

E Monarch 451

Chapter 451: Makes a Strong Entry to the City!

"A Super Family? Huh..." Jun Wu Yi became silent. But, his outlook didn't change. [Is this... is this how we become a Super Family? But, we're still the same people. So, how did we suddenly become great...?]

Jun Mo Xie smiled coldly and said, "Moreover, the Imperial Family... I lack evidence against them at the moment. The scenario where I turn the Tian Xiang City into a pile of burning ruins isn't an impossibility once I have some evidence against them! Third Uncle... do you believe what that Silver City's Xiao Bu Yu had said about the Blood Sword Hall? The Blood Sword Hall is merely a bunch of killers! So, how could they infiltrate a camp of so many thousands of soldiers and take action? Third Uncle... don't tell that me you're not thinking about it? What does this mean? Who's behind this?

"Things have come to this. So, we will only suffer if we have too many misgivings. After all... we're still somewhat weak in comparison... Therefore, we must be strong at this moment... very strong! We have proof that we have some real and powerful talent behind us! This time will be ours if we act with extreme prejudice and not rush brashly!

"What we genuinely lack right now... is time! Even a day is enough to change everything!" Jun Mo Xie thought of his supply of medicinal supplements and the Level Nine Peak Xuan Beast's core. And, his face became a little dignified as he thought of this.

Everyone was ready. The medications were also in place. The Solitary Falcon was also present. Moreover, he had the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune to protect and assist. Therefore, his grandfather's advancement couldn't be stopped! However, he had to think of a way to promote Jun Wu Yi's cultivation to the Spirit Xuan Level. Moreover, he also had to make the Heaven Destroyers and Spirit Devourers advance. And, he'd also have to do the same with Baili Luo Yun and Hai Chen Feng's strength...

[We can barely be called a Super Family at this time. But, we're merely an empty shell even if we can act as a Super Family nowadays. So, we mustn't take any wrong steps at this important juncture!]

Jun Wu Yi's face twitched and convulsed with suffering. He had also been suspecting the things that Jun Mo Xie had brought up. In fact, he had been suspecting it for over ten years in secret; this was also something that had plagued his heart.

How could Jun Wu Yi not have suspected this? But, he didn't wish to believe it. His family had given so much for Tian Xiang... Yet, they were being treated that way...?

It was cowardly... But, human nature nonetheless! After all, the Jun Family's blood had soaked the battlefields for Tian Xiang. Their family had worked very hard. So, to believe in this cruel truth would be tantamount to destroying everything that they had built up with their heart and soul...

And, this was a serious burden that no man could bear.

"But, you won't act blindly unless you have irrefutable proof!" Jun Wu Yi stated in a low voice, "You can speak to me about this. But, don't speak to your grandfather about it... unless you have definite proof! The Old Man's temper..."

"That's obvious." Jun Mo Xie smiled lightly before he spoke in a profound manner, "You're not a fool, Third Uncle. And, neither am I. But, Grandfather isn't a fool either. So, you shouldn't worry about it. But, the Emperor is even farther from being a fool..."

Jun Wu Yi gave long sigh. Then, he became sad, and went back in silence.

Jun Mo Xie became cold again, and brandished his horsewhip. This made each of the three scholars to twitch again. But, they didn't dare to exclaim. The Young Master Jun's tone was dark and full of murderous intention as he spoke in a heavy tone, "Shout for me!"

The three men strived to shout hard since they were enshrouded by his murderous aura, "I am the disciple of Wen Xing Heavenly Literature Institute's Mei Gao Jie and Kong Ling Yang — Han Zhi Dong... Yan Feng... Qin Qiu Shi! The Third Young Master Jun is great! The Third Young Master is noble! He is the best man! I welcome him to Tian Xiang! Mei Gao Jie is a pimp! Kong Ling Yang is a pimp! The Meng Family is a den of bastards..."

It was strange to see that the curses being hurled by the three scholars had become increasingly fluent after they had said it once. They didn't seem to care about the contempt or the curses anymore. After all, they had lost their sense of honor and shame once they had spoken these words out for the first time. Therefore, they had become far more fluent by now...

Jun Mo Xie resembled a maddened brothel keeper. He gnashed his teeth, and laughed heartily as he prodded his horse to go forward. He looked like a creature from hell to everyone who laid eyes on his expressions...

Everyone's eyes had frozen at this moment...

The Tian Xiang City had descended into utter chaos...

Jun Mo Xie's powerful entrance had resembled an unprecedented violent storm. And, it had engulfed the entire Tian Xiang City in a moment!

Several big Families had propped into action the moment Jun Mo Xie had set foot in the city. They had gathered entire lists of his misconducts, and had dashed into their palanquins to leave for the Imperial Palace.

However, the Dugu Family watched passively.

There was no sign of the Li Family either.

And, the Tang Family also stood in silence.

The Murong Family arrived, made a few discreet questions about the news, and disappeared.

The Old Man Jun sat calmly in that tensed environment, and told the kitchen staff to prepare the best food and drinks. His son and grandson had arrived. So, the old man wanted to have a good drink with them. After all, his son and the grandson were already taking care of things outside. So, what was the need for the old man to move into action...?

[It has to be said that this brat Mo Xie's methods are extremely bold! But, they're also the best methods we can use! After all, we're already stacked against everyone in society. So, we might as well go the crazy way!]

[It's like the Old Ancestor Jun had once said, "A real man isn't necessarily someone with balls! A real man is someone with an indomitable spirit!" Fu*k yes!]

[Good, good! This is the first time... go for it damn it! Ah, good one! He he he...] The old man let out a rare smile of content as he sipped his wine.

[Mo Xie is surely creating a scene outside. However, he's also marking the formation of a formidable force. This old man's strength is formidable. Then, we also have the Eighth Great Master from the prairie — the Solitary Falcon. Moreover, Mo Xie can prevail over level four Spirit Xuan experts on his own. And, it needn't be mentioned that there's that mysterious and unrivalled person behind our Jun Family. So, my Jun Family can be considered a real Super Family now. Could there still be a doubt about that?]

[My Jun Family can finally take a breather now!]

[There's not much of a need to worry about that rotten matter at court either. After all, the Murong and the Dugu Family will suppress those poor bastards from making a fuss. In fact, we can even ignore them. I'm in a very good mood...] Wouldn't he have wreaked havoc if he weren't in a good mood? Who could've dared to say something...

The old man's face was as steady as a mountain. In fact, he was full of prideful happiness. He had even forgotten how anxious he had been a few days back...

He didn't even seem to care about the Emperor's feelings at the moment.

After all, even the Empire couldn't deal with the Jun Family at this time... And, everyone knew their own positions.

For example, the Song Family was as agitated as a cat on a hot roof. The Meng Family found it even more difficult to bear. In fact, they acted like a bald dog with a chopped tail as they desperately went to the Imperial Court with their notes. They also ran rounds to the Li Family. But, everyone could see that no one wanted to get involved with them. After all, no one was foolish enough to desire getting buried next to them...

Meng Family Head — Meng You Wei heard about the three scholars raining curses on Mei Gao Jie, Kong Ling Yang and the Meng Family. So, he dejectedly returned to the Li Family. He repeatedly tried to get an audience with them. But, he was left stumped for a long while since there was no result. He then mounted his horse, and went to the Murong Family...

Mei Gao Jie was at his home. He had been merrily waiting for the good news when he heard that his disciples were raining curses at him. And, this news left him confused and angry.

Fatty Tang was inside the Aristocratic Hall when he heard that the Young Master had returned. He clapped his hands, and jumped high like a rubber ball at first. Then, he rushed out to meet him. But, Hai Chen Feng and Song Shang pulled him back. The reason was simple — Jun Mo Xie had given them a serious order that Tang Yuan was not to be involved in the disturbance he would create upon his return...

Perhaps the others wouldn't dare to mess with the Jun Family now. But, this didn't necessarily mean that they would take the same precautions against the Tang Family. It had to be said that the Tang Family was the last in the ranking of Tian Xiang City's powerful families. Moreover, the extreme closeness of the Young Masters of the Jun and the Tang Family was only one aspect of the matter. However, the Head of the Tang Family was loyal to the Imperial Family. So, he would never stand for his 'younger brother' facing embarrassment.

