

## E Monarch 296

### Chapter 296: The Xuan Beast Uprising in the South...

Jun Mo Xie remembered putting the condition in front of Long Crane and Big Bear — if they were able to cause a ruckus at the Xue Hun Manor, and break the legs of its Young Master — then he'd help them advance in their cultivation and break through their bottlenecks. This would be their reward for dealing with the Xue Hun Manor.

They had said that they would take half-a-month to complete their task. But, he had relaxed the time-limit to one month. He had anticipated that they'd finish the task in a very short period of time since they had spoken about it in a very easy-going manner. However, he had received no information about them for a while. Therefore, he had started to feel strange.

[And, now there's this sudden Xuan Beast uprising. Who apart from those two guys could be behind this?]

[I had merely requested them to put a temporary check on the Xue Hun Manor. I never asked them to act so aggressively. And, now the situation is on the brink of a war. How are these two things the same?]

This matter remained a mystery to Jun Mo Xie; no matter how much he wracked his brains over it. [There's a lot at stake here. Didn't those two realize this? But, why did they do this? Did they have some other reason behind it?]

Jun Mo Xie admittedly didn't know much about the Xuan Beast uprising. Those two Tian Fa King Xuan Beasts had left him extremely gloomy at the prospect of venturing south.

[The Heavens' plans supersede our own!]

It had seemed that dealing with the experts of the Xue Hun Manor wasn't a big thing for those two Xuan Beasts. Moreover, they didn't need to confront the enemy head-on. They were merely required to stir up some trouble. That would've been enough.

However, they hadn't anticipated that their appearance in the Tian Xiang City would alert Shi Chang Xiao — the Master of Life and Death. After the fray for the Xuan Core had come to an end, Shi Chang Xiao had left southwards for the Xue Hun Manor to make enquiries regarding the same...

The King Xuan Beasts had come out of the Tian Fa forest; how could this be a trivial matter?

The Tian Fa forest was located near the Xue Hun Manor. Therefore, it would've been curious if the Xue Hun Manor hadn't been alerted when the King Xuan Beasts had left the Tian Fa forest. Then, another curious coincidence had taken place. The Heavenly Master Li Jue Tian was in the process of making his return to the Xue Hun Manor after getting tired to his travels...

What should certainly be happening... and what shouldn't have happened — had coincidentally happened at the same time. This had given rise to a large-scale commotion.

Long Crane and Big Bear had rushed-over to the Xue Hun Manor. They had decided to carry-out Jun Mo Xie's request very energetically. So, they arrogantly kicked-down the Manor's gate and stormed-in. They first ransacked the entire place, and then beat-up the resident-experts. They had stopped once they had caused enough trouble to mark the end of the first request. Then, they had decided to proceed towards the second one. They started to look for the Young Master of the Manor since they needed to break his legs. They had planned to grab the youngster, spank his buttocks, and leave the Manor.

How would the Xue Hun Manor respond to this? Their so-called 'Lord' would be disgraced because of this.

Those two King Xuan Beasts possessed supreme cultivation, and their bodies were absurdly strong. The Xue Hun Manor had many Spirit Xuan experts and numerous Sky Xuan experts. But, these two powerful sides weren't a suited opposition for each other.

A Master is a Master and a King is a King. Big Bear and Long Crane were like two tigers in a flock of sheep. Those two fought in high-spirits, and didn't hold anything back. They were very proud of their origins, and firmly believed that they could even confront a Great Master on their own. Therefore, they

took advantage of the chaos, entered the Xue Hun Manor, brought down the eastern wall, and set fire to the western side. The Spirit Xuan experts of the Xue Hun Manor were obviously enraged by this. However, they were unable to deal with this threat since their strength was scattered in their numbers. They were beat-up instead of being able to punish their infiltrators.

The two of them were like ferocious monsters who took joy in causing chaos. However, they weren't able to enjoy themselves for long...

The Master of Life and Death, Shi Chang Xiao had earlier hurried to the Xue Hun Manor. He arrived in time, saw the situation, picked his opponent, and started to engage Big Bear. Meanwhile, the rest of the experts combined their strength to face Long Crane. The chaos paved the path to a huge battle, and the situation reversed very quickly. Long Crane and Big Bear were soon at a disadvantage.

It wouldn't have mattered if the two King Xuan Beasts had decided to retreat at that point. Their task was by-and-large complete. However, they were both King Xuan Beasts; so, how could they lose face like that?

They couldn't make their return so easily. How could they face the mysterious man who had promised to help them breakthrough their bottlenecks when they hadn't yet carried-out his task properly? They had merely burned down a few houses. How could that be considered as 'wreaking havoc'?

Besides, they had specifically requested to break Li Teng Yun's legs. However, they hadn't been able to spot him yet. Would they be able to fool that Mysterious Master so easily?

One must say that those Beasts were indeed quite genuine at heart. They had decided to loyally carry-out the task that had been entrusted to them by the Mysterious Master. [Shi Chang Xiao is just one guy, right? We'll come back tomorrow if we're defeated today. Then, we'll see who beats whom!]

[Can it be that you humans have more endurance than us divine beasts? That's nonsense!]

Besides, those two Xuan Beasts possessed extremely tough skin. A powerful strike didn't make much difference to them. They had been surrounded, but they valiantly issued the battle-cry, and effortlessly killed many more people. The Xuan Beasts then acted without any grace, and continued with their wanton destruction... while completely ignoring Shi Cheng Xiao.

Then...

They retreated in order to catch their breaths, and returned the next morning to wreak more havoc. Those two Xuan Beasts had decided that they wouldn't give-up till they had satisfactorily completed their mission! The two of them surely had a strong character-ethic in that regard.

However, this became a cause of grievance for the Spirit Xuan experts of Xue Hun Manor. There were many Spirit Xuan experts in the Xue Hun Manor, but they weren't always guarding the gate or the courtyard. And, those two supremely powerful Xuan Beasts were repeatedly ambushing their east and west wings. Even a divine entity wouldn't be able to stop them...

There were many experts who could take-on these two on their own, but they weren't strong enough to keep-up for long; let alone kill them...

The experts were getting increasingly exhausted, while the Spirits of the two Xuan Beasts continued to rise. The battles over these past few days had brought them much pleasure.

Li Jue Tian returned to the Manor in the middle of the chaos...

Who could have imagined that the Second Great Master would find himself enraged upon his return? He had only been out for a few years, but had come back to find his home under a siege. Everything within a radius of three-hundred meters of his Manor was a complete mess. Things had been brought-down here-and-there, and many things had been overturned. [Is this really the Xue Hun Manor? Is this what I had built so painstakingly over so many years?]

