

Black Iron 1951

Chapter 1951: Garby City

Garby City, the capital of Sterland Republic was a well-known magnificent city in the Western Continent. This magnificent city was even known as the capital of gold in the Western Continent. This city appeared to gather all the glory of the Sterland Republic.

The black limousine was running on the broad road with two flags of the Holy Light Empire on the nose. As a result, this vehicle looked such wild.

Drinking wine, Zhang Tie started to watch the scenery outside the vehicle through the dark one-way window. Being stimulated by the special liquid, many memories instantly became fresh. At this moment, Blackhot City, Kalur City and Brapei City in his memory appeared to be crumbed and turned into those building materials on the streets. Therefore, those buildings felt such intimate yet strange, fresh and solemn...

There were many vehicles on the roads, including steam vehicles and fiery-oil vehicles. Almost 1/3 of them were fiery-oil vehicles. Small flags were standing on the noses of many vehicles that represented different countries in the Western Continent.

There were also many military vehicles and soldiers on the roads. There were some camps outside the city. At some crossroads, Zhang Tie found that military policemen of allied human forces in white arm badges were paying special attention to those ordinary military vehicles and soldiers on the streets. Even armored vehicles were parking at some crossroads.

Perhaps because many big figures were gathering in this city at this moment, the streets were in good order. Although soldiers in different uniforms were mixing with so many ordinary people here, there was no chaos. Soldiers from different countries could even be seen at the gates of inns. Some boys were even circling around some armored vehicles jubilantly.

"Garby City has a high-quality gold ore which could rank among the top 10 in the Western Continent. Since the Catastrophe, the underground gold ore has been exploited for over 900 years. However, it was still not completely exploited yet. Being different than the gold ores in other places, the gold ore in Garby City has rich associated ores such as silver, copper, lead and zinc. The endless ores supported the prosperity of the entire Sterland Republic. The revenue of Garby City alone occupied half of the total financial revenue of the Sterland Republic as a whole. As a result, many countries mocked that there was only one city in the Sterland Republic!"

Finding that Zhang Tie was observing the streetscape outside the window with strong interest, Bordili the truncheon chief priest seized the opportunity to start the talk. To observe one's behavior and speech was not exclusive to small figures.

"A small country owns a huge gold ore which is equal to a treasure bowl. I wonder how the Sterland Republic survive itself over these years?" Zhang Tie turned around and asked Bordili instead of pretending to be profound. n(-o)-v.-e-(l).b.-l--n

Zhang Tie controlled Ockham with the help of god's baptism rune. Ockham controlled Bordili with the help of god's baptism rune too. Therefore, the relationship between Zhang Tie and Bordili the truncheon chief priest of Holy Light Empire was established in this way.

Zhang Tie knew the relationship between Bordili and Ockham. However, Bordili didn't know Zhang Tie's relationship with Ockham; neither did he know Zhang Tie's real identity. According to Ockham, Bordili must follow Zhang Tie's order after meeting him.

Zhang Tie was crystal clear about Bordili; however, Bordili was just a prop and costar.

Zhang Tie knew that Bordili must be very curious about his identity. However, now that Ockham didn't tell him about Zhang Tie's identity, Bordili didn't feel it was convenient to ask about it; instead, he wanted to judge Zhang Tie's identity and purpose through communication. As a knight, who could serve as truncheon chief priest of Holy Light Empire, of course Bordili was not a fool. He was smart and had his own way of existence.

"At the beginning, the surrounding countries and forces indeed wanted to encroach Sterland Republic; especially the emperor of Aoto Empire, who craved for occupying Garby City at any time. However, Rhesa Republic was on the back of the Sterland Republic. Therefore, the emperor of Aoto Empire didn't succeed. Finally Sterland Republic exploited the gold ore together with Golden Roc Bank. Golden Roc Bank took the greater part of gold coins and benefits that they acquired in Sterland Republic as long-term low-interest loan and investment for Aoto Empire and Rhesa Republic. Therefore, Starland Republic could survive on and Garby City could become the capital of gold."

"Oh, I see!" Zhang Tie nodded as he indeed admired about Golden King Bank's means.

"Over the past hundreds of years, almost all the golden ores 15,000 m under the earth of Garby City have been emptied. In the process of exploiting those golden ores, they discovered towers of time in an underground karst cave!" Bordili said as he made a glass of wine for Zhang Tie, "That karst cave is called the crown of gold. It contains four towers of time. The most precious one could enable people to cultivate 20 years inside; the inferior one could enable people to cultivate 10 years inside. The rest two towers of time could enable people to cultivate 5 years inside respectively. All the towers of time that were discovered across the Western Continent had been taken over by the headquarters of the allied human forces of the Western Continent two decades ago. Of course, the so-called "take over" is just for small countries, small forces and those common clans. As for the towers of time that were discovered in the territories of big countries or big forces like Rhesa Republic or Barbarian Alliance are actually still distributed to knights in Rhesa Republic and Barbarian Alliance; so are those in Holy Light Empire; although they were taken over by the headquarters of allied human forces and distributed to people according to their meritorious deeds nominally!"

Zhang Tie implied Bordili to continue as he drank his wine. Of course, Fred, as a cannon fodder, was not qualified to use tower of time. If "Fred" wanted to use a tower of time, he could only rely on someone else. Additionally, there was an easier solution——Zhang Tie directly turned into Bordili. However, if he disguised as Bordili, he couldn't read one's memory. Additionally, once he touched someone being familiar with Bordili, he probably expose his loopholes. Additionally, the knight was too eye-catching. By contrast, the identity of "Fred" was much more proper than the identity of "Bordili".

"I killed a knight of the Sacred Alliance Empire in Fengzi City a couple of months ago by good fortune. Plus my trivial meritorious deeds and the help of two holy light chief priests, I could have a chance to cultivate in the crown of gold. Even though, I could only cultivate 5 years in one tower of time, during which period, I could only form about 20 scales. It's my great honor to solve problems for His Honor Ockham!" Bordili started to ask about Zhang Tie's identity indirectly. "How do I call you, Your Excellency?"

"Just call me Fred!" Zhang Tie replied with a smile, "Don't worry! I guarantee that you will get greater compensation than your payment. You won't regret. Actually, it's a good job that Ockham has found for you!"

After hearing Zhang Tie directly calling Ockham's name without any respect, Bordili's heart raced once. On this occasion, he could never guess the relationship between Ockham and Zhang Tie.

"I only hope to not let down His Honor Ockham!" Bordili said meticulously.

"Oh, when did they arrange you to enter the crown of gold?"

"August 12!"

"8 days left!"

"Right, that tower of time will be available on August 12. We only need to stay in Garby City for a few days. By then, you can enter Crown of Gold with me as my personal guard. After that, you can enter the tower of time!"

"If someone finds that it's me who enters the tower of time instead of you, will it bring any trouble to you outside the tower of time?"

"Your Majesty, don't worry. Only the user of tower of time and two personal guards are allowed to enter Crown of Gold each time. When we enter it, there would be nobody else in the Crown of Gold. All the other three towers of time are still not available. Even if someone finds out, it doesn't matter; because I have the right to use that tower of time; I could dispose of it at my will. Some knights who have the right to use towers of time would even auction or transfer their right through some channels in order to acquire something else that they needed such as element crystals or secret items. It's normal!"

"Well, wish us a smooth cooperation..." Zhang Tie said as he raised his glass.

Bordili raised his glass too.

After clinking their glasses, the two people then bottomed up.

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Only after a short while, the black limousine had parked outside the gate of a super five-star grand hotel called Moonlight Hotel in Garby City.

After the vehicle parked, Zhang Tie got off the vehicle first. Closely after that, he walked to the side of Bordili and opened the door for Bordili.

This grand hotel in the downtown area of Garby City had already become the residence of some senior personnel of Holy Light Empire. All the people inside the hotel were reliable ones from Holy Light Empire including guards, cooks, waiters, florists and handymen. Over these days, Bordili just lived here. It was said that the name of this hotel catered to the taste of Holy Light Empire; therefore, they chose this hotel as their residence.

Ockham and the other two holy light chief priests were also in Garby City. However, they didn't live in this hotel; instead, they lived in the luxurious mansions that Sterland Republic especially built for people above earth knights in Garby City. Of course, the residence of shadow knights should be more luxurious and safer...

Chapter 1952: The Banquet on the National Day

"This is Fred, my aide. Please prepare a set of proper field officer's uniform and find an etiquette teacher for him. On August 10, I'm going to attend the wine party of the national day of the Sderland Republic held in the presidential palace!"

Zhang Tie followed Bertiri to the door of a presidential suite on the top of Area A, Moonlight Hotel, closely followed by a priest. When they were going to enter the door, Bertiri told that priest calmly.

"Okay, my lord, I will arrange it right now. What else could I help you with?" the priest asked Bertiri with a big smile. To be honest, Zhang Tie had not seen anyone in clerical dress with such a kind of smile.

"I'm going to cultivate in my room these days. Don't disturb me unless it's an emergency!" Bertiri told that priest. Closely after that, he told Zhang Tie, "Fred, you'd better learn etiquettes for a few days. You could apply battle skills on the battlefield; however, if you follow me, you have to know how to get along well with nobles and big figures in many cases. A person with a long sword and good manners could go further in the future!" n.(0Veℓb1n

"Yes, sir!" Zhang Tie bowed obediently.

Bertiri's "decision" to cultivate in the room satisfied Zhang Tie very much. In this way, the two people would barely expose themselves to the public and have few troubles. They could carry out the following plan smoothly. However, Bertiri had to attend the national day banquet on August 10. Therefore, Zhang Tie had to follow him there. However, that date was only 2 days away from entering Golden Crown. Zhang Tie didn't think that anything could happen in such a short period of time. Additionally, as an aide of a knight, in that kind of banquet, Zhang Tie was like a walking background wall. Very few people would pay attention to him.

After leaving some words to Zhang Tie and the brilliant priest, Bertiri opened the door and exited the room, leaving Zhang Tie alone.

When the door was closed from outside, the priest instantly hid 95% of his smile. With a faintly polite smile, he took a look at Zhang Tie and nodded before saying, "Please come with me, your room is over there..."

As the aide of Bertiri, a major priest, Zhang Tie also had his private room next to the presidential suite in Moonlight Hotel, Gabydu City.

The room was considerate. If the real Fred was here, he might really become a bit thrilled about this place; however, Zhang Tie just pretended to be “thrilled”. Closely after entering the room, he had become very curious as he started to look around with strong interest.

The priest, who took Zhang Tie in the room, took a scornful look at Zhang Tie. When Zhang Tie turned around, he recovered his normal look as he asked, “I wonder how much do you know about etiquette?” The priest especially emphasized in case that Zhang Tie didn’t get his point. “I mean court etiquette, diplomatic etiquette and knight’s aides etiquette?”

