

Black Iron 1181

Chapter 1181: Arrangement

After contacting with his elder brother, Zhang Tie contacted with Bai Suxian too.

Bai Suxian was still waiting for Zhang Tie in Zhongzhou City.

As the catastrophe of bloody figures had already broken out in Zhongzhou Province, after this catastrophe of bloody figures broke out across Taixia Country, Zhongzhou Province was relatively less affected. Among the 9 immortal provinces of Taixia Country, the catastrophes of bloody figures also broke out in Jinzhou Province, Pingzhou Province, Fengzhou Province and Qingzhou Province besides Zhongzhou Province.

Zhang Tie didn't talk with Bai Suxian too much. He would explain it to Bai Suxian after coming back to Zhongzhou Province. Bai Suxian didn't ask him why as usual. Zhang Tie knew that Bai Suxian, as a wise woman, must have guessed that the event in Xuanyuan Hill was related to him. Because Zhang Tie had told her that it was one of the 9 ministers of Taixia Country who framed him. Soon after Zhang Tie left the airboat, Xuanyuan Hill had met such a storm. Bai Suxian must have noticed the relationship between Zhang Tie and that major event.

After contacting with Bai Suxian, Zhang Tie thought for a short while before contacting Mountain Lifting Hermit. Previously, Mountain Lifting Hermit told Zhang Tie that he wanted to try his fortune in Taiyi City. Given the distance, Zhang Tie estimated that Mountain Lifting Hermit might have not reached Taiyi City yet. 'Taiyi City is in Daozhou Province, which is over 60,000 miles away from Xuanyuan Hill. Mountain Lifting Hermit didn't take an airboat. Additionally, an earth knight couldn't keep flying around the clock. Even if Mountain Lifting Hermit had tried his utmost efforts these days, he could not arrive at Daozhou Province. Additionally, Mountain Lifting Hermit might have already contacted me over these days after knowing what happened in Xuanyuan Hill; but I failed to receive them.'

Zhang Tie's guess was right. Soon after he established a link with Mountain Lifting Hermit, he had received a message.

"I've heard about what happened in Xuanyuan Hill on November 16th. I tried to contact you; however, I failed. How's everything going?"

"I'm fine. I will tell you about it in details when I meet you. Where're you now, elder brother?"

"I'm in Zhenzhou Province. After Xuanyuan Hill met such a storm, the market where secret pearls could be traded in Taiyi City suspended its business for the time being. When the event broke out in Xuanyuan Hill, I was in Lingzhou Province, which was not affected by bloody figures; however, the catastrophe of bloody figures broke out in Zhenzhou province, which neighbors Lingzhou Province. Therefore, I came to Zhengzhou Province from Lingzhou Province and helped them deal with those bloody figures. These bloody figures afflicted villages and towns greatly. I will stay in Zhenzhou Province and kill some more bloody figures!"

Mountain Lifting Hermit looked cold yet was kind-hearted. As a Hua knight, he would never put his hands in his sleeves and just look at the catastrophe of bloody figures.

“Elder brother, you stay in Zhenzhou Province for a few days. We could keep in touch at any time. I will come for you. We will return to Iron-Dragon Sect together by airboat!”

After a few seconds, Zhang Tie received a message.

“Sure, I’m afraid that the market of trading secret pearls in Taiyi City would not open anymore before the catastrophe of bloody figures was pacified. I will go to Iron-Dragon Sect with you first!”

After hearing Mountain Lifting Hermit’s words, Zhang Tie became reassured. As long as Mountain Lifting Hermit returned to Iron-Dragon Sect and officially became the grand elder of Iron-Dragon Sect after paying a formal visit to the disciples of Iron-Dragon Sect, of course, Zhang Tie could have Mountain Lifting Hermit take one small space-teleportation equipment in that atmosphere.

After contacting with Mountain Lifting Hermit, Zhang Tie contacted with Sarlin Pontiff so as to learn the latest news about the expeditionary army of Sacred Light Empire.

From Sarlin Pontiff’s words, Zhang Tie knew that Elder Gular and old bear Dali had returned to Ice and Snow Wilderness by airboat of Gold and Power Law 2 days ago. They might still be on the way. The expeditionary army of Sacred Light Empire had not set off yet; the Sacred Iceland Kingdom was preparing for the coming war. Besides the weird atmosphere, everything else was normal.

After contacting with the 4 people, Zhang Tie finally became reassured.

When Zhang Tie contacted the 4 people, his old slave Zhang Gui just waited beside him quietly in a steady way for his order at any time.

After putting away the bunch of remote-sensing finger rings, Zhang Tie looked around and didn’t find anybody within 10,000 square miles. Additionally, there were massive smoke and water vapor in the air, causing a low visibility. Therefore, Zhang Tie called the huge thunder hawk out of Castle of Black Iron.

The moment the thunder hawk came out of Castle of Black Iron, it had crowed out of excitement for one time before flying around Zhang Tie.

Castle of Black Iron was just a huge bird cage for this thunder hawk. By flapping its wings casually for one time, the thunder hawk could finish a few rounds in Castle of Black Iron. Therefore, after coming out of Castle of Black Iron, the thunder hawk was pretty thrilled.

Zhang Tie immediately rode onto the back of the thunder hawk only by one stride. After sitting well, he waved his hand toward Zhang Gui, “You come here too. We will go to Zhongzhou City. It’s a long distance. It would be too time-consuming if we fly towards there ourselves!”

After hearing Zhang Tie’s words, before Zhang Gui replied, the thunder hawk had twisted its body unwillingly in the air as it turned around and looked at Zhang Gui with dissatisfaction.

“This old slave will not sit on it. Slaves are forbidden to sit together with their masters in any family. As this bird is huge, this old slave will just hold one of its claws!” Zhang Gui said in a humble way.

“Fine, your wish!” Zhang Tie shrugged. Now that Zhang Gui was so self-conscious, Zhang Tie didn’t need to say anything.

After hearing Zhang Gui's words, the thunder hawk looked at Zhang Gui with a bit tender eye light. Closely after that, the thunder hawk stretched out one huge claw so that Zhang Gui could hold one iron hook-like finger. Closely after that, it flapped its wings and flew off as fast as a lightning bolt. In the blink of an eye, it had flown away from the volcanic region being enshrouded with smoke towards Zhongzhou City.

Zhang Tie sat on the back of the thunder hawk in a calm way. The thunder hawk stretched out one claw backward which formed a freak combination with Zhang Gui who looked like a kite.

If the thunder hawk carried two commoners, it would feel difficult to fly; however, Zhang Tie and Zhang Gui were both knights. They just floated in the air weightlessly and relied on the thunder hawk's speed. Therefore, the thunder hawk could fly easily. Additionally, they both released their protective battle qis to wrap their own bodies so as to reduce the windage to the minimum. In less than 1 minute, with a slight sonic boom, a mushroom-shaped gaseous circle appeared around the thunder hawk. After breaking through this gaseous circle, the thunder hawk immediately broke the sound barrier. After a few seconds, it reached 2 times that of the speed of sound and became a golden light in the stratosphere.

Sitting on the back of the thunder hawk, Zhang Tie watched the landscape flashing backward under his feet as he felt being an immortal.

'Karma is really marvelous. When it was peaceful across Taixia Country, I lived as poor as a stray dog while being wanted and chased every day. At that time, I was anxious every day. By contrast, when Taixia Country become chaotic as a whole, I've become so relaxed as if the spring is coming. The pendulum has swung back.'

"Zhang Gui, have you learned how to hide your qi?" Zhang Tie suddenly turned around as he asked Zhang Gui who was below the thunder hawk's tail.

The thunder hawk moved faster than the speed of sound in air. If Zhang Tie didn't speak through the secret means, before his sound reached Zhang Gui's ears, the thunder hawk had already flown far away.

"This old slave always did secret tasks before. Therefore, I've learned to conceal my qi!" Zhang Gui replied respectfully in a secret way.

"If so, just show the level of a common black iron knight in the public from then on unless emergencies!"

"Yes, master!" Zhang Gui didn't ask about the reason. Closely after Zhang Tie's words, Zhang Gui's qi had slowly declined and became as same as that of a common black iron knight. "Master, is this old slave okay?"

Zhang Tie threw a glance at Zhang Gui as he nodded inside, 'After forming the earth chakra, due to the concealing attribute of earth, earth knights could hide their qis without even learning any secret method; plus the effect of some secret method, commoners could barely identify that they are earth knights. If my knight's consciousness wasn't strong enough, I couldn't identify that Zhang Gui is an earth knight either.'

"Not bad. Just keep this state. Don't expose your cultivation base and battle strength as an earth knight to the public. After coming back to Youzhou Province, you will be my steward and help me look after my family members and Jinwu City!"

“Thanks for your trust, master. This old slave will exert my full efforts to look after your family and Jinwu City. As long as this old slave is still alive, I will never allow anyone to harm master’s family members.”

After hearing that Zhang Tie wanted him to be his steward, Zhang Gui’s face immediately gave out a brilliance as he expressed his loyalty happily at once.

That was what Zhang Tie wanted, also why Zhang Tie took Zhang Gui out of Castle of Black Iron.

After this event, Zhang Tie realized that the overall strength of his family was too weak. As long as he left home, his home would lack reliable powerhouses, which Zhang Tie was concerned about the most. Over these years, although a knight of Heavens Fortune Sect always resided in Zhang Clan so as to help Zhang family tide over the stormiest days, the knight always belonged to Heavens Fortune Sect. This knight was to perform a task in Zhang Clan assigned by his sect; therefore, Zhang family and this knight always felt a bit estranged; sometimes, it was not convenient either. After bringing Zhang Gui back home, Zhang Tie would solve this problem completely.

As Taixia Country was in great chaos as a whole, Zhang Tie had to pay more attention to the safety of his family members.

‘However, the identity of Zhang Gui is too eye-catching in Youzhou Province. In Youzhou Province, a lower province that has just been established, there are much fewer earth knights than that in other provinces; if I had an earth knight as my servant, Huaiyuan Palace would feel embarrassed about that, not to mention outsiders. Even Zhang Taixuan, the master of Huaiyuan Palace has just promoted to an earth knight for a few years; if an earth knight who calls himself “this old slave” follows me here and there who’s the real head of Huaiyuan Palace?’

‘Although I have not returned to Huaiyuan Palace yet, I have to consider these questions in advance!’

Chapter 1182: Convergence

If Zhang Gui concealed his real battle strength in the public, besides avoiding from outsiders’ disputes and the embarrassing conflicts in Huaiyuan Palace, the biggest benefit was that Zhang Gui could easily deal with more difficult situations at the critical moment.

At any time, concealing one’s battle strength would bring unimaginable benefits. A black iron knight was too weaker than an earth knight in battle strength. As long as the opponent underestimated Zhang family’s overall strength at the critical moment, Zhang family would be safer and reverse the situation.

After killing Han Zhengfang, Zhang Tie found that he became increasingly “grimmer” and more “cunning” in considering and dealing with problems.

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The thunder hawk moved very fast and smoothly on the way.

After flying about 2,000 miles away from the volcanic area, the thunder hawk met an unknown airboat in the air. The crew on the airboat might have discovered the thunder hawk, Zhang Tie and Zhang Gui; however, they must be scared by the high speed of the thunder hawk. Therefore, after chasing after the thunder hawk for a few seconds, the airboat soon lost their target as its speed was even slower than the

speed of sound in air. Zhang Tie didn't care about it. Whatever, this thunder hawk would always appear in the public in the future. It was nothing strange for others to be curious about it. He didn't need to overreact in others' response.

At this moment, one claw of this thunder hawk had already put on a mithril foot loop which was specially made by Edward like a label on the foot of a homebred pigeon. It indicated that this thunder hawk had its owner; instead of being a mutated wild species. Even if the thunder hawk flew away itself and met a heavenly knight-level old monster on the way, it wouldn't be robbed away.