[This looks like a refugee camp!]

Li Jue Tian's enraged counter-attack proved near-fatal for those two King Xuan Beasts.

The two King Xuan Beast were extremely fierce and thoroughly enjoyed a tough fight, but they were no match for Li Jue Tian. Moreover, they had used-up their energies while trifling with their opponents earlier. They were extremely exhausted, and weren't in their peak conditions.

However, the two King Xuan Beast were gifted with very tough bodies. They cooperated with each other, and were momentarily able to cope up with Li Jue Tian; albeit with difficulty.

The final result of the battle — the two Xuan Beasts managed to escape after sustaining serious injuries, while the Xue Hun Manor emerged victorious.

However, it was a bit of an overstatement to call this a victory. Something that Li Jue Tian had painstakingly built over half of his life... laid nearly ruined. Many of his Spirit Xuan experts lay seriously injured. Li Jue Tian had defeated the two Xuan Beast Kings, but this victory could — at best — be regarded as a tragic one.

However, Shi Chang Xiao had paid them a visit; their Old Master had returned, and the two King Xuan Beasts were nearly defeated — these factors became a cause for celebration. However, mishap reared its head again; that too on the very evening the celebration-feast had been held.

A horde of Xuan Beasts, spreading as far as the eye could see, arrived without any prior indication.

Low level, middle level, high level... whatever one wouldn't expect... were there.

What was even more frightening was that... a massive pack of blood-thirsty Xuan Beast wolves charged at them like a surging wave. Moreover, the pack comprised of an uncountable number of Xuan Beast wolves...

However, this massive pack of the Xuan Beast wolves acted very unlike them, and retreated after they had caused a lot of damage to the Xue Hun Manor. In fact, the omnipresent beasts disappeared without a trace. They felt that their luck had favored them...

Everyone had started to relax. However, at that very moment — a massive horde of Tian Fa forest's man-eating Golden Ants showed-up.

They weren't very lucky... in fact, they were quite unfortunate!

They had barely been able to deal with these man-eating Golden Ants when all sorts of aerial Xuan Beasts started to attack them.

It was said that there was no Sun over the Xue Hun Manor for two consecutive days...

The two King Xuan Beasts hadn't taken their defeat very well, and had instigated a Xuan Beast uprising.

This was no longer a matter of completing that Mysterious Master's task — this had turned into a matter of pride. The situation had turned very hostile. Two King Xuan Beasts had been forced to turn their tail and flee after being suppressed by a man... Xuan Beasts had been defeated! How could they call themselves 'Kings' if they couldn't even avenge this defeat?

Moreover, the Xue Hun Manor's experts had cheered excessively when Li Jue Tian had defeated the two King Xuan Beasts. Those two had been bullying them around for a few days, but had finally been chased away by their Lord. These cheers had naturally been very unpleasant to the ears of the two King Xuan Beasts. A battle with Li Jue Tian may not have killed those two King Xuan Beasts, but they nearly died from excessive rage after they heard the cheers of the Xue Hun Manor's experts...

Thus, the two King Xuan Beasts were angered and enraged! In fact, they had nearly pulled-out their feathers in rage.

Then, another unforeseen event took place in the Tian Fa forest, and that allowed these two King Xuan Beasts to become even more unscrupulous. It was the so-called situation where there's 'no tiger in the mountain... so the monkey becomes the king'. Therefore, they took advantage of this situation. How could they be trusted to deal with bigger issues if they couldn't even deal with such a small task, right?

Therefore, the Xuan Beast uprising arrived like a reckless storm and engulfed everything in its path.

Even Li Jue Tian had no option but to retreat in the face of such strength. However, the two Xuan Beasts didn't accept that as the end. It seemed as if they were unwilling to let him be. It seemed that they'd exterminate them all.

However, the two of them were only thinking one thing: [Old Man, we just want you to handover your son to us. We'll break his legs, and leave. Don't you understand such a simple request? We won't

shatter his legs... we'll break them very gently... you'll be able to fix-him-up in a couple of months! It's merely a formality we need to carry-out for that Mysterious Master! It's such a simple request. Why are you trying to turn this into a death-match...]

## Chapter 297: Femme Fatale?

However, who was Li Jue Tian? He was second-only to the most powerful Great Master, Yun Bie Chen. So, wouldn't it be a problem in the future if he handed-over his son under these circumstances? It wasn't that no one from either side came forward to negotiate, but every effort at negotiation was short-lived, and failed miserably. So, each side started to attack in an increasingly vicious manner. Soon, the Xue Hun Manor was completely exhausted, and was about to be wiped-out by the Xuan Beasts; It seemed that they'd become their meal, and later... their excrement.

Therefore, Li Jue Tian and Shi Chang Xiao had no choice but to issue a joint statement, and summoned all Xuan experts in the world to their aid.

And, that's how Jun Mo Xie and the others got to know about the prevailing situation.

This matter had already turned into a big problem...

Everyone was confused as to why such a thing was happening? They wondered as to what could have provoked those two King Xuan Beast.

[They've taken-up arms against the Xue Hun Manor... but why? I don't understand...]

This question not only made everyone gloomy, but also made them feel victimized. Li Jue Tian and the others from the Xue Hun Manor were very confused and angry. [Whom did we provoke? Why has such a heavenly calamity befallen us? Who is behind all this? This is very strange!]

Li Jue Tian had asked Long Crane and Big Bear several times, "Why? We've lived in peace for so many years. What's more, we've even had business dealings between us. So, why are you suddenly attacking us? Even if we have to fight... can you at least tell me the reason for it?"

Li Jue Tian's question wasn't unreasonable. In fact, it was a very fair question. Shouldn't there be a good reason for the two large forces to go to war?

However, the two King Xuan Beast were unable to answer him every time; [wouldn't it be wrong to tell him that we lost a bet to someone, and your Xue Hun Manor is an eyesore to that person. So, we've had to come here to break your son's legs... nothing more...?]

[Wouldn't we lose a lot of face because of this?]

[It would seem that we've reduced to the status of 'hired thugs'... carrying out the orders of another person.] Being interrogated like that made Big Bear lose his temper; [aren't you the Second Great Master? And, you dare interrogate us like that? Do you know who we are?]

Li Jue Tian didn't inquire further after Big Bear said those words. But, the attacks from both parties became even more ferocious. In fact, if the Xuan Beasts were to retreat at this point... Li Jue Tian would follow them, and raid the Tian Fa forest.

Everyone was annoyed...