“Ah? Are etiquettes so complex?” Zhang Tie pretended to be surprised.

“It seems that you should learn it from the scratch!” The priest took another look at Zhang Tie out of admiration and jealousy. After that, he said arrogantly, “There are only 6 days left from the national day wine party in the presidential palace on August 10, you cannot get hang of too much etiquette and regulations in such a short period of time. Fortunately, you don’t have to talk to too many people on that day. You only need to come in with Lord Bertiri. After that, you should respond to the eyes and requirements of Lord Bertiri. Therefore, I will mainly teach you what you should pay attention to on that occasion. Am I clear?”

“Clear!” Zhang Tie nodded as he behaved like a dutiful, obedient aide...

Closely after that, the priest left Zhang Tie’s private room. After closing the room, Zhang Tie even heard that guy sighing and muttering outside the door, “Sigh, why don’t I have such a good luck? I’m not even qualified to attend the national day wine party.”

Zhang Tie almost burst out laughing...

Although that priest admired and envied that Zhang Tie had become Bertiri’s aide, he dared not offend him; instead, he had someone measure Zhang Tie’s body. After that, he found an etiquette teacher for Zhang Tie. In the following days, Zhang Tie “tried his best” to learn how to not make his owner embarrassed in public as a knight’s aide. Time passed by...

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August 10 was the national day of Sderland Republic. Although the entire Sderland Republic couldn’t commemorate it on a large scale because of the holy war, it was necessary for it to hold a banquet in the presidential palace of Gabydu City. If it didn’t even hold such a banquet, it might arouse great disputes.

In the evening, Zhang Tie followed Bertiri to the presidential palace in Gabydu City by car in a wholly new crimson field officer’s uniform of Sacred Light Empire.

It was a grand banquet. Sacred Light Empire assigned two sacred light major priests, 5 throne priests and over 10 major priests to attend this banquet.

Besides Sacred Light Empire’s representatives, president and prime minister, ministers, generals, representatives of major clans and top-class celebrities of Sderland Republic attended it too.

The greater part of the influential figures in the eastern theater of operations of the Western Continent had arrived.

The fleet coming out of Moonlight Hotel directly parked outside the banquet hall of the presidential palace which could even match an imperial palace. After the car parked, some waiters in black swallowtail, high hat and white gloves opened the doors of the car. Zhang Tie then stepped onto the red carpet with the other major priests and their aides. After roll call, they entered the banquet hall of the presidential palace which had started to be boisterous.

Influential figures would always attend such banquets in the end.

“Wait for me at the entrance when the banquet is coming to an end...” The major priest left some words to Zhang Tie before walking towards those generals of Sderland Republic.

After getting Bertiri’s point, Zhang Tie took a glass of cocktail from the tray of a waiter who had just passed by leisurely. Then, he walked to a corner of the banquet hall which was close to the band behind the fountain and waited for the end of this banquet...

Chapter 1953: A Secret Talk

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Zhang Tie was in a relatively remote place in the banquet hall. He was far from people’s attention. This also favored his current identity. Zhang Tie was listening to music and drinking alone. Watching people accessing to the gate, he just enjoyed himself. Those personal attendants of the other chief priests who came in with Zhang Tie were either in a group of two or three in the far or went somewhere boisterous. None of them came here to invite Zhang Tie or would like to make friends with him.

In the Holy Light Empire, the circle of personal attendants of chief priests was also full of conflicts of interest. In the others’ eyes, it was Zhang Tie’s good luck to become Bordili’s personal attendant. Few personal attendants of chief priests were below LV 10. Most of them were between LV 11 and LV 14. The former personal attendant of Bordili was a great battle master. Even Zhang Tie’s experience was far from that of the other experienced personal attendants, not to mention his battle force as a LV 9 fighter.

Therefore, Zhang Tie was gradually isolated from the other personal attendants.

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“It’s said that he has just received etiquette training in the hotel the other day. It’s a wise decision for him to stay aside...”

“Hopefully, that brat doesn’t make any joke this time...”

“Hahaha, he might have been dumbfounded by such a grand scene!”

Those personal attendants in ceremonial robe were whispering afar. Every once in a while, someone among them would turn around and take a disdainful look at Zhang Tie.

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There were only two days left from entering the tower of time to completely recovering his battle force. Therefore, Zhang Tie became relaxed. He just watched everything in the banquet like a calm onlooker as he didn't mind those discussions about him at all; instead, he felt that everything was ridiculous.

In the melodious tone of the violin, those well-decorated dignified celebrities and noblewomen in longuette entered the banquet hall elegantly. As a result, the entire banquet hall became boisterous soon.

Even in the holy war, in those places far from battlefield in the frontline, banquet and salon were also necessary for the daily lives of dignitaries and celebrities. Like salt in food, these necessary parts could be few in difficult periods; however, they couldn't be deleted.

Wars could change many things; however, there were some things that could never be changed by wars.

On such occasions, men could make friends with beautiful and sexy women; women could make friends with powerful men; influential men could obtain useful information and make many trades here. Beautiful women also shared many common topics. Additionally, if those expensive pieces of jewelry in boxes and brilliant longuettes in wardrobes that women collected were not exposed to light for long, many women would even worry that those items would go moldy.

Knights who made meritorious deeds on the battlefields could hear compliments and enjoy glory on such occasions. Big figures felt that such banquets and commemorations could boost morale and show people the twilight of victory. As for a few people, even though they couldn't go to the frontline, they would also feel like participating in the holy war or satisfied with making a contribution to the holy war only by talking with eloquence and toasting each other under the resplendent crystal lamps.

Holding a glass, Zhang Tie watched such a brilliant scene of a myriad of images with a faint smile.

Zhang Tie felt that he was just an onlooker and remained pretty low-key tonight; however, he didn't know that one could display his personality causally with a smile, an expression even a standing posture.

In someone's eyes, a low-key onlooker might be distinguished and had a special attraction.

When he just finished half of the drink, he had seen a beautiful maiden at her 20's in brilliant red bobtail swaying her buttocks towards him with golden, long hair which reached her shoulder, wearing a necklace. She asked Zhang Tie with a smile, "Are you alone?"

This blonde was young, sunny and had an awesome figure. Given her age and personality, she should have a nice family background. She should be a young married woman or a junior of a dignitary or celebrity who attended this banquet tonight.

Zhang Tie replied with a smile, "I was, but not now!"

At this moment, a waiter served them a plate. Zhang Tie then took a glass of champagne from the plate and gave it to the blonde.

"Thank you..." The blonde appreciated him with a brighter smile. Only after hearing one sentence and receiving one glass of drink from Zhang Tie, the blonde had been much more interested in Zhang Tie at once as her passion surged.

The blonde was called Reddies, the granddaughter of the president of Sterland Republic. She was an unmarried girl of a rich and influential family. She followed her father and the minister of finance of Sterland Republic to attend the banquet of the national day. Soon after entering the gate, she had caught sight of Zhang Tie. After that, she was attracted by Zhang Tie.

Only after having a half glass of drink in less than 3 minutes, the distance between Reddies and Zhang Tie had been much intimate like lovers.

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Only after those chief priests' personal attendants ignored Zhang Tie for a few minutes, when someone among them turned around and looked at Zhang Tie, he had seen Reddies almost sticking herself to Zhang Tie with an amorous look...

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Following after, Zhang Tie had seen Ockham.

In the brilliant and majestic robe of holy light chief priest, Ockham entered the banquet hall with someone else almost at the same time.

Zhang Tie saw a Hua man next to Ockham. In blue Hua people's robe made of boa silk, he seemed to be in his 40's. Being slightly fat, he had small eyes and a walrus mustache. Given his qi, he was not a knight; however, he had a strong qi field with a paramount look. Those beside him held him in great veneration.

That man entered the banquet hall together with Ockham; however, Ockham's feet never surpassed that of his. Meanwhile, Ockham remained at that man's side. Even the president of Sterland Republic closely followed after him and whispered to him while slightly inclining his body.

Zhang Tie once saw the half painting of the president of Sterland Republic; therefore, he could recognize him here.

Soon after they entered the banquet hall, a lot of people had surrounded them like how a myriad of stars surrounded the moon.

Ockham spotted Zhang Tie too. However, after an eye contact with Zhang Tie, he took a glance at the blonde beside Zhang Tie. Then, he moved his eyes away like nothing had happened without arousing the attention of anyone else.

"Who's that Hua man?" Zhang Tie whispered to Reddies.

"He's Taixia Country's ambassador in the Sterland Republic!" Candis had long leaned against Zhang Tie as her face turned warm due to love. When she talked to Zhang Tie, she almost exhaled her qi into Zhang Tie's ear.

"Why an ambassador is such prestigious? Why do I feel that all the others are flattering him?"

"Of course, Taixia Country's ambassadors in Western Continent have special positions. They focus wherever they are. However, this person is different than ordinary Taixia ambassadors. My father told me that this ambassador in the Sterland Republic has a very deep background in Taixia Country. He was born in a very powerful party in Taixia Country..."

“Are there also parties in Taixia Country?” Zhang Tie asked her after being temporarily stunned.

“My father told me about that. I’m not clear about it either. That party might have a very great influence in Xuanyuan Hill...”

Zhang Tie understood that Reddies referred to the Gobbling Party. Parties in Taixia Country were absolutely different than parties in republic countries like the Sterland Republic essentially. It was reasonable that Reddies couldn’t clarify it.

After ten more minutes, the two people had finished two glasses of liquor respectively. Reddies’ face had blushed evidently.

“How about breathing the fresh air outside...” Reddies whispered to Zhang Tie as her alluring red lips rubbed Zhang Tie’s earlobes.

“Outside?” Of course, Zhang Tie was crystal clear about Reddies’ hint. However, he preferred to stay with this lovely beauty secretly than waste a few hours in such a boring banquet. The former one might be more interesting.

“No, it’s too noisy outside there. I know a garden upstairs...”

With the guidance of Reddies, the two people walked out of a side door of the banquet hall where there were two guards. After that, they twisted here and there before coming upstairs.

There were guards of the presidential palace on the entrances of corridors and staircases. Therefore, ordinary people could never assess them; however, as Reddies usually came to the presidential palace, of course those guards recognized her. Therefore, when they saw her coming here with Zhang Tie, they didn’t stop them.

There was indeed an indoor small garden upstairs. It was covered with roses. The garden was tranquil and filled with fragrance of rose flowers. It was really a good place to “breathe fresh air”. Candis directly took Zhang Tie to a small parlor being connected to this small garden...

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Over 10 minutes later, they heard the next door being open and the president’s voice, “Ambassador Sun, please come in. This is my private study room. Nobody would disturb us...”

