

Canon 151

Chapter 151: Return to Civilian Life, Mount Shu?

‘There were many mountains in Great Xia. Around Chang’an, there were also scattered mountain ranges.

The place Yin Wuyou pointed out to Zhou Shu was a small mountain 30 kilometers north of Chang’an.

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This small mountain was only two hundred meters tall, but it occupied a large area. With the small mountain as the center, everything within 1.5 kilometers was his territory.

Zhou Shu did a quick calculation in his heart. With his shallow calculation ability, he was unable to calculate how many acres of land it was.

“The place isn’t big. It’s only about fifteen hundred acres,” Yin Wuyou said lightly, resolving Zhou Shu’s doubts.

How big was 1,500 acres of land? In Zhou Shu’s previous life, there were two top universities in China. One of them occupied 1,000 acres of land, while the other occupied more than 800 acres of land. The two of them added up to over 1,500 acres.

This was countless times bigger than the oth Workshop!

According to Yin Wuyou, such a large place was just so-so. But to Zhou Shu, possessing such a large territory was simply unimaginable.

Could one imagine owning Tsinghua Garden and Weiming Lake?

“Such a big piece of land is mine?” Zhou Shu gulped.

It wasn’t that he hadn’t seen the world before. He was considered someone with status now. But some habits from his previous life were still deeply ingrained in him. As Chinese, he had an inexplicable attachment to owning land.

“That’s a way to see it.” Yin Wuyou nodded.

The Huaxia Pavilion belonged to Zhou Shu. As long as he was alive, this piece of land would be his.

Huaxia, does it represent a prosperous Great Xia? Yin Wuyou pondered.

If Yin Wuyou wasn’t here, Zhou Shu would probably be laughing like a pig squealing right now.

It was such a huge territory. He could build it however he wanted without paying for it. Wasn’t this like money falling from the sky?

Grand Minister, don’t worry. I will definitely forge the weapon I’m giving you well. I’ll definitely make you the most outstanding heroine!

Otherwise, it would be a waste of the territory you asked for to give me!

Yin Wuyou pondered for a moment before saying, "The surrounding land was all given to me by His Majesty. If you think it's not enough, I can give you my land. I don't have any other uses anyway."

"The surrounding land belongs to you, Grand Minister? Does this mean that we are fated to be neighbors again?" Zhou Shu said subconsciously.

Yin Wuyou blushed. Is this fate?

Yes, it is indeed fate!

Yin Wuyou wanted to flee from the scene but suddenly said, "Oh yes, I almost forgot. One more thing."

"There's more?" Zhou Shu said in surprise. Isn't this surprise too much?

He wouldn't be able to digest it anytime soon.

"There are no more rewards." Yin Wuyou shook her head. "It's something else."

"Do you still remember that His Majesty issued a decree for you to participate in the Great Xia's military parade as a Forging Apprentice?"

"Remember. I'm a Forging Master now. Do I not need to participate?" Zhou Shu said.

He was not very interested in participating in these activities. After all, he didn't care about the rewards given by Great Xia.

'Was he, Marquis Zhou, someone who lacked those things now?

What is the point of competing?

I'm not targeting.

"Of course not. You have to participate. Not only do you have to participate, but you have to win!" Yin Wuyou said seriously.

"Why?" Zhou Shu said helplessly. He really didn't want to be involved in this. His goal was to stay in the Forging Division and happily forge weapons while harvesting the benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon.

"There's no reason! I'm the grand minister. I have the final say!" Yin Wuyou returned to being the swift and decisive Grand Minister and spoke resolutely.

This sudden change made her look exceptionally charming.

Zhou Shu was momentarily stunned.

Under Zhou Shu's gaze, Yin Wuyou's unyielding attitude lasted less than three seconds before breaking.

She fled with Haitang, walking and shouting, "Don't think you don't have to listen to me just because you're a marquis. The Huaxia Pavilion is under the Forging Division. I'm the grand minister. You have to listen to me. You must win the parade!"

Yin Wuyou had already disappeared, and her voice was still coming from afar.

Her voice was full of energy, and it seemed like her injuries were almost completely healed. Her recovery ability was indeed stronger than a sixth-rank martial artist. Sun Gongping had yet to wake up. Yin Wuyou ran back to the princess's residence, her pretty face still a little hot.

"Oh no, I forgot to tell him what to take note of during the military parade!" Yin Wuyou suddenly exclaimed.

Haitang rolled her eyes inwardly. Her Highness used to be such a smart person, but why does she seem so stupid now? Have her injuries not recovered yet?

I have never heard of internal injuries affecting the mind.

"Haitang, organize the information on the military parade later and send it to him," Yin Wuyou instructed.

"Yes, Your Highness. I'll deliver it later," Haitang agreed crisply.

Great Xia's southern border.

In a military camp, Great General Meng Bai was fully armored and sitting behind a desk.

Not far from him, Mi Ziwen was also fully armored.

"Teacher, do you really have to do this?" Mi Ziwen asked in a low voice. "You're not in the capital, so what does it have to do with you if there are one or two scumbags in the general's residence? Besides, His Majesty has no intention of blaming you, so what's the point?" He looked a little anxious and worried.

"That's not the only reason." Meng Bai shook his head. "After this battle, within ten years, the southern barbarians should no longer have the power to invade the south. If there's another war, you will be capable of taking the lead.

"All these years, my health has been deteriorating year after year. I have long planned to retire. This time, I can use this opportunity to resign.

"I also wish to live a few years of carefree life as a countryside man."

Meng Bai had a carefree expression.

He was similar in age to Emperor Yuan Feng, but Emperor Yuan Feng looked like a middle-aged man in his thirties or forties. As for him, his hair was already white.

'Meng Bai was once a Martial Dao genius. At a young age, he was already a second-rank Martial Dao powerhouse. But ten years ago, he had suffered a serious injury and lost all of his cultivation.

"Teacher—" Mi Ziwen lamented.

He knew that his teacher's injuries had yet to recover, and he had lost his cultivation. His teacher had reached the twilight of his life.

"There's no need to feel sad. I have no regrets in my life." Meng Bai said with a smile. At his level, being able to still have the chance to return to his hometown was already a great fortune in life.

From ancient times until now, many rulers and ministers only ended up with miserable endings.

At the very least, his relationship with Emperor Yuan Feng would end amicably.

It was time for him to do one last thing for the emperor. If he didn't give up his military power, even if the emperor didn't care, the court ministers wouldn't be at ease either.

"It's a pity that this newly promoted You Marquis rejected being my disciple." Meng Bai shook his head with a bitter smile. "Otherwise, in my last few years, teaching a talent is also a joyous matter."

Tears welled up in Mi Ziwen's eyes. Even at this point in time, his teacher was still thinking about his junior brother.

But it seems like Junior Brother is still blaming Teacher. Is he blaming Teacher for not acknowledging him?

He didn't know that with his teacher's standing, if he really had a descendant, how could the emperor trust him so much?

Although the emperor was benevolent, the imperial family was heartless.

Mi Ziwen sighed. His teacher was his benefactor. How should he help his teacher?

"Teacher, what are your plans after taking off your armor?" Mi Ziwen said.

"You don't have to worry about me," Meng Bai said with a smile. "I am not at the point where I can't take care of myself."

"Teacher, that's not what I meant," Mi Ziwen hurriedly said. "I only heard that Second Brother has already advanced to Forging Master. Furthermore, he has received the favor of His Majesty and can set up a named workshop. Since Teacher intends to nurture him, why not give it a try?"

"What do you suggest?" Meng Bai said noncommittally.

"Teacher, have you forgotten that the Forging Division likes to hire some high-ranking military officers to provide them with suggestions on how to design weapons? Second Brother's Huaxia Pavilion definitely needs one too. Teacher, who in the world can compare to your understanding of battle formations?"

"If you go to Huaxia Pavilion as an advisor, I believe His Majesty will be happy to see you succeed. I don't think Second Brother will reject you."

Meng Bai seemed to be lost in thought.

The reason he paid attention to Zhou Shu was not because of what Mi Ziwen thought. He was truly thinking for the sake of Great Xia and felt that Zhou Shu was a talent. If he could nurture him, it would be a good thing for Great Xia.

Mi Ziwen's words moved him slightly. He had already given his life to Great Xia. Even his intention to return to civilian life was for the sake of the stability of Great Xia.

He had worked hard all his life. If he really had nothing to do, he would really be bored. What Mi Ziwen said was also a path.

An advisor of the Forging Division did not have military power, so he would naturally not be able to threaten imperial authority. This would also allow his battle experiences to be useful. At the same time, he could also nurture some talents for Great Xia

"I think about it. Go organize the troops and prepare for our return." Meng Bai waved his hand.

In the You Marquis mansion, Zhou Shu looked at the map, feeling both pain and happiness.

'What should he build on 1,500 acres of land?

'There were countless thoughts in his mind, but he felt powerless as to how to implement them.

He was not an architect in his previous life. When he built the oth Workshop, it was not a big place. It was fine if he just instructed the workers haphazardly.

It was such a big place now. If he continued to mess around, wouldn't he be wasting this territory?

What style should it be built in? Jiangnan Garden? Or Immortal Palace Garden?

There were many beautiful buildings in Zhou Shu's mind, but he didn't know how those buildings were built or whether they could be displayed in this world.

Why does building a house feel harder than forging? Zhou Shu rubbed between his brows, his head aching.

He was a Forging Master. To him, forging was easy, but building a house was a completely different thing.

Forging? Why can't I use the method of forging to build the Huaxia Pavilion? A thought suddenly appeared in Zhou Shu's mind.

At the same time, he recalled a documentary he had watched in his previous life.

The more he thought about it, the brighter Zhou Shu's eyes became.

If can make the Wudang Golden Peak reappear in this world.

Zhou Shu suddenly became excited.

Is there a better idea than building the Huaxia Pavilion based on the method used by Wudang?

'The so-called Wudang Golden Peak was a golden palace on the peak of Mount Wudang in his previous life. The golden palace was constructed from gold-plated copper and wood. Zhou Shu remembered clearly that the documentary said that the golden palace used a total of 20 tons of refined copper and 300 kilograms of gold!

The entire palace was assembled from components that had been forged.

Zhou Shu was a Forging Master. Although forging components were not forging weapons, the principles were similar. To him, it was not a big problem.

The problem was how to design this golden palace.

Although Zhou Shu remembered its appearance, the actual construction method wouldn't be described in detail in the documentary. Even if it was introduced, he wouldn't remember it.

I won't be able to figure it out on my own. But the construction standards in this world aren't bad either. Perhaps the craftsmen from the Ministry of Works might have a solution.

However, if I build the Huaxia Pavilion this way, the building cost will be sky high.

I wonder if the Imperial Court can fork out that much money.

Zhou Shu had some doubts about this. Although Yin Wuyou told him to build whatever he wanted and that everything would be paid for by the Imperial Court, he would be a fool if he really took it seriously. If he really built whatever he wanted on a piece of land that was more than 1,500 acres, he could empty Great Xia's national treasury!

In that case, not only would Emperor Yuan Feng not agree, but all of Great Xia's officials would also chew him out.

Even if the Imperial Court doesn't pay, I'll pay out of my own pocket to build the Wudang Golden Peak! Zhou Shu thought. It's just money.

If he didn't have money, he could just forge a few more weapons!

The Huaxia Pavilion would be his base camp. No matter how much money he spent, it was worth it!

Other than the Wudang Golden Peak, the Hanging Temple can also be used as reference.

Zhou Shu felt that his train of thought had been completely opened up. The Hanging Temple had been constructed by the ancient craftsmen in his previous life according to the Daoist school's requirements of not hearing the sound of chickens and dogs barking. The entire structure was strange, suspended, and ingenious.

But Huaxia Pavilion's mountain was too short. It would probably be a little difficult to build a hanging temple. He had to think of how to adapt to the existing conditions. And the Mount Shu I saw in TV dramas.

The more Zhou Shu thought about it, the more excited he became. The territory of the Huaxia Pavilion was like a canvas for him to paint as he pleased.

There's actually a lake at the foot of the mountain. I can make it scenic. In the future, when everyone is tired from forging, they can go and relax.

My Huaxia Pavilion can't be too tacky. It has to have an immortal aura

I'm going to look for professionals from the Ministry of Works. I have to design the blueprint first.

Zhou Shu picked up the map and walked out.

As for the forging of the components, as long as there are the blueprints, Zhang Yibei and the others can forge them. This is actually the easiest.

Oh yes, this mountain doesn't seem to have a name yet.

Zhou Shu pondered as he walked toward the Ministry of Works.

I wonder who has the naming rights. Speaking of which, the entire mountain belongs to the Huaxia Pavilion. The naming rights should also belong to me.
What should I name it?

Mount Shu? Mount Tai? Mount Wudang?

Chapter 152 Black Iron Gold Crystal, Weapon For Yin Wuyou

“Marquis, this is all the information regarding Great Xia’s military parade.” Haitang placed a thick stack of documents in front of Zhou Shu. “Her Highness said to let you take a good look.”

“I understand.” Zhou Shu waved his hand.

...

Who has the time to care about the military parade?

I’m busy designing the Huaxia Pavilion.

Zhou Shu had already communicated with the craftsmen from the Ministry of Works. The craftsmen from the Ministry of Works were very amazed by his idea.

But they also raised many questions. As for the construction, there were still many problems that needed to be solved.

Constructing the Huaxia Pavilion was a huge project, and Zhou Shu didn’t want to do it rashly. After all, this place was different from the oth Workshop. This would be his base camp in the future.

“Marquis, the military parade is about to begin. Before that, you must prepare your weapon in advance. Her Highness has repeatedly reminded that there must not be any problems,” Haitang instructed before leaving.

Zhou Shu waved his hand, indicating that she could leave.

He threw the military parade to the back of his mind.

He started scribbling on his desk.

He had to write down all his ideas and then hand them over to the craftsmen of the Ministry of Works to design the blueprints. This wasn’t an easy job.

Zhou Shu decided to focus on building the Huaxia Pavilion.

Time flew when one focused on a task.

For the next few days, Zhou Shu almost never left his residence.

If not for an unexpected visitor, Zhou Shu might have continued to stay in his study.

Speaking of which, ever since he became the You Marquis, the visitors had never stopped. Sometimes, there were three or four visitors a day. Sometimes, there were more than ten visitors a day. Most of the time, Zhou Shu would let the steward deal with them. If he had to deal with these people every day, he wouldn’t have time to do anything else.

Zhou Shu was a homebody at heart, and he had no interest in forming cliques or relationships.

Besides, with his current status, he had the right to refuse.

A marquis was an upper-class existence among the nobles of Chang'an.

Moreover, he was young, and his future achievements were limitless. Who would dare to disrespect him?

Therefore, the steward wouldn't even inform him of ordinary visitors.

"You are?" Although Zhou Shu already knew the identity of this person from the steward, he still pretended to be ignorant and asked.

In front of him was a middle-aged man dressed in silk and luxurious clothes. There was nothing special about his appearance, but his eyes were exceptionally bright, leaving a deep impression. "Demon Executing Army, Lieutenant Yin Chengshan greets you, Marquis." The middle-aged man stood up and cupped his hands.

"General Yin, you are too polite." Zhou Shu cupped his hands. "May I know why you are looking for me?"

He sized up Yin Chengshan. Yin Chengshan's breaths were long, and his aura was steady. In Zhou Shu's perception, his cultivation was at least at the sixth rank of the Martial Dao.

Zhou Shu had heard of the Demon Executing Army countless times.

The three armies of Great Xia were the Country Protector Army, Demon Executing Army, and Fiend Eradication Army.

The Country Protector Army was an ordinary army, and most of the troops were martial artists that had yet to enter the ranks. As for the Demon Executing and Fiend Eradication armies, they were formed entirely by ranked martial artists.

Although they were also armies, their establishment was unique. They were more like special operations forces.

The upper limit and lower limit of a lieutenant's rank were very wide. Some officers were third-rank generals, while some were only eighth-rank officers.

The Demon Executing Army were all ranked martial artists. Everyone had an officer rank, and their ranks weren't low either. Yin Chengshan had a cultivation of the sixth rank of the Martial Dao, and he was among the stronger ones in the Demon Executing Army. But Zhou Shu was not familiar with official positions and didn't know what rank Yin Chengshan was. Of course, no matter what rank he was, his rank was definitely not higher than Zhou Shu's.