Although it was a bit chaotic in Taixia Country, except for b*stards of Heavens Reaching Church, people could still comply well with the basic orders and rules of Taixia Country apparently, including commoners and supreme knights. The "Laws of Taixia Country" were still unshakable in Taixia Country. The imperial court of Taixia Country was still in a ruling position. If not want to enter the wanted list of the Supreme Court, even knights dared not casually kill people and rob people's objects blatantly.

Because Zhang Tie's destination was Zhongzhou Province, which was not far from Xuanyuan Hill, he didn't see any bloody figures on the way. As the traffic arteries and dangerous terrains in the periphery of Xuanyuan Hill were strictly defended by the top 4 armies of Taixia Country, those bloody figures couldn't access to Xuanyuan Hill at all.

The thunder hawk could fly at almost 1,500 miles per hour. At afternoon, after 7 hours' high-speed flight, a class-A city had appeared on the horizon.

Zhongzhou Province was one of the top 9 immortal provinces of Taixia Country. As the capital city of Zhongzhou Province, Zhongzhou city was much more prosperous than ordinary class-A cities. Besides the inside of Zhongzhou City, the entire Zhongzhou City was surrounded by densely populated districts. The radiated urban regions of Zhongzhou City were 5 times larger than that of ordinary class-A cities. After a long-term peaceful life, even if these people didn't settle in the city, they didn't need to worry about any dangers while living at the periphery of the city.

Perhaps, people near Zhongzhou City were still not worried about dangers a few months ago, it was hard for them to persist in the same firm belief now.

Watching airships and airboats setting off and landing at the airports inside and outside Zhongzhou City, Zhang Tie directly contacted with Bai Suxian and told her to have the airboat drive to 30 miles away from Zhongzhou City. He would converge with them outside the city instead of joining the fun inside Zhongzhou City.

After gaining benefits, making a fortune, exterminating the powerful enemies and screwing Meng Shidao, of course, he needed to be low-key as it was not far from Xuanyuan Hill.

Zhang Tie let the thunder hawk slow down its speed from twice the speed of sound to equivalent to the speed of sound in air. They were not moving as fast as ordinary knights.

Old slave Zhang Gui had already loosened the sharp claw of the thunder hawk and started to fly after the thunder hawk in case of arousing others' attention.

In less than 10 minutes, the thunder hawk had passed through the border of Zhongzhou City, exposing Iron-Dragon Airboat to Zhang Tie, Zhang Gui and the thunder hawk.

The movable deck on the top of Iron-Dragon Airboat had opened while Zhang Tie's disciples were standing on the deck and waiting for Zhang Tie.

With a strong wind, a sparkling golden light and an air-splitting sound, the thunder hawk dove downwards onto the deck, causing them to widely open their eyes as they hurriedly turned around; some female disciples' skirts swayed in the air.

Before they realized what happened, Zhang Tie had already appeared on the deck while an extremely handsome golden bird was standing on Zhang Tie's side. The bird was even taller than Zhang Tie. The huge bird was preening its feathers on its neck as it squinted at the others with a pair of golden eyes in an extremely arrogant way. An old man was standing behind Zhang Tie in a docile way.

Liu Xing recovered his composure as he hurriedly deeply bowed towards Zhang Tie, followed by the other disciples; meanwhile, they said in unison, "Welcome back, Master!"

"Hmm!" Zhang Tie glanced around the deck and immediately understood the progress of the cultivation of the 121 disciples. Curiously, Bai Suxian was not on the deck. 'This is not Bai Suxian's style.'

After straightening up their bodies, at the sight of Zhang Tie, many people's heart pounded as they hurriedly lowered their heads too.

Being limited to their overall strength, although his disciples didn't know what happened to Zhang Tie these days, all of them could sense the change in their master. Their master became more imposing with milder eye light. However, after being casually glanced by their master, they would feel being seen through as they didn't feel like struggling at all.

In only a few days, Zhang Tie had entered 4 change earth realm; especially after taking that fruit of brilliance, Zhang Tie's spiritual energy had surged to a terrifying level. At this moment, although Zhang Tie didn't mean to release his imposing qi field, his movements could still bring a great stress to his disciples who had not even reached LV 10.

"Zhao Bing, Wu Yinhu, Zhou Xiao, Ma Kuicheng, Linghu Biao, Sunzhan, Zhu Yuanguang, Qian Bingbing, Huang Chongyang, Bai Hua, Zhang Yueshan, Yu Xiaoi", Zhang Tie called 12 disciples consecutively, including 2 females. After being called, all of them became flurried as they hurriedly lowered their heads. However, Zhang Tie's words were out of their expectation, "You've made great progress in your cultivation bases these days; your LV 9 realm have become more complete with denser spiritual energy. This master will enlighten *Fire-Dragon Sutra* to you tomorrow!"

"Thanks, Master!" After hearing Zhang Tie's words, these disciples became stunned for a second. Closely after that, they became overjoyed and hurriedly kowtowed towards Zhang Tie. Being imparted with *Fire Dragon Sutra* through enlightenment, they would feel like having a new birth. None of them had imagined that their master could preach them *Fire Dragon Sutra* through enlightenment soon after he came back. As a result, they started to feel like climbing towards universal laws. Out of extreme excitement, someone's eyes were even filled with tears at once.

When Liu Xing was preached *Fire-Dragon Sutra* through enlightenment by Zhang Tie, the others disciples were admiring about him pretty much. They encouraged themselves and expected that they could be that fortunate one day; unexpectedly, that day came so fast.

The 12 disciples that Zhang Tie called had made evident progress in cultivation bases with greatest efforts during these days. Even the other disciples whose names were not called had become spirited and hopeful, not to mention the 12 disciples. With such models in front of them, as long as they would like to make efforts in cultivation, they might be preached with Fire Dragon Sutra through enlightenment in the next round.

“Zhu Dabiao, Wang Pan, Xie Qingfeng. You need to make more efforts in cultivation. Don’t lag behind the others!” Zhang Tie called the three guys whose cultivation bases ranked last among all of his disciples. After hearing that, the three people hurriedly lowered their heads with a guilty look and dared not to throw a glance at Zhang Tie at all.

Zhang Tie then glanced around all the disciples before saying, “As for the others, keep it in mind, the road of cultivation is a long-lasting progress, you need to make constant efforts in a modest way!”

“Yes, Master!”

Zhang Tie succumbed all of his disciples only by three sentences. After that, he asked Liu Xing, “Where’s your Uncle Master Bai?”

“Soon after Iron-Dragon Airboat left Zhongzhou City, a maid of Uncle Master Bai had told me that Uncle Master Bai felt a bit uncomfortable and was taking a rest in the cabin!” Liu Xing replied in a solemn look. All the others just looked at the ground silently.

After hearing this answer, Zhang Tie touched his nose lightly. As a knight, of course, Bai Suxian wouldn’t feel uncomfortable like commoners. After promoting to a knight, it indicated that she had said goodbye to 36,000 kinds of diseases. Unless being possessed by the devil in cultivation or being poked some holes by a dagger, she would never feel “a bit uncomfortable”.

‘Bai Suxian must be losing temper. Because she has guessed that the event in Xuanyuan Hill is related to me, she must be blaming me for not having her as an assistant.’

Sometimes, women were narrow-minded, even being a knight.

Chapter 1183: Heading for Youzhou Province

“This is Zhang Gui, my...subordinate. This is my pet mount. Although it looks ferocious, it’s human-friendly. As long as you don’t offend it, it will not hurt you. Liu Xing, make an arrangement for them. This thunder hawk will eat over 30 kg’s raw flesh and 5 vials of all-purpose medicament per day on the airboat...”

In the public, Zhang Gui was Zhang Tie’s subordinate.

Subordinate was an ambiguous concept, which could be a domestic general, a myrmidon, a servant or an employee. Although Zhang Gui’s real identity was Zhang Tie’s servant, Zhang Tie wouldn’t treat him as his servant in the public as it was meaningless to be that flamboyant. Even though Zhang Gui as a knight would like to be his pious servant, it was still too eye-catching in Youzhou Province. Few elders in top clans of Taixia Country could enjoy such a luxurious treatment. For instance, Uncle Zhong was Lord Guangnan’s myrmidon; instead of his servant...

In the beginning, they were afraid of the thunder hawk as it was tall and imposing. Additionally, it landed so fast in such a cool manner. After hearing that this thunder hawk was human-friendly, they immediately surrounded up to watch such a rarity. Although nobody dared touch its feathers, it should not be a problem for them to watch it from a close distance.

It was bustling in the surroundings. As these disciples were all youngsters, the moment they surrounded up, they had started to comment about the thunder hawk and discuss its kind. The thunder hawk tilted its head to look at them as it raised its wings in an evidently impatient way.

Among the comments, a young female suddenly uttered a loud exclamation.

“Wow, Master’s bird is so huge!”

Soon after the praise, the deck became quiet in a split second. The wind blew over while Zhang Tie’s disciples’ faces turned weird. They exchanged a glance with each other with a dumbfounded look.

Soon after she uttered, the female disciple had noticed that the atmosphere on the deck became weird. A senior sister apprentice stealthily drew her sleeve which reminded her something at once. Being blushed as the sunglow, she wanted to explain; however, she didn’t know how. Such an embarrassing thing could never be clarified at all.

Those disciples didn’t know what to say; they just stood still as they dared not burst out into laughter. Such a sudden silence made the junior sister apprentice pretty embarrassed.

“Hahaha, don’t stand still over there. Think about how to find a settlement for master’s pet. Such a bird couldn’t stay on the airboat for too long. We have to have it fly outside for a short while each day. Later on, this bird would be the immortal beast of our Iron-Dragon Sect. We should ask master about the name and the background of this big pet next time. We’d better look after it well. It’s my first time to see such an imposing, huge bird...” Zhu Dabiao burst out into laughter at the critical moment in a shameless way, relieving the weird atmosphere.

“Yes yes, junior brother apprentice Zhu is right. we should consider where to raise such a huge bird. I feel that it could live in the lobby as common cabins couldn’t hold it.”

“Hmm, I feel master’s pet is like a hawk; however, its size could match the legendary dragon hawk...”

“Its golden feathers are so beautiful as if they are made of gold...”

They commented one after another as if they had forgotten what the junior sister apprentice had said just now. The junior sister apprentice threw a stealthy glance at Zhu Dabiao in an appreciative way. At the sight of her appreciative look, Zhu Dabiao revealed a congenital obscene smile at the junior sister apprentice; closely after that, he even threw a customary glance at her well-developed breast self-consciously. Being scared by his glance so much, the junior sister apprentice hurriedly hid herself behind a senior sister apprentice while crossing her arms over her breast.

The casual exclamation of this female disciple became an “anecdote” being stealthily spread among disciples of Iron-Dragon Sect many years later.

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The moment Zhang Tie returned to the airboat, the airboat had started to move. Only after slightly changing its direction, it headed towards Zhenzhou Province at once.

Although Zhang Tie had deepened into the airboat, he had already heard the talks of his disciples on the deck. Rubbing his weird face, he came to Bai Suxian's room.

Now that Bai Suxian felt "a bit uncomfortable", she would not wait for Zhang Tie in his room, but in her room.

Bai Suxian's room was not locked from inside. Therefore, Zhang Tie directly pushed open her door. The moment he entered Bai Suxian's room, he had already sniffed the special smell that combined rouge, perfume and the special body fragrance.

4 most beautiful maids were in the outer room, at the sight of Zhang Tie coming in, they hurriedly lowered their bodies on one side to hail him.

Zhang Tie nodded as he asked, "Is princess better now?"

Those beautiful maids straightened up their bodies as they stealthily exchanged a glance with each other. "Miss feels a bit uncomfortable. She's...just fallen asleep!" a maid called Qinyin replied Zhang Tie in a low voice as she lowered her eyes onto the thick carpet.

Zhang Tie revealed a smile as he raised his hand. Those maids hurriedly exited the outer room by moving backward before closing the door from outside.

Zhang Tie unveiled the bead curtain before entering Bai Suxian's warm bedroom.