Therefore, this matter was something which Jun Mo Xie wanted to bear alone.

He would have to incite the Tian Xiang City on his own.

Jun Mo Xie eventually reached the Jun Family's mansion. He then dismounted and walked towards it. But, he turned back at the door before he entered the household, and issued a final command, "Go! Seize every property and business the Meng Family controls in the Tian Xiang City. They have been attacking me overtly and covertly! Ah, that isn't good! Hai Chen Feng will take over. You observe and see that they the Meng Family is dealt with properly. And, tell the Meng Family that they can come and talk to me if they are dissatisfied. We will seize these small interests for now. The exact ledgers can be balanced out at a later time!"

The fifty-sixty members of the Heaven Destroyers shouted their acknowledgement in unison!

[Taking over the Meng Family's properties? And, that's merely a small repayment of the interests? There are more accounts to settle...?]

Jun Wu Yi rolled his eyes. He could feel that he was finding it increasingly harder to understand his nephew.

...

Inside the Imperial Palace...

The Emperor had a deep frown on his face as he sat opposite Mr. Wen. They would talk and play chess in the past. But, the Emperor didn't seem to have the leisure to play chess... or discuss the world anymore...

And, that's because he was deeply worried!

A mountain of files had been accumulated to his side. The Emperor's face was full of agony and helplessness.

The content of those files was the same — a request to punish Jun Mo Xie!

"Requests to bring Jun Mo Xie to justice!"

"Jun Mo Xie is out of control. He doesn't care about authority. He's reigning chaos in the capital, and he's bringing shame to the land. His crimes deserve punishment. We request the Emperor to take action!"

"We plead the Emperor to act! The nation's integrity will be in peril if things continue like this!"

"We plead the Emperor to act quickly!"

The Emperor sighed. [Act... I also want to act! Wouldn't I wish to eliminate Jun Mo Xie...? In fact, there is no one who wants to do it more than me! Can... you at least be a little more considerate towards me?!]

[A man must know his limits, right? Jun Zhan Tian's strength was great, but he was still stuck at the Sky Xuan peak. After all, the Silver City wouldn't have tolerated if he had moved any further than that. Moreover, I always had means to take drastic measures against Jun Zhan Tian's military strength. In fact, sending Jun Mo Xie and Jun Wu Yi to the Southern Heaven should've acted as the first step towards the Jun Family's destruction...]

[But, life is like chess. It doesn't play out according to people's expectations. And, it's hard to predict a person's moves. After all, going to Tian Fa didn't harm that uncle-nephew duo in the least. Instead, the winds have changed, and they have returned even more powerful! Jun Mo Xie fought four Spirit Xuan experts on his own, and still managed to attain victory. What kind of strength is needed for something like that?]

[This is unimaginable!]

Chapter 452: Abandon?!

[And, you want me to act on this...? The circumstances have already spiraled out of my control! So, what action can I take? Can I even dare to act in this situation?]

...

"Your Majesty, what burdens your mind?" Mr. Wen had barely returned from the outside after witnessing Jun Mo Xie's killing spree. He calmly lifted his wise gaze to look at the Emperor, and smiled as he asked, "Is it... that Jun Mo Xie?"

"Yes."

The Emperor sighed, and motionlessly gazed at the sunset for a long time.

"I don't think that the Emperor needs to be so worried. I don't think it's necessarily a bad thing in the long run," Mr. Wen remained silent for a while before he spoke, "Jun Mo Xie's power is great. And, the Jun Family's power as a whole has also reached great heights. In fact, they had reached a league of their own. However, they don't pose a threat to the Imperial family..."

"They have reached different league, but they pose no threat?" The Emperor frowned. "What do you mean?"

"That's right. The Jun Family would've become something like the Murong Family if they had been getting powerful step by step. And, they would've had the power to cause chaos in society, and could have flipped the heavens. But, the speed at which their power is increasing is too great. They've leapt from being a regular influential family to an extremely Great Family in a short period of three to four months. He he... Your Majesty, do you know where these Super Families have been positioned since antiquity?"

Mr. Wen smiled slowly, "Such families occupy very special areas, and aren't interested in the title of the 'Emperor'. So, I'm sure that the Jun Family will slowly fade away from all levels of society. They will wander amongst the clouds, and observe the great transformations. But, they will be indifferent to the changes. This has been the norm since ancient times. And, no Super Family has ever been an exception to this.

"And, that's because these Super Families don't pursue the glory of one generation. Instead, they seek one which endures through the long ages! They laugh at unstable situations, and remain unaffected by them. They are elated, and possess the dark of the world in the palm of their hands!

"Hence, Your Majesty need only be patient for now. This upstart family will cause a storm with their awe-inspiring might. But, they will eventually become tired of the attention. Then, they will settle in their own place. Moreover, having such a Super Family within the borders of Tian Xiang will be a great deterrent against the neighboring countries! The reason for such a huge reaction to that matter between Jun Mo Xie and his sister-in-law isn't because of the Jun Family's old enemies alone — the neighboring countries who see him as a threat have also seized the opportunity to cause trouble. After all, they would wish to create enmity between the Jun and the Imperial family even if they can't eliminate the Jun Family. Otherwise..."

He smiled lightly, "This is an insignificant affair of this person. And, it may even involve an immoral act with one's sister-in-law. But, why did it give rise to such a huge reaction? Was Jun Mo Xie's reputation

ever good? Your Majesty has always been farsighted. So, you need to consider these troubles properly. That arrogant Jun Mo Xie won't act with humanity even if you handle these matters properly. But, Old Man Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi will surely regard you kindly..."

"You say this... But, how can I not know...?" The Emperor stood up and placed his hands behind his back. His expression was desolate, "That's not the problem here... The biggest problem is... the Blood Sword Hall..."

"Blood Sword Hall...? I remember that Your Majesty had said that it was the core of the secret strength at your hand. Ah, I see! This Wen can also more or less figure out the matter if we combine that with Xiao Bu Yu's confession. The truth of the deaths of Jun Wu Hui and Jun Wu Meng... However, the Jun Family has no evidence! Moreover, Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi still have the final say in that family. And, those two men have deep feelings towards Tian Xiang City. In fact, they have a lot of sentiment..."

Mr. Wen smiled, "Your Majesty... it's difficult to turn against one's homeland. Jun Mo Xie may not care. But, Jun Zhan Tian will. So, there's a margin for mediation."

"Margin to... mediate..." The Emperor's eyes lit up.

"Yes. Those events happened a very long time ago. Your Majesty hadn't revealed anything, but Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi are shrewd men. So, how could they not have suspected? What's important here is that the Blood Sword Hall is merely a group of killers despite their strength. So, how could it have influenced the army...? That father-and-son duo has suspected for ten years, but they haven't made a move. They've never carried out any vendetta.... Does Your Majesty know why?" Mr. Wen was calm. He obviously had a card up his sleeve.

"Why?"

"I believe that the Jun Family doesn't doubt that it had been Your Majesty's act. However, their family members — whether alive or dead — have done too much for Tian Xiang! And, this 'too much' is the reason here!"

Mr. Wen continued in a serious tone, "The Jun Family's members have been the mainstay of the Tian Xiang Empire for the past few decades. They had somewhat saved Tian Xiang, and have been its greatest servants! Tian Xiang has tens of thousands of miles under its territory, and has a huge populace because

of their hard work. The masses live in peace and tranquility. And, this is a result of the Jun Family's blood and sweat. This is because of the contributions of countless men of the Jun Family. After all, their people have expended immeasurable efforts to make such a situation possible."

He continued to smile, "So, put yourself in their place, Your Majesty. Would you ever think of destroying this country if you had done so much for it, and had paid two generations of blood for it? Would you destroy your greatest accomplishment? Would you think of destroying the safety and joy of millions of people?"