Then, Big Bear came up with a classic line and spoke, "Why not? You're not pleasing to my eyes. I've been watching your Xue Hun Manor for a long time, and I think it needs a spanking! You had bullied the two of us that day, right? Now, we've come with so many beasts in order to bully you; how about it? Fuc\*ing old bastard! You were more than 80 at the time, and yet you played with young women to make them beget you a son! Even if you aren't ashamed of this — I, your neighbor — feels extremely embarrassed! So, I've decided to teach you a lesson!"

The hundred-year-old second-strongest Great Master almost vomited blood. After that, the ferocity of the battle between the two sides increased further since the Great Master was extremely outraged to hear those words.



At that point, the two sides reached a point where there was no room for negotiation...

Therefore, innumerable people and Xuan beasts amassed to fight at the risk of their lives. This led to the formation of a huge mountain of corpses, and a sea of blood. But, they didn't understand the reason for this hatred; neither were they aware of the truth behind these events...

Even the architect of this mishap — the Jun Family's Young Master, Jun Mo Xie — was confused and stunned.

[I had only instructed you to wreak havoc, right? But, now I see that you've instigated a world-war!]

[I can't be blamed for this battle! I didn't intend this to happen; I'm innocent!]

Li Jue Tian devoted half-his-life to set-up the Xue Hun Manor. But it was on the verge of destruction. However, if he got to know that the 'real' reason for his predicament was his desire to get a young concubine for his treasured son — it wouldn't be surprising if he turned red with anger and died.

What's a femme fatale? No man could guess this term's meaning under these circumstances. But the corpses of the countless Xuan Beasts, and the blood the innumerable Xuan experts searched for this truth in the heavens above, and eventually came to know about the truth of the matter...

Since time immemorial, there had been legends of beautiful women who had caused problems between countries. However, no woman had ever caused a problem between the human martial world, and the beasts...

Guan Qing Han, this young lady from the Jun Family was unprecedented. She could leave any other woman in the dust!

If a list were to be drawn up regarding this — the Jun Family's young lady, Guan Qing Han would surely be adjudged the number-one 'beauty' in the universe! It was only natural for such beauties to cause a ruckus in successive generations. And, these beauties had one thing in common... they were innocent.

And, she was the most innocent of all!

Guan Qing Han was unaware of this entire matter from the start. She was thousands of kilometers from this place of sorrow and tragedy. So, how would she know that a mountain of corpses was being formed because of her?

In fact, this entire matter would remain an unresolved mystery for an eternity!

At the moment, the Six Spirit Xuan experts on the ground floor of the Magnificent Jewel Hall were coming-up with random conjectures. Similarly, Jun Mo Xie also frowned and pondered over this problem while hiding underground.

[This Xuan Beast uprising... what's its purpose? A battle of such massive armies? It's a waste in my opinion...]

Jun Mo Xie stayed calmly inside the ground. His thoughts tossed and turned inside his mind. However, he felt as if he had failed to grasp the most important point of the matter. He felt that some unforeseen mishaps would exceed his expectations and preparations.

In the end, he decided not to worry about it. [Does this Xuan Beast uprising have any direct relations with me? In fact, I think this is very a fortuitous event! Besides, I'm only going to the Tian Fa forest to hunt for treasures. The others may be going there to put a stop to this uprising. But I don't have the time to do that...]

[Moreover, these people above are really hateful. They plan to deal with Third Uncle and the Jun Family. In fact, they've gone as far as plotting to destroy our Jun Family in one go! This can't be tolerated!]

Then, Jun Mo Xie escaped into the distance. He silently made his way inside the ground. The Young Master Jun was very stealthy the entire time.

This Yin Yang Escape was very mysterious. Even an extremely strong expert would be hard-pressed to find his silhouette. Earlier, Lei Wu Bei was able to detect faint signs of the Young Master Jun. But, he was unable to truly locate him in the end. Jun Mo Xie was truly amazed at the sharpness of the Great Master's senses. However, his confidence in the Yin Yang Escape had increased many-fold. If a Great Master was unable to find his tracks — one could forget about the small fries then.

Xiao Feng Wu wasn't present in that meeting. Perhaps it was because of his status. Perhaps he wasn't considered 'qualified-enough' to attend such high class meetings. However, Jun Mo Xie hadn't forgotten the main purpose of his visit.

[Only a genuinely good item can provoke such a reaction from the Hong Jun Pagoda... The Xiao Family's Soul Replenishing Jade? That name is very awkward to pronounce!] Jun Mo Xie criticized. The corners of his mouth became crooked. [Xiao Bu Yu's Divine Inhibition? Locking onto my soul's scent for 500kms?]

[Humph; humph. I will go into the Hong Jun Pagoda once I've grabbed my prize. Even an ancient immortal's divine inhibition would be useless then, right? And, as for that soul scent locking technique... your technique may be awesome, but it won't be able to detect me, would it?]

[As a matter of fact, this is precisely like those saying, "Virtue is one foot tall, but the devil is ten foot in height." You're strong, but I am better than you!]

[It is rare for a Xiao Elder to show such good intentions. Xiao Feng Wu is isolated in a separate room; as if offering to be robbed. Such good intentions fit well with me. It's like they are offering a present with both hands! So, how can I disappoint such good intentions and turn-down this offer?]

Jun Mo Xie would feel very guilty if he turned-down the Xiao Family's second elder's well-intended offer...

[This Xiao Family's second elder isn't merely magnanimous, but he's very easy going too...]

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie started to search the entire building for the hidden treasure in high-spirits.

[They've deliberately choreographed everything in a manner which would make it easy for me to steal the prize. So, it shouldn't be very difficult to find it.]

Jun Mo Xie's mind was calm as he searched each room in the building with his formidable spiritual sense. He realized that there one thing that was common in each room. Everyone had secretly dispersed a part of their faintly discernable spiritual essence — whether strong or weak — inside the rooms with the purpose of monitoring them. Whereas, a secret room in the middle of the building was covered with layers of these essences. Therefore, a person who broke-in wouldn't be able to retreat without getting smothered these layers.

Jun Mo Xie smiled since he didn't feel any fear. He then stealthily started to move towards the secret room. [Bullsh\*t! You think yourselves to be Great Masters?! You think your spirit's essence monitors the room? Really? You think too highly of yourselves, and underestimate me too much!]

Sure enough — everything was as-expected.

Xiao Feng Wu sat crossed legged and straight-backed inside the room. His eyes were closed. His face was a little pale. His hands were placed on his chest to support and protect a jade. That jade was the Young Master Jun's main target — the Xiao Family's Soul Replenishing Jade!

This item was the genuine thing; not a fake. Jun Mo Xie could feel a massive amount of pure energy concealed in it. The Xuan Qi cycled with every breath of Xiao Feng Wu's. Bit by bit, it came out of the jade and was converted into absorbable Xuan Qi, and would start to flow through the young man's meridians. It could be seen that Xiao Feng Wu's complexion improved by an almost unnoticeable margin after every cycle.