All the furnishings inside this bedroom were arranged by Bai Suxian's subordinates according to her daily needs and habits.

The bead curtain of this bedroom was completely made of perfect top-class deep-sea jade beads whose diameter was about 1.6 cm. The ground of the bedroom was paved with 6.7 cm-thick golden goose velvet. Even the toad-shaped violet golden copper furnace was exclusive for airboat. No matter how the airboat fly, the copper furnace would not turn over. Guanghan osmanthus flower charcoal as expensive as gold was burning inside the copper furnace after being treated specially. Everything inside this room could meet the daily needs of the princess of Lord Guangnan's Mansion.

Lying on the snow-white bed, Bai Suxian's back was facing the door while her body was covered with an extremely thin quilt, manifesting the exquisite and undulating curve from her waist to her butt.

She was breathing evenly. Her enchanting face was reflected in the copper mirror. In a night skirt, she put one hand under her head with closed eyes, exposing half plump breasts as if she had really fallen asleep while feeling a bit uncomfortable.

After coming to the bedside, Zhang Tie sat down. After gazing at her plump butt under the thin quilt for a short while, Zhang Tie put one hand into the thin quilt and started to touch her naked body.

Only after a short while, Bai Suxian's face had turned redder while she started to breathe heavily. After a few more seconds, Bai Suxian who had been gritting her teeth finally couldn't stand uttering "Argh" lightly.

"I was told that you felt a bit uncomfortable. How about my therapy? How do you feel now?" Zhang Tie asked with a smile.

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Zhang Tie stayed in Bai Suxian's room for a whole day. On the 2nd day, he left her room in high spirits. Bai Suxian became as tame as before in front of Zhang Tie. With a happy look, she was in a pretty good mood.

Zhang Tie didn't explain anything to Bai Suxian, because he knew that women needed to be convinced; instead of being explained.

Did a man have to report to his wife about his plan when he wanted to do something? Of course not!

Zhang Tie just told Bai Suxian that he would take her back home in Youzhou Province to pay a formal visit to his parents. After hearing that promise, Bai Suxian became tame at once.

Zhang Tie then started to preach his 2nd batch of disciples with *Fire Dragon Sutra* through enlightenment...

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Those male disciples received enlightenment smoothly. After doing that to Liu Xing and the other 6 disciples, Zhang Tie had been familiar with this process; therefore, he finished this process in a higher efficiency.

Not until the first female disciple Qian Bingbing received the enlightenment did he meet a bit trouble.

During the process of enlightenment, Zhang Tie needed to touch their heads. Although Qian Bingbing was one of the most outstanding disciples of Zhang Tie and the most acceptable elder sister among those female disciples, she was also the most troublesome one when in enlightenment. Each time Zhang Tie touched her head, Qian Bingbing's face would turn red with unstable and uneasy qi. Zhang Tie had tried for a few times yet met the same problem.

"Ignore everything; stay concentrated..." As Zhang Tie's sound drifted into Qian Bingbing's mind through a secret method of Bloody Soul Temple, Qian Bingbing's finally became stable spiritually as she closed her eyes and slowly entered the state.

Zhang Tie put his palm onto Qian Bingbing's forehead once again.

Qian Bingbing's forehead felt as icy as her name while being covered with fine sweat drops although being a bit hot just now...

After the process, Qian Bingbing opened her eyes as she watched Zhang Tie who was sitting opposite with complex sparkling eyes. After that, she bit her lips as she put her hands onto her forehead and approached her forehead to the ground in an extremely respectful manner as a disciple, "Master, thanks for paving the steps towards the universal laws for Bingbing..."

"It's fine, call in Huang Chongyang..."

"Yes, Master!"

Qian Bingbing stood up before leaving the back room.

Watching Qian Bingbing's back, Zhang Tie looked a bit weird as he sighed inside, 'Qian Bingbing is really a smart girl. After being preached with Fire Dragon Sutra, she called herself Bingbing in front of me, in which way, she had drawn herself closer to me.'

Closely after that, Zhang Tie shook his head as he revealed a faint smile, 'Perhaps, I've thought too much. Girls always like to call themselves in that way...'

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On December 6th, Iron-Dragon Airboat arrived at Xiushan Prefecture of Zhenzhou Province. After converging with Mountain Lifting Hermit over there, Iron-Dragon Airboat headed for Youzhou Province...

Chapter 1184: Welcome Back

Due to the heavy snow in the chilly north wind, it had been snowwhite within 3,500 miles. Even though, Iron-Dragon Airboat was not affected at all as it marched forwards rapidly and steadily in the heavy wind like an iron-armor battleship that rode the wind and waves.

At this moment, a gold light and two humans landed on the entrance of the stern of Iron-Dragon Airboat in the heavy snow.

After they returned with the thunder hawk, the movable dome on the deck of the stern slowly closed.

"Look at you. Didn't you tell me that you were just going to take a look outside with elder brother? Why did you come back so late?" Bai Suxian walked towards them in winter clothes and a brilliant ferret cloak. Although there was not a bit snowflake on Zhang Tie's clothes, Bai Suxian still came forward to pat his clothes like his virtuous wife.

Lately, as Iron-Dragon Airboat gradually approached Youzhou Province, Bai Suxian became more and more virtuous like a good wife and mother. 2 days ago, Bai Suxian even washed Zhang Tie's clothes. However, it was her first time to do laundry. Finally, although Zhang Tie's priceless boa silk robes became clean, after being dried, they would become mops if being bound to wooden clubs.

Watching Bai Suxian leveling a corner of his garment by drawing it, Zhang Tie threw a glance at Mountain Lifting Hermit with a helpless look. Mountain Lifting Hermit then burst out into laughter.

"You've killed someone?" Bai Suxian stood up and asked Zhang Tie.

Due to her sharp knight's consciousness, Bai Suxian could notice the faint blood smell over Zhang Tie. Although there was no blood on Zhang Tie's clothes, it still carried a faint blood smell in a short period after staying in a bloody environment.

"Just now, I wanted to take a look at the northern landscape outside. Unimaginably, Little Thunder had a sharp vision and discovered a team of bloody figures in the wild hundreds of miles away. Therefore, elder brother and I went there to deal with those bloody figures and warmed up our bodies by the way!" Zhang Tie said with a smile.

Zhang Tie named the thunder hawks as Little Thunder. After hearing that Zhang Tie was speaking highly of it, the thunder hawk fluffed up its feathers.

“There were over 70 bloody figures. It was a big team. In Tongzhou Province, even if they couldn’t break through a city, they could easily sweep over villages and towns. Even the ground guardians of ordinary business groups couldn’t defeat so many bloody figures. We’d better clean them up the moment we saw them. Otherwise, many commoners would be killed by them!” Mountain Lifting Hermit said as he shook his head.

“However, those bloody figures’ heads and corpses are in the wild. They will not easily rot in the snowy day. It’s said that Tongzhou Province has a high reward for heads of bloody figures. If members of Supreme Court or local garrisons killed them, they could even promote to higher positions. I wonder who would pick up those heads and corpses of bloody figures!” Zhang Tie joked. In such a high position, of course, he would not care about a few gold coins and the so-called meritorious service.

Of course, the food chain of a huge deep-sea monster was different than that of small shrimps and fish. The former would not admire about the later either.

“We’ve done a lot of meritorious services for others.” Mountain Lifting Hermit briefed.

The three people burst out into laughter at the same time. Closely after that, they entered the airboat. They didn’t need to care about the thunder hawk as it could enter the airboat itself step by step just like a human.

Over the past half a month, since Iron-Dragon Airboat set off from Zhenzhou Province, it had been approaching to and crossing those provinces and prefectures that were afflicted by bloody figures at Zhang Tie’s request. Although Iron-Dragon Airboat didn’t stop on the way, with thunder hawk as a high altitude reconnaissance satellite outside Iron-Dragon Airboat, they had exterminated 20-30 small teams of bloody figures within 60 miles on the way. They didn’t let any alive bloody figures go. Additionally, they even saved two villages in the wild and a small city from those bloody figures. Besides, they coordinated with the local garrisons to exterminate a team of bloody figures that hid in a mountain cave. After doing all the above meritorious services, Zhang Tie’s group directly flew away pleasantly without leaving a name or accepting the local invitation and appreciation.

In the words of Mountain Lifting Hermit, this was what knights should do.

When they entered the airboat, all the disciples of Iron-Dragon Sect hailed them. As Mountain Lifting Hermit had become the grand elder of Iron-Dragon Sect, of course, Zhang Tie’s disciples dared not snub him.

“As it’s winter, local garrisons are inconvenient in marching. If bloody figures went out, they would easily leave traces. These bloody figures are pretty cunning. They would definitely hide somewhere. Therefore, before next spring, the catastrophe of bloody figures should be relieved for the time being. It will take Taixia Country as a whole at least 1 year to completely exterminate these bloody figures.” Mountain Lifting Hermit talked about the overall situation of the catastrophe of bloody figures in Taixia Country, “When in Zhenzhou Province, I had heard that the prime minister would resign after the catastrophe of bloody figures across Taixia Country was slightly pacified next year...”

The Finance Minister's Mansion was under the direct leadership of prime minister, who was one of the top three chancellors. Han Zhengfang the finance minister of Taixia Country was the master of Heavens Reaching Church, who detonated the catastrophe of bloody figures across Taixia Country. Of course, the prime minister of Taixia Country had to take responsibility for it. After the prime minister resigned, the position of prime minister would be vacant. Given the high popularity, Meng Shidao, the master of the crown prince would succeed to the position of prime minister.

In over 1 month, the news that Meng Shidao had promoted to the semi-sage realm and killed Han Zhengfang had been spread across Taixia Country. Therefore, in the large-scale catastrophe of bloody figures, the fame of Meng Shidao skyrocketed. Of course, he became the very person who would succeed to the prime minister. Benefited from him, even crown prince's position rose greatly.

After Meng Shidao succeeded to the prime minister of Taixia country, the crown prince who was acting as regent could have a bigger right of speech in the imperial court. The subordinates of the Gobbling Party across Taixia Country had been ready celebrating their "master" and "leader" for reaching his heyday stealthily.

In the opinions of many members of Gobbling Party, if Meng Shidao promoted to the prime minister, it indicated that the Gobbling Party had started to reach its heyday in Taixia Country.

The stone that Zhang Tie threw in Xuanyuan Hill was arousing an increasingly larger ripple. Although Zhang Tie couldn't predict everything. Each coin had two sides. After making a plot to have Meng Shidao fight Han Zhengfang ferociously, although the Gobbling Party was pushed to the opposite of Heavens Reaching Church, Meng Shidao was also pushed to the position of prime minister of Taixia Country.

After fighting Meng Shidao, Han Zhengfang had disappeared. Therefore, the speculation that Meng Shidao had caught up with Han Zhengfang and killed him after the latter escaped away from Xuanyuan Hill with heavy injuries became popular across Taixia Country. Of course, this news was a great strike for the remnants of Heavens Reaching Church; however, it was a pretty good news for the Gobbling Party of Taixia Country. Therefore, the Gobbling Party helped intensify the strength of billows and waves at this moment. Zhang Tie even doubted that this news was released by the Gobbling Party. This news would bring a great political dividend for the Gobbling Party and could severely suppress the power of Heavens Reaching Church and boost the morale of soldiers and commoners across Taixia Country. Therefore, even Meng Shidao didn't deny the news.

As Meng Shidao didn't deny the news, of course, Zhang Tie would not jump out to be a target. Whatever, Zhang Tie had already reached his target. It was none of his business even if Meng Shidao promoted to the prime minister; neither would Zhang Tie be afraid of him.

'As long as I returned to Huaiyuan Palace, Meng Shidao and the Gobbling Party would never easily shock Huaiyuan Palace and Zhang family.'

