

E Monarch 131

Chapter 131 – Fear my immortal behavior

The old scholar realized that Jun Mo Xie was timing his interruptions well, and was only interjecting the flow of the discussion when the gathering was trying to steer the topic towards the strength of the Jun Family. Instead of answering delicate questions about the strength of the Jun Family, Jun Mo Xie would suddenly start talking nonsense, and would end up nauseating the other men on the table, and as a result, no one would carry the subject any further. However, he couldn't tell if this was intentional or unintentional.....

This debauchee may not be as simple as we think ah! Fang Bo Wen shook his head as he thought to himself; but either way, it seems that the second prince is bound to return empty handed today. However, is this approach Jun Mo Xie's own decision, or was it taken by his family? Answering this question is going to be a tough job ah.

"Hey, Second Prince today...is there any other plan in addition to drinking? This wine party has been fun, but it would be pointless if we didn't have more fun afterwards!" Jun Mo Xie put on a wretched smile on his face, as he stood up with a 'slam' sound.

His actions were becoming more distasteful with every passing minute, and he had even started refereeing to the second prince as 'second prince' instead of 'his Highness' as before!

There might have been other plans for later; but the second prince had already cancelled all other plans after seeing Jun Mo Xie's behavior. Naturally, the second prince didn't wish to associate himself with such indecent people publicly. In a span as short as the course of a meal, Jun Mo Xie had left him feeling angry enough to vomit blood; and not to mention hopelessly and helplessly embarrassed...

Jun Mo Xie was secretly relieved to see that everyone had already given up on promoting their political and diplomatic agendas. He stood up grinning, and twisted his waist as he walked over towards the pearl-curtained partition where lady Yue'er was playing her lute; he had come to the Ni Chang pavilion for her, so how could he let her slip by....?

You little woman, alone, would dare to think of destroying the Jun Family!?

The last time when Jun Mo Xie had seen Lady Yue'er, she had unknowingly revealed her deep-seated hatred for the Jun Family. Jun Mo Xie was already somewhat afraid of this woman since she was very well connected in the society and quite quick-witted, and on top of that, a very accomplished martial artist. Moreover, even though the second prince was trying to keep his distance from her, she could end up in his arms one day.

Would the second prince be able to keep his innocence when faced with the charms of a brothel's prostitute? This statement seemed a bit ridiculous and Jun Mo Xie could sense that this woman might turn into a major threat later.

Jun Mo Xie had no doubts that this woman might have some plans, and was even suspecting that she may have other people supporting her secretly from the dark! This suspicion had been growing stronger and stronger in the young master Jun's heart, and he had finally decided to do something about it.

This was his main objective behind visiting the Ni Chang pavilion today. But who is this unknown enemy, which is patiently waiting in the dark? The Jun Family has been slowly growing in strength, and there will obviously be some factions that might try to hinder our growth; but if I eliminate them, then the Jun Family will grow unrestrained.

If I let her get away this time, then with the growth of the Jun Family's strength, she might go into hibernation, and even her backers might become passive. But if I kill her, and that too publicly, then the enemy will conceal themselves with even more vigor, which could be a very unfavorable situation as well!

"Lady Yue'er, you're looking really pretty, hey....." Jun Mo Xie made no attempts to conceal his perverted desire, as his eyes shamelessly eyed her body before coming to a stop at her breasts.

Lady Yue'er suddenly felt as if an invisible pair of hands was touching her body inappropriately, but she couldn't say it out loud. She looked at him coldly and said: "Young master Jun, please behave courteously."

"There's no need to. Being the son of a big family has its benefits; Tang Yuan is an example of that." Jun Mo Xie broke into laughter. He broke through the partition paying no attention to her rejection in his interests.

“Young master Jun, although Yue’er works in a brothel.... I’m not a prostitute, but an entertainer; please try to understand.” Lady Yue’er stated in a cold voice.

“I will give you really good money, why wouldn’t you sell yourself? The girl should remember that the young master Jun has been kind to her in the past as well!” Jun Mo Xie’s face shamelessly reminded her of their past interactions.

At this point, everyone could tell that this debauchee had been with Lady Yue’er before; in fact, most men were assuming that he would have forced himself on her in the past as well. They were finally beginning to realize why Jun Mo Xie had an unparalleled reputation as a debauchee!

But now the biggest issue at hand was: What to do with Lady Yue’er? This banquet is being hosted by his royal highness, the second prince! If Jun Mo Xie did something untoward, then it would bring bad name to the second prince!

If this issue came into the public knowledge, then there might be a large outrage!

Everyone was thinking the same thing, and had already halted feasting on their wines. This was a rare and unusual situation, since the bully was none other than a son of the great Jun Family; what is he going to do with Lady Yue’er now?

If Lady Yue’er hastily rejected this debauchee, then this guy might immediately retaliate! Could a lowly establishment like the Ni Chang pavilion bear retaliation from the great Jun Family? But if she doesn’t refuse his advances, then would she actually allow him to take unfair advantage of herself? The young master Jun is surely being horny beyond control!

Everyone looked at each other in dismay, unable to decide on a course of action.

The second prince intervened and said: “Young master Jun, Lady Yue’er is a musician, and of noble character. This is the first time that you’re meeting her; please don’t embarrass the Lady.” His address to Jun Mo Xie had changed from ‘Little Brother’ to ‘Young Master Jun’.

“Embarrass? How am I doing that? This is a place of business, what’s so noble about that? Ha Ha Ha, if I don’t take such interests in her, then what will happen to her livelihood? This is what she does for a

living since she's already sold herself into slavery. Don't pay any attention to her, she's just teasing me since she likes me; why else would she play hard to get?"

Jun Mo Xie was obviously carrying a drunken look on his face, and didn't seem to be bothered by anyone's objections. He continued to watch Lady Yue'er's body with perverted thoughts on his mind.

Lady Yue'er fiercely stared back at Jun Mo Xie, but her stomach was beginning to feel a drum beat: "Young master Jun, I might be an employee here, but I don't offer my body in service."

