

E Monarch 316

Chapter 316: The Malignant Tumor Serves as the Vanguard

"Hahaha..." Everyone who witnessed this funny and extremely strange scene couldn't help but laugh heartily. Murong Qian Jun had come to taunt Jun Mo Xie's debauchee like behavior. But, he was smiling through his running nose and eyes as well. In fact, he held his stomach the whole time.

The vicinity was brimming with great and experienced men. They had all been married, and knew what Jun Mo Xie's remark and gestures meant. Moreover, this kind of vulgarity had been rather common throughout their military life. However, this sudden act by Jun Mo Xie had unexpectedly been rather funny.

Even the battlefield-commanders couldn't help the corners of their mouth draw into a smile. And then, their mouths opened as they burst out into laughter. They laughed loudly at first. Then, they realized that it was improper to do so. So, they tried to restrain themselves. However, they soon realized that it was no use. So, they started to laugh in an unrestrained manner.

However, Murong Qian Jun soon found himself in confusion since he was unaware of the real joke. The Murong Family's laughing stock had merely felt an unbearable pain on his head, but didn't know anything about the 'unbridled transformation' that had taken place on it. He couldn't help but get angry as he asked, "Is this that funny? He has attacked a fellow soldier inside the army camp. It could be said that he has committed a grave crime! This Young Master... this General demands that a report of this matter goes to the Commander-in-Chief so that Jun Mo Xie gets severe punishment! Hey! What're you laughing at? What's so funny?"

The lone pen*s-like lump on his head had started to glitter bright-red in the sunlight. In fact, it had expanded, and had gained more strength. Moreover, the blood that surged upwards through his head which made 'it' seem even more sinister and towering as he seemingly got angrier. The lump had transformed the man's 'elegant' face in its entirety. He spoke in a very serious tone, but the effect became increasingly comical.

He had asked everyone to restrain themselves. But, they weren't able to change their outer appearance, and continued to laugh. Everyone held their bellies as they started to roll around on the ground, "Ah! This is extremely funny! I will die! Kindly forgive me. Hahaha..."

Jun Wu Yi and the other high-ranking officers hurriedly arrived after they received the news of this event. They became extremely angry for a moment after they saw the disturbance. However, they then saw that peculiar lump on Murong Qian Jun's head, and felt like bursting out into laughter. However, they suddenly remembered that it wasn't proper to laugh in this situation. So, they quickly restrained themselves. But, they were unable to make it work, and their smiling expressions still rose to the surface. Soon, everyone started to choke in attempts to restrain themselves. Even the constantly solemn Commander Jun wasn't an exception.

Jun Mo Xie wasn't going to have a lucky escape. He was punished again. Commander Jun was extremely angry. He nearly had the little beast imprisoned.

[This is too much trouble. What can we do in this matter?]

[This is the 'legendary' trouble-spreading evil spirit!]

However, the trouble-spreading evil spirit clearly wasn't done yet. This was because the event still hadn't concluded.

Two sides collided that very same evening after the encampment had been set up. The Murong Family's Guards were out to avenge their Young Master. So, they clashed with Jun Mo Xie's two-hundred-and-fifty men.

Jun Mo Xie was helpless as far as this figure of merely 250 was concerned. He would've been happier if even one more man would've been able to join. However, his men had sustained severe injuries in their previous assignment. So, four of his men were unable to join them. However, the remaining 250 men weren't hindered by the condition of their injuries, and were fit to accompany him. Therefore, he had ordered them to enlist in the military for the glory and honor. However, Jun Mo Xie was depressed that they weren't able to train properly because of the army's routine.

[I guess I'll only have to make do with these 250. Well, it's 250 plus me. So, that makes it 251. This will drive this Young Master Mad. We should each grab a person's leg and break it. But, that doesn't sound

right ah. It would be pretty stupid if we break only one leg each ah. We should at least break two legs each. That's not enough either ah... After all, it's 251 of us ah! Let's beat them up properly then!]

The outcome of the conflict was a huge upset. It caused many people to drop their spectacles. Those mere 250 turned out to be very fierce and tough. They attacked the 500 Murong Family's Guards, and beat them to a complete rout. The victims were obviously left to grumble endlessly since they were unspeakably cruel. In fact, over ten of the Murong Guards had been genuinely maimed.

This gave rise to a lot of anger. Numerous influential families accused Jun Mo Xie. And, he retaliated measure-for-measure. It seemed that there would be another bloody conflict soon.

Jun Wu Yi realized that his father's expectations were utter fantasy; same as his own. Jun Mo Xie was a troublemaker in the army. In fact, he was like a malignant tumor. So, it would be best to remove him as fast as possible. The rotten fish would ruin the entire dish if he were to remain there for long.

[The afternoon has barely passed. Even a day's time isn't yet over. Evening time hasn't even set properly, and the sky still hasn't darkened. And yet, this youngster has already obtained three punishments. Moreover, this kid is committing all offenses that shouldn't be committed. He would've already been beheaded twice if I were to treat him according to the military's law.]

Therefore, after another round of beating was ordered as punishment. It was followed by a lengthy and severe reprimanding tirade...

"You and your 250 men will get a special assignment." Jun Wu Yi stated, "You brat, you will get a special assignment to redeem yourself in light of performance. The special order for Jun Mo Xie is that — he will clear the way for the vanguard. He will open paths in mountains, and bridge streams. And, he will be held responsible if the army suffers any damage in this journey because of his negligence!"

Jun Mo Xie felt that he had been granted amnesty when he heard his special punishment. Jun Mo Xie was so delighted that he clasped his hands in the air like a common man who had achieved his life's dream. He replied in an opera-like dramatic tone. In fact, he got so dramatic that he nearly sung out his acceptance, "I needed... ah... this assignment..."

He then raised his hands like a goose's wings. Then, he started to circle-around. He flew half a circle. Then, he took a couple of steps as if he was passing over an obstacle. Then, he quickened his pace, and flew out of the tent.

The men in the tent couldn't help but stare. They couldn't help but burst out laughing. [Is this the Jun Family's sole member of the third generation? Is he really the descendant of a military family?]

Commander Jun Wu Yi was a loss. He had no choice but to think of the following two words — Family misfortune.

Jun Mo Xie took his Third Uncle's gloom into account. [I've made a very shitty name for myself in the army's way of life. I've received three severe beating in just half-a-days' time. Moreover, there was no argument that I could've used in my favor to prevent these punishments. It would take about a month to reach Tian Fa. Whether I had lived or died... whether I had lost face or didn't... one thing was for sure — the Iron Butt would've reached miraculous heights.]

[I've been given the responsibility to be a trail-opener from this moment onwards. I'm not very proficient at opening roads, or bridging streams. But, any robber we encounter along the way will be dealt with effectively. Not a single shall remain!]

[This is such a great opportunity to train my troops!]

Jun Mo Xie accepted the orders since he feared a change of command from the Commander. Then, he quickly ordered his 250 men to strike camp the same evening. They then disappeared into the darkness like a sharp arrow... just as Commander Jun had ordered. The 250+1 men disappeared without a trace.

Two days later, Commander Jun Wu Yi discovered that it was a brilliant decision to send Jun Mo Xie as a vanguard. In fact, it was an amazing and wise decision that could make for a great legend.

The best way to employ a person's true talent is to place them in the right position.

The journey became extremely smooth. The army's march had started to seem like a site-seeing tour. They followed Jun Mo Xie's vanguard unit. So, there was no need for them to be frightened since there was no danger up ahead. As for the officials along the way — they welcomed the army heartily in fear of

the reception not being satisfactory. And, they even came forward and gave some the military some supply materials. There was no case of embezzlement.

Jun Mo Xie initiated a thorough sweep to completely wipe-out the bandits. In fact, he even went 200kms beyond the official route to deal with them. This vanguard unit led by Jun Mo Xie wiped out all the bandits throughout the journey!

The entire journey was bloody; a hundred percent bloody.

The Young Master Jun's 'Heaven Destroyer Team' and 'Spirit Devourer Team' had used this bloody journey to accustom themselves to purely bloody conflicts.

These two-hundred-and-fifty men had been killing throughout the journey. Let alone Jun Mo Xie... even Jun Wu Yi could well-imagine the scene of the murderous aura that would be cultivated by the time they'd reach Tian Fa.

[Murderous aura and the bloody-lust are destined to become a part of those two platoon' souls!]