'I'm not the same person as I was 4 years ago. Huaiyuan Palace is not the same Huaiyuan Palace either. Additionally, the Gobbling Party should consider how to deal with Heavens Reaching Church instead of dealing with me and Huaiyuan Palace.' On the way here from Zhenzhong Province, Zhang Tie had evidently sensed that the Gobbling Party and the clans that supported the Gobbling Party suffered the greatest losses among the regions which were afflicted by bloody figures. The clans of Gobbling Party would encounter great tentative shocks from bloody figures immediately. The families of some local

backbones of Gobbling Party were even exterminated. The Heavens Reaching Church had fallen into the trap of Zhang Tie by targeting at the Gobbling Party at this critical moment. Zhang Tie only needed to watch two lions fight in the mountain.

...

In the command module, Zhang Tie told Mountain Lifting Hermit as he pointed at the looming, boundless and undulating mountain range in front of him, "That's Yangui Mountain Range. We head for north from Tongzhou Province. After crossing Yangui Mountain Range, we will arrive at Youzhou Province! Previously, our Iron-Dragon Sect only occupied over 600,000 square miles of Iron-Dragon Sect. I've not imagined that I could win a bet from Guan Qianchong. Therefore, Guan Clan gifted me the rest land of Yangui Mountain Range. From then on, the entire Yangui Mountain Range belongs to our Iron-Dragon Sect. We can do whatever we want here!"

"Yangui Mountain Range is majestic and imposing. It's abundant in natural resources and connects with many provinces. The entire Yangui Mountain Range occupies millions of square miles. No other sect in the surroundings could match our Iron-Dragon Sect. Besides, there are many basins and plains in the mountain range, large or small. We could easily build dozens of big cities here. This Yangui Mountain Range is indeed the treasure land for Iron-Dragon Sect to be prosperous!" Mountain Lifting Hermit nodded with a strange look as he watched the Yangui Mountain Range in the far, "This Yangui Mountain Range is even similar to my real name. My mortal surname was Yan. It seems that it's predestined for me to join Iron-Dragon Sect!"

Zhang Tie became stunned for a second.

Right then, two airboats appeared in front of Yangui Mountain Range. Suspending in the air, the two airboats seemed to be waiting for Iron-Dragon Airboat.

Zhang Tie identified the two airboats at once. One of them was the private vehicle of Zhang Taixuan, the head of Huaiyuan Palace; the other belonged to his elder brother.

"Huaiyuan Palace is welcoming young brother back home..."

Chapter 1185: The Return of Elder Mushen

Honestly, Zhang Tie was very thrilled at this moment.

After the new year festival, he would have left Youzhou Province for 5 years. Zhang Tie had been waiting for returning to Youzhou Province in the public and meeting his family members for too long.

At the sight of Iron-Dragon Airboat, the two airboats had been slowly approaching it. So did Iron-Dragon Airboat.

As if they felt the airboat was too slow at this moment, before their airboats got closer to Iron-Dragon Airboat, some knights had already flown off their airboats towards Iron-Dragon Airboat like meteors in the daytime at their maximal speeds.

Mountain Lifting Hermit was the grand elder of Iron-Dragon Sect, he would not join the fun when Zhang Tie united with his family members. Neither did Zhang Tie waste time on persuading him to join them.

After leaving some words to Mountain Lifting Hermit, Zhang Tie had called Bai Suxian and Zhang Gui to fly off Iron-Dragon Airboat towards those knights.

Although it was chilly, it didn't influence these knights.

Both parties soon met in the sky.

Elder Muyu, Elder Muray, Elder Muyuan and Elder Muen of Huaiyuan Palace had arrived. Even Zhang Taixuan had come to welcome Zhang Tie.

It was the supreme etiquette for the head of a clan to welcome a person on the border of a province.

Both parties suspended in the air with a distance of 20 m. Elder Muray and Elder Muen both looked very excited. Zhang Taixuan's eyebrows were quivering which indicated that he was not calm inside.

Zhang Tie watched these familiar faces; the elders of Huaiyuan Palace also watched Zhang Tie and the two people on Zhang Tie's side. After over 4 years, they all felt overwhelmed inside at the sight of each other.

After hearing that Cui Li was Zhang Tie's incarnation, all the elders in Huaiyuan Palace including Zhang Taixuan didn't believe that. The reason was simple. They all knew when Zhang Tie promoted to a black iron knight. It was too unimaginable for Zhang Tie to promote to an earth knight only after leaving Youzhou Province for 4 years.

However, all of their doubts had faded away the moment they saw Zhang Tie. At this moment, Zhang Tie didn't hide his qi. Therefore, the familiar qi of earth knight shocked all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace. They started to regard Zhang Tie with reverence unconsciously.

The young elite and the youngest clan elder of Huaiyuan Palace had long been famous across Taixia Country.

Watching Zhang Tie's face which was still as young as that of a teenager, all the elders of Huaiyuan Palace thought inside, 'How could such a teenager promote to an earth knight? Even the top 7 sects and top clans in Taixia Country don't have such a young earth knight.'

"Clan head, elders!"

In the wuthering wind, Zhang Tie broke the short silence as he hailed Zhang Taixuan and the other clan elders.

After hearing Zhang Tie's kind voice, all the elders felt a sense of relief. At the same time, the boulder in the heart of each elder finally landed steadily.

Before coming here, all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace were mostly afraid that Zhang Tie still had a grudge against Huaiyuan Palace for not fully standing on his side at the critical moment over these years. If Zhang Tie really thought so, the entire Huaiyuan Palace would break apart the moment he came back. A few years ago, Zhang Tie might not have such an ability; however, Zhang Tie had been able to have Huaiyuan Palace turn upside down at this moment. When Iron-Dragon Sect was founded, the powerful battle strength that Zhang Tie performed when defeating Nangong Sheng had absolutely surpassed Zhang Taixuan the current clan head of Huaiyuan Palace. It could be said that Zhang Tie had been the

No. 1 powerhouse of Huaiyuan Palace. If he lost his anger over domestic affairs, nobody could suppress him.

Straight-forward Elder Muray flew towards Zhang Tie as he punched Zhang Tie's shoulder forcefully and sighed, "Good boy, I've really been surpassed by you..."

Although Elder Muray was smiling, his eyes were sparkling with tears. It was hard to tide over these years for both Huaiyuan Palace and Zhang Tie. Thank god, they finally tided over it. After Zhang Tie came back, all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace saw the hope of reinvigorating Huaiyuan Palace.

Zhang Tie replied with a smile as he accepted Elder Muray's punch frankly, "Elder Muray is becoming more vigorous with age. I was told that Elder Muray was killing bloody figures in Tongzhou Province these days, I've not imagined that you could come back!"

"Your return is the biggest thing for Huaiyuan Palace. We have to put aside other things no matter how important they are. This one must be Miss Bai. This one..." Elder Muray said after glancing at Bai Suxian and Zhang Gui's faces.

The other elders of Huaiyuan Palace must have known Bai Suxian's identity; even if they didn't, they must have heard about that. However, Zhang Gui was a bit strange to them. Because Zhang Gui had been following up Zhang Tie in an obedient manner the moment he flew off the airboat with Zhang Tie, the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace thought that he was a powerhouse on Bai Suxian's side. However, after observing him carefully, they found that this black iron knight behind Zhang Tie was fully obedient to Zhang Tie.

"This is Zhang Gui, my subordinate..." Zhang Tie introduced Zhang Gui to the other elders. Zhang Gui revealed a smile towards the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace silently.

At this moment, Zhang Tie's prophetic vision was manifested. If Zhang Gui still maintained his original look as an earth knight and called himself this old slave, these elders of Huaiyuan Palace would feel very embarrassed and the atmosphere would be in an impasse.

"Nice to see you, Count Long Wind and the others elders of Huaiyuan Palace, I'm Bai Suxian!"

Being different than Zhang Gui, Bai Suxian greeted all the others of Huaiyuan Palace in an elegant manner.

After knowing the identity of Bai Suxian, nobody in Huaiyuan Palace dared give themselves airs in front of her. Therefore, all of them returned their salute to Bai Suxian.

"It's Huaiyuan Palace's great pleasure to have Elder Mushen back. It's chilly here. We will talk about it in the airboat!" Zhang Taixuan who had been watching Zhang Tie silently finally opened his mouth.

They all nodded as they flew towards the two airboats dispatched by Huaiyuan Palace.

Zhang Yang was standing on the deck of the airboat in a black mink coat and watching Zhang Tie and the others flying back. Although it seemed to be easy for knights to fly in the sky, commoners could only wait in the airboat on such an occasion.

"You two wait for me in that airboat. I have something to negotiate with the clan head and the other elders!" Zhang Tie told Bai Suxian and Zhang Gui as he pointed at his elder brother's airboat.

Of course, Zhang Gui followed Zhang Tie's order. Bai Suxian also replied, "Hmm" in a pretty docile way before flying towards Zhang Yang's airboat.

Watching the princess of Lord Guangnan's Mansion being so obedient to Zhang Tie like his wife, the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace exchanged weird glances with each other. Zhang Taixuan threw a profound glance at Zhang Tie too.

Zhang Tie told Zhang Yang something in a secret way before boarding on Zhang Taixuan's airboat with Zhang Taixuan and the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace. After they boarded on the airboat, the Iron-Dragon Airboat turned around and flew towards Fire Dragon Territory. The two airboats of Huaiyuan Palace then flew towards Yanghe Prefecture.

...

With the arrival of Zhang Tie, the clan head and all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace, this conference room immediately became the decision-making center of Huaiyuan Palace.

After the door of the conference room was closed, causing a sound "bang", two lineal powerhouses of Huaiyuan Palace guarded outside the door. Closely after that, the atmosphere in the conference room started to become official.

"I know that clan head and all the other elders have many doubts. Now that I've already come back, you can ask whatever you want!" Zhang Tie said frankly.

"We're not doubting your identity. But Zhang Yang has not clarified something. All the elders and clan head are just curious about that!" Elder Muyuan pretended to cough twice slightly, "As Elder Mushen has not come back for a few years, considering the current catastrophe of bloody figures, please confirm your bloodline!"

Zhang Tie threw a glance at the bloodline testing crystal that he had seen in the Ancestral Bloodline Palace. Closely after that, he took it and pierced one finger by the pointed end of the crystal, allowing one drop of blood to fall onto the bloodline crystal. Watching the blood in the bloodline crystal becoming berserk and giving out strong, dazzling glow, all the elders at present let out a long sigh. They exchanged a glance with each other before nodding at the same time.

"Elder Mushen, please don't mind it. When clan head returned home from the Earth-elements Realm, he also accepted the test of the bloodline crystal under the gazes of all the other elders. As it's concerned about the safety of the clan, there's no exception." Elder Muyuan explained.

"It's okay. I understand it. If not pass this test, even I would not feel reassured!" Zhang Tie replied as he waved his hand. After confirming his identity, the small wound on Zhang Tie's finger healed automatically in a split second. Zhang Tie glanced around before asking, "You must want to know how I became Cui Li and promoted to an earth knight in a short period."

"We indeed want to know how did Elder Mushen became Cui Li and cheated all the people across Taixia Country over these years. As for how Elder Mushen promoted to an earth knight in a short period, as it's involved with your secret method, if Elder Mushen doesn't feel like telling us, you don't need to tell us about that!" Elder Muyu opened his mouth.

As for how Zhang Tie became Cui Li, as it was involved with the confirmation of Zhang Tie's identity, they couldn't be careless about that; as for how Zhang Tie promoted to an earth knight, as it was Zhang Tie's privacy, he was not obligated to expose it to the other elders. Elder Muyu's words indicated the fairness of Huaiyuan Palace. Zhang Tie also nodded inside.

"Elders, you must remember that pupil-changing bloodline that I've manifested in front of you. This pupil-changing bloodline is just the preliminary stage of a more senior immortal bloodline. After fully awakening this immortal bloodline, I could even change my hair, eyes, look and figure..." Zhang Tie said as he started to change his body under the gaze of all the other elders at present. In the blink of an eye, he had incarnated into Cui Li while his body change had reached the maximal endurance capacity of his garments.

"Have you seen it clearly?" Zhang Tie asked in Cui Li's voice. After that, he gradually incarnated to his original look.