There was a door between the small parlor and the study room. At this moment, the door was not completely closed; actually, it left a small crack, through which they could hear the talk.

Zhang Tie hurriedly made a hand gesture to Reddies and asked her to be quiet...

Chapter 1954: New Emperor

The Sterland Republic was a democratic country on the Western Continent. Its president England was not a knight. In the Sterland Republic, the position of president was always assumed by a literati. It was a political tradition of Sterland Republic in order to prevent someone with great battle force from turning the republic country into a monarchical country or a country under the rule of generals.

That Taixia's ambassador in the Sterland Republic was not a knight either; he was not even a high-level fighter. Because the position ambassador didn't have to be assumed by a knight at all; neither were there surplus knights in Taixia Country to be wasted. Therefore, the two people didn't hear the abnormal sound in the neighborhood when they entered the study room or notice that the door between the study room and the small parlor was actually not completely closed. As a result, the two people's talk could be eavesdropped by Zhang Tie and Reddies. If that door was closed, the sound-proof system inside the wall would work. What a coincidence!

At this moment, Reddies was hugging Zhang Tie tightly as she had already fallen in love with him. When she heard the sound from the study room, Reddies was also startled. She then slowed her breath. Unexpectedly, her grandpa was going to have a secret talk with the ambassador of Taixia Country in the neighborhood at this moment.

Zhang Tie had long released his spiritual energy, which formed a barrier in the room. As a result, the voices of Zhang Tie and Reddies were restrained in this barrier. Additionally, another wisp of spiritual energy "swam" into the neighboring study room easily and "saw" everything in the president's study room as if Zhang Tie was there himself.

The president of Sterland Republic was grey-haired and pot-bellied. Although this literati president didn't look as powerful as knights, he looked like an experienced politician.

Ambassador Sun who was closely related to the Gobbling Party still looked as domineering as before in the banquet hall.

Besides England and Ambassador Sun, nobody else was in the study room.

They were sitting on the same sofa in the study room with solemn looks.

"There's going to be an emperor in Taixia Country soon." Ambassador Sun broke the silence, which caused Zhang Tie's heart to palpitate once in an instant.

After being temporarily stunned, the president of Sterland Republic revealed a brilliant smile. Nobody could see through the disguise behind his smile. "Emperor Xuanyuan is coming back. This news is the best gift that Mr. Sun gave the Sterland Republic on the national day. It's an inspiring good news for both Eastern Continent and Western Continent. I believe that the battle situation facing Taixia Country would be improved soon. Congratulations..."

They were talking fluently in Hua language. In this age, those who didn't speak Hua language could never become top figures.

"It's not that Emperor Xuanyuan is coming back; but there's going to be a new emperor in Taixia Country!" Ambassador Sun immediately rectified it as if he had not noticed the well-disguised dumbfounded look of the president of Sterland Republic. "Since the holy war broke out, there was never any emperor in Taixia Country. This situation will soon be improved!"

"Hmm, I think so too. It's unimaginable for a country like Taixia Country to have no emperor for long!" The president of Sterland Republic replied meticulously as his passionate and brilliant smile faded away at once.

“When the new emperor ascends to the throne, I think the embassy of Sterland Republic in Xuanyuan Hill should convey its congratulations to Taixia Country immediately and present a letter of credence!” Ambassador Sun continued as he looked straight into the eyes of the president of Sterland Republic.

The president of Sterland Republic didn’t reply at once this time. After a few seconds of silence, he took a wise look at Ambassador Sun before asking him, “May I know the new owner of Xuanyuan Hill?”

“The ninth prince of Taixia Country!”

England revealed a dumbfounded look; however, he didn’t make any comment about it. After a few seconds of consideration, he nodded and replied, “If the ninth prince could really ascend to the throne, of course, Sterland Republic should convey congratulations to that with the relevant diplomatic etiquettes. We will never fall behind other countries on this point!”

“I want the Sterland Republic to be the first country which conveys congratulations to that among those countries in the Western Continent. Hopefully, you could serve as a good example instead of falling behind other countries. There should always be the first one before the second, the third.” Ambassador Sun said aggressively, “If it’s really like what you said, do you think there’s any meaning about our talk here?”

“Have those top powers in Taixia Country reached a consistent opinion about the ascension of the ninth prince of Emperor Xuanyuan?”

“It’s none of your business. I will notice you by then. You only need to ask the embassy of Sterland Republic in Xuanyuan Hill to do that!” Ambassador Sun replied as he waved his hand with a solemn look, “Cut the crap. Now, tell me whether do you agree or not!”

Under the gaze of Ambassador Sun, the forehead of the president of Sterland Republic oozed sweat at once. Such a small study room instantly turned into a torture room, which was even more perilous than the frontline of the war between humans and demons. When he thought about Xuanyuan Hill, the experienced politician’s heart instantly froze with panic. He wanted to open the cigar box on the desk and take a puff so as to calm down; however, he found that his hand was quivering out of control. As a result, he couldn’t even open the lock catch on the box...

The president of Sterland Republic knew that his stance at this moment might determine the fate of him and his clan. As a small country on the Western Continent, the most powerful ones in which were just black knights, Sterland Republic and its president would be devastated immediately once Xuanyuan Hill took any action on it. It was not that kind of game that he could participate in. However, he had to make a choice now...

When Ambassador Sun found that the president of Sterland Republic wanted to open the cigar box on the desk with quivering hand, he cast a stern glance at England before standing up with a gloomy look and walking towards the door.

“I... agree!” When Ambassador Sun almost touched the doorknob of the study room with hand, he finally heard a fatigued and quivering voice from behind.

Ambassador Sun then stopped as he turned around and spoke with a smile, "It's the wisest choice that you've ever made. Don't regret. Well, I gotta get going downstairs. I'm craving for your thrilling speech, Mr. President! Oh, you'd better not reveal what I told you just now to the public for the time being..."

After saying these words, Ambassador Sun opened the door and left there.

The president of Sterland Republic felt weak all over as he sat on the sofa with a pale look for 5 minutes. Then he took out of a vial of red medicament from another box on the desk, hand quivering. After drinking it for a short while, his complexion finally recovered. Then, he left the study room.

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'Xuanyuan Lie, the ninth prince is going to be the new Xuanyuan Emperor?'

'Isn't Xuanyuan Hill commonly supervised by the three councilors and nine ministers?'

'Didn't Ockham say that those chancellors of Xuanyuan Hill want to select one of Xuanyuan Changying's sons to ascend to the throne? What happened? When did the Gobbling Party and Meng Shidao stand on the side of Xuanyuan Lie, the ninth prince?'

A lot of questions occurred to Zhang Tie.

According to the performance of Ambassador Sun, a member of the Gobbling Party, he appeared to want Sterland Republic to wave flags and shout battle calls behind them so as to make it an established fact. It seemed to mean that the situation facing Xuanyuan Hill was very intense. In Taixia Country, not everyone supported the ninth prince of Xuanyuan Emperor to ascend to the throne.

"Have my grandpa and Ambassador Sun left?" Reddies whispered to Zhang Tie as she hugged Zhang Tie. They hadn't heard any more voice from the neighborhood for a short while.

After taking a look at this blonde who had fallen in love with him and wanted to further develop the affection between them, Zhang Tie slightly stroked Reddies' head, causing her to close her eyes and fall asleep at once.

After having her lie on the sofa of the parlor lightly, Zhang Tie sat on the other sofa and thought about the affairs of Taixia Country with a frown. no 17e-1b(1n

'Something unknown must have happened in Taixia Country; otherwise, Xuanyuan Lie, the ninth prince would never ascend to the throne all of a sudden...'

Zhang Tie then took a remote-sensing crystal out of his portable space-teleportation equipment and sent a message to Ockham who was right in the banquet hall downstairs—Has any major event happened in Taixia Country recently?

Only after a few minutes, Ockham had replied. "According to the intelligence that my moles in Xuanyuan Hill sent back, everything is normal in Taixia Country except that the war between humans and demons continued."

'As usual sh*t!'

‘Something must have happened in Taixia Country; however, Ockham’s moles didn’t know about it, not to mention Ockham. When they know it, everything would have been established facts.’

——Do you need me to ask for any information?

When he received no reply, Ockham sent another message.

——Where’s Meng Shidao now?

After a few minutes...

——Since Xuanyuan Changying, the royal prince was assassinated, Meng Shidao had been in secluded cultivation!

——Are you sure that Meng Shidao is still in secluded cultivation?

After a few minutes...

——My moles in Xuanyuan Hill said that they couldn’t approach the place where Meng Shidao was in secluded cultivation. Therefore...

——Well, it’s okay!

Zhang Tie didn’t expect that Ockham knew any information about the top powers in Taixia Country anymore. A shadow knight of the Holy Light Empire on the Western Continent was nothing but sh*t for Taixia Country. His influence was nearly zero; even though not being zero, not to mention his moles in Xuanyuan Hill. Those moles might only tell Ockham about some major events that had already happened in Taixia Country; they knew nothing about those major events which have not happened yet in Taixia Country yet. If Meng Shidao didn’t mean to let everyone know it when he finished his secluded cultivation, those moles might still not know about that even now.

...

After a while, Reddies finally woke up slowly. However, she couldn’t remember what had happened just now at all. She only remembered that she had some drink and hugged Fred just now. Then, she felt drunk and lay on the sofa, being far away from a fair lady when she shouldn’t be drunk at that moment.

Her clothes were still complete. She didn’t feel strange at all as if nothing had happened to her after getting drunk.

“Ah, I’m so sorry. I didn’t expect that I could be drunk so easily today...” Reddies immediately apologized to Zhang Tie after waking up. As for some men who always had strict requirements on others, they might have their spirits dampened facing a drunk woman.

“It’s fine. Let’s go downstairs. The banquet should almost come to an end...” Zhang Tie replied as he stood up. After slightly smoothening her ball gown, Reddies also stood up and returned to the banquet hall with Zhang Tie.

...

This banquet didn’t come to an end until about 10 pm. After that, Zhang Tie and Bordili returned to Moonlight Hotel by car.

...

Two days later, Bordili took Zhang Tie to the entrance of the Golden Crown in Garby City...

Chapter 1955: Decision and Defense

The entrance of Golden Crown in Garby City was on a mountain inside the city.

That mountain was actually a gold mine hundreds of years ago. When miners reached the deep place of the mine, they discovered that karst cave and the towers of time in the karst cave. From then on, the mountain which had three average peaks became the encampment of the national defense department of Sterland Republic and was heavily guarded all the years round. After hundreds of years, this mountain had been utterly different than that hundreds of years before. It was verdant everywhere. Additionally, guards could be seen in each a few steps.

Zhang Tie took a car which was dispatched to Moonlight Hotel by the national defense department of Sterland Republic especially for them with Bordili and a colonel all the way to the entrance of Golden Crown smoothly.