"You're right! The Jun Family is too kind. They would never do it!" A light flashed in the Emperor's eyes as he quickly jumped up. He circled excitedly, and his face started to glow again.

"However, Your Majesty will have to give them some explanations when the time comes. So, I'll give you one word of advice..." Mr. Wen smiled mysteriously. He turned down his palm and spoke, "Abandon!"

"Abandon?" The emperor trembled. His joyous expression froze, and he was left to stare blankly, "Abandon...?" His heart was in agony. "But, that is my most elite force. They have won so many battles over the years! They have given everything for so many years to make me Emperor!"

"Do I really need to abandon them?"

"Yes, abandon them! Do it even if you don't want to — you have no choice!" Mr. Wen spoke without hesitation, "You'll have to face the Jun Family if you don't abandon the Blood Sword Hall! But, the Jun Family can shake the entire world in confrontation! So, would you dare to confront them? And, the Emperor might be next if the situation worsens. Your life and the lives of the entire Imperial Family will be in danger!"

The Emperor's face became gloomy, and his body started to sway.

"Abandon the Blood Sword Hall! Not for Jun Zhan Tian! Nor for Jun Wu Yi — but for Jun Mo Xie!" Mr. Wen sighed and continued, "Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi have spent a lot of blood for Tian Xiang during their lives! So, there's no need to doubt their sentiment for Tian Xiang! These two men won't do too much if you look at it from a humane perspective! So, I'm sure they won't do anything drastic even if they become fully aware that Jun Wu Hui's death was your doing. That's because... the Jun Family's blood, their effort, the entirety of Jun Zhan Tian's life, and half of Jun Wu Yi's life — have all been for the

Tian Xiang Empire! Even the lifetimes of Jun Wu Hui and Jun Wu Meng have been for this nation along with the deaths of those Jun youngsters!

"Tian Xiang is the pillar for the Jun Family. It's the fruit of their labors, and it's also their biggest solace!

"I'm sure that Your Majesty would only need to unrestrainedly reward and apologies to Jun Zhan Tian even if genuinely gets some conclusive evidence. And, you could then swear an oath and uphold it. They will also hold their pride and accept it. They won't do it for official positions. But, they'll do it for the country's people! I'm not wrong, Your Majesty. Jun Zhan Tian and Jun Wu Yi are good men who work for this nation's people. They are real, respectable, and brave men! Therefore, you can disregard those two!

"But Jun Mo Xie is different — he's completely different! He has his father's ability to lead soldiers. He had never shown his key traits before. He had always hidden his talents! But, Jun Mo Xie is acting like that now! He has stood out since the last half-a-year! He was only a debauchee wastrel in the past. But, he's like an unrestrained storm now! He could've been stopped before he had left Tian Xiang. But, he's a full-fledged eagle which has spread its wings now that he's back from Southern Heaven City. He is young, but his power has soared above the nine heavens. He's a hero who overlooks the world, and dares everything!

"Moreover, he has been vindictive ever since this vicious personality of his has arrived! And, his behavior is even more merciless. His means are unwavering, and he doesn't hesitate while making a decision to kill. You genuinely can't afford to be at fault with him! And, he also has that powerful backing. So, he won't have any misgivings because of it. He will look at the world disdainfully if this continues. I've observed something upon his return today — no one holds any value in his eyes! No matter who they are! He doesn't care about spilling blood, and he's indifferent to any crime! Such a man is the most dreadful kind! Your Majesty needn't worry about Jun Zhan Tian or Jun Wu Yi getting their hands on a conclusive proof of what happened those days. But, everything will come to an end if this kid gets his hands on them!"

"Is there no alternative to abandoning them? I am very..." The Emperor's complexion turned pale as he clenched his fist. It seemed that he had made up his mind.

"This is the safest and the most dependable method. We have to deal with someone like Jun Mo Xie... So, we have to be on guard that this Jun Mo Xie doesn't find anything to hold on to. Your Majesty, you must know that the main difference between Jun Mo Xie and Jun Zhan Tian is that the former doesn't have any feelings towards Tian Xiang. And, from that time... Jun Mo Xie... he..." There was a strange light in Mr. Wen's eyes.

"He what...?" His Majesty asked.

"He ignores people... In fact, he might not even consider them as 'people'! He's extremely cold-blooded. And, I saw him while he was killing people. His expression maintained the same tranquility throughout the time he coldly went-about killing them. You must know that one's eyes will undergo some fluctuations even if one kills a chicken or a dog. This is because there would be surge in their energy. But, Jun Mo Xie didn't react like that at all! His expression might've belied some emotion, but his eyes remained calm. In fact, killing a person was the same to him that eating is to a hungry person... It was like a natural course of action..."

Chapter 453: The Cat's Out of the Bag

Mr. Wen's tone became heavier as he spoke, "The well-known Cold-Blooded Great Master Lei Wu Bei is known for committing massacres. But, even he will find it impossible to be as cold-blooded as Jun Mo Xie! These are the soul-sucking and blood-thirsty people who give no value to human life! Your Majesty, this Jun Mo Xie is very dangerous. In fact, he has surpassed everyone! It's in his innate nature to kill! Even the Great Assassin Chu Qi Hun may not be so dangerous!"

Mr. Wen paused for a long while since he felt something indescribable. In fact, even he was unaware that he had stopped speaking...

The Emperor trembled. He felt cold.

He didn't need Mr. Wen to speak any further to understand this matter. He already knew it very clearly now. The consequences of a man like Jun Mo Xie getting his hands on the evidence of his father's entrapment... The Emperor could imagine them very clearly...

[Jun Mo Xie doesn't care for anything!]

[Moreover, he has already grabbed a lot of power! He's already an unshakeable and formidable existence! Even attacking him suddenly will not bring the surety of results! I could storm the Jun Family's

gates. However, I would have to be on guard against vengeful assassinations even if one of their top individuals manages to escape. The days of my life will be filled with unspeakable misery, and we'll have to face a lot of mental pressure. And, that's enough for anyone to drown in liquor out of sheer pressure!]

[Blood Sword Hall... I have to abandon them! I can't afford to keep them!]

"Besides, you also need to appease the Jun Family. You need to appease them blindly. In fact, you must appease them till you're exhausted!" Mr. Wen suddenly flashed a smile, "I'm sure that the Jun Family doesn't have any concrete proof. So, we still have a margin to rescue the situation. That matter won't trouble you if Your Majesty restores the original relationship... I also remember that Old Man Jun had once proposed a marriage between Jun Mo Xie and Princess Ling Meng..."

The Emperor had a determined expression on his face as he looked at the sunset. He sighed deeply and said, "Yes! That's true."

Mr. Wen laughed and said, "Then, Your Majesty should have a plan!"

The Emperor remained silent for a long time. He then sighed, but it seemed that he wasn't very comfortable with it. Then, he suddenly asked, "Mr. Wen, do you know if the Elusive World of Immortals has a young talent like that?"

Mr. Wen was stumped by this question. He remained silent for a long while before he replied, "No, there isn't. That place has many talented people, but all of them are very old... How could there be anything like this Family?"

However, the Emperor didn't give up, "What about that land's Young Lady..?"

"The 'Young Lady'... is approaching sixty this year..." Mr. Wen smiled bitterly, "Her son is thirty, and her grandson is only five or six. The Emperor may wish to form a relationship with the Elusive World of Immortals. But, even they won't wish to make enemies of the Jun Family. After all, the strength of the person backing the Jun Family is a profound mystery. Even the Lady herself might not have good odds of success if she faces him."

The Emperor sighed and said, "I'll have to haggle with Jun Mo Xie if that's the case."

Mr. Wen also sighed and stated, "Your Majesty shouldn't be too optimistic. It's too difficult to say if the Jun Family will accept this matter or not. It's easy to expect people to add flowers to the brocade, but difficult to expect them to provide help in the hour of need..."

The room became quiet since the two men stopped talking...

A long while passed, and the two men sighed in unison...

The Dugu Family.