The passage through the first province was still acceptable to Jun Wu Yi. However, the passage through the second province was different. Jun Wu Yi looked at the Magistrate, and it literally seemed to him as if the man was a war-weary comrade who was about to start complaining about the women in the brothels.

However, the Magistrate looked at Jun Wu Yi with a strange expression in his eyes. It seemed as if he had just gotten to see his 'mother' after a long period of separation. No... it should be 'father'.

His face was full of tears and snot.

The Magistrate sounded a bit off as well. Jun Mo Xie's buttocks had started to ache from sitting on a saddle by the time he had reached the Magistrate's province. And thus, this Magistrate's parade had started...

First, the Young Master Jun wanted a carriage. What's more... he wanted it to be extremely luxurious. And, he wanted it completed in a days' time. Further, he wanted the work's progress-reported every hour. However, the Young Master didn't stop here. He also displayed the amazingly erudite accounting skills that he had acquired in his previous life. He settled the entirety of the Magistrate's accounts... accounts which had been compounding over the years.

This full-grown man of a Magistrate trembled in fear. He summoned artisans from near and far. He ordered them to build a carriage with the utmost caution and the harshest of adherence to standards. He ordered them to produce a carriage which offered the most comfortable ride and fast speeds. Thereafter, he was able to present an extremely luxurious carriage to Jun Mo Xie within the stipulated time.

Moreover, the material required to produce this carriage had been purchased with the money this Magistrate had coveted from the province's treasury over the years. In fact, the cost of production was so extravagant that the Magistrate was forced to borrow money.

The pitiful Magistrate trembled with fear as he came to Jun Mo Xie's vanguard unit to report the completion of the build. Jun Mo Xie was holding the accounts book at the time. In fact, he was treating it as a fan. He wished to educate that one man in all sincerity.

"I say Fei Zhu Chang..." This person's name was Fie Zhu Chang! It meant fat pig's intestines... The Young Master Jun found it hard to deal with this. He couldn't help clicking his tongue. [It's a big world, but there's nothing weirder than this name. This guy's parents must've been on a whole new level!]

"Aren't you too unprofessional? The so-called Heavenly Emperor had made you a Magistrate five years ago. And, you could only rake-in less than fifty thousand silver taels? This is extremely disappointing. Damn! Being corrupt will do you no good. No wonder... you're forty years old, and still a mere trash Magistrate! Five years of your greed and corruption has stained this land. Have you gobbled-up that carriage of mine as well? Is that what you're here to tell me?" Jun Mo Xie shook his head and sighed. It was evident that misfortune and fury was about to befall the man.

"I, yes... the General is right. This Magistrate is very incompetent," the Magistrate replied. He wiped the cold sweat off his face as he trembled in fear. However, he complained in his heart. [My holy ancestors ah! The carriage and its wheels are made from a hundred year old red sandalwood. The interiors are inlaid with four types of pearls. And, I've paid for this with my own money. The red sandalwood I could purchase wasn't enough... So, you tore out my family's door and my bed's planks. What else do you want? Why do you still bring-up my acts of corruption? My Family has become poor and wretched, and my butt has been soaked in debt. Yet, you still won't allow me to live in peace?]

Chapter 317: Two Girls — Two Problems

"Alas, the Qing prefecture's Governor has garnered hundreds-of-thousand in silver taels from the last three years' harvest. Unfortunately, this Magistrate has only raked in fifty-thousand in the past five years! You're a good for nothing!" Jun Mo Xie continued to sigh.

[You yourself said that the prefecture's Governor raked-in hundreds-of-thousands. But, I'm just a Province-magistrate. There are tens-of-thousands of Province-Magistrates under his jurisdiction. Isn't my position... very different from the Prefecture-Governor's?] Fei Zhu Chang continued to complain within his heart. However, his outer appearance was reverent and respectful as he listened to the Great Vanguard Jun admonish him.

"Anyway, it doesn't matter. Maybe you've gained knowledge after falling into the moat. Perhaps, you'll know what to do when this Young Master returns. This Young Master is likely to return from Tian Fa in two months. And, I fear that I won't be able to sit in this carriage then. You must pay special attention to time over these two months. Tax the people brutally, and embezzle as much money as quickly as you can. And, there should be a better carriage waiting when this Young Master returns. You must start the preparations early. You mustn't have to rush-about like this. Opportunities are always set aside for those who are prepared..." the Young Master Jun stated.

Fei Zhu Chang dropped down to the ground, and banged his head against it. He started to cry, and his gurgling voice came out, "Young General! This lowly Magistrate won't dare! He will repent for his past mistakes, and turn a new leaf! This Magistrate will mend his mistaken ways, and get back on the correct path! This prodigal son will return to the path of righteousness! I will repent and start afresh; I shall begin my life anew! I will firmly work my heart-out for the benefit of the people! This lowly man will strive to do the utmost. He shall leave no stone unturned in this regard..."

"You're very cultured! You've actually spoken so many idioms! Say more of them! Maybe I'll become compassionate and show mercy... and what not," Jun Mo Xie laughed and sang out those words as he looked at him in a praiseworthy manner.

Fei Zhu Chang kowtowed in adulation. He had decided that he would rather die than remain unchanged. The man had decided that he would become an honest and upright Magistrate; a good Magistrate. [I cannot remain a corrupt official anymore! I now know the sufferings of a corrupt official...]

[I regret my past behavior... Will I have to make another chariot for this man if he returns in two months?]

[I will weep rivers in my heart!]

[I reckon I'll lose my life if I cry in his presence...]

[I must call my subordinate officials, and I must tell them to cease their corrupt governance. I must tell them to become honest and upright... to serve the people...]

The Young Master Jun had fiercely plundered the region for bandits again. He had previously sent out the Spirit Devourer Team. They had returned carrying someone's head. The blood was dripping on the ground with a "pitter-patter" sound. The blood dripped all over the Magistrate's official lobby. It practically terrified the pitiful Fei Zhu Chang; in fact, he nearly fainted.

[This is a person's head... damn me! How many of these are there in total...]

Jun Mo Xie's vanguard-unit ate their fill. They then patted their posteriors and left once they had sufficiently extorted the man. Fei Zhu Chang raised his head in hope. He hoped to see Jun Wu Yi's forces soon. This was because the Young Master Jun had told him, "I will return and make you build another carriage if there any problem with the army's supplies. And, I will break the new carriage if it's not good enough. Also, the quality of the supplies will be decided by Commander Jun Wu Yi. So, you consider all of this properly, got it...?"

Therefore, Fei Zhu Chang's overenthusiasm made the hair on the back of Jun Wu Yi's neck stand on an end. [What's with this person?]

Meanwhile, Jun Mo Xie continued to lead his two-hundred-and-fifty men — 'Heaven Destroyer Team' and 'Spirit Devourer Team' — down the road to the south in high spirits. There seemingly wasn't a need to open mountain paths or bridge streams. However, they spread a reign of terror along their route.

He painstakingly tempered them throughout the journey in a bloody manner. Their strength increased by leaps and bounds, and they made extremely rapid progress. The temperament of each man was becoming increasingly murderous. Each one of them was like an evil demon that had been let loose from the very depths of hell. Their expressions were ruthless — so was their aura. And, both these traits were clearly visible on the surface. They were like a frightening team of meat-grinders on the battlefield.

Such a force naturally moved with lightning speed. The teams were sent out every day to deal with the bandits. They would go one team at a time as per the duty roster. However, the teams had a competition between them — to efficiently clean-up the hostiles, and eliminate them swiftly with great speed. Not a single opponent was to slip through their net. The team that would lose didn't suffer a very severe punishment. In fact, the punishment that was meted-out could even be called 'an easy one'... The team that was defeated in this competition had to wash the winner's underwear from the previous day; nothing more.

This competition led the men in those two teams to view the bandits as doubly-effective aphrodisiac. Or, perhaps delicious and fat pigs since they'd charge like wolves and tigers, and would chop their prey like melons...

The penalty wasn't a big deal, but their reputation was...

Jun Mo Xie's vanguard had put a distance of 400km from the main army by the noon of the fifth day. Jun Mo Xie was seated leisurely inside the lead carriage, and it was being drawn by six horses. The carriage was quite spacious. It was two meters wide and three-and-a-half meters long. A small bed was placed inside. Yet, it still had enough space for a small wooden side-table. In fact, there was enough space to prompt Jun Mo Xie to call-in a meeting inside his carriage.