Being on the hillside, that entrance was higher than 5 m and thicker than 2 m like a round alloy gate of the vault in a bank. After checking the document presented by the colonel, that officer asked his men to open the entrance.

There was a long downward tunnel being reinforced with steel rails and steel plates behind the gate. On both sides of the tunnel were eternal fluorescent lamps. The entire tunnel was dimly green like a secluded backroom of the knight. Besides their footsteps, they could hear no more sound inside.

After walking over 1,000 m in the underground tunnel, they saw another same gate. That colonel then presented the same document to the guard before being allowed to access it. There was another reinforced 1,000 m long downward tunnel behind the gate. After passing the third protective gate, they saw a crude elevator that looked like an iron cage at the end of the tunnel. After entering the elevator, the three people started to descend rapidly with squeaks and slight tremble.

"Many objects inside Golden Crown are mining facilities. Only these mining facilities are available here. This steam elevator is especially for miners hundreds of years ago. Although it looked crude, it was safe as people provide regular maintenance for it!" Sitting in the elevator, that colonel of the national defense department of Sterland Republic introduced it to Zhang Tie and Bordili as if he didn't want the two "foreigners" to look down the power of Sterland Republic.

"If demon knights launch a sneak attack towards the entrance and collapse the tunnel, won't people be trapped downside?" Bordili asked him.

"We've already considered this possibility. Therefore, there's an emergency tunnel in the karst cave below. However, that alternative emergency tunnel's location is confidential. Even I don't know about the location of its entrance or exit. That emergency tunnel couldn't be used until this tunnel is closed!"

Bordili then nodded. After taking a look at Zhang Tie who remained silent, he didn't speak anymore.

Zhang Tie remained silent today. As he was going to enter the tower of time, he had been absolutely reassured.

No matter how bad was the situation facing Taixia Country, it wouldn't deteriorate too much in a couple of days. It was not late for him to deal with that when he left the tower of time. It was time for him to clean up those evil forces and trashes in the three major clans, even Taixia Country as a whole.

This 'frail' period was a rare experience for Zhang Tie. In this short period of time, Zhang Tie returned to the frontline of the battlefield and experienced the brutality of the holy war again as an ordinary fighter.

Since ancient times, the middle- and low-class commoners and grassroots always suffered the greatest losses in each war, turmoil and crisis. Watching the Coldwater City which had turned into ruins and been covered with the blood of humans and those rotten skeletons in the mountains outside Coldwater City, Zhang Tie made up his mind for the first time—to end the holy war and drive all the demons back into the underground abyss.

...

7-8 minutes later, this elevator came to a stop with a squeak. That colonel of the national defense department of Sterland Republic then pulled open the door of the elevator. The three people then walked out of this elevator and entered another elevator for further discussions as they couldn't enter the very deep underground space with only one elevator.

After taking 5 elevators, the three people traveled in the underground mine cave being covered with rails by bogie truck for over half an hour. Finally, they came to the front of a huge protective door as same as before. The colonel then presented the last document to a guard. After that, the thick door was opened, revealing another tunnel behind it.

"It's the karst cave of No. 3 tower of time right at the end of this tunnel. According to the rule, I must stop here," the colonel said as he took a look at the watch on his hand, "As long as you leave the tower of time and enter this tunnel 5 days later, the protective door will be opened. By then, I will pick you up!"

"Okay!" Bordili nodded with a stern look. After that, he walked towards the tunnel together with Zhang Tie.

When Bordili and Zhang Tie was going to access the last protective door, the colonel opened his mouth again.

"The code name of our troop here is Golden Crown. All the fighters of Golden Crown are the most loyal and fearless warriors in Sterland Republic. They are ready to sacrifice themselves for Golden Crown. Additionally, they're the most reticent ones in this country. After joining Golden Crown, they must defend this dark underground space all year round; they must leave their family members, friends, and honors. The comrades-in-arms could even call each other by code names; instead of their real names. They didn't have an opportunity to enter the tower of time; neither are they qualified to enter it. They are not allowed to take a glance at the tower of time which they defend until they're going to leave here. When they return to the surface of the ground, their memory about the period when they were in Golden Crown would be erased with medicine. The image about towers of time that they defend could only stay in their mind for a few hours..."

Zhang Tie instantly stopped his foot as he turned around and looked at that colonel.

When he saw Zhang Tie coming to a stop, Bordili stopped too.

After noticing Zhang Tie's response, that colonel instantly moved his eyes from Bordili to Zhang Tie as he looked straight into Zhang Tie's eyes fearlessly and talked to him in a low tone, "The reason that these fighters wish to defend towers of time here and bury their youth underground is that their duty is meaningful. They're firmly convinced that each person leaving any tower of time here would kill more demons in the battlefield above ground. Each knight who grew more powerful here would become the hardcore of humans and the guarantee for humans' existence. They wish to defend here for such people, even at the cost of their own lives!"

Zhang Tie glanced over the calm faces of that colonel and the two rows of fighters in silence. After that, he nodded and entered the tunnel. That colonel then gave a military salute to Zhang Tie.

The thick protective door was slowly closed from outside, leaving two people's footsteps in the tunnel.

"Sigh..." Bordili didn't maintain his majesty and arrogance anymore when he faced Zhang Tie alone. He suddenly sighed. "Perhaps humans could finally survive on the former two holy wars because of the sacrifice of these people!"

"Do you think it is righteous for Holy Light Empire to establish Sword of Brilliance at the cost of so many people's lives in that means?" Zhang Tie suddenly asked Bordili after taking a glance at the latter.

After considering it for a short while, Bordili answered, "Not righteous; but it's necessary. Because righteousness couldn't kill demons; however, powerful fighters could!"

After taking a look at Bordili, Zhang Tie didn't speak anymore. Because a huge karst cave had already appeared in front of them.

This colossal karst cave was higher than 10,000 m. It was giving out golden lights everywhere because of raw gold ore. A tower of time higher than 1,000 m was standing loftily right in the middle of the karst cave.

The exit of that tunnel was above the karst cave. Standing on the platform at the entrance of the karst cave, they could well overlook the entire karst space. The huge tower of time was right under their foot. Additionally, there was a tunnel on the stone wall which connected the platform to the bottom of the space.

It might also be the first time for Bordili to the watchtower of time. He was greatly shocked by the flowing rune light over the tower of time.

"See you 5 days later..." Zhang Tie left one sentence to Bordili. Closely after that, he flew off the platform and came to the entrance of the tower of time with a flash. When he pushed open the gate of the tower of time, a streak of white light instantly poured out of the crack between the gate and its frame. When Zhang Tie entered the tower of time, the gate closed at once.

Standing on the platform at the entrance, Bordili was stunned by Zhang Tie's movement. Not until then did he find that Zhang Tie was a knight. Additionally, Zhang Tie's moving speed was far from his imagination.

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This tower of time was very similar to that one which he entered in Ice and Snow Wilderness before.

There was a long and profound crystal tunnel being covered with flowing odd runes behind the gate of the tower of time. As it gathered the energy of this tower of time, it felt pretty comfortable when Zhang Tie took a breath...

Chapter 1956: Dark Clouds Bearing Down On the City

After coming to the end of the crystal tunnel, Zhang Tie instantly entered the light film. Closely after that, he appeared in the center of a colossal space.

This space was surrounded by crystals. When Zhang Tie entered it, the runes in those crystals started to flow at an increasingly higher speed. Gradually, those runes turned into streaks of light and covered the entire space with a thick light cocoon. Closely after that, a brilliant Milky Way appeared above Zhang Tie's head.

Meanwhile, many lines of words appeared in front of Zhang Tie.

——Tower of time starts. The space-time torsion force is equal to the standard difference between rotation time and revolution time of this planet; namely, one year in this space is equal to one day outside.

——After 1/3 period of lunar phase change, namely 5 days outside or 5 years in this space, the space-time torsion force would return to zero. By then, the tower of time will enter the silent energy storage period again.

——During this period, the essential vigor inside this space will meet all the essential necessities for the entrant and prevent the entrant's cells from aging or degeneration.

——If you want to leave here in advance, you could rotate the time ball on the ground in an anti-clockwise manner.

——After 20 standard years outside, the tower of time will restart.

Reading this message, Zhang Tie recalled the scene when he entered the tower of time for the first time.

After coming to the front of the time ball of this tower of time, Zhang Tie injected some spiritual energy into it; then, he saw the same sentence.

——Ants gather up for survival; powerful ones are accompanied by loneliness and the starry sky.

"Hahahaha..." After being silent for a few seconds, Zhang Tie burst out laughing inside the tower of time.

If the tower of time was built by engineers, this tower of time and that one which he entered for the first time must share the same builder; because the two time balls shared the same "autograph".

Zhang Tie felt that a mysterious force was helping him enter the same kind of tower of time at the most critical moments.

When he stopped laughing, Zhang Tie sat in front of the time ball and started to improve his spiritual energy, legs crossed and eyes closed.

As for a powerhouse like Zhang Tie, 5 years in the tower of time was just a short period of time which would soon elapse through secluded cultivation.

He could use the first three years to fix his “frail” state. As for the following two years, he could start to form his immortal chakra...

...

On the same evening, an airboat arrived at Embracing Tiger City, Yanghe Prefecture, Youzhou Province in the brilliant sunset glow. It slowly landed at Embracing Tiger City.

Lan Yunxi, the owner of Huaiyuan Palace, Zhang Muray and Zhang Muyu were welcoming the special guest at the airport.

Time was merciful to knights; especially female knights. Over 20 years didn't leave any trace on Lan Yunxi's face. It was just like 3 years for her. Lan Yunxi remained as same as before. However, her personality became much more profound and distant. Those deacons and disciples of Huaiyuan Palace in Embracing Tiger Mountain had not seen any expression which represented her mental activities for many years. Even casual eye contact with her would bring very great stress to them. Therefore, everyone behaved meticulously in front of her.

In Huaiyuan Palace, Lan Yunxi became more and more majestic. Even those clan elders dared not offend this clan owner easily.

Today, Lan Yunxi looked more distant, arrogant and domineering in a black pleated skirt made of golden boa silk and a tall uighur bun. Her dignity as a clan owner was almost overwhelming.

Watching the airboat slowly descending, Lan Yunxi's eyes stayed calm as if she was watching a white cloud floating by or a tree leaf falling off.

By contrast, Elder Muray and Elder Mu Yu on her side watched that airboat with a bit complex expression.

The others might not recognize that airboat; however, as elders of Huaiyuan Palace, they recognized it. Actually, they bore it deep in mind.