Dugu Zong Heng's eyes appeared like copper bells as he looked at the movements of the girl. She had a small waist in the past. But, she now resembled a penguin as she moved down the palanquin. She swayed as she walked forward while holding her stomach. And, the old man felt as if the blood from his entire body had started to dash to his forehead.

There was an "Argh!" as Dugu Xiao Yi's mother cried from behind. She didn't dare believe her sight as she covered her mouth with her hand while tears fell down her face.

Everyone's mouths were open as they stood petrified.

The old man eventually came to himself. He resembled a mad tiger circling his cage as he started to pace around in circles. Then, he finally found a target to vent his anger at. So, he roared, and charged ferociously. He then grabbed one of his seven grandsons. And, he started to beat the youngster's entire body in a violent rage.

He also started to shout curses. However, the curses were so chaotic that one couldn't even tell what he was shouting...

The seven youngsters squatted down and stuck their heads into his crotch for safety. Therefore, the first round of kicks landed on their buttocks with 'snap' and 'bang' sounds, and their buttocks swelled as a

result. [You want to beat us, right? But, you can't hit our faces. After all, we seven have spent fifteen years of our lives with you!]

Dugu Wu Di covered his head and sneaked away.

Dugu Xiao Yi rushed up to pacify the situation. And, the result was amazing. Everyone increased their distance wherever she walked to. After all, they were afraid that something might go wrong if they touched her... Dugu Xiao Yi could only feel more proud and bold. After all, it seemed like she was a firefighter in this chaotic situation. Everyone would scuttle from the spot she'd walk to. And thus, this amusing game continued for a while. Moreover, a group of the family's women would also noisily chase after her in the hope that she'd stop after paying heed to their calls.

Anyway, wasn't Dugu Zong Heng losing his temper a common sight in the Dugu Family? Therefore, Dugu Xiao Yi was also very accustomed to it.

But then...

Dugu Xiao Yi had somewhat forgotten her 'condition' in this situation. However, the thick pillow she had tied to her stomach wasn't very firmly tied. So, the ropes couldn't help but become loose as she ran around. In fact, it was a wonder that they had held up till that point...

The small support system of the pillow eventually...

The old lady had been staring at her granddaughter ever since she had arrived. And, she had finally discovered that extremely shocking thing...

Old Lady Dugu had felt that something was amiss the moment she had seen Dugu Xiao Yi enter. [Just look at this girl. Doesn't it look like...? Wait, what?] Her eyebrows had shot up, while her neck had straightened. [That doesn't look like a defiled body. How can a pregnant woman stand so straight? And, how did she get so big in these few days alone?]

However, the first impression is the strongest. Therefore, the astute old lady wasn't able to understand the matter at first. In fact, she had even started to doubt herself. But, she then saw Dugu Xiao Yi running around. The little girl's 'pregnancy prop's ropes' had started to loosen, and the prop had slowly started

to slide downwards. The pillow had initially been near her chest. However, it had soon slipped to her lower belly, and had then continued to slide downwards towards her thighs...

The old lady's eyes suddenly opened wide.

Dugu Xiao Yi also became aware that things were going wrong. So, she quickly and stealthily thrust her hands underneath, and pushed the prop up. And, she didn't dare to run recklessly again. Instead, the little girl started to look around in a sneaky manner...

"Stop! What a scandal!" Old Lady Dugu walked with her crutches as she angrily shouted.

The nine men of the Family were still having a go at each other. In fact, this grandfather-father-son gang still seemed in high spirits. Their enthusiastic exchange of punches and kicks was producing enough ruckus to give competition to a busy downtown slaughter house.

"Xiao Yi! You come over here!" Old Lady Dugu couldn't do anything about the men and their fighting. So, she turned her eyes and called out.

"Wh... why? It's inconvenient for a pregnant body like mine!" Dugu Xiao Yi slowly came over while holding her belly. She suddenly seemed docile, and looked somewhat guilty.

"You've been running around ever since you've come back. That wasn't inconvenient...? Let me take a proper look!" Old Lady Dugu carefully extended her hand, and felt the girl's belly. However, Dugu Xiao Yi spread her arms in alarm, and jumped back like a small and nimble deer. She then vigilantly spoke-up, "Wat are you doing, Grandma?! This is your grandson! You must be careful..."

She hadn't even finished speaking when there was a soft "plop" sound. And, the 'child she was heavy with' suddenly fell down her clothes. It fell down with a "puff", bounced twice, and trembled as it rolled around three meters before it came to a halt. It was a round pillow. And, it even had embroidery on it — an adorable kitten!

A jump rope was attached to it like long ribbon. And, another one still hung from Dugu Xiao Yi's waist.

This act was obviously going to lead to a difficult aftermath. Dugu Xiao Yi quickly hopped back, and revealed a 'cat's out of the bag' expression...

"This... This..." Dugu Xiao Yi's lips were drawn. She covered her embarrassed face with her hands. She suddenly felt ashamed and speechless. Moreover, her lovely face had turned very red.

This development blew away the entire family like a landmine!

Old Man Dugu Zong Heng choked as he opened his mouth wide. His clenched fist had stopped midair, and his face had become ashen.

Dugu Wu Di slumped to the ground with his eyes opened to their extreme. He was covered in dust, and had an extremely incredulous expression.

Dugu Chong felt wronged as he looked at his grandfather. His mouth twisted as he mumbled, "I had told you that nothing had happened... I said there wasn't any mishap. It would've been impossible for me to not know if something had happened. I had told you..."

"You had also said that you're an idiot! You need a good spanking!" Dugu Zong Heng's roar was like a terrifying thunderclap. Dugu Chong withdrew his neck, and shut his mouth when he heard it.

Dugu Zong Heng's face twisted as he started to stalk Dugu Xiao Yi like a tiger. He smiled in rage, "Good! Good! Good girl! You've grown up now. You fooled your grandfather... that's amazing..." The old man nodded fiercely; he didn't know what else to say...

"Grandpa... I... Grandpa... I... I... I..." Dugu Xiao Yi lost her mind in fear, and turned her beady eyes around. She then drew back in panic, and looked around for help. But, everyone suddenly looked away and refused to help.

[This girl is out of control. She needs a moral lesson! God knows what will happen if she doesn't get one... This is scandalous! A young girl from a big and noble family caused such an incident?! She fooled her own family. Moreover, she went ahead and faked her pregnancy in front of thousands of people to draw attention towards herself!]

"I'll break you to pieces!" Dugu Wu Di spoke everyone's thoughts out loud.

"Help..." Dugu Xiao Yi turned to run. However, Dugu Zong Heng took great strides and pulled the long ribbon that was dangling on the ground behind her. It appeared like he was fishing, and the little girl was the fish that was stuck on the baited hook. She flew back with a 'whooshing' sound, and dropped on her palms and knees with a loud "Bang!".

Dugu Xiao Yi struggled and shrieked as tears streamed down her face.

Dugu Zong Heng hadn't felt much about beating his grandsons. But, he felt sorry for his granddaughter when he had barely given two slaps to her. Therefore, he didn't hit her again...

"Let me deal with this disobedient girl, Father! I won't let her..." Dugu Wu Di crawled off the floor as he rubbed his hands and rolled his sleeves. He had a very fierce expression on his face, "This girl has played tricks on me! She deserves a moral lesson! I'll break her bones!"

"What will I hand over this girl to you for, you bastard?!" Dugu Zong Heng's beard puffed as he shouted. "Xiao Yi's body is delicate; how can you beat her? Back off!"

Dark lines appeared on Dugu Wu Di's face. [You just gave two slaps to that 'delicate' thing. But, you suddenly feel sorry for my daughter when I want to deal with her? Can't you believe that I might also go easy on her? But, you're suddenly protecting her again now...]

Chapter 454: Leave Everything to Me!

Dugu Xiao Yi stood up sobbing, and wiped her tears. She looked like she had been seriously wronged.

The entire family became silent as they looked at that pillow in the distance.

The face of Dugu Xiao Yi's mother was full of helplessness for a long while. Then, she eventually looked at her mother-in-law, "Mother... what should we do about this?"