The usage of the Xiao Family's Soul Replenishing Jade suddenly became clear to the Young Master Jun.

The Young Master Jun could clearly feel the pure energy that Xiao Feng Wu was absorbing. The Jade concealed a lot of energy, but the Young Man was absorbing less than a fraction of it. However, Jun Mo Xie was very distressed at this; [How can this bastard possess this item! How can this lowly Xiao Family be allowed to hold such a precious treasure! How can they be considered a suitable owner for such an invaluable item?]

[They shouldn't be allowed to possess this Heavenly Item. Their attitude is outrageous. They anger the heavens and infuriate the people.]

[Only this Young Master is capable of being a flawless-fit for that jade.]

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie flew across at a great speed without any hesitation. His hand became like an eagle's claw as it floated in front of his body. He then quickly grabbed the item.

His movements were lightning-fast!

## Chapter 298: The Jade is Running Away...

Xiao Feng Wu was wholeheartedly absorbing the energy from the jade. With that, the injuries to his body and meridians were getting healed. He knew that he was being used as bait because of his Soul Replenishing Jade. And, it would false to say that he wasn't afraid. There was a chance that the Mysterious Master wouldn't kill him since the youngster was too beneath him own self in terms of rank. However, Xiao Feng Wu was panic-stricken at the thought that his injuries may not be able to fully heal if the Mysterious Master was to show-up very early... though, that fear was baseless. He'd have to suffer this pain for a few more days...

Therefore, he diligently and wholeheartedly continued to absorb the pure energy from the jade. The effect of this pure energy on his meridians was such, that he could distinctly feel as if his entire body was soaked in a warm spring. He felt warm, relaxed, safe and comfortable. His seriously damaged meridians were getting restored at an astonishingly rapid speed. This amazingly and comfortable feeling almost made him feel like moaning. It was as if his mind was floating; like he was at the limits of the heavens. Xiao Feng Wu felt he was intoxicated, and in a dream.

Then, the jade he held suddenly disappeared during this period of comfort.

Xiao Feng Wu hastily opened his eyes in alarm. He saw that the jade wasn't on his chest, but was in-fact floating in the air. However, it was going away from him rather quickly. What was most-astonishing to Xiao Feng Wu was that he could neither see a shadow, nor sense any person's aura. It was as if the jade had sprung a pair of legs, attained life, and was escaping on its own.

[How's this happening? What's happening? Is that Mysterious Master using Xuan Qi to manipulate the Soul Replenishing Jade away from me...? But there's no fluctuation in the Xuan Qi either.] Xiao Feng Wu couldn't distinguish the truth of what he was witnessing.

Xiao Feng Wu's consciousness felt a bit fuzzy; he felt as if he was in a dream. He cocked his head to regain some sense. He realized that the jade would soon disappear. He was dismayed at the thought of losing the miraculous Soul Replenishing Jade. He was initially very reluctant, but he gathered some courage and exerted himself to shout mournfully, "Someone... come here... the Jade is running away!"

[The Jade is running away?]

Jun Mo Xie almost laughed and gave away his position in the nothingness. [Damn! This guy is very talented! The jade is undoubtedly a marvelous thing. But, it's still an inanimate object. To say that... 'it's running away...' I'm truly speechless...]

However, Xiao Feng Wu was desperate. Moreover, he was at a loss as to how he'd explain what was happening in front of his eyes. As for someone snatching it from him and running away with it... well, he couldn't see anyone... In fact, he couldn't even see the shadow of a ghost. Therefore, Xiao Feng Wu had shouted in desperation, "The jade is running away..." — not realizing how ridiculous it sounded. Though, his words had managed to accurately describe what he could see.

"Someone is attempting to steal the Soul Replenishing Jade!" Xiao Bu Yu was in the other room. But, his white eyebrows shot-up the moment Jun Mo Xie snatched the jade from Xiao Feng Wu's hands. He had initiated his Divine Inhibition, and it had instantly transmitted a message to his mind. Then, a delicate green eagle quickly flew out of his chest, and flew straight towards Xiao Feng Wu's room.

This result was something which he didn't expect. In fact, it was beyond reason!

The Third Elder had described the Mysterious Man's tyrannical strength and temperament. And, since the former had already discounted the status of his opponent and snatched away the younger generation's treasure — it was unlikely that he wouldn't attempt to take the other half as well. In fact, he had no doubts about it.

However, the room was covered with many layers of Spiritual Essence at that point of time. Thus, it had a very powerful defense mechanism. Even the First Great Master, Yun Bie Chen, would find it hard to conceal his position. So, it would be impossible that a normal person wouldn't trigger the Spiritual Essences' that were being used to guard it. But, this mysterious person had managed to infiltrate without giving anything away. Such skill was extraordinary and extremely rare.

The next moment, Xiao Bu Yu's slim body quickly flew-out; light as a feather and swift as the mist.

He flew to the secret room where the injured Xiao Wu was getting healed.

Xiao Bu Yu simultaneously let-out a gentle yet shrill and scream. The volume of the scream wasn't very high, but it was uninterrupted, and alarmed the entire Magnificent Jewel Hall. The Spirit Xuan Experts reacted with an amazing speed. In an instant, there were twelve experts who had surrounded Xiao Feng Wu's room in accordance with the plans set-out earlier. Everyone in that cordon focused their full attention, and seemed prepared to react at any moment.

This man had infiltrated several layers of Spiritual Essence, and had stolen the jade. He wasn't a 'regular' foe. Everyone understood this.

[This man is a major enemy!]

Xiao Bu Yu's shrill scream hadn't yet ceased. His eyes were brimming killing intention. The elder then took initiative, and rushed into Xiao Feng Wu's room.

He attacked the thick-red-sandalwood door with his Xuan Qi when he was about seven feet from the room. The door then silently disintegrated into small fragments and disappeared mid-air. Xiao Bu Yu ducked into the room like a young dragon. The speed of his movements had been as fast as lightning.

Xiao Bu Yu had counted the chickens before the eggs had hatched. He believed that his troops would simultaneously move into action if he took the lead. However, he needn't have every man burst into the room. That would result in a chaotic situation, and would instead help the mysterious man to escape.

Therefore, he had decided that only the strongest person would burst through the door, while the rest of them would form a huge encirclement around the room. They could then initiate strict surveillance, and block-off any route the escapee could attempt to use. In that case, the thief would have to face one of them head-on if were to step out of the room — no matter which escape route he'd try to take.