"Don't offer your body in service? Ha Ha Ha..... in a brothel, ah! Do you know what this place is? A brothel! Okay? You're saying that you work in a brothel but you don't offer your body in service? This is really funny... ha ha ha.....this is a brothel, there are no noble characters here, and you're asking the son of the Jun Family to behave... in such a place?" Jun Mo Xie seemed very proud of his perverted behavior.

Lady Yue'er bit her lips in anger, and it seemed as if she was almost contemplating killing this hateful hedonistic son of the Jun Family. Even if you were the last man on this planet, I still wouldn't fancy you! She looked across the pearl curtain and saw the ash-faced prince, and suddenly came up with an idea.

"Er Ye, please save me." Lady Yue'er panicked and ran out through the curtain, with the intention of getting to prince's side. Even though her footsteps were staggering, her speed was still quite fast; so much so, that even a level nine expert wouldn't have been able to intercept her.

But against her expectation, Jun Mo Xie suddenly darted sideways with his arms wide open, and suddenly gripped her delicate and feminine body in his embrace. He continued to laugh as his catlike palms brushed onto her breasts and started to forcefully fondle them. He smiled as said: "Such a beauty.... Don't resist..... don't struggle, gee, you're so pretty, there's no need to be shy here...."

Lady Yue'er had heard the rumors that Jun Mo Xie wasn't capable of cultivating his Xuan Qi, which is why she had never expected that he would actually be able to exhibit such agility to intercept her. Even though Jun Mo Xie was one step ahead of her, she still hadn't expected him to catch her since she had ducked sideways, but had ended up landing in his embrace with a 'thud'.

Is this a coincidence? But isn't this too much of a coincidence?

Jun Mo Xie's hands continued to swim all over the angered and embarrassed Lady Yue'er's body, who was almost on the verge of fainting with fury.

Everyone's face was clearly depicting the disgust of their hearts. How could someone be this indecent to a woman in the presence of the second prince? What kind of behavior is this? Even if we are in a brothel, the young master Jun is still crossing his limits!

"Jun Mo Xie! Let Lady Yue'er go!" Cheng De Cao shouted as he rushed up towards them.

Lady Yue'er took advantage of the opening and broke free of Jun Mo Xie's embrace. Her eyes were full of tears of anger and indignation, and she waved her hand and slapped Jun Mo Xie straight across the face!

Even though Lady Yue'er didn't employ the complete extent of her Xuan Qi in the slap, it was still a lot to take for Jun Mo Xie's body.

"Pop!" everyone froze in their footsteps.

Lady Yue'er's hand had not only hit its target, but had hit Jun Mo Xie straight across the face; and as a result, left the mark of her five fingers on his face, which was already beginning to swell from the strike. Everyone stood halted in their steads, unable to fathom any measures to respond to this change of events.

"Bitch! You're not a noble woman, just a prostitute; don't you have any ethics?! How dare you slap and deface me?!"

Jun Mo Xie hopped towards her as he cursed, and raised his foot to kick her, but found his way obstructed by a man; Cheng De Cao said: "Young master Jun, why are you losing your temper over this mere brothel woman?" Cheng De Cao was somehow able to prevent his face from being distorted by the dislike he felt for Jun Mo Xie. Even though his mind was advising against it, he still wished to strangle Jun Mo Xie to death at this point.

"Get out of my way! I will kill this little bitch today! How dare she slap me?!" Jun Mo Xie shouted angrily.

“Jun Mo Xie, you have to understand the circumstances! This banquet was organized by his royal highness, the second prince; we are all his guests... would you cause his royal highness shame in the public eye?” Cheng De Cao stared at him.

“Strange ah, how would teaching this prostitute a lesson equivalent to defacing the second prince in the public eye huh? Cheng De Cao, what are you trying to say? Are you trying to say that this little bitch slapped me on the second prince’s orders?!” Jun Mo Xie flipped his eyes in accusation.

Chapter 132 – Killing a chicken to scare the monkeys

“That was an outrageous presumption! Lady Yue’er was just.....” Cheng De Cao halted in the middle of his sentence as a chill ran down his spine.

“Was just? What?” Jun Mo Xie broke into an unbridled laughter. He twitched his lips and said: “Since she’s brothel woman, what kind of an entertainment could she provide if we can’t even touch her body huh? I’m being considerate towards her profession by showing interests in her, and she offends me in this manner?!”

“You’re destroying the reputation of your Family!” Cheng De Cao’s eyes were reeking of contempt for the young master Jun: “Jun Mo Xie, you’re really forcing me to hate and despise you.” Cheng De Cao was suddenly feeling very proud of his own self at this moment: People have often said that I’m an insult to my family’s name, but I haven’t done anything even remotely as shameful as Jun Mo Xie....

“Cheng De Cao.... Fuck you! What did you just say? You despise me? You and I are cut from the same cloth, and remember that I can eliminate your entire family if you insult me again!” Jun Mo Xie furiously tilted his neck and slanted his eyes: “Cheng De Cao, go back to your mother and let her nurse you up a bit!”

Cheng De Cao’s entire body started to tremble with rage, and his crimson eyes looked up at Jun Mo Xie again, while his hand landed on the hilt of his sword with a ‘pop’. ‘Clang’ he unsheathed about three inches of his sword, and exposed its metal’s cold radiance!

“Jun Mo Xie!” the sullied second prince stood up: “You’re drunk; perhaps you should go back home early today.”

"I've barely had a few mouthfuls of wine, how could I be drunk?" Jun Mo Xie snorted, as he tilted his neck towards the second prince, unwilling to agree: "And now this sissy has just unsheathed his sword in threat!"

"I'm saying you're drunk; it means you're drunk!" the second prince finally snapped, unable to tolerate it anymore.

Fang Bo Wen hastily rushed towards the prince, and gently pressed hand against the Prince's shoulder.

Jun Mo Xie raised his eyes to meet the Second Prince's gaze. The two men continued to gaze into each other's eyes for a while, before Jun Mo Xie crooked his mouth and smiled again: "Since the second prince says that Jun Mo Xie is drunk; then I'm drunk he he he even if I haven't had enough wine, I'm still drunk, ha ha ha This is funny, really funny!"

He continued to laugh as he reached out to grab a cup of wine, and smashed into the floor beside Lady Yue'er. The cup broke, and crisp sound made everyone's face twitch in surprise.