Old Lady Dugu panted with rage, "What should we do about it...? Put some dressing on it!" She snorted heavily before she gave a long sigh. Then, she said, "The matter has already reached this far. So, what can be done now?"

Dugu Zong Heng's eyes were opened wide. He too panted with rage, "What can be done...? This girl appeared pregnant to everyone! And, I'm sure that everyone in Tian Xiang believes that the Granddaughter of the Dugu Family is pregnant with the Jun Family's child! So, what can we do? Fu*k! This thing has happened to the Dugu Family! This old man is very furious! Anyone else taking advantage of this situation would've been better than that Jun Family! Our family is very unfortunate!"

"Father, you mean that..." Dugu Wu Di spoke-up very cautiously. He had finally understood the matter. Today's biggest error wasn't made by Dugu Xiao Yi — but by him. It seemed that everything he had spoken was wrong. And, it had now become a thorn at the old man's side...

[My maiden daughter isn't pregnant. So, she won't be birthing an illegitimate child...]

"What do I mean...? This is disgraceful! What does this mean for our family? What does this mean for your daughter? I'm saying that our Dugu Family's bad reputation will reach the heavens! Can't you use your brains? You, you, you only want to infuriate this old man further, don't you? You idiot!" Dugu Zong Heng jumped up, and started to rain curses.

Dugu Wu Di withdrew his neck, and became silent. [I'll get a scolding if I speak up. But, he won't let me stay silent either...]

"Why don't you speak? Can't you speak? You still dare to stay quiet and rebel against me? This behooves you!" Old Man Dugu circled like an evil monster as his finger pointed at General Dugu's nose, while his saliva sprayed like rain.

[I didn't expect that staying silent would also cause so much trouble.] Dugu Wu Di had been rendered speechless.

"Tomorrow, we will arrange our men to go to the Jun Family in order to talk this matter over. We can't let that brat do the damage and slip away so cleanly! That brat is the reason behind this chaos!" Old Lady Dugu boldly made a decision, "That debauchee brat will feel very satisfied after he marries my granddaughter. Let me meet him tomorrow!"

"Tomorrow... isn't that good. The Jun family is also facing trouble right now. So, tomorrow... is troublesome." Dugu Wu Di pulled his head back to look at his mother. He had a sense of foreboding.

"I said we'll go tomorrow. So, we'll go tomorrow! And, there won't be any questions about it!" Old Lady Dugu glared wide eyed, "You father-son and seven idiots will deal with whatever's happening in the capital! What's the big deal about it? What's it worth! Even a barnyard is as noisy as this city!"

"Jun Mo Xie is massacring people throughout the capital!" Dugu Wu Di spoke-up in a low voice. However, he saw that no one reacted. So, he continued to speak, "That brat is very ferocious!"

"Very ferocious!" the old lady nodded in a gratified manner, "This old lady's son-in-law can't be a weakling! There's a rumor that he prevailed over four Spirit Xuan experts! I had always thought that it was a rumor. But, I can tell that his power reaches the heavens now that I see him massacring the entire city. He's a powerful youngster!" Then, she suddenly became angry, "You shameful bastard! You know that we are on the same boat as the Jun Family now. But, you still haven't gone to help them?! What will you do if they bully Xiao Yi after the marriage because our family didn't support them? Will you take responsibility for it?"

Dugu Wu Di was left stunned by this.

[My parents are unreasonable! I had always thought that mother is reasonable...]

[How did they come to this? They're already thinking of Xiao Yi's happiness after marriage?]

[My mother genuinely has a long foresight...]

The women suddenly crowded around the old lady and Dugu Xiao Yi, and began to chatter and giggle. The wedding discussions could already be heard in the distance. In fact, even the birth of children and their names were being discussed...

Dugu Wu Di and Dugu Zong Heng looked at each other in dismay. They didn't know whether to laugh or cry...

A long while passed like this. Then, Old Man Dugu suddenly raised his leg and kicked Dugu Wu Di's posterior, "You're still too unhappy to help, you bastard? What are you doing standing here? What's so good to see here?"

Dugu Wu Di hastily sneaked away. But, he was still mad inside. [Jun Mo Xie... fu*k you! Everything has happened because of you... you shameless bastard...]

The seven "Heroes and Legends Bravely Rushing Forward" saw their grandfather looking at them. So, they quickly got up as well, and fled in Dugu Wu Di's stead...

The world outside was crowding with people, and the entire city was being turned upside down. However, Jun Mo Xie was at home. And, he was preparing for his grandfather's advancement with full devotion.

[This is a world where the strong are respected. So, the faster one becomes stronger — the better it is! Anyway, where could those clown standing outside run to? A monk may run away. But, he can never run from the temples!]

Therefore, Jun Mo Xie wasn't too anxious about making reprisals. Moreover, he felt that those people would only discuss about matters that would intimidate them further...

He had first taken Guan Qing Han back to her courtyard when they had returned. However, she had told him to stay when he was about to leave...

Jun Mo Xie had turned around in astonishment... only to see that Guan Qing Han was standing delicately and timidly at the doorway. Her figure was slight, and her face seemed thinned out. She appeared to be cowering in fear as she looked into Jun Mo Xie's eyes with an expression of seeking protection.

Jun Mo Xie looked back at Guan Qing Han. And, she somewhat lowered her head as tears fell down her face, and onto the ground...

Jun Mo Xie trembled inside. [This woman!]

[This beautiful woman... this unrivalled beauty... who knows how much she has had to endure...! How much torment she has gone through?]

[Who would have empathized with her? I suppose that the men are supreme, and women are worth less than servants' clothes.] However, Jun Mo Xie had crossed over from the modern world. So, he could somewhat understand her terrible suffering. Only he could put himself in her shoes, and only he could think about her from a woman's point of view...

No one else could do it. And, even if anyone could think about it — they'd think it right!

But, was it?

This woman had always been like ice. She was a proud and cold woman. But, she was still a woman in the end. And, she had finally shown her weakness!

Perhaps the cold and aloof mannerism of Guan Qing Han's had been nothing other than helplessness of a sort. After all, a young lady in the prime of her youth had been turned into nothing but a tool to climb up the social ladder for the sake of powerful! And, men of this world had fixed that life for her...

The realization that her fiancé was someone with a heroic character must've consoled the young lady's heart a little. It wasn't long before her wedding... It wasn't long before she would be draped in silk... It wasn't long before she'd get to assist her husband in running the house and raising the children... However, she had suddenly gotten to hear the news of her fiancé's death instead of the wedding bells. Her fiancé had fallen and died in battle...

She had suffered a huge loss, but she still went ahead and got married for her family. Some of it was voluntary, and some it was forced. But, how could she have been forced if she had done it voluntarily...?

She would've perhaps become another tool for more power if she had remained with her family. But, it wouldn't have been so with the Jun Family. She would've surely been alone in the Jun Family, but she would also have been free and peaceful. Moreover, she would've been away from those ugly schemes...

Therefore, she had consented to come to her fiancé's family in despair.

Otherwise, how could a flowery girl whose tenderness could give rise to a poetic dream in any man's life agree to marry a deceased hero for the sake of a life of loneliness?

However, Guan Qing Han genuinely hadn't had any other option.

She had already come to despair everything. She despaired of marriage... of the very thought of marriage... even of life!

Therefore, she came to the Jun Family. And, the Jun Family was fortunately good to her. But then, the matter with the Xue Hun Manor appeared after a while...

And thus, her already-despairing family had been forced into a tough situation.

Guan Qing Han had thought of dying...

However, the Jun Family would've endured the very heavens for her. Therefore, she wouldn't have regretted doing anything for Jun Family. She genuinely wouldn't have regretted! So, she followed the army to Southern Heaven City with secret intentions to sacrifice herself for the Jun Family.

She didn't need to sacrifice herself in the end. However, another mishap occurred. Jun Mo Xie — her brother-in-law was affected by an aphrodisiac and his life was rendered in peril. And, the one who had caused that evil had already fled in panic. She knew that she could've left if she wanted. But, where would she have found a woman in the military camp?