However, Jun Mo Xie had only done so once. Moreover, he hadn't even completed half of it when he was forced to call the meeting to an end. Not because of any major problems... it was just that the men had been traversing through the mountain passes the entire day. The soldiers were attired in clothes and shoes, but the smell of their feet was extremely pungent. It was capable of making people tumble. This was especially the case in this nearly fully-sealed carriage. That smell was similar to that of a salted fish which had been fried. It had taken Jun Mo Xie a full day to rid his carriage of that smell after the meeting had concluded prematurely.

"Young Master, please open... there are some people ahead. They are blocking the way," the man to speak was the head of the 'Spirit Devourer Team'; Wang Dong.

[These people must be extremely savage to leave a homicidal maniac like the 'Spirit Devourer Team's' chief to stammer...]

"Blocking the way? Bullsh*t! Who in Tian Xiang Empire dares to block this Young Master's path?" Jun Mo Xie asked in surprise. He then first lifted the carriage's curtains, and then jumped down to see the people who had been audacious-enough to do such a thing.

Jun Mo Xie got out of the carriage to look. Then, something caught his attention. He then gasped. [My God! No wonder Wang Dong was stuttering!]

[Unexpectedly...]

The scene in front wasn't too terrifying. There were two divinely beautiful women in front; nothing more. One charming person was dressed in purple clothes. She was extremely adorable and tender in appearance. She held a snow-white leopard cub. The tiny leopard cub looked at Jun Mo Xie and winked. He, it stuck out its tongue. It badly wanted to throw itself into Jun Mo Xie's arms.

The other woman wore a white dress. She had charming, cold and proud face. She was extremely beautiful. She had a graceful posture, and an unrivalled disposition.

The two beautiful figures looked at Jun Mo Xie with a satisfied expression that was akin to a cat's after it had caught a mouse.

Those two women were Guan Qing Han and Dugu Xiao Yi.

Jun Mo Xie groaned. He felt that he'd faint.

This was too big a shock!

[No wonder I didn't see these two pester me for the two days before we left for the battle! I was mistaken to think that I had convinced them, but they had left home early in reality! And now, they're waiting for me here!]

[What do I do?!]

Young Master Jun felt regret at holding the position of the Vanguard for the first time...

In fact, he had many regrets... [How come these two scalding hot potatoes fell into my hands? I... my life is a disaster!]

[Why did I have to opt for this Vanguard Unit? Why could I have just followed the main army like a good boy? What troubles could've my Third Uncle's command have possibly posed? But, now... I can shout for days and no one will come to my aid... I could shout my lungs out and it would still be in vain...]

[This is the route to Tian Fa! This isn't a road for some vacation destination!]

Jun Mo Xie didn't know what he should say. What could he possibly say in such a pinch of a situation?

The Young Master Jun restlessly turned his head back. He hoped that Jun Wu Yi would arrive from behind the smoke... that his Uncle would lead their army of twenty thousand and drop from the sky to save him from that fiery cauldron.

[That's too extravagant a hope... The distance between our two sides is over 400km at the least... there isn't enough time.]

"Don't look like that. It's useless to look like that. We had made proper enquiries, and we've come here to wait for you," Guan Qing Han spoke indifferently as she looked at him. "You can come out of the carriage. Xiao Yi and I will travel in it. You can ride on the horse. You don't object to it, right?"

Jun Mo Xie became speechless for a while.

[Does this seem like an amiable discussion? Would I have an objection? Would I dare to have any objection? Isn't this what you call 'tyrannical behavior'? As a matter of fact... this is exactly what it is. My behavior with that Fei Zhu Chang was far more straightforward than the conduct of this magnate of a

woman. She's overtaking my carriage... This is exactly like the 'legendary turtledove taking over the magpie's nest' scenario!]

The members of the Spirit Devourer Team were secretly sniggering. Jun Mo Xie glanced at them in rage. That made the sniggering stop in an instant, and they started to gaze straight-ahead with a solemn look on their faces.

"Ke ke..." Jun Mo Xie cleared his throat, and prepared to use his honeyed tongue. He aimed to convince the seemingly beautiful women to return to the right path. "Listen to me Elder Sister-in-law and furthermore... Young Lady Dugu..."

"Elder Brother Mo Xie, aren't you pleasantly surprised to see me? Isn't this quite unexpected? Don't you wish to hug me? I know! I clearly understand that this is what it is about!" Dugu Xiao Yi was all smiles. She suddenly jumped in front of Jun Mo Xie, tilted her head and smiled.

Little White still felt like throwing himself in Jun Mo Xie's arms. However, the eldest daughter of the Dugu Family restrained herself for the sake of her modesty. Little White was already jumping-about, but Dugu Xiao Yi wanted to wait for Jun Mo Xie to take the initiative before she threw herself at him.

[Pleasantly surprised?]

[I feel frightened. And, yes this incident is very unexpected... And hug you? I feel like spanking your small butt.] Then, Jun Mo Xie glanced at her butt, and reckoned that it couldn't be considered very small. He wondered how it would feel if he were to spank it a couple of times...

Jun Mo Xie subtly indulged in flights of fancies for a while. Then, he came back to himself, and resolutely tried to make those two women go back. His complexion sank as he became very dignified, "Elder Sister-in-law, Young Lady Dugu... you're worried about us. And I — as a representative of all the personnel of the Tian Fa expedition's army — am very grateful. However, the road to Tian Fa passes through long and dangerous mountains. There are many bandits about. And, this road is also rampaging with man-eating beasts! Further, you two are single ladies. So, it will be very inappropriate to travel that far with you. Therefore, this man humbly requests you to return to the Tian Xiang City."

[Speaking of single... these two have come without any hand-maids! They think that this is a stroll in the park with beverages that are paid with public expenses?! We're genuinely going to a war here!]

"You give it a try, and I'll see who dares to send us back," Guan Qing Han stated uncaringly as she looked at him coldly.

"Brother Mo Xie, do you really have the heart to send us back after we've made our way till here?" Dugu Xiao Yi wasn't as confident as Guan Qing Han. So, she looked at him pitifully. The rims of her eyes had become red. It seemed that she would start to weep anytime, "Besides the distance from here to the Capital is more than five hundred kilometers. It's such a long way back! What would you do if something happened to Elder Sister and me? The road is dangerous, and who can fathom a man's mind?"

"Don't follow me. Crying in front of me is useless!" Jun Mo Xie stated in an aloof manner. [I know the path is dangerous... Can't fathom a man's mind? You didn't take that into account when you set out? You think such a lie will work with this Young Master? How stupid do you think I am?]

Chapter 318: Turtledove Takes-over the Magpie's Nest

[This little girl's acting is excellent. But, how can this Young Master be convinced by it? She'll undergo a complete transformation the very next moment, and then she'll become extremely bossy and domineering.]

[How could someone see a demon and still not fear of anything sinister?] Jun Mo Xie was obliged to ask this of himself since he had experienced her transformations before. [It would be very unreasonable if I were to get fooled again!]

"Tell me, do you still wish to send Elder Sister and me back to the Capital?" Dugu Xiao Yi opened her round eyes wide. They were pretty and big. Those round eyes were quite moving as well. However, they had begun to threaten, and their speed of change towards hostility had started to increase.

"My two sisters... your presence will only cause more problems. Tell me, what can you do here? What are you capable of doing here? Would the two of you dare if it's required that you kill someone?"

Then, Jun Mo Xie sneered in disdain, "I'm telling you... obediently return. We're done with this topic. Otherwise, don't blame me if I pack-you-up like rice balls and send you back! And, don't ever think that I can't do it! However, you two will lose face if that were to happen!"

"How dare you?!" the little girl rebuked and bared her white teeth. They were very prominent.

"Let it be Xiao Yi; there's no need to request him. This man doesn't have any sympathy in his heart," Guan Qing Han spoke unenthusiastically as she remained standing on her spot. She expressionlessly looked at Jun Mo Xie even though she was addressing Dugu Xiao Yi, "We'll go without him. Haven't we already travelled hundreds-of-kilometers till here by ourselves? Do we not have legs of our own? Can't we make it to Tian Fa forest on our own?"

"Exactly! What are you acting so pretentious for? We'll go on our own!" Dugu Xiao Yi raised her small chin, "Aren't you just a deputy general? My family has better! Humph! I've come across many great generals. But, even they aren't as arrogant as you!"