Jun Mo Xie fiercely pointed a finger at Lady Yue'er and said: "You little slut, today we are in presence of the Second Prince, and since the Second Prince is speaking in your favor, I'm letting you go for now. But I'll come back for you later someday!" Jun Mo Xie subconsciously rubbed his crotch to indicate his nefarious desires!

Jun Mo Xie turned around and faced Cheng De Cao. He slowly extended his hand and reached out towards Cheng De Cao's face. 'Clap' 'clap', he patted Cheng De Cao's face twice, producing a crisp sound, and said: "So you want to kill me huh? Really? Cheng De Cao, drawing even half a sword is indicative of war; you will behave yourself in the future, understand?!"

Then, he turned around as he continued to laugh, waved his hand, almost like he was trying to wave away the atmospheric dust, twisted his hips, and quickly left.

He had made a mess out of the Second Prince's feast; he insulted the prince's company to the point where the prince had to personally threaten retaliation. Firstly, he had managed to abuse Cheng De Cao, and had in general been very vulgar and disrespectful.... By being rampantly arrogant and aggressive, Jun Mo Xie had lived up to the reputation of being the city's most notorious debauchee!

Jun Mo Xie reached downstairs and sat inside his Palanquin; surprisingly, there were two more men inside his palanquin, who were both dressed in black colored clothes. Jun Mo Xie sighed and said: “After I leave, you will pay close attention to the movements inside the Ni Chang Pavilion. You will also keep an eye on the people the Second Prince meets after he leaves. While the other person will continue to watch the Ni Chang pavilion, and will keep track of the people who enter and exit the place; and do not slack one bit!” both men nodded.

The palanquin started to sway as the young master Jun left for his residence. Although today’s events hadn’t gained any concrete results, it had still been a very fruitful trip. On one hand, Jun Mo Xie had lived up to his public reputation, but secondly and more importantly, he had publicly insulted and embarrassed the woman the Second Prince had been showing interest in. So this trip had definitely been worthwhile!

Jun Mo Xie certainly knew that even though Lady Yue’er was working in a brothel, she wasn’t exactly a prostitute; in fact, he could tell that she didn’t think very highly of the profession, and was wondering if she was an expert in disguise?

Jun Mo Xie was convinced that Lady Yue’er would retaliate – in fact, Jun Mo Xie was hoping for it!

Now the situation was turning favorable for Jun Mo Xie. Since Jun Mo Xie had overheard Lady Yue’er and Lord Liu’s conversation the other night, he already knew the identity of his enemies. But they weren’t aware that Jun Mo Xie was also targeting them! Therefore, Lady Yue’er would certainly try to avenge this insult without being aware of Jun Mo Xie’s ulterior motives!

But it didn’t just stop here; Jun Mo Xie had accomplished another, third feat, today. He had built a wall between the Second Prince and Lady Yue’er by insulting her in front of him.

The Second Prince hadn’t reacted firmly, and hadn’t been able to impose his dominance properly, which would have left Lady Yue’er very disappointed – If a man can’t even protect the woman he is trying to pursue, then would he still be able to call himself a man? Especially in this case, when the man was powerful enough to protect her.... But since he didn’t take the initiative, their relationship would inevitably suffer.

If Jun Mo Xie had been in the Prince’s shoes, then he would have certainly charged screaming: This is my woman! Keep your hands off her! But the second prince hadn’t, at least not boldly. In fact, even Jun Mo Xie was looking down upon the prince. Is my wealth and position of that much importance?

In fact even Jun Mo Xie hadn't expected to get away with his actions so easily, especially since he knew that the Second Prince had shown interest in Lady Yue'er!

As for his action, Jun Mo Xie felt no guilt about the manner in which he had treated Lady Yue'er: She might be a woman, but she's still an enemy, and there's nothing that I wouldn't do to intercept an enemy. Since she planned and plotted against the Jun Family and me, why should I show any restraint against her? The young master Jun's conscience was clear in that regard!

Lady Yue'er's entire body trembled with rage as her tear stained eyes looked at Jun Mo Xie's swaying palanquin. She turned around and raised her gaze to look wildly at the prince in complain, but instead of voicing her complain, she turned around and left.

The second prince stood dazed in his spot, but his face was expressing the disgust his heart felt!

Who would have thought that the Second Prince's attempt to entertain Jun Mo Xie would yield such a result? Who could have guessed that the young master Jun would act so arrogantly, and would even ignore the Second Prince's objections!

Jun Mo Xie had paid no heed to the prince's objections and had even left without apologizing for his actions, which was tantamount to slapping the Prince's dignity in the face!

The Second Prince had never been so embarrassed in his entire life! It could be said that he hated Jun Mo Xie right down to his core! He stood there motionless for a long time, away from the other men in his company; the Prince was barely able to stop himself from breaking into tears!

The Prince stood dazed for a long, long time. He eventually raised his gaze, sighed and said: "Let's go."

Cheng De Cao decided to fawn and make his gains: "Your Highness? This Jun Mo Xie was so rude to your Highness today; allow me to teach him a lesson; I could even have his life....."

"Are you really that stupid?" The Prince looked at the man in front of his eyes, and said: "He might have been arrogant, and may even have insulted me today, but I cannot retaliate.... and that is a fact! Do you think that Jun Mo Xie would have had the courage to contradict me if he didn't know this? And you want

me to break my relationship with him? Teach him a lesson? Assassinate him? Is your head really full of so much rubbish? First, you do not have the power to do anything to Jun Mo Xie, and secondly, if anything untoward happened to Jun Mo Xie right now, then we'll be the first ones coming under suspicion! Jun Zhan Tian's anger has caused blood baths in the city before as well; will you only be happy after he runs a bloody riot inside my palace? Well? Don't you think I've had enough for one day?"

The flatterer had been kicked in the face. Cheng De Cao's face twitched in anger a few times, but he remained silent. Although he continued to curse inside his heart: What kind of a prince are you? First you allow the grandson of your military general to humiliate you, and then you take it out on me?