[Wouldn't Jun Mo Xie die burning with desire if we can't find a woman?]

Therefore, Guan Qing Han had no other choice but to use her body in order to save him.

Someone could argue that Guan Qing Han knew the affections Dugu Xiao Yi had for Jun Mo Xie. So, why hadn't she called her back instead?

However, how could she have explained it to the girl's family? And, why had Dugu Xiao Yi escaped in the first place? Didn't she know the consequences of administering the drug? Who would administer an aphrodisiac and not know what would happen as a result? Dugu Xiao Yi might have been an exception, but Guan Qing Han wasn't...

She had thought; [why would she run if she has administered him with an aphrodisiac? But, would she return if she has already fled...?]

Guan Qing Han was left with no other choice once she had realized this. Therefore, she could only give her virtue to the Jun Family... She could only give her benefactor-family a chance to continue their bloodline...

Guan Qing Han had no choice. Moreover, her honor also prevented her from going back. It didn't matter how she felt about Jun Mo Xie — she couldn't cower in the face of this situation!

But, she was caught in a storm when she saved Jun Mo Xie's life. And, she was stained with the accusations of the whole world as a result. She was stained with the immorality of a relationship between a brother and sister-in-law... And, she couldn't escape that black mark no matter what the reason behind her actions...

Her honor!

The honor of the two families!

Her virtue!

Her chastity!

The pressure of these matters had left her to suffocate.

Guan Qing Han had wanted to kill herself every time Jun Mo Xie had even harbored a tiny speck of hesitation with respect to that incident. And, making herself return to Tian Xiang City was already the bravest thing she had ever done in her life.

Because she still had a little hope in her heart...

And, Jun Mo Xie hadn't let her down!

However, she still felt vulnerable like before. In fact, she felt as vulnerable as a sea weed in an ocean current.

Jun Mo Xie's heart pounded as he took two steps forward. The two had looked deep into each other's eyes. And, Jun Mo Xie had finally seen the helplessness and despair of Guan Qing Han's eyes.

Jun Mo Xie looked at her carefully as he raised his hand and held hers. Then, he spoke in a soft but firm tone, "Don't be afraid! Leave... everything to me!"

Jun Mo Xie's words were like an astonishing sword piercing through the haze in the sky. And, that sky full of black clouds was suddenly pierced by a small ray of light...

In fact, these words had resembled the grandeur of a boundless mountain... they were as an inexhaustible as a bottomless river... they were as thunderous as a torrential snowfall in open summer... And, Guan Qing Han suddenly felt like she could rely on these words as if they were the unshakable base of a towering mountain peak!

Guan Qing Han's eyes suddenly shone like a full moon.

Her lips trembled a little as she withdrew her curled hand from the warmth of Jun Mo Xie's palm... even though she didn't want to.

However, Jun Mo Xie didn't let it go. He held it even tighter instead as he spoke-up again.

"Don't be afraid! Leave everything to me!"

Guan Qing Han finally submitted to Jun Mo Xie's grasp. Her lips moved, but no words came out... Only two tears streamed down.

[These hands are very strong! And, very... warm!]

Guan Qing Han's tears fell like rain.

Chapter 455: Advancements and Suspicions

Jun Mo Xie left Guan Qing Han's place, and made his way to his own courtyard to check Ye Gu Han's condition. After all, Ye Gu Han's Xuan cultivation had been destroyed, and his dantian had been damaged. Therefore, his physical condition had been rendered even worse than that of a normal man. However, he couldn't guess where Ye Gu Han had suddenly found a desire to live from. Moreover, his broken body was overflowing with vitality. And, that had left Jun Mo Xie very surprised.

What is one's state of affairs? Individual perseverance, personality, and the will to live! However, Ye Gu Han's state of affairs had surprised Young Master Jun. But, Ye Gu Han was sleeping and Jun Mo Xie didn't wish to disturb him. Jun Mo Xie had only saved him to preserve his Third Uncle's honor. In fact, he wouldn't have done it unless his uncle had made that promise. It wouldn't have matter to him how much Princess Ling Meng would have begged him. Her evocation of the selfless love hadn't moved him either. His uncle's word had been the only that had compelled him to save Ye Gu Han.

The Young Master then returned to hall, and started to plan over the preparations for his grandfather's advancement.

However, Jun Mo Xie wasn't very anxious about this. After all, he had always believed that a good thing couldn't be acquired instantly; the same was even truer for a great ones! Moreover, the opportunity could always be snatched by someone else even if it was presently in one's own hands. Therefore, it couldn't be truly one's own unless it had been digested inside one's belly.

And, the peak level-nine Xuan core's situation was something of this sort. It had once created a huge sensation, and had drawn people from every corner of the world. Therefore, such a great thing could be snatched away at any time...

The Jun Family had seized a lot of opportunities of late. And, this had materialized into many great advantages for them. Therefore, they could look down on the Tian Xiang Empire... and even the entire world! But, Young Master Jun clearly understood that the Jun Family was still very weak on the inside. In fact, they were far off from being a true Super Family. After all, this was merely a bluff — they were only an empty shell at the moment!

His fictitious Master was the largest advantage which the Jun Family had relied on. However, that extremely powerful and mysterious Master obviously didn't exist. Moreover, the Jun Family didn't have a true Spirit Xuan expert either. Jun Mo Xie may have become known for having defeated four Spirit Xuan experts. However, there was a lot of exaggeration to that claim.

The Jun Family's growth into a real Super Family would require a long period of strenuous efforts. However, it would be necessary for the Jun Family to have a true Spirit Xuan expert in their ranks until then. Therefore, helping the old man advance to the Spirit Xuan Level had taken top priority.

Jun Mo Xie took the baffled Jun Zhan Tian to the basement of the newly built tower along with the prairie's Solitary Falcon. This tower had been built as per Jun Mo Xie's special request. This tower was particularly strong, and the large granite steps were tightly wound. This had given a 'sealed' effect to the tower's interiors. In fact, the world outside wouldn't be able to hear any sounds even if someone were to deliberately shout and yell inside this tower!

This had obviously been built for this specific moment...

After all, the fluctuations in the power of a peak level-nine Xuan Core was too great!

Jun Mo Xie had given Jun Wu Yi detailed instructions in advance. Therefore, Jun Wu Yi stationed elite troops around the tower for protection once the three men had entered the tower. Moreover, there were as many as ten more guards hiding in the secrecy of darkness. Jun Wu Yi, Song Shang, and Hai Chen Feng — the three Sky Xuan experts took to their three respective sections, and stood guard. Moreover, they took extreme precautions in doing so. They had eliminated every eventuality, and ensured that it would be impossible to disturb the proceedings inside.

Jun Mo Xie's personal teams of Heaven Destroyers and Spirit Devourers were tasked with the security of the inner-most layer. They were hidden in secret places, and were equipped with swords and the 'Xuan Beast Tendon' crossbows. In fact, their weapons were so sharp that they were gleaming with cold lights.

There were a myriad of traps everywhere — string traps, poison, smoke traps, and so on. Seven or eight places even had the secret weapons which Jun Mo Xie had forged. Moreover, these weapons had been dipped in poison beforehand. Therefore, one wrong step in the darkness, and even a Sky or Spirit Xuan expert would find themselves doomed for eternity. In fact, it could be assumed that one's blood will have spilled out in less than five breaths.

In fact, even a Great Master would find it extremely difficult to break past this kind of a fighting strength and ambush arrangements.

Inside the tower...

Jun Mo Xie took out the Xuan core, and its energy radiated everywhere. Solitary Falcon stared wide eyed, and gaped for a while. Then, he eventually spoke-up, "Fu*k! Men from around the world were fighting each other to death over this. Even I didn't bat an eye before I left the grasslands and came here over this. But, I had never imagined that it nestled in the safety of your possession. In fact, it didn't even appear out in the open! But, the thing that we had fought over... what was that?"

"That... was obviously a fake one!" Jun Mo Xie rubbed his nose. He smiled mischievously, and spoke without a hint of embarrassment, "I had felt very bad when I saw you fight over it so enthusiastically that night."