The two women turned and started to leave after they had ridiculed him. Jun Mo Xie was genuinely a bit anxious to see this happen. [I won't be able to avoid the tongue lashing if I let these two go to Tian Fa alone... even if they reach there safely. My grandpa, Third Uncle, Grandpa Dugu and Dugu Wu Di... it's unlikely that any one of them will let me off.] Jun Mo Xie could even guess their words, "You let these delicate women leave? You were at ease with the thought of these delicate girls travelling to the remote Tian Fa alone? What would you have done if something bad had happened? Nothing happened, but that isn't the point!"

"Stop! Get them for me!" Jun Mo Xie gnashed his teeth and gave the command. Seven-to-eight Spirit Devourer Team's members quickly set into action. They ruthlessly rushed forward, and blocked the two women's path like iron towers. Then, Jun Mo Xie groaned and spoke, "You two better be obedient towards my commands! Things will go good for you only as long as you're obedient! Humph! Otherwise..."

Jun Mo Xie stopped after he had spoken that. [Isn't this akin to a strong and evil robber threatening a common woman?]

"Jun Mo Xie, I insist on going to Tian Fa. But, if you use force to compel me to stay behind... I promise that I will kill myself right here! I — Guan Qing Han — will kill myself in front of you! Do you think that I won't dare to do it?" Guan Qing Han's expression was complex. But, she quickly drew a glittering dagger, and brought it to her throat.

[Jun Mo Xie, the only reason I insist on going to Tian Fa... is for yours and Third Uncle's sake. I don't worry about you two that much. But, I worry that the Xue Hun Manor will make things difficult for you because of me. Why else would I travel so far to that remote Tian Fa Forest with you? Do you think that I'm the type of girl who doesn't understand the severity of this matter?]

[You will disregard life and death for my sake. And, you wish to protect my innocence in spite of everything. Do you believe that I, Guan Qing Han, am a woman who forgets favors and does nothing while she sees you walk into the tiger's den?]

[Do you think that only men can commit suicide in righteousness and we women can only drift along and live without purpose? It's alright if things go smoothly in Tian Fa. But, if... then what will this Guan Qing Han do with her miserly life?]

Dugu Xiao Yi hadn't turned to take a look at her companion. However, she figured that Guan Qing Han's maneuver was seemingly useful. So, she became arrogant, and spoke with an air of complacency, "Right! We'll commit suicide if you don't let us go to Tian Fa! Do you think that we don't do it? Humph... he he..."

She had never seen anyone who was about to kill themselves behave with such pride. Guan Qing Han's words were very impassioned. However, the little girl had only laughed out since she hadn't understood this at first. She then turned around to look at her companion, and was left speechless upon realizing her resolve...

Jun Mo Xie felt a severe headache. It seemed as if there was a conflict inside his head.

Perhaps Dugu Xiao Yi wished to watch the world burn in chaos. However, Guan Qing Han's expression was very tranquil and calm. He could tell that she would actually proceed with her threat! He realized that he'd have to deal with her corpse if he didn't allow her to leave for Tian Fa.

[I can't gamble on this. I can't even dare to gamble on this!]

"You win!" Jun Mo Xie fixed an unwavering gaze at Young Lady Guan. Then, he sighed with regret. The Young Master Jun was confident that he could've done something to salvage that situation if it were only the little girl. [However, my Elder Sister-in-law has too much of an individuality. I can't afford to

provoke her!] Young Master Jun felt sullen in his heart. He had seemingly never felt this sullen in either of his lives. He then spoke with regret and hate, "Give them two horses. They will travel on horses!"

"That's all the same to me..." Guan Qing Han narrowed her wonderful eyes and looked down. Then, she finally smiled. She had only asked to travel to Tian Fa. She was indifferent to the treatment she'd receive. Moreover, it was quite clear that Jun Mo Xie had taken a great risk by allowing them to accompany him. The military doctrines forbid the soldiers to travel along with a female to battle. It was a taboo in the military since there would be threats to their life at every turn.

"We must travel by carriage!" The little girl was young and inexperienced. So, she didn't realize any of this. She was happy to hear that the Young Master Jun had finally relented, and had allowed them to travel with him. However, she looked at him pouting-and-panting with rage when she heard the Young Master hadn't invited them to get inside his carriage, and had instead proposed to arrange two horses for them. Then, she looked at his beautiful carriage again, and started to feel tired. Her spine, her hip... there wasn't a single part of her body which didn't ache at the sight of the luxurious carriage.

"Impossible! I'm allowing you to come with us, and that should be good enough for the two of you. Yet, you unexpectedly wish to travel inside the carriage?" Jun Mo Xie snorted disdainfully. "I would love it if you don't like to travel like this... I can arrange for my men to drop you back if you don't wish to travel like this. C'mon men! Get the horses!"

"You, you... alright!" Dugu Xiao Yi was flustered as she pointed at him. Her eyes turned, and she quickly took out her dagger. She placed it across her neck. "You, you... I will kill myself in front of you if you don't let me travel inside the carriage! Do you think that I won't dare to?!"

The little girl had seen Guan Qing Han extort the other party with a death threat. So, she had acted decisively and imitated the same. And, the little girl had added to the momentum of that act in order to make the result more effective. This was an extremely effective trick. So, how could she not use it?

[I won't fear using a good and useful trick again. It's very useful!]

Who would've thought that this little girl would say, "Do you think that I won't dare?" So, there was a burst of chuckles as soon as those words left her mouth since the surrounding soldiers were trying hard to restrain their urge to laugh. The shoulders of those grim and unfeeling warriors shook vigorously. It was clear indication that they were genuinely having a tough time in restraining their laughter.

One really could not blame them. That little girl's qualities were too lacking for something like this. In fact, even an individual playing 'clown' wasn't as amusing. Guan Qing Han had also threatened to kill herself. But, her threat was very believable. Then, Dugu Xiao Yi had imitated her. Moreover, she had done so right after. But, it was nothing like what the former had spoken. Moreover, her excuse to commit suicide was a bit too excessive. She would kill herself if she wasn't allowed to ride in the carriage?

Jun Mo Xie rolled his eyes, "Do as you please. But, I sincerely request you to go a bit far and die. Kindly don't disturb our eyes and hearts. I genuinely request you. This request isn't excessive, right?"

Sister, if you feel like threatening people with killing yourself... at least pick a proper reason to die for... Otherwise, won't it become too unfavorable if we all started to threaten each other for useless reasons? I'll die if you don't let me in. I'll die if you don't let me eat. I'll die if you don't let me hit you... what is all this?

"You... you're just too hateful!" Dugu Xiao Yi stamped her feet. Then, she steamed towards the carriage without saying a word, lifted the curtains, and entered it. And, she didn't come out. Then, she shouted from inside the carriage, "Elder Sister Qing Han, hurry up and come here! It's quite spacious inside! And, there's a comfortable bed too... he he..."

This move had been the most practical one...

The Young Master Jun became furious.

[This is intolerable! Where will I go if you're in there? This Young Master had captured that corrupt official with such difficulty... only then was I able to extort a carriage from him! So much of thought had gone into it! Does it look that easy to you? Are you genuinely going to plunder the results of my efforts? Humph!]

Jun Mo Xie took a huge step forward and grabbed Dugu Xiao Yi's arm, "You, come down!"

"...Won't get down! I won't get down! I will travel in this carriage!" Dugu Xiao Yi used her other hand to get a hold on the inner walls of the carriage. She had decided to struggle furiously. Her face had become red. However, she had decided that she wouldn't let go for the life of her.

A white shadow flashed. Then, an elegant fragrance floated past. Guan Qing Hand had also managed to get inside the carriage. She then swatted at Jun Mo Xie's hand and retorted, "Fighting with a woman over a carriage! Is this what a Young Master from a good family does?"

Jun Mo Xie angrily said, "What? I'm fighting over a carriage? What are you saying? It's evident that you women are fighting over my carriage! Do you think that this Young Master will suffer in silence? You both are merely twisting words to force logic! Isn't this extremely unreasonable?"

Guan Qing Han no longer humored Jun Mo Xie. She reached for the carriage's curtains, and pulled them down. Then, there was a 'rustling' sound. It seemed that the two women had lain down on the bed. It seemed that they had even changed their clothes, and were about to go off to sleep. One could even hear Dugu Xiao Yi's satisfied voice, "This is very comfortable! We can finally go to bed in comfort..."

