey to the West and 'The Lotus Lantern'!" "You've deleted your posts, let's not beat a dead horse, we've silently deleted ours too." "Deserving of criticism, we had a bit of a misunderstanding earlier and spoke out for Yang Jian, but this guy here wanted to stir up trouble amidst the turmoil!" "I don't believe for a second that he's a fan of Yang Jian!" "Don't tell me you believe in the sense of justice from capital!"



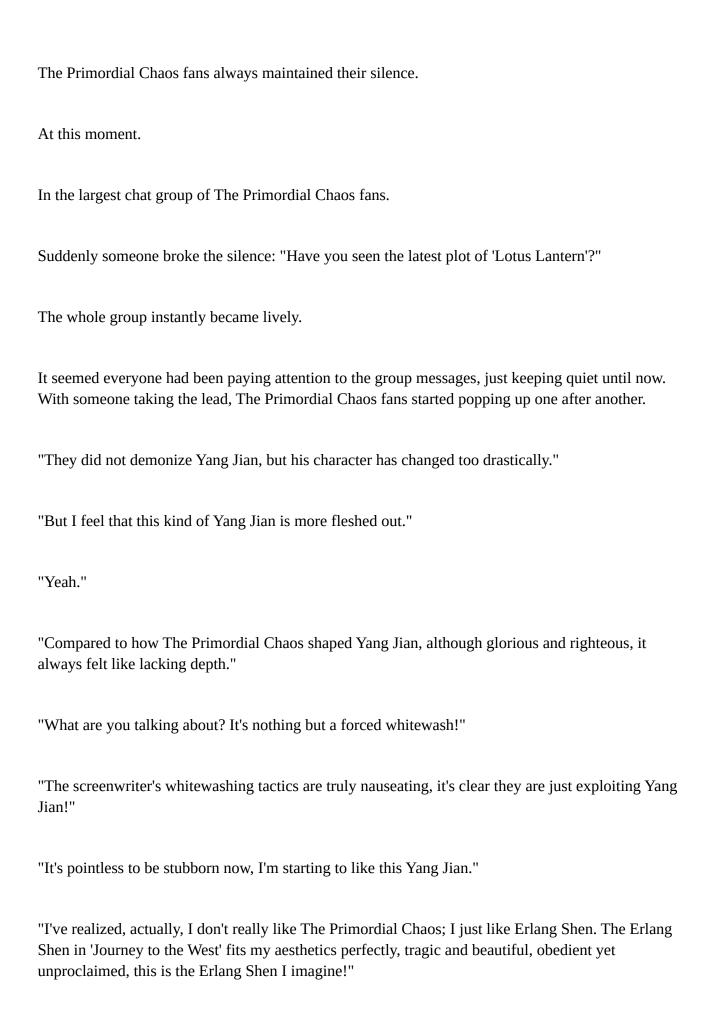
"Sorry Damn it, I really can't stand it, why the hell should I apologize to you, the later part of the drama made me cry my eyes out!"
"It's so hard to apologize when my heart and spirit are unwilling!"
This scene of apologies was indeed a bit eerie.
The audience did indeed misunderstand Ding Xiao, but thinking about how torturous the later part of 'The Lotus Lantern' was, everyone felt like scolding Ding Xiao all over again.
At home.
Ding Xiao, seeing these comments, laughed so hard his mouth almost reached his ears, radiating an unusual excitement!
Indeed!
The audience just loves this!
In making TV dramas, one must be cruel!
I love this about you all, how you say you're unwilling with your mouths, but your bodies are so honest!
honest!
honest! Scold me!



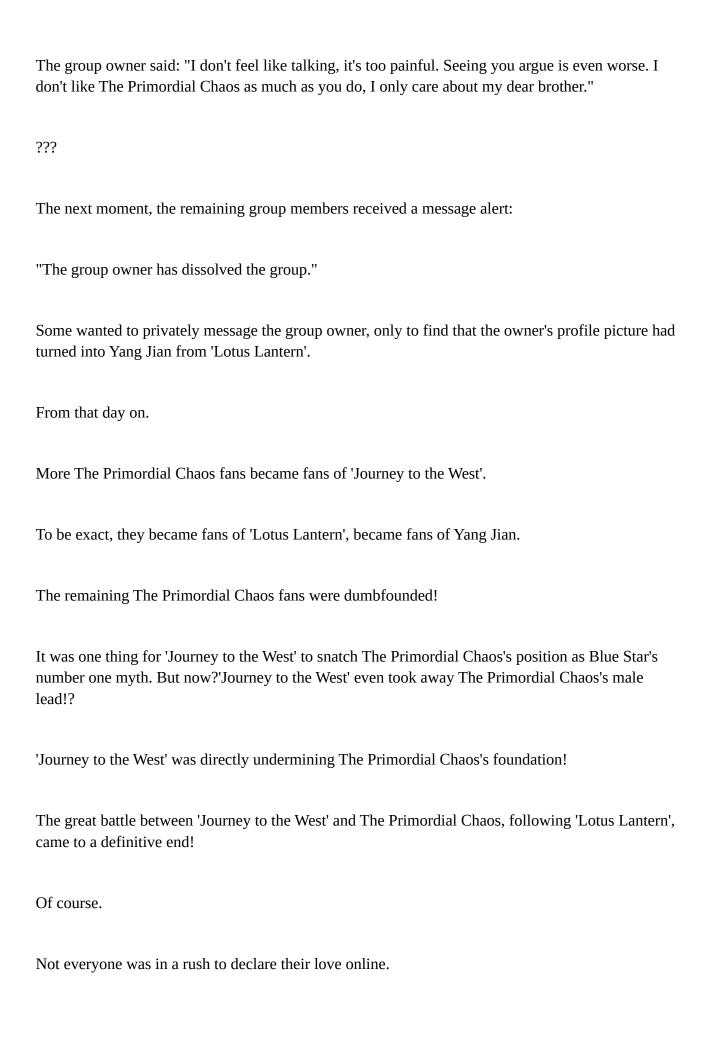


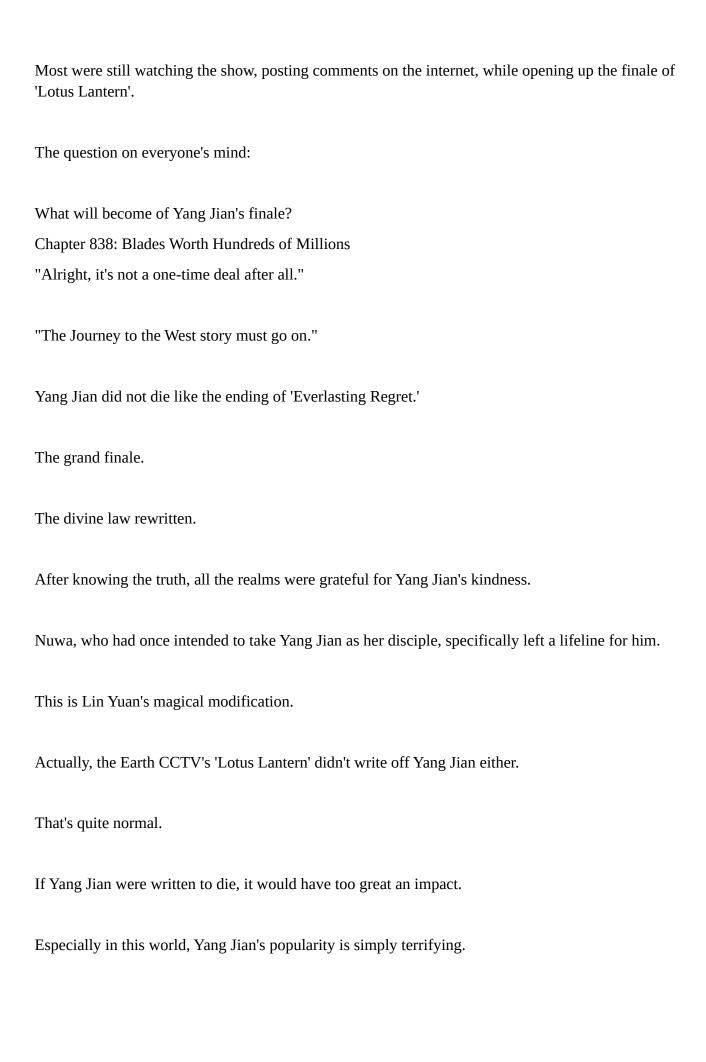






"You've turned traitors, all been brainwashed by Yi An!" "It's you who are stubbornly in denial, always unwilling to acknowledge the excellence of 'Journey to the West'. I used to be like that too, but such a 'Lotus Lantern', such an Erlang Shen, I'm thoroughly convinced." The group actually started arguing. A moment later. Some people left the group. One, two, three... Numerous The Primordial Chaos fans began leaving the group! The admin panicked: "Let's talk it out, don't leave, The Primordial Chaos fans are all one family!" "It's better this way." The group owner suddenly appeared. The admin quickly said: "Group owner, please say something, we shouldn't ruin our harmony over this!" "This isn't about ruining harmony." The group owner said: "As you all know, I am a die-hard fan of Yang Jian. I created this group even for Yang Jian. Now, this group has diverged from my original intention." The admin became anxious: "What do you mean by that?"