"That's for certain when it comes to Jun Zhan Tian...." Fang Bo Wen stroked his beard, and slowly stated: "Jun Mo Xie's actions were clearly intentional; meaning, that he had already come prepared to cause a scene today."

"Well? What makes you say that?" the Second Prince thoughtfully asked.

"The Jun Family has always refused to participate in the politics of the Empire, and has only concentrated their attention on military matters. All three of His Majesty's sons were trying to involve the Jun Family in the Empire's politics, so it's only natural that they would want to remove themselves from being involved. Jun Zhan Tian's army has already proven that they can cause a blood bath in ministerial mansions before; the Jun Family has already shown their power before, and whichever son of the Majesty manages to get a grasp on this force, will have enough power to overrule the other two! In other words, the prince who gains their support will rule the Empire. Now we have seen their attitude.... and the other two will also come to know about this soon."

"So now, I'm afraid that High Royal Highness, and his brothers, will have no other option but to leave the Jun Family and Jun Zhan Tian out of the political agendas since the man doesn't wish to get involved. Even if the Jun Family is willing to expose their true strength, they still wouldn't be willing to join into the muddy waters of political conspiracies. In this case, the best way to retain their support is to leave them out of the politics; and that's the only way."

The Second Prince was gradually beginning to understand: "So I should break my political relations with them?"

"NO! His Royal Highness must break his political connections with his brothers! Only after demonstrating your solidarity against the politics of this Empire, will you ever be able to securely gain the support of the Jun Family; otherwise Jun Zhan Tian will never support you."

“In other words, it didn’t matter which Prince’s invitation Jun Mo Xie accepted today, he was going to act in the same way, and would have choreographed a falling out. His Highness, the Second Prince was just unlucky since Jun Mo Xie decided to pick you for making his statement.....”

“Killing a chicken to scare the monkeys?” the Second Prince was finally beginning to understand, but couldn’t help gnash his teeth in rage: “Jun Mo Xie, that son of a bitch, he actually made me, the Second Prince, his chicken?”

Chapter 133 – The legendary jinx

“After the scene that the young master Jun has caused here, the other princes won’t dare to bother him and the Jun Family will be able to carry on peacefully. It seems that this whole plan was orchestrated by Jun Zhan Tian. But this situation has also given rise to an additional problem; a big problem.” Fang Bo Wen frowned his eyebrows.

“Please explain, teacher.” The Second Prince’s face was already beginning to look gloomier, and it seemed as if he had already made his own guess.

“Your Highness said it yourself.” Fang Bo Wen sighed loudly: “Soon, everyone will know that Your Highness and Jun Mo Xie have had a falling out in public, and that Your Highness was publicly humiliated by the young master Jun’s arrogance. If any harm comes to the young master Jun at this time..... then, Your Highness will undoubtedly be the first one to be suspected for it. I firmly believe that Your Highness’s enemies won’t miss this chance to frame you.”

“What is this nonsense?” the Second Prince was suddenly furious: “Even after all the humiliation that I have faced today, I will still have to protect him?”

“It all depends on Your Highness’s choice; if Your Highness isn’t afraid of Jun Zhan Tian’s wrath, then you can simply ignore this possibility.” Fang Bo Wen stated slowly.

“.....” The Second Prince remained silent.

Not afraid? That's an understatement.... So many men lost their lives the other day.... The last time Jun Zhan Tian lost his temper, he cleared out almost a third of the imperial court. If he lost his temper on me..... I can't give him a reason to ransack my palace.....

"Damn that son of a bitch!" the Second Prince felt wronged to the point of death. This man was turning into a legendary jinx for him! He had been nothing more than pure bad-luck for the prince; first he had insulted the second prince, and then Jun Mo Xie had also insulted Lady Yue'er, and had also made a public enemy out of her.....

A delicate silhouette was watching the Second Prince from the top of the Ni Chang pavilion as the Second Prince continued to walk alongside the road. "If that's the case, then you should have thought twice before arranging this meeting. Jun Mo Xie humiliated me publicly today, and you didn't even try to stop him. If I'm so bad for your reputation, then why did you try to pursue me to start with? I'm Yue'er, how could you let this happen to me?"

A sly silver light flashed in her eyes as Lady Yue'er bit her lips: "If you won't do anything since you are afraid of Jun Zhan Tian's military might, then I'll take this matter into my own hands. I will not allow Jun Mo Xie to get away with this; he will die without a proper burial!"

As the night gradually became darker, Lady Yue'er loosened her hand and released a pigeon. The pigeon fluttered its wings a few times, and then flew up into the air.

Around a distant dark corner, a dark clothed figure started to run at the speed of lightening and quickly landed on a nearby rooftop. The man released a dark colored net and spread it open in mid-air, and the dark colored net gradually fused into the dark sky. The pigeon which had just taken off from the Ni Chang pavilion landed inside the net.....

The black clothed man collected the body of the pigeon and quickly retreated into the shadows....

The Second Prince's platoon reached his residence late night.

Another black pigeon was released into the night sky, which quickly disappeared as well. Cheng De Cao stood by the window with a grin on his face, and murmured: "Jun Mo Xie, I don't care about the power of your family. Since you've insulted me today, I will not allow you to exist; everyone will think that you

were killed by one of the Princes... who will suspect me? What's more, I don't even have the strength to harm you, right? Ha ha ha"

This self-proclaimed genius was a complete fool to take out a deal against the hitman Jun Mo Xie!

Jun Mo Xie hadn't missed out on any details so far, and had already placed his sleuths around the Second Prince's residence as well.

Everything was working according to Jun Mo Xie's plan so far!

Jun Mo Xie was a looking a little depressed sitting inside his rickety palanquin. He was so accustomed to travelling on his own feet, that sitting inside his palanquin was nothing short of torture for him.

These kinds of things aren't good for hitmen. So much bouncing and swaying can make anyone's life miserable; why would some people consider travelling in these palanquins a status symbol? If I had any kind of a heart based condition, then so much swaying would have already sent me straight to the gates of hell.