Jun Mo Xie puffed his chest, and bawled at himself for his stupidity. [I was trying to put facts in front of women... I was trying to preach logic to women... wasn't that utterly idiotic? But, I can't get them out since my Sister-in-law had also stepped into the carriage... no matter how unruly I get. I'll have to stay out here no matter how reluctant I am to this idea...]

The troops continued to move forward. They had been moving for half-a-day when Jun Mo Xie suddenly started to tremble. His horse was extremely big and powerful, but it wasn't as comfortable as the carriage. He then hatefully turned his head to look at it. Then, he frowned and started to plan something mischievous.

Jun Mo Xie let out a blood-curdling screech the next moment. He tilted on his horse, and went down. He fell onto the ground with a 'squishy' sound. His eyes were closed, and he had seemingly become unconscious.

The soldiers were alarmed at first. However, they were no fools; they clearly understood what was happening. So, they played along, "Not good! The Young Master has fainted! His injury isn't in a good condition... that sounds!" they called out in a tragic voice.

[The injury isn't in good condition?]

The 'fainted' Jun Mo Xie was astonished. [When did I get injured? Ahem... but this is reasonable... I must praise and reward these guys the first opportunity I get...] Then, he winked at them.

"What's the matter?" Dugu Xiao Yi lifted the carriage's curtains and asked. She seemed deeply concerned, while Guan Qing Han only looked at the 'fainted' Jun Mo Xie in a pensive manner.

Chapter 319: The Yin-Yang Harmony Drug?

"Young Master... Young Master had received an injury... he can't ride a horse now... that's why he got this carriage!" The leader of the Spirit Devourer Team — Wang Dong's forehead was beading with sweat. It wasn't that he was scared. He was merely choking himself to bring out this effect. This guy had come up with a lie. But, wasn't it a reasonable one? He was a quick witted man. He was aware that the Young Master's buttocks had been punished when he had broken the military's laws. So, he quickly used that fact to conjure a justifiable lie.

"Hurry and pick up the Young Master. Quickly take him to the carriage and examine him!" Several members of the Spirit Devourer Team suggested 'anxiously.' They appeared like a group of killers, but their acting skills were quite good too.

Dugu Xiao Yi hastily got down, "Let me see! Quickly, let me see! Ah! Hurry up and take him to the carriage! This man is genuinely injured... why didn't he say anything about it...?!"

Everyone was perspiring profusely. Seven pairs of hands picked up the 'unconscious' Jun Mo Xie's body, and carried it to the carriage.

Guan Qing Han was still in the carriage. She wanted to say something, but eventually decided to remain silent. She couldn't help but smile bitterly as she looked at the 'unconscious' Jun Mo Xie. [I clearly understand my little brother-in-law's behavior.]

Dugu Xiao Yi stretched her neck and asked with urgency, "How did he receive that injury? When did he get hurt? What kind of injury is it? Is it serious or not? Do you have any medicines? What medicines should be used? Who injured him...?"

This rapid series of questions stupefied the cold-blooded warriors. They had come up with this tactful lie with much difficulty. However, they had no proper answer to those invasive questions. [The fact that the Young Master had violated the military discipline and was punished by lashings from a cudgel... isn't a glorious matter. Moreover, the injuries the Young Master had received from the cudgel have already been healed. He had healed a long time ago...]

"Xiao Yi! First come in! Don't interrogate them!" Guan Qing Han's voice resounded from inside. Dugu Xiao Yi withdrew on hearing that, and went inside. She was worried, and her voice could be heard asking, "Elder Sister Qing Han, this... what's to be done? What should we do? Ah! How did he get injured? I'm very worried..."

The members of the Spirit Devourer Team wiped their cold sweat.

"He he..." Guan Qing Han couldn't help but laugh. Jun Mo Xie slowly 'woke up' at that moment. He looked in poor health as he asked, "Where am I?"

Guan Qing Han hadn't yet spoken when Dugu Xiao Yi interrupted in excitement, "In the carriage! You're in the carriage! You... You've woken up! Ah! What injury did you get? Hurry up and tell me how to deal with it? I'll help you deal with it!"

The Young Lady Guan rolled her eyes; [this little girl is too innocent.]

"Me, injured? I had been injured, but that's healed. I'm in such poor condition because... I've been poisoned," Jun Mo Xie mumbled. The slyly shrugged his nose, and inhaled a couple of breaths. [Men and women are very different. I was in this carriage for several days, but it still hadn't come to smell like this. However, these two travel-weary beauties have barely been in the carriage, and it has already started to smell so amazing...]

"Ah! So it was poison?!" Dugu Xiao Yi was terrified. She opened her round eyes wide, "What poison is it? Is it very dangerous? Do you know what poison it is? Is it difficult to cure?"

"Oh... I was careless a while back. So I got poisoned," Jun Mo Xie felt unbounded regret. "To tell, cough cough, it's difficult to explain. I will be fine after I rest for two days. It will be embarrassing to tell you two... You won't wish to deal with my poison..."

"Who said that? Why won't we be willing to? Tell us quickly! How can we help you?" Dugu Xiao Yi inquired urgently. [Why is this guy so upset? He has poison within him... and he still continues to dilly-dally! Don't you know that others are concerned about you?]

"Cough Cough... the poison that's affecting me... is called the Yin-Yang Harmony Drug." Jun Mo Xie slyly raised his head. He wanted to weigh his words carefully. So, he looked straight at Guan Qing Han's expression. He couldn't help but trembled inside after he had glanced at her ice-cold expression. Therefore, he didn't continue.

"The Yin-Yang Harmony Drug? That name is so scary! But, you said that you had a cure for it, right?" Dugu Xiao Yi anxiously asked. She was like a cat on a hot tin roof. Her small and delicate nose was sweating profusely.

"This Yin-Yang Harmony Drug; It is true to say that it's difficult to cure this poison. But, it has a good cure. He he... cough cough..." Jun Mo Xie nearly flashed a sinister smile. So, he hastily coughed to cover it up, "No medicine can cure this poison, but its cure is quite simple. But, it's quite embarrassing to speak of its cure. Moreover, you would have to make a great sacrifice if you wish to cure this poison."

"That doesn't matter! I'm willing to make any kind of a sacrifice for you," the little girl vouched. Guan Qing Han was sitting besides them. The more she heard of this... the more she felt that something was fishy.

[This little brat's 'fainting' was an act. Xiao Yi is foolishly for being concerned for him. She doesn't see the truth in this confusion. But, what evil scheme is he planning?]

"Actually, it requires... cough cough... se*ual intercourse between a man and a woman. Then, the poison will instantly be removed," Jun Mo Xie seemed embarrassed. He even covered his mouth to cough, "Cough cough... otherwise, I will die burning with passion after three days. I understand that you must be very embarrassed by this as well. Therefore, forget about it... such is my fate."

The Young Master Jun spoke this last part in a droopy voice.

"Huh?! What?! To detoxify you... I must... with you... you..." Dugu Xiao Yi suddenly opened her eyes wide. Her face turned red as she started to blush. She was young and innocent. But, she knew what "se*ual intercourse" meant.

Guan Qing Han had expected her younger Brother-in-law to do something tricky. However, she had never expected that mischievous guy to pull something this shameless! She obviously hadn't expected him to mess with them to that extent. She had thought that something was odd when she had heard him mention the Yin-Yang Harmony drug. She felt that something was fishy. However, Guan Qing Han was still inexperienced. So, she still didn't know of the relationship between men and women properly. Moreover, she had underestimated Jun Mo Xie's shamelessness. The Young Lady had never expected him to pull-off something like that.

[I was very tolerant in allowing him inside the carriage. But, now he wants...]

"Jun Mo Xie!" Guan Qing Han's shapely eyebrows shot up and her eyes filled with fire. "Haven't you joked enough?! Do you want me to kick you out again? You should be happy that I've let you inside the carriage! Don't be discontent with what you have now!"

"Elder Sister Qing Han, please don't get angry. He's poisoned. That's quite a frightening thing!" Dugu Xiao Yi anxiously looked at Guan Qing Han as she tried to mediate.

"He isn't injured; nor is he poisoned! There's no such thing as a Yin-Yang Harmony Drug!" Guan Qing Han spoke coldly, "He was fine when he was inside the carriage. But, he fainted when we sent him outside to ride on a horse. His men outside said that he has been injured. However, he says that he's been poisoned. Little Sister Xiao Yi, how long do you plan to continue being deceived by him? Can't you think clearly? Can't you use your little head?"