"I've come to ask for a weapon from you," Yin Chengshan said seriously.

"You want a weapon?"

This was not the first time Zhou Shu had encountered such a thing. The former commander of the Huben Troops, Cheng Wanli, had done so before. He didn't know if Cheng Wanli had survived the You and Bing prefecture incident.

Although Cheng Wanli's position was not low, his cultivation level was not high. However, he only wanted a Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber.

Yin Chengshan was a member of the Demon Executing Army. The weapon he was asking for was probably not a standard weapon.

"Yes." Yin Chengshan nodded solemnly. "To be honest, when I was carrying out a mission previously, I obtained a piece of Black Iron Gold Crystal. Coincidentally, my saber was also destroyed during the mission.

"I heard that you are the strongest among the new generation of Forging Masters, so I took the liberty to come and ask you to forge a divine weapon!"

"Who spread the rumors? When did I say I was the strongest among the new generation of Forging Masters?" Zhou Shu's expression darkened.

I'm not only the strongest among the new generation of Forging Masters. I'm the strongest among all Forging Masters. But I'm the only one who needs to know this. There's no need to tell everyone about it.

Wouldn't I be making more work for myself otherwise?

"Everyone knows it," Yin Chengshan said doubtfully. "Back then, when Shi Songtao forged the Songtao Sword at the age of twenty-five, he was already known as the Great Xia's number one forging genius. Marquis, you're not even twenty yet, but you've already forged the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword. Furthermore, it ranks eleventh in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. When the Songtao Sword first came out, it only ranked thirty-sixth."

Yin Chengshan looked as if it was only natural.

He didn't know that the Great Destroyer Sword, which ranked first in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual, was also forged by Zhou Shu.

"The Songtao Sword currently ranks above the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword. Why don't you go find Shi Songtao?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

"Master Shi is good at forging swords, while I use sabers," Yin Chengshan said. "Everyone knows that you're an expert in forging sabers..."

Zhou Shu's true famous works were the Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Saber, Horse Slaying Saber, and Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber.

Therefore, even though he had used the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword to become a Forging Master, most people still felt that he was better at forging sabers.

Zhou Shu thought for a moment before rejecting, "Sorry. I don't have time lately."

"Marquis, I understand the rules. Money is not a problem," Yin Chengshan hurriedly said.

He naturally had to pay for a Forging Master to forge a weapon for him.

He took out a banknote. "Here is one thousand taels of gold. You can cash it at any time. If it's not enough, I will top up more later.

"Marquis, what I seek is only a yellow-grade weapon. I hope that you can help me," Yin Chengshan pleaded.

"It's not about the money." Zhou Shu shook his head. "As you know, Great Xia's military parade is about to begin, and I still have to prepare for it. I am really unable to spare the time."

Upon seeing the thousand taels of gold, Zhou Shu was somewhat tempted.

Although the Forging Division drew commission whenever he forged weapons for others, he still took the bulk of the profits.

To be able to earn so much money by forging a yellow-grade weapon, it was really easy for Forging Masters to earn money.

But then again, the Demon Executing Army was rich. He took out 1,000 taels of gold just like that.

"I am also participating in the military parade," Yin Chengshan said. "It takes place in ten days or so. I'm not in a hurry. You can slowly forge it. Marquis, our Demon Executing Army fights demons all year round. A good weapon concerns our lives. I will be extremely grateful if you can help me!" "It's still a no." Zhou Shu still shook his head.

He still had a lot of things to do. He wasn't in a hurry to earn money. After all, the Forging Division didn't have any requirements for the Huaxia Pavilion's performance.

But he couldn't break his relationship with the Demon Executing Army.

The Demon Executing Army had many opportunities to kill enemies. In the future, he would definitely have to deal with the Demon Executing Army. The Demon Executing Army would be a good helper for obtaining rewards from the Legendary Armament Canon.

"General Yin, it's not that I don't want to help you, but I can't help you for now," Zhou Shu said.

"I don't mind telling you, but the only yellow-grade weapon I can forge now is the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword.

"How about this? When the military parade is over, I will continue to develop weapons. If there is a suitable opportunity, I will forge one for you. How about that?" Zhou Shu didn't casually make a promise, nor did he directly agree to Yin Chengshan's request.

He didn't even know what his next weapon would be, so why would he agree to Yin Chengshan?

But if he really forged a suitable weapon, Zhou Shu wouldn't mind selling it to Yin Chengshan.

What else could Yin Chengshan say?

After all, he wasn't an ordinary Forging Master. He was the You Marquis. Even if he was an ordinary Forging Master, Yin Chengshan had to beg him.

“Alright, since that’s the case, I won’t disturb you any further.”

Yin Chengshan put away his banknote with slight disappointment, then cupped his hands and said, “If you have any instructions, you can just send someone to inform me. I live at...”

Yin Chengshan gave him an address and then left.

Zhou Shu sent him out. Just as he returned to the room, he saw a wooden box lying on the chair Yin Chengshan had just sat on.

Zhou Shu was stunned for a moment before he quickly understood. This Yin Chengshan is also an interesting person.

He picked up the wooden box. It was basically impossible to say that Yin Chengshan had forgotten it here.

A lieutenant of the Demon Executing Army was always walking on the edge of a blade. How could such a person be so careless?

This box was probably left behind on purpose. Is this considered bribery? Zhou Shu mocked himself as he opened the box. Black Iron Gold Crystal? Inside the box was a brown stone the size of a fist. Inside the stone, he could see faint threads of gold. The entire stone looked extraordinarily beautiful.

This was the Black Iron Gold Crystal that Yin Chengshan had mentioned before.

Black Iron Gold Crystal was a relatively rare forging material. It was not even present in the batch of materials that the Mi family had given Zhou Shu.

When it was used to forge a weapon, the durability and toughness of the weapon would be greatly enhanced.

Most importantly, by using it to forge a weapon, it could increase the tolerance of the weapon to Heaven Refining Stone.

In other words, it would allow the weapon to withstand even more star paths.

The more star paths a weapon had, the more powerful it was. Since this Black Iron Gold Crystal had such an effect, it was naturally not cheap.

Even though it couldn’t compare to the Heaven Refining Stone, it was much more valuable than ordinary forging materials. The value of this piece of Black Iron Gold Crystal was not below the banknote that Yin Chengshan had taken out.

This Yin Chengshan is quite daring.

Isn’t he afraid that I won’t help him forge a weapon?

From the start, Zhou Shu had never agreed to help him forge a weapon.

If he left this Black Iron Gold Crystal behind, Zhou Shu might not use it to forge weapons for Yin Chengshan.

Yin Chengshan definitely knew this in his heart.

But he still left it behind.

Was this a deliberate attempt to befriend Zhou Shu?

Since I'm participating in the military parade, I have to prepare a weapon no matter what. I promised Yin Wuyou that I would help her forge a weapon. With this Black Iron Gold Crystal, I can do both things at once. But this way, I'll have to owe Yin Chengshan a favor. I'll have to think of a way to forge a weapon for him later.

During Great Xia's military parade, all the participating Forging Masters had to forge a weapon to showcase the Great Xia's Forging Division.

Forging a ranked weapon could easily take months or even years. The parade naturally couldn't last that long.

Therefore, the Forging Masters participating in the military parade usually forged their weapons in advance and left one or two stars unfixed.

When they arrived at the parade ground, they would fix the last star and finish forging the weapon.

This way, not only would they be able to display their forging skills, but they would also not waste too much time. They would also be able to let the emperor witness the might of a ranked weapon.

If they could obtain the favor of the emperor during the military parade, it would undoubtedly be a good thing for the Forging Masters.

To Zhou Shu, he didn't care much about this.

But since he couldn't avoid participating, he couldn't embarrass himself too much.

He was about to help Yin Wuyou forge a weapon, but he was still considering what to forge. After all, if it was too inferior, he wouldn't be able to present it.

Now that he had the Black Iron Gold Crystal, he could try some of his ideas.

The construction of the Huaxia Pavilion can't be completed in a day or two. I'll get the Ministry of Works to draw the blueprints later. I'll handle the military parade first.

As for Zhang Yibei and those guys, I can't let them idle around either. After all, they are members of the Huaxia Pavilion. Their current standards are too disgraceful.

What sword should I forge for Yin Wuyou?

Zhou Shu pinched his glabella. In his mind, there were countless divine weapons that he had heard of in his previous life. It was not impossible to replicate them in this world.

But it was precisely because there were too many that he didn't know what to choose. It's too troublesome to give women things. It has to be classy and match her temperament...

Zhou Shu cursed in his heart. Sun Gongping is such an easy person to deal with. I just gave him whatever I forged. I didn't have to think so hard about it like now.

I have to design it properly for Yin Wuyou. As for returning Yin Chengshan's favor, I'll just give him any yellow-grade weapon. Anyway, the weapons produced by the Huaxia Pavilion won't be too bad.

Zhou Shu touched the Black Iron Gold Crystal as the images of weapons flashed through his mind.

As the sun set, it shone in through the window, casting a shadow on the ground.

Zhou Shu's expression suddenly changed as a thought appeared in his mind. Yes, that's it! Zhou Shu laughed loudly.

Chapter 153 The Emperor Came to Guard the Door

Zhou Shu had many forging materials in his mansion.

Yin Wuyou had just given him a piece of Heaven Refining Stone, big enough to forge a heaven-grade weapon. Now, with the Black Iron Gold Crystal given by Yin Chengshan, everything was ready. Since he already had a direction, what was left was to roll up his sleeves and begin forging!

...

After Zhou Shu became the You Marquis, the greatest benefit was that when he wanted to do something, he didn't need to think about anything else. He just needed to do it.

He once again went into seclusion to forge, and the You Marquis's mansion's doors were closed to visitors.

In the imperial study of the imperial palace of Great Xia...

Emperor Yuan Feng looked at the memorial on his desk and fell silent.

After a long while, he let out a long sigh. "Great companion, do you think I'm being too mean to the general?"

Other than the emperor, there was only Eunuch Zhao in the imperial study.

Eunuch Zhao stood there without saying anything, as if he didn't exist. Ordinary people wouldn't notice him.

Eunuch Zhao replied, "Your Majesty, you worry too much."

"A death warrior came from the general's residence. It's only right for Your Majesty to send people to investigate. The great general has a clear conscience and will not blame Your Majesty for this."

"Then, why did he submit his resignation letter?" Emperor Yuan Feng muttered.

Eunuch Zhao sighed inwardly. Your Majesty, you know everything. Why are you asking me? What can I say? That General Meng is afraid that Your Majesty will kill him?

Your Majesty, although you might not be willing to do so, even the emperor cannot do as he pleases when it comes to the matters of the Imperial Court.

"Your Majesty, perhaps the great general is tired. He is wounded and ill, and with his age..." Eunuch Zhao said.

“Yes.” Emperor Yuan Feng sighed. “He has suffered. Great companion, you said that he wants to go to the Huaxia Pavilion to be an advisor and help develop weapons. What is the meaning of this?”

“Your Majesty, I think I understand,” Eunuch Zhao said. “The great general has spent his entire life in the military. Even if he retires and returns home, it might not be a good thing if he really has nothing to do. He wants to find a job to pass the time. After all, the great general has no children. If he really retires, what else can he do?”

“Actually, I think it’s a good thing. Marquis Zhou’s Huaxia Pavilion is thirty kilometers away from the capital. When Your Majesty wants to have a chat with the great general, you can see him at any time...”

“You old bastard!” Emperor Yuan Feng cursed.

How could he not understand what Eunuch Zhao meant? If Meng Bai stayed in the capital, then he could find out about his movements at any time. And since he didn’t have any military power, many people would naturally be completely at ease.

“That’s all for now then.” Emperor Yuanfeng let out a long sigh. Being an emperor and being a good person were two different things. Perhaps he wasn’t suitable to be an emperor.

How could he not know that the situation in Great Xia was getting worse and worse? He might even be part of the reason behind this. Emperor Yuan Feng placed Meng Bai’s memorial aside and asked, “What has Zhou Shu been doing recently?”

Although he wanted to beat up this Zhou fellow from time to time, it was undeniable that he was a talent and had helped Great Xia greatly.

If not for him, how could Great Xia take back the two prefectures?

If not for his Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Saber and Horse Slaying Saber, the war in the southern border might not have gone so smoothly.

Emperor Yuan Feng had even heard that the other nations were already preparing for next year’s Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament. They were afraid that Great Xia would rise again.

Thinking about it this way, Emperor Yuan Feng felt that the boy surnamed Zhou was not completely useless.

He snorted inwardly.

“Marquis Zhou has been busy with the construction of the Huaxia Pavilion recently.” Eunuch Zhao smiled. “I heard from the Ministry of Works that Marquis Zhou mentioned many wonderful ideas. They’re very interesting.” Eunuch Zhao picked out a few and told Emperor Yuan Feng.

After Emperor Yuan Feng heard this, his face darkened. He said coldly, “Does he want to enjoy himself now? I don’t even dare to build my side palaces like this!”

“He has just been promoted to a Forging Master, and he’s already so lacking in ambition. Does he think that it doesn’t require money to build the Huaxia Pavilion?”

Emperor Yuan Feng was angry. Thinking back to when he agreed to his daughter's condition, his chest felt stuffy.

"It's not that Marquis Zhou doesn't do his job." Eunuch Zhao had a pretty good impression of Zhou Shu. At the very least, every time they met, Marquis Zhou treated him with great respect. It wasn't about how grand his etiquette was but because he treated him with his heart.

This feeling made Eunuch Zhao, who lived in a scheming environment all year round, especially attached.

"He only gave suggestions to the Ministry of Works. The Ministry of Works is still planning the specific design plans. Marquis Zhou is currently in seclusion forging. He said that he's preparing for the parade."

Although Emperor Yuan Feng would scold Zhou Shu from time to time, Eunuch Zhao knew that Emperor Yuan Feng paid a lot of attention to Zhou Shu, so he was always paying attention to Zhou Shu's movements.

Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to answer when Emperor Yuan Feng suddenly asked.

"Hmph!" Upon hearing that Zhou Shu was in seclusion forging, Emperor Yuan Feng's anger lessened.

"What is he forging?"

"I don't know." Eunuch Zhao smiled bitterly.

Emperor Yuan Feng also realized that he had asked a useless question and changed the subject. "Where is Wuyou? What has she been busy with these past two days? Why hasn't she come to pay her respects?"

Eunuch Zhao hesitated for a moment before saying, "Her Highness has been selecting secret forging techniques in the imperial library for the past two days..." Emperor Yuan Feng was stunned for a moment before clutching his chest and panting heavily. "Damn it. That Zhou brat, to think I thought that he wasn't bad! If not for this dragon robe, I would have beaten him up!" Emperor Yuan Feng breathed heavily. "Your Majesty?" Eunuch Zhao asked worriedly. Emperor Yuan Feng sulked for a while before suddenly saying, "My great companion, do you think anyone will notice if I disguise myself and leave the palace?" Eunuch Zhao had a puzzled expression. Leave the palace in disguise? To mingle with the people incognito? Is there a need to be afraid of being discovered?

Could it be that His Majesty wants to visit a brothel?

There was indeed an emperor in history who liked to do that...

Eunuch Zhao looked at Emperor Yuanfeng with a strange expression. After serving this emperor for so many years, he had never realized that the emperor was interested in this.

"If Your Majesty is really interested, my best to arrange..." Eunuch Zhao said after hesitating for a moment. He prayed in his heart that the empress wouldn't find out.

...

The You Marquis's mansion...

Crack!

With a crisp sound, Zhou Shu looked at the broken tool in his hand and frowned.

He had tried countless times.

Every time he was halfway done, the weapon would break.

According to my deductions, there shouldn't be any problems.

Zhou Shu pondered.

Forging weapons was not as simple as throwing all the materials into the furnace.

Different materials would react differently when used together. He had to consider the nature of the materials after they mixed together and control the heat during the forging process. These were all related to the success or failure of the forging.

The appearance of the weapon was not a problem.

If a Forging Master wanted to, they could make all kinds of strange weapons. They could even be more flashy than the weapons in Zhou Shu's previous life's online games, but this was meaningless. It was the same for Zhou Shu now. He had already thought about what this weapon would look like after being forged.