Even though Jun Mo Xie was trying his best to fight the urge to get out of the palanquin until he reached the Jun residence, the extraordinarily slow speed and the constant swaying of his ride was more than he could tolerate. Unable to bear it anymore, the young master Jun was almost about to open his mouth and order his bearers to halt, when he suddenly heard a 'whoosh' sound, and some kind of a small white object jumped into his palanquin, cried excitedly 'hooo', and rubbed its body against Jun Mo Xie's arms. Jun Mo Xie reacted quickly, and grabbed the unknown animal by its neck, and picked it up. As he looked at the small animal, he realized that he was holding Dugu Xiao Yi's high-end Xuan Beast; the iron winged panther cub.

Jun Mo Xie carefully looked at the small limbs of the tiny creature in a weird way.... How could something so small be so fast? And how fast will he become after he grows up into an adult? I underestimated this animal... he is truly worthy of being called a high-end Xuan Beast!

The panther cub was unable to move since it was suspended mid-air from its neck furs, and hence it opened its mouth to whine, while its limbs drooped helplessly. His beautiful pair of eyes were looking at Jun Mo Xie with a confused look in them, unable to understand why a man he liked so much would treat him in such a crude manner.

Jun Mo Xie immediately assessed that Dugu Xiao Yi must be somewhere in the vicinity; how else would this young Xuan Beast be able to smell his scent?

He extended his finger and poked the tiny creature's miniature nose, and ferociously whispered: "Please, you mustn't follow me; if you continue to follow me, then your owner will create a lot of trouble for me since her entire family will come after me. Do you know how much trouble I will be in then? You please stop this, please." His initial intention was to frighten the animal away, but he had no idea why he had ended up begging piteously instead.

Even though the iron winger panther was a high-end Xuan Beast, he was still accustomed to being around humans. But he still wasn't able to interpret the meaning of Jun Mo Xie's words, and strained its neck as he looked at Jun Mo Xie with an even more puzzled look in his eyes now. Jun Mo Xie released the tiny cub, who suddenly hummed twice, and looked at Jun Mo Xie with a merry look in his eyes.

Unexpectedly, the small cub jumped up and landed straight into Jun Mo Xie's arms; he took two deep breaths, and arched its tiny neck a few times until it found a comfortable spot to rest its head on Jun Mo Xie's chest. Then, he opened its rosy-pink mouth, yawned and its beautiful eyes slowly started to narrow as he slowly fell asleep...

Well, he can't be blamed for this... I'm a big man with a big chest, and big chests are usually quite comfortable to sleep on! But I'm in so much trouble now!

"Little White, where are you little white? Little white....." he heard a crisp sound, and he could tell that the source was anxious enough to break into tears at any point. Dugu Xiao Yi had been treating this young cub as her baby, and since the young Xuan Beast had suddenly disappeared now, her mind was obviously in a state of complete chaos.

Jun Mo Xie sighed at his fate; even if this seemed like a tale of fate from some folklore, it was more like..... Ill-fated attraction in his eyes!

A cold voice echoed in front of the palanquin: "I request the people inside to kindly step out." This cold and dull voice belonged to Ye Gu Han.

He was a Sky Xuan expert, so he had obviously been able to spot the cub as it jumped into Jun Mo Xie's palanquin after jumping out of Dugu Xiao Yi's arms. Although the beast was very small in size, the Sky Xuan expert was sure that it was inside the palanquin.

After a while, Jun Mo Xie's voice lazily sounded from within the palanquin: "Really..... There are so many people inside the Tian Xiang City, but this young master is just destined to constantly bump into you?"

Both the people suddenly spoke up in unison after they heard his voice: "Jun Mo Xie!"

Although they spoke up at the same time, but they did so to express completely different emotions.

While Ye Gu Han's voice was filled with contempt and anger, Dugu Xiao Yi's sound was filled with a sense of joy.

Formerly, Dugu Xiao Yi had excitedly followed Princess Ling Meng to the imperial palace, and had stayed there for several days without going back to the Dugu Family's residence. But if the eldest daughter of the house remains away from the family for such a long time without any notice, then the family is bound to get worried, and so Dugu Xiao Yi bid Princess Ling Meng farewell, and departed for her Family's house. Even though the Princess wished to retain her at the palace with pure intention in her heart, she was intelligent enough to understand that it might be wrong to.

The Princess was quite angered to know that the young master Jun was also in the vicinity at the time when Dugu Xiao Yi was supposed to leave for her residence. Unable to stop the eldest daughter of the Dugu Family from leaving, she had asked Ye Gu Han to escort her back to her residence as a precaution against anyone with evil intentions.

Who would've known that Dugu Xiao Yi's little Xuan Beast would suddenly catch the familiar smell of a man he was fond of, and would dart out of her arms, and would land inside a palanquin without leaving a single trace behind it, leaving his owner anxious and worried to the point of dying.

Hearing Jun Mo Xie's voice from inside the palanquin clearly explained the situation to her: No wonder Little White reacted like this... I remember, he really liked Jun Mo Xie the last he met the man... so it's not very surprising that he chase after the young master Jun.

Jun Mo Xie helplessly jumped out of his palanquin with the Xuan Beast cub in his arms. Dugu Xiao Yi saw his face, and was left speechless instead of cheerfully greeting him.

Watching her Little White peacefully resting in his arms, and unwilling to even open its eyes to see its master's face, made her feel a bit envious since it clearly indicated that the young creature was feeling very peaceful and comfortable, almost as if he was in the most comfortable place on the planet. But watching Jun Mo Xie's tired face aroused a sense of sadness in her heart.....

These feelings were quite strange and new for the eldest daughter of the Dugu Family, and she remained silent for a long time, unable to react to the situation; which was a very rare thing given her character.

Chapter 134 – A young maiden's heart

"Oh, he he, we're in the same place again Miss Dugu; I guess we were destined to meet each other again." Jun Mo Xie smiled as he said the words, while his face was carrying a 'pleasantly surprised' look.

The young master Jun hadn't never expected that even though he had greeted Dugu Xiao Yi in the same manner as always, these words were now being interpreted by her in a very different context.

He said destined? And I'm very fortunate that I met you ah! Hey, this really could be destiny! Would we be able to see each other daily? Would our families oppose this?

Jun Mo Xie's words had filled her heart with joy, and her initial resentment had already gone up in smoke: Thanks to Little White's mischief, otherwise I wouldn't have been able to see you today.....