If the one blocking that mysterious man's path brought-out his full power, and managed to stop him for even a moment... that would be enough for the rest of them to surround the enemy and mount a joint attack.

Xiao Bu Yu had full confidence in his people; even the weakest one amongst them. They could even make it hard for the strongest of the 'Eight Great Masters', Yun Bie Chen, to break through as long as they had put their life on the line; forget about other people.

Xiao Bu Yu wouldn't believe that there was someone in this world who could escape his line of sight at this juncture. Moreover, five Spirit Xuan Experts and the Silver Blizzard City's Seven Swords were waiting outside!

That mysterious man was able to infiltrate the room very stealthily, but it would be a joke to think that he'd be able to escape such a tight cordon.

This arrangement was absolutely flawless, and secure. There was no chance of any mishap.

However, Xiao Bu Yu hadn't realized that mishaps often happen unexpectedly.

He broke-in and flew inside Xiao Feng Wu's room. He was covered in Spirit Realm Xuan Qi from head to toe, and had burst-in like a massive cluster of tornados.

He had heard the rumors about that masked man's terrifying strength. Though, he wasn't afraid of that. He had also been provided a description of that man's character by the Third and the Sixth Elder. And, he feared it. He was worried by his own negligence could help that masked man escape. So, could he dare to be careless at that point?

His body was covered with Xuan Qi as he entered. Then, he quickly spun in a circle on his toes. It appeared as if a ballerina was trying to perform a very difficult move. However, Xiao Bu Yu couldn't find anything strange in the room.

Only Xiao Feng Wu was present inside the room. He stood with a foolish expression on his face.

"Where is that man?" Xiao Bu Yu yelled. He thought to himself. [Don't tell me that we're too late! This is impossible! The Fragrance-Eagle also flew in this direction! What did we do wrong?]

"Which man?" Xiao Feng Wu was at a loss as to what his grandfather had just asked him. So, he asked in confusion.



“The man who stole your jade! Are you an idiot?” Xio Bu Yu felt like vomiting blood because of his own grandson. [Damn it! That man snatched that jade from his hands, yet he asks, “Which man?”] It was a good thing that Xio Bu Yu had enough cultivation. Otherwise, he would’ve caught fire due to his own rage.

“There was nobody here,” Xiao Feng Wu was dazed. He looked at his empty hands, and then at his angry grandfather. He was at a loss as to what had just happened, and was endlessly confused. [How did that jade fly away from me? This is extremely strange. Did it turn into a ghost?]

“Nobody? Nobody took away your jade from your hands? Are you telling this old man that the Soul Replenishing Jade sprung wings and flew away on its own?” came a loud rebuke in reply.

“Yes, grandfather. It was very strange. The jade didn’t grow wings, but it did fly away on its own... really...!” Xiao Feng Wu’s face was truly earnest.

“You’re a piece of trash!” Xio Bu Yu rained curses in anger. His clothes made a ‘whooshing’ sound as he leapt into the air. His face was dark with anger. [I have seen useless individuals... I have even seen idiots... but I’ve never seen ‘trash’ such as this. And unexpectedly, this kind of ‘trash’ is my grandson!]

“Well... I’m telling the truth... the jade flew away... it didn’t grow wings... but it flew away... and it did so very quickly...” Xiao Feng Wu mumbled as he stood in front of Xio Bu Yu. He felt wronged, and felt that he was being treated unjustly. [Why do I even speak the truth when no one is ready to believe me nowadays? I’m only speaking about things that I’ve seen with my eyes!]

“I’m your grandfather! You scoundrel, how dare you speak such nonsense in front of me!” Xio Bu Yu rained curses while in mid-air. The Qi congealed in his palm came down like the wind, and hit his grandson’s face with a “Bang!”

Xiao Feng Wu staggered a little bit, and fell down. His face swelled up.

Xiao Feng Wu covered his face in resentment. But he kept his feelings to his heart. [Bullsh\*t! You’re my grandfather? Then, find that person. But you’re no grandfather of mine if you can’t find that person...]

Xiao Bu Yu's body shot-up like a meteor in the horizon, and rose thirty meters above the Magnificent Jewel Hall. He started to roam around in wide circles. He was as quick as lightning. His eyes took-in everything under the starlight for around five kilometers. However, he couldn't find the tiniest of clues.

[Can that man's movements be this stealthy?]

The small Fragrance-Eagle also circled around with him. It was evident that it had also lost bearing of its target.

[How is this possible?]

Chapter 299: We Fell Head-First!

Xiao Bu Yu's voice was gentle, yet it echoed heavily; it seemed as if a volcano was about to burst. He was unable to restrain his emotions, "Did you see anyone go out?"

The twelve experts who had covered the escape routes looked at each other in dismay.

[We weren't able to discover him when he infiltrated the place. So, how do you expect us to find him now? Nobody came out. Ah!]

"Be at ease, Second Brother. The twelve of us have set up a very tight cordon. Even a mosquito won't be able to fly out and escape. Therefore, I request Second Brother to make the move." The Third Elder touched his sword's handle. He had spoken those words in a respectful manner. His white hair was like strands of silver; his beard was as white as snow, while his sword shone with a cold light.

"Third Elder Brother is right! Please be at ease, Second Elder Brother!" everyone echoed their agreement. It seemed like they were making a solemn vow.

Xiao Bu Yu would've been gratified if he had heard these words earlier. In fact, he would've even felt proud. After all, the abilities of his junior brothers could never be doubted.

However, at present, their bold words sounded ridiculous to his ears. In fact, he felt somewhat ashamed of them. An incomparable feeling of helplessness arose from his heart. He looked up and let out a long and desolate sigh. Then, the Second Brother slowly descended to the top of the Magnificent Jewel Hall, and stood there in a daze.

"Is something wrong, Second Brother?" Everyone could see that his mood wasn't good. So, they couldn't help but crowd around him, and enquired with concern.

"We fell head-first..." Xiao Bu Yu sighed deeply and looked into the distance. His expression was melancholic and desolate. It revealed the utter humiliation his heart was suffering.

[Who was this man who stole the Soul Replenishing Jade?]

[Who in this world could possess such Godly and clever methods that we couldn't even track them?]

[He came-in without exposing his tracks... or even a shadow!]

[He left without leaving a single trace!]

[Could Master Yun Bie Chen and the other legendary characters have pulled this off?]

"We fell head-first? Second Brother, what are you saying?" Each one of the other twelve experts turned pale without exception. After Xiao Bu Yu had said — "Someone is stealing the Soul Replenishing Jade," everyone knew what had happened. They had presumed that that mysterious man had finally appeared. Everyone was in high spirits, and was rearing for a fight. They wanted to see who was superior between them and that man. However, they couldn't even find his shadow. Everyone assumed that it was a false alarm. But then, they heard that they had "fallen head-first" from Xiao Bu Yu's very mouth.