Solitary Falcon snorted, "Just look at you smiling like that! Where are you even the least bit bothered? Even getting mad at you is a waste of feelings. Anyway, I don't care about it! I didn't want that core from the very beginning! To temper oneself and advance on one's own is the path of honor!"

"It's a good thing that you aren't offended. Such an open-minded Great Master would be perfect to guide my grandfather," Jun Mo Xie stated with a chuckle. His words had obviously been one of ridicule. However, his expression suddenly became very dignified. He then turned towards Solitary Falcon and spoke seriously.

"Please, Master Falcon!"

Jun Mo Xie had spoken these words very earnestly. After all, Jun Zhan Tian was the first amongst Jun Mo Xie's acknowledged relatives. Advancing his grandfather's strength was surely very important. But, his life was even more so. Advancing power was unimportant in comparison to preserving life. In fact, advancement was inconsequential. However, preserving one's life was crucial!

The Young Master had enough assurance regarding that matter. But, he had still spoken those words because he wanted Solitary Falcon to know that they couldn't fail in this matter.

They couldn't afford to fail!

Only success was allowed; failure wasn't.

Solitary Falcon facial expression suddenly became solemn. He then assumed a rare and dignified mannerism as he replied in a heavy tone, "Don't worry!" However, he then frowned and said, "But, I can't do this on my own. I'll require several medicines for assistance. And, those medicines are..."

Jun Mo Xie turned his palm and rubbed them together, and three kinds of medicines came out.

Moreover, they were three wondrous medicines.

Heavenly Star Grass;

Tri-Colored Mushroom;

And, Nine Xuan Root!

Three kinds of special medicines were required to fuse the Xuan core. And, not one was missing; each one of them was available. Moreover, each of them was twice the usual quality, and far surpassed the usual standard.

Solitary Falcon exclaimed when he saw this. Then, he carefully inspected them and said, "You possess the greatest ability, you brat! There won't be any problems since you've already prepared these!"

Jun Zhan Tian had just realized that Jun Mo Xie was going to use the peal level-nine Xuan Core to force his advancement. However, he couldn't help but be annoyed, "Mo Xie, your grandfather is very old! So, what's the point of using such a great thing on me? Don't waste this extremely treasured gift! Don't waste this excellent opportunity! Moreover, you'll also be wasting the great Xuan strength of Solitary Falcon. Advance your Third Uncle's cultivation if you wish to use this on someone! That would be great for the Jun Family. In fact, it would be much better! But, using this on me is a huge waste!"

Jun Mo Xie smiled slightly. His eyes had filled with a profound emotion as he slowly said, "Grandfather's words are wrong. It's urgent to use this thing only because Grandfather is so old. A person's age is of consequence. An average person can live for about sixty to eighty years as long as there's no accident. A Xuan expert can live to an average of hundred years, and a Sky Xuan peak expert will live from hundred-fifty years to two-hundred years. However, this is only true as long as the individual hasn't met with any serious accidents...

The Young Master then sighed and continued, "But, Grandfather has been fighting since his youth, and has been on military campaigns his entire life. So, I believe that you have suffered many major and minor injuries. Your body has been damaged over this long period of time. And, the same can be said for your meridians as well. You are in a pure Xuan environment at the moment. So, there shouldn't be a problem with your health. But, your injuries could burst forth if you were to get involved in a violent fight... or were to suffer from a sudden illness. And, your health's situation would become hopeless if that were to happen. But, your life-span will increase by a hundred years if you use this Xuan Core. Moreover, it will nurse your health, and your physical condition will also be brought to its optimum state."

Jun Mo Xie smiled and continued, "Third Uncle and I have other means. And, they are more effective. So, don't worry about us."

Jun Zhan Tian stroked his beard as he pondered in silence. However, he still seemed unwilling to assent. After all, he had the mindset of an old man — he hated using the good things he had procured over his lifespan. Instead, he wished that those good things would be used by his descendants when they'd need them. In fact, he would be satisfied even if he got nothing of what he had earned. He'd be very satisfied indeed...

Such was the old-man-like Jun Zhan Tian currently harbored.

Jun Mo Xie saw that the old man was still hesitant. So, he hurriedly spoke-up, "I will destroy this thing if you don't agree to use it. This is a great thing, but it can stir up a lot of trouble. Moreover, Third Uncle and I won't be using it anyway. Grandfather... you must know that you're the martial backbone of this family. In fact, you're the most important individual if the overall situation is taken into account!"

Jun Zhan Tian had no choice but to agree since Jun Mo Xie had put such a condition. However, he still tried to confirm whether Jun Mo Xie and Jun Wu Yi had any other means. After all, he needed the assurance.

Jun Mo Xie couldn't say much in front of Solitary Falcon. Some things anyway couldn't be spoken out loud. However, it took a lot of brains to dodge the old man's interrogative questions. So much so that it made his back sweat...

Jun Mo Xie was someone who wouldn't even blink if he saw the whole world being slaughtered. However, he had a very tough time in convincing this one man...

Jun Mo Xie hurriedly got busy in grinding the Heavenly Star Grass into pieces the moment Grandfather Jun eventually agreed. After all, he was afraid that the nightmare-ish interrogation would start again. He then pasted the mashed Heavenly Star Grass on the Xuan Core's surface. This gave rise to a flash of red light. And, the violently fluctuating force of the Xuan Core suddenly stabilized. In fact, it had suddenly become reserved, and had started to resemble an obedient and cultured child.

However, Jun Mo Xie couldn't even sigh due to the paucity of time. He quickly turned towards Solitary Falcon, and made a gesture. Solitary Falcon understood the tactic gesture, and went behind Jun Zhan Tian. He then placed one of his palms at the back of Jun Zhan Tian's head, while the other was positioned at the middle of his back. Jun Zhan Tian sat down crossed-legged as this happened, and solemnly closed his eyes.

The bitter and fragrant scent of the Tri-Colored Mushroom filled the air soon after. Jun Mo Xie initiated the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune, and the Tri-Colored Mushroom's efficacy started to seep into the Xuan Core; he didn't waste any of it in the process. Suddenly, that pitch-black darkness of the Xuan Core was replaced by the brightness of a rising sun. In fact, it was so bright that it was painful to even look at it...

This dazzling bright light might be difficult to look at. However, anyone under its glare would feel a sense of great peace of mind.

Jun Mo Xie didn't miss a beat, and started to make the Art of Unlocking the Heaven's Fortune work faster. The Xuan Core became bright again, and flickered violently. Then, a bright river of yellow suddenly shot out of the Xuan Core with a sweet and fragrant smell. And, it went right into Jun Zhan Tian's mouth.

The last remaining thing in the Young Master's hand — the Nine Xuan Root — suddenly turned into a thick stream of a sky blue liquid at this time, and shot into the air. It then entered the old man's mouth as well. The timing was precise; it wasn't even a moment off target!

Solitary Falcon also unleashed his great aura as this happened. And, it also flowed into Jun Zhan Tian's meridians in a continuous stream...

Jun Mo Xie finally relaxed and breathed a sigh of relief.

[Everything is going well now! In fact, this can be called half-a-success already!] Whether it was the Heavenly Star Grass or the Tri-Colored Mushroom — Jun Mo Xie had chosen the best. And, he had employed an even better portion of the Nine Xuan Root...

[There is no doubt about grandfather's advancement owing to the harmonious mixture of the three herbs and the addition of Solitary Falcon's great strength!]

Jun Mo Xie used his spirit sense to check out the surroundings. After all, this was a critical moment. And, even a little bit of disturbance could be devastating for the man advancing to the Spirit Xuan Realm. In fact, even the Great Master could suffer harm if something bad happened! Therefore, he couldn't be careless by any means.

In fact, Jun Mo Xie was very surprised when Solitary Falcon had agreed to help. He genuinely hadn't expected the Great Master to agree so readily. After all, how could a man with Solitary Falcon's experience not understand the degree of danger in this process?

Any failure in this advancement process could lead to a calamity!