Dugu Xiao Yi wasn't involved in political conspiracies that clogged the dark side of the world; even though she was the same age as Jun Mo Xie, she behaved like a normal sixteen year old girl.

Given her age and background, she couldn't understand the complexly subtle emotions like love etc. She had often heard of Jun Mo Xie's unbearable arrogance in the past, and had always felt disgusted by it. She had always felt that the man needed to be disciplined; very strictly.

But after her previous few encounters with the young master Jun, she had realized that the so-called hedonistic and flippant son of rich parents was actually a very organized, and of very appropriate character, due to which she had started seeing Jun Mo Xie in a very general light.

But these encounters aroused a lot of curiosity in Dugu Xiao Yi's heart; Jun Mo Xie is a tiger in a pig's shell, and he pretends to be such in order to deal with the outside world. Until this time, she had always felt disgusted in his presence, and had always looked down upon him, but she had finally started to realize something at this point: I've been misunderstanding Jun Mo Xie all this time.

Even though Dugu Xiao Yi's attitude towards Jun Mo Xie was beginning to change, she still couldn't help thinking: I have misunderstood Jun Mo Xie for several years, and I've bullied him for so many years without giving him any reason to explain his actions. He suffered it all these years without making any complains, which was justifiable for a man with low intelligence.... But it's obvious that he's very clever. Could I be misunderstanding him again?

Such thoughts had ignited mixed feelings in her heart since she also knew that Jun Mo Xie had tricked her into defrauding the metallic ore from her hands, which had left her feeling very displeased. But then again, maybe he did that because that metallic ore was very important for him.... Is his resourcefulness his true face? Why is it so difficult to see the real face of people? Why do we have to deliberately hide ourselves from the world outside?!

Even with these thoughts in the back of her mind, she still saw him as a bully for cheating the metallic ore away from her, but realized that she had missed it out at the time since she was too proud and arrogant, and couldn't see that he was a tiger disguised as a pig, which made her a bit upset; then thinking again, I've known him so many years, and I've bullied him so much in past, but he had never seemingly bothered about it.... As these thoughts sprouted in her head, she suddenly felt as if something was amiss. She cried after she returned home that day.

She wept since she was beginning to recall their encounters over these past years.... She recalled all the suffering that the Jun Family had been through, and began imagining that it must have been very hard on Jun Mo Xie, which instilled an indistinct sense of pain in her heart. On top of that, she had made her father bully Jun Mo Xie several times in the past since she had felt that he had wronged her, owing to which she had wished to get even with him.

After she started to understand the unsaid aspects of Jun Mo Xie's life, she felt as if someone had struck her heart with a hammer – so many years of misunderstanding him, will I ever be able to compensate for it? As these thoughts came into her head, she had started to blame herself. Once a young heart develops such feelings, they often find it difficult to conceal their emotions; naturally she had been

unable to eat her meals properly for days. After pondering over these issues for several days, the young master Jun's reputation started to change very drastically in her psyche, and in due course of time, she started seeing in a very high-light.

For this reason, she ventured into her grandfather's study one day, with the intention of inquiring more about Jun Mo Xie, and after learning more about the Jun Family's situation, she finally found an explanation for his behavior: the previously declining Jun Family has now once again become very dangerous and powerful. He has managed to turn his family's fortunes around at the cost of creating a very dirty public reputation for himself, and after suffering so much humiliation. His life has been so difficult.... Even though he's just my age, he has suffered so much for so many years..... No wonder there is such a great contrast between him and the others; this man is instilled with a sense of responsibility and is willing to make sacrifices for his family.....

Jun Mo Xie had actually tried to save the princess which had almost injured him to the point of death – such a chivalrous man!

So Jun Mo Xie had suddenly gone from a debauchee to a responsible and noble young man in Dugu Xiao Yi's mind..... this had completely twisted her life upside down.

Once a young girl develops a favorable impression about a man, anything the man does seems justifiable and noble to the young woman. After she found out that the young master Jun had been seriously injured while saving the princess, she started to fear for his well-being and even started to fantasize about helping him in his rehabilitation.....

Then later, when she suddenly heard Jun Moe Xie's voice in the Magnificent Jewel Hall, her heart soared with an unexplainable sense of joy, and she felt as if she had just recovered a long-lost treasure. Then her pet suddenly took a liking to Jun Mo Xie, which made the young maiden even more happy since Little White had never shown any affection to anyone apart from her. She started seeing this as an indication of something special in Jun Mo Xie.

At that time, she was still unable to understand whether Jun Mo Xie was an evil man or a good one, but then as an after effect of the trouble that her father and brothers sprouted at the Jun residence, she started asking herself: So I really fancy bad men? Do I really like him? What is this feeling?

This feeling.... Is really, really wonderful.....

In the following days, even though she was afraid since her father and brothers started interfering in these matters, her heart still carried a sense of apprehension. Even though she didn't meet him again for a long while, just the thought of him was enough to make her a little shy, and she started thinking that she fancied him. With these thoughts in her mind, her heart leapt and her face would blush since she would long for their next encounter....

The mind of a young maiden can be very elusive, almost like a poetic dream, full of endless fantasies.... Although Dugu Xiao Yi was a high-borne, she wasn't as arrogant and haughty as some of the other powerful women of the kingdom; her heart was that of a delicate young maiden's, and wasn't very different from that of an ordinary farmer's daughter.

All the interventions and pressure that followed in the succeeding days abruptly forced out these feeling, and made them stronger.

If it hadn't been for the wild speculations of Princess Ling Meng....

If it hadn't been for the naughty interventions of the Dugu Family, then these emotions would have gradually diluted.....

Then, Jun Mo Xie would have only remained a very interesting character in her life... an interesting man and a very reliable person; that's all! Believing that he is just another very interesting man, with passing age and increasing distance, he would've become a transient passerby in her life, who she'd only recall as a faint memory in time to come!

But due to the blend of circumstances, Dugu Xiao Yi suddenly started gripping harder to the thought that Jun Mo Xie was a rare exception, and started becoming so convinced about it, that she slowly built a cocoon around herself....