The conference room became quiet while all the elders of Huaiyuan Palace became dumbfounded. Zhang Taixuan looked shocked. They had heard that shadow demons could incarnate into humans; however, they had not seen any human incarnating into another one casually. Without the bloodline test, some elders would have taken Zhang Tie as a shadow demon and fought him at the sight of this scene.

Under the amazed looks of all the others, Zhang Tie directly took out a brilliant water-element crystal from his portable space-teleportation equipment and absorbed it at the fastest speed...

Chapter 1186: Politely Declining

If he told others about all the secrets, he was an idiot!

If he cheated them in a perfunctory way, he was treating others as idiots!

Zhang Tie was not an idiot; neither were the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace and the clan head.

Facing these elders and the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Tie knew that he could barely explain it only by lip service. Therefore, he directly displayed his talents in front of the others.

People needed to change according to the situation. On the premise of not exposing the secret that he was cultivating an emperor-level secret method *King Roc Sutra*, Zhang Tie told the others that he had grasped a top secret method called *Chaotic Treasure Body*; he even accomplished the shift between *Fire Dragon Sutra* and *Five Elements Ground-look Sutra* in 30 minutes in front of the others, causing them to be speechless once again.

Actually, it would take Zhang Tie less than 1 minute to accomplish the shift between two familiar secret methods. However, Zhang Tie didn't feel that it was appropriate to shift between two secret methods too fast in front of the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace; therefore, he performed it in a seemingly difficult way on purpose.

After witnessing how Zhang Tie changed his looks, absorbed a water-element crystal at a high speed and shifted his battle qis casually, all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace became dumbfounded.

It took Zhang Tie about 2 hours to display all of his talents. It might be longer in normal times; however, it was as fast as blinking their eyes for the other elders and clan head of Huaiyuan Palace in the conference room at present. Zhang Tie had performed all of his talents before the others recovered their composure.

“Elder Mushen, you mean *Thousands of Beads Mentality Sutra* originates from the *Mental Arithmetic by Abacus*?” Elder Muan who had been silent since the beginning couldn’t stand to ask Zhang Tie.

“Yes!”

“Does it mean that the other elders and I might also reach your realm if we cultivate *Mental Arithmetic by Abacus* from now on?”

Elder Muan’s question attracted all the other elders’ attention.

“Theoretically, yes. If you could reach the level of carrying out 10 tasks at the same time by *Mental Arithmetic by Abacus*, you could indeed absorb elements crystals 10 times faster. However...”

“Go ahead!”

“Besides *Thousands of Beads Mentality Sutra*, my current achievement is also related to the experience that I was struck by a lightning bolt...” Zhang Tie used the same almighty trick, which would never be exposed at all; neither did need he to explain about it, “After being struck by the lightning bolt, my spiritual energy increased very fast. I couldn’t reach such a realm without the help of the great spiritual energy and the *Thousands of Beads Mentality Sutra*. I’m afraid that it’s a bit difficult if you just depended on *Thousands of Beads Mentality Sutra* without the great spiritual energy!”

“Cui Li was born in Youzhou Province. We’ve heard that Cui Li had returned home to meet his old servants before heading for Earth-elements Realm; the local officials even built a knight’s imposing memorial archway for Cui Li. As you’ve not been to Taixia Country before, how were you so familiar with Cui Li’s bygoness?” Elder Muan asked.

“The real Cui Li was actually one incarnation of Zhu Liang the poisonous wolf on the wanted list of Supreme Court. Before returning to Youzhou Province, I met Zhu Liang in an unpopulated isle in the open waters of Qiongzhou Province. He wanted to kill me; however, he was killed by me. Before his death, I read his memory by a secret method and knew that he had an incarnation of Cui Li in Yongzhou Province!”

“Memory reading method, this...this seems to be a secret method of Bloody Soul Temple of Taixia Country!”

“Right, it’s indeed a secret method of Bloody Soul Temple. When I was in Selnes Theater of Operations, I gained a secret method called *Soul Forbidden Method*, I learned this memory reading method from it!” Zhang Tie explained as he directly took out the book of *Soul Forbidden Method* and displayed it to all the others. “I will donate this book to our clan. If elders are interested in it, you could learn it. Sometimes, it might help you a lot. I was told that some sects in Taixia Country also grasped some secret methods of Bloody Soul Temple. It’s normal for Huaiyuan Palace to grasp one too!”

As Zhang Tie had already got the complete version of *Bloody Soul Sutra*, it was nothing pitiful for him to gift *Soul Forbidden Method*

to Huaiyuan Palace. No matter what, they were of the same family.

Those in the conference room had just been shocked too much by Zhang Tie's secret immortal bloodline and secret methods. Therefore, they did not feel strange that Zhang Tie had grasped *Soul Forbidden Method*.

Elder Muan suddenly let out a long sigh as he watched Zhang Tie, "At the beginning, Elder Muyu and I were well known as Double Jades of Huaiyuan Palace. I'm afraid that we don't need to talk about it later on!"

Elder Muyu shook his head as he revealed a bitter smile. Closely after that, he nodded.

Elder Muray suddenly patted his thigh forcefully, causing a loud, crisp sound in the conference room, scaring all the other elders so much.

"Elder Muray, what do you want to say?"

"Hahaha..." Elder Muray burst out into laughter, "Body-changing immortal bloodline, Soul Forbidden Method, Chaotic Treasure Body. Do you realize what do they mean? With these immortal bloodlines and secret methods, Elder Mushen could almost change whoever he wants below knight level. It's even more terrifying than shadow demon. If this news is exposed to the public, I will see who else dare screw Huaiyuan Palace. Even if Huaiyuan Palace was exterminated, as long as Elder Mushen was still alive, our Huaiyuan Palace's bloodline would definitely last and reinvigorate once again. As long as those people who want to screw Huaiyuan Palace think about that Elder Mushen might lurk on their side to kill them at any time in the incarnation of their familiar ones, they would not sleep well!"

"However, after Elder Mushen exposes your real identity to the public, your secrets such as body-changing immortal bloodline, Chaotic Treasure Body Secret method and Soul Forbidden Method would be barely covered..." Being different than Elder Muray who was very excited, Elder Muyuan who came from the same branch of Goldensea City with Zhang Tie looked sad as he continued, "If so, the mortal enemy of Huaiyuan Palace would definitely treat Elder Mushen as the eyesore. If I were the enemy of Huaiyuan Palace, I would kill Elder Mushen first if I wanted to exterminate Huaiyuan Palace!"

After Elder Muyuan mentioned it, the entire conference room became quiet once again. The other elders could easily understand it. If they were the enemy of Huaiyuan Palace, they had to kill Zhang Tie first; otherwise, they would beat the grass and frighten away the snake.

As Zhang Tie came back to Huaiyuan Palace in the public, it was equal for him to stand in the front of Huaiyuan Palace as the shield.

Of course, Elder Mushen had realized it. However, he still came back to be the target of the enemy of Huaiyuan Palace, what a responsible hero!

Zhang Tie told the world at the risk of his life—Huaiyuan Palace would survive on as long as Elder Mushen was alive!

Watching Zhang Tie's calm and extremely young face, Zhang Taixuan sighed as he stood up from his chair and bowed deeply towards Zhang Tie, followed by all the other elders.

Zhang Tie stood up and bowed towards them at the same time as he said, "Don't be that polite. We have the same ancestors and bloodlines, we're of the same family. We're closely related to each other. I will just be myself frankly!"

Zhang Taixuan's face turned extremely solemn at this moment. As he was standing, everybody else just stood up. Zhang Taixuan glanced around before throwing a deep glance at Zhang Tie and saying, "Huaiyuan Palace is founded by Lord Huaiyuan. When Lord Huaiyuan was alive, he left 8 branches of descendants along with the ancestral doctrine. The position of the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace and Count Long Wind should be inherited by the most excellent one; instead of being occupied by the eldest son of the eldest wife of the branch in Yiyang City. The return of Elder Mushen counts most in Huaiyuan Palace. Elder Mushen is not only young and talented but also willing to fulfill his responsibilities. His secret methods, battle skills and reputation are far greater than me. As all the elders of Huaiyuan Palace are at present, I propose to reelect the clan head for Huaiyuan Palace according to the regulations of Huaiyuan Palace. I vote Elder Mushen, what do you say?"

Zhang Taixuan's words shocked all the other elders, including Zhang Tie.

Watching Zhang Taixuan's generous and righteous face, Zhang Tie wondered whether Zhang Taixuan was probing or sincerely wanted to abdicate his clan head position to him out of other considerations. All in all, Zhang Taixuan's words were indeed unimaginable.

All the other 5 elders exchanged a glance with each other with a confused look.

No matter what Zhang Taixuan was thinking about, Zhang Tie would never promise it. The simplest reason was, if Lan Yunxi's dad abdicated the position of clan head to him, the marriage between Lan Yunxi and him would be impossible. Zhang Tie would never take the position of clan head at the cost of losing a perfect wife...

Honestly, was the position of Huaiyuan Palace's clan head more powerful than the throne of Tsar in Ice and Snow Wilderness?

Additionally, the position of Huaiyuan Palace's clan head was just a count. He had already abandoned the reward of the dukedom, not to mention the hereditary position of Count Long Wind.

Zhang Tie let out a long sigh, "I've already been satisfied to be an elder of Huaiyuan Palace at such a young age. Clan head, please don't say such words in the future; otherwise, I would have to leave Huaiyuan Palace!"

Zhang Tie expressed his "firm stance" immediately...

Chapter 1187: Foreign Affairs Agency of Zhang Family

Before the two airboats arrived at Jinwu City, Zhang Tie had already accomplished the first communication with the other elders and clan head of Huaiyuan Palace.

Undoubtedly, this communication was necessary for both Zhang Tie and the entire Huaiyuan Palace. Through this communication, three things were confirmed. First, Zhang Tie's real identity. Second, the position of Zhang Tie or the branch of Zhang Clan in Jinwu City in Huaiyuan Palace. Third, a major event

relevant to both Zhang Tie and Huaiyuan Palace——All the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace and Zhang Tie had agreed to hold the secondary rotating chakra ceremony for Zhang Tie after the first lunar month in the next year.

After this rotating chakra ceremony, everyone in the world would know that Zhang Tie had promoted to an earth knight and was innocent.

The elders of Huaiyuan Palace had already predicted about the shocks of Zhang Tie's secondary chakra rotating ceremony to the rest of the world. Although they had over 1 month to prepare for this rotating chakra ceremony, they still felt it was not enough given its unprecedentedly large scale.

Previously, when Zhang Taixuan promoted to an earth knight, Huaiyuan Palace could have prepared a rotating chakra ceremony for him; however, as Zhang Taixuan had been the provincial governor of Youzhou Province, they couldn't do that. According to the laws of Taixia Country, all the officials above Class 9 in Taixia Country were forbidden to hold any ceremony in the name of themselves during their term of service, including the birthday, promotion, home move, delivery of children, marriage and rotating chakra ceremony. Even the official's parents could only celebrate their birthday every 30 years. Although officials below Class 9 were not strictly requested, they were also restricted to do that. Because of this regulation, Huaiyuan Palace didn't hold the rotating chakra ceremony for Zhang Taixuan.

Of course, Zhang Tie was not limited to this regulation. Meanwhile, Huaiyuan expected to drive away the haze over Huaiyuan Palace these years through this rotating chakra ceremony.

When they were less than 350 miles away from Jinwu City, under the respectful gaze of all the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Tie flew off the deck of Zhang Taixuan's airboat towards Jinwu Airboat.

The moment Zhang Tie landed in Jinwu Airboat, Zhang Taixuan's airboat had turned around and flew towards Youzhou City. Zhang Taixuan and the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace knew that Zhang Tie was longing for reuniting with his family members; therefore, they didn't go back home with him in case of disturbing them.