"Huh? Elder Sister Qing Han... don't get mad... you're saying that he's acting and hasn't been poisoned?" Dugu Xiao Yi's face became red. She then made threatening gestures since she was extremely mad.

[To think that I was genuinely convinced by him... I would've even tried to cure him if he had managed to deceive Elder Sister Qing Han as well...] Dugu Xiao Yi couldn't help but feel ashamed. Even her neck had reddened in a split second. She then looked at Guan Qing Han in an embarrassed manner, and nestled her head in her bosom. She had been hoodwinked and had lost face. She then said, "Elder Sister! I can't live anymore!" She repeatedly stamped her foot as she spoke this.

"Ah, you weren't actually thinking of detoxifying him, were you?" Guan Qing Han asked coldly. [This little girl is too foolish!]

"Ah, it seems that I have remembered wrongly. I haven't been poisoned," Jun Mo Xie coughed awkwardly and softly.

The two women rolled their eyes. [You managed to remember this wrongly?]

Jun Mo Xie then sat up. He was all-smiles as he spoke, "This road is long and endless. It will take a lot of time to reach our destination. It'll be very boring like this. So, how did you like the story I just told?"

The two women were astonished. Their eyes were wide open as they glared at the Young Master Jun. [It is difficult to believe that there's someone in this world whose skin is so thick! His lie has been caught... his evil scheme has been exposed and his filthy intentions have been laid bare! Yet, he does not blush. In fact, he doesn't even feel any shame! And then, he shamelessly states that he has told a story so he can ease the awkward environment?!]

[Isn't this man over-the-top? Isn't his skin just too thick?]

The lovable Dugu Xiao Yi cursed as her clothes flung around, "I let you deceive me... you bastard... bastard!"

The Young Master Jun's Vanguard became increasingly comfortable as the days progressed. Moreover, they raked-in huge amounts of money by extorting corrupt officials along the journey. And, the two beautiful women accompanied him the entire time. Their strong and warm fragrance allowed Jun Mo Xie to indulge in pleasure, and he forgot about his worries.

In fact, even the thought of his own practice would've abandoned his mind if the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune hadn't been continuously running inside him on its own.

The Young Master Jun had been very happy throughout that journey. The bottle-neck of his Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune had also cleared somewhat. This meant that he would break through from the Jade Xuan Middle Level to the Jade Xuan Peak Level in terms of Xuan Qi cultivation.

Every day had been very bloody for the Heaven Destroyer Team and Spirit Devourer Team. They had fought vigorously every day, and were becoming increasingly tempered every day. Around two hundred

men had already started to show faint signs of a breakthrough. The cruel and sharp aura of these two teams was enough to shock anyone.

The Young Master Jun had wished for this beautiful journey to continue for several more days. However, Heaven Destroyer Team and Spirit Devourer Team were being dispatched fewer number of times with every passing day. So, the Young Master determined that...

[The topography of this mountainous region is becoming increasingly steeper. The road is also becoming tougher, while the forests have become denser. More bandits and robbers should've descended from heaven under these circumstances. However, they've become fewer in number as the journey has progressed. This is probably because we are getting closer to the Xue Hun Manor. Therefore, these little thieving elements have started to reduce...]

"Young Master, we are about three-hundred kilometers from our destination — the Tian Fa forest. The Xue Hun Manor is a little to the left... at the edge of Tian Fa. We are now in front of the two base mountains of the forest," the captain of the Spirit Devourer Team — Wang Dong — pointed as he reported to Jun Mo Xie.

"Why are we going so slow? We've been journeying for so many days..." Jun Mo Xie asked. He felt annoyed, "We've travelled for a month now. Were you not faster the last time?"

"Young Master... we can travel fast since we don't have much weight on us. But, there are many other issues. We shouldn't make speed the most important factor here. We certainly travelled much faster the last time we were here. In fact, we were probably going at 650kms a day; probably even faster than that. However, we had taken a different route to Tian Fa. There's much less high-level Xuan Beasts on that route. So, we mainly had to deal with low-level Xuan Beasts. I'm afraid that none of us would've made it through if had picked this route. However, we have a large army behind us now. We are the vanguard unit, but we mustn't leave the main army far behind... and, we'll have to send out our teams more often from now on since there will be many dangers. Therefore, this speed can be considered a very fast one," Wang Dong explained.

"Oh..." Jun Mo Xie stepped down from the carriage. He could sense that there were many Xuan Beasts in these mountainous forests. Moreover, most of those beasts were very fast. In fact, they were unusually fast. They were much faster than ordinary beasts. "It seems that a lot of Xuan Beasts roam about this area. This Tian Fa is a very nice place..."

"First, we must find an area between the mountains and a stream. We'll set up camp there. We will wait for the main forces to arrive. Then, we will journey onwards with them," Jun Mo Xie gave the order unenthusiastically. They were about to go to the Xue Hun Manor. And, Jun Mo Xie wasn't going to act a fool and look for the tyrannical enemy on his own.

[We may still face bad luck. But, at least all the influential families will face it together in that case.]

The Young Master Jun would try to get some small advantages in secret if the conditions were to permit. After all, he didn't harbor a favorable impression of the Xue Hun Manor due to the past events. He wouldn't even grieve if every member of the Xue Hun Manor were to die.

Moreover... the Xuan Beast uprising had gone out of control by this time. However, it had still been instigated by the Young Master Jun. Therefore, Tian Fa's Xuan Beasts were fighting for Jun Mo Xie by any interpretation. If not... they were at least his allies.

Wang Dong sent eight people in eight different directions to look for a suitable place to set up camp, and the men eventually found such a place. Jun Mo Xie, Guan Qing Han and Dugu Xiao Yi immediately picked their spots.

The place was a small hillside.

There was open land in front of the hillside. It was surrounded by dense woods. There was a turning corner nearby. There was single official road at this bend. They would be able to keep an eye on all developments in the vicinity if they were to place scouts at that spot.

A 'gurgling' sound could be heard from behind the hill; it was similar to the sound that was made when one made dumplings. One would see a medium-sized stream on taking a detour. It meandered as it came down. The stream was clear, and its bottom could also be seen. And unexpectedly, there was a clear pool downstream. It wasn't too far away; it was just after a bend downstream.

Dugu Xiao Yi and Guan Qing Han became somewhat excited when they saw this.

Women love cleanliness. These two had been travelling this route for such a long time. So, they were very exhausted. How could they ever have an appropriate opportunity to clean themselves? They could only wash themselves if they managed to stumble across a wild mountain stream at night. But, that was nothing like their family homes' large baths. However, they had finally seen a very satisfactory sight in the form of that clear pool. Dugu Xiao Yi's body started to itch at the sight of the pool.

Guan Qing Han also found the pool very promising. However, she controlled her itch for a thought. She understood her younger Brother-in-law's character very clearly. [Won't he try to peek if I went into the pool with Xiao Yi? I need to think of a method which would ensure that he won't be able to. Wouldn't I die of shame otherwise?]

Jun Mo Xie coughed in a dignified manner after he looked at the pool. He then turned his head to look somewhere else and pretended that he hadn't notice it.

.... ..

Jun Mo Xie had seen many teams of Xuan experts 'whistle' past him over the course of this journey. These people were rushing towards Tian Fa. However, he had noticed that these people were identical in terms of their attitude towards him. They would either look towards Jun Mo Xie's team in disdain, and or would just pass by after glancing at them.

It was clear that the Army didn't have any importance in the minds of these Xuan experts. So, they obviously cared even lesser for Jun Mo Xie.

However, they had witnessed a decreasing number of coincidental encounters with those Xuan experts in the past few days. The road had become increasingly deserted.

Three roads forked-out at a junction outside the sparse woods. These roads seemed very long. Each road looked empty and deserted. The sky above this territory was far bluer than the one in the cities.

The 200+ guards began setting up camp. Jun Mo Xie along with Guan Qing Han and the some others proceeded to the mouth of the valley in order to avoid the fiery construction scene.

They had gone out to breathe-in the fresh air. Jun Mo Xie and the two extremely beautiful women were closely followed by four others. They were the Heaven Destroyer Team and the Spirit Devourer Team's deputy leaders.

Jun Mo Xie let out a long sigh. He felt a spacious and empty void around him. The sky had also become increasingly silent. The insects and cicadas were chirping around the woods. Jun Mo Xie seemed to be in a pensive state of mind. His mind seemed to be in chaos, yet seemingly in a tranquil state. His thoughts were complex yet simple. He eventually couldn't help but raise a perplexing thought.