Because that airboat once belonged to Huaiyuan Palace. Precisely, it belonged to Elder Mushen. Elder Mushen won it from Taiyi Fantasy Sect through bet in the Earth-element Realm. Later on, Elder Mushen returned it to Taiyi Fantasy Sect for the sake of the overall situation and the fame of Taiyi Fantasy Sect. Although it had happened dozens of years ago, at the sight of this airboat, Elder Muray and Elder Muyu still clearly recalled how Elder Mushen returned to Youzhou Province by this airboat for the first time...

However, when the same airboat arrived at Embracing Tiger City, there was no Elder Mushen in Huaiyuan Palace anymore. Time flies. Everything had changed.

Not far from Lan Yunxi, Elder Muray and Elder Muyu, clan deacons and disciples of Huaiyuan Palace were waiting for the special guest with respect. By contrast, these clan deacons and disciples were watching the airboat with animosity.

The mark of Taiyi Fantasy Sect on the airboat was too easily identified. All the people in the mountain could see it clearly. However, in the hearts of many deacons and disciples of Huaiyuan Palace, Taiyi Fantasy Sect was their No. 2 enemy, closely after demons or in the same position with demons.

It was the black invitation cards of Taiyi Fantasy Sect and the other two sects which led to the death of Elder Mushen.

Although Huaiyuan Palace and Jinwu Palace sounded like two clans, their blood ties couldn't be fully separated by their names. Over dozens of years, under the gaze of the new clan owner, although Huaiyuan Palace and Jinwu Palace didn't communicate with each other superficially, their exchanges were actually unavoidable; especially between those at the bottom.

Over dozens of years, Jinwu Palace made a lot of progress and had become a top clan in Taixia Country. Meanwhile, Jinwu Palace took care of Huaiyuan Palace very much on many aspects including the provision of fiery oil and all-purpose medicament. Those businesses and benefits that the other clans could get from Jinwu Palace would also be acquired by Huaiyuan Palace. The latter even enjoyed more. Without Jinwu Palace's concern, all these were impossible.

When disciples of Huaiyuan Palace left Youzhou Province to handle affairs, they would usually receive the concern of Jinwu Palace. Even though they didn't mention Jinwu Palace, those who knew Huaiyuan Palace would also regard it with special respect given the contribution of Elder Mushen. In the territory of Youzhou Province, even the entire Northeast Military Region, nobody dared do harm to disciples of Huaiyuan Palace. Although clan owner and top powers of Huaiyuan Palace might not feel these deeply, deacons and disciples who were on the middle-and-low class of the clan had deep feelings about them.

Although Elder Mushen had already died at Yinhai Desert for more than two decades, those old men in Huaiyuan Palace were still educating those juniors in their clan with the heroic deeds of Elder Mushen and always recalled the prosperity of Huaiyuan Palace when Elder Mushen was alive. After hearing too many stories about Zhang Tie, many young disciples in Huaiyuan Palace hated Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion very much.

Watching the airboat of Taiyi Fantasy Sect slowly descending, many deacons and disciples of Huaiyuan Palace had a big question.

They had not seen any airboat of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion entering Youzhou Province for over two decades after the battle at Yinhai Desert on the 907th year of Black Iron Calendar. The entire Youzhou Province almost became the forbidden area of the three major sects. Not only airboats, but even the disciples of the three major sects also dared not appear in the forbidden area. Not knowing why, the airboat of Taiyi Fantasy Sect suddenly arrived at Youzhou Province today. What was more, the airboat was once used by Elder Mushen. It was of great significance from all perspectives. Which people in Taiyi Fantasy Sect dared behave such presumptuously in Youzhou Province...

When the airboat landed and the hatch door was going to open, Lan Yunxi glanced around her deacons and disciples, causing them who were watching the airboat with animosity to lower their eyes.

At this moment, the hatch door opened outward as a staircase reached the ground. Feng Yexiao, the grand elder of Taiyi Fantasy Sect then walked out of the airboat.

Over two decades, Feng Yexiao looked a bit thinner; his hair became silver; some more wrinkles appeared on his forehead and cheeks. He looked sharper than before.

"My respect to you, Elder Feng." Lan Yunxi bowed towards Feng Yexiao as a disciple of Taiyi Fantasy Sect!

"Nice to see you, Elder Feng!" Elder Muray and Elder Muyu greeted Feng Yexiao calmly. Although being a shadow knight, Feng Yexiao couldn't cause the elders of Huaiyuan Palace to succumb to him.

"Hahaha, I've not been in a remote place like Youzhou Province for over two decades. Embracing Tiger City looks much more prosperous than before." Feng Yexiao opened his mouth with a fake smile. After hearing his words, Elder Muray's and Elder Muyu's face became temporarily frozen.

Of course, the two people knew that Feng Yexiao came to Youzhou Province to send a black invitation card to Jinwu Palace over two decades ago. Elder Mushen also died because of it.

"I've already prepared some drinks for you, Elder Feng, please..." Lan Yunxi invited Feng Yexiao with the same calm look as if she had not heard Feng Yexiao's words.

"No need. I'm not here for a drink. I've got something to negotiate with you!" Feng Yexiao said as his face turned solemn. Meanwhile, he waved his hand and talked to Lan Yunxi in a domineering way, "Let's talk somewhere privately!"

"Well. Now that Elder Feng has something to negotiate with me, let's talk about it in the Shrine Palace of Huaiyuan Palace!" Lan Yunxi directly turned around and walked towards the Shrine Palace of Huaiyuan Palace with Feng Yexiao.

When he came to the entrance of the Shrine Palace, Feng Yexiao took a glance at Elder Muray and Elder Muyu before talking to Lan Yunxi, "As the affair is only about you, I think the others don't have to follow us in..."

After hearing Feng Yexiao's words, Elder Muray's face instantly turned red in fury as he stared at Feng Yexiao and wanted to lose his temper. However, he was stopped by Elder Muyu.

"I'm a disciple of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, also the owner of Huaiyuan Palace. All that I could know about Taiyi Fantasy Sect and Huaiyuan Palace should also be known by the two elders..." Lan Yunxi said calmly.

"Whatever." Feng Yexiao replied with a sneer and he swung his sleeves and entered the Shrine Palace ahead of Lan Yunxi which looked such rude.

After sitting well in the Shrine Palace according to etiquette, Lan Yunxi asked a deacon to serve them tea. After unveiling the lid of the teacup, Feng Yexiao didn't drink it; instead, he directly covered it with a clear sound 'pah' as if he disliked the tea leaves or the tea water. He even shook his head and said, "It seems that Huaiyuan Palace is really going to decline. Everyone knows that top-quality bloody spirit tea

in Youzhou Province is the best tea in Taixia Country. Doesn't Huaiyuan Palace prepare some for your guest?"

"Top-quality bloody spirit tea is a specialty in Iron Dragon Sect. Its yield is very less annually. Additionally, few of them flow outside. Neither is there any stockpile in Huaiyuan Palace!" Lan Yunxi took her teacup and had a sip before saying calmly.

"Really? But Huaiyuan Palace also has a lot of all-purpose medicament and fiery oil which are the specialties of Jinwu Palace..." Feng Yexiao continued ironically as he gazed at Lan Yunxi with a smirk.

"Fiery oil and all-purpose medicament are available across the world. Not only Taixia Country, but even the other continents and sub-continents also have them; so does Taiyi Fantasy Sect. It's the normal commercial intercourse between Huaiyuan Palace and Jinwu Palace. My subordinate is in charge of it. I rarely care about it. If Elder Feng is interested in it, I could call my subordinate here. Elder Feng could ask about him..."

Of course, the grand elder of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, also a shadow knight with 6 changes would not like to discuss this trifle with a subordinate of Huaiyuan Palace for the sake of his fame. Although Lan Yunxi's words sounded respectful, it instantly caused Feng Yexiao to become mute. He could only reply with a cold harrumph, "I'm actually not here to negotiate with you; strictly, I'm here to notify you!"

"Please go ahead."

"Since the third prince was assassinated, you're still unmarried. The owner of our sect has found a good husband for you!"

"I wonder who's the good husband that Taiyi Fantasy Sect has found for our clan owner!" Elder Muyu asked Feng Yexiao with a poker face.

"Xuanyuan Lie, the ninth prince of Emperor Xuanyuan!"

"Doesn't Xuanyuan Lie already have a wife? How could our clan owner marry him?" Elder Muyu continued.

"Of course, she's not going to be his wife; but Xuanyuan Lie's concubine..." Feng Yexiao smirked as he took a disdainful look at Elder Muyu.

Elder Muyu and Elder Muray instantly changed their faces as they sprung up and released their fierce battle qi...

Chapter 1957: The Sudden Arrival of Dark Clouds

"No, never. The owner of Huaiyuan Palace could never be anyone's concubine!" Elder Muray looked straight into Feng Yexiao with a red face out of great fury. He didn't fear Feng Yexiao's power as a shadow knight at all; instead, he just pointed at Feng Yexiao by finger out of fury and said seriously, "Even if I, Zhang Muray, had to die here, I would never allow anyone to insult Huaiyuan Palace!"

"Although our owner is a disciple of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, she's also the owner of Zhang Clan. Across Taixia Country, if any order from a person's sect violates the benefits of the person's own clan, it will be

regarded as a reasonable order. Any disciple could refuse to accept it!" Elder Muyu said with high spirits as he watched Lan Yunxi.

However, Feng Yexiao just ignored the two furious elders of Huaiyuan Palace. After glancing at them, he fixated onto Lan Yunxi, saying, "The 9th prince is going to ascend to the throne of Xuanyuan Emperor. Even though the concubine of the 9th prince couldn't take charge of the imperial harem in the future, she will also be a highest-ranking imperial concubine. Many women in the world dream for that position. Huaiyuan Palace shall be wise!"

'What?'

'9th prince is going to ascend to the throne of Xuanyuan Emperor?'

After hearing Feng Yexiao's words, Lan Yunxi, Elder Muray and Elder Muyu felt their hearts palpitating once.

"Huaiyuan Palace is not qualified to intervene with the disputes in Xuanyuan Hill; however, the owner of Huaiyuan Palace shall never be a concubine!" Elder Muray stuck to his opinion with the same fury.

"Yea, even Xuanyuan Emperor could make our owner as his concubine, not to mention his 9th prince!" Elder Muyu said in a muffled sound.

"What's your opinion?" Feng Yexiao asked as he watched Lan Yunxi. novE)l8-1n

"Yunxi is inauspicious. I've already prepared to stay alone for the rest of my life for the sake of Huaiyuan Palace. Thanks for your kindness, but I cannot take it..." Lan Yunxi said calmly as she lowered her head.

Lan Yunxi's father and master were both killed. Even her fiance Xuanyuan Wuji who was going to be engaged to her was also killed. Her sufferings had long been spread across Taixia Country 30 years ago. According to a fortune-teller, Lan Yunxi was so inauspicious that she would cause her husband to die. Therefore, over 30 years, none of the major clans across Taixia Country dared to propose marriage to her.