Zhang Yang, Bai Suxian and Zhang Gui were all waiting for Zhang Tie on the deck of Jinwu Airboat. Only after 2 hours, Zhang Yang had already got acquainted with Bai Suxian and Zhang Gui. Zhang Gui regarded himself as Zhang Tie's servant; Bai Suxian dared not give herself airs in front of Zhang Tie's elder brother; Zhang Yang treated Bai Suxian as Zhang Tie's wife. Therefore, they soon got acquainted with each other.

"How's everything going?" Zhang Yang asked at the sight of Zhang Tie coming back.

"Let's talk about it inside!" Zhang Tie smiled as he raised his right hand. At this moment, one more quaint remote-sensing finger ring appeared on one finger of his right hand. On the two opposite sides of the ring, there were two tiny top-class remote-sensing crystals, with which Zhang Tie could contact Huaiyuan Palace and Zhang Taixuan at the same time. After coming to Taixia Country for 5 years, the elders of Huaiyuan Palace had updated their remote-sensing finger rings for one time. Previously, their finger ring could only be integrated with one remote-sensing crystal; now, they could be integrated with two remote-sensing crystals.

"Fine, let's talk about it inside!" Zhang Yang nodded.

The four people then entered the airboat. Zhang Yang led them into his study room.

Zhang Tie and Bai Suxian both followed Zhang Yang in; however, Zhang Gui didn't enter the study room; instead, he just stood outside the door like a loyal dog.

"Zhang Gui, you come in too. As you will serve Zhang family from then on, you should know some things!"

"Yes, Master!"

After receiving Zhang Tie's order, Zhang Gui entered the study. Zhang Yang, Zhang Tie and Bai Suxian sat down; however, Zhang Gui insisted on standing on Zhang Tie's side.

Zhang Yang threw a glance at Zhang Tie. Zhang Tie then nodded towards Zhang Yang. As they were brothers, of course they understood each other well. From then on, Zhang Gui's position in Zhang family had been fixed. Zhang Yang admired Zhang Tie's power very much once again.

Zhang Tie told them about the details of the negotiation between him and the other elders of Huaiyuan Palace. After hearing that Zhang Taixuan would like to abdicate the position of clan head of Huaiyuan Palace to Zhang Tie, Zhang Yang frowned at once; Bai Suxian revealed a speculative look.

"Didn't you agree with him?"

"The position of clan head of Huaiyuan Palace is nothing attractive to me at all. Therefore, I refused him immediately. Additionally, I expressed that anyone who wanted me to be the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace would drive me away from Huaiyuan Palace. Therefore, Zhang Taixuan didn't urge that anymore!" Zhang Tie rubbed the finger ring that was especially matched for the elders of Huaiyuan Palace with a doubtful look, "I don't know why Zhang Taixuan could suddenly have such a thought. To be honest, his words shocked me!"

"Given the current power of our Zhang family, we'd better not take the position of clan head!" Zhang Yang said before thinking for a short while, "We are alone in our generation of our family, our children have not grown up yet. I spend my full efforts in Jinwu Business Group. Even if you could become the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace, we don't have too many reliable subordinates. Therefore, we couldn't really take Huaiyuan Palace under control. The position of the clan head would just be nominal. If you really want to take this position, you could consider it when our children have grown up and could fulfill responsibilities in Huaiyuan Palace. By then, you might enjoy taking this position. I'm afraid that Zhang Taixuan was afraid of domestic conflicts when he found that you had greater influence and battle strength than him; therefore, he pretended to be that righteous and generous and wanted the other elders to express their stances to you!"

Zhang Tie threw a glance at his elder brother. After a few years of practice, Zhang Yang had been more imposing. Previously, the two brothers were afraid of meeting a clan elder; now, Zhang Yang talked about the position of the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace calmly as if he was talking about an ordinary business.

'Actually, when I was young, I was less interested and ambitious about the so-called power and influence than my elder brother...'

As Zhang Tie was thinking about it, he nodded and said, "Hmm...I also think so!"

“Huaiyuan Palace only has one prefecture in Youzhou Province. It has fewer than 10 cities. It might be smaller than Fire Dragon Territory. The rank of the nobility of clan head is just count. If you want a title of nobility, you don’t need to ask it from others. Given your meritorious services in Earth-elements Realm, you could easily get a title of nobility when the Heavens Fortune List is exposed to the public. If you want cities, you could build as many cities as you like in the south border of Taixia Country, large or small; instead of having to consider about others’ moods. Who favors those cities and the title of nobility of count? As if he was showing his great leniency to you...”

Compared to Zhang Yang’s attitude, Bai Suxian’s tone sounded a bit dissatisfied. As the princess of Lord Guangnan’s Mansion, she really didn’t treasure the position of clan head. In Bai Suxian’s eyes, Zhang Taixuan’s behavior was like having her would-be husband state his stand about the ownership of the real estate as the elder of the family before her husband saw his parents-in-law as if Zhang Taixuan was afraid that the would-be son-in-law would share his real estate with a foreign aid. Of course, she felt unhappy.

With different stances, people would make different conclusions about the same topic.

After exchanging a glance with each other, Zhang Tie revealed a faint smile as he passed a message to Zhang Gui with his eye light—your wife is tricky.

Zhang Tie replied with his eye light—don’t worry, she’s under my control.

Zhang Yang threw a glance at Zhang Gui. Zhang Tie understood Zhang Yang’s meaning at once as he looked around and asked Zhang Gui, “Zhang Gui, what’s your opinion?”

“Master, please forgive this old slave for my offense!”

“It’s fine, there’re only 4 people here; we’re just taking the matter on its merits. Just put it straight!” Zhang Tie waved his hand.

“Yes, Master!” Zhang Gui bowed towards Zhang Tie before straightening up as he said with narrowed eyes, “In the opinion of this old slave, Zhang Taixuan the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace was malicious, one stone for two birds!”

Soon after Zhang Gui’s words, the atmosphere in the study froze at once. Zhang Tie also narrowed his eyes as he looked at Zhang Gui calmly before asking, “How?”

“If Master accepts the position of Clan Head of Huaiyuan Palace, what about your amazing secret methods? Would you share them with Huaiyuan Palace or not? If you don’t, you will have a bad reputation; besides, you might be blamed for despising the other members of Huaiyuan Palace. If you give someone a bit of rice, you’re helping him; if you give him a lot of rice, you’re drawing animosity. As Master favors Huaiyuan Palace now, all the members of Huaiyuan Palace would appreciate that and show their awe to you; if Master doesn’t preach your secret methods to them, as long as someone foment disunity and dissension in the dark, being driven by desire, they would hate you and be dissatisfied about you. If so, you would not keep the position of clan head for too long; additionally, there would be some potential threats!”

“If Master preaches all your secret methods to the other members of Huaiyuan Palace, Master might gain a good reputation in Huaiyuan Palace; however, you would lose your largest reliance in the chaotic

world. Even though Master gains a good reputation, like what the eldest young master said, as the next generation of Huaiyuan Palace has not grown up, the lineal bloodline in Jinwu City couldn't fully control Huaiyuan Palace. Finally, you are just a nominal clan head. By contrast, you would lose too much. Additionally, after Master's secret methods spread over Huaiyuan Palace, the biggest benefactor would be the branch of Yiyang City which have the most population. Later on, when the juniors of the branch of Yiyang City grow up and there are some outstanding ones, it would be hard to say whether Master's lineal descendants could succeed to the position of clan head anymore! It's just one reason!"

"What about the 2nd reason?" Zhang Tie asked calmly.

"Second, if Master expressed in the public that you would not succeed to the position of clan head from then on, you would pose no threat to Zhang Taixuan in Huaiyuan Palace. As a gentleman, of course, Master would not break your promise. If Master wants to take the position of clan head later on, you would become a despicable man who breaks the promise for power and influence. How could a despicable man win the trust of members in Huaiyuan Palace and the rest of the world and be qualified to be the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace?"

"Therefore, no matter whether Master agrees with Zhang Taixuan or not, Zhang Taixuan is always the winner. He would gain one bird at first; as for the other bird, he would gain it slowly! As Master's secret methods and the position of the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace are both unusual, someone would like to gain them in whatever means he could. Even disciples of the same sect or the same clan even father and sons, brothers would hurt each other every day across Taixia Country for secret methods, power and influence."

"Of course, it's just this old slave's individual opinion. This old slave has witnessed too many despicable tactics and plots. I always treat people with the most malicious mentality. I don't know what is kindness at all. This old slave didn't acquaint with Zhang Taixuan; perhaps Count Long Wind is also a gentleman who always considers the wellbeing of Huaiyuan Palace and admires Master faithfully. This old slave might have blamed him wrongly by the mentality of a despicable man!"

After Zhang Gui finished his words, the entire study became quiet. Even Zhang Yang and Bai Suxian looked at Zhang Gui with widely opened eyes. They wondered where Zhang Tie found such a figure. Zhang Gui's words were shocking and frightening. After his words, the atmosphere in the room became a bit colder.

When Zhang Gui spoke, Zhang Tie's eye light became increasingly acute and heart-wrenching. Not until Zhang Gui finished his words did Zhang Tie close his eyes. After being silent for over 10 seconds, Zhang Tie opened his eyes while his eye light and voice both recovered composure.

"Count Long Wind is the clan head of Huaiyuan Palace. He's selfless and is the pillar of Huaiyuan Palace. He deserves the respect of tens of thousands of people. Your words are too excessive. I don't hope that to be heard by the 5th person!"

"Yes, Master, this old slave was muddle-headed and talking rubbish. I didn't know what I was talking about on the earth!" Zhang Gui replied. Without argument and dissatisfaction, he just slightly lowered his body and stood behind Zhang Tie silently while lowering his eyes.

After being silent for a short while, Zhang Tie told Zhang Yang, "From then on, our family should establish a Foreign Affairs Agency. Zhang Gui will be the general steward of the Foreign Affairs Agency. With his help, we could be reassured when working outside. Old brother, you'd better allocate some people to the Foreign Affairs Agency..."

Zhang Yang threw another glance at Zhang Gui before nodding slowly...

Of course, they didn't need to negotiate over everything in details.

After their talk, the airboat had already arrived at Jinwu City...

Chapter 1188: Returning Home

From the sky, the entire Jinwu City was covered with silvery white in the heavy snow. Due to the bad weather, few people were on the streets. However, there were more airships setting off and landing at the airport outside Jinwu City just like that a few months ago.

The sudden catastrophe of bloody figures across Taixia Country caused a surging increase of demand for the all-purpose medicament. The value of all-purpose medicament could only be manifested in real wars and turmoils. Even if it was raining sabers, nobody would like to give up the huge profit under the great demand, not to mention that it was just snowing.

The bloody figures across Taixia Country had already cut off the ground traffic in some regions. Bloody figures were all intelligent and smart. They always destroyed the railway system in their regions first. The moment the railway system was destroyed, Taixia Country would have a problem in dispatching corps to encircle and annihilate bloody figures. It would be more difficult for local people to escape outside. After the local regions became more chaotic, the commercial and logistics hubs of Taixia Country being connected through railways would be influenced greatly. At this moment, airships would be used as the top means of conveyance.

However, as air-sac airships and vacuum airships were driven by steam power. Facing the wuthering wind and snow, these airships would become tottering. Compared to those airships flying southward from Jinwu City, those flying from south to Jinwu City would be more struggling.

The moment Zhang Tie's group arrived at Jinwu City, they had seen a large airship having a fault in its steam equipment. The engine room of the airship was emitting black smoke. After losing its driving force, the airship was blown far away in the north wind like a kite. The crew of the airship was exclaiming about adopting emergency measures. Some crew members were climbing onto the dozens of meters high air sacs by a rope while swaying in the wind and snow. They would empty some air sacs on their initiatives so that the airship could decline after losing its buoyancy in case of losing its control completely.

When the airship declined, its huge body even scraped over some houses on the border of the town, causing some damages. Finally, the airship landed on the farmland near the town. Most parts of its airsac had been emptied. Besides, the huge body of the airship even left a 200 m longer swarthy muddy, snowy ditch.