But in order to achieve that effect, he had to consider how to match and complement the materials. Not only did he have to consider the ratio of the materials, but he also had to consider how to fix the stars within the meridians of the weapon.

For several days, Zhou Shu had tried countless times, but each time he encountered a different problem.

This was actually the norm for a Forging Master. It was rare for a Forging Master to succeed every time they forged something.

The birth of a ranked weapon was the result of repeated attempts by the Forging Master.

Unless it was forged according to an existing forging formula, this step was unavoidable.

Zhou Shu also understood this point. The Legendary Armament Canon only recorded details of forged ranked weapons. He had to complete the first step himself.

He calmed himself down and began to review what had gone wrong.

After a long time, Zhou Shu activated the True Fire again and began to forge.

His movements were very gentle. Every time he placed a forging material, he would ponder for a moment and even write on the floor.

In the forging room, the crackling sounds of the fire and Zhou Shu's muttering resounded.

After an unknown period of time, clanking sounds came from the forging room again.

Then Zhou Shu shouted, "Again!"

Zhou Shu's personality was a bit lazy. He liked to stay at home and didn't like trouble. Sometimes he liked to show off, and sometimes he wished that no one would recognize him.

But it was undeniable that there was stubbornness and tenacity in his character.

He could devote himself to anything that he had set his mind on.

It was just like forging. Although he had failed countless times, he had never given up and continued to try.

The steward looked at the untouched food at the door and sighed. It was time to worry again.

Although the marquis was a ranked martial artist, and he wouldn't starve to death if he didn't eat a few meals, every time he went into seclusion to forge, he wouldn't eat or drink. This made people's hearts ache.

He shook his head and put down the fresh food, then picked up the untouched food and walked out.

Just as he walked out of the small courtyard, he bumped into someone and hurriedly bowed.

"No need for formalities." Yin Wuyou waved her hand and looked at the food with a slight frown. "Still not eating? Does he do this all the time?"

"Not really." The steward thought about it. In the past, when the marquis forged, it didn't take long. The last time he forged the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, it had taken longer, but not as long as this time.

"The marquis said that the sword he's forging this time is for Your Highness, so nothing must go wrong. He forbade any of us from disturbing him," the steward said hesitantly.

Yin Wuyou was stunned. "For me? Not for the military parade?" "It serves the same purpose." Before the steward came to the marquis's estate, he was a steward of the Mi family and had quite a bit of experience.

"Yeah, that's true," Yin Wuyou said, her beautiful face slightly flushed. So Zhou Shu didn't sleep or rest, didn't eat or drink, to forge a weapon for me...

He doesn't have to work so hard. As long as it's from him, I will like it.

In the moonlight, Yin Wuyou's face was slightly red. Her bashful look made the steward feel like he was looking at a fairy from the moon palace.

He quickly lowered his head and thought, Her Highness and the marquis...

Could it be that he had just turned from the steward of the Mi family to the steward of the marquis's residence and was going to turn from the steward of the marquis's residence to the steward of the prince consort's residence?

"I'll go back first. Send someone to inform me when he comes out. Also, I've placed the documents I brought in his study. You must watch them carefully. Don't let anyone flip through them, understand?"

Yin Wuyou also noticed her loss of composure and regained her cold and arrogant appearance.

"Yes, Your Highness." The steward hurriedly bowed. Since the future mistress had spoken, he had to quickly express his stance.

Yin Wuyou walked away gracefully. Being disturbed by the steward's words, she didn't notice two men in black clothes lying on the roof of a house in the distance.

As they watched Yin Wuyou walk away, one of the men in black gritted his teeth, causing the man in black beside him to feel slightly cold.

Things were different from what he had imagined

Who would have thought that a head eunuch like him, who could cause an earthquake in Chang'an with just a stomp of his foot, would one day be so sneaky as to be a nightcrawler?

But thinking about the person beside him, he felt better.

Hmph, luckily I came. Otherwise, I wouldn't know that my good daughter is still at the You Marquis's mansion so late. If others find out about this, how will the rumors spread? Will they say the princess's character is improper? Emperor Yuan Feng thought. He didn't know why he would have such a thought.

Perhaps he had been suppressing his emotions for a long time because of the great general's resignation.

He wanted to vent. He missed the times when he was not the emperor! Zhou Shu, the little brat who stole his precious daughter, naturally became the target of his anger.

Emperor Yuan Feng was a first-rank martial artist. Even though his cultivation was not truly at the first rank of the Martial Dao, he was still a first-rank martial artist. Eunuch Zhao was also a true first-rank martial artist. He was very different from Emperor Yuan Feng, who had used special methods to increase his cultivation.

He was a true first-rank martial artist!

Very few people knew that the head eunuch beside Emperor Yuan Feng was actually a first-rank Martial Dao expert.

It was a piece of cake for two first-rank martial artists to sneak into the You Marquis residence.

Especially since the true experts of the capital had already been informed in advance by Eunuch Zhao, the cultivation of those left behind to guard the marquis's residence was far inferior.

Yin Wuyou originally had a chance to discover them, but she had already returned to the princess's residence, so Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao had no trouble sneaking outside Zhou Shu's forging room.

"Your Majesty, Marquis Zhou seems to be forging. If we charge in now, will it affect his forging?" Eunuch Zhao asked.

Emperor Yuan Feng hesitated. He had always been a soft-hearted emperor. Otherwise, he wouldn't have the title of a benevolent ruler.

"Then we'll deal with him later!"

The number one person of Great Xia, the ruler of a country, and his head eunuch, Eunuch Zhao, stood outside Zhou Shu's forging room like two guards. The night wind rustled the fallen leaves on the ground, making them appear especially desolate.

Chapter 154 Three Swords of Yin Tianzi

Amid the night wind, two men in black stood outside Zhou Shu's forging room like gate gods. Eunuch Zhao bitterly smiled in his heart as he glanced at Emperor Yuan Feng. He's the emperor. Why does he have to do this? Did you come out of the palace in the middle of the night just to guard the door?

Is the night breeze comfortable? Isn't your bed more comfortable?

...

Marquis Zhou, oh Marquis Zhou, His Majesty and I will personally guard the door for you. If you can't forge anything good, let alone His Majesty, even I will want to beat you up!

Neither Emperor Yuan Feng nor Eunuch Zhao noticed that Zhou Shu's hand was already on the hilt of the Great Destroyer Sword the moment they arrived outside.

Although Zhou Shu was engrossed in forging, he was not completely unaware of what was happening outside.

The sudden arrival of two first-rank martial artists was like two huge suns outside his door. It was hard not to notice!

This was also because Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao didn't have much experience in traveling at night. With their status, they only needed to avoid divine constables. This was something that could be done without much attention.

How could they have imagined that the true expert was Zhou Shu?

Zhou Shu's first reaction was that his cultivation had been exposed, and Great Xia had sent an expert over!

But he later realized that it made no sense.

Even if his cultivation was exposed, Great Xia had no reason to deal with him.

After all, he had always been helping Great Xia.

The reason he was worried about exposing his cultivation was that he was worried about the series of troubles that would come afterward. He wasn't afraid of anything at all.

It wasn't that he was bragging, but there really wasn't anyone in Chang'an who could threaten his life.

Thinking of this, Zhou Shu released his grip on the sword.

If the two first-rank experts outside weren't sent by Great Xia, could they be assassins?

The defenses of Great Xia's Chang'an are lousy. It's not unusual for a few assassins to sneak in.

But on the surface, his Martial Dao cultivation was only at the eighth rank. Was there a need to send two first-rank martial artists to assassinate him?

Wasn't it akin to using an anti-aircraft gun to hit a mosquito?

Wait, why do I feel that the aura of the person on the right is somewhat familiar?

Zhou Shu's heart stirred as he silently released a strand of divine sense. He didn't dare to use his divine sense to directly observe the people outside. As first-rank martial artists, they might be able to sense his divine sense.

He only used his divine sense to sense the auras of the two people outside.

Eunuch Zhao?

The next moment, he remembered who the familiar aura was.

One is Eunuch Zhao, the other...

That's impossible, right?

Zhou Shu felt that this was somewhat absurd and inconceivable.

Zhou Shu didn't know whether to laugh or cry when he thought that the two most powerful people in Great Xia were standing guard outside his door.

He didn't know what they were here for, but he didn't sense any malice from them.

Since that's the case, if they're willing to stand guard, let them be.

Zhou Shu put down his thoughts and returned to his forging

He had already found the reason for his previous failure. This time, he would definitely succeed!

Inside the forging room, clanging sounds rang out incessantly.

Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao were in a mess in the wind.

Emperor Yuan Feng also began to doubt his life. Who am I? Where am I? What am I doing?

Didn't I come here to teach that rascal a lesson?

Why does it seem like I am protecting him instead?

This doesn't seem right!

Emperor Yuan Feng glared at Eunuch Zhao. It's all your fault, talking about disturbing his forging. We should have just rushed in and beat him up, then left with a dashing back view!

Eunuch Zhao felt wronged. What did I do wrong?

I've already given up my pride to accompany you to be a nightcrawler. What else do you want?

Emperor Yuan Feng hesitated. The sound of forging was still echoing in the room. If he went in now, he would definitely interrupt Zhou Shu's forging.

Although Emperor Yuan Feng was not a forger, he knew that if Zhou Shu was interrupted during the process of forging, it was very likely that he would fail.

He only wanted to teach this brat a lesson, not destroy his weapon forging. Furthermore, the weapon that he was forging was the property of Great Xia.

But if he didn't rush in, was he going to wait here?

How long would it take?

Emperor Yuan Feng looked up at the sky. The sky in the east had already begun to brighten. It wouldn't be long before dawn arrived.

He had to return to the palace before dawn. Otherwise, it would be too embarrassing if others discovered him.

As an emperor, how could he disguise himself to beat up a subject?

No, I'm not here as an emperor. I'm here as a father! Emperor Yuan Feng thought. Otherwise, why would I need to be so sneaky when dealing with a mere marquis?

As Emperor Yuan Feng thought this, the clanking suddenly stopped.

Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao looked at each other and saw the joy in each other's eyes.

He stopped. If they rushed in now, they wouldn't have to be afraid of ruining his forging

"Go!" Emperor Yuan Feng mouthed to Eunuch Zhao. Eunuch Zhao understood. After a cold night, he was full of anger.

Bang!

Eunuch Zhao's spiritual essence erupted. He controlled his movement within a certain range, and then he kicked open the door of the forging room. Swish!

In the room, Zhou Shu seemed to be given a fright. He stepped back in panic, then leaped two steps forward, extended his arms, and blocked Eunuch Zhao's path.

"Are you here to snatch the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi?!" Zhou Shu yelled. "Don't even think about it! Unless I die!"

His righteousness moved heaven and earth. "Hehe!" Eunuch Zhao laughed sinisterly. Following Emperor Yuan Feng's instructions, he raised his hand and reached out to Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu closed his eyes, looking like he was ready to die.

Bang!

With a muffled sound, a figure staggered a few steps.

Eunuch Zhao turned his head and looked at Emperor Yuan Feng in disbelief. Your Majesty, didn't we agree to teach Marquis Zhou a lesson? Why did you hit me?

Eunuch Zhao felt wronged. He could have avoided Emperor Yuan Feng's kick earlier. But the emperor wanted to kick him. If he dodged, what if the emperor sprained his ankle?

"Who are you?" Zhou Shu opened his eyes again and glared at Eunuch Zhao and Emperor Yuan Feng. He righteously said, "This is Great Xia's Chang'an, not a place where you can behave atrociously!"

"Even if you kill me and snatch away the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi I forged for His Majesty and Her Highness, Great Xia will not let you off!"

Zhou Shu appeared to be really angry. His acting skills were comparable to that of a Best Actor.

"Those who commit crimes against Great Xia will be punished even if they are far away! It may be easy to kill me, but Great Xia still has many people like me. His Majesty will not let you off, and Great Xia will not let you off either!"

Emperor Yuan Feng's eyes flashed. Those who commit crimes against Great Xia will be punished even if they are far away?

What am I doing?

I want to teach such a loyal subject a lesson?

Yuan Feng, oh Yuan Feng, has your conscience been eaten by dogs? What a good child. His loyalty to Great Xia is comparable to the sun and moon!

No! How could I praise him?!

Emperor Yuan Feng snorted. He changed his voice and said in a hoarse voice, "What did you say is the weapon you just forged?" "Why should I tell you?" Zhou Shu said angrily. "You're not even worthy to glance at my Three Swords of Yin Tianzi!"

"Only the emperor of Great Xia is qualified to have my sword!"

Emperor Yuan snorted coldly in his heart. This silly boy said he wouldn't tell me, but he just casually said it. If only everyone had brains.

So, I still have some status in this kid's heart.

The Three Swords of Yin Tianzi were specially forged for me?

No, why are the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi forged for me and Wuyou?

This brat hasn't given up on Wuyou!

Does he think I would agree to marry Wuyou to him just because he tries so hard to please me?

Hmph, let me see if this Three Swords of Yin Tianzi is good enough!

Emperor Yuan Feng raised his leg and kicked Zhou Shu. Zhou Shu's heart jumped, and he subconsciously wanted to dodge. But Emperor Yuan Feng's kick didn't contain the slightest bit of spiritual essence, nor did it contain any killing intent.

Zhou Shu resisted the urge to fight back. If he really fought back, the emperor wouldn't be able to resist.

Emperor Yuan Feng kicked Zhou Shu's butt. His strength...

... was just the strength of an ordinary adult. Let alone the fact that Zhou Shu had already cultivated the eleventh level of the Golden Bell Shield, even if he didn't have any cultivation, he wouldn't be injured by such a kick.

"Let's go!" Emperor Yuan Feng called out to Eunuch Zhao and left in a flash.

Since this kid is so loyal, I will be magnanimous and let him off!

Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao disappeared into the night.

Right after they disappeared, an aura soared into the sky from the princess's residence.

Yin Wuyou held a three-foot sword in her hand as she flew over.

She only heaved a sigh of relief when she saw that Zhou Shu was fine.

"Grand Minister, you—" Zhou Shu stared at Yin Wuyou with wide eyes.

Yin Wuyou was currently wearing a gauze robe, and her snow-white skin was faintly discernible, causing Zhou Shu to gulp.

Did she rush out in her pajamas? "Just now, I felt a powerful aura erupt. Is there an assassin?" Yin Wuyou looked around warily.

Gulp-Zhou Shu didn't speak. Instead, he gulped.

Yin Wuyou turned to look at Zhou Shu in surprise. Following Zhou Shu's gaze, she looked at herself.

The next moment, she screamed.

"Close your eyes! Don't look! If you look, I'll dig your eyes out!"

The marquis's residence guards who had rushed over after hearing the commotion stopped outside the courtyard.

Her Highness is inside?

Should we go in?

The next moment, they no longer hesitate after hearing Yin Wuyou's voice.

"No one is allowed to enter. Otherwise, I will execute your entire clan!" Yin Wuyou flew into a rage out of humiliation.

The guards looked at each other and dismissed themselves. Let's wash up and go to bed. Her Highness is just playing with the marquis.

She really knows how to have fun-creating such a huge commotion.

As Yin Wuyou listened to the guards disperse, she fiercely glared at Zhou Shu, whose back was already facing her. Her charming face was so red that it was almost dripping blood.

"Die!" Yin Wuyou stomped her foot fiercely, then raised her slender foot and kicked Zhou Shu's butt.

Then she turned into a wisp of smoke and disappeared into the princess's residence.

Zhou Shu rubbed his butt. Who did my butt offend?

I was kicked in the butt by two people in one night!

But Yin Wuyou's kick felt more like a touch... Hmph, I won't hold it against you. Otherwise, even though you are all first-rank and second-rank experts, the rebound of the Golden Bell Shield would have made you suffer!

Then he chuckled.

How satisfying!

My acting went well this time. I didn't screw
up!

What are Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao thinking? They came to my mansion in the middle of the night and were stunned by my acting skills.

I wonder what Emperor Yuan Feng was here for. It didn't seem like he was here to test me.

Although Emperor Yuan Feng's and Eunuch Zhao's aura was overbearing, they didn't have much malice.

Zhou Shu could still sense this.