Even a moment's perplex can be sufficient to become a fatal mistake for an assassin. Even a top-notch assassin like Jun Mo Xie isn't an exception to this fact. However, Jun Mo Xie was a complete loss at this time. Moreover, this state of mind had lasted a decent length of time.

[Nature makes man. My spirit and soul don't belong to the world they have been brought to. It has been nearly half-a-year since my spirit has come here. Each day has been a struggle; just the way it used to be in my previous life. I've been using my mind a lot more. But, my limbs haven't been exercised that much. I've played the fool a lot, but I haven't used my iron-blooded methods much.]

[Half-a-years' time has passed-by so quickly. I've been immersed in these boring matters. But, for what reason have I come to this world?]

[Is it to conquer this world? Is it to remain a nobleman throughout the ages? Or perhaps it's for living free and unfettered? ...for what purpose have I been sent here?]

Jun Mo Xie put his hands behind his back, and started to walk forward; neither too fast, nor too slow. However, it was an astonishing sight in the eyes of the six people! Jun Mo Xie's previous licentious and greasy debauchee-like appearance had been swept aside. The individual's temperament and innate character had been transformed. He seemed like a hermit who had transcended the earthly characteristics. It was obvious that he was walking on firm and solid land. But, those who watched him felt as if he was walking to another time and space with each of his steps.

That other time, and that other space... was a profound mystery to those people.

The others felt a very unfathomable feeling at that time; [this person can't be considered of this world. In fact, he never ought to be of this world.] This particular feeling was obviously very absurd to their perceptions. However, it still existed.

He walked forward step by step. However, it seemed that everything in that world — the people besides him... the ground beneath his feet... the trees on his sides, and the dust in the air... weren't meant for him. It was evident that nothing in that world had anything to do with him.

Everything still existed in harmony. However, one thing seemed in discord with the world. And, it was that one living individual in front of their eyes...

He seemed like the only independent existence between the heaven and earth. He didn't intermingle with the living things; nor could he ever blend in. It seemed that this one individual — Jun Mo Xie — was all alone in his own little world.

This wasn't a feeling of loneliness that's felt by those at the top. Rather... it was one of detachment. Moreover... there was an extremely desolate air to it.

He had transcended beyond everything. He was independent from the living world. However, he could still intervene in it.

[I'm not of this world, but I exist in this world. This world is not mine, but I will die in this world.]

Guan Qing Han and Dugu Xiao Yi had forgotten about walking. They just foolishly stared at the image of that person in front of them. The both of them had the same thought; [are these his true colors...?]

Dugu Xiao Yi couldn't help an urge of walking to Jun Mo Xie, and talking to him. However, she got scared away by that strange feeling that came from him. Guan Qing Han had also pulled her back, and had stopped her from opening her mouth.

Guan Qing Han didn't know what was happening with Jun Mo Xie. She didn't know why things had suddenly become such. However, she had keenly sensed that Jun Mo Xie shouldn't be disturbed at that moment. She was aware that even a little sound could interrupt his unusual stupor.

Then, there was a shout...

Jun Mo Xie let out a very long breath as he stopped in his footsteps. He then put his hands behind his back, and looked up at the heavens. He stared at a white cloud for a long time. Then, the Young Master smiled bitterly, and shook his head. And then, he remained standing in a calm and quiet manner — only to find that the thoughts in his mind had become ordered, clear and bright.

[There will be no desires if there's no thought. Nothing is permanent in this world.]

It seemed like an individual had awoken from a dream, and was back to reality now. Jun Mo Xie distinctly felt his spiritual strength increase by a huge margin. However, he still wasn't able to break through his bottleneck. It seemed that there was a faint and thin layer of mist in front of his eyes. This layer of mist separated him from the next level. It was unclear and hazy. However, his spiritual abilities would enhance by leaps and bounds if he were able to break through that.

And... Jun Mo Xie could vaguely feel the source of that obstruction.

It came from his heart.

"Mo Xie... you... what were you thinking just a moment ago...?" Guan Qing Han's voice seemed cold and clear; just as before. However, Jun Mo Xie could make out that her voice was filled with a lot of concern and care.

Guan Qing Han was very intelligent. She could sense that Jun Mo Xie had suddenly sunk into a spiritual realm. And, she had also felt that he was at a very important juncture of an unexpected break through. So, she watched as he seemingly remained immersed in that spiritual realm. She watched him for some time. However, she felt that he suddenly started to seem like someone who had been on the verge of gaining immortality, but had been struck down to the mundane world of mortals. She could distinctly feel the difference in him. So, she couldn't help herself, and asked.

"Just a moment ago... I was thinking..." Jun Mo Xie still seemed absentminded. It seemed like one of his feet had remained stuck in the fantastical spiritual realm. He said, "What am I to do in this life? Or perhaps, why did I get this life? What is my goal? What can I do? What am I to achieve?"

"Goal?" Guan Qing Han asked hesitantly before she continued, "It isn't necessary for every living person to have a goal, is it?" However, she asked herself in her thoughts; [what about me? Why am I alive? What's my goal here?]

Guan Qing Han suddenly felt overwhelmingly listless. [My younger brother-in-law must have a goal. However, I? Do I have the qualification to pursue my goals? Do I have this qualification?]

"Yes. Everyone should have goals. Everyone should have them. I used to have a notion. I wanted to use my strength to make the world a brighter place. I wanted to kill and slaughter to rectify the world's filth. I hoped that it would bring the world to the peace and prosperity I desired for it. I didn't wish to see things that seemed unjust to my eyes..." Jun Mo Xie smiled bitterly as he spoke.

"I've never paid attention to other people. I've only followed my own methods, and I've done what I feel like doing in any give circumstance. I've always gone my own way. I didn't change even when I knew that it's inadequate and I'm striving fruitlessly... However, I'm at a loss after I've come here. I'm at a complete loss..."

Guan Qing Han naturally didn't know what Jun Mo Xie meant by "striving fruitlessly". And, she understood what he meant by "coming here" even less. However, she listened to Jun Mo Xie speak, and came to the conclusion that he felt extremely lonely.

This made her as calm as still-water. However, she felt a dull ache in the innermost part of her heart.

It was like watching warrior with a "never say die" attitude in a state where he had expended the entirety of his energy and skill — only to face that harsh truth that his enemy was spread across the entire world... and that it would be eternally beyond his ability to defeat and destroy his enemy.

He had persevered with his conduct throughout his life. But, he had merely overrated himself and had attempted to do something impossible in reality. It was a sort of desolation, helplessness, un-reconciliation and frustration that couldn't be described in words.

Guan Qing Han thought for a while. She then said in soft and comforting tone, "Man has but one life; grass has but one spring. Who can say what the purpose of one's life is? It's very difficult to say. Now that we are talking about it... we women are only to assist our husbands and take care of his children; day after day... years after years... no matter how we age. However, we don't feel any disappointment.

I'm certain that most women in this world are like this. And, this kind of dull and rigid lifestyle makes countless women happy and satisfied. As for men... especially those who have power, strength and ability... they strive for their honor, fame and success. Each one of them strives to be brave and fierce. Even mediocre and ordinary people try very hard for their food and clothing. It's what they call 'Man eats man...'

She didn't realize that Jun Mo Xie had turned around and approached closer as she was speaking this. His eyes shone like the full moon as he looked at her. However, those eyes didn't have a frivolous or a stunned look in them. They seemed deep, tranquil and thoughtful. His expression was profoundly pensive.

Not many women in such a feudal society could see things as clearly as Guan Qing Han could. This had left him very astonished.

"Most men in this world work too hard. And, it's genuinely not worth it," Guan Qing Han had a perplexed look in her eyes. But, her eyes also seemed to be full of tough resolve, and a bit of contempt. It seemed that the question that — 'what men are supposed to do' — was even something that she considered worth mentioning.

"So, what do you think everything on this earth is for? Perhaps, you can tell me what are we supposed to do in this world?" Jun Mo Xie asked as he continued to ponder.

"I don't know the purpose of others. Nor am I qualified-enough to represent them. But, I do know myself," Guan Qing Han slowly spoke. Her eyes shone brilliantly. "I, Guan Qing Han, am just a feeble woman. As for this man's world... I'm not even qualified to be a good wife... So, what I'm looking for in this moment... is just peace of mind... and that will be sufficient for me. "

[Yes. I Guan Qing Han only seek true peace of mind.]