After hearing Lan Yunxi's opinion, Elder Muray and Elder Muyu finally relieved a sigh.

"You also know that you're inauspicious. It means that you've not forgotten about Elder Zhu's kindness towards you. Previously, Elder Zhu always protected you in Taiyi Fantasy Sect. Finally, she was killed by Yun Zhongzi for the protection of Taiyi Fantasy Sect. Don't you want to avenge your master?"

When she heard her master Zhu Qianqian, Lan Yunxi finally revealed a grieved look. Zhu Qianqian treated Lan Yunxi like her daughter. However, she was killed by Yun Zhongzi. As for Lan Yunxi, such a strike was as painful and impressive as losing her father. She could never forget about that.

"Is there any connection between marrying the 9th prince and avenging my master?"

"Yun Zhongzi is already a sage-level knight. You could barely avenge Elder Zhu even in 200 years. Additionally, even though you could promote to a sage-level knight, you will find that Yun Zhongzi is more powerful than you. It could be said that you have no hope to avenge your master for the rest of your life. However, if you marry the 9th prince and give birth to a son, as long as the 9th prince ascends to the throne, he will have people bring Yun Zhongzi's head to you. It's tantamount to avenging your master..."

“Does the 9th prince know where is Yun Zhongzi?”

“Of course!”

“Where’s Yun Zhongzi?”

“Where do you think he is?” Feng Yexiao sneered as he watched Lan Yunxi in a profound look, adding, “Yun Zhongzi is a member of Great Wilderness Sect. When the Great Wilderness Dongtian in the southern region of Taixia Country was discovered, it fell in the hands of Immortal Qianji together with its top rarity. When Taiyi Fantasy Sect sent a black card to Immortal Qianji with the other two major clans, Taiyi Fantasy Sect suffered a sneak attack by Yun Zhongzi on the same day so as to reduce our battle force in the battle of Yin Hai Desert. Do you think it’s just a coincidence?”

Feng Yexiao’s words hit Lan Yunxi’s heart like a heavy hammer. In an instant, Lan Yunxi’s calm face turned pale, dreadfully pale!

Elder Muray and Elder Muyu changed their faces greatly.

“Impossible... impossible... he wouldn’t do that... he wouldn’t do that...” Lan Yunxi mumbled as she shook her head.

Zhang Tie had already killed her father. As for the detailed reason, Lan Yunxi didn’t want to think about it anymore. However, she couldn’t accept the fact that even her master’s death was because of Zhang Tie.

Feng Yexiao’s words rove Lan Yunxi’s scar in her deep inner heart, poked it ferociously and scattered some salt on it.

Some place in Lan Yunxi’s heart had completely been shattered into pieces. This world was too cruel to her.

“Nothing is impossible. You’re too naive. According to Yun Zhongzi’s flagrant crimes in the holy war, he shall never be forgiven. Additionally, he shall be severely punished. He’s already the No. 1 criminal being wanted by the Supreme Court in Taixia Country. If Huaiyuan Palace hides such an important criminal, Huaiyuan Palace shall be exterminated as a whole!” Feng Yexiao then took a look at the sky outside the Shrine Palace of Huaiyuan Palace with a sneer, “At this moment, I’m afraid that the supreme justice, one of the nine cabinet members of Taixia Country and the 13 censors of the censorate might have already arrived at Iron Dragon City. Additionally, thousands of knights of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion have already arrived at Yanzhou Province. They’ve not entered Youzhou Province yet. As long as Jinwu Palace dares find trouble, our three major sects will exterminate Jinwu Palace and Iron Dragon Sect, leaving not a single tile.”

Elder Muray and Elder Muyu finally knew why Feng Yexiao dared come to Youzhou Province by that airboat.

...

Iron Dragon City that Feng Yexiao mentioned it was the region where Iron Dragon Sect’s mountain gate was located. Since the 907th year of Black Iron Calendar, as Jinwu Palace developed rapidly, Iron Dragon Sect had started to build a city according to Zhang Tie’s opinion based on Xuantian 18 mountain peaks.

With almost constant financial assistance, Iron Dragon City's construction almost carried on every day without any stop. Even so, it still took nearly 20 years to complete its construction.

After Iron Dragon City was completed, it became the biggest city in Youzhou Province, even in the northern region of Taixia Country.

At this moment, Iron Dragon City was already famous across the world. With the popularity and promotion of fiery oil, this region where fiery oil and the first airplane in Black Iron Age were created had long been the most famous, sacred region for rune equipment manufacturers and machine craftsmen with the halos of Immortal Qianji and the financial assistance of enormous gold coins of Jinwu Palace; especially after Military Province was collapsed and Craftsmanship City was occupied by demons when all the craftsmen and technicians had been moved to Iron Dragon City by Jinwu Palace by airboat and settled down there. The rune equipment and various quality machinery produced in Iron Dragon City had already become the third brand and "fist" product of Jinwu Palace after all-purpose medicament and fiery oil...

The dark clouds which had long been schemed finally arrived, making the atmosphere in Iron Dragon City intense at this moment...

Chapter 1958: The Fatal Trick

Bang, bang, bang...

When the night was going to fall, neat and muffled sound of footsteps suddenly drifted from the main road inside Iron Dragon City which hit the hearts of people on the roadside like hitting battle drums.

Many people looked outside through the windows of roadside stores, boites and houses one after another. All the passers-by stopped their footsteps and looked at the direction where the sound came from. They found that a brigade of soldiers of the Fiery Dragon Army were trotting neatly and solemnly on the main road.

All the soldiers were in fiery full-body alloy outfits and carrying various weapons as if they were going to fight.

The brigade of over 10,000 people marched forward silently like a fiery dragon. They raised and landed their feet at the same time. As a result, the entire brigade only made one neat sound of footsteps at the same time. With heavy outfits and battle boots, their sound became more shocking as if a giant was walking in the city.

Behind this brigade were many latest Iron-Armor 3 multi-purpose caterpillar armored vehicles.

The same scene appeared on different roads of Iron Dragon City at the same time.

A part of the Fiery Dragon Army had started to enter the city.

The passers-by and those people who looked outside through windows were surprised first; then they became dumbfounded; finally they became confused—is that another drill...

They had only seen such a grand scene twice since Iron Dragon City was founded. However, both times were drills. Additionally, a few days before the drills, the officials in Iron Dragon City had already noticed the citizens in the city. The two drills were all for responding to the sneak attacks of demon knights.

However, this situation became abrupt as nobody had noticed them in advance.

When people looked up at the sky, they found that air cavalries became dense over there. Additionally, they saw brilliant meteors flying towards somewhere inside Iron Dragon City one after another. Of course, those shiny meteors were the battle qi responses of knights at their full speeds. They all flew towards the same direction, where the mountain gate of Iron-Dragon Sect was located...

When everyone inside Iron Dragon City was shocked, confused and guessing various possibilities, the soldiers and armored vehicles of Fiery Dragon Army entering Iron Dragon City started to control main roads and intersections while declaring to enforce martial law.

...

On the city wall of Iron Dragon City, ballistas' coverings had been unveiled while centrifugal cannons had been lit and pressurized. Soldiers of Fiery Dragon Army were running everywhere on the city wall.

Not only Iron Dragon City, all the cities across Fiery Dragon Bounty Territory and Jinwu Palace started to enforce martial law at the same time. All the corps outside the city started to set off their encampments. Those airports for air cavalries were in a shocking commotion. Air cavalries and ground crew were running rapidly between runways and hangars. Battle airplanes started to fly off one after another.

Jinwu Palace had already started an emergency plan.

Of course, such a sudden action aroused the attention of commoners. As a result, the entire Youzhou Province was startled.

...

Everyone knew that Iron Dragon City was going to have a big trouble. n--o-/v.-e.)ℒ).ℳ/)1(-n

'Are demons coming? Not like that. Why does Iron Dragon City suddenly feel so intense?'

Nobody knew what was going to happen.

According to the intelligence from the Yanzhou Provincial Government, the airboats of Taiyi Fantasy Sect, Heavens Holding Pavilion and Qionglou Pavilion suddenly arrived at Yanzhou Province. They were hovering on the border between Youzhou Province and Yanzhou Province.

However, Youzhou Provincial Government didn't receive any intelligence about the arrival of the airboats of the three top sects. It was those patrolling air cavalries who found over 10 airboats without any marks of clans or sects in that air territory. As they felt those airboats were a bit weird, they reported it to Yanzhou Provincial Government. The Cheji General of Yanzhou Province went there to check them when he found that they were airboats of the three top sects which carried over 1,000 knights in total.

...

The atmosphere inside the lobby of the headquarters of Iron Dragon Sect in Xuantian Mountain Peak, the main peak of the 18 mountain peaks, had long been at daggers drawn.

Nobody across Iron Dragon Sect could imagine these uninvited guests who came from the airboat, which suddenly arrived at the mountain gate of Iron Dragon Sect, could pose such a requirement.

If they were ordinary knights, given their frivolous words and behaviors in the base of Iron Dragon Sect, they might have long become sh*t.

However, these uninvited guests were of significant roles. What was more, they were here on behalf of Taixia Country and Xuanyuan Hill, the power center of the country.

Strangely, Iron Dragon Sect didn't receive any message about their arrival in advance.

Therefore, Iron Dragon Sect became passive.

'Did anything happen to Xuanyuan Hill?'

...

Watching the supreme justice, one of the 9 cabinet members of Taixia Country, with a solemn look, Zhang Tie said decisively, "Even if you want to catch the important criminal, it's nothing to do with Iron Dragon Sect. In the base of Iron Dragon Sect, the backroom being exclusive to the owner of Iron Dragon Sect in Xuantian Peak could not be casually searched even by the Supreme Court of Taixia Country!"

"Presumptuous, unscrupulous!" An old sergeant in official uniform with a black face and gray hair stood straight as he roared in the lobby of the base of Iron Dragon Sect. "The Supreme Court is investigating the case and chasing after important criminals. Do we have to notice Iron Dragon Sect in advance for that? This old man has long heard that Iron Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace are shutting out the heavens with one palm in Northeast Military Region and Youzhou Province when in Xuanyuan Hill, even Youzhou provincial governor would be in a blue funk in front of Iron Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace. I've not imagined that it's true. Open your eyes and look at what's in the hand of supreme justice?" the old sergeant pointed at a token in the shape of a bizarre beast in the hand of the supreme justice as he continued, "This is golden xiemao token. People who hold it could even search the imperial palace in Xuanyuan Hill, not to mention Iron Dragon Sect. Does Iron Dragon Sect want to rebel?"

