

## E Monarch 66

### Chapter 66

Grandfather Tang's face was sullen as he stood before the main door, his eyes flashing with a faint trace of hope. He finally found a trace of something, which may or may not be a clue. However, Grandfather Tang could no longer wait. Sending forth his forces in the day would cause too much of a ruckus, but now that night had fallen; he had assembled all of Tang Family's experts!

Two hundred and forty six men!

Two mid-stage Earth Xuan ranked experts, four Jade levelled Xuan experts, twelve Gold level, thirty-six Silver level, with the rest at the pinnacle stage of Ninth level Xuan Qi cultivation. For this time's movement, Grandfather Tang Wanli had assembled the Tang Family's forces from inside the city and out!

Within the short time span of one afternoon, Grandfather Tang had mobilized these men, who were the strongest within the Tang Family. These were the foundations of the Tang Family!

No mistakes were allowed in this operation!

"For today's operation, the objective is the Northern City Clan!" Tang Wanli addressed everyone present with a sullen face. "Keep in mind that no one from Northern City Clan should be allowed to escape, especially those with the position of Hall Master or higher! Do not kill, do not be rash, capture them all! Understood?"

"Understood!" The crowd answered in unison. They do not know the reason for going against the Northern City Clan, they also felt that this level of mobilization to deal with a mere Northern City Clan was somewhat of an overkill, but seeing the grim expression on Tang Wanli's face, none of them dared say anything!

"Today's operation will be directed by this senior, if any of you were to let slip a member of Northern City Clan, then just send your head to see me!" Grandfather Tang gave out a strict command, then slowly scanned everyone present. Seeing everyone became more alert, he waved his hand. "Move out!"

Two hundred and forty six men in black garbs silently headed out the door. Grandfather Tang's cloak billowed in the night wind as he strode towards the door. Although he was old, he was still robust; his every step exuded intensity and signified his indomitable determination towards tonight's operation.

"Wait! ... I will go as well," Following the voice, a figure in black rushed out from the inner courtyard. This figure was wrapped in black cloth and resembled a human shaped black meatball. Even though Tang Yuan do not have the required body shape for 'nocturnal' activities, he still wanted to join in the fun. However, due to his body shape being overly 'that', he finally decided to simply wrap himself in black cloth before rushing out.

"Roll back to your room!" Watching the human dumpling rolling towards him, Grandfather Tang became furious. He performed a flying kick, which resulted in the four hundred over jin (241 kg) body of Tang Yuan to shoot back from the courtyard into the room, breaking the door of the room in the process. With a tearing sound, the black cloth tore open, revealing white buttocks and thighs. His round stomach resting upon the ground, his hands and legs were hanging in the air; just like a tortoise that had fallen upside down, he waved his limbs in the air several times with nothing to leverage himself off the ground. After rolling over twice, he finally managed to stand up by grabbing the door. He looked out with a disheartened expression, the courtyard was black and empty, not a soul in sight...

...

A grand residence in the middle of the dark night. Within the residence was the leadership of the Northern City Clan.

Grandfather Tang's beard fluttered about as he arranged his men. Over a hundred high level experts were arranged here, causing the huge residence to become filled. Everyone remained breathless as they waited quietly for Grandfather Tang to issue his command.

As for the other hundred men, Grandfather Tang had them separated into four groups, each assigned to cover the four doorways of the Northern City Clan, their subordinates, the casinos, brothels and all other places that were connected to the Northern City Clan, even the houses of all the leadership of Northern City Clan!

Grandfather Tang intended to sweep them all up from the outside to the inside, leaving not a single one! The leadership of Northern City Clan would be left for the last! With over a hundred high level experts surrounding the residence, the people inside were completely trapped with no hope of escape.

Anyone who came out would be captured!

In addition, he could utilize this type of 'blunt knife' attack to probe the attitude of Northern City Clan. If Northern City Clan remained passive, placing themselves at his mercy, that would mean that Northern City Clan had nothing to do with the Tang Residence's theft case. Even if there were some connection, it would likely be a trivial one. However, if Northern City Clan were to fight back desperately to the point of death in order to break out, Grandfather Tang believed that would signify him catching a big fish.

Even now, Grandfather Tang felt doubtful towards this information provided by Tang Yuan. It would be more accurate to say he was very sceptical towards it: A clue found by the renowned debauchees, Jun Moxie and Tang Yuan... no matter how I look at it, the credibility is simply too low! If I were to say it out, who would believe it?