It was as if the two of them were purely out for a stroll.

I can't figure out the higher-ups. And there's also Yin Wuyou. I didn't realize before that she was so big, so fair...

He felt his nose heat up as he rubbed it. Zhou Shu shook these thoughts off his mind.

Fortunately, my forging wasn't interrupted.

Zhou Shu's gaze fell behind him, and a smile appeared on his face. I have already forged the sword body. Next, it's time for the positioning of the stars.

I just have to leave out the last star and then fix it during the military parade.

To other Forging Masters, the most difficult fixing of the stars was the simplest step for Zhou Shu.

He gathered his thoughts and took out the Heaven Refining Stone that Yin Wuyou had given him. Then he controlled the True Fire to cut off a piece.

"Star fixing!" Zhou Shu let out a low cry.

In his consciousness, the sword transformed into a human silhouette, its bright spots clearly visible.

Zhou Shu reached out his hand like a brush and began to move around the sword.

The imperial palace of Great Xia...

Emperor Yuan Feng and Eunuch Zhao had already changed back into their clothes. As for their night clothes, they had already been destroyed.

Emperor Yuan Feng's expression was the same as ever, as if he hadn't stood guard in the wind outside Zhou Shu's forging room.

Eunuch Zhao also had a calm expression. Was he kicked by the emperor?

Nobody got kicked by the emperor.

"Great companion, what do the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi forged by Zhou Shu look like?" Emperor Yuan Feng suddenly asked.

Eunuch Zhao paused for a moment before speaking, "I didn't see it either."

At the time, he didn't care about the sword at all. He was stunned by the kick. Your Majesty, didn't you see the sword?

Emperor Yuan Feng was also a little embarrassed. When he heard the name Yin Tianzi, he had subconsciously kicked his great companion away. Later on, he had only heard what the brat had said, and he had forgotten to see what the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi looked like.

"Your Majesty, Marquis Zhou forged the sword in preparation for the parade. It shouldn't be completed yet. He will only complete the final finishing touches during the parade," Eunuch Zhao said, "Even if we saw it, it's not a complete weapon."

"Yeah." Emperor Yuan Feng nodded. He was actually looking forward to the military parade.

In all his years since his ascension, this was the first time someone had forged a sword for him.

The Three Swords of Yin Tianzi, just listen to its name.

There was also that sentence: Those who commit crimes against Great Xia will be punished even if they are far away!

The boy surnamed Zhou seemed to be a good candidate too

Pui!

Chapter 155 Do You Know This Sword?

"Zhou Shu, what is the weapon you've prepared for the military parade?" Yin Wuyou asked nonchalantly, as if it was just a casual question.

"It's a secret," Zhou Shu said.

...

He reckoned that Emperor Yuan Feng wouldn't tell anyone about the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi.

There was no way he could explain how he knew.

Could he tell others that he, the ruler of a country, had become a nightcrawler?

“Grand Minister, you’ll know when the military parade starts,” Zhou Shu said casually.

Although Yin Wuyou was very curious, it wasn’t appropriate for her to continue asking. She couldn’t tell Zhou Shu that she already knew he was going to give her the weapon, right?

“Grand Minister, I’ve already seen the information you asked Haitang to send over.”

Zhou Shu suddenly thought of something and asked, “I saw that in the past military parade, the military segment was always the actual combat of Great Xia’s three armies. I can understand the combat exercise for the Country Protector Army. But what is the combat of the Demon Executing Army and the Fiend Eradication Army about?”

The information Yin Wuyou had asked Haitang to give Zhou Shu was mostly about the military parade. There was very little information about the combat performance.

In her view, Zhou Shu was only participating in the military parade, and the military segment had little to do with him.

She had even specially found all the information on the yellow-grade weapons that had appeared during the previous military parades for Zhou Shu.

Unexpectedly, Zhou Shu didn’t ask about the military parade but instead asked about the military segment.

“It’s very simple. It’s actual combat. The Demon Executing Army demonstrates how to slay demons, while the Fiend Eradication Army demonstrates how to eliminate fiends,” Yin Wuyou said.

Seeing Zhou Shu’s puzzled expression, she continued to explain, “At that time, we will choose some demons and fiends from the prison, and then the teams of the Demon Executing Army and the Fiend Eradication Army will fight them in the martial arts arena.”

Zhou Shu nodded thoughtfully. Isn’t it like the Colosseum?

“Won’t there be casualties in actual battles?” Zhou Shu asked.

“Since they’re real battles, injuries are unavoidable,” Yin Wuyou said matter-of-factly. “That’s true.” Zhou Shu pondered.

“You don’t have to think too much about the military segment. It has nothing to do with you,” Yin Wuyou said.

“You don’t have to worry about building the Huaxia Pavilion. I’ll think of a way to find more craftsmen.” Yin Wuyou had also heard about the Huaxia Pavilion. Many of the ideas that Zhou Shu had proposed were difficult for the craftsmen in the Ministry of Works to realize.

Zhou Shu nodded. He wasn’t in a hurry.

Rome wasn’t built in a day. The Huaxia Pavilion was a huge piece of land. Even for construction maniacs in his previous life, it would take some time to build it properly. Slow work would produce fine work. If he was too anxious, it might affect the overall effect.

After leaving the Forging Division, Zhou Shu didn't return to the marquis's mansion. Instead, he began walking in a certain direction.

As the imperial capital of Great Xia, Chang'an's property prices were comparable to the imperial capital of Zhou Shu's previous life.

His three generations of ancestors had not been able to live in Chang'an.

It was only because Zhou Shu got lucky that he now had two houses in Chang'an. Moreover, he didn't even spend money to buy them.

Looking at the exquisite courtyard in front of him, Zhou Shu sighed. The Demon Executing Army seems to be treated quite well.

The place he was standing at was the entrance of the Demon Executing Army's Lieutenant Yin Chengshan's house.

The last time Yin Chengshan visited him, he had specially left his address.

When Zhou Shu thought about how Yin Chengshan could easily take out 1,000 taels of gold and even have such a house in such a good location. If he had earned all this himself, then the Demon Executing Army was really treated quite well.

"Marquis?"

Zhou Shu knocked on the door. He didn't expect Yin Chengshan to be the one who opened the door!

Seeing Zhou Shu outside the door, Yin Chengshan was overjoyed. "General Yin, are you preparing to go out?" Zhou Shu asked when he saw Yin Chengshan fully dressed.

"It's fine," Yin Chengshan hurriedly said. "It's nothing important. Marquis, you bring light to my humble dwelling. Please come in, Marquis!"

Yin Chengshan enthusiastically invited Zhou Shu into the guest hall and then got someone to serve him tea.

He even specially called his wife out to greet Zhou Shu. She was a gentle and refined woman, and her appearance and temperament were quite extraordinary.

"General Yin, you are so lucky," Zhou Shu praised with a smile.

"You flatter me, Marquis." Yin Chengshan smiled. "Marquis, if you have any instructions, you can just send someone over. You didn't have to come over personally."

Although Yin Chengshan was a sixth-rank expert, and his official position was also fifth-rank, in front of a second-rank marquis, both his rankings were nothing in comparison.

Therefore, Yin Chengshan's attitude was very humble. Moreover, he was the one who needed a favor from Zhou Shu.

"I happened to be nearby, so I decided to drop by." Zhou Shu smiled. "The Black Iron Gold Crystal you left behind last time helped me greatly. I owe you a favor."

“Marquis, you’re welcome.” Yin Chengshan hurriedly said. “It’s my honor to be able to help you, Marquis.”

“That being said,” Zhou Shu shook his head and continued, “I’m unable to help you forge a weapon for the time being. First, I might not have the time in the near future, and second, I don’t know what weapon to forge for you.” “It’s all right, Marquis. I’m in no hurry, really,” Yin Chengshan hurriedly said.

Although Zhou Shu still refused, Yin Chengshan was a smart person. He could naturally tell that Zhou Shu meant that when he was free, he would help him forge a weapon.

“You are a lieutenant of the Demon Executing Army. You fight with demons in order to protect the peace of Great Xia. How can you have no weapons?” Zhou Shu shook his head. “General Yin, the lives of your Demon Executing Army soldiers are very important to Great Xia.”

“Marquis— ” Yin Chengshan was touched.

The Demon Executing Army had indeed fought with the demons who caused trouble all year round. It was not an exaggeration to say that they were walking on the line between life and death.

Although the Demon Executing Army enjoyed generous benefits, as ranked martial artists, they were also just making a living.

Admittedly, they joined the Demon Executing Army because they would be treated well. But it was undeniable that they also had the intention to protect the peace of Great Xia.

Now that he had obtained Zhou Shu’s approval, Yin Chengshan felt his heart race. He felt that all these years of fighting had been worth it.

“General Yin, I can’t help to slay demons, but I can’t bear to see the soldiers who shed blood for the country without weapons,” Zhou Shu said seriously. “Although I can’t customize a ranked weapon for you yet, I have a weapon that I can lend to you temporarily. “I remember that you are going to lead a team to participate in the Great Xia military parade, right? How can you perform without a good weapon?”

“Is this... appropriate?” Yin Chengshan was a little tempted. Although he was rich, it wasn’t easy to buy a ranked weapon. In his previous mission, his saber had been damaged. Although the Imperial Court had compensated him, he still had to depend on his luck to obtain a suitable ranked weapon.

He had gone to find Zhou Shu previously with the intention of trying his luck.

He hadn’t expected Zhou Shu to value him so much. Although Zhou Shu hadn’t forged a weapon for him, he had specifically come to lend him a ranked weapon. “Of course.” Zhou Shu smiled. “I don’t usually have the chance to fight with others. This weapon is useless to me. Why don’t I lend it to you first? If you can kill one or two greater demons, I would have done my bit to help.

“General Yin, take a look.” Zhou Shu reached out and took a heavy sword from his back. “General Yin, although you specialize in using sabers, this is a heavy sword. It’s not impossible to use it as a saber.”

Yin Chengshan’s gaze fell upon the broad heavy sword in Zhou Shu’s hand. Although he was skilled in using sabers, he had also practiced sword techniques in the Demon Executing Army. Moreover, this

heavy sword seemed like it was suitable for cavalry combat. Why does this sword look so familiar? Yin Chengshan muttered in his head.

“General Yin, you can try this sword. While I’m still here, I can explain the characteristics of this sword to you.” Zhou Shu extended his arm forward.

Yin Chengshan reached out and took the sword. His arm suddenly sank, and the sword almost fell to the floor.

He quickly circulated his spiritual essence, and his face turned red.

“What a heavy sword!”

A look of surprise flashed across his face as he raised the heavy sword.

He couldn’t even tell that the sword was so heavy when Zhou Shu was carrying it on his back. Although the marquis’s spiritual essence cultivation isn’t high, his innate divine strength is enviable.

Yin Chengshan was a sixth-rank martial artist after all. Furthermore, the saber he used previously wasn’t light either.

Even though he had miscalculated when he took the Great Destroyer Sword from Zhou Shu, he was still able to use it.

He waved it twice and injected a strand of spiritual essence into it.

The body of the sword lit up, and he could see the flow of spiritual essence within it. It looked as though spiritual essence was circulating within the body of a person.

After a few cycles, sword qi shot out with a swoosh.

Swish!

A bottomless pit appeared on the floor.

Yin Chengshan was shocked. This sword seemed to be very powerful.

“Marquis, is this a yellow-grade weapon?” Yin Chengshan asked.

“Of course.” Zhou Shu smiled. “General Yin, if you want to use an earth-grade weapon, I’m afraid it will take some time.”

Yin Chengshan smiled awkwardly. He was a little delusional. With his cultivation level, it was already not bad to have a yellow-grade weapon. Not to mention an earth-grade weapon, he didn’t even dare to think about a black-grade weapon.

“Good sword!” Yin Chengshan brandished it again for a while, then looked at Zhou Shu and said, “Marquis, this is such a good sword. I’m afraid I will damage it...”

“Damage?” Zhou Shu shook his head and smiled. “General Yin, do you recognize this sword?”

“No.” Yin Chengshan shook his head.

Zhou Shu clasped his hands behind his back and calmly said, "This sword is named Great Destroyer." "Great Destroyer?" Yin Chengshan was stunned for a moment before his expression changed. "The Great Destroyer Sword? The number one sword in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual? The Great Destroyer Sword that severed Great Wei's imperial preceptor's right arm?"

"I don't think there's a second Great Destroyer Sword in this world." Zhou Shu laughed.

Yin Chengshan's face was full of shock, and his arms were trembling slightly.

It was not because the Great Destroyer Sword was too heavy, but because he was too excited.

This was the Great Destroyer Sword!

It even cut off the arm of a first-rank martial artist!

Could he, Yin Chengshan, damage it?

"I didn't expect that I would one day be able to use the weapon ranked first in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual."

Yin Chengshan had a thought. He was puzzled. Why was the Great Destroyer Sword in the hands of the You Marquis?

"Don't ask me how this sword came about. I can only tell you that there is no problem with its origins. His Majesty also knows about it," Zhou Shu said. He didn't want too many people to know about his senior brother and junior brother's lies.

"Its current owner is me. General Yin, feel free to use it." Zhou Shu smiled. "However, when you have your own ranked weapon, you will have to return this Great Destroyer to me."

"Of course," Yin Chengshan hurriedly said. He couldn't bear to reject it now. It was already a blessing of three lifetimes to be able to use the Great Destroyer Sword for a period of time!

"Marquis, how can I repay such great kindness?"

"General Yin, you fight for Great Xia. How can Great Xia disappoint you? It's just a sword. Even if I keep it, I won't be able to use it.

"General Yin, if you really want to thank me, I have a request," Zhou Shu said casually.

-Usually.

Yin Chengshan's expression was serious as he said in a low voice, "Please speak, Marquis. As long as I can do it, I will not decline." "It's not that serious." Zhou Shu smiled and shook his head. "I've heard that the Demon Executing Army will demonstrate slaying demons in front of everyone during the military parade. "To be honest, General Yin, I have never seen a demon before.

"The next time you go to slay demons, I wonder if you can bring me along to broaden my horizons?"

When Zhou Shu heard Yin Wuyou talking about the actual combat segment of the military parade, he suddenly thought of lending the Great Destroyer Sword to Yin Chengshan.

With the Great Destroyer Sword in his hands, he had not had the chance to complete any kills with it recently. Without completing kills, the Legendary Armament Canon wouldn't give him any benefits, and his strength would stagnate.

He couldn't accept this.

It was true that Zhou Shu had no spare time to help Yin Chengshan forge a weapon, but he could lend him the Great Destroyer Sword first.

Wasn't Yin Chengshan going to slay demons during the military parade?

Use the Great Destroyer Sword to do it then!

If not for the fact that he didn't have enough time, he would've even thought of forging more ranked weapons and sending them to the Demon Executing Army.

It was a pity that forging a ranked weapon required a lot of time and effort. Even Zhou Shu couldn't forge one just because he wanted to.

The Legendary Armament Canon wanted him to rely on himself. He had to spend a lot of time and effort to forge every ranked weapon.

"I see." Yin Chengshan laughed. He didn't expect Zhou Shu to say he wanted to see demons. If he wanted to see demons, wouldn't that be easy?

The Demon Executing Army didn't have anything else but demons. "Marquis, that's easy," Yin Chengshan said. "We have been practicing our demon executing in preparation for the military parade. If you have time, you can come with me. "When we're practicing now, we'll also bring some demons who have been sentenced to death for practice. When you arrived earlier, I was about to go train.

"Now that I have your Great Destroyer Sword, I want to familiarize myself with it.

"There's no time like the present. Do you have time today, Marquis?"

"Yes, of course. Let's go now!" Zhou Shu said excitedly.

Chapter 156 The Great Destroyer Sword Slaying Demons

"General Yin, how exactly do the demonic beasts that your Demon Executing Army deals with look like? Can they transform into humans?" Zhou Shu asked curiously along the way.

He had heard of the Demon Executing and Fiend Eradication armies many times, but he knew nothing about them.

...

He knew that demons, fiends, and other strange entities existed in this world, but he wasn't sure if it was the same as what he understood.

He had been in this world for so long, but he had never seen a single demon, fiend, or strange entity.

Previously, when he heard that Meng Bai's army went to the southern border to deal with the southern barbarians, he thought that the so-called barbarians were another race that was different from humans.