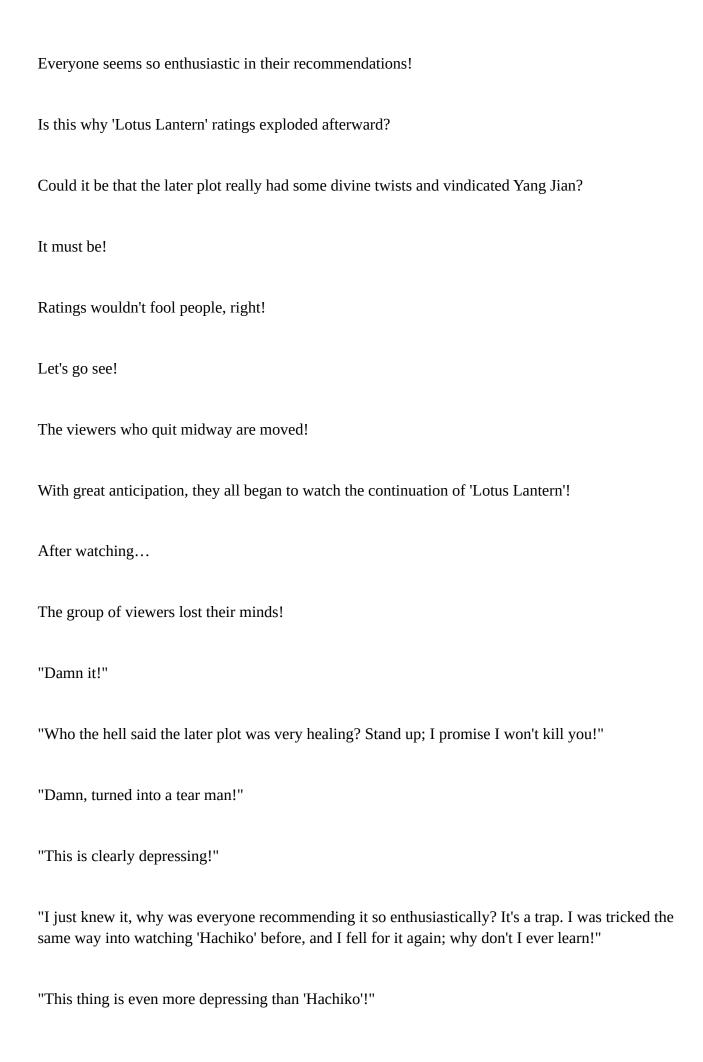




Just the first dozen episodes of 'Lotus Lantern' slightly smearing Erlang Shen caused such a storm, let alone the cost of killing off Second Master.
Moreover, Lin Yuan intends to create the Journey to the West Universe.
In his vision.
Whether it's Sun Wukong or Yang Jian, both are indispensable soul figures in the future Journey to the West Universe.
However, this ending still triggered countless viewers to curse.
There's no other reason!
It's just too torturous!
But as much as everyone criticized, the drama's ratings still went up.
On Starlight Web.
The TV series 'Lotus Lantern' scored a high 9.1!
For a TV series, this is a very good achievement!
Under normal circumstances.
A Starlight Web rating of over 8 signifies a quality work already.
Reaching nine points, that's considered a classic.
Well.