[I had been engaged to Jun Mo You for my family's sake. I had never met him before. But, I did it for the sake of my family... for the sake of my parents. I had no other choice.]

[And, I was willing to pay this price for my parents and family.]

[Therefore, my heart was at peace.]

[I had met Jun Mo You only twice in all that time. My emotions were never worthy of a mention in this regard... But, I had known that he was a great man, and that he would be a great husband. Moreover, I had already been betrothed to him. So, I had to accept my fate...]

[And then, when Mo You died in battle... I thought that such a good man was worth grieving for.]

[Therefore, I was willing to grieve for Jun Mo You — the Empire's hero. I decided to live with the Jun Family as a widow, and left my family disheartened. However, Jun Mo You's heroic spirit was far more important to me. I would feel unworthy in my conscience if I were to revoke my vows to him.]

[And the fact is... my choice was right. I was lonely at the time... very lonely.]

[But, my heart was at peace.]

[And now, I haven't hesitated to go to Tian Fa with this weak body to ensure that Jun Mo Xie and Third Uncle return home safely. I'm acutely prepared for all difficulties. I won't hesitate or spare any effort to ensure that this uncle-nephew duo safely return home to the north.]

[I'm prepared to sacrifice my life for the sake of these two people.]

[And, my heart is at peace with this as well.]

[I have no other demands! That's all!]

[The Jun Family has treated me justly... like I were their own flesh and blood. So, wouldn't I be worse than a beast if I were to helplessly watch as Jun Mo Xie and Uncle Jun Wu Yi died because of me?]

There was also an additional secret reason... Jun Mo Xie seemed to have a lot of affection for her. She used to be cold towards him in the past, and hadn't cared about his feelings. However, she had recently been letting her guard down, and had been ignoring the warning signs. This was especially true since the

time when Jun Mo Xie had helped her improve her Xuan Qi cultivation. There had been an indistinct skin contact between them at that time. That feeling had been returning to Guan Qing Han every night. It had gotten even worse recently. And, this had left her in panic...

[Therefore, it's better to go to Tian Fa. My death will solve all problems. It will solve my quarrels with this mortal life. I can repay the Jun Family's great kindness with my life. It will also rid my younger brother-in-law of his infatuation with me.]

[This will solve everything, and my heart will remain at peace.]

[The Jun Family's honor will remain intact, and the Guan family's honor won't be tainted. The two families' reputation won't be affected. As for me... I needn't think about it.]

"Good! You spoke well! You spoke very well! Ha ha ha..." Jun Mo Xie suddenly started to laugh. "Only seek for the heart to be at peace! Only seek to have no quarrels in one's conscience! People often say that a peaceful heart can find justice in this world. But, who could've imagined that a peaceful heart is the justice of this world!"

"Killing a person is okay. Saving a person is okay. One shall not have to carry a heavy burden in this mortal life as long as one's heart is at peace. I, Jun Mo Xie, won't work for my country or its people. I will work for my heart. I will only work for my heart to be at peace! Everything has to do with one's heart! What's the need to think too much over it? What of the country's prosperity? What of worldly affairs? That is nonsense; nothing else!

"Therefore, I will live my life my way! I will be unrestrained; I will be unfettered! No one can influence my thoughts! No one can control my actions! The world may slander me or praises me... it may even be indifferent to me... how would that make any difference to me? My heart will be at peace as long as I walk this world by following my path! I only seek to have a peaceful heart and an indomitable spirit! And, that will be sufficient for this life!"

Jun Mo Xie burst into laughter. Guan Qing Han had unintentionally untangled his conundrum.

The Young Master Jun was very happy. However, Dugu Xiao Yi and Guan Qing Han were shocked. And, the deputy leaders of the Heaven Destroyer Team and the Spirit Devourer Team — those four men who still stood behind the two ladies — could clearly see the change in Jun Mo Xie.

Jun Mo Xie had undergone an astonishing transformation in front of their eyes.

He had gone from being a showy licentious and debauchee of a Young Master — to a very able hermit. This change was no doubt exceptional and lofty. However, another exceptional and lofty transformation had taken place with him. And, this transformation too had made him transcend ordinary men. In fact, it had transformed him into an extremely cold force.

He resembled a sword that had been unsheathed from its scabbard. This sharp sword stood proud between the heaven and earth. It seemed that he could reflect a great amount of radiance. The heaven and earth were vast. However, it seemed that they could never restrain him.

That indescribable sense of confusion had been swept away from his mind. He could distinctly feel the formless Spiritual Energy of his mind rise by leaps and bounds.

He was completely integrated with the world, but he wasn't confined to anything.

[How can I be happy with the status quo in this life? How can I sleep stranded under this heaven?]

[I will pass unhindered through the world! I will hold a great sword, and the world will ask, "Who is that hero who scales to such heights?"]

[I don't wish to conquer the world. But, no one in this world will ever think of telling me what to do! They won't even dream of messing with me, or my family!]

[My goal is finally clear to me!]

[I want my Jun Family to become an existence that far surpasses the Silver Blizzard City and the Xue Hun Manor! I want it to become a family which sits at the highest levels in this world!]

[Even the Emperor or the Great Masters wouldn't be able to look at its members!]

[And, this is bound to require a flood of blood.]

[However, my heart is at peace!]

[This will be the direction of my life's efforts! I... will have no regrets!]

The corners of Jun Mo Xie's mouth became crooked as he smiled in a cold manner. Then, he softly said, "Then, my journey of slaughter begins with Tian Fa!" A cold and extremely powerful murderous aura suddenly burst-out from his body, and spiraled towards the heavens.

That unparalleled murderous aura raged-about, and made the sleeves of his six companions flutter. It was late autumn, and the withering leaves were already at death's door. They started to flutter-about due to his sky-high murderous aura. Then, they left their branches and circled down in the wind as they dropped.

The scene resembled an all-encompassing yellow rain.

A number of small birds left the trees. Their wings flapped a couple times before they suddenly came across that dense murderous aura. They then tweeted mournfully for a while as they dropped to the ground.

The shadows of three individuals were quickly flitting through the wooded mountains in the distance. However, they immediately stopped after they had looked at this scene. One of them spoke in a serious tone, "This is a very frightening murderous aura. Who's behind this?"

The two men besides him wore a cautious expression as they looked into the distance. Then, one of them contemplated out loud, "Could it be that Chu Qi Hun has finally arrived?"

"It's not necessarily true. It's true that Chu Qi Hun's murderous aura is very powerful. However, it is sharp, acute and concentrated. So, it advances in front of his body — in the same direction as him. However, this person's aura is extremely overwhelming. It even blots out the heavens. These two auras are completely different. So, I can tell that this individual isn't Chu Qi Hun! However, this person's murderous aura is no less than the Great Assassin Chu Qi Hun's. In fact, it may even surpass his'!"

"No matter who it is... let's take a look!" The other person suggested, "We three possess great powers. We shouldn't necessarily be scared of this guy... even if it is the Great Assassin Chu Qi Hun!"

"Good!" The black bearded middle aged man contemplated and replied in a heroic and resolute manner, "Good! We are the three swords of Dong Fang. So, why should we be afraid? Even if it's Chu Qi Hun... what reason do we have to fear?"

"That's right Elder Brother. I heard that the Jun Family's Third Commander will be arriving here. Shouldn't we..." a short but stout person muttered.

"No! That matter still gnaws at mother's mind! Moreover, he had gotten injured, and his meridians were also destroyed. So, why should we mess with the Jun Family? The Little Sister has also been in a coma for the last ten years. So, why should we bother? Is it any of our business if Jun Wu Yi has the skill to return alive, or dies trying here?" The black bearded middle-aged man's eyebrows shot up as he spoke angrily.

"However, even so... Jun Mo Xie is our nephew. He is related to us by blood! Mother had said those words to you... but, aren't you concerned with his fate?" the short and stout middle-aged man asked in defiance.

"That's a sin!" The black bearded middle-aged man sighed deeply. He then spoke resolutely, "I won't allow anyone to harm Jun Mo Xie. And, I'm aware that Jun Wu Yi is a good man. He has courage and moral integrity. But, our younger sister, brother-in-law, and our two nephews wouldn't have died if it weren't for him. So, we won't discuss this again!"

The man sighed as he spoke. Then, the three men changed directions, and shot forwards like meteors. They advanced towards the direction of that murderous aura's source.