It was only later that he learned that the southern barbarians were actually humans as well. However, they lived in the mountains and were uncivilized, so they were called barbarians.

He wondered if these demons were just called demons.

“Transform into human form?” Yin Chengshan shook his head. “Legend has it that once a great demon’s cultivation reaches a certain level, it can transform into human form, but I’ve never seen it before. In the history of the Demon Executing Army, no one has seen it before.

“Actually, there’s nothing special about the demon race. They are just slightly stronger than ordinary wild beasts and know how to absorb the spiritual qi of heaven and earth to cultivate.

“Most demons don’t have much intelligence. They are far inferior to us humans.”

Yin Chengshan had a proud look on his face. Their Demon Executing Army was responsible for dealing with the demon race. He had never taken the demon race seriously. ... Even though there were many powerful demons that were indeed much stronger than him.

Hearing Yin Chengshan’s introduction, Zhou Shu finally had a rough understanding of demons.

In truth, it wasn’t too different from his understanding of demonic beasts. The so-called demonic beasts were beasts that took in the spiritual qi of heaven and earth and possessed a certain level of strength.

Of course, there were indeed some spiritual beasts in this world that were similar to the strange beasts that Zhou Shu had heard about in his previous life.

But according to Yin Chengshan’s understanding, demonic beasts that could speak human language and transform into humans didn’t seem to exist.

Even a demonic beast with first-rank Martial Dao cultivation wouldn’t be able to take human form.

“There aren’t many demonic beasts here in Great Xia. I heard that there are more demonic beasts in Great Qin in the west, and they are also much stronger,” Yin Chengshan continued. “Therefore, Great Qin’s Demon Executing Army is the strongest in the world.”

Great Qin was one of the ten countries on the land, and it was also the most powerful country.

In the past, Great Xia could still be compared to the Great Qin. But now that Great Xia had declined, it was already one of the weakest among the ten countries. As for Great Qin, it was still the strongest of the ten countries.

Zhou Shu was deep in thought. Great Qin is very competitive. It seems there are more chances for battles there than in Great Xia. Maybe I should make a trip there to distribute some weapons.

Zhou Shu loved giving his weapons to those battle maniacs, even if it was for free.

With the weapons in their hands, they would become his workers. At that time, he would just relax and receive benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon. When I have the chance, I will make a trip to Great Qin.

“Marquis, we’ve arrived. The Demon Executing Army’s headquarters is up ahead.” Yin Chengshan smiled.

The headquarters of the Demon Executing Army was located outside Chang'an. It was ten times larger than Zhou Shu's Huaxia Pavilion.

Naturally, Zhou Shu couldn't possibly tour the entire Demon Executing Army's headquarters.

In reality, even if he wanted to, they wouldn't agree.

The Demon Executing Army's headquarters contained many secret locations. Even though Zhou Shu was a marquis, he was not allowed to enter without permission.

But Zhou Shu wasn't here to visit the Demon Executing Army's headquarters. He followed Yin Chengshan to the place where his team usually trained.

The Demon Executing Army's establishment was completely different from that of the Country Protector Army. They were organized into small teams. A small team would have at least a few people and at most dozens of people. Usually, when they went on missions, they would usually go in teams.

Taking Yin Chengshan as an example, the team he was in had a total of 13 people.

In the team, Yin Chengshan, the team leader, was a sixth-rank martial artist. The other team members' cultivation levels ranged from the sixth rank to the ninth rank.

With their strength, it wasn't too much of a problem for them to deal with the lower three ranks of demonic beasts.

Under normal circumstances, they were only responsible for the lower three ranks of demonic beasts.

The so-called lower three ranks of demonic beasts were actually seventh-rank, eighth-rank, and ninth-rank demonic beasts.

"Captain!"

Yin Chengshan led Zhou Shu into a place that resembled a small colosseum.

This place was over a hundred feet in radius and surrounded by tall stone walls. It looked exceptionally sturdy.

Zhou Shu looked around curiously and heard Yin Chengshan introduce Zhou Shu to his team members.

"This is the You Marquis, the strongest Forging Master of our Great Xia," Yin Chengshan said.

"Greetings, Marquis!" Everyone bowed excitedly. Our captain has such good people skills? He even invited this person?

Is he going to customize weapons for us?

It was no wonder these people were so excited. Although they were all ranked martial artists and elites of the Demon Executing Army, Zhou Shu was much more famous than them.

Relying on the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber, he had jumped from a mere Forging Apprentice to the You Marquis. He was practically the idol of all strivers.

Especially after the news of him being promoted to a Forging Master spread, countless ranked martial artists wanted to curry favor with him.

Establishing a good relationship with a promising Forging Master was like an additional life for a ranked martial artist.

This was especially true for people in the Demon Executing Army, who were constantly on the brink of death. A good weapon was their life!

Zhou Shu's forging skills had already been proven. Which Demon Executing soldier wouldn't want Zhou Shu to forge a weapon for them?

A Demon Executing soldier saw the sword hilt exposed behind Yin Chengshan and said enviously, "Captain, you have a new weapon? Did the marquis personally forge it?"

Yin Chengshan revealed a mysterious smile and didn't reply. "The marquis came this time to see our strength.

"Go get ready. We will begin today's training!"

Then he turned to Zhou Shu. "Marquis, please move to the viewing platform."

In a corner of the training ground, there was a tall spectator stand. This was probably where the Demon Executing Army's upper echelons usually stayed when they came for inspection.

Zhou Shu nodded. He came to see how the Demon Executing Army killed demonic beasts. Of course, the most important thing was to give the Great Destroyer Sword more opportunities to complete kills. As for making a move himself, Zhou Shu was not interested.

He regretted not bringing some melon seeds with him...

Yin Chengshan and the rest had already started to prepare for battle.

They were all wearing the special armor of the Demon Executing Army, and all of them were full of fighting spirit.

Zhou Shu observed carefully. Yin Chengshan's team had thirteen people, and there were only seven of them using ranked weapons. The remaining six were actually using standard weapons! He frowned slightly. It seemed that the value of ranked weapons was higher than what he had previously understood. Great Xia's power in forging weapons was already very limited. If not everyone in the Demon Executing Army could be guaranteed a ranked weapon, what about the other countries that were inferior to Great Xia?

Ranked martial artists possess extraordinary statuses. Compared to ordinary people, they are already extraordinary individuals. Yet they are still unable to obtain a single ranked weapon. It appears that ranked weapons are even more precious than I imagined, Zhou Shu thought.

He saw that two of the six poor fellows who didn't have any ranked weapons were using the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber! One of them was using the Horse Slaying Saber, while the other three were using the Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Sabers!

Good heavens, they were all actually using the standard weapons Zhou Shu developed!

No wonder they were so excited when they saw Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu carefully observed them. The Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Sabers, Horse Slaying Sabers, and Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Sabers that they were using were not personally forged by Zhou Shu.

Thus, even if they succeeded in completing enemies, Zhou Shu wouldn't benefit from it.

When Zhou Shu thought of this, he was no longer interested in observing them. Instead, he focused his gaze on Yin Chengshan.

This person was his designated worker. "Release!"

Yin Chengshan arched his body slightly. His eyes were like lightning as he stared in a certain direction. He already had the Great Destroyer Sword in his hand.

In a corner of the training ground, there was an ear-piercing creaking sound. A metal door rose, and a roar resounded.

Boom!

Zhou Shu felt the ground shake. Then he saw a tall and sturdy black figure rush out from the iron gate and pounce toward Yin Chengshan and the others.

The black shadow was like a small mountain, but it was extremely fast. Almost as soon as it left the iron gate, it appeared in front of Yin Chengshan.

Yin Chengshan roared and struck out with the Great Destroyer Sword like lightning.

The door-like blade collided with a sharp claw, and sparks flew.

Yin Chengshan squatted down and dug his feet into the ground, creating a deep ditch. He held on!

He raised the Great Destroyer Sword and blocked the demon's attack!

This scene made Yin Chengshan's teammates slightly stunned.

But their reactions were very fast. They quickly adjusted their formation and launched attacks at the mountain-like shadow.

Only now did Zhou Shu clearly see what that mountain-like black shadow was.

It was a black bear that was almost as tall as three people. Its fur was black and shiny, and its paws were the size of an adult's head. As it waved its paws, the sound of wind could be heard.

Zhou Shu saw with his own eyes that a martial artist of the eighth or ninth rank was sent flying far away by its palm.

Even Yin Chengshan, without the Great Destroyer Sword, wouldn't be able to block a single attack from it.

This bear is indeed stronger than those Asian black bears in my previous life.

But those Asian black bears in his previous life wouldn't be able to grow this big.

Furthermore, Zhou Shu could clearly see that the black bear's palm was emitting an almost undetectable light, causing the power of its every strike to multiply.

In the face of such a strong opponent, Yin Chengshan and the others' tactic was to exhaust its stamina before attacking.

But this time, Yin Chengshan, who had the Great Destroyer Sword in his hand, was much more confident. He actually chose to attack head-on!

This black bear's strength was only equivalent to a sixty-rank martial artist. It was a seventh-rank demonic beast with tough skin and thick flesh. It could indeed fight against a sixth-rank martial artist.

But so what?

The Great Destroyer Sword in his hand had even slain a first-rank martial artist!

Yin Chengshan roared and slashed upward with the Great Destroyer Sword.

Zhou Shu rolled his eyes when he saw this. Even though the Great Destroyer Sword is a heavy sword, it isn't meant to be used like its a door. Don't you have any techniques?

Boom!

The black bear slammed its palm on the Great Destroyer Sword and sent Yin Chengshan flying.

Yin Chengshan somersaulted in the air and charged forward again without giving up.

His bold fighting style made his teammates' hearts race.

Everyone howled and charged toward the beast.

Zhou Shu shook his head.

He could guess that these people were trying to show off in front of him.

But this strategy was too reckless.

He had forgotten that if he was the one fighting the demonic beast, he would be even more reckless than them.

Although the black bear had thick skin and immense strength, it was still a seventh-rank demonic beast.

Under the attacks of Yin Chengshan, a sixth-rank martial artist, and his twelve subordinates, it only lasted for five minutes before it was defeated.

"Die!" Yin Chengshan let out a loud shout and flew thirty feet in the air. He held the Great Destroyer Sword and slashed down.

The black bear's massive head flew high into the air as a pillar of blood shot into the sky.

Yin Chengshan landed on the ground and raised the Great Destroyer Sword high. He was in high spirits and had a look on his face that said, "I won".

Whoosh,

The rest of the team members gasped and looked at Yin Chengshan in amazement.

“Captain, your sword is too powerful! This must be a black-grade weapon, right?” one of the team members said enviously.

Yin Chengshan shook his head. “It’s not black grade.”

Then he said proudly, “But it’s not bad compared to ordinary black-grade weapons. “Do you know the name of this sword?”

Yin Chengshan was immensely proud of himself. This Great Destroyer Sword was truly a sharp weapon for slaying demons. He felt that even if his sword technique was inferior to his saber technique, his strength would still be three times stronger when he held this Great Destroyer Sword!

“What’s it called?” The team members were very cooperative.

“This sword is named Great Destroyer!” Yin Chengshan recalled the scene when Zhou Shu told him the name of the sword. He subconsciously imitated Zhou Shu’s tone.

He smacked his lips with some regret in his heart. Why couldn’t I learn the marquis’s calm and composed style?

“Great Destroyer Sword? The number one weapon in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual, the Great Destroyer Sword that severed Great Wei’s imperial preceptor’s arm?”

Everyone was shocked.

“That’s right!” Yin Chengshan couldn’t help feeling proud.

“Captain, you obtained the Great Destroyer Sword?”

All the team members were envious. Ordinary yellow-grade weapons were enough to make them envious, but this was the Great Destroyer Sword.

The number one sword in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual!

If they could obtain it, they would be willing to live ten years less!

“No,” Yin Chengshan said. “The marquis lent this Great Destroyer Sword to me.

“With this sword, we must shine brightly in the military parade this time. At that time, all of us will be able to own a ranked weapon!

“Brothers, this is the marquis’s gift to us. Let’s thank him!”

“Thank you, Marquis!”

Yin Chengshan took the lead and bowed toward Zhou Shu on the spectator stand. The rest of the people also bowed toward the spectator stand.

“Thank you, Marquis!”

Zhou Shu stood up and nodded slightly. He had a carefree expression on his face. It was a demeanor that Yin Chengshan was extremely envious of but could not learn.

Yin Chengshan didn't know that Zhou Shu's expression was calm, but his heart was already blooming with joy. In front of him, the Legendary Armament Canon had already begun to flip its pages.

Chapter 157 Flaming Sunset Saber

Boom!

Zhou Shu stood in the stands, his clothes fluttering in the wind. He looked like an immortal.

...

Yin Chengshan and the others looked at each other with astonishment on their faces.

The marquis...

... had a breakthrough in cultivation?

"Captain, your cultivation is high. Can you tell what the marquis's cultivation is now?" a Demon Executing soldier asked softly.

"Previously, the marquis should have been an eighth-rank martial artist..." Yin Chengshan said.

Zhou Shu had never concealed his spiritual essence cultivation. Yin Chengshan was a sixth-rank martial artist, so he could naturally tell that Zhou Shu's spiritual essence cultivation had only been the eighth rank.

"If I remember correctly, the marquis has only been in contact with the Martial Dao for a few months..." a Demon Executing soldier who was more concerned about Zhou Shu's information said weakly.

Zhou Shu's spiritual essence cultivation had never been a secret. Anyone who had a slight interest in him would know.

Zhou Shu had never thought of hiding this.

After all, he cultivated the Emperor Xuan Jade Book, which he had received openly. He wasn't afraid of letting others know.

"In a month, from entering the ranks to the seventh rank, is he a genius?"

Yin Chengshan and the others felt like covering their faces and crying. Comparisons were indeed odious.

Not only was this marquis's forging ability unparalleled in the world, but his Martial Dao cultivation was also so heaven-defying. Seeing how he was able to gain an epiphany while they were killing demonic beasts, how could others compare to him?

"This is what it's like to be a genius!" Yin Chengshan said, intentionally imitating Zhou Shu's temperament.

“Everyone, don’t be discouraged. There are many geniuses in this world. Some people can become third-rank grandmasters in their teens. We might not be able to reach that level in our entire lives, but it doesn’t mean we don’t need to cultivate.

“No, the more this is the case, the more we have to work hard! The marquis lent us the Great Destroyer Sword, so this is our chance! As long as we shine during the military parade, the rewards from the Imperial Court will allow us to have ranked weapons. At that time, we can slay more demons, and our future will become brighter!”

With the Great Destroyer Sword in his hand, Yin Chengshan seemed to grasp the entire world!

Zhou Shu seemed to be lost in thought.

In front of him, the Legendary Armament Canon had already flipped to the page of the Great Destroyer Sword. The message was also floating in front of him.

[The Great Destroyer Sword you forged effectively completed a kill. Your spiritual essence cultivation has increased by 100%!]

This was the real reason why he had broken through in public!

He knew his own matters.

Zhou Shu knew very well that he might have some talent in forging, but his talent in the Martial Dao was truly inferior to that of ordinary people.

Even for a cultivation technique like the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique that anyone could cultivate, he had to achieve the maximum number of years of cultivation to level it up.

The King of the Golden Wheel could reach the tenth level after cultivating for a few decades, but he needed a thousand years of cultivation.

What did this mean?

This meant that one year of his cultivation was equivalent to others’ one month or even a few days of cultivation.

Such Martial Dao talent could only be said to be so bad that it made one’s hair stand on end.

If he relied on himself to cultivate, he might not even be able to cultivate to the seventh rank of the Martial Dao in this lifetime.

Previously, he had broken through from the ninth rank to the eighth rank because of the Golden Bell Shield Technique’s breakthrough. It had also affected his absorption of spiritual essence. But this time, the Legendary Armament Canon actually directly increased his spiritual essence cultivation!

The initial benefit from the Great Destroyer Sword was the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique. But when he used the Great Destroyer Sword to kill Xiao Shunzhi, the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had reached the perfection stage.

At the time, Zhou Shu had thought that the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had already been completed. If the Great Destroyer Sword successfully completed kills in the future, wouldn't that mean that the Legendary Armament Canon wouldn't have any more rewards to give?

He didn't expect the Legendary Armament Canon to reward spiritual essence cultivation!

After completing the initial reward for each weapon, the subsequent rewards are all spiritual essence cultivation?

This isn't bad.

As Zhou Shu thought about this, he gradually restrained his aura, and the corner of his floating clothes slowly fell.

Zhou Shu's gaze shifted to Yin Chengshan and the others below the stage. With a light step, he leaped down from the spectator's stand, his posture incomparably confident.

"All the generals are mighty!" Zhou Shu applauded and praised. Yin Chengshan and the others were slightly embarrassed. If Zhou Shu hadn't broken through, they would have been very proud.

They had performed extremely well just now, killing a black bear demonic beast with a cultivation level of the seventh rank without any injuries.

It had to be known that this kind of demonic beast with coarse skin and thick flesh was exceptionally difficult to kill. In the past, at least a few of them would have suffered minor injuries.

To be able to kill this black bear demonic beast unscathed, it was definitely an achievement for their entire team.

But after seeing Zhou Shu's cultivation breakthrough, they could no longer be proud. He had only watched from the sidelines and directly advanced one rank. What was there to be proud of?

"Marquis, this Great Destroyer Sword is too powerful. I don't know how to thank you," Yin Chengshan said seriously.

"If you want to thank me, use the Great Destroyer Sword to kill a few more beasts," Zhou Shu said with a smile.

The marquis is great! Yin Chengshan thought Zhou Shu meant that he was repaying him for protecting Great Xia. The marquis is a nationalist truly worried about the country! How lucky am I, Yin Chengshan, to be able to borrow the marquis's sword!

"General Yin, I want to see the glory of the Demon Executing Army again. Is it convenient?" Zhou Shu laughed.

"Of course! I'll show you around, Marquis. You can go anywhere except a few places."

Within the imperial study of the imperial palace of Great Xia...

Emperor Yuan Feng was startled. "You're saying that brat Zhou Shu broke through to the eighth rank of the Martial Dao after watching the Demon Executing Army slay a demon?"

"It's the seventh rank, Your Majesty," Eunuch Zhao corrected.

Emperor Yuan Feng felt his teeth ache slightly. "Has it even been a month since he entered the ranks?"

"Actually, it has been more than a month. It has been almost forty days," Eunuch Zhao whispered.

Emperor Yuan Feng's teeth ache. Forty days, is it any different from a month?

In such a short period of time, his cultivation rose three ranks consecutively. Is this boy a monster?

"Actually, his speed of improvement is not considered fast. Young Marquis Weiyuan entered the ranks about the same age as him, and he's already a sixth-rank martial artist," Eunuch Zhao said.

Emperor Yuan Feng rolled his eyes. How can it be the same?

How many heavenly treasures has that kid Sun Gongping consumed since he was young?

He broke through quickly because of his solid foundation.

What about Zhou Shu?

He grew up in the Forging Division's workshops, so how could there be any heavenly treasures for him to consume?

He is purely relying on his talent!

Luckily, he's one of us. If he was an enemy, he would definitely become a big problem.

"Your Majesty, according to the rules, the Imperial Court has to reward him for increasing his Martial Dao cultivation. How should we reward Marquis Zhou?" Eunuch Zhao whispered.

When the martial artists of the Imperial Court increased their cultivation levels, the Imperial Court would usually give them a reward. This was similar to Zhou Shu's previous life. The company would give employees a reward for obtaining certifications.

It might not be much money, but the emphasis was on encouragement. Originally, the emperor didn't have to worry about such a small matter.

However, Zhou Shu was not an ordinary person. He was the You Marquis.

This was a little problematic. If he gave rewards according to the usual rules, would he be looking down on him?

A second-rank marquis, if the reward was too little, would it seem petty? Therefore, the minister in charge of this matter came to Eunuch Zhao to ask for his help in finding out the emperor's views.

After all, the You Marquis was the emperor's favorite.

"No! I'm not giving him anything!?" Emperor Yuan Feng snorted coldly. "Haven't I given him enough?"

My precious daughter is already almost his!

Eunuch Zhao didn't know why Emperor Yuan Feng flew into a rage, but he didn't dare to speak.

"Yes, Your Majesty. I will relay your orders," Eunuch Zhao whispered.

“Wait!” Emperor Yuan Feng called out to Eunuch Zhao just as he was about to leave. “That Zhou brat, why should I treat him specially?”

Emperor Yuan Feng’s expression was a little conflicted as he said, “Didn’t he break through in his Martial Dao cultivation? Go and give him the forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber as a reward!”

“The secret forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber?” Eunuch Zhao bitterly smiled in his heart. Your Majesty, the usual reward for an eighth-rank martial artist advancing to the seventh rank is one hundred taels of gold. A yellow-grade weapon forging formula is worth much more than one hundred taels of gold.

Isn’t this considered special treatment?

Your Majesty, even though you said you wouldn’t reward him, your body is still very honest.

Eunuch Zhao complained in his heart. But on the surface, he acknowledged respectfully and personally went to make arrangements.

Originally, he didn’t need to personally handle such a small matter, but it was obvious that the emperor viewed Marquis Zhou in a different light. He should take advantage of this moment to build a good relationship with him...

non

...

Zhou Shu returned to the marquis’s mansion from the Demon Executing Army’s headquarters still unsatisfied. He felt extremely emotional.

Although the demonic beasts in this world were not as terrifying as the legends in his previous life, they were not to be underestimated.

Yin Chengshan and the others were dealing with demonic beasts of the lower three ranks. Other than having greater strength and knowing some superficial spells, they didn’t have anything else.

But when it came to the middle three ranks, the demonic beasts’ intelligence level was already very high, making them much harder to deal with.

As for demonic beasts of the upper three ranks, other than not being able to take human form and not being able to speak human language, they were already similar to humans.

Their intelligence was not inferior to humans. They could even learn the art of war.

According to what Yin Chengshan and the others had said, the demonic beasts had even established a country near Great Qin, and they would launch beast tides to attack Great Qin from time to time, causing disturbances there.

But due to the geographical environment of Great Xia, there were very few demonic beasts of the upper three ranks. Even demonic beasts of the middle three ranks were rare.

This was also one of the reasons Great Xia’s power was declining day by day. They were born in trouble and died in peace.

Peace might not be a good thing for a country.

Although there aren't many demonic beasts of the upper three ranks, killing demonic beasts of the lower three ranks is the same, Zhou Shu thought.

My weapons in the hands of the Demon Executing Army are much better than in the hands of the Divine Constable Bureau. The Divine Constable Bureau may not even kill a single person for months, but the Demon Executing Army slays demons almost every day.

Yin Chengshan said that their team has a mission once every ten to fifteen days, and they kill three to five demonic beasts each mission. They are good workers.

As long as he gave them the weapons he forged, they would help him get benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon for free. He couldn't let go of such good workers! But I don't have many forging formulas right now. It seems like I have to work harder and forge more ranked weapons. After forging ranked weapons, the Legendary Armament Canon underwent a huge change. One of the changes was that the number of ranked weapons was no longer displayed.

In other words, only the first ranked weapon would generate benefits. No matter how many of the same weapons Zhou Shu forged, only the first weapon was valuable to him.

Under these circumstances, Zhou Shu didn't have any intention of forging more of the same ranked weapon. Forging one unique ranked weapon was enough!

He now possessed the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, the Great Destroyer Sword, and the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi.

The first two already had owners. Three Swords of Yin Tianzi could only be used after the military parade. I should take this time to develop and forge a saber for Yin Chengshan.

Zhou Shu pondered. He could only lend the Great Destroyer Sword to Yin Chengshan temporarily. If he really gave it to Yin Chengshan, he wouldn't be able to explain it to Emperor Yuan Feng.

The blueprints of the Huaxia Pavilion weren't completed yet, and he had nothing else to do. He could totally develop another weapon. But there were only a few days left before the military parade. He was not confident in developing a weapon in just a few days.

Just as he was thinking, the steward came to report. "Marquis, Eunuch Zhao is here."

"Eunuch Zhao, welcome." Zhou Shu smiled and went forward to welcome him. The scene of him standing guard outside his door that night flashed through his mind, and he smiled even more happily.

"Did you run into something good, Marquis?" Eunuch Zhao asked curiously when he saw Zhou Shu smiling so happily.

"Eunuch Zhao, your presence brings light to my humble dwelling," Zhou Shu said with a smile.

Eunuch Zhao was indeed a good person. Every time he came, he would bring him many benefits.

But speaking of which, he didn't seem to have done any meritorious deeds recently.

"Eunuch Zhao, what brings you here?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

"I'm here to congratulate you, Marquis." Eunuch Zhao smiled. "Your cultivation has risen from the eighth rank to the seventh rank of the Martial Dao. Congratulations!"

"Oh, you know about it too?" He was not surprised. After all, he had made a breakthrough in public in the Demon Executing Army's headquarters. It would be strange if Eunuch Zhao didn't know about it.

Eunuch Zhao didn't answer this question. Instead, he smiled and said, "Marquis, according to our Great Xia's rules, when martial artists break through, the Imperial Court will reward them. Originally, the rewards would only be given if they registered it. But your status is different, so I directly sent the rewards to you." "Is that so?" Zhou Shu laughed sincerely. As expected, aside from Eunuch Zhao's ugly appearance, he was no different from the Child of Wealth. Every time he came, he would give him benefits. He was a good person. "What rewards are there? It's not a big deal to advance from the eighth rank to the seventh rank. The Imperial Court is too generous." He rubbed his hands together. He liked things that were beneficial.

"His Majesty was especially generous to you and specially chose a secret forging formula from the imperial library," Eunuch Zhao said.

"Although it's only a forging formula for a yellow-grade weapon, this weapon is very powerful. It used to be in the top ten of the Yellow-grade Armament Manual, but in recent years, no one has been able to forge it. That's why its reputation isn't very prominent. I hope that when it's in your hands, Marquis, it can once again emit its brilliance."

Chapter 158 The Eight-Sided Han Sword's First Kill

Secret forging formula? Zhou Shu fell into deep thoughts as he listened to Eunuch Zhao's explanation.

Of course, secret forging formulas were necessary for forging ranked weapons. But even with the forging formula, one might not necessarily be able to forge the ranked weapon

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This was like studying mathematics. Even with the formulas given, one might not be able to solve the problem.

Otherwise, why would the imperial family be unable to forge weapons for so many years after obtaining the secret forging formulas?

Zhou Shu had never used a forging formula of this world to forge a weapon before. He had always developed the formulas himself. But since he had the secret forging formula, it would save him a lot of trouble.

Zhou Shu reached out and took the secret forging formula from Eunuch Zhao.

The minute his hand touched the secret forging formula, he was stunned.

A ray of light flashed before his eyes, and the Legendary Armament Canon automatically appeared. The pages of the book rustled.

(Yellow-grade: Flaming Sunset Saber)!

An extremely domineering saber appeared on the page, and a message entered Zhou Shu's mind.

It was the forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber!

This works too?

Zhou Shu was stunned. He hadn't expected that the Legendary Armament Canon would be able to store the secret forging formulas of this world!

The main reason was that he had never come into contact with this world's secret forging formulas before. Even the Liang family's weapon forging techniques that Liang Hongxiu had given him only introduced the forging techniques and didn't contain the secret forging formulas.

Yin Wuyou did say that she would help him find some secret forging formulas, but she hadn't sent them to him yet.

Previously when he forged the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword and the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi, he had figured them out by himself.

Both times, the weapons were only recorded in the Legendary Armament Canon after it was forged, and the the forging process was optimized.

Right now, he had only come into contact with the forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber, and it was actually directly recorded into the Legendary Armament Canon!

Furthermore, he had directly mastered the most perfect forging process.

It seems like I still haven't figured out how to use the Legendary Armament Canon, Zhou Shu thought.

"Marquis?" Eunuch Zhao whispered when he saw Zhou Shu in a daze.

"Oh, I'm fine." Zhou Shu returned to his senses and casually tossed the weapon forging formula onto the table beside him, as if he didn't care at all.

Eunuch Zhao's eyelids twitched. This was a secret forging formula for a yellow-grade weapon. The Flaming Sunset Saber was considered an extraordinary existence among yellow-grade weapons, yet it was thrown aside just like that?

Do you not know the value of this formula?

Although it's extremely difficult to forge, if it were thrown out, countless Forging Masters would fight to the death for it!

"Marquis, this secret forging formula is a secret of our Great Xia. It's best not to let outsiders know about it," Eunuch Zhao hinted.

"Alright, I understand." Zhou Shu nodded.

Eunuch Zhao stood up and said his goodbyes. As he left the marquis's residence, he turned his head to glance at Zhou Shu. He just so happened to see Zhou Shu light the ancient secret forging formula with a candle. He almost couldn't help but turn around and stop him. But after thinking about it, he felt that

since the secret forging formula had already been given to Zhou Shu, it was his. How he dealt with it was his own freedom...

Eunuch Zhao shook his head and sighed as he returned to the palace.

"You gave him the forging formula?" Emperor Yuan Feng asked as he saw Eunuch Zhao return.

"Yes," Eunuch Zhao said. After thinking for a moment, he decided to speak the truth. After all, if he hid this news from Emperor Yuan Feng, and he found out in the future, he would inevitably be accused of deceiving the emperor. "What? You said that he burned the secret forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber?" Emperor Yuan Feng stood up in shock.

Although there were heaven, earth, black, and yellow grade weapons, there were very few heaven-grade weapons. Forging Masters who could forge earth-grade weapons were already extremely rare. Black and yellow-grade weapons were the mainstream weapons among Forging Masters.

Although the Flaming Sunset Saber was only a yellow-grade weapon, it was very powerful. Back then, it had once ranked in the top ten in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. Later on, no one was able to forge it, and the original Flaming Sunset Saber was destroyed, so its reputation gradually faded.

The value of such a saber's forging formula was absolutely immeasurable!

This kid burned it just like that?

Does he look down on it?

Bastard, could I have given him too many rewards before and increased his appetite too much?

He's not even interested in a yellow-grade weapon's forging formula? Is he only interested in my daughter?

"Bastard! Do you really think you can get past me just by forging the Three Swords of Yin Tianzi?" Emperor Yuan Feng was furious. "Don't even think about it! Great companion, go and ask that brat if he's completed the mission of the Forging Division."

The Huaxia Pavilion, as well as the first 36 workshops of the Forging Division, might not be known as workshops, but they were still under the Forging Division.

Forging Masters did indeed have a lot of autonomy, but they had responsibilities toward the Forging Division. They still had to complete the Forging Division's forging missions.

Of course, although they were responsible for the forging of some standard weapons, they didn't feel any pressure at all. They could just casually assign them to the Forging Apprentices.

There were also Forging Apprentices in the first 36 workshops. They were all disciples of Forging Masters. Before advancing to become Forging Masters, they also needed to practice. Emperor Yuan Feng didn't really care about these missions. He was just angered by Zhou Shu's actions of burning the secret forging formula.

"Tell that brat that within three months, no, six months, I want to see a Flaming Sunset Saber!" Emperor Yuan Feng gritted his teeth.

Emperor Yuan Feng didn't really care if Zhou Shu could forge a yellow-grade weapon. But that brat actually dared to burn the secret forging formula he had bestowed upon him. He simply had no respect for him!

"Tell him that if I don't see the Flaming Sunset Saber, he can forget about getting his yearly salary!"

Eunuch Zhao wanted to roll his eyes. Why does it feel like an old man and a young child are fighting?

Are you serious, Your Majesty?

Is this considered punishment?

Do you think that Forging Masters really rely on their salary?

Eunuch Zhao grumbled, but he still followed Emperor Yuan Feng's instructions and returned very quickly.

Eunuch Zhao bowed and said, "Your Majesty, I haven't seen Marquis Zhou. The steward at his residence said that he's in seclusion forging again.

"Marquis Zhou is truly the most diligent Forging Master I have ever seen--"

"He went into seclusion to forge weapons?" Emperor Yuan Feng frowned. He coldly said, "He knows he made a mistake, so he deliberately hid?

"Great companion, keep an eye on him. When he comes out, tell him what I told you before! I'll see how long he can hide from me! I want to see how he will forge the Flaming Sunset Saber after he burns the forging formula!"

In the forging room of the You Marquis's mansion...

Zhou Shu was excitedly forging the Flaming Sunset Saber.

Hide?

What a joke!

Why would he hide?

Burn the formula?

Weren't you afraid that the secret forging formula would be stolen by outsiders?

The safest way was to burn it.

In any case, the Flaming Sunset Saber had already been recorded in the Legendary Armament Canon, and he already had the complete forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber in his mind.

It didn't matter if he had that piece of paper.

There was no need for him to repeatedly study the secret forging formula, and he would save more than a day or two of time.

Therefore, Zhou Shu couldn't wait to start forging the Flaming Sunset Saber.

The Flaming Sunset Saber had already been recorded in the Legendary Armament Canon. As long as he forged it, it could provide him with an endless supply of rewards to become stronger.

Under these circumstances, Zhou Shu naturally didn't want to wait a moment longer. The materials in his hands were barely enough to forge a Flaming Sunset Saber.

Zhou Shu had directly mastered the forging formula of the Flaming Sunset Saber, so he didn't need to repeatedly test the ratio of materials. This saved him a lot of forging materials.

The entire forging process had been deeply imprinted in Zhou Shu's mind, and every step he took was a piece of cake.

The Flaming Sunset Saber was returning to this world at a speed visible to the naked eye.

While Zhou Shu was forging the Flaming Sunset Saber, in Qingzhou a thousand miles away, a beautiful woman was holding an Eight-Sided Han Sword. She was confronting a two-meter tall giant white wolf. This woman was Liang Hongxiu, who had redeemed herself and left Chang'an!

She had already changed out of her red dress and was wearing a dark-colored outfit. There was a red scarf wrapped around her right wrist and stubbornness on her beautiful face.

"Come on! I'm not afraid of you!" Liang Hongxiu shouted with all her strength as the veins on her hand holding the Eight-Sided Han Sword bulged. Only she knew how much she had suffered since she came all the way here from the capital.

If it wasn't for her belief, she would have collapsed long ago.

She had heard of the dangers of the world in the past, but only after experiencing it did she know how difficult it was.

With her insignificant Martial Dao foundation, she was already extremely lucky to arrive here safely.

But now, her luck seemed to have run out.

When she was only a few dozen miles away from Qingzhou, she actually encountered a demonic beast!

Demonic beast, snow wolf!

It was a demonic beast in the middle three ranks with a cultivation level at the fifth rank of the Martial Dao!

Not to mention that it was Liang Hongxiu who had encountered a Snow Wolf, even if Yin Chengshan's team encountered it, they would also die without a doubt!

The snow wolf's huge eyes had a mocking look as it walked toward Liang Hongxiu.

Liang Hongxiu bit her lips. She gripped the hilt of the Eight-Sided Han Sword tightly as her gaze landed on the sword.

Do I really have to give up?

She murmured to herself, "A beautiful lady has her beaded curtain raised, Behind which in deep thoughts she sits with her elegantly thin eyebrows distorted; I can see moist trails of tears from the corners of her eyes, I wonder who it is that she harbors resentment toward?"

A ray of light flashed across her eyes. The next moment, she held the Eight-Sided Han Sword and charged resolutely toward the snow wolf.

Her graceful figure was like a moth flying into a flame. She knew that she would die, but she did not hesitate!

The snow wolf's eyes were brimming with contempt as it raised its huge palm. It could slap this human to death with just its palm.

It wondered what this delicate meat would taste like.

Bang!

Just as the snow wolf's huge palm was about to land on Liang Hongxiu, and the Eight-Sided Han Sword in her hand was still a distance away from the Snow Wolf's body...

Suddenly, there was a dull thump, and the snow wolf's enormous body was sent flying.

Boom!

With a loud thud, the snow wolf's body crashed into the ground. It rolled a few times before leaping up and looking ahead in horror.

There was a figure in front of Liang Hongxiu.

It was a woman in green who exuded a cold aura.

She stood there, her body slightly slim, but for some reason, the snow wolf retreated as it stared at her. "Lend me your sword." A voice fell into Liang Hongxiu's ears.

The voice was very pleasant to the ear, but it seemed abnormally cold, as if it had no human emotion at all.

Liang Hongxiu subconsciously gripped the Eight-Sided Han Sword in her hand tightly.

She could lose her life, but not her sword!

Live or die, my sword will stay with me. This was what she had told herself when she had obtained this sword.

Not getting the result she wanted, the green-clothed woman turned around and glanced at Liang Hongxiu.

It was a devastatingly beautiful face. In terms of appearance, she was not inferior to Yin Wuyou at all and was even more beautiful than Liang Hongxiu.

A strange look flashed across her eyes.

"I'll just borrow it for a while. I won't damage it," she said coldly.

Liang Hongxiu's hand felt lighter, and her expression changed drastically.

Before she could say anything, a blinding white light flashed, and the Eight-Sided Han Sword returned to her hand.

The woman in green slowly turned around.

She seemed to have moved just now, but she didn't seem to have moved at all.

Liang Hongxiu was dumbfounded. She had no idea what had happened.

At this moment, the eyes of the snow wolf, which was constantly retreating in the distance, were suddenly filled with terror before it crashed to the ground. Its enormous head had already been separated from its body.

Blood gushed out, instantly dyeing the snow-white fur of the snow wolf red.

The red was so bright that even Liang Hongxiu, who liked red, felt a little dizzy.

"Despite being in a desperate situation, you didn't give up. Even though you knew you were no match for your opponent, you refused to let go of the sword in your hand. Although you are a little weak, you are still a good swordsman." The green-clothed woman sized up Liang Hongxiu. "Are you willing to learn the Sword Dao with me?"

Liang Hongxiu blinked. Although she was still in a daze, it was obvious the green-clothed woman had borrowed the Eight-Sided Han Sword in her hand, killed the snow wolf with one strike, and then returned the sword to her.

Throughout the entire process, she didn't even see what had happened clearly.

This unbelievably beautiful woman in front of her was clearly an expert. She was so powerful that Liang Hongxiu couldn't comprehend her.

"Who are you? Are you from Great Wei?"

Liang Hongxiu took a deep breath while pondering, and her eyes gradually regained clarity. So what if she's an expert? I didn't come to Qingzhou purely for cultivation. If I can't accomplish anything, how can I stand tall in front of that person? When the green-clothed woman saw the change in Liang Hongxiu's eyes, her face revealed undisguised appreciation. Her hands were behind her back, and her chest, which was not too prominent, was pushed forward. "Qingzhou, Lu Wenshuang."

The green-clothed woman's voice entered Liang Hongxiu's ears like thunder in spring, shaking her mind and making her unable to control herself.

Chapter 159 Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique, Arrival of the Great General

[The Eight-Sided Han Sword you forged effectively completed a kill. You are rewarded with the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique]

Zhou Shu was casting the Flaming Sunset Saber when a message suddenly flashed in front of him.

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He was distracted for a moment and nearly destroyed the Flaming Sunset Saber.

He focused and completed the current step of the forging. Only then did he put the Flaming Sunset Saber aside.

With a thought, the Legendary Armament Canon appeared in front of him.

At the same time, figures flew through Zhou Shu's eyes. These figures walked with profound steps, as if they were treading on waves or riding on clouds.

The Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique was an exceptional lightness skill. It was split into two levels: Cloud Riding and Wind Riding. Cloud Riding required leveraging one's feet. After mastering it, one could ride on the clouds.

After mastering Wind Riding, even if there was nothing to leverage on, one could still ride on the wind.

Not only did the various profundities of the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique appear in Zhou Shu's mind, but all the information regarding the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique also appeared. After seeing the information, Zhou Shu revealed a pleasantly surprised expression.

His current combat strength was comparable to a first-rank Martial Dao cultivator.

The twelfth level of the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique, the eleventh level of the Golden Bell Shield Technique, the Heavenly Saber Art, and the perfected Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique all gave him strength.

But to put it into perspective, his situation is somewhat similar to preaching by force.

Fighting was not a problem. But in other aspects, he was far inferior to ordinary first-rank martial artists.

First-rank martial artists would have all sorts of mystical abilities, but Zhou Shu only had two – his strength and resistance to attacks!

First-rank martial artists could fly, while Zhou Shu could run on the ground...

Although the Golden Bell Shield Technique would give him the ability to tread water without falling after attaining perfection, it was a protective technique after all and not a lightness technique. This was only a side effect.

Now that he had the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique, if he could cultivate it to the Wind Riding realm, he would be able to travel using the wind. It would be similar to flying in the air for first-rank martial artists.

Can I finally fly? Zhou Shu was somewhat excited at this thought. Who wouldn't want to fly freely in the sky?

With a thought, he moved quickly in the forging room using mysterious steps. Afterimages filled the entire room. A moment later, Zhou Shu stopped.

My Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique has only just reached basic mastery. I'm still far from the Wind Riding realm. Still, it has increased my speed by thirty percent. Although Zhou Shu didn't know any lightness technique before, his speed wasn't actually slow. After all, the divine strength brought about by the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique made him almost unparalleled.

Under such circumstances, it was absolutely shocking that his speed could increase by 30%.

The feedback from the Eight-Sided Han Sword?

Zhou Shu had previously asked Yang Hong to give the secret forging formula of the Eight-Sided Han Sword to Emperor Yuan Feng. At the time, he had been worried that he wouldn't be able to leave You Prefecture after entering

After he returned to Chang'an, Emperor Yuan Feng returned the forging formula of the Eight-Sided Han Sword to the oth Workshop.

Zhang Yibei and the others were currently learning the forging process of the Eight-Sided Han Sword. For the time being, they were unable to lead the other workshops into mass forging. Zhou Shu had created some Eight-Sided Han Swords, but he had not distributed them.

I've only given away one Eight-Sided Han Sword, Zhou Shu thought. Liang Hongxiu!

She went to Qingzhou to join Lu Wenshuang's Demon Executing Army. She succeeded so quickly? Or was her Eight-Sided Han Sword stolen?

Zhou Shu slightly regretted letting Liang Hongxiu leave on her own.

But at the time, he didn't think that there were demonic beasts in this world. It was his instinctive thinking that it was fine for a woman to travel far. After all, in his previous life, many women traveled far on their own.

He had forgotten that this world was different from his previous world. It was too dangerous.

Liang Hongxiu was just a woman who was barely familiar with martial arts. It was really very dangerous for her to travel all the way to Qingzhou.

I hope Miss Hongxiu has good luck. Qingzhou was thousands of miles away. He also didn't know the route that Liang Hongxiu took. Even if he was worried, it was beyond his reach. He could only pray for her.

This Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique is really good stuff.

Unfortunately, the Eight-Sided Han Sword is a standard weapon. It's not appropriate to give it to the Demon Executing Army. How can I get it to have the opportunity to complete kills?

Zhou Shu knew his Martial Dao talent very well. If he cultivated the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique on his own, he probably wouldn't be able to reach the Wind Riding realm even when he died.

Only by using the Legendary Armament Canon would he be able to level up his Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique quickly and advance to the Wind Riding realm.

But there are some people in the Demon Executing Army that are unable to use ranked weapons. They're still using standard weapons.

Zhou Shu remembered seeing a few people in Yin Chengshan's team using the standard weapons he had developed. There were quite a few of them in Yin Chengshan's team. There might be several more people in the Demon Executing Army who didn't have ranked weapons.

There should be some among them who use swords, right? Zhou Shu didn't want to look for Yin Chengshan and the others. The last time he saw them kill demonic beasts, he knew that they were actually good at using sabers.

The Great Destroyer Sword was a heavy sword after all. If they used the Eight-Sided Han Sword, they might not be used to it, and they might encounter danger while killing demonic beasts.

Zhou Shu wanted the Demon Executing Army to work for him, but he didn't want them to be in danger.

Later, I'll ask Yin Chengshan to introduce me to some Demon Executing soldiers who are good at using swords.

But I still need to report this matter to the grand minister. After all, this can be considered the Forging Division supplying weapons to the Demon Executing Army.

However, I should forge the Flaming Sunset Saber first. I can't give up halfway.

Zhou Shu picked up his forging hammer again and began to forge the Flaming Sunset Saber.

He was engrossed in forging weapons while Chang'an was bustling about.

Great Xia's military parade, which was held once every five years, was about to begin. All the Forging Masters participating in the parade rushed over from all over Great Xia.

In comparison, the three armies of Great Xia participating in the military parade didn't attract much attention. After all, they were training in the military camps outside the capital, unlike the Forging Masters who lived in Chang'an.

Those qualified to participate in the military parade were all elites among the Forging Masters. Some lived in the capital, while others came from various places. They were surrounded by various high-ranking officials, nobles, and ranked martial artists the moment they arrived in the capital.

It seemed like this liveliness had nothing to do with the You Marquis residence. But in reality, almost every Forging Master that entered the capital would send a letter to the You Marquis residence.

Some of them simply came to visit, while others directly issued a challenge. Since ancient times, there was no best scholar, nor was there a second-best fighter. These Forging Masters were all exceptional, especially since they were invited to participate in the military parade.

Originally, Zhou Shu was just a mere Forging Apprentice. With just a few standard weapons, he had become a high and mighty marquis. This attracted many people's attention.

The Hundred Refinements Ring Pommel Saber, the Horse Slaying Saber, and the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber that he developed were indeed good sabers.

But if not for the bet between Great Wei and Great Xia, he wouldn't have made the huge contribution of recovering the two prefectures.

In the eyes of many people, the You Marquis was merely lucky. Naturally, many people were dissatisfied with how he got his status.

These invitations were blocked by the steward.

The most important rule of the You Marquis's mansion was that when the marquis was forging, no one was allowed to disturb him!

Not even the princess!

Do these Forging Masters really think that the marquis's mansion is a place where anyone can behave atrociously?

Challenging my marquis? Why don't you look at yourself in the mirror?!

My marquis's first weapon is ranked eleventh in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. Which one of you can do it?

The steward now had a strong sense of belonging to the marquis residence.

"Teacher, this is the place." The day before the military parade began, an old man and a young man came to the entrance of the You Marquis's mansion.

They had just reached the door when the gatekeeper fell to his knees.

"Young Master!"

The servants of the You Marquis residence had all been carefully selected by the head steward of the Mi residence, Mi Zhifu.

This gatekeeper was once a member of the Mi residence, so he naturally recognized the young master of the Mi family, Mi Ziwen.

"No need for formalities. Where's your marquis?" Mi Ziwen asked.

"Young Master, the marquis is currently in seclusion forging. He is currently declining to see guests."

As soon as he said this, he looked at Mi Ziwen uneasily, wishing he could slap himself.

Am I treating the young master as an outsider?

But thinking about it, the marquis and the steward had indeed instructed him to do so. It seemed like he wasn't wrong either.

Mi Ziwen's expression was the same as usual, and he was not angry at all. "The military parade is starting tomorrow. Second Brother is going to participate in the military parade, so he will definitely come out of seclusion today. Teacher, why don't we go in and wait?"

"Sure." The old man beside him nodded.

This old man was Great General Meng Bai.

In just a few short months, Meng Bai had aged more than ten years since Zhou Shu first saw him.

Although his back was still straight, he had aged considerably. Mi Ziwen helped Meng Bai cross the threshold of the marquis's mansion, his heart aching.

Teacher has been a hero his entire life. Now, he even needs someone to help him cross a threshold. Why is this happening? The heavens are blind!

I have to find a chance to talk to Second Brother. Teacher doesn't have much time left. Will he really let Teacher leave with regrets? Is he really unable to forgive Teacher and refuse to call him father?

If Zhou Shu knew what Mi Ziwen was thinking, he would definitely spit water on his face.

Boss, you can say whatever you want, but I can't randomly acknowledge someone as my father.

At most, I can only acknowledge him as my godfather...

Mi Ziwen and Meng Bai entered the marquis's mansion. The steward had already rushed over to receive them.

Even the divine constable hiding in the shadows who was in charge of protecting the marquis' mansion appeared. He silently bowed toward Meng Bai before once again hiding in the shadows.

"Before we left for the war, he was just a Forging Apprentice, right?" Meng Bai smiled. "It hasn't even been that long, yet he's already a marquis. Even if I have to ask him to give me a job. The world is truly unpredictable."

Mi Ziwen could tell that his teacher was joking. Although the marquis was the second rank, his teacher had the title of duke. Even if he didn't, the great general of Great Xia was still a first-rank title.

No matter how fast second brother grows, he's still just a child before Teacher.

"Second Brother's talent is outstanding. It's not strange for him to have such results," Mi Zi Wen said and added in his heart, Like father, like son.

"Unfortunately, he refused to accept me as his teacher." Meng Bai shook his head.

"Ziwen, you have learned my military tactics, but your personality isn't suitable for my Martial Dao. Originally, I saw that Zhou Shu's Martial Dao talent was outstanding, so I wanted him to inherit my Martial Dao, but unfortunately, things didn't go according to my wishes."

Meng Bai shook his head and bitterly smiled. He had already learned from Emperor Yuan Feng that Zhou Shu had been taught martial arts by the mysterious expert who had severed the arm of Great Wei's Imperial Preceptor Xiao Shunzhi.

Even though Meng Bai was arrogant, he didn't feel like his own Martial Dao was stronger than this mysterious expert.

After all, before he was injured, his cultivation at this peak had only been at the second rank of the Martial Dao.

As for the mysterious expert, he could even sever the arm of a first-rank martial artist. It was obvious who was stronger.

“Teacher, since you’re already an advisor of the Huaxia Pavilion, you will have plenty of time to teach Second Brother the Martial Dao,” Mi Ziwen said.

“I don’t think he will reject you, Teacher. It’s just that there’s no master-disciple status. Teacher, do you still care about this?”

He’s your illegitimate son. Do you still need to care about the status of master and disciple?

“There’s no rush,” Meng Bai said. “We’ve only come this time to greet him. After all, if I want to go to the Huaxia Pavilion, I need to get the owner’s permission.

“As for the rest, we can talk about it after the military parade. “Right now, I am a bit curious. Even at this time, he’s still in seclusion forging. Will the weapon he prepared for the parade shock the world?

“In the path of forging, I have absolute confidence in Second Brother,” Mi Ziwen said with a smile. “In this Great Xia military parade, Second Brother will definitely shine.”

“No matter how strong ranked weapons are, there are not many of them. As for the Eight-Sided Han Sword, I feel that it is comparable to the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow,” Meng Bai said with a smile. “Ziwen, let me ask you. If you could equip the Country Protector Army with Eight-Sided Han Swords, how would you use them?”

Meng Bai had fought for a lifetime, and some habits were already deeply ingrained into his bones. He couldn’t help testing his disciple.

Mi Ziwen didn’t find it strange at all. He pondered carefully and said, “If it’s me...”

The two of them were in the front hall of the marquis’s mansion, seriously discussing the art of war.

The steward was confused. Not long after, he snuck out and ran to Zhou Shu’s forging room. He hesitated whether or not he should report this matter.

After all, the two people waiting in front had extraordinary statuses.

One was the marquis’ sworn brother, while the other was Great Xia’s God of War, Great General Meng!

Just as the steward was hesitating, a loud laugh came from the forge room.

“I succeeded! I knew it! I’m indeed a forging genius!”

Even through the door, the steward could feel a hot breath blowing at him. He didn’t know what was going on, but he still walked forward quickly and raised his voice. “Marquis, Young Master and Great General Meng have come to visit you. They are waiting in the front hall.”

“Young master?” Zhou Shu sounded somewhat puzzled. “The young master of the Mi family,” the steward repeated.

“My big brother?”

Zhou Shu reacted. With a creak, the door to the forging room opened. "I didn't even know when my big brother returned victorious. Why is Great General Meng here too? Come, lead the way."

Chapter 160 Look At The Big Picture, My Brother Must Not Be Shabby

"Big brother, long time no see. I've really missed you." Zhou greeted his sworn brother warmly as soon as he entered the room.

Mi Ziwen smiled. "Should I address you as marquis?"

...

"Big Brother, don't joke with me." Zhou Shu shook his head and smiled. "By the way, Big Brother, when did you return? If I had known, I would have gone out of the city to welcome you."

"Greetings, Great General."

While talking to Mi Ziwen, Zhou Shu didn't forget to greet Great General Meng.

He was also slightly surprised. Why did Great General Meng age so much in just a few months?

No one would have thought that he was Great Xia's God of War.

People would have thought that he was an ordinary old man on the streets.

But Great General Meng had lost all his cultivation because he had been injured. He didn't have any cultivation base, and he wasn't young anymore. It seemed normal for him to be like this.

It will be terrible if I don't have any cultivation. I don't want to end up like this. Zhou Shu's desire to increase his strength became even more urgent.

Putting everything aside, if I am strong, I won't be afraid of aging. I might even be able to live a long life. What a good thing.

Meng Bai nodded with a smile. When he first met Zhou Shu at the Forging Division, Zhou Shu had just been a Forging Apprentice. At the time, he had wanted to help the country discover talents.

He didn't expect him to reach this level in just a few months.

Not only had he advanced to Forging Master, but he had also become the You Marquis. His cultivation base had even reached the seventh rank.

Although a seventh-rank martial artist couldn't be considered an expert, he had already reached a considerable rank. Just this point alone was enough for him to establish himself in Great Xia.

Only after meeting Zhou Shu did Meng Bai discover that it seemed he really didn't need to acknowledge him as his teacher. But Zhou Shu was extremely polite to him.

Rejecting to be his disciple was one thing, but disrespecting Meng Bai was another.

After all, Meng Bai was Great Xia's God of War, right?

“Great General, what can I do for you?” Zhou Shu said politely.

Mi Ziwen looked at Zhou Shu, then at Meng Bai, and sighed inwardly. Both of them are maintaining a polite and distant attitude. How can they do that? How should I break this stalemate?

“It’s nothing actually.” Meng Bai smiled and shook his head. “I came to report to you, Marquis.”

“Great General, please don’t call me that. I am not worthy of it,” Zhou Shu hurriedly said. “Just call me by my name. What do you mean by reporting?”

He was confused.

“After this military parade, Teacher will retire and return to civilian life. He will no longer be leading troops in the future,” Mi Ziwen explained.

“Return to civilian life?” Zhou Shu was a little surprised. But when he saw Great General Meng’s appearance, he understood. Great General Meng didn’t seem to be in good condition, so it might be a good thing for him to retire.

“Teacher will be the Huaxia Pavilion’s adviser in the future. He will use his experience to provide suggestions and references to the Huaxia Pavilion’s weapons development,” Mi Ziwen continued. “From now on, you and Teacher will be colleagues.”

“Huh?” Zhou Shu was truly shocked this time.

No one told him about this!

Meng Bai is coming to the Huaxia Pavilion?

In that case, who will have the final say in the Huaxia Pavilion? Me or Meng Bai?

No matter how confident Zhou Shu was, he didn’t dare say that he could fight Meng Bai right now. With Meng Bai’s current condition, Zhou Shu could kill him with a single finger.

But some things couldn’t be done with brute force.

After all, Meng Bai was the commander-in-chief of the three armies of Great Xia. Even if he took off his armor, his influence in the army was not something that ordinary people could compare to. Moreover, Meng Bai’s official position was even above his own.

They couldn’t just start fighting and killing over official matters, right?

Meng Bai looked at Zhou Shu, seeming to understand what he was thinking. He said with a smile, “I’m old. I just want to contribute with my experience. In the future, you will be my superior, Marquis. I’m afraid I won’t be able to answer roll call every day.”

Since Meng Bai spoke like this, what else could Zhou Shu say? But thinking about it, Meng Bai looked like he could die anytime. He probably didn’t come to the Huaxia Pavilion with the intention to seize power.

In any case, would the mighty Great Xia God of War come and attempt to take over a mere Huaxia Pavilion?

This was equivalent to a national leader vying for the position of a company commander.

It was utter nonsense!

He might really be looking for a place to retire.

“Great General, actually...” Zhou Shu felt relieved and smiled again. “The Huaxia Pavilion hasn’t been built yet. Not even a piece of tile has been laid...”

The Huaxia Pavilion was still in the midst of planning and was far from completion.

From the looks of it, Meng Bai might not be able to wait until the day the Huaxia Pavilion was built.

“That’s why even I am in the residence forging. Our Huaxia Pavilion is temporarily unable to provide you with workspace,” Zhou Shu continued.

“I know.” Meng Bai smiled. “I’ve also heard a bit about your plans for the Huaxia Pavilion. If you don’t mind, I actually have some experience with construction planning. How about you give me the blueprints of the Huaxia Pavilion?”

“I came to the Huaxia Pavilion without any contributions. I should do my part to contribute to the Huaxia Pavilion.”

Great General Meng Bai was definitely a rare genius. Leading troops to fight also involved setting up camps. He had some experience in construction techniques and architecture. It could even be said that he was an expert in this field.

Very few people knew that Great General Meng’s painting skills were unparalleled.

“Isn’t this too troublesome?” Zhou Shu noticed that Mi Ziwen kept winking at him. He understood Mi Ziwen’s winking as confirmation that Great General Meng was indeed an expert in construction.

Even if he wasn’t, the resources he could mobilize were probably not something he could compare to.

In that case, why would he reject such a good opportunity?

“It’s not troublesome,” Meng Bai said with a smile. “When you are old, you always have to find something to do, or else you will age even faster.”

“Thank you, Great General.” Zhou Shu was overjoyed. “Great General, I still have some ideas about the Huaxia Pavilion. We can discuss it...”

Zhou Shu and Meng Bai discussed for a full four hours, and Meng Bai had a look of admiration on his face.

“No wonder you are able to develop weapons like the Horse Slaying Saber and the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber. Your thoughts are truly unrestrained and unpredictable,” Meng Bai said.

“Great General, you flatter me. I just thought about them when I had nothing to do. I don’t know if they can be realized.” Zhou Shu smiled.

He had seen too many exquisite buildings in his previous life. There were also television dramas and online games with beautiful Mount Shu scenery. They were all full of immortal aura.

In any case, talk was free. He was just stating his thoughts. Whether they could be realized or not was something that the craftsmen had to consider.

"It's a little difficult, but it's not impossible," Meng Bai said, his tone more confident than the craftsmen of the Ministry of Works.

"Leave it to me," Meng Bai said indifferently, fully displaying his confidence.

Great General Meng's words were a promise that the matter was resolved!

In Great Xia, if Great General Meng couldn't resolve the matter, then even Emperor Yuan Feng wouldn't be of much use.

"Teacher, Second Brother," Mi Ziwen suddenly said. "If we build the Huaxia Pavilion according to Second Brother's plan, I'm afraid it will cost a lot.

"Although the Imperial Court will bear the cost of building the Huaxia Pavilion, I'm afraid that the funding from the Imperial Court may be delayed. In that case, the Huaxia Pavilion's construction period will definitely be extended indefinitely."

There was something he didn't say out loud. Meng Bai didn't have much time left, at most several years.

If the Huaxia Pavilion was built too slowly, Meng Bai might not even be able to see its completion. This couldn't happen.

"I can't help with other things, so I'll contribute some money," Mi Ziwen continued. "There are also some craftsmen in the Mi family whom I can transfer over.

"How about this? I'll contribute one hundred thousand taels of gold first. Let's build up the foundation of the Huaxia Pavilion!" Mi Ziwen said casually. One hundred thousand taels of gold was like ten taels of silver to him.

Zhou Shu secretly clicked his tongue. As expected of my rich big brother, he offered one hundred thousand taels of gold just like that.

"Second Brother, you're a marquis now. Isn't this residence a bit too shabby? You don't even have many maids." Mi Ziwen looked around. "I'll get Steward Mi to send you another hundred maids later..."

Zhou Shu: "..."

One hundred maids?

To serve me alone?

Do you have to be so extravagant?

Why am I a little tempted?

The maids of this world can warm the bed...

"No need, Big Brother." Zhou Shu was very conflicted as he refused.

Women will only affect my forging! “I don’t need any maids. Besides, I often go into seclusion to forge. When the Huaxia Pavilion is built in the future, I’m afraid I won’t have much time to stay at the marquis’s mansion.”

“Just have them around. A hundred people won’t cost much,” Mi Ziwen said calmly.

What surprised Zhou Shu was that Meng Bai also seemed to feel like it was only natural. These despicable nobles.

That’s not right. I also have a noble status

now...

Damn, they led me astray!

Say, can we not discuss this?

“Big Brother, let’s not talk about maids.” Zhou Shu changed the topic. “I recently forged a batch of Eight-Sided Han Swords, but you should know that I have no way of selling them. Why don’t you help me out, Big Brother?”

The two people in front of him were military big shots. If Zhou Shu wanted to promote his Eight-Sided Han Swords, there was no one better than them.

“Eight-Sided Han Swords?”

Mi Ziwen and Meng Bai looked at each other, and they both smiled. They were just discussing how to display the power of the Eight-Sided Han Swords on the battlefield.

What a coincidence.

“Second Brother, what do you think?” Mi Zi Wen smiled.

“I think that weapons are used to kill enemies. They should not be left lying around serving only as decorations.

“A weapon should naturally be equipped with a fierce warrior. I want to equip the Eight-Sided Han Swords to the soldiers fighting on the front line. Only in their hands can the Eight-Sided Han Swords display its own might.”

“That’s not a problem. What I’m asking is, what do you think of the price of the Eight-Sided Han Sword?” Mi Ziwen smiled.

The Forging Division’s workshops sold weapons. Although a fee had to be paid to the Forging Division, Zhou Shu would still keep a portion of it.

In other words, the higher the price of the weapon, the more benefits the workshop would receive.

Although it was all Great Xia’s money, there was a huge difference in who had it.

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Zhou Shu was one of his own, so Mi Ziwen wouldn’t let him suffer.

Price? Zhou Shu thought. An Eight-Sided Han Sword, including iron and labor costs, would cost around forty to fifty taels of silver.

Among the standard weapons, only the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber's price was higher than it.

The cost of an Eight-Sided Han Sword was comparable to the income of an ordinary Forging Apprentice for one to two years.

The cost was forty to fifty taels of silver, so selling them for two hundred taels each shouldn't be too much.

Zhou Shu was only a technical talent after all. He couldn't compare to those black-hearted businessmen.

"Two hundred taels each?" Zhou Shu probed. Two hundred taels for one would be twenty thousand taels of silver for one hundred.

It was quite a big deal for the workshop.

If he continued to supply them in the future, he would definitely be able to let the profits come rolling in the workshop.

This was equivalent to earning more than one hundred taels of silver for each Eight-Sided Han Sword.

"Two hundred taels?" Mi Ziwen frowned slightly.

"If it's too expensive, we can sell it cheaper. After all, we are all working for Great Xia, so it's fine for the workshop to suffer some loss," Zhou Shu said.

Using the country's money to forge the weapons and then selling them back to the country was equivalent to cheating the country's money. Zhou Shu still felt a little embarrassed.

"How about a hundred and fifty taels? If it really doesn't work, a hundred taels is also acceptable." Zhou Shu gritted his teeth. Standard weapons were different from ranked weapons. It was not unacceptable for a single weapon to have fewer profits. "Second Brother, ah, Second Brother!" Mi Ziwen shook his head with a bitter smile. "Second Brother, you're not far-sighted enough. "Two hundred taels for one Eight-Sided Han Sword. How can my brother suffer such a loss?"

Mi Ziwen said proudly, "With the quality of the Eight-Sided Han Sword, if the price is lower than five hundred taels. I, Mi Ziwen, will be the first to disagree!"

"How many eight-sided Han swords do you have? I want all of them. Five hundred taels each!" Mi Ziwen said generously. "In the future, this will be the price of the Eight-Sided Han Sword produced by the Forging Division!"

"Second Brother, it's not that I want to interfere, but you have to be far-sighted. You're a marquis now. If you continue to be like this, others will only say that you're too shabby. We're worth this price, why can't we sell it at this price?"

"In my opinion, even five hundred taels for an Eight-Sided Han Sword is too cheap! Aren't those ranked weapons worth at least one thousand taels of gold? The might of an Eight-Sided Han Sword on the

battlefield is not inferior to ranked weapons!” Zhou Shu opened his mouth. The Eight-Sided Han Sword was, after all, a standard weapon. How could it compare to a ranked weapon?

Five hundred taels?

Ten times the cost?

The scale is too big...