At the moment when she heard his voice today, her heart suddenly started pounding so hard, that it almost skipped a few beats, and she didn't know how to react since she didn't know how he felt about her. Her face had suddenly started burning and she had even contemplated the idea of running away....

Do I..... him... really.... Destined to be together?! Oops..... people will think shameful things! Dugu Xiao Yi's good-looking face was suddenly red.

“Thief Jun, this night has been a real eye-opener for me. Don’t even think of doing anything to Miss Dugu!” Ye Gu Han looked at him coldly. I don’t know what means Jun Mo Xie used in order to attract Miss Dugu’s high level Xuan beast cub towards himself... but it’s undeniable that he only did so to trouble Miss Dugu Xiao Yi.

Dugu Xiao Yi’s pet’s affection for this man is quite obvious: and now that the cub is so attached to Jun Mo Xie, it will undoubtedly make things very uncomfortable for her, in fact it might even put her in harms’ way in the future since her pet might seek him again, which is a very dangerous thing!

In addition to their masters, high-end Xuan Beasts rarely ever develop any kind of attraction towards strangers. Although Ye Gu Han couldn’t explain this mystery, and even felt that it was quite incredible, but he was still convinced that the young master Jun must have used some very shameful methods to attract the young cub. What other explanation could there be for this?

“What? Thief? Don’t call me a thief!” Jun Mo Xie was somewhat depressed. Did I bother anyone? Why would he act so blindly, and be so hostile towards me? This isn’t fair, ah, I simply didn’t do anything. This animal simply jumped into my palanquin and slept off in my arms. I’m a handsome and suave guy, that’s a rare thing.... Makes me stand apart!

I’m the real victim here.... This isn’t fair!

“Thief Jun, are you refusing to hand over Little White to Miss Dugu?” Ye Gu Han was feeling very fortunate that he was escorting the Young Miss personally, otherwise it would have been hard for her to escape Jun Mo Xie’s trap. And if anything untoward happened to the young Miss Dugu, then it would have sprouted a big dispute in the capital. As far as he was concerned, he absolutely needed to stop this thief’s conspiracies!

“Ye Gu Han, right? Why would you be so narrow-minded? Anyway, you are the Princess’s guard, why would you even intervene in this matter? Who do you think you are, this matter is between me and the young Miss.... Why are you sticking your foot into it?” Jun Mo Xie returned Little White to Dugu Xiao Yi, as he replied to Ye Gu Han, feeling wronged by the man’s accusations.

Chapter 135 – Surprise

The hitman's nature somewhat resembled that of a donkey; if you stroke it gently, then you'd feel the softness of its hair, but if you're blindly harsh, then Jun Mo Xie would react even more harshly! This, perhaps was the greatest weakness of his character.

Although Ye Gu Han was the one who was making the accusations at Jun Mo Xie, he completely ignored the man, making his face blue with anger, and helplessly glimpsed at Dugu Xiao Yi: "Miss Dugu, do you also believe that I abducted Little White? I haven't done any such thing; I never abducted him... he jumped into my palanquin on his own. Even the last time I met him, Little White showed a fondness towards me.... And why would I ever try to steal him? For making a pot stew out of him? But he's so small.... He won't even give out much meat either....."

Little White was comfortably lying in his arms, while his throat ceaselessly emitted a comfortable 'purrr' sound; a voice which an animal only emits when it's at its happiest. He opened his eyes, and satisfactorily looked at Jun Mo Xie's body with warm and comfortable look in his eyes, and then closed them again. Little did the intoxicated cub know that the man he was so taken by, was just talking about using his body for pot stew.....

"What did you just say?" Dugu Xiao Yi opened her eyes wide; she clenched her tiny hands into a fist as she angrily looked at Jun Mo Xie, and it seemed as if she wished to spank him.

"Well, Miss, you never stop teasing me. Your father and seven brothers showed up at the Jun residence the other day, and leveled the buildings to the ground. Some of the rooms don't even have a roof over their heads anymore...."

Jun Mo Xie arched his hand as he described the state of the infrastructure, while leaning against his palanquin, making his body look weirdly boneless. The mournful look on his face suggested that he felt wronged by the ravaging that the members of the Dugu family had caused to his home.

Dugu Xiao Yi didn't like the look on his face, and started thinking about her seven brothers....

"Oh Ah, I know the facts, and I don't blame you, sorry ah. I'm sorry, once I get back home, I'll ask my father to help you build back your house, and I'll make sure that your family is compensated for the losses incurred."

Dugu Xiao Yi was feeling a special kind of embarrassment at the moment; after all, she was carrying the impression that Jun Mo Xie had been harassed by her family on her account. The poor girl was under the impression that her family had caused a lot of trouble for Jun Mo Xie, and was already beginning to imagine the destruction that her father and her seven 'brutal' brothers must have caused to the Jun residence. As far as she was concerned, even if Jun Mo Xie was exaggerating things a bit, their actions still must have been very difficult on Jun Mo Xie.

But she didn't know that Jun Mo Xie had grounded her seven brothers, who still hadn't been able to get up from their beds. And even though her father fared slightly better, Jun Mo Xie had blatantly blackmailed the man into expending huge sums of money....

"Never mind; these matters are not to concern you since your father was probably misinformed." Jun Mo Xie generously waved his hand, "I'm from the younger generation, so I must practice tolerance and forbearance, even if I'm wronged by my elders. Anyway, our families have been friends for a long time, and have many deep sentiments attached to each other, so there is really no need to point swords and spears at each other over such trivial matters...."

Dugu Xiao Yi nodded in approval as her beautiful eyes lit up with a look of satisfaction: "The fact that you're not taking into account..... my emotions; sometimes things just happen, there's no need to beat....." She stammered as she uttered these few words slowly, and was unable to finish her sentence since her face had turned completely red; right down to her neck.

The poor young maiden had completely misunderstood his meaning, and had instinctively believed that Jun Mo Xie had been forced to bear the abuse of his father and brothers. Since she was blaming herself for it, the young maiden's heart suddenly turned as sweet as honey, and her thoughts started to stray once more.

Jun Mo Xie stated once again in a gentlemanly manner: "True, that's the way it must be." Dugu Xiao Yi became even shyer, and started unconsciously drawing rings in the ground with her toe, while her neck and head had turned red with a blush. Her eyes were secretly watching Jun Mo Xie's face, filling her heart with a sense of infinite satisfaction.

Ye Gu Han was a hard-skinned man and was unable to watch these people court each other with the affection of young lovers!

“Jun Mo Xie, how can you be so shameless?!” Ye Gu Han pointed his finger at Jun Mo Xie, and it seemed as if he wished to kill the youngster, “The seven sons of the Dugu Family suffered such a great calamity at your hands, and yet you say such things?”

“Ah? How could that be?” Dugu Xiao Yi cried out in shock, unable to believe that Jun Mo Xie could harm her brothers.

“That’s not the truth.” Jun Mo Xie flatly denied the truth in order to avoid trouble: “Ye Gu Han, you’re a dignified Sky Xuan expert, please do not give heed to such fabricated rumors. How could I suddenly hurt seven people? Could I have ever beaten them up? Don’t you know about my abilities? And you still think that I could cope up with the seven of them..... please don’t try to bend the facts!”

The situation was reaching a critical juncture, and he simply couldn’t true admit his actions. If he admitted to hurting her brothers, then she was likely to flip out at him....

Dugu Xiao Yi looked at Ye Gu Han with a puzzled look on her face.

“Miss Dugu, you must go home and see for yourself.” Ye Gu Han was unmoved, and continued to look at Jun Mo Xie coldly: “Miss Dugu, the color of the night deepens, and we must be on our way; I have to return to the princess’s side for her protection.”

Dugu Xiao Yi couldn’t make up her mind; she hesitantly looked at Jun Mo Xie again, and analyzed that the atmosphere wasn’t very favorable at the moment. Even though she was bit reluctant to leave, she knew that Ye Gu Han’s words made sense, and she would only understand the truth after reaching her residence. On top of that, she was well-aware that Ye Gu Han was a man of his words, and wouldn’t lie to her in such a manner. Although, given his skill, she simply couldn’t fathom how Jun Mo Xie could hurt the seven of her brothers!

“Little White, come to me, I will take you home.” Dugu Xiao Yi clapped her hands as she approached closer to Jun Mo Xie. She tasted a faint smell of his body’s aroma in the air, and couldn’t help blush even more.

Jun Mo Xie hastily returned Little White to her arms; the little panther cub didn’t resist, but looked at Jun Mo Xie helplessly with a pitiful look in his eyes.

A question suddenly emerged inside Jun Mo Xie's mind: Why is Little White showing so much attachment towards me? This simply doesn't make any sense!

Nothing ever happens in this world without a reason, so there must be something about me that other people don't have, and something that I haven't thought of yet....

Is it because..... the Hongjun Pagoda and the art of unlocking the heaven's fortune?

Being the only possible explanation, this idea swept across Jun Mo Xie's conscience like a tsunami!

"Jun... Mo Xie, could we meet tomorrow?" Dugu Xiao Yi lowered her head in search for a reason, and found one lying in her arms: "Little White really likes you, oh, you can see it too... he really, really likes you. I, I, I do not wish to make him unhappy." Even though Dugu Xiao Yi had found an excuse to meet him again, she didn't know how to use it properly, and was wondering if it was a good measure to use Little White as an excuse to arrange a meeting with him.....

"Sure!" Jun Mo Xie responded in acceptance: "I can help you in looking after Little White tomorrow; I'll see you tomorrow for some playtime Little White."

Dugu Xiao Yi's heart rejoiced as she stated: "It's a deal!"

"It's a deal!" Jun Mo Xie maliciously looked at the little cub as he exposed a pleasant smile. Come back tomorrow so I can carry out some experiments on you!

The little cub which was now in Dugu Xiao Yi's arms suddenly felt a burst of chill on his body, and his soft and delicate white furs stood upright. Alerted, he looked around in search of an enemy, but couldn't spot any. If he was capable of speaking, he would have surely voiced his skepticism: Why is this happening? Why did I suddenly feel these creeps? Why does it feel as if someone stripped me? Why are my fur upright for no reason?

Dugu Xiao Yi retreated three steps and left.

Jun Mo Xie had already accomplished his objective, and so he quickly returned to the Jun residence.

“Third uncle! Third uncle!” Just as Jun Mo Xie returned, he sensed a different smell in the atmosphere, and quickly ran into the courtyard: “What’s going on?”

Jun Wu Yi slowly came out.

In the absence of outsiders, he wouldn’t be sitting in his wheelchair since he had been in it for over a decade, and was already quite bored of it!

Jun Wu Yi replied with a solemn look in his eyes: “I brought those kids back.”

“Kids? Which one.... What children?” Jun Mo Xie stuttered.

“Out of the children whom we previously set free, I’ve ordered forty five of them to be set up in the ware house for a bit, as a temporary accommodation. As for the ones with deformities, all thirty nine of them have been presently accommodated here. I’m trying to use my Xuan Qi to see if I can unblock their tendons in order to see if there’s any hope for them to have a normal life.”

Jun Mo Xie was completely surprised.

Jun Wu Yi looked at him profoundly: “Mo Xie, you did something with a strong purpose, but it comes with some heavy responsibilities as well. It is important for us to cultivate the strength of our family, but it would be harsh, even cruel, of us to not act on this matter. You may blame me for this, but as long as I’m the head of the Jun family, we have an obligation to be responsible for the basic necessities of these children, which includes curing their injuries and illnesses.”

“Moreover, although charity mustn’t be done recklessly, the downtrodden mustn’t be neglected out rightly!” Jun Wu Yi’s eyes were filled with a sense of pain: “Like these children, no matter what.....”

He expressed these words very resolutely and decisively, and it was obvious that there would be no challenging his decision. Since he had personally suffered from a disability for a long time, it was apparent that he was looking at these children with a strong sense of sympathy.

“Even if they can’t do anything by themselves, we will support them. It doesn’t matter how much burden they impose on us!”

Jun Mo Xie remained speechless for a long time before he finally replied: “I understand.” He inwardly thought to himself: Perhaps this is the difference between men of honor and ordinary men. However, does such kindness really make sense?