It's safe to say the rating trend of 'Lotus Lantern' has been pretty twisted.
When this drama first came out, the Starlight Web rating was just around eight points.
When the plot made Yang Jian a villain, the ratings for 'Lotus Lantern' crashed, at one point falling to around six points, showing just how deep viewers' grudges were towards the blackening of Yang Jian.
Until the plot twist occurred.
The rating of this drama suddenly surged against the trend, finally reaching the current 9.1 points.
Ups and downs.
More thrilling than the stock market.
Indeed, because of the adverse effects of Yang Jian being made a villain earlier in 'Lotus Lantern', many viewers actually quit watching midway; even when early viewing of episodes was introduced they did not watch, protesting with their actions against this smear of Yang Jian.
However.
As the ratings and reputation of 'Lotus Lantern' counterattacked, viewers who didn't continue watching the later episodes were shocked!
What happened to the protest?
What happened to the boycott?
How did this drama end up exploding in ratings after finishing?
What's the deal with this drama?

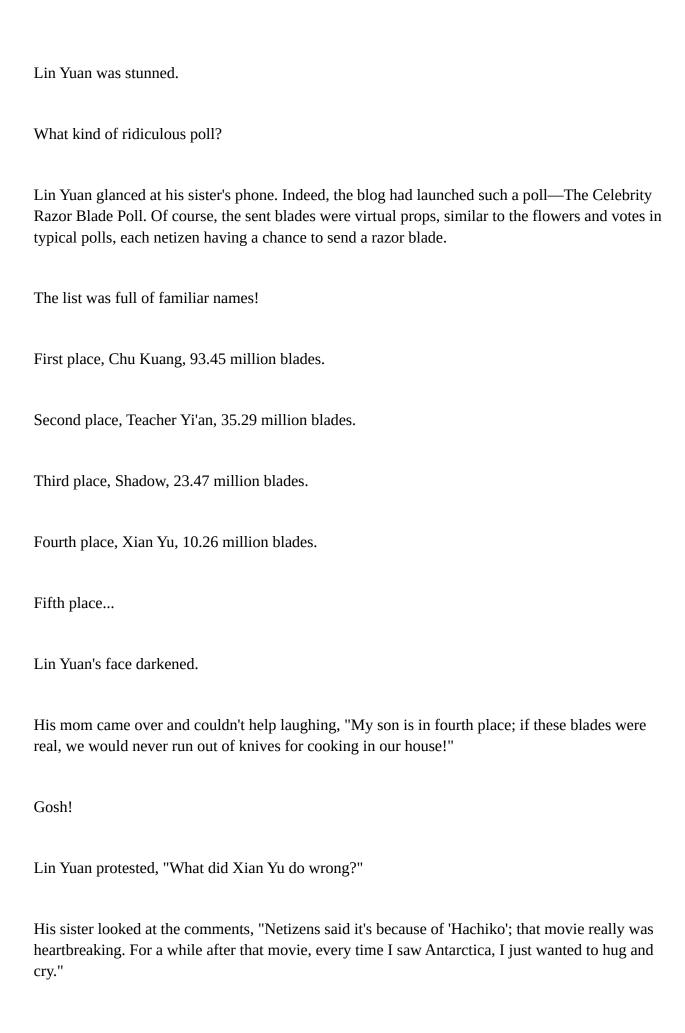




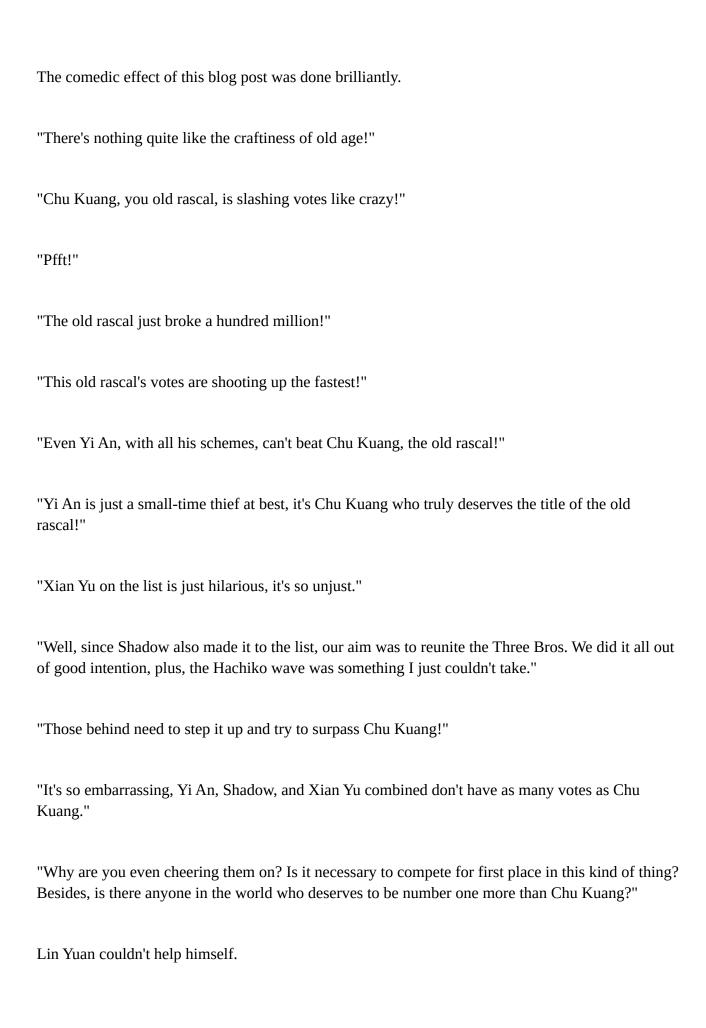
"I can't take it anymore; I have to trick someone else. Last time my classmate tricked me into watching 'Hachiko', which left me crying my eyes out. Now it's his turn to pay the price!"
The latecomer viewers cursed wildly!
The enthusiastic netizens who promoted the drama before were so thrilled they slapped their thighs in excitement!
The highest realm of lying is to mix countless truths within a lie!
This drama indeed did not vilify Yang Jian, everyone wronged Teacher Yi'an, right?
Healing?
Well, that might have been a typo on our part.
Who can blame us when "healing" and "depressing" sound the same?
"zhiyu"
The case was finally solved.
It's all the fault of the pinyin typing method.
And these spectators are misleading others too?
Welcome aboard!
Our goal is:
No moth