"Motherf*cking break wind. Do you think that you can frame Iron Dragon Sect only by speaking nonsense?" Sun Tiancheng, the herbal king, jumped out as his saliva shot onto the imperial sergeant's face. "When Immortal Qianji was killing demons at the bank of Weishui River, where the f*ck were you? When the Fiery Dragon Army fought demons, where the f*ck were you? Open your f*cking eyes and look at the sky of Taixia Country, without Iron Dragon Sect or Jinwu Palace, there wouldn't be any air cavalries? Without our help, old useless things like you have long been demons' snacks. Do you think that you could frame people up casually in the uniform of imperial sergeant..."

Chapter 1959: The Looming Crisis on Iron Dragon Sect

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After receiving the news, the knights of Iron-Dragon Sect hurriedly rushed towards the main palace of Iron-Dragon Sect in Xuantian Peak constantly like meteors from all the places across Youzhou Province. Closely after that, they entered the main palace with solemn looks and surrounded those people of the Supreme Court and imperial officers.

Even Liu Xing and Zhao Bing of Iron-Dragon Sect had come back from the other cities within the territory of the Fiery-Dragon Bounty Territory.

Over three decades, Liu Xing had already promoted to a black iron knight. Iron-Dragon Sect was full of talents and knights. Even Zhang Tie's disciples had become masters.

At this moment, Liu Xing was already an intelligent and capable middle-aged man. As he cultivated Fiery Dragon Sutra, his pupils emitted strong light which looked like flames. As the first one who promoted to a knight and became one of the second generations of elders of Iron Dragon Sect among Zhang Tie's disciples, he was qualified as the No. 1 senior fellow apprentice in Iron Dragon Sect.

"Sister Yu, what happened?" Liu Xing asked Yu Xiaoi secretly, who was waiting in the square, the moment he landed in the square outside the main palace with a glow.

Among Zhang Tie's female disciples, Yu Xiaoi had the best flair. She was also the first female disciple who promoted to a knight over three decades.

Yu Xiaoi was a maiden over three decades ago. But now she was already an intelligent, beautiful knight with an exceptional personality.

"About 1 hour ago, the president of the Supreme Court of Xuanyuan Hill suddenly arrived at Xuantian Peak with a lot of knights and imperial censors. He said that they were going to search the backroom of suzerain in Xuantian Peak and catch Yun Zhongzi. Elders are negotiating with him about that in the main palace..." Yu Xiaoi made it clear in a few words.

After hearing Yu Xiaoi's words, Liu Xing strode towards the gate of the main palace. When he approached the gate, he heard a passionate voice from the inside.

"I, Yuan Hua, was appointed as the imperial officer by Emperor Xuanyuan on the 857th year of Black Iron Calendar. I've been working as an imperial officer for over 70 years. I don't feel regretful about my compensation. As I receive compensation from the country, I must be loyal to the country. Although I didn't kill enemies on the battlefields, I'm also determined to die for my country. If demons approached Xuanyuan Hill, all the 178 people of my family will fight demons on the battlefield regardless of age. We all know that the meritorious deeds of Immortal Qianji shine through history. Therefore, we've followed the Youzhou Provincial Court's officers here to catch the top criminals. We intend to supervise the Youzhou Provincial Court's deeds. We dare never overstep our authorities for the sake of the fame of Immortal Qianji, Jinwu Palace and Iron Dragon Sect as a whole. Unexpectedly, you dare behave such presumptuously and despise the nine ministers. Do you want to rebel? If all the major sects in Taixia Country behave presumptuously and break laws forcefully like you, how could Taixia Country and Hua people be in peace? According to your deeds, you're like demons; you're the culprit of the world-wide disaster. You deserve death; you deserve death! Immortal Qianji was also the chief justice of the Youzhou Provincial Court. After being framed as the murderer of the tragedy in Fuhai City, Immortal Qianji still implied with Taixia laws even though he concealed his identity and had to leave his

hometown. He was always frank and straightforward until the real murderer was found and he was claimed to be innocent. He didn't break any law at all. However, you, as disciples of Immortal Qianji, don't carry forward his patriotism; instead, you've already defied the law in the public before being wronged. If Immortal Qianji knew it, he would definitely feel ashamed of you!"

When he roared 'deserve death; deserve death', he almost used his full strength. Therefore, the entire main palace reverberated with his words. As a result, all the people of Iron-Dragon Sect here were in dead silence.

Even though Liu Xing only stayed in Xuanyuan Hill for a few days, he also heard about Yuan Hua, an imperial officer of Xuanyuan Hill.

When Emperor Xuanyuan went to Weizhou Province to investigate the civilian's situation in plain clothes, he met a case——a major clan outside Weizhou City encroached the mountain forest of over 100 households of the same village and wanted to take that mountain forest as their ancestral graveyard. As that major clan had established marital relations with the provincial governor of Weizhou Province, local officials always preserved their interests. Therefore, victims dared not accuse them in fear of their power. However, a poor, diligent scholar outside Weizhou City who could barely afford his three meals a day claimed justice everywhere for the sake of the civilians by beating the drum in fear of threats and didn't succumb to lure by the promise of gain. He wanted to punish that major clan who encroached the mountain forest of civilians; he even wanted to submit a written statement to a higher authority to accuse the officials of Weizhou City of harboring the major clan.

Therefore, the poor scholar had a hairbreadth escape. He didn't die; instead, he encountered Emperor Xuanyuan. What he did was greatly favored by Emperor Xuanyuan. Emperor Xuanyuan instantly promoted him to a 5-class imperial officer in Xuanyuan Hill. As a result, due to Yuan Hua's charge, the provincial governor of Weizhou Province was dismissed from his post; dozens of officials and the powers of the major clan who were in charge of encroaching the mountain forest were put behind the bars. From then on, the name of Yuan Hua spread across the country and was praised by people. Emperor Xuanyuan investigated the civilian's situation in plain clothes and appointed Yuan Hua as an imperial officer also became a good story on everyone's lips with great educative significance.

Over these years, Yuan Hua had paid an inspection tour across the country. His memorials could reach straight to the desk of Emperor Xuanyuan. Too many major clans, officials and evil gentries across the country had been accused by him. Therefore, many major clans were afraid of him very much as if he was a tiger. Due to his great achievements, Yuan Hua had accumulated sublime fame of being frank and straightforward and abhorring evils as deadly foes among the people.

Unexpectedly, this man also arrived. Liu Xing became greatly shocked. When he came to the front of the crowd who were surrounding the main palace, Liu Xing saw a gray-haired elder in the uniform of imperial officer reproaching Elder Sun with righteous words.

"Old stale and pedantic scholar, you make me so angry, so angry." Sun Tiancheng, the herb king was panting heavily like an ox as his eyes almost popped out of his eyesockets with fury. However, he didn't know how to refute Yuan Hua.

The duty of imperial officers was to find faults; of course, his words sounded reasonable.

The other elders and grand elders of Iron-Dragon Sect were all here. Liu Xing then stood aside with a solemn look. After exchanging a glance with those elders and grand elders, he just saw them coping with the current situation.

“As it’s in the holy war, Hua people should unite with each other to defend demons. However, Yun Zhongzi broke laws by force. He acted recklessly in the territory of Taixia Country like burning, killing and pillage. Over dozens of years, hundreds of innocent Taixia knights have been killed by Yun Zhongzi. Yun Zhongzi has already become the No. 1 criminal in Taixia Country. The number of Taixia knights that he killed was even greater than that Abyss Monarch once killed. According to the intelligence of the Supreme Court, Yun Zhongzi is already severely injured and is recovering in Xuantian Peak of Iron-Dragon Sect. Iron-Dragon Sect is frank and straightforward. Why not allow the Supreme Court to search him?”

Another imperial officer stood out as he roared with righteous words.

“If Iron Dragon Sect doesn’t coordinate with the Supreme Court’s investigation, I will hit my head against the pillar today in no fear of spraying my brains over the ground. I will sacrifice myself for the country!”

“Yun Zhongzi might have already surrendered to demons; therefore, he caused damages across Taixia Country. Don’t you fear being blamed by people across the world? Or maybe Iron-Dragon Sect is really colluding with that ghost?”

All the imperial officers here were innocent and had a distinguished reputation. Most of them were gray-haired. They were even well-renowned in Xuanyuan Hill and Taixia Country as a whole. At this moment, all the imperial officers were reproaching Iron-Dragon Sect with high spirits and eloquent words.

It was not a battle between knights; however, it was fiercer than a battle between knights. If an imperial censor really died here by hitting against the pillar with his head, the prestige that Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace had established over the decades might be destroyed. If Iron-Dragon Sect didn’t coordinate with these imperial censors, these imperial censors would submit written statements to Xuanyuan Hill and arise public condemnation about Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace. By then, Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace might really be accused of rebelling or colluding with demons. On that occasion, the prestige of Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace would also be destroyed. Besides, it would even arouse a series of severe outcomes.

“Damn! Who dare find trouble in this f*ther’s territory...” Right then, they heard a thunder-like growl from the gate of the main palace of Iron-Dragon Sect.

After hearing this voice, those disciples and knights of Iron-Dragon Sect in the main palace instantly gave way to him.

With a black face, Cheng Honglie, the commander-in-chief of Northeast Military Region, Lu Dingzhi, the Youzhou provincial governor and a youth entered. Being similar to Zhang Tie, that youth was Zhang Chenglei, Zhang Tie’s eldest son. Over three decades, the teenager had already become a real man with a powerful qi field. Even though he entered with the commander-in-chief of Northeast Military Region and the Youzhou provincial governor, he also released terrifying qi.

“Commander-in-Chief!”

“Provincial governor!”

“Young suzerain!”

Those disciples, knights and the three elders of Iron Dragon Sect hurriedly came over here to greet the three people.

Cheng Honglie’s face was always black; however, at this moment, his face turned shiny black with fury. When he entered the main palace, he glared at the president of the Supreme Court and complained, “Lord Li, what do you want? You take people to my territory stealthily and want to overturn the table without even noticing me in advance. Do you think that my place is not chaotic enough? Do you know that the entire Youzhou Province and Northeast Military Province have become chaotic because of your action? Only after such a short while, many owners of clans, leaders of armies, provincial governors and cheji generals in the territory of Northeast Military Territory have already contacted me and asked me whether demons are approaching us. Do you think it’s funny to do that...”

Chapter 1960: A Sudden Reversal

Lord Li was the president of the Supreme Court, a major official in Xuanyuan Hill; Lord Cheng was the commander-in-chief of the Northeast Military Region. They were both shadow knights with independent responsibilities. Even though Lord Li’s agency was in Xuanyuan Hill, he couldn’t subdue Cheng Honglie with his official title either.