Could someone have lived long-enough to reach their age if they couldn't even comprehend the meaning behind this sentence?

“Could it be...?” Everyone looked at Xiao Bu Yu and noticed his expression. Their words were inquisitive in nature. Their expression revealed their disbelief, but the tone of their voice suggested that they had already started to believe it.

“Yes, you’ve guessed right. The Soul Replenishing Jade has fallen into the hands of that man,” Xiao Bu Yu’s gentle voiced seemed gloomy. In fact, he couldn’t talk properly because of his dismal, “I couldn’t even see that person’s shadow. And, the jade has disappeared without a trace. We couldn’t see the man even though we gave him an immediate chase. You people obviously couldn’t spot that needle in the haystack either. This is one tumble the Silver Blizzard City has taken head-first...”

“How can that be? Second brother, we mustn’t forget that you had used your Divine Inhibition on the jade.” The Ninth Elder stared wide-eyed, “But with the precautions we took... wouldn’t it be easy to find him if we wanted to?”

Everyone had a “you are an idiot” expression on their faces the moment those words left his mouth. [Would the Second Brother show such a mournful expression if his methods were of any use now?]

However, everyone’s expression underwent a huge transformation as they thought of this.

“It’s of no use. The moment that man laid his hands on the Soul Replenishing Jade — his superior method eliminated my Devine Inhibition, and the 500km Soul-Scent Lock. We can’t use them now.” Xiao Bu Yu looked-up at the small green eagle that was soaring above. He felt very helpless.

“How’s this possible?” The twelve experts gasped a mouthful of air, “The Divine Inhibition links itself to the target’s body once it makes contact. So, how could a person break-away from this connection without a trace? Moreover, what kind of strength did this person possess to pull this off? Furthermore, the 500km Soul-Scent Lock is a secret substance of the Silver Blizzard City. It literally sticks to a person’s soul once it makes contact with its target. Only the special antidote from the Silver City could remove that smell. Otherwise, it would remain stuck to a person throughout their lives. So, how was this man able to remove it? This entire matter seems completely inconceivable!”

“Are you sure, Second Brother?” a stern voice asked. Everyone turned to the source of the voice, and realized that the Fifth Elder had spoken those words. Out of the nine brothers — he was the most cautious one.

"I'm sure!" Xiao Bu Yu sighed and frowned. It seemed that he had aged ten years in an instant. Then, he continued softly, "My main concern right now is that... he was able to eliminate the Devine Inhibition, and the 500km Soul-Scent Locking... So... we can't say that his strength is 'number-one under the heavens', but it is many levels above ours. So, I reckon that if he wants to obtain our Soul Replenishing Jades... he could do it with ease. In fact, it wouldn't be difficult for him to compel us into surrendering the remaining Jades by attacking the Silver Blizzard City... so..."

Everyone understood the meaning behind his words very clearly, "Yes... if he's truly an unrivalled expert... why would he willingly shoulder the reputation of a thief throughout his life? His name would be tainted with that reputation. And, he won't be able to remove this stain if he were to become famous throughout the land in the future. This doesn't make any sense!"

Everyone went silent.

If everyone-present fought with heart and courage — their strength would've possibly been enough to prevail over the Great Eight Masters. However, this man hadn't revealed himself. And, those thirteen experts from the Silver Blizzard City had fallen head-first into a tumble against this mysterious man. So, everyone felt frustrated. But, they were also afraid of him. In fact, they were extremely scared...

[We're lucky that he only wanted to steal the Jade! Had he intended on fighting with us... Wouldn't he have been able to pinch us to death like we were nothing more than river snails?]

The Seven Swords of the Silver Blizzard City stood expressionless. However, they were clenching the hilts of their swords so sharply that their bones were visible.

"I've held my head with complacency in the Silver Blizzard City for the last thirty years. But I've unexpectedly been handed a defeat today...!" Xiao Bu Yu moved his hands behind his back as he stood at the summit of Magnificent Jewel Hall. He pensively gazed at the Tian Xiang City. The city seemed ablaze with lights under the luminous starlight. He then let out a long sigh, and stood motionless for a long time.

The twelve experts felt a somewhat stifling sensation in their chests. The mere process of breathing had started to seem like a tough task... as if the vast sky above the Tian Xiang City was suddenly pressing down on them. They felt as if layer-upon-layer of heavy pressure had started to descend upon their minds.

“Hurry up and fly to the Silver Blizzard City. Inform them about today’s matter. We shall leave for Tian Fa soon. This place hasn’t been benevolent to us. We must hurry.” Xiao Bu Yu’s white hair, beard and gown rustled as they floated in the wind. His voice was extremely desolate and bleak. It seemed that the pride and arrogance — everything he had cultivated throughout the years — had left his body as he spoke those words. There was an air of unspeakable dismal about him...

It felt as if this was... the end of the road for a hero!

“Second Brother!” the twelve Experts called-out in concern.

Xiao Bu Yu waved his sleeve, “Too much thinking isn’t good for you! Everyone must go and rest.” His body moved as he finished his sentence. Then, he suddenly vanished from the rooftop; leaving behind a heavy and desolate aura.

Jun Mo Xie had smoothly put the Soul Replenishing Jade in the HongJun Pagoda in a split second. Then, he had put all of his effort into initiating the Yin Yang Escape, and had stood motionlessly in the corner of Xiao Feng Wu’s room. The Young Master Jun had decided to quietly observe the situation, and any changes which would occur thereafter.

However, Xiao Bu Yu had burst-in the moment he put the jade away. The Elder’s sharp Xuan Qi had dispersed in all directions; along with his Divine Inhibition. It was as if a thousand sharp swords were swinging wildly in the air. It had almost made it difficult for Jun Mo Xie to breathe. He couldn’t help but be astonished.

[This person from the Silver Blizzard City is no small fry. His imposing aura is slightly inferior to the Solitary Falcon’s; but not by much.]

[No wonder the Silver Blizzard City was so confident about their plans.]

After that, Jun Mo Xie settled-in to watch the drama unfold — free of cost. He could only feel one thing about these experts from the Silver Blizzard City: [They are amazing]. He was nothing more than a ‘small fry’ in front of them. However, these great shark-like Spirit Xuan experts had praised him, and had nearly declared him the ‘number-one expert’ under the heavens.

This was very pleasurable for him! In fact, it was almost too pleasurable...