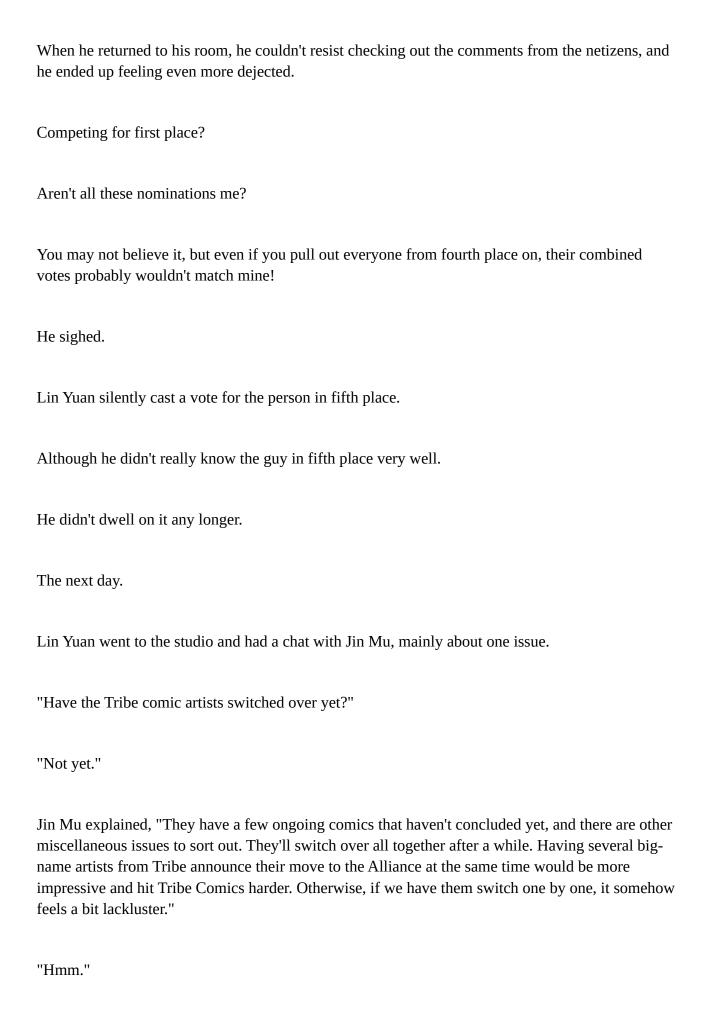


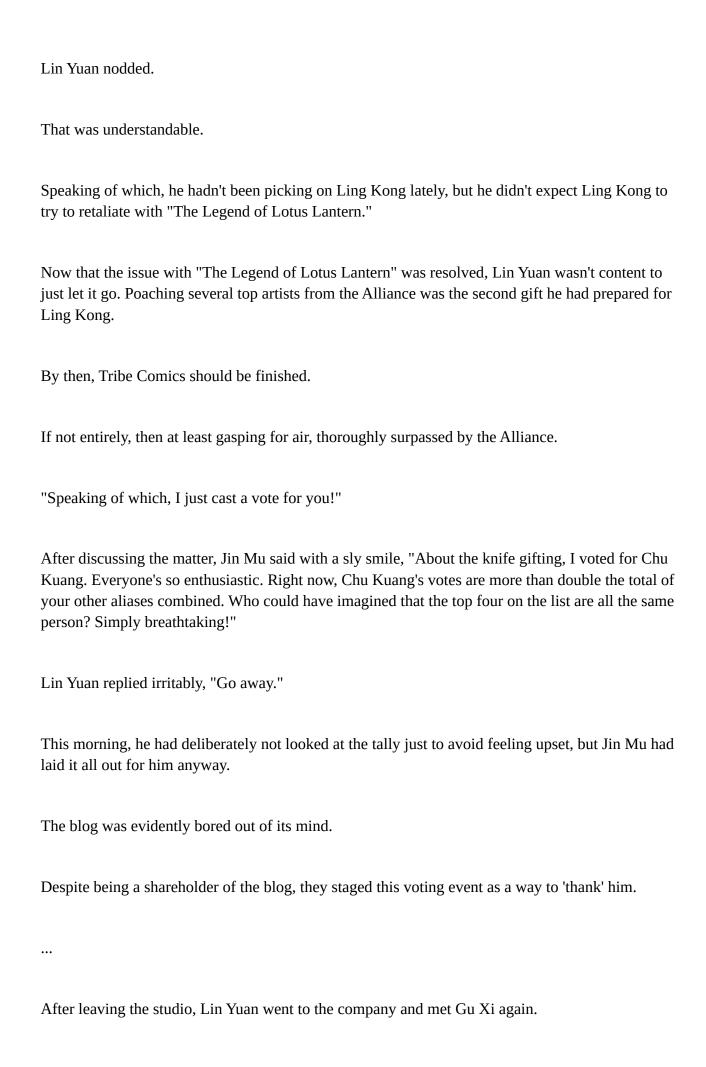








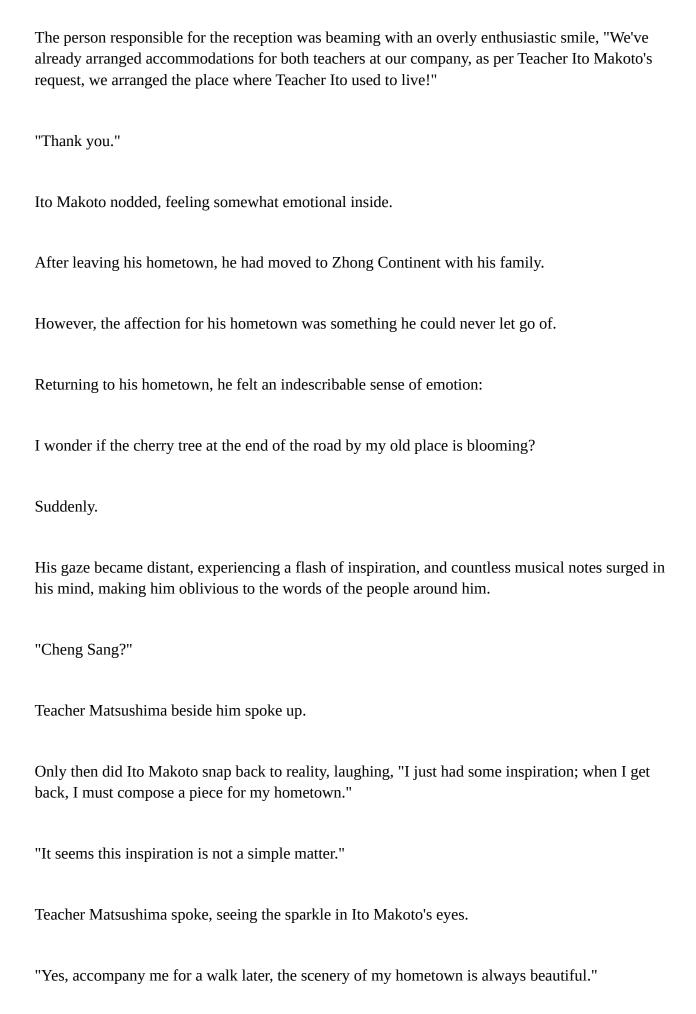




Gu Xi was here to submit her assignment today. She had been practicing "Nocturne" lately and now had it down pat. Lin Yuan didn't beat around the bush and had Gu Xi perform it for him on the spot to make sure there were no issues with the performance before arranging the recording. This process went rather smoothly. Starlight had professionals in charge of the recording, and Lin Yuan was very satisfied with the final outcome. He was certain. If he were to play himself, he certainly could not outperform Gu Xi, as his piano skills were merely professional level, whereas Gu Xi's were close to Master Level. What does being Master Level imply? One simply needs to consider the level of Lin Yuan's Master Level drawing skills to understand. It wasn't just the piano piece. Lin Yuan also planned to take some time in the next few days to record the singing version of "Nocturne." December was drawing closer, and both classical pieces as well as this song had to enter the seasonal charts. However, there was a problem with "Nocturne." In the chorus of "Nocturne," there was a line of lyrics:









the top-tier masterpieces that Lin Yuan brought out from Earth's art.
Speaking of which,
there were quite a few award-winning films in Lin Yuan's memory.
Like "Forrest Gump";
like "The Shawshank Redemption";
and like "The Legend of 1900", among others. So even if it wasn't these two films getting nominated, Lin Yuan had countless other options to achieve the goal of winning awards for his films —
Huh?
Seeming to think of something, Lin Yuan's heart skipped a beat, and a happy expression appeared on his face as he blurted out:
"Got it!"
"Got what?"
"Nothing much, just suddenly thought of a new film closely related to music. We can decide on the name of the main character of this film ahead of time."
"A new film?"
Ol' Zhou became interested immediately.
The company was very serious about Lin Yuan's new films.

If neither of these films ended up getting nominated, then there would definitely be something wrong with the Dragon Awards, because even Blue Star's formidable artistry would not stand up to



But why this film and not some other work?

Quite simply,

because Lin Yuan suddenly no longer planned to change the lyrics of "Nocturne"; he had found the perfect solution.