In fact, there could be a threat to both of them even if a three-year-old child were to start crying at this moment. The two of them could even spiral into a devil's bite!

Jun Mo Xie had expected that he would have to spend some serious effort in talking the Great Master into it. In fact, he had even considered the various conditions the Great Master might put forth. However, he didn't need to go to those lengths in the end. Thus, it seemed that even the vilest of hearts could develop a sentiment of attachment if they were given enough time to bond. And, even a Great Master was no exception to it.

Everything was quiet outside the tower; there was no trace of movement.

It seemed that everything was safe and sound for this process. So, Jun Mo Xie finally breathed a sigh of relief...

However, Jun Mo Xie suddenly felt that he was forgetting something. But, he couldn't seem to recall what it was even though he tried hard. So, he couldn't help but pay rapt attention to the details as he calmly pondered if he hadn't been overlooking something... or had forgetting something.

A thick white mist emerged from Jun Zhan Tian. It then gradually enveloped Solitary Falcon as well...

Jun Mo Xie couldn't help but recall the pure aura of the Hong Jun Pagoda as he witnessed this scene. Then, he recalled that strange white mist he had seen inside the Tian Fa Forest. He sighed; [this world is truly strange and very big.]

Suddenly, something flashed brightly inside the Young Master's mind, and he suddenly remembered what he had forgotten.

[Mei Xue Yan! Mei Qian Qian!]

[These two women had come to the city with us. And, I clearly remember seeing them with Guan Qing Han in the carriage when I was entering the city. But, how could they disappear so suddenly and incomprehensibly?]

[When did they leave the carriage? And, when did they disappear?]

Jun Mo Xie gasped and frowned.

[There was a lot of chaos at that time. But, I'm used to dealing with such situations. My eyes look at all the roads, and my ears hear everything! They were behind me, and shouldn't have been able to conceal escaping the carriage from me. But, I still didn't notice when they disappeared!]

Moreover, the appearance of such a beautiful girl ought to have caused a sensation in the crowd. But, Jun Mo Xie clearly recalled that he hadn't seen an astonished expression in the eyes of anyone at that time...

This meant that no one had caught a glimpse of them!

[But, how could they disappear like that? I had used every method to check those two out, and I hadn't found anything odd with them! Can it be that these two women are so talented that even I can't see it? Do they have such strength that they could stealthily escape from under my nose? What kind of strength would someone need to pull that off?]

[How frightening must they be?!]

[Those two women may have been more than they had seemed. In fact, they may even have been stronger than me. But, they couldn't have been absolutely unreachable, right? Moreover, they couldn't have surpassed the level of a Great Master? That would be utter nonsense!]

[But then... how do I explain this incident if that's not the case?]

Jun Mo Xie frowned as an alarm sounded inside his head. He replayed every interaction with them in his mind — right from the time he had first met them... and, to the time they had entered the Tian Xiang City.

He carefully went over every tiny movement, and every little expression those two women had made. And, he was finally able to find to suspicious things. First — the green-clothed girl's appearance had undergone a slight change over the course of that one month's journey. This slight change was only related to a margin variation in the thickness of her eyebrows. However, Jun Mo Xie had been able to spot it nonetheless.

[The green-clothed girl had changed her appearance. This is confirmed; there's no doubt about it. But, why did she change her appearance? It certainly wouldn't have made a difference when it comes to being inside an army camp. Could she be afraid of being recognized? But, this means that I have seen her before!]

[So, who is she?]

[That Mei Xue Yan hadn't changed her appearance. That's obvious too. Moreover, her preconceived notions about me were also obvious. And, she had continuously caused me trouble throughout the journey. That is also something I must consider. But, had I offended her in the past?]

[But, she hadn't altered her appearance, and I haven't seen her before. So, when did I offend her...?]

[Besides, I would have never forgotten such an exceptional beauty if I had seen her before!]

[Moreover, they were having a confrontation with the Silver City's team when we met them!]

Jun Mo Xie gave a long sigh; [these two women obviously aren't normal.] Jun Mo Xie thought it over and over, but he couldn't figure out who those women were.

Then, another doubt emerged in his mind. [The green-clothed girl must've been related to the Snake King in some manner! How else could there have been so many snakes to trouble me throughout the journey? She may not be the Snake King, but she must be her sister or something! There's no mistake about this!]

[But, who was that white-clothed girl? Mei Xue Yan... I've never heard of it before. Could it be that... she's related to that Lady Yue'er from the Spirit Fog Lake?]

Then, Jun Mo Xie suddenly came up with a strange thought; [I fear that I will have many entanglements with those two ladies in the future.]

[It could possibly be troublesome...]

Then, there was the aspect of his luck with women. Jun Mo Xie knew that he looked handsome. But, he wasn't narcissistic enough to think any woman would fall in love with him at first sight...

[Everything is inextricable... I can't find the slightest of clues. This is very irritating...] Jun Mo Xie sighed.

"What are you sighing over, you brat?" a voice echoed from somewhere.

Jun Mo Xie opened his eyes to see a shining Jun Zhan Tian standing in front of him. However, Grandfather Jun was giving him a look of concern at the moment. So, Jun Mo Xie asked in a pleasant manner, "How do you feel, Grandfather? Have you made your breakthrough?"

"Breakthrough...? Isn't this a breakthrough?" Old Man Jun puffed his beard as he laughed heartily, "This is a huge breakthrough! I'd never even dreamed of such a big one in my life!"

"It indeed is! Mr. Jun's progress is genuinely unbelievable!" Solitary Falcon had done his best. His tone carried traces of exhaustion in it. However, his tone also had hints of admiration and envy...

"Your grandfather nearly sucked my energy dry in the last stage..." The Great Master smiled bitterly, "And, that Xuan Core's strength is amazing. In fact, such a huge progress has been rarely seen from time immemorial! Such a huge progress in such a short time..." Solitary Falcon smiled in agony before he continued, "I've only practiced my entire life. But, I feel kind of stupid after witnessing such a tremendous result..."

"The advancement is huge, right?" Jun Mo Xie asked in ecstasy.

"It's far from huge!" Jun Zhan Tian laughed happily. Then, he spoke-up with a merry smile, "I was at Sky Xuan peak before the breakthrough — right at the edge of the breakthrough to enter the Spirit Xuan

Realm! But, I've succeeded in reaching the Spirit Xuan Realm because of the Xuan Core and Solitary Falcon's strength!"

"Your grandfather broke through the strong barrier above the peak of Sky Xuan right after he absorbed the strength from the Xuan Core. And, he reached straight to the second level of the Spirit Xuan Realm!" Solitary Falcon sighed, "But, it doesn't end with that. The effect of that Xuan Core had slowed down by this point. However, the three medicines' power surged ferociously at this stage, and revitalized the Xuan Core's potency. This pushed things forward again. Their power then gushed through his meridians, and nearly killed us! I somehow managed to protect your grandfather's meridians. Then, I suddenly realized that... that your grandfather is one lucky old man! He luckily broke through to level three, and settled there!"

"Are you saying that my grandfather is at level three of the Spirit Xuan realm? So, he's only slightly underneath that Xiao Bu Yu?" Jun Mo Xie clapped his hands in excitement as he laughed, "The result is nearly the same as I had expected. I had thought that he would reach the second level of Spirit Xuan. But, it has gone one level beyond that!"

"What one level beyond that...?! The second level of Spirit Xuan also has three levels — basic, middle, and peak. The third level of the Spirit Xuan Realm comes after these three sub-levels. And, he has gone straight to level three Spirit Xuan's first level! In fact, your grandfather is at the peak of the first sub-level of the Spirit Xuan's third level! Damn it! He's truly very lucky..." Solitary Falcon waved his sleeves with a 'whooshing' sound. He felt very uneasy and tired, "I'm going to sleep! I don't want to stay around you stupidly happy grandfather-grandson duo!"

Jun Zhan Tian laughed heartily as he raised his clasped hands, "Thanks so much for your great help, Senior Falcon! I can't thank you enough! My entire family can't thank you enough!"

Solitary Falcon smiled and floated away.