From the sky, the moment the airship landed, it had left an eye-catching trace on the snow-white land; meanwhile, some black points ran out of those damaged houses as if they were going to negotiate with the owner of the airship. Additionally, a team of cavalries was rushing out of the town by rhino-dragon horses towards the landing spot of the airship on the thick snowy land.

When they arrived at Jinwu City, Zhang Tie, Bai Suxian, Zhang Yang and Zhang Gui stood on the deck of the airship and watched the scene of bustle below.

Although this airship had a problem, thanks to the timely response of the crew of the airship, nobody died except for some damages on the airship and some houses.

“They should be the last batch of airships that come from south to north. These days, it’s becoming increasingly windy and snowy. It’s always the north wind. Therefore, most of the airships coming from the south would have an increasingly bigger trouble. Now, another batch of airships is waiting to load outside Jinwu City. After they leave, the Iron-Dragon Airboat outside Jinwu City would be blocked by the heavy snow too. Jinwu City would be in tranquility for 1 month. It would not recover its boisterous scene until next February.” Zhang Yang introduced the situation facing Jinwu City.

Zhang Tie was thinking about something else although he was gazing at the airship on the farmland.

“Is Huaiyuan Palace still producing airships?”

“Yes. Airship manufacturing is also an important industry of Huaiyuan Palace. Although we have many competitors in Youzhou Province and Huaiyuan Palace of Taixia Country and we’re marketing 70% of our own products; many people of Huaiyuan Palace are surviving themselves in this industry. As the holy war already broke out, this industry is very important. It’s not a problem of making money or not; even though we survive those engineers and workers while suffering a loss, Huaiyuan Palace have to preserve this industry and the ability to produce airships!”

After hearing Zhang Yang’s words, Zhang Tie nodded. The accident of the airship reminded him that he could design high-power alcohol driven airships first to expand the market before slowly developing high-power alcohol driven large and medium-sized transport airplanes.

‘After applying the new type internal-combustion engine and high-power alcohol to the airship, the airship could have a stronger driving force; adapt to worse weather and fly farther. This would be a revolutionary reform for traditional steam airships.’

‘If I want to produce large and medium-sized transport airplanes, I have to train pilots step by step; additionally, I could not reach a large scale at once. It might take us a few years to produce large- and medium-sized transport airplanes. Additionally, we need longer time and more cooperation from all parties to spread this pie. The situation facing Taixia Country might not spare me such a long time.’

‘By contrast, airships exist everywhere in Taixia Country. I could have ready professionals and manufacturing capability wherever I want. As long as the new type engine was in place, it would be relatively simpler to produce high-power alcohol driven airships with the internal-combustion engine.’

‘We should produce airplanes sooner or later; however, we need to first produce battleplanes that could deal with wing demons in the sky. Airships have advantages in huge clients base and talents storage than airplanes. Before the Catastrophe, even though human sciences and technologies were so

advanced and airplanes could be seen everywhere, airships were still not be completely eliminated as they were still playing their roles in military and civilian regions. It's unnecessary for me to open a new path while abandoning airships.'

'Step by step!' Zhang Tie thought.

...

The airboat slowed down at once as it declined and slowly entered the air territory of Jinwu City and finally landed on a square in the internal city of Zhang family.

The square had been crowded with people. Everybody was raising their head and watching the airboat to slowly decline.

Over 200 people were looking up and waiting for Zhang Tie to come back, including Zhang Tie's parents, elder sisters-in-law, wives, youngsters of Zhang family, Zhang Tie's grandparents, uncle, aunt, Zhang Tie's cousins, male or female, old or young.

Zhang Tie's return was a major event for the entire Zhang family. The moment Zhang Yang received the message, he had summoned all the people of Zhang family to Jinwu City. In the beginning, Zhang Yang just told them to unite in Jinwu City to celebrate the new year's festival.

Of course, it was a normal reason. In Zhang family, Zhang Yang's words indeed carried the weight. After hearing that Zhang Yang invited all the members of the Zhang family to attend a family party, how could they not agree with it? Especially Zhang Tie's uncle and cousins, who couldn't wait to draw a relationship with Jinwu City.

Even Zhang Haitian and his eldest wife were invited over there by airboat by Zhang Yang as they had the highest seniorities.

Not until they arrived at Jinwu City did they know that Zhang Tie was coming back today. After hearing this news, all the people were shocked so much that they almost jumped up.

If it were 2 years ago when Zhang Tie was wanted across the country, some relatives might hesitate whether they should meet Zhang Tie or not; however, as the Supreme Court of Taixia Country had long canceled off Zhang Tie's order for arrest. Additionally, it was said that the Supreme Court had confirmed that Han Zhengfang was the culprit of the tragedy in Fuhai City and that the entire tragedy in Fuhai City was designed by the remnants of Heavens Reaching Church to revenge Zhang Tie as Zhang Tie had inflicted a heavy loss to Heavens Reaching Church.

The chief justice of the Northeast Military Region had apologized to Zhang Tie's family in Jinwu City by airboat a few days ago.

After the truth of the tragedy of Fuhai City was exposed, Zhang Tie's case was redressed. Besides, Zhang Tie's reputation was known across the country as he enjoyed a greater honor in Huaiyuan Palace.

After hearing that Zhang Tie was coming back after his case was redressed, of course, all the family members of Zhang Tie jumped up due to the excitement.

What shocked them more was another news that Zhang Yang told them—Cui Li and Zhang Tie are the same; Zhang Tie had long promoted to an earth knight in Earth-elements Realm due to a coincidence.

The latter news scared Zhang Tie's relatives, even his uncle and cousins.

'Who's Cui Li, the heroic earth knight who had made meritorious services and even killed demon earth knights in the Earth-elements Realm; the owner of Fire-Dragon Bounty Territory; the master of Iron-Dragon Sect in Northeast Military Region? Even the clan of the provincial governor in Northeast Military Region would draw a relationship with him. It's said that he's even the would-be son-in-law of Lord Guangnan's Mansion in Taixia Country. The princess of Lord Guangnan even came to Fire-Dragon Bounty Territory for him from thousands of miles away!'

'Cui Li is Zhang Tie!'

After hearing this news, all the relatives of Zhang Tie became flurried. Even Zhang Tie's uncles didn't know how to face him.

At this moment, watching the airboat slowly declining, all the family members were expecting to see Zhang Tie so much. Zhang Tie's parents and wives' eyes had already turned red. Although Zhang Tie's uncles looked relaxed, their eyes indicated that they were a bit intense. Even Zhang Haitian tried to straighten up his body while moving his juniors' hands from his arms and watching the airboat with a strange look.

...

After the airboat landed, the hatch door was opened. Zhang Tie was already standing at the hatch door. Watching so many familiar faces, Zhang Tie directly walked towards his parents and kowtowed 3 times before looking up, "Dad, mom, Zhang Tie is back!"

Zhang Tie's parents dropped their tears at once. Wiping his tears, Zhang Tie's dad revealed a tearful smile as he pulled Zhang Tie up, "Hurry, stand up, stand up. It's fine as long as you're back; it's fine as long as you're back..."

Zhang Tie stood up as he pulled closer Bai Suxian who was standing behind him with an intense look before saying, "Call dad and mom!"

After hearing Zhang Tie's words, Bai Suxian's eyes turned red too. Although being a princess, Bai Suxian was neither hesitant nor bashful; instead, she immediately knelt down and kowtowed towards Zhang Tie's parents lightly before saying, "Daughter-in-law Bai Suxian has come, dad and mom!"

Bai Suxian's movement scared Zhang Tie's dad and mom and the surrounding people too much. Zhang Tie's dad and mom had already known Bai Suxian's identity from Zhang Yang. How could they imagine that the princess of Lord Guangnan could make such a solemn etiquette towards them the moment she saw them?

"Ayo, hurry up, get up..." Zhang Tie's mom hurriedly pulled Bai Suxian's up without even wiping her tears.

Only by saying one sentence could Zhang Tie turn a princess of Lord Guangnan into a tame kittie. It was said that this princess was also a knight who dared fight in the Earth-elements Realm alone, Zhang relatives; especially Zhang Tie's cousins watched Zhang Tie like watching their idol...

The man was a good example for his wife!

Chapter 1189: Boîte

After Zhang Tie came back, Zhang family in the internal city of Jinwu City became fervent at once...

Although it was raining and snowing heavily outside, Zhang Mansion in the internal city of Jinwu City was in a festive atmosphere. As the night gradually fell, the internal city of Jinwu City was covered with red lanterns. From a distance, the internal city of Jinwu City was covered with fiery trees and silver flowers, making it especially brilliant.

In a boîte being not far from the outer city of Jinwu City, the tables had almost been occupied. The guests were watching Zhang Mansion through the glass lattice windows of the boîte as they clicked the tongue in wonder.

"Waiter, why is Zhang Mansion so boisterous today?" A potbellied businessman asked as he watched the hot scene in the far when the waiter served him the steaming dishes, drinks and hot pot.

Many businessmen who were wholesaling all-purpose medicament in Jinwu City were gathering in the boîte, including those staff in big business groups, stewards in small trading companies even small pedlars. It was already late December. The new year's festival was soon coming. However, it was a bad weather in Youzhou Province lately; therefore, most of them being stagnated in Jinwu City were locusts being tied onto the same commercial chain of all-purpose medicament. They were waiting to take goods before the end of this year. These people treated Zhang family as their God of Wealth. Therefore, they paid special attention to everything about the Zhang family. When someone asked the waiter about Zhang family, all those on the surroundings tables pricked up their tears as they turned around and listened to the waiter's reply.

The waiter quickly arranged well the things on the table as he replied with a smile, "Sir, this humble man is just a waiter in the boîte, how could I know what's happening in the Mayor's Mansion?"

Jinwu City belongs to the Zhang family. Zhang Tie's dad was the mayor of Jinwu City; therefore, many residents had been used to call the internal city of Jinwu City as the Mayor's Mansion so as to outstand the ruling position of Zhang family in Jinwu City.

After the waiter left, all the others in the boîte were watching that hot scene in the internal city with dubious looks. Right then, a long-bearded middle-aged man sitting on one side of the stairs touched his beard and said, "Whether childe Yang is marrying the daughter of Zhu family in Yanzhou Province today?"

"Chide Yang is marrying the daughter of Zhu family in Yanzhou Province? Where did you get this news, bro?" A man who looked like a steward on the neighboring table put down his glass as he asked out of curiosity after hearing the words of this middle-aged man.

In places which were occupied with businessmen, they would like to communicate with each other. Although this place was not a clubhouse or a courtyard, the customers could still talk to each other. As businessmen, their profits were mainly based on intelligence and human relationship. Therefore, they were very interested in everything about the Zhang family which controlled the sales volume of all-purpose medicament.

Of course, the “childe Yang” referred to Zhang Yang, Zhan Tie’s elder brother.

“Hoho, when I arrived here from Yanzhou Province last time, the news that Zhu family would unite with Huaiyuan Palace through marriage had been spread over Zhu family. I was told by a steward in Zhu family. It’s said that Zhu family’s daughter would marry childe Yang; meanwhile, a grandson of the provincial governor of Yanzhou Province would also marry a daughter of Zhang family. In this way, the two families would have a pretty close relationship!”

“Hoho, thanks!” The one who looked like a steward nodded towards that middle-aged man. Closely after that, he told the waiter while pointing at that table, “Add one bottle of top-class flower-carving liquor for that bro; it’s on me!”

That businessmen who revealed the news also smiled as he extended his thanks by nodding his head.

“However, it’s not a good day. I don’t think that childe Yang would choose today to get married!” Another tall and thin guy said while rubbing goat beard.

“Haha, bro, you’re a fortune-teller?” The other businessmen on the neighboring tables laughed at the same time.