"Playing Chopin's nocturnes for you..."

He had fallen into a cognitive trap before; in fact, these lyrics could be used, and it wasn't necessary to change them.

So what if Blue Star doesn't have Chopin?

He could create a character named "Chopin".

All he had to do was write "Chopin" as the protagonist of the movie "The Legend of 1900".

When the outside world wondered who Chopin was, Lin Yuan only had to explain that this Chopin was the male lead of his next film, and then everyone would believe that Lin Yuan mentioned this unknown Chopin in his song to promote a future film.

Releasing a song could also promote the movie.

Wasn't this killing two birds with one stone?

Moreover, the protagonist of "The Legend of 1900" had no real-life prototype anyway.

The film was adapted from a certain literary script, telling the legendary story of an unnamed orphan who bonded with a piano on an ocean liner and eventually became a piano master.

The story itself was purely fictional.

The protagonist's name could have been anything. Even using "Chopin" would not have felt out of place since Lin Yuan never intended to use the original movie protagonist's name to begin with.

Moreover
By filming "The Legend of 1900", Lin Yuan could also use this movie to release more popular piano music.
For instance, the entire "Nocturne" series?
His thought process was gradually becoming clearer, and Lin Yuan finally didn't need to worry about the lyrics of "Nocturne" anymore.
···
On the other side.
The news that Ito Makoto and Matsushima Rain, both holding dual citizenship and having recently returned to their hometown in Chu Continent, had finally been leaked!
On Blue Star.
The fame of any Maestro is incredibly high!
Just think about Xian Yu becoming a Maestro. Even before he officially won an award, the Literature and Art Association had already issued a global announcement right away. One could roughly understand just how prestigious the status of a Maestro is, let alone what it means for two Maestros from Zhong Continent to make an appearance!
And after the news of their return was exposed.
Neither Ito Makoto nor Matsushima Rain kept it a secret.
The two openly accepted interviews with Chu Continent media, explaining their purpose for returning:
They were participating in this year's Gods of Music Battle!



Although Xian Yu had already reached the standard of a Maestro, everyone had not forgotten that Xian Yu was just the last Gods of Music Battle away from a twelve-time consecutive championship. If Xian Yu succeeded in securing the twelve-time consecutive championship, then his status as the youngest Maestro in the history of Blue Star would be even more valuable!

Yet, at this crucial moment, people from Zhong Continent had arrived!

They didn't come earlier or later, but just as Xian Yu was about to attempt the twelve-time consecutive champion, their timing was too coincidental not to think they were targeting Xian Yu!

Compared to the netizens' belated realization.

In the musical circles of the five continents.

Almost instantly, as the news of Ito Makoto and Matsushima Rain's return broke, many professionals already knew the score!

No doubt about it!

The two of them were targeting Xian Yu!

"As expected, they came!"

"I just knew Zhong Continent wouldn't just watch Xian Yu win a twelve-time consecutive championship."

"That's Zhong Continent for you. There are many people there who don't want to see Xian Yu achieve the twelve-time grand slam of the five continents because it would be embarrassing for many Maestros from Zhong Continent. Plus, Zhong Continent has maintained a superior position in various fields for many years. Xian Yu's presence has posed a threat to them, and they need to take down Xian Yu to prove that Zhong Continent is still the invincible leader in all fields."

"Xian Yu has quite some influence!"

"Zhong Continent sent not just one person, but two Maestros, showing the high priority they place on dealing with Xian Yu!"
"Isn't Zhong Continent being a bit too domineering?"
"Isn't it bullying for two Maestros to team up against a junior?"
"Didn't you see their interview? Ito Makoto said that his new work is a pop song, you know. His forte is really instrumental music, so this time he has given half of his advantage. He's not going all out."
"What about Teacher Matsushima?"
As the discussion reached this point, musical professionals couldn't help but pause.
During the silence.
Someone sighed and said, "The worst news for Xian Yu isn't that two people from Zhong Continent have come to target him, but that his ace in the hole was used up early in this November"
Without an ace in the hole, how was he going to compete?