Alas, I can only blame myself for getting too carried away. After all, I am simply too desperate right now! I will just consider this an act of helping the common people get rid of some scourge. However, if I were to find out that this matter is a trick from those two debauchees trying to settle their personal scores... Even if Jun Zhantian tries to stop me, this senior will capture both Jun Moxie and Tang Yuan and give them a good beating. I will beat Jun Moxie until he becomes fat and beat Tang Yuan until he becomes thin! Let their body shape change, heng!

Grandfather Tang's face was a mask of volatility as he gritted his teeth.

Watching the alley before him, he saw sacks of tied up captives increasing one by one like dumplings. Grandfather Tang let out a sigh, having made up his mind to return home and give those two debauchees a good lesson: Those two debauchees have grown too daring. It had been half a long hour since this residence was surrounded. All the people coming out of this place were caught one after another, their inner qi sealed, their limbs tied up, their mouths stuffed and were piled up here. The number of men caught had become quite significant and should have caused some sort of response. However, there were still no response from them. Thus, Grandfather Tang believed that Northern City Clan had nothing to do with the theft of the Xuan Core.

That actually made sense; after all what can this Northern City Clan amount to? Could they have the guts to disturb the tiger whiskers of my Tang Family?

Silhouettes appeared from all directions as the experts from the Tang Family all returned one after another, their hands carrying a few people, all of them captured and bundled. The raid against the outer side of Northern City Clan had concluded!

Grandfather Tang was greatly disappointed, his face twitching, his heart cursing: Tang Yuan! Jun Moxie! This senior will never forgive you two bastards! You dared to come together to trick me into acting as your pawn? This senior swear that...

Grandfather Tang did not have the time to consider what it was he intended to do because at this moment, countless dark figures leaped out from within the residential walls of the Northern City Clan. Each of them wielded projectiles which they let loose, creating a rain of projectiles to descend upon the experts from the Tang Family's ambush team. At the same time, a shout was heard from within and people started charging out from the main door, back door and side door, akin to an exploding grenade!

They dared to wage war without declaring their intent and did not even show any desire to negotiate things with Grandfather Tang! In addition, all of them were desperately trying to run away, as though resenting the fact that their parents only gave them two legs.

What does this mean?

Holy crap! The reaction turned out to be so intense! Was there any difference between their current actions with those of rebels? Grandfather Tang stared with bulging eyes, his eyes almost popping out. This sudden change in scenario caused Grandfather Tang's mind to lag for a bit. After a while, he fiercely slapped his own thigh. The pain caused him to exhale, his heart bursting with excitement: A show is coming!

Several shouts were heard from the members of the Tang Family's ambushing team. The change happened too quickly, in addition to the fact that there were differences in their level of strength caused no small number of them to be hit by the projectiles. The injuries caused by this sudden attack were not light. The remaining men separated and charged towards the members of Northern City Clan that were rushing out. The sounds of swords clashing could be heard as the distance between both sides closed. The brilliant colours of purple, black, silver and gold flashed out upon the entire area, painting a breath taking view for the moment.

The interval of time between the moment Northern City Clan members threw out the projectiles until the moment they rushed out to fight was very short. It could be said to have occurred simultaneously.

## Chapter 67 A Lucky Hit

Grandfather Tang's eyes bulged out in surprise, his face, which had been a mask of gloominess, had now turn into one of excitement, and his hands trembled agitatedly. Both his eyes glinted as Grandfather Tang who had been a calm person for nearly half his life burst out: Oh, my God! There is actually a connection between them! In fact, this might be the jackpot!

Screw that son of a bitch! How could I have guessed that Tang Yuan could actually make a contribution this time around? Who was the one who said that a blind cat could not bump into a dead rat? This senior will have to properly reward him when I return later! After thinking such, Grandfather Tang's face suddenly became awkward. He glanced around, just like a thief that had committed a crime: Uh, I should not have called Tang Yuan a son of a bitch, that is my daughter-in-law...

Northern City Clan's reaction made it clear that it has a connection with the Tang Family's theft case. Otherwise, would a mere Northern City Clan dare to fight against a Duke of the kingdom and the family of the Minister of State Revenue? This family is a first grade family in Tianxiang Kingdom! For them to offend such a family was akin to a cat licking the tiger's nose, a standard example of one trying to court death!

Seeing the members of Northern City Clan who rushed out getting thrown to the ground and tied up before being tossed over to his side, Grandfather Tang coughed a few times, his arms straight. His gaze were similar to a falcon, his face as clear as water, his beard fluttering, an image of immovable might. He exuded an aura of seriousness as he dispatched his men to eliminate a source of calamity for the people.