With a sound of “pah”, the tall and thin businessman swayed his sleeve as he took out a palm-sized lunar calendar from his sleeve and raised it pleasantly, “Honestly, I’ve been doing business for dozens of years. I would always carry a lunar calendar no matter whether I leave home, return home, settle down or open a business. Therefore, I have not met any big trouble. I even have many experiences in choosing a day. Take last mid-month as an instance, in the evening, I passed by Sifang City by airship; at the beginning, I wanted to settle down in Sifang City for one night; however, after checking the lunar calendar, I found that if I settled down there, I would miss the fortunate day when I arrived at Jinwu City. Therefore, I didn’t stay in Sifang City. Coincidentally, after I left Sifang City for 1 day, I had heard that Sifang City suffered from the attack of bloody figures. If I stayed there that day, I would have big trouble. Today is Hai day, it’s featured by increasing yin. Marriage is forbidden on this day. If one gets married on this day, he would suffer from being disturbed. As childe Yang and Zhu family have powerhouses who are proficient in fortune-telling, they would never get married on this day...”

“Master, master...” All the other businessmen at the neighboring tables cupped their hands towards the businessman who was holding his lunar calendar. It was also great for a businessman to reach this realm.

“Now that childe Yang isn’t getting married today, why are they so boisterous?”

“Are they celebrating a birthday of the mayor or the old madam?”

“If they’re celebrating a birthday, I’m afraid that the road outside the boîte has long been crowded with visitors’ vehicles from all directions. Look over there, the road is as same as usual. There’re not too many airships or airboats either. How could they celebrate a birthday? Even if they’re celebrating a birthday, it should have been boisterous from this morning!” Another businessman at a neighboring table said while shaking his head.

All the others felt that his words were reasonable as they all nodded.

“Whether childe Yang has new babies?”

"I don't think so. A few days ago, Childe Yang's wives were providing free porridge together with the old madam at the east gate. They didn't look like they were pregnant!" Someone replied as he shook his head.

Neither getting married, nor celebrating a birthday, nor having new babies. Those in the boîte become more curious about the boisterous scene in the internal city of Jinwu City.

"Pfhhh...", a sneer suddenly sounded. All the others turned around and found that it was a young man at his 20s at a private room. His screen had been taken away; therefore, his table was connected with the other tables. He didn't look more like a hereditary Childe than a businessman. After noticing that all the others were looking at him, the young man raised his head at once as he glanced around in an arrogant expression and said, "If Zhang Yang's wives didn't have new babies, Zhang Tie's wives might have!"

How dare this young man call Zhang Tie's name in Jinwu City? Those who were close to Zhang family in Jinwu City would call Zhang Yang the "eldest young master"; even businessmen would call him Childe Yang, not to mention Zhang Tie, as an elder of Huaiyuan Palace, whose case had been redressed and the culprit of the tragedy in Fuhai City had long been exposed.

Few people across Youzhou Province dared call Zhang brothers' names in the public, not to mention inside Jinwu City.

All the businessmen in the boîte slightly frowned. The entire boîte became quiet for over 10 seconds when a customer at his 50s explained, "Childe, you might not know that, Elder Mushen of Huaiyuan Palace was framed and had to leave home a few years ago. Although the Supreme Court has already canceled off the order for arrest of Elder Mushen and dispatched people to apologize to Zhang family, Elder Mushen didn't come back home these years; of course, his wives could not give birth to new babies!"

"It depends..." That playboy looked at his glass in hand as he replied with a sneer, "It's said that Zhang Tie's wives delivered babies after Zhang Tie was wanted and left home for 10 months. What a coincidence! Elder Mushen is really something. How could he get his wives pregnant without returning home? This time, Elder Mushen might make that come true once again. And, I was told that the families of the two brothers Zhang Tie and Zhang Ping were living in the same internal city of Jinwu City. Zhang Tie and Zhang Ping respect each other so much..."

Soon after he finished his words, all the people in the boîte changed their faces. As a result, the boisterous boîte became pretty silent.

Even two guards beside this young man had changed their faces. One of them even stealthily drew the young man's sleeve. All the businessmen at the neighboring two tables immediately sprung up before settling accounts and leaving the boîte silently as if they were escaping from the plague.

The remaining businessmen at the other tables also looked at that young man with icy eye light. At this moment, that customer at his 50s threw another glance at this young man calmly. Although he didn't look furious, he was like watching a lifeless corpse or a firewood that was going to be thrown into the bonfire. Someone else also watched the three guys in the private room with the same expression.

After feeling something was not right and the terrifying atmosphere, a guard beside that young man swallowed his saliva as he whispered, "Childe, we'd better go..."

“Nothing to be afraid of. Now that Zhang brothers could do it, why are they afraid of being talked about?”

Chapter 1190: The Reason

After the young man finished his words for less than 5 minutes, hundreds of people’s tidy footsteps and armor frictions had drifted inside from outside the boîte.

Given the sound, although hundreds of people were running over here, their footsteps were consistent. Only elites could have such rapid, constant and extremely shocking footsteps.

After hearing the tidy footsteps outside the boîte, some customers who were watching the young man in the private room revealed a sneer as they were waiting for a good performance.

The two guards of the young man became intense evidently. Even the young man slightly changed his face. He had not imagined that the troop of Jinwu City could arrive so fast. Although he slightly changed his face, the young man might have a reliance as he picked up his glass and had a mouthful of liquor in a calm way. Closely after that, he said loudly. “Morality, ethics, mercy and righteousness are the four basic demands for humans. If one couldn’t comply with them, one is nothing different than an animal. There’s a saying on the Far-ancient Moral Stele...”

The tidy footsteps stopped outside the boîte and surrounded it at once. In less than 10 seconds, the stairs of the boîte had started to rock. Under the leadership of a waiter of the boîte, a red-face tough man in black armor, a team of armored soldiers had clattered upstairs while their footsteps interrupted the young man’s words.

“Where’s the rumormonger? Who dared slander Elder Mushen?” The tough man in the red face with a pair of dense machete-shaped eyebrows asked with full of killing intent as he glanced around.

“That’s him!” The situation that nobody dared be the witness in the film would never appear at this moment. Over 10 fingers pointed at the 3 customers in the private room in a split second, including the waiter who led the team of Jinwu guards upstairs.

Closely after that, over 10 spears and 6 heavy crossbows targeted at the 3 people in the private room and besieged the 3 customers.

At this moment, besides that young man who was still sitting on the chair, his two guards had already stood up in a vigilant manner. The two guards both had sharp eyes. At the sight of the heavy crossbows, they had known that the safes of the crossbows had been opened. Such heavy crossbows could penetrate through common armors and helmets, unless battle demon-level powerhouses who had formed protective battle qi or heavy armor. Given their cold eye light and stable hands on the crossbows, these crossbowmen were all experienced elites, who didn’t care about killing a person at all.

The red-face tough man squinted at the 3 people; especially the young man who pretended to be calm before saying in a colder voice, “Heavens Reaching Church colludes with demons and are causing troubles across Taixia Country. Besides, Heavens Reaching Church fermented the tragedy in Fuhai City in order to slander Elder Mushen. I doubt that you 3 are colluding with Heavens Reaching Church and cooking rumors in Jinwu City so as to ruin the reputation of Elder Mushen. Please coordinate with our

investigation. I count 3, you'd better kneel down on the ground with your hands on your head. If anyone of you dares resist, you will die, 1..."

"Hoho, Zhang family of Jinwu City are really imposing. Do you really think that this childe could be scared so easily..." The young childe sneered.

"2..." The red-face tough man uttered like a pendulum while putting his hand onto the handle of the sword at his waist.

The young childe changed his face once again as he sprung up at once, "How dare you be that presumptuous? My grandpa is..."

"3..."

"Watch out, childe..."

Soon after the 3 words, before the red-face tough man sent the order, those crossbowmen had triggered their weapons while shooting 6 bolts towards the 3 people.

The sonic boom caused by the strong bolts and the roars of the two guards of the young man and the miserable shriek of the young childe.

The 2 guards blocked 5 bolts, while the rest one penetrated through the gap and nailed onto the thigh of the young childe, causing a punch-sized bloody hole on his thigh.

The young childe fell down while shrieking in a heart-wrenching way.

Over 10 sharp spears formed a cluster and stabbed towards the two guards like a cluster of steel spikes. The two guards were both above LV 10. However, at this moment, they dared not hurt those Jinwu guards. They both knew that they would never leave Jinwu City alive if they killed any Jinwu guard. There were knights in Jinwu City. The entire Youzhou Province belonged to Huaiyuan Palace. However, the two guards had just promoted to battle generals. When one of them blocked off the cluster of spears by one palm, the other one was blocked by the red-face tough man who was rushing towards him.

In the blink of an eye, they had collided 3 times, causing loud sounds, "bang, bang, bang". The table and chairs in the private room were shattered at once. Additionally, that guard of the young childe was sent flying backward. The other guard noticed that the spears soon targeted at the 3 of them once again and were ready for the second round of attack while the red-face tough man who had defeated his partner was evidently a battle-demon level powerhouse, he immediately made a decision. He hurriedly moved backward and came to the side of that young childe. After that, he raised his hands as he shouted, "Stop, we would like to surrender. We're not members of Heavens Reaching Church. We came from Shengzhou Province and stayed in Jinwu City for a short period. Our childe is the grandson of the provincial governor of Shengzhou Province..."

...

The chaos in the boîte was soon appeased. In the blink of an eye, the former private room had been messed up. Additionally, 2 of the 3 people in the private room had lain on the ground while the other 1 was kneeling down.

Two fighters walked forward and stabbed a fine, long needle into the shrine surging point of each guard. After that, they put on a set of special shackles for the two guards. The two guards looked depressed at once. Closely after that, they were taken away.

“You...are dead...how dare you to treat me in this way...you’re dead...my grandpa is...”

The young childe still swore on the ground with a huge hole on his thigh. The red-face tough man couldn’t stand it any more as he directly slapped the young childe’s mouth by his long sword together with the sheath. As a result, at least half of the young childe’s teeth had been sent flying away. Closely after that, he tilted his head and passed out before being drawing away like a dead dog by two fighters.

After the 3 people were taken away, the boîte became boisterous once again. Curiously, the greater part of customers didn’t leave. This also indicated the general mood in Taixia Country. Unless when they really met demons or members of Heavens Reaching Church, generally, a great number of people would like to stay to watch the fun on such an occasion.

“I’ve not imagined that these b*stards come from a clan of the provincial governor!”

“So what? They’re just b*stards of the Gobbling Party. Pah, even a b*stard of the Gobbling Party dare not be so presumptuous in Youzhou Province, doesn’t he know that the Gobbling Party don’t have a market in Youzhou Province? How dare he break wind here?”

“Yup, everybody in Jinwu City knows that Elder Mushen has an exceptional aptitude. Elder Mushen’s 3 sons in Fuhai City were all delivered by three madams after being pregnant for 1 year. The 3 sons of Elder Mushen were given birth to on the same day. They were born with leakless bodies; additionally, they had awakened some great ancestral bloodlines. It’s said that when they came to this world, the entire delivery room was full of special fragrance, which even shocked the entire Fuhai City. As someone of Fan Clan in Yingzhou was working as the household register director in Fuhai City. After seeing such a special phenomenon, household register director Fan posed to unite by marriage. Later on, Elder Mushen was screwed and wanted across the country; however, everybody in Huaiyuan Palace knew that it took his 3 wives 1 year to deliver his 3 sons...”

“If not being born to be special, how could Elder Mushen’s 3 sons be recruited as apprentices by an elder of Heavens Fortune Sect at a such a young age?”

“Is that b*stard blind? How dare he slander Elder Mushen in Jinwu City? Does he think that our Jinwu City could be easily bullied?”

The upstairs was in an uproar at once. Seeing the 3 trouble-makers being taken away in the blink of an eye, everybody else felt pretty cool.

At this moment, another constant clatter sounded while the boss who was a bit fat ran upstairs and hailed the red-face tough man with a smile, “General Lin, I told a waiter to report to Jinwu Guards; I’ve not imagined that General Lin could come here so fast. It’s cold outside. Please have brothers outside the boîte to have a hot drink in my boîte. I’ve already had people arrange well two courtyards downstairs. The drinks and dishes are ready!”