After hearing Cheng Honglie’s words, the president of the Supreme Court who was in the main palace instantly turned gloomy as he refuted, “Lord Cheng, what do you mean? Couldn’t Supreme Court handle cases and chase important criminals without your consent?”

“I don’t care how you handle cases or chase important criminals in other places, but your deed has already declined the stability of the entire Northeast Military Region and made everyone panic-stricken. You did that without my consent; however, you want me to clean your butt. Never dream about that!” Cheng Honglie urged with a black face in a very domineering way. He didn’t spare any chance for Lord Li to refute. As a result, the president of the Supreme Court instantly changed his face.

“Which is more authoritative, Taixia Law or you?” the president of Supreme Court roared, “Do you want to rebel?”

“Hahaha, don’t frighten me with that word. Do you think that I, Cheng Honglie, am afraid of threat? If you’re something, try to let those lords in Xuanyuan Hill take off my black gauze cap!” Lord Cheng burst into laughing shamelessly like meat with thick tendons that could barely be cut off. Closely after that, he took a glance at those imperial officers, pointing at their noses and cursing them aloud in fury, “You think you’re good men. You think you’re righteous, abhorring evils as deadly foes and enforcing justice on behalf of Heaven, right? You must have been stupid after reading too many books. You think you are upholding awe-inspiring righteousness while being taken as a gun by someone else. Do you know what situation would face Taixia Country without Jinwu Palace? Do you know how many hundreds of millions of people would die and how many provinces and prefectures would collapse in order to stop demons without Iron Dragon Sect? Who could defend the army of overwhelming LV 9 demon fighters? You... you... you... or you...”

At this moment, those imperial officers who were roaring and cursing aloud just now were absolutely subdued by Cheng Honglie as they all trembled their lips and couldn't utter any word. Finally, Cheng Honglie pointed at Yuan Hua who spoke just now.

"Although you could impeach a provincial governor with a memorial to the throne, your memorial is nothing but sh*t in front of demons. Why not impeach a LV 9 demon? Let's see whether the demon cares about you or not? Let's see which is more powerful, demon fighter's saber or your memorial? You can present your memorial to the hundreds of millions of generals and fighters in the frontline. Let's see which is more useful, the great truths in your memorial or the inflammable grenades of Iron Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace? Do you know how many vials of all-purpose medicament, inflammable weapons, grains and chariots will Jinwu Palace and Iron-Dragon Sect provide for the generals and fighters in the frontline for free annually over the past decades?"

Listening to Lord Cheng's furious words, Yuan Hua, the imperial officer, became silent. The duty of the imperial officer was to find faults. However, he didn't know how many materials had Jinwu Palace and Iron-Dragon Sect donated to the generals and fighters in the frontline of Taixia Country last year. Although he had heard about it before, he still couldn't remember the concrete figures.

"Let me tell you about that. Last year, Jinwu Palace and Iron-Dragon Sect donated 120 million vials of all-purpose medicament, over 180 million inflammable grenades and bolts and over 370 million tons of grains to the generals and fighters in the frontline. Do you know their value? Do you know how many lives could they save? Do you think all of your lives could match 1/10,000 of the value of these items? You're imperial officers; however, you don't maintain the reputation of Jinwu Palace and Iron-Dragon Sect which are pillars of Taixia Country; instead, you're instigated to show your righteousness, loyalty and dauntless spirit in Youzhou Province. When the generals and fighters in the frontline are drinking all-purpose medicament and fighting demons at the risk of their lives with fiery-oil weapons in order to protect stale and pedantic scholars like you from being beheaded; however, you want to stir up trouble in the rear end and have fighters in the frontline run out of grains. Without any sharp weapon, you even claimed to do all these for the sake of Taixia Country. How dare you talk about righteousness and law here? Do you know what is righteousness and law? This father will tell you about that, anyone who could kill demons would be righteous; anyone who props up fighters in the frontline would be law! If this father were the emperor, I would chop off all your heads and feed dogs with them in case of trouble. The road to hell is paved with good intentions. Idiots!"

"Who said that you were going to ram against the column with your head in no fear of spraying your brains over the ground? Give way to him. Spare that column over there to him. You stale and pedantic scholars, queue up and ram against it one after another. I, Black Face Cheng, would like to see how many drops of blood do you have. Motherf*cker, even this father has chopped off so many demons' heads since I was a LV 9 fighter, I still dare not say such words. The corpses of demons that Immortal Qianji killed at the bank of Weishui River were like mountains; their blood almost formed an ocean; however, when Immortal Qianji woke up, he still didn't say that he would die for the country; how dare trashes like you who could only wait for death with closed eyes in front of demons dare say such heroic words in the place where Immortal Qianji founded his sect? Hurry, do it! If you're not able to kill yourself, I could give you a push. Today, this father will see you die here. President of the Supreme Court and all the others here will be the witnesses. If you die here, this father will assume responsibility for that... life for life in the worst scenario..."

Cheng Honglie cursed those imperial officers straightforwardly while pointing at their noses, causing them to tremble all over in fury. They almost spurted out blood.

However, nobody really hit it. If someone rammed against the column just now, they might get a good reputation of being not afraid of major clan and dying for Taixia laws; additionally, their lives would be assumed by Iron-Dragon Sect and Jinwu Palace. However, if they rammed against it now, they would be regarded as committing suicide out of spite with Black Face Cheng, the shameless guy. As it was in the holy war, how could the commander-in-chief die for those scholars. Therefore, they would die for nothing.

When scholars met a general, their reasons would become useless. As a result, after Cheng Honglie arrived, those imperial officers who absolutely subdued Iron-Dragon Sect just now immediately declined their morale and dauntless spirit and wilted like eggplants being covered with frost...

"Was that you who wanted to ram against it just now? Just do it! Don't wait. Be a good model for them. Hurry, die as fast as you can! This father will definitely bury you in a place with good Fengshui in the territory of Northeast Military Region!" Cheng Honglie said as he pointed at that imperial officer who urged to die for righteousness just now.

"You're too rude! You're too rude! You're impervious to reason; impervious to reason..." That imperial officer who was impassioned just now mumbled a few words as his face changed colors with shame and fury. Closely after that, he swung his sleeves and turned around in an innocent way. He avoided from Lord Cheng's condemnation like an ostrich who buried its head in sands in order to ignore what happened outside. Of course, he would never commit suicide at this moment.

"Lord Cheng, enough is enough..." The president of the Supreme Court finally couldn't bear it anymore.

"Enough? Alright. Go back where you come from!" Cheng Honglie followed the trend and seized the opportunity.

"Lord Cheng, I mean don't you consider your future by behaving such unreasonable? Even though it's Northeast Military Region here, you're still unable to shut out the heavens with one palm!" The president of the Supreme Court threatened.

"Hahahaha, I, Cheng Honglie, never care about my future. On this point, I know that I cannot match you. Lord Li must have considered your own future well and made proper arrangement before coming to Youzhou Province. Therefore, you behaved such dauntlessly. Lord Li, you know that one's future could never be determined by oneself. If the relief that Jinwu Palace and Iron-Dragon Sect provide to the frontline is declined and cause any severe outcome, do you think that there're no dauntless men among those hundreds of millions of generals and fighters in the frontline who dare not avenge their brothers' death in the name of cleaning up evil forces in Xuanyuan Hill?"

After hearing Lord Cheng's words, Lord Li's face turned gloomy as he clenched his teeth and determined his mind before saying, "No matter what, I must search Xuantian Peak today. Supreme court has already received a certain message—Yun Zhongzi is hiding in the backroom under Xuantian Peak. It's supreme court's responsibility to preserve laws across the country. We don't mind offending someone!"

"Iron-Dragon Sect is founded by Immortal Qianji. Due to the marital relations between Immortal Qianji and late Royal Prince Changying, Iron-Dragon Sect is a royal clan. Even though Lord Li is the president of

Supreme Court, you still couldn't search this place casually. Lord Li has mentioned about laws just now. As the president of supreme court, do you want to break the laws?"

The president of Supreme Court sneered as he thought that he finally seized the opportunity to strike back Cheng Honglie. He then took out the golden Xiemao amulet from his portable space-teleportation finger ring and asked, "Lord Cheng, do you know this item? It's made by Emperor Xuanyuan. Nobody dare say no to it. With this item, I could even search the imperial palace of the emperor, not to mention Xuantian Peak!"

"Hahaha..." Watching that golden Xiemao amulet in the hand of the president of the Supreme Court, Cheng Honglie suddenly burst into laughter. "Lord Li, how could you show off your power in Youzhou Province with a fake golden Xiemao amulet?"

"What?"

"I mean your golden Xiemao amulet is fake!" Cheng Honglie said with a stern look.

"Nonsense. How could my golden Xiemao amulet be fake?" the president of the Supreme Court yelled.

"Of course, it's fake; because the real one has long been sealed up somewhere by the late His Highness royal prince!" Cheng Honglie explained. He then looked up at the beams in the main palace and sighed, "Before being assassinated, His Highness royal prince felt that the Supreme Court was too authoritative; if Supreme Court is taken advantage of by evil forces in the holy war, the entire country would be in great trouble. Therefore, His Highness wanted to decline the authority of supreme court. He has long taken back the golden Xiemao amulet that he once gifted to supreme court. When I went to court before, I saw His Highness leaving a mark on the golden Xiemao amulet in Xuanyuan God Sutra. This one doesn't carry that mark at all; of course, it's fake..." After saying these words, Cheng Honglie directly talked to the elders and disciples of Iron-Dragon Sect in the main palace, "The golden Xiemao amulet in the hand of the president of supreme court is fake; if he dares tread on Xuantian Peak today, Iron-Dragon Sect could kill him immediately. I will assume all the responsibilities!"

The young owner of Iron-Dragon Sect took a glance at those elders and disciples in the main palace silently. Those elders and disciples then promised in unison, "Yes, Lord Cheng!"

"Lord Li, I've not imagined that you could show off your power in Iron-Dragon Sect with a fake golden Xiemao amulet today. If not that your fake golden Xiemao rune was identified by Lord Cheng, I was almost cheated by you. Given that we're fellowmen of Taixia Country, Iron-Dragon Sect will not make you embarrassed today. Please leave here. If you don't know what's good for yourself, don't blame for our merciless deed..." Zhang Chenglei warned the president of the supreme court in a muffled tone.

"Good... very good..." The president of the Supreme Court shuddered all over with fury. After looking at the solemn looks of those members of Iron-Dragon Sect and Cheng Honglie, he pointed at Cheng Honglie with a quivering finger and said, "We will know whether the golden Xiemao amulet is real or not when we come back to Xuanyuan Hill... Cheng Honglie, how dare you commit such a capital crime here for the sake of Iron-Dragon Sect? Even your nine generations will be sentenced to death. You will face a poor outcome! Many heads will be chopped off because of you. Let's see it..."