"Peng!" A member of the Northern City Clan was beaten up into the air. Before he could do anything, a rope shot out to encircle his waist. It continued to fasten around him a few times until he became a big 'dumpling' and fell to the ground. The person was then greeted with a fist to the face and his teeth fell out as a result. Before he could scream out, a smelly mass of red cloth was stuffed into his mouth. Then, he was picked up and thrown some several zhangs(3.04 m) away. The entire process was conducted in a smooth manner. When the person fell down, he realized that he was not alone and that everyone around him were acquaintances...

"Peng!" Another one!

“Peng!”

The two hundred and forty plus experts of the Tang Family slowly advanced from the outside into the inner area, not letting a single member escape, keeping a careful eye over every detail.

Three Gold levelled Xuan Qi experts were surrounding the Northern City Clan Leader Qin Hu. No matter which direction he took, no matter how much he tried to fight, no matter how hard he tried to run, he was unable to escape; his face was filled with despair. Not far away, an Earth ranked expert stood by, watching with his hands behind his back. Qin Hu was unable to escape or retreat, he could not even kill himself! If not for the fact that the three of them were aiming to capture him alive, he would have been sent off to the Yellow Springs a long time ago. Qin Hu felt himself going crazy!

As all the areas were swept clean, the experts from the Tang Family began to gather here. Some of them rushed into the residential yard and started searching meticulously, not missing out on even the smallest detail. If they suspect that a place was hiding a secret passage, they would dig three feet down to verify their suspicion.

After a while, a sound rang out. “Found it!” Grandfather Tang’s face became joyful as he moved forward into the courtyard. Inside, he saw the experts from the Tang Residence dragging out several people. It was none other than Qin Hu’s son, Qin Xiaobao and several gorgeously dressed women. Qin Hu had placed them within the clan’s most secretive hidden chamber. He thought that if his attempt to break out were to fail, then at least he could keep his son safe. Unexpectedly, the men from the Tang Family would be so professional and the hidden chamber that was located one zhang below ground with a highly secretive exit location was found.

Watching his son being captured, Qin Hu despaired and totally lost the courage to resist. If not for fear that Qin Hu would disregard his life and fight to the bitter end, the three men would have captured him by now! As of now, he had lost the will to fight. The three Gold level experts moved forward simultaneously. “Pa! Pa!” Qin Hu’s body fell, like a piece of soft mud. Control over his body and authority over his own life and death no longer belonged to him.

A complete victory!

Grandfather Tang slowly walked before Qin Hu. Glancing down at Qin Hu’s depressed face, he waved his hands. The surrounding men all retreated to the side, leaving an empty space in the middle of the land.

“Where is the item?” Grandfather Tang asked in a low voice, his gaze keeping a close watch on Qin Hu’s eyes. He went straight to the point, not letting Qin Hu have any chance of denying!

This question from him was one that could create a false impression for Qin Hu: I already know that you are the one who stole the Xuan Core! I have already obtained undeniable proof towards this matter! All that is lacking now is your cooperation. As long as Qin Hu was involved in the theft of the Xuan Core, hearing such a question while being rendered prisoner would lead to a ninety per cent chance of causing his mind to collapse!

Sure enough, Qin Hu’s mouth gaped as he became tongue tied, a look of complete despair escaping from his eyes! Grandfather Tang who had been keeping a close eye on Qin Hu’s reaction became ecstatic, the suspense he felt in his heart finally abated.

It truly is a jackpot! Tang Yuan oh Tang Yuan, this grandson had finally managed to accomplish something! In addition, this is a great accomplishment, looks like there could be some hope for him! Wait, this matter seemed to have been brought up by that Jun Family’s debauchee, Jun Moxie. Grandfather Tang suddenly had another thought: It seems having a bunch of debauchees together is not necessarily a bad thing. At least they had proven useful at the most critical of moments. Back then, didn’t everyone constantly say that I am just a debauchee? But, right now...

Realizing that his thought process had started going off the tangent, Grandfather Tang collected himself. In his heart, he decided that regardless of whether he could find the Xuan Core today, his Tang Family now owed the Jun Family a great favour! It seemed that he will have to improve their relationship with the Jun Family...

“I... I do not know anything about the Xuan Core, Tang... Boss, why would you suddenly do this to us? I...” Qin Hu answered in a fluster, his eyes flashing, hoping that he could get lucky.

“You little brat sure can talk, when did this senior ask anything about a Xuan Core? Hehe... It is all right if you do not know. I will let you remember soon enough,” Grandfather Tang laