

Canon 251

Chapter 251: Unstoppable, Battle with the Qin Emperor (2)

It had been many days since he crossed Hangu Pass. He didn't believe that the Qin emperor hadn't received news of it.

The current situation could only mean that Great Qin was doing it on purpose.

Is the Qin emperor too confident or too stupid?

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Zhou Shu looked in the direction of the capital.

In that case, I won't waste time. Qin emperor, I'm coming!

The light in Zhou Shu's eyes soared. He stomped on the ground and shot into the sky with a sonic boom.

Boom!

As Zhou Shu soared into the sky, powerful auras soared into the sky from all directions, trying to stop him.

"You can't stop me unless you attack together."

Zhou Shu's long laugh echoed in the air.

The sword light soared, and with a few clinking sounds, a few figures descended from the sky. Zhou Shu's figure had already disappeared.

The Great Qin experts looked at each other and saw the fear in each other's eyes. *Is he even human?*

He was attacked by first-rank martial artists, but he didn't get hurt at all!

What was his technique that made his body golden?

Zhou Shu used the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique to soar into the sky. He traveled at a tremendous speed toward Great Qin's capital.

Just as he was a hundred miles away from the capital, the Qin emperor suddenly raised his head.

A light flashed in his eyes, and his body swayed. The next moment, he was already in midair.

Another flash, and he was gone in the air.

Xu Shi, who had already returned to Great Qin's capital, looked up and saw the Qin emperor's actions.

He was aghast. "Your Majesty, no!"

Xu Shi turned into a streak of fire and flew out of the city.

Boom!

Zhou Shu looked at the Qin emperor who had suddenly appeared in front of him. He didn't appear surprised at all.

"Your Majesty," Zhou Shu said slowly.

"You Marquis!" the Qin emperor said in a low voice. "I didn't expect you to be such an expert."

"You flatter me, Your Majesty," Zhou Shu said. "You should know why I came, right?"

"Great Qin's Tiger Leopard Wolf Cavalry attacked our Great Xia diplomatic mission and caused us to suffer heavy casualties. Your Majesty, do you want to give me an explanation?"

"Do I need to explain my actions?" the Qin emperor said coldly. "That's right. I sent them. If you want revenge, defeat me!"

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With a bang, a monstrous aura surged from the Qin emperor.

For a moment, the ground shook, and the sky seemed to be about to collapse.

Zhou Shu was slightly surprised.

He had recently fought with many first-rank martial artists, but their auras were far inferior to the Qin emperor's.

The Qin emperor was terrifying!

Zhou Shu's expression turned solemn as he reached for the hilt of the Great Destroyer Sword.

Just as Zhou Shu and the Qin emperor were about to attack, a flame suddenly sped over.

Xu Shi's figure appeared in the air and shouted anxiously, "Your Majesty, you must not!"

"You Marquis, if you want to fight, I'll fight with you!"

He rushed to them, stood between them, and stretched out his arms.

"Move aside!" the Qin emperor said coldly. "Xu Shi, do you think I can't defeat this brat?"

"Your Majesty, as an unrivaled expert, no one is your match. But you can't unleash your full strength now, or the consequences will be unthinkable!" Xu Shi said anxiously.

"I know what I'm doing. He's just a kid. I don't need to use my full strength. Move!"

The Qin emperor stepped forward and approached with a powerful aura.

Xu Shi and Zhou Shu felt as if the sky was about to collapse, and it even became difficult to breathe.

"Lord Xu, step aside," Zhou Shu said solemnly. He unsheathed the Great Destroyer Sword and slashed forward with lightning speed.

A strong force came from behind and pushed Xu Shi to the side.

A longsword had appeared in the Qin emperor's hand at some point. He raised his hand and slashed down. Waves of sword energy surged toward Zhou Shu.

Rumble!

A loud bang sounded, and energy spread in all directions.

Zhou Shu's pupils constricted as the Great Destroyer Sword groaned in his ears.

Although the Great Destroyer Sword was powerful, it was only a yellow-grade weapon.

The sword in the Qin emperor's hand was an out-and-out heaven-grade weapon.

In the past, Zhou Shu's strength had an absolute advantage. The shortcomings of his weapons couldn't be seen, but the Qin emperor's strength was not inferior to Zhou Shu's. As a result, the difference in weapons was obvious.

Zhou Shu never expected that as a Forging Master, he would be suppressed by someone in terms of weapons.

This Qin emperor was strong enough!

Sword qi crisscrossed, and countless sword beams pierced through the sword light of the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique and landed on Zhou Shu's body.

Zhou Shu's body lit up with an incomparably pure golden color. When the sword beams landed on his body, they made clanging sounds, but they didn't even cut his skin.

A look of surprise flashed across the Qin emperor's face, but his hands didn't stop moving. His wrist trembled slightly, and the longsword once again flashed like a sky full of fireflies as it shot toward Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu knew that both his Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique and the Great Destroyer Sword were inferior to the Qin emperor's sword cultivation and longsword.

If he persisted, the Great Destroyer Sword would probably be destroyed here.

Clang!

The Great Destroyer was sheathed.

The Qin emperor and the spectating Xu Shi were both slightly stunned.

In a battle, wasn't it courting death to put one's weapon away?

A hint of embarrassment and anger flashed across the Qin emperor's eyes. *Zhou Shu is so arrogant. Is he looking down on me?*

With a low shout, the sword energy emitting from his sword became even more violent.

Zhou Shu also shouted, and the golden light on his body became even more dazzling.

In the eyes of the Qin emperor and Xu Shi, it was as if an inverted bronze bell had appeared around Zhou Shu.

Buzz—

Boundless sword qi landed on the bronze bell with a deafening sound. It actually blocked the attack!

Zhou Shu looked up and let out a long cry.

He punched forward. With a bang, space seemed to collapse from the force of his punch.

Black space cracks appeared in the air.

His fist instantly arrived in front of the Qin emperor.

The Qin emperor swung his sword, and the blade blocked Zhou Shu's fist.

Boom!

The heaven-grade sword produced an exaggerated bend, almost breaking.

The curved sword collided with the Qin emperor's chest. The Qin Emperor grunted and retreated.

"Your Majesty!" Xu Shi exclaimed.

Flames wrapped around his body, and he wanted to attack.

Zhou Shu took a step forward and shouted, "Your Majesty, do you think that you can do whatever you want and force your will on others just because you're strong?!"

"Now, what do you think?"

"I want to ask you. How will you give me an explanation for the deaths of more than ten people from Great Xia!"

He stomped and punched again.

The Qin emperor snorted coldly, and his sword qi erupted again.

They both took a step back from the impact.

"With your ability, do you think you have the right to question me?" The Qin emperor snorted. "You're not strong enough, far from enough!"

The Qin emperor shouted, and his body suddenly lit up with a dazzling light. The light soared from his body and formed a dazzling pillar of light.

The moment the pillar of light appeared, Zhou Shu felt endless power surge in from all directions and pour into the pillar of light. Then through the pillar of light, it surged into the Qin emperor's body.

The aura on the Qin emperor's body rose steadily. In the blink of an eye, it had already reached an unbelievable height.

"Your Majesty!" Xu Shi shouted, looking anxious.

Zhou Shu frowned. The true qi in his Golden Bell Shield surged, and his entire body seemed to have turned golden from the inside out.

His arms shook, and a dragon's roar seemed to sound from his body.

Xu Shi even felt that there were dragon-shaped shadows circling around his body.

"Come on!" Zhou Shu shouted heroically.

They both charged forward.

There was a rumble, and dazzling light collided as if two tiny suns had exploded in the air.

Even with Xu Shi's powerful cultivation, he was still forced back hundreds of feet by the destructive impact. He revealed a shocked expression.

Chapter 252 The Imperial Cauldron, Side-by-Side King (1)

Boom!

Zhou Shu and the Qin emperor collided.

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Countless sword qi crashed into his body and destroyed his meridians and muscles.

Even with an invincible body, wounds still appeared under the invincible sword qi.

Since Zhou Shu was injured, the Qin emperor wouldn't be unscathed.

The power of the thirteenth level of the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique erupted without reservation. The Qin emperor felt as if a mountain had rammed into him.

His chest tightened, and he spat out a mouthful of blood.

At this moment, Zhou Shu saw a strange scene.

The Qin emperor's body seemed to have become transparent in an instant, and a palm-sized cauldron appeared in his body!

The cauldron was covered in dense cracks, seemingly about to shatter at any moment.

The cauldron emitted rays of light extending from the Qin emperor's body into the void.

In Zhou Shu's spiritual perception, these rays of light were like a large net seeping into the earth and extending into the distance.

Boom!

Just as Zhou Shu saw this, he suddenly heard a loud bang.

Then he felt the ground shake. The ground within his vision was trembling violently.

For a moment, it was as if an immense earthquake had erupted.

The Qin emperor spat out another mouthful of blood./ please keep reading on MYBOXNOVEL(dot)COM.

With a loud shout, the spiritual qi of heaven and earth surged into his body from his pores, turning into surging spiritual essence that poured into the almost shattered small cauldron.

The small cauldron trembled violently. Every time it trembled, the earth and mountains shook.

Shock flashed across Zhou Shu's eyes. Is this a mysterious power?

That small cauldron can actually directly affect the mountains and rivers of Great Qin?

The Qin emperor roared. He appeared a little miserable. His hair was disheveled, and he was bleeding from his seven orifices.

At this moment, if Zhou Shu attacked, he could probably kill him with a single strike.

But Zhou Shu didn't take advantage of the situation. He stood there and didn't continue attacking

Xu Shi had already transformed into a streak of fire and appeared beside the Qin emperor.

Almost without any hesitation, a fire dragon appeared in Xu Shi's hands. The fire dragon entered the body of the Qin emperor and circled around the small cauldron quickly.

Eight Quaint Fire Divine Art!

The flames continued to seep into the small cauldron, and the trembling of the small cauldron gradually decreased.

But the situation of the Qin emperor didn't improve.

He kept bleeding from the corner of his mouth, and his aura kept dropping.

An anxious look flashed across Xu Shi's eyes.

He looked up at Zhou Shu and said in a low voice, "You Marquis, please help!"

"Me? Lend a hand?" Zhou Shu said. "Lord Xu, you seem to be mistaken. We're opponents now, not friends. Why should I help you?"

"You Marquis, there's no time to explain!" Xu Shi shouted while controlling the fire dragon. "If anything happens to His Majesty, the entire world will be in chaos. At that time, the consequences will be unimaginable!"

"As long as you help, I will be responsible for the casualties of the Great Xia diplomatic mission. Even if I have to pay with my life, I won't say anything!"

Crack!

The small cauldron in the Qin Emperor's body let out a soft sound.

The sound was like thunder in Zhou Shu's

ears.

He saw a clear crack appear on the small cauldron in the Qin emperor's body.

Almost at the same time, the earth rumbled. A deep crack appeared in the ground.

The crack was thousands of miles long, spreading far and wide.

The shouts of Great Qin's experts came from all directions.

With this, it was unknown how many casualties would appear in Great Qin.

Zhou Shu frowned.

This is the imperial cauldron?

This imperial cauldron actually has such power?

Will its destruction directly affect the ley lines of Great Qin?

To help or not to help?

Almost instantly, Zhou Shu made a decision.

He would help them!

Zhou Shu didn't like the overbearing style of the Qin emperor and the others.

But, every debt has its debtor. It was fine if he fought to the death with the Qin emperor and the others, but it had nothing to do with the ordinary citizens of Great Qin.

Zhou Shu wasn't a saint, but he couldn't watch countless civilians suffer without doing anything

"Lord Xu, what should I do?" Zhou Shu said.

Although he had decided to help, the premise was that he didn't put himself in harm's way.

If he endangered himself, even if it would affect all the citizens of Great Qin, he wouldn't sacrifice himself to save them.

"Use the Iron Smelting Hands Technique to help me repair this cauldron!" Xu Shi said loudly.

Even now, he still didn't say the name of the cauldron.

Zhou Shu knew what he was thinking. The matter of the imperial cauldron was very important. If he had any ill intentions, all of Great Qin would collapse. At that time, it wouldn't be far from the destruction of the country.

This was also one of the reasons why they had been unwilling to directly seek Zhou Shu's help.

The imperial cauldron was very important. How could they let outsiders come into contact with it?

But now, the Qin emperor's explosive combat strength had triggered the collapse of the imperial cauldron in advance. Xu Shi was unable to stop its collapse and could only ask Zhou Shu for help!

Knowing that the matter was urgent, Xu Shi didn't hesitate. He quickly told Zhou Shu what he needed to take note of in order to repair the imperial cauldron.

As Zhou Shu listened to Xu Shi, the Legendary Armament Canon suddenly appeared in front of him.

The pages rustled and turned to a blank page. As if a paintbrush was waving, an image quickly appeared on this page.

Chapter 253 The Imperial Cauldron, Side-by-Side King (1)

[Divine Artifact, Imperial Cauldron]

Zhou Shu only saw these few words. The Legendary Armament Canon seemed to struggle to write the following content, and even the content that had already appeared quickly disappeared.

...

The page went blank again.

Zhou Shu frowned slightly. This situation was similar to when he was in You Prefecture. That time, the contents of the Legendary Armament Canon flashed and disappeared.

It was as if the Legendary Armament Canon couldn't withstand this content yet.

Ever since standard weapons appeared on the Legendary Armament Canon, there was no longer any pattern for when it added new weapons.

When Zhou Shu developed his own weapon, there would be an additional page in the Legendary Armament Canon. When he came into contact with a complete secret forging formula, there would also be an additional page in the Legendary Armament Canon.

Now, he had only come into contact with the existence of the imperial cauldron, and it almost appeared in the Legendary Armament Canon.

He still couldn't understand the logic behind it.

But this wasn't important. The most important thing now was to help Xu Shi stabilize the collapse of the imperial cauldron in the Qin emperor's body.

This imperial cauldron was a divine artifact above a heaven-grade weapon. With Zhou Shu's current forging ability, he was powerless to repair it.

Fortunately, he only needed to help Xu Shi.

With a thought, Zhou Shu's hands instantly turned into the color of flames.

He reached out and pressed his hand onto the Qin emperor's chest. The Qin emperor's body seemed to disappear. Zhou Shu felt as if he had touched the imperial cauldron.

The Iron Smelting Hands emitted a scorching heat while Zhou Shu's fingers touched the crack.

Boom!

Xu Shi shouted and drove the Eight Quaint Fire Divine Art even more.

The Qin emperor let out a pained groan, and his face was pale. However, his eyes were wide open, and there was a hint of madness in them, but there was no lack of determination.

A strange feeling flashed through Zhou Shu's heart. As his palm touched the crack in the cauldron, a strange force seemed to remain in the crack.

Threads condensed from flames stitched up the crack in the cauldron like a wound.

Zhou Shu drove the Iron Smelting Hands Technique and completed this step with Xu Shi's guidance.

The Qin emperor's body was trembling slightly, and a low roar came from his throat.

Even with the will of the Qin emperor, he couldn't help reacting like this. One could imagine what kind of pain he was enduring.

Zhou Shu knew very well that if he wanted to kill the Qin emperor now, it would be a piece of cake.

It could even be said that he could easily destroy Great Qin.

As long as he shattered this cauldron, Great Qin would definitely collapse and become hell on earth.

How bold of Xu Shi to invite him to help.

He was placing the life and death of the Qin emperor and Great Qin in the hands of an outsider.

If Zhou Shu had any bad intentions, the fall of Great Qin would be imminent.

Zhou Shu pondered, but his movements were steady.

He had a grudge against Great Qin, but it was not to the point of destruction.

Taking advantage of others was not something a man should do.

While Zhou Shu and Xu Shi were working together to repair Great Qin's imperial cauldron, figures kept landing around them.

They were the experts of Great Qin.

They surrounded the three of them. Everyone held their breaths and focused. They didn't dare to make a sound, afraid that they would disturb the three of them.

Rumble!

There were still thunderous sounds under the earth, but the shaking gradually slowed.

After what seemed like an eternity, the thunderous sound finally faded.

A dazzling light suddenly erupted from the Qin emperor's body.

Rays of light seeped into the ground, forming an indescribable net that enveloped the territory of Great Qin.

After a long time, the light on the Qin emperor's body gradually faded.

He looked like his normal self again. Except for his slightly pale face, he looked just like he always did.

"Your Majesty," the surrounding experts said in unison.

The Qin emperor waved his hand to dismiss him.

His gaze wasn't on these people but on Zhou Shu, who was not far away.

Zhou Shu saw the Qin emperor's gaze and revealed a self-deprecating expression.

"Do you want to continue fighting?" Zhou Shu said.

He had heard a lot about kicking someone to the curb when they'd outlived their usefulness.

Now that so many of Great Qin's experts had gathered, it seemed that a fierce battle was inevitable.

But he wasn't afraid. With his perfected Golden Bell Shield Technique, even if he couldn't defeat these people, it wouldn't be easy for them to kill him.

Unless they all had the peak combat strength that the Qin emperor had erupted with previously, it would be difficult for their attacks to break through his Golden Bell Shield!

The Qin emperor didn't speak or attack. He stared straight at Zhou Shu.

The atmosphere became a little oppressive, and everyone's breathing seemed to have disappeared.

Some were secretly accumulating strength. Once the Qin emperor gave the order, they would attack Zhou Shu.

Some were conflicted. They didn't know if they should attack. Wang Mu was one of them.

There were also some who were already prepared to dissuade the Qin emperor. One was Xu Shi.

After a moment, the Qin emperor said slowly, "There's no need to fight anymore.

"Even if you and I continue to fight, nothing will come of it but mutual destruction."

The Qin emperor's words caused a storm in everyone's hearts.

They knew the strength of the Qin emperor. Although they were all first-rank martial artists, the Qin emperor's strength far exceeded that of ordinary first-rank martial artists.

It was not an exaggeration to say that the Qin emperor alone was stronger than two or three ordinary first-rank martial artists.

By saying this, he was admitting that Zhou Shu's strength was comparable to his.

In other words, this young You Marquis of Great Xia was one of the strongest existences in this world?

In this world, it was still uncertain if there was anyone stronger than the Qin emperor!

In this world, there had always been rumors that the Qin emperor was the number one expert in the world.

"I wouldn't be so sure of that. You've still got so many people here. Give it a try. Maybe you can kill me," Zhou Shu said.

"Hmph, you're underestimating me too much." The Qin emperor snorted. "Even if I want to kill you, I will kill you openly. How can I bully you with numbers?"

“Is that so?” Zhou Shu sneered. “You can even send people to ambush my Great Xia diplomatic mission. This is no big deal.”

A trace of anger flashed across the Qin emperor’s face.

But he quickly suppressed his anger. With a dark expression, he said, “Since you’ve just helped me, I won’t hold it against you this time.

“You contributed greatly to helping me today – 11

“I didn’t do it to help you. You don’t have to feel you owe me anything,” Zhou Shu interrupted the Qin emperor.

“I’m here to seek justice for my brothers of the Great Xia diplomatic mission who died in vain. You and I are enemies, not friends. This matter is not over!”

“I owe you an explanation for the casualties of the Great Xia diplomatic mission,” the Qin emperor said coldly. “I have never owed anyone anything in my life.

“The same goes for you too!”

The Qin emperor raised his voice and declared, “From today onward, Zhou Shu will be Great Qin’s side-by-side king. When you see him, it will be like you see me!”

The voice of the Qin emperor came from afar, and all the experts present heard it clearly.

Everyone’s expressions became extremely complicated. Surprise and relief flashed across their eyes.

At this moment, everyone present was a first-rank martial artist and the higher-ups of Great Qin. They knew the inside story.

If not for Zhou Shu’s help just now, the imperial cauldron in the Qin emperor’s body would have collapsed. If the imperial cauldron collapsed, Great Qin would have collapsed.

He had basically saved Great Qin.

Although the Qin emperor’s bestowment was a little excessive, it was understandable.

Although the Qin emperor’s situation just now was related to his battle with Zhou Shu, even without this, the imperial cauldron wouldn’t have lasted long.

Zhou Shu’s help now was to continue the legacy of Great Qin. With such a great contribution, it wasn’t too much of a reward.

“Long live Your Majesty. Long live Your Highness!”

Everyone cupped their hands and bowed while chanting in unison.

Chapter 254: Famous Throughout The World, I’m Just a Forger (1)

Hearing everyone’s cheers, Zhou Shu frowned.

“Qin emperor, what do you mean? I’m not from your Great Qin. I don’t need your conferment!” Zhou Shu said.

What side-by-side king? He came to Great Qin to take revenge!

...

"You don't need to be from Great Qin. Great Qin doesn't need you to do anything," the Qin emperor said. "Whether you accept it or not is your business, but it's up to me if I want to confer the title upon you."

"Nonsense!" Zhou Shu shouted coldly. "Qin emperor, you're injured now. If I attack you today, I'll be taking advantage of you."

"I'll wait for you to give me an explanation. If you can't satisfy me, I'll come back!"

Then clouds appeared under Zhou Shu's feet. He used the Riding on Cloud and Wind Technique and left.

The first-rank martial artists of Great Qin blocking his path dodged, making way for him.

Seeing Zhou Shu about to disappear into the sky, the Great Qin first-rank experts said in unison, "Farewell, Your Highness!"

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Zhou Shu staggered and almost fell from the sky.

He picked up speed, and a moment later, he disappeared from view.

"Your Majesty..." Xu Shi came to the Qin emperor and bowed.

"Thank you for your hard work, Xu Shi," the Qin emperor said.

"It's because I didn't do things properly that there are future troubles." Xu Shi smiled bitterly. If he had been able to master the Iron Smelting Hands Technique in the beginning, this wouldn't have happened.

Now that Zhou Shu had personally come to Great Qin's capital, no matter what, Great Qin had lost a lot of face this time.

He was secretly impressed. It was truly a stroke of genius for the emperor to confer Zhou Shu as a side-by-side king.

If it was known that an outsider had fought their way in from Hangu Pass to Great Qin's capital, Great Qin would become a laughing stock.

But if it was Great Qin's side-by-side king, it would be interesting.

"It's not your fault." The Qin emperor waved his hand. "However, you still have to deal with the matters of the Great Xia diplomatic mission. We can't let the side-by-side king come and cause trouble for us again."

"I understand." Xu Shi nodded. "Do you have any instructions, Your Majesty?"

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"Do as you see fit," the Qin emperor said indifferently. "Money is not important. Just make the side-by-side king satisfied."

...

Outside Hangu Pass, where the Great Xia diplomatic mission's encampment....

Everyone was puzzled when they saw the guards of Great Qin's Hangu Pass constantly carrying chests to the entrance of their camp.

The Great Xia diplomatic mission had been staying outside Hangu Pass for a period of time, and they met the Hangu Pass guards frequently.

But both sides were relatively restrained. As long as the Great Xia diplomatic mission didn't try to break through the pass, Great Qin's Hangu Pass guards would just pretend not to see them.

Unexpectedly, on this day, they actually crossed the border and placed chests at the entrance of the Great Xia diplomatic mission camp before turning around and returning.

During this period, they didn't say a word. The Great Xia diplomatic mission had no idea what was going on.

Chen Ji came to Meng Bai's side and whispered, "Great General?"

They didn't dare move without knowing what was in the chests.

Meng Bai raised his head, and his gaze fell on General Wang Xin in Hangu Pass.

"This is my Great Qin's explanation to the side-by-side king," Wang Xin said.

"Side-by-side king?" Meng Bai frowned.

"Don't ask me. I don't know either."

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With that, Wang Xin rode back to his camp.

The Great Xia diplomatic mission looked at each other.

"Open them!" Meng Bai said with a sunken voice.

Chen Ji nodded and rode his horse to the chests. With a slash of the Green Dragon Crescent Blade in his hand, a chest was cut into pieces.

Golden light dazzled, and gold spilled onto the ground.

This...

Heavy breathing sounded.

Many people stared blankly.

There had to be thousands of taels of gold all over the ground?

This was only one chest. There were several more chests here.

"Who is the side-by-side king? And what explanation?"

Meng Bai and the others were puzzled.

Zhou Shu didn't know that the Great Qin military was faster than he was.

Of course, it was mainly because he wasn't traveling at full speed.

After leaving Great Qin's capital, he walked unhurriedly toward Hangu Pass. This time, no ignorant people jumped out to block his way, and he lost many opportunities to kill.

When he passed by Hangu Pass, Zhou Shu didn't see Wang Xin.

He wondered if he was deliberately avoiding him or something.

"Marquis!"

"Zhou Shu!"

As soon as Zhou Shu appeared, Yin Wuyou and the others rushed out of the camp to welcome him.

"Are you all right?" Yin Wuyou tugged at Zhou Shu's sleeve and sized him up.

"I'm fine. Not even a scratch." Zhou Shu smiled.

Only then did Yin Wuyou realize that she had lost her composure. She let go with a blush and hid behind Lu Wenshuang.

"You Marquis, you're too impulsive." Meng Bai smiled wryly.

Zhou Shu had managed to break into Great Qin alone because the Qin emperor was overconfident. If it were any other emperor, Zhou Shu would have probably faced an entire army.

Zhou Shu smiled. Meng Bai said this because he didn't know him.

If they knew him, they would know that the last thing he feared was an army.

With his perfected Golden Bell Shield Technique, even if he couldn't defeat an army, he could still escape.

"You're right, Great General." Zhou Shu smiled. "I couldn't control myself for a moment and got hot-blooded.

"But fortunately, other than the Qin emperor, the other experts in Great Qin are only so-so."

Meng Bai: "..."

Are you serious? The experts of Great Qin are only so-so?

Thinking of the achievements of the Great Destroyer Sword in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual, Meng Bai felt that what he said made sense.

Although they were very curious, no one asked Zhou Shu why he was so strong.

Chapter 255: Famous Throughout The World, I'm Just a Forger (2)

Translator: Atlas Studios Editor: Atlas Studios

"You Marquis, did you encounter Great Qin's side-by-side king?" Meng Bai asked.

Over the past few days, he had thought about it, but he couldn't figure out when Great Qin had a side-by-side king.

The gold was still piled in the camp. Meng Bai didn't let anyone touch it.

...

"Side-by-side king?" Zhou Shu's face darkened. "Why do you ask, Great General?"

Meng Bai explained briefly.

"Distribute the gold as compensation for our brothers who died in battle."

Zhou Shu sighed. The dead couldn't be revived. This gold could always give their loved ones some comfort.

As for revenge, the Tiger Leopard Wolf Cavalry had suffered a lot of casualties that night. This was an unresolvable feud.

"Compensation?" Meng Bai frowned.

"It's just compensation. There's no problem." Zhou Shu didn't intend to elaborate on this issue.

What side-by-side king? Zhou Shu didn't take it to heart at all.

Did they think he was stupid?

How many side-by-side kings on Earth in his previous life had a good ending?

He was living well in Great Xia. How could he abandon his foundation in Great Xia and come to Great Qin for a nominal title?

Meng Bai looked at Zhou Shu as if he had thought of something, and his eyes flashed with shock.

He couldn't understand how this could happen.

Seeing Meng Bai's expression, Zhou Shu knew that he might have guessed it.

He shrugged a little helplessly.

"Great General, Great Qin won't find trouble with us again. Let's set off. Great Xia has obtained the right to host the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament. Let's bring this good news back to Great Xia as soon as possible."

Meng Bai nodded with mixed feelings.

He really didn't know how to treat Zhou Shu now.

Back then, when he first met Zhou Shu, Zhou Shu had still been a mere Forging Apprentice. At the time, he had wanted to nurture Zhou Shu.

Later, when he returned from the southern borders, Zhou Shu had already become the You Marquis.

How long had it been? Not only was Zhou Shu's martial strength comparable to a first-rank Martial Dao cultivator, but he had also inexplicably become Great Qin's side-by-side king?

In that case, was he considered a citizen of Great Qin or Great Xia now?

From the looks of it, he was more inclined toward Great Xia.

After some thought, Meng Bai ordered the Great Xia diplomatic mission to set off.

The rest of the journey could only be described as smooth sailing for the Great Xia diplomatic mission.

Along the way, they didn't even encounter a single thief. It was much smoother than when they first came to Great Qin.

While the Great Xia diplomatic mission was still on the way, the news that Zhou Shu had become Great Qin's side-by-side king had already spread.

When Zhou Shu fought his way from Hangu Pass to Great Qin's capital, apart from Great Xia and Great Wei, the diplomatic missions of the other countries had yet to leave Great Qin's capital.

Many people had watched the battle between Zhou Shu and the Qin emperor.

In addition, Great Qin intended to make this matter known, so the news that Great Qin's side-by-side king was Zhou Shu quickly spread throughout the world.

In the imperial palace of Great Xia, Emperor Yuan Feng looked at the news in front of him and was silent for a long time.

"Great companion, do you think I was wrong to let Zhou Shu go to Great Qin?" Emperor Yuan Feng said in a low voice.

Standing behind him, Eunuch Zhao said, "Your Majesty, you did nothing wrong.

"Who would have thought that the You Marquis would be so capable?"

Even after receiving the news, Eunuch Zhao couldn't believe that the You Marquis was such a fierce person.

He had defeated six first-rank experts from Great Qin and fought to a draw with the Qin emperor. Such results were simply unbelievable.

"Side-by-side king... The Qin emperor actually made this move!" Emperor Yuan Feng sneered. "You're trying to poach someone from my Great Xia. This is intolerable!"

Eunuch Zhao smiled bitterly. *The Qin emperor is really generous.*

"Great companion, do you think that Zhou brat will come back?" Emperor Yuan Feng asked with an ugly expression.

"The diplomatic mission sent back news that the marquis is on his way back with the diplomatic mission," Eunuch Zhao said.

“Issue the decree!” Emperor Yuan Feng pondered for a moment and said, “I want to head to the border personally and welcome the return of the warriors of my Great Xia diplomatic mission!”

That old fellow, the Qin emperor, wants to steal my Great Xia’s people. Just because I don’t show my might, do you think I’m a sick cat?

Do you think you can poach my Great Xia’s people so easily? Dream on!

...

“I won’t see them. In the future, refuse all such requests.”

Zhou Shu had a headache.

The aftereffects of being too high-profile finally surfaced.

Before he even returned to Great Xia, there was already an endless stream of people visiting him.

These people weren’t here to challenge Zhou Shu.

At first, Zhou Shu was in a good mood and even met a few people.

In the end, they kept trying to get close to him or ask for weapons.

Later on, Zhou Shu became impatient and left everything to Shi Songtao.

Shi Songtao, the deputy envoy of the Great Xia diplomatic mission, took a share of the money and took on a few jobs.

Now, he felt like he was about to become Zhou Shu’s personal steward!

Shi Songtao was envious as he muttered about rejecting a new batch of visitors.

Who wouldn’t want to be famous?

“It’ll be fine when we get back to Great Xia,” Yin Wuyou comforted Zhou Shu. “When you reach Great Xia, there won’t be so many people bothering you.”

“Is that so?” Zhou Shu said.

He didn’t feel that way.

When the time came, more people would probably come.

When the Huaxia Pavilion was built later, he had to strengthen it so that people couldn’t approach it so simply.

I just want to be a forger. That’s all. Why do you want me to suffer the distress of becoming famous? Zhou Shu sighed and shook his head helplessly.

“You Marquis, you’ve become famous overnight. Everyone knows about you.” Meng Bai smiled. “This is normal. Now, it’s just people visiting you. In the future, all kinds of trouble will come knocking on your door. If you’re too famous, many things are inevitable.”

“Who would dare cause trouble?” Yin Wuyou glared at him angrily.

“With the You Marquis’s current situation, there are countless envious people. Who doesn’t want to become famous by using him as a stepping stone?” Meng Bai said.

“I’ve already fought my way to Great Qin’s capital. Who would dare to use me as a stepping stone?” Zhou Shu said.

Why did he fight his way through Great Qin so openly?

Wasn’t it just to show off his strength and make those who wanted to cause trouble back off?

“Ordinary people naturally don’t dare. However, you’ve fought the Qin emperor to a draw, so some arrogant people will probably want to defeat you and prove their strength. After all, not just anyone can challenge the Qin emperor,” Meng Bai said.

“Not anyone can challenge the Qin emperor, but they can challenge me easily?” Zhou Shu said. “I have to accept a challenge just because they challenge me? They can go to hell.

“I’m just a forger. Don’t challenge me!”

Meng Bai smiled but said nothing. Things in the world were not that simple.

There was no shortage of people who were unafraid of death in order to become famous.

“Never mind all that nonsense. We’ll deal with whatever comes our way.” Zhou Shu shook his head.

“Great General, do you remember the Heavenly Halberd I mentioned?”

“Yes.” Meng Bai nodded, his face darkening.

Back then, in front of Wang Mu, Zhou Shu had said that Meng Bai’s weapon was the Heavenly Halberd and that the Heavenly Halberd was stronger than Wang Mu’s sword. He had been so embarrassed.

He had never even seen the Heavenly Halberd!

“Well, when I said that the Heavenly Halberd was stronger than Wang Mu’s sword, I was bragging...” Zhou Shu said.

Meng Bai’s eyelids twitched a few times.

Isn’t that obvious?

How could a yellow-grade weapon be stronger than a heaven-grade weapon?

In the hands of someone like you, who can’t be deduced by common sense, a yellow-grade weapon can fight a heaven-grade weapon.

Even Meng Bai couldn’t defeat an expert of the same level who held a heaven-grade weapon.

“However, my Heavenly Halberd is really not bad. Although its grade is a little low and might not match your status as a first-rank expert, do you want to consider using it?” Zhou Shu asked.

“You really have the Heavenly Halberd?” Meng Bai said in surprise.

“Of course. I never joke about forging,” Zhou Shu said.

“I’m just cultivating the Martial Dao for fun. I’m serious about forging. Great General, do you want the Heavenly Halberd? If not, I’ll give it to someone else.”

Chapter 256: Great Xia, King of the South

Meng Bai looked at Zhou Shu and praised him inwardly.

Any other young man would probably be a little arrogant now.

At such a young age, his Martial Dao cultivation was already almost invincible. He was Great Qin’s side-by-side king and Great Xia’s You Marquis. No matter which title it was, it was something that ordinary people couldn’t attain in their entire lives.

...

However, not only was Zhou Shu not complacent, but he also felt that this reputation was dragging him down.

When he was famous, he was not immersed in this glory. Instead, he was focused on forging. At this time, he was still in the mood to discuss weapons with him.

Perhaps this was why he had achieved so much.

How could such a person not achieve anything?

Zhou Shu’s enthusiasm for forging also deeply infected Meng Bai.

“Where’s your Heavenly Halberd? Could you let me take a look first?” Meng Bai didn’t hastily agree to buy Zhou Shu’s Heavenly Halberd.

Speaking of which, although Zhou Shu was famous for forging, he was only a Forging Master.

Even if he had almost taken over the Yellow-grade Armament Manual, it didn’t change this fact.

The weapons he forged now were only yellow-grade.

Many years ago, before Meng Bai was injured, the weapon he used was already earth-grade.

Now that he was a first-rank martial artist, it wasn’t difficult for him to obtain a heaven-grade weapon with his status and cultivation.

If he used a yellow-grade weapon now, it would be a burden to his own strength.

It was not an exaggeration to say that a yellow-grade weapon wouldn’t be able to unleash his strength.

To put it bluntly, to first-rank martial artists, yellow-grade weapons were no different from toys.

Wang Mu liked the Overlord Spear purely because he liked it. He had a famous sword at the top of the Heaven-grade Armament Manual, so he didn’t need other weapons.

He wanted the Overlord Spear purely for fun.

Unlike Wang Mu, Meng Bai didn’t have a weapon.

What he lacked now was a weapon that could match his strength, not a toy.

He knew that Zhou Shu had brought a few large boxes with him when he left Chang'an. He had taken the Overlord Spear from those boxes.

Meng Bai was curious about what other weapons he had in the boxes.

"Of course." Zhou Shu smiled. "You definitely have to see it before buying it.

"The Heavenly Halberd is only one step away from completion. I'll let you take a look at it later."

Zhou Shu wasn't just saying this.

In the following days, he directly entered a carriage and didn't even show up to eat.

Everyone could only see faint flames flashing inside the carriage.

The greatest benefit of cultivating the Iron Smelting Hands Technique was that Zhou Shu could forge weapons at any time.

Of course, with his current cultivation in the Iron Smelting Hands Technique, he couldn't forge a weapon anytime, anywhere. But if it was only positioning the stars, it wasn't a big problem.

As the Great Xia diplomatic mission gradually approached the border of Great Xia, Zhou Shu finally walked out of the carriage.

Meng Bai immediately saw the weapon in Zhou Shu's hand. Just like Wang Mu, he was moved!

The weapon was 12 feet long, and there seemed to be the spirit of the Eight Desolates Fire Dragon on the long rod. It was hot to touch, and the sharp tip of the halberd revealed an incomparably ruthless killing intent. The four-edged blade seemed to contain the power of Asura, mind charming and bloodthirsty.

This was an out-and-out killing weapon!

No general could resist its temptation!

"Great General, what do you think of this Heavenly Halberd?" Zhou Shu said.

Before he went to Great Qin, he had spent countless efforts to forge two weapons.

One of them was the Overlord Spear sold to Great Qin's Great General Wang Xin.

And the other was the Heavenly Halberd.

Zhou Shu had originally planned to find a fierce general in Great Qin to take in as a worker, but the series of events in Great Qin made him unable to find a suitable candidate.

Even so, the Heavenly Halberd had already been forged. He couldn't just leave it there.

Letting Meng Bai have it was not the best choice, but it was better than the weapon being useless in his own hands.

On his horse, Meng Bai took the Heavenly Halberd and waved it a few times.

His spiritual essence surged, and the Heavenly Halberd shone brightly, as if a fire dragon was accompanying it. It was murderous.

“What a pity.” Meng Bai tried a few times, a look of pity crossing his face. “If this weapon were a heaven-grade weapon, it would definitely have a place in the Heaven-grade Armament Manual.”

“When my forging skills improve in the future, it will become a heaven-grade weapon,” Zhou Shu said confidently.

As the number of weapon kills increased, the Legendary Armament Canon would unlock the ability to upgrade weapons. At that time, Zhou Shu would be able to upgrade these weapons.

What other forgers couldn’t do was no problem for him.

Meng Bai hesitated for a moment, then said reluctantly, “This Heavenly Halberd is very good. However, it doesn’t suit me. It can’t emit the glory it deserves in my hands. You should find another master for it.”

He reluctantly returned the Heavenly Halberd to Zhou Shu.

With Meng Bai’s status, there was naturally no problem in buying a yellow-grade weapon.

But this was not how Meng Bai saw the problem now. Great Xia was not as powerful as Great Qin. It would be a waste to just keep a good weapon in his hands.

To Meng Bai, this Heavenly Halberd should be used to increase the strength of Great Xia. This was its optimal path.

Chapter 257: Great Xia, King of the South (2)

“That’s too bad.”

This was the first time Zhou Shu had encountered someone giving up a ranked weapon to someone else.

But he was long past the stage of worrying about the sale of weapons. If Meng Bai didn’t want it, there were plenty of others who would.

...

It was no exaggeration to say that countless people wanted the weapons he forged.

Zhou Shu put away the Heavenly Halberd indifferently and asked, “Great General, which general in Great Xia do you think is suitable for this Heavenly Halberd?”

“There are many generals in Great Xia who are used to using such weapons.” Meng Bai pondered for a moment and casually said a few names. “I’ll get them to look for you later. As for the exact transaction, you can discuss it with them. I won’t interfere.”

After asking Meng Bai about the generals, Zhou Shu stopped talking about the Heavenly Halberd.

Instead, he talked to Meng Bai about the weapons in the army.

After a few more days, the Great Xia diplomatic mission finally crossed the border between Great Liang and Great Xia and returned to Great Xia.

“Dragon banner?” Just as they turned at the foot of a mountain, Meng Bai’s expression suddenly changed slightly.

“Father?!” Yin Wuyou also exclaimed.

Ahead, large groups of men and horses appeared. The dragon banner representing the emperor fluttered, emitting a fierce wind.

“His Majesty is here?” Zhou Shu was also surprised.

While everyone was stunned, the troops in front of them were already moving toward them.

“Congratulations on your triumphant return, children of Great Xia!” A voice filled the sky.

“Congratulations!” Thunderous voices boomed.

The figures of Great Xia’s civil and military officials appeared in front of them, cupping their hands at the Great Xia diplomatic mission.

Emperor Yuan Feng also appeared on a chariot. His expression was serious as he cupped his hands and bowed slightly to the Great Xia diplomatic mission.

“On behalf of Great Xia, thank you, heroes!”

The dignified ruler of a country bowed to the members of the diplomatic mission in public. This scene made the eyes of everyone in the Great Xia diplomatic mission turn red.

They bowed in unison.

“Long live Your Majesty!”

This scene made Zhou Shu’s blood boil.

Although he knew that this was just a show put on by the emperor, he had to admit that it felt comfortable.

“His Majesty has decreed that the diplomatic mission has earned Great Xia the right to host the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament and has achieved great merits.”

Eunuch Zhao’s voice sounded in the air.

“The diplomatic mission’s official envoy, Zhou Shu, has made great contributions. He has been conferred the title of Great Xia’s King of the South and a fief of ten thousand households.

“The deputy envoy of the diplomatic mission, Shi Songtao, has worked hard and contributed greatly. He has been conferred the title of earl...

“Deputy Envoy Lu Wenshuang...”

Eunuch Zhao continued to announce the decree.

Almost everyone in the Great Xia diplomatic mission was rewarded.

Shi Songtao and the others felt like they had ascended to the heavens.

“Thank you, Your Majesty!” Shi Songtao screamed especially loudly.

His goal this time was to get some credit.

He didn’t expect that he would get a watermelon when all he wanted was a sesame seed.

I, Shi Songtao, am now an earl?

In the future, others will have to call me Earl!

An earl might not be too high in rank, but it was an honor.

Many in the diplomatic mission were as excited as Shi Songtao.

The commander of the guards, Chen Ji, was promoted by one rank.

Demon Executing Army Lieutenant Yin Chengshan was promoted by one rank.

Divine Constable Yang Hong was promoted by one rank.

...

Apart from Zhou Shu and the expressionless Lu Wenshuang, everyone was overjoyed.

He knew that he would be rewarded for his meritorious service this time, but he didn’t expect the reward to come so quickly and unexpectedly.

After Eunuch Zhao finished announcing everyone’s rewards, he paused and said in a deep voice, “Diplomatic mission advisor, Meng Bai...

“From today onward, you will be reinstated and continue to lead the three armies of Great Xia!”

“Great General, Great Xia still has to trouble you.” Emperor Yuan Feng’s voice sounded.

“Thank you, Your Majesty.” Meng Bai was stunned for a moment before bowing with a responsible expression.

He was actually a little embarrassed now. Back when he went to Great Qin, he had gone with the intention of dying on the way.

At the time, with his injuries, it was unlikely that he would return alive.

But now, not only had his injuries recovered, but his cultivation had even improved.

It turned his retirement into a joke.

Could someone like him really retire?

Now that Emperor Yuan Feng had given him a way back, he could only take the opportunity to accept. As for the rest, he would talk about it later.

“Congratulations, Your Highness.” Yin Wuyou blinked mischievously and smiled at Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu deliberately straightened his face and said seriously, “His Majesty is too petty. He actually didn’t reward you, Grand Minister. I have to suggest it to His Majesty later!”

Yin Wuyou stuck out her tongue, her eyes filled with sweetness.

"King of the South!" A voice sounded in Zhou Shu's ear.

Zhou Shu was stunned for a moment before realizing that someone was calling him.

The name 'King of the South' gave Zhou Shu a special feeling.

He always felt like a conscientious scumbag...

He suspected that Emperor Yuan Feng did it on purpose!

"Did you call me?" He looked around, and his gaze landed on Lu Wenshuang.

Lu Wenshuang was expressionless, but her eyes flickered. "After returning to Chang'an, I want to spar with you again. This time, I hope you can use the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique!"

Spar?

Are you not afraid of death?!

Zhou Shu rolled his eyes inwardly. "No, thank you. I'm not interested".

"Are you looking down on me?" Lu Wenshuang said coldly. "I've gained some insights on this trip. In a few months at most, I'll be able to break through to the second rank of the Martial Dao! At that time, I might have the chance to defeat you!"

"We'll talk about it when you break through to the first rank," Zhou Shu said in annoyance.

Before anyone else challenged him, Lu Wenshuang had come to join in the fun.

Indeed, Meng Bai was right. He wasn't able to scare off anyone with his achievements in Great Qin.

There would be plenty of such challenges in the future.

"Break through to the first rank?" Lu Wenshuang's gaze suddenly became a little strange. She sized up Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu felt like she wanted to strip him naked.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Zhou Shu said angrily, "Don't even think about it. Impossible!"

Lu Wenshuang said nothing. She turned her head and spurred her horse forward.

For some reason, Zhou Shu felt a chill run down his back.

He scratched his head. What danger could he be in with his current cultivation?

Before he could think further, Emperor Yuan Feng had already arrived in front of him.

Emperor Yuan Feng kept a straight face and said indifferently, "Well done."

"Thank you for your praise, Your Majesty," Zhou Shu said.

"I've already arranged for people to start building your Huaxia Pavilion according to the blueprints you left. The imperial court will bear all the expenses," Emperor Yuan Feng continued.

His face remained expressionless, as if he wanted to be nice to him but was desperately trying to maintain his dignity.

Zhou Shu was secretly delighted. *The imperial court is paying to help me build the Huaxia Pavilion?*

What a good thing.

I saved money!

Saving money is making money. Emperor Yuan Feng is quite considerate.

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"Father~" Yin Wuyou stuck out her tongue.

She was in the wrong for running away from home this time.

"Hmph." Emperor Yuan Feng snorted arrogantly and didn't even look at her.

Emperor Yuan Feng walked up to Meng Bai and smiled.

"I'm glad that you're better, Great General. It's a joyous event."

It was obvious that the smile on Emperor Yuan Feng's face was sincere.

"Your Majesty." Meng Bai was touched. "I can still accompany Your Majesty for a while."

"With you around, I can sleep in peace," Emperor Yuan Feng said.

"Your Majesty, this Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament—" Meng Bai said.

Emperor Yuan Feng shook his head. "Everyone is tired after returning from a long journey. Let's rest for the night and talk about this after returning to Chang'an.

Emperor Yuan Feng raised his voice, "I have prepared delicious food for everyone. Today, we are not separated by status. Everyone, enjoy yourselves!"

A thunderous cheer resounded.

Zhou Shu looked at the scene in front of him. Compared to the domineering and arrogant Qin emperor who had almost brought Great Qin to its doom, he felt that this somewhat indecisive and arrogant Emperor Yuan Feng was more likable.

This was probably one of the reasons he wanted to stay in Great Xia. He turned his head just in time to see that stunning smile.

Chapter 258: Did You Forge the Great Destroyer Sword?

"Your Highness, our Ministry of Works started building it according to the blueprints you left," an official from the Ministry of Works said to Zhou Shu carefully.

“Our Ministry of Works has dispatched our most skilled craftsmen to ensure that your thoughts are realized, Your Highness.”

The rank of this Ministry of Works official wasn't low.

...

But facing Great Xia's new King of the South, he couldn't put on any airs.

The person in front of him was not only Great Xia's King of the South but also Great Qin's side-by-side king.

This had never happened before. Becoming kings of two nations at the same time was something they would never dare to do in their dreams.

Ever since the news that the King of the South was Great Qin's side-by-side king, the emperor had issued a death order that the Huaxia Pavilion had to be built according to the blueprints that Zhou Shu had taken out back then.

If the construction failed, everyone in the Minister of Works could retire!

Therefore, the most important thing for the Ministry of Works these days was the construction of the Huaxia Pavilion.

The blueprints that Zhou Shu left had actually been randomly scribbled by him. Later, Meng Bai had modified them slightly, but most of them still didn't meet the requirements for actual implementation.

Still, there was no shortage of talent anywhere.

The capable craftsman of the Ministry of Works planned the building based on Zhou Shu's idea without changing the general foundation.

Previously, when he went to look for the Ministry of Works, the Ministry of Works had rejected his plan. To put it bluntly, his status at the time was still not high enough.

“Build according to this.” Zhou Shu nodded in satisfaction. “How long will it take to finish?”

“The first phase will be finished within six months,” the Ministry of Works official said.

“Very good. You must ensure the quality. Don't ignore the quality in order to catch up with the schedule,” Zhou Shu said.

“Don't worry, Your Highness. If anything goes wrong, you can do whatever you want to me,” the Ministry of Works official promised.

Zhou Shu made his rounds before riding back to Chang'an.

After the diplomatic mission returned to Great Qin, Zhou Shu became famous and had an endless stream of visitors.

In the end, he closed his doors and refused all visitors.

As for the diplomatic mission, he didn't interfere much. After he returned, Shi Songtao and the others naturally went to do the handover.

Apart from getting more visitors, being conferred the title of King of the South didn't affect Zhou Shu much.

At least he felt that his life hadn't changed much.

His You Marquis Mansion had changed to the King of the South Mansion.

It had to be said that the standard of his residence was a little high to begin with. Now that it was used as a king's residence, it wasn't too shabby.

On the other hand, his mansion's steward was stunned by the sudden news.

He was promoted from a marquis's steward to a king's steward. Other than Zhou Shu, he might be the fastest promoting worker in history.

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This change made the steward feel a little uneasy at first. He was worried that he wouldn't be able to do a good job as a steward.

Later, he realized that his master didn't seem to have changed much. He didn't care much about food, clothes, and travel. Other than forging, he only read books every day.

Perhaps it was this kind of strictness that allowed Zhou Shu to have his current achievements.

After returning to the King of the South residence from the construction site of the Huaxia Pavilion, Zhou Shu saw a familiar figure.

"Hey, isn't this Earl Shi? Why are you so free to come here?" Zhou Shu smiled.

He had once dreamed of being Shi Songtao and knew that this fellow's personality was just like his image. He was pretentious...

Shi Songtao bowed solemnly. "Greetings, Your Highness."

After bowing, he straightened his back. "Your Highness, I wonder if what you said before still stands?"

"What did I say?"

"That if I join the Huaxia Pavilion, you will impart your star fixing technique to me!" Shi Songtao said with a serious expression.

Although there were problems with his personality, his pursuit of forging was genuine.

"Of course it still stands." Zhou Shu smiled.

"Great!" Shi Songtao's expression was firm as he said in a deep voice, "Then, Your Highness, I'll join the Huaxia Pavilion!"

"Wait." Zhou Shu smiled. "Not just anyone can join the Huaxia Pavilion."

"I'm Great Xia's number one—" Shi Songtao blurted. He looked at Zhou Shu and swallowed his words. *Alright, I'm the former number one forging genius of Great Xia!*

"Your Highness, I can already forge black-grade weapons. In the future, forging earth-grade weapons will not be a problem," Shi Songtao said. "In fact, within five years, I'm certain that I can forge a heaven-grade weapon and become a Grand Craftsman!"

Shi Songtao looked proud.

As a forger, he had his pride.

In terms of forging talent, he might be slightly inferior to Zhou Shu.

But in terms of forging, he was one step ahead of Zhou Shu!

Zhou Shu had yet to forge a black-grade weapon!

It wasn't that Shi Songtao was bragging, but the first 36 workshops would be overjoyed if he was willing to join any of them!

"So what?" Zhou Shu said casually. "If you want to join the Huaxia Pavilion, you have to follow my rules."

Shi Songtao took a deep breath before saying, "Alright then. What conditions must be met to join the Huaxia Pavilion?"

"To others, it naturally requires an assessment."

Chapter 259: Did You Forge the Great Destroyer Sword? (2)

Zhou Shu smiled. "Old Shi, we've been through thick and thin together. How can I not trust you?"

Shi Songtao was stumped by Zhou Shu. *What does he mean?*

So, can I join the Huaxia Pavilion or not?

...

"However, nothing can be done without rules," Zhou Shu continued. "We still have to go through the necessary procedures."

"How about this? Our Huaxia Pavilion now has a yellow-grade weapon called the Heavenly Halberd."

"If you manage to sell it, you'll pass the test."

"What?" Shi Songtao's eyes widened. "I'm a Forging Master! I should be forging, not selling!"

"Besides, do I need to sell ranked weapons? Others have to beg me to buy them!"

Since when did Forging Masters need to promote ranked weapons?

Martial artists would fight over any ranked weapons.

As long as Zhou Shu spread the word, countless people would come to the Huaxia Pavilion.

"Isn't this a process?" Zhou Shu smiled. "How can it be simple?"

"However, I have a request. You can't just find any random buyer. The Heavenly Halberd needs to be matched with a peerless general!"

Previously, Meng Bai had introduced a few people to him, but Zhou Shu was not too satisfied.

Ever since he met Wang Xin, Zhou Shu had become a little picky. Even workers had to be cultured.

Otherwise, if he didn't see any benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon, wouldn't he have worked for nothing?

"Alright," Shi Songtao reluctantly agreed. The Shi family had some connections in the military. This wasn't a difficult matter.

Shi Songtao hesitated before asking, "Your Highness, I have a question."

"Ask away." Zhou Shu didn't mind. It was up to him to answer.

"Your Highness, did you also forge the Great Destroyer Sword?" Shi Songtao looked at Zhou Shu.

"Yes," Zhou Shu said casually.

He had already exposed most of his strength, so he naturally didn't care about such a small matter.

"No wonder," Shi Songtao muttered under his breath. "No wonder such an expert would use a yellow-grade weapon."

"Your Highness, your senior brother discovered you because of the Great Destroyer Sword, right?"

Zhou Shu was stunned before he realized what he was saying.

He looked at Shi Songtao strangely. *Shi Songtao is so honest.*

Now, not many people really believe that I have a senior brother.

Does he actually believe it?

Indeed, what bad intentions can a forger have?

"That's right," Zhou Shu said perfunctorily.

"Your Highness, I am truly convinced now." Shi Songtao cupped his hands.

"You forged the Great Destroyer Sword. In that case, the top ten weapons in the current Yellow-grade Armament Manual are all your weapons, Your Highness."

"No one has done such a thing since the creation of the Armament Manual."

"Just because no one has done it doesn't mean we can't do it. Old Shi, join the Huaxia Pavilion. The first lesson I'm going to teach you is that a man must take responsibility. If others can do it, we can do it. Even if others can't, we can do it."

"Otherwise, why would they need our Huaxia Pavilion?"

"I've gained knowledge," Shi Songtao said sincerely.

Shi Songtao was really convinced by Zhou Shu now, even if Zhou Shu's current forging level was actually inferior to his.

But this level also depended on how one made use of it.

He could forge black-grade weapons, and Zhou Shu had yet to forge a black-grade weapon. From the evaluation of forgers, his level was higher.

But the yellow-grade weapons that Zhou Shu forged now occupied the top ten of the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. In terms of forging yellow-grade weapons, not to mention Shi Songtao, even Grand Craftsmen were far inferior.

Zhou Shu had achieved an unprecedented record.

The top ten of the Yellow-grade Armament Manual!

Before Shi Songtao left, he suddenly thought of something and stopped to ask, "Your Highness, does our Huaxia Pavilion want to participate in this Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament?"

"Can I not attend?" Zhou Shu said. He had heard the Forging Division usually sent people to participate in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament.

He had never cared much for these matters.

Moreover, his identity was limited previously. Most of the information he had access to was just gossip. He could only treat it as a story and not take it seriously.

"Given your status, you don't have to participate if you don't want to," Shi Songtao said.

Zhou Shu was not only Great Xia's King of the South but also Great Qin's side-by-side king.

He now had full authority to decide some things.

"Is that so?" Zhou Shu rubbed his chin and pondered. "Old Shi, do you think it's better for the Huaxia Pavilion to participate in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament or not?"

"Me?" Shi Songtao was surprised, but he still said, "I'm definitely willing to participate.

"The Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is a good opportunity to contribute to the country. It's also an opportunity for an individual.

"Your Highness, back then, you agreed to a bet to help Great Xia reclaim the two prefectures and become a marquis. This kind of thing is possible in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament.

"If you make a contribution to the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, it's not impossible for you to be bestowed a title."

Shi Songtao's eyes were full of longing.

In the past, he had thought that it would be enough if he could get a title. An earl was something he hadn't even dared to think about before.

But now, after seeing Zhou Shu's achievements, his horizons had widened.

Right now, he wanted to fight to become a marquis!

He, Shi Songtao, also wanted someone to call him Marquis Shi one day!

"I don't think I need any anymore," Zhou Shu mumbled.

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Shi Songtao: "..."

Comparisons are odious!

He was still thinking of fighting to become a marquis, but a certain someone had already been conferred the title of a king...

There seemed to be no more way up...

With that in mind, there was really no need for him to participate in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament.

No matter how great the credit, he couldn't possibly be promoted again...

"Old Shi, is the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament the same as our Great Xia military parade?" Zhou Shu asked, "Are we forgers also competing in forging?"

If that was the case, he had no interest in participating.

"I don't think so." Shi Songtao shook his head. "The Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is a competition of actual combat. We forgers join as a reserve force. We are responsible for providing and repairing weapons for the army.

"Our Great Xia participates in workshops. Every workshop supports an army."

"I see." Zhou Shu pondered. In that case, he was interested.

Wouldn't it be a great opportunity to recruit some workers?

Moreover, the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament was actual combat. Since it was actual combat, there would definitely be a chance to kill.

Even with his current identity, it wasn't easy to make an entire army work for him without a specific opportunity.

His eyes began to glow.

"Old Shi, you've already said that participating in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is an opportunity to contribute to the country," Zhou Shu said.

"We are deeply indebted to the country. How can we not step up when the country needs us?"

"Yes, we must participate!"

Zhou Shu said passionately, "Even if there are only us two forgers in the Huaxia Pavilion, we have to participate!"

“Even if there are only two of us, we can still support the military supplies of an entire army. Old Shi, are you confident?”

“Yes!” Shi Songtao shouted. “I will follow Your Highness to the death!”

“What death? We’re forgers, not combatants. No matter what, we won’t die.

“But since we’re participating in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, we still have to think of a way to find out what the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is all about. In order to support an army, we have to choose the army with the most combat missions. Only then can we show the strength of our Huaxia Pavilion.”

“Your Highness, you are right.” Shi Songtao was full of admiration. This was the king in his heart, the new number one forging genius of Great Xia who surpassed him!

Chapter 260: The Truth of the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament, the Holy Land (1)

“You want to know about the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament?” Meng Bai looked at Zhou Shu in surprise.

“With your current status, you actually don’t need to participate in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament.”

“I don’t see why not,” Zhou Shu said. “Everyone is responsible for the rise and fall of the country. Since I’m a member of Great Xia, isn’t it normal for me to help Great Xia?”

...

Meng Bai laughed. “That makes sense.”

After laughing, he resumed a serious expression, “But you have to know that the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is very dangerous. It’s inevitable that there will be casualties. Back then, I was seriously injured in the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament. If it weren’t for you, I would probably be dead by now.”

“General, do you think I will be in danger?” Zhou Shu smiled. It wasn’t that he was bragging, but even if he ran to the middle of a battlefield and came out again, he would probably be unharmed.

Meng Bai shook his head and said solemnly, “I know that you’re strong and not weaker than the Qin emperor. But even someone as strong as the Qin emperor doesn’t dare to take the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament lightly.

“The Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament isn’t as simple as you think.”

Meng Bai seemed to remember something, and his eyes flashed with fear.

Zhou Shu was a little surprised. Rumor had it that Meng Bai had been injured because he had been besieged by experts of the other nine nations during the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament.

Now, it seemed that there was something else going on.

Experts of the other nine nations wouldn’t make Meng Bai feel frightened.

Meng Bai was Great Xia's God of War. Over the years, he had fought many times with the armies of the nine nations.

"What secrets are there to the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament? Even if there's danger, can it threaten me, a logistics personnel? I'm participating in the Martial Arts Tournament as a forger," Zhou Shu asked curiously.

Meng Bai froze. He had almost forgotten this.

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He subconsciously treated Zhou Shu as a combatant, mainly because Zhou Shu's achievements were too impressive.

He had fought from Hangu Pass to Great Qin's capital alone and defeated six first-rank experts of Great Qin. In the end, he had even fought the Qin emperor to a draw.

With such shocking strength, who would think that martial artist was only his secondary profession and that his true identity was actually a forger?

Meng Bai smiled bitterly in his heart. *Geniuses are truly unreasonable.*

Many people couldn't reach the peak in their lives, but it was just a side job to him.

"If you're participating as a forger, although it's still dangerous, it's manageable," Meng Bai said.

"Forget it. You'll have to hear about this sooner or later.

"Do you know the origins of the so-called Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament?" Meng Bai asked solemnly.

"Isn't it true that the founding emperors of the Ten Nations set up an alliance to prevent the land from suffering?" Zhou Shu asked.

"That's just a rumor." Meng Bai shook his head. "The truth of things is often not so beautiful.

"The reason the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament is held is not that the emperors of the ten nations are so benevolent.

"Look at the ten nations. Whether they are strong or weak, no one has ever initiated a war of national destruction. Do you think none of these monarchs want to unify the land?

"No. It's not that they don't want to, but they just can't and don't dare."

"Is there something or someone above the ten nations that the emperors fear?" Zhou Shu asked.

"You could say that," Meng-Bai said. "But this existence isn't someone.

"The ten nations exist because the world needs the ten nations to exist. This matter is important, so the nations have always kept it a secret and not let the people know.

“On this land, there is a Demon Realm,” Meng Bai said with a solemn expression. “The Demon Realm has always wanted to invade the world we’re on. The Demon Realm is powerful and far beyond our ability to resist.

“The reason we can still exist now is that a senior expert forged the Ten Imperial Cauldrons and used the ten nations’ luck and terrain to form a seal to block the Demon Realm from the land.

1

“This is why the ten nations have always existed!

“In order to maintain the integrity of the seal, there must be the Ten Imperial Cauldrons. None of them can be missing!

“Therefore, even if there are disputes between the ten nations, no one dares to start a war of national destruction. Otherwise, if one of the Ten Imperial Cauldrons is missing, the seal will no longer be complete. At that time, the Demon Realm will be able to invade this world, and the ten nations will face a calamity!”

1

Meng Bai didn’t hold back because Zhou Shu’s current identity was qualified to know some secrets.

“Does the Ten Nations Martial Arts Tournament have something to do with this?” Zhou Shu asked.

He thought of Great Qin’s imperial cauldron. This imperial cauldron had almost shattered back then.

Fortunately, he had helped back then. Otherwise, the entire world would have suffered?

Did the other countries know that Great Qin’s imperial cauldron had been damaged?

Great Wei seemed to have discovered some clues, so they tested Great Qin. What about the other nations?

How did such a powerful divine artifact, the imperial cauldron, get damaged in the hands of the Qin emperor?

Zhou Shu pondered as Meng Bai continued.

“Ten Imperial Cauldrons formed a seal and sealed the land we were on, making it difficult for the Demon Realm to invade. But the Demon Realm’s desire to destroy us hasn’t died. Every ten years, their attacks on the seal reach a limit.

“At this point, if we ignore it, the Demon Realm will break the seal, and then they can march right in.

“Therefore, every ten years, the ten nations will join forces and use the Ten Imperial Cauldrons to open the seal. We will let in a portion of the people from the Demon Realm and destroy them! This way, the power of the Demon Realm to attack the seal will be consumed, and the seal formed by the Ten Imperial Cauldrons can be reinforced again and last for another ten years.”