It was only natural that the Young Master Jun was merely observing everything from the side-lines at the time; nothing more. He wasn't going to make his opinions known at that point. So, when Xiao Bu Yu was standing depressed — Jun Mo Xie stood not far away from his side. He had placed his hands on his knees, and looked at the elder's face with interest. The Young Master Jun was deriving joy in his sadness.

Jun Mo Xie unexpectedly felt very relaxed when he witnessed Xiao Bu Yu make a sudden decision go to Tian Fa. He was aware that these people would try to make things difficult for him and his uncle in the Tian Fa Forest. In fact, they might even try to kill the Solitary Falcon; but, he wasn't worried about it.

He was aware that the effect of his Aura would be far worse in the south than it was here. So, would he need to fear them?

That would be a big joke!

However, he was worried about the possibility of these people from the Silver Blizzard City intercepting and attacking Jun Wu Yi's army en-route. The chances of this taking place were very slim. In fact, it seemed ridiculous. But, this was Jun Mo Xie's main concern.

Everything else was unimportant in contrast.

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie didn't leave since he had decided to keep watch from the top of the Magnificent Jewel Hall. He would only feel relieved after he'd see them leave. Then, he would try his best to delay the movement of the army since it wouldn't be good for him if these people were to attack the army midway...

The next morning, Jun Mo Xie saw the Silver City's six Great Elders, seven Sky Xuan peak experts, Xiao Han and Mu Xue Tong again. The pale-faced and weak Xiao Feng Wu, and Princess Han Yan Meng — and her luggage — were accompanying them as they departed in a grand manner. He saw them leave the Tian Xiang City, and trailed them for half-a-kilometre. He noticed that they were completely engrossed in their journey. So, he felt relieved and set-off to return home.

[You've finally fled! Tian Xiang is my world now!] Jun Mo Xie returned home feeling as light as a feather. He felt incomparably relieved.

He had barely reached the gates when his nostrils were assailed by an extremely acrid smell. He nearly tumbled. [What is this matter about?] He carefully tried to ascertain its origin, and jumped-up in fright. [My Heavens! Ah! What's this?!]

### Chapter 300: That's How Ingredients Are Procured

He hadn't noticed that a group of soldiers had escorted over ten chariots to the Jun resident's gate. One team of soldiers was moving the boxes from the carts on to the ground. Each of those boxes was either bulky or delicate. And, the extremely pungent smell of medicines which had assailed his nostrils was originating from these boxes.

Fortunately, those boxes were being moved inside the house; not outside. Otherwise, Jun Mo Xie's first response would've been, "People have raided our house! They are confiscating our stuff!"

The scene was very chaotic to begin with. However, it didn't end there. A group of approximately fifty middle-aged men were scrambling around. They were calling-out-loud mournfully as they imploded. This had made the entire situation even more chaotic.

[What is going on? What in the world is happening here? What is this?]

Jun Mo Xie walked through the crowd with suspicion and doubts in his mind. And, just when he was about to enter through the gate... he heard loud cries from his side. The mournful middle-aged men had come rushing towards him, and had started to kneel in front of him. Their faces were covered with snot and tears. They started to imploded, "Young Master Jun, please be kind; please be generous and let us off! We wish you a long life! We pray you have a blessed life of hundred years, and you attain a great position in the court! Have pity on our small businesses! We have families to feed; please have mercy on us!"



Jun Mo Xie was stumped; [how am I related to this? What are they saying? They are making it seem like this Young Master is an evil man from the legends who forces girls into prostitution... like I am an evil tyrant who brings great misfortune and oppresses people! Who are these folks?! What is this?!]

“What’s the matter?” Jun Mo Xie frowned. He knew that those merchants wouldn’t dare to talk-back to someone of his stature. So, he asked a soldier standing at the side. But, the soldier merely shook his head. Unexpectedly, he wasn’t aware of the reason behind that commotion either.

Just when the Young Master Jun started to feel gloomy — the ground started to shake. Then, a monstrous head arrived.

“I’ve brought the medicines you had asked for. The ones which were easily accessible, and the ones which weren’t; I’ve brought them all.” Fatty Tang chimed in his distinctive intonation. It seemed as if he were showing-off his treasures. He then extended his ‘round-and-fat’ bear’s claw-of-a-hand to gesture. “And these are it! Your brother moved fast, and gave his hundred percent to the task!”

Jun Mo Xie felt somewhat dizzy; [I had told you to get as many ingredients for my medicines as you could. But, this is too much. And, what’s the deal with these middle-aged men?] He couldn’t help but blurt out, “How did you get so many ingredients? And, what’s the matter with these people?”

“Ah! Young Master, everyone is on the same side. So, why do you speak so formally? And, why do you look so confused?” Tang Yuan squeezed through the crowd and winked; as if to imply a clear understanding between the two.

“Young Master Tang, Young Master Jun, please be kind to us. Please let us off! We beg you; leave some means for our survival!” The middle-aged men started to weep the moment they saw Tang Yuan. They then surrounded the two Young Masters, knelt in front of them, and started to knock their heads on the ground.

“You...” Jun Mo Xie was stunned for a while. Then, he slowly started to understand what had happened... by-and-large. It seemed that Fatty Tang had gone to several pharmaceutical families, and had seized these ingredients from their stores. [And if I’m not mistaken... these people may not have been in a position to give-out such a large amount of raw material.]

“You had urgently asked for these ingredients. But, the amount was a lot. How could I have procured so much in such little time? And, where would I go to get those ingredients for you? So, this Young Master frowned and carefully devised a plan with his foresight!”

Tang Yuan looked very pleased with himself as he spoke, “Therefore, I made arrangements to go to these pharmacies. Then, I made my desire to buy the ingredients known to them. However, you had asked for a very high amount of ingredients, and they said that they didn’t wish to part-with so much of it. They told me that they wouldn’t be able to conduct their day-to-day business if they sell the ingredients you required...”

Jun Mo Xie was speechless. He rolled his eyes; [you’ve made a stupid move! How will they do business if you seize their stock with prior notice? Don’t you know that it takes several days for one family to complete its turnover? And, did you just say “All of it”? Have you taken everything in their stores?]

“So, this Elder Brother got very angry.” Tang Yuan’s eyes opened wide, and a murderous expression emerged inside them, “They had refused to do business with me. They weren’t selling anything to me. That clearly meant that they were trying to defraud me by force! Really?! How could they do that?! They dared to bully us-two brothers! And, isn’t this a breach of the law? So, I straight away went to the Ministry of Justice, and obtained a written approval. Then, I set upon rectifying these people. I then went to the biggest families — and because they acted so tough yesterday — I took everything they had, and closed their shops. Now, I’ve transported those medicinal ingredients here.”

Jun Mo Xie staggered, “What reason did you give to the Ministry to seize these items from these families? Did you tell the Ministry of Justice that you wanted it... and they thought that it was awesome ...and gave you the written approval?”

“Third Young Master... aren’t you being foolish? Why are you talking like you don’t know how the business works?” Tang Yuan looked at him suspiciously, “We can seize their stuff whenever we want because of our status. Why do we need to give any justification? They will learn to respect us if we can go and seize their families’ resources at our whims! That is exactly why powerful people go and make arrests for baseless things! They seize the businesses, and wait for a few days. Then, they usually let the owners go if they’re in a good mood. However, they chop everyone’s heads-off if they’re in a foul one since listening to these laments about trivial matters is very annoying...”

The corners of Tang Yuan’s mouth rose upwards. He then made a scoffing sound.

Jun Mo Xie stared with his eyes wide open. This was the first time he realized that he hadn't properly integrated with his social status since crossing-over to this new world. Tang Yuan's ideology was very reasonable. Given the setting of this feudal society... would two young nobles like Tang Yuan and Jun Mo Xie need to give any justification if they wanted the entire stock from a shop?

[But, isn't it too forceful and tyrannical?]

There was no better way to explain it. Jun Mo Xie and Tang Yuan could act harsh and unreasonable. Their status would allow them to walk into any shop, and seize the family's entire business. Even if they were to kill each of these people — they could turn to the Ministry of Justice. After that, they could strut around and say — “We've killed them, but it's important to mete-out justice to those who deserve punishment. We acted in accordance to reasonable self-defense, and deserve to be accorded an Imperial Commendation! Oh, and wait... the dead man's family still owes compensation for the damage to our spirit! Humph! We had suffered quite a shock! ...but what of the family whose men you murdered? ...Send them all to prison. Otherwise, they'd trouble me if they were left in the open. And, if you lowly officials have a problem with it — I don't mind sending you to prison for a few days. This, I've decided!”

This was an advantage of such a high status in this type of a society. It might as well be asked — how many people in all of Tian Xiang could provoke the two great families of Tang and Jun?

[I can't speak for this world... but I could never have acted like this in the previous one... the internet would've... so, this really is a different world!]

Jun Mo Xie turned around to look at the numerous entreating faces. He counted their numbers. Eventually, he figured that shopkeepers from pharmacies of seven families were present outside his door.

He had started to understand this matter very clearly. Fatty Tang had acted exactly like the Hit-man Jun would've. He killed the target, and moved-on without a second thought. But, the base of this matter...

“Everyone heard me, right? Do you know what the problem is? Let me tell you — this elder isn't happy. Let me ask you — who in Tian Xiang Empire dares to refuse business with this elder?!”

Tang Yuan had cried his throat hoarse with this nonsense. How could those pharmacists have missed his it? [I regret this now... from the bottom of my very heart... and even my guts. I would've given him a cheap bargain if I had known that this would happen... maybe he would've left me alone if I had given him a present as well. We can't do business beyond 10-15 days under these circumstances. If I look at things now — my family is ruined!]

The pleading members of the crowd nodded in agreement about something, "We're willing to offer all of our family properties to the two Young Masters. We merely ask that the two Young Masters don't take the entirety of our stock... and show us some mercy."

"Bullsh\*t! Do you think this Young Master is poor? You think I need your offerings? Besides, what could you offer me except medicines? Damn it! Will you give me medicines along with the gifts? Are you hoping that I fall ill? Would you be happy if I died?" Tang Yuan shouted as he waved his status in their face once again.

[We hope that you 'both' fall ill. The common people will be very fortunate if you fall ill and die.] The shopkeepers thought angrily. However, their faces only showed obeisance out of fear.

"Everyone, listen! Our Aristocratic Hall needs those ingredients urgently! We had no choice but to use such a method to obtain them. I'll gladly accept your medicines for now. But later, you can arrange an accountant, and settle the accounts with Young Master Tang. This Young Master will ensure that you get paid; no matter what amount we will have owed you. We'll buy your goods at fair prices. We don't try to cheat anyone. Shall we agree upon this, Gentlemen?"

Jun Mo Xie had deliberated at-length before he finally opened his mouth. Why would he wish to exploit those shopkeepers by using his status? It didn't feel good. Fatty had overstepped the boundary a bit too much in this case. So, it was better to settle this matter as quickly as possible since it would be quite improper if any more trouble was unnecessarily provoked.

"Yes. Yes. We lowly people wouldn't dare object."

"You wouldn't dare to object? I'm in-charge here. The decision is mine anyway! Good! Now, everyone must return to their homes. This matter had been decided." Jun Mo Xie frowned at Tang Yuan, "Foot the bill for these urgently-needed ingredients to me. Pay them double the price. Anyway, I had instructed you to pay a higher price. And yes, tell the authorities to remove those trivial accusations. These people are innocent; let them go."

Tang Yuan's face twitched in distress. [Pay them double...]

"We lowly folks wouldn't dare..." With this, the matter was finally resolved. The shopkeepers relaxed and sighed in relief. They didn't say anything since they didn't wish to get into more trouble over these ingredients. But, at least their family businesses had been saved.

"Uh, and I don't want so much of it. I won't need whatever is remaining after I'm done filtering through them," Jun Mo Xie pointed at the ingredients and spoke. He barely took a step before he stopped, "Oh, that's right... send your shop-assistant to lend a hand. Otherwise, I don't know when I'll be able to finish with such a large amount."

The shopkeepers agreed with pained expressions. They could only think; [what 'way of the world' is this? We run honest businesses. We didn't provoke anybody. However, one person comes out of the blue and seizes our family business. Then, he threatens us with death. Then unexpectedly, we're let-off. And, we're grateful for that... But now, we have to send our assistants to help sort-out and recycle whatever this person doesn't use? Oh, and, we have to keep a smiling face the entire time?! This is unfair... this is very unfair...]

[Why didn't I see this coming?]

All seven shopkeepers thought of the same thing in unison.

"Good! Now relax and do what I just told you to do. And, hurry up. Everyone — get moving; now!" Jun Mo Xie pulled-up his gown, and proceeded in through the door. He could faintly hear Tang Yuan's voice in the background. It seemed that he was gnashing his teeth, "So, so, so... you guys opened your mouths, and convinced the Young Master to pay you double..."

"We wouldn't dare to..." the replying voices were full of respect and humility.

Jun Mo Xie couldn't help but smile. He felt that status and authority was handy in dealing with things. [Ah, why hadn't I thought of this earlier?] These pharmacies didn't have any legendary medicines in their stock, but they had every common-one a person could hope for. [I could've saved so much time if I thought of this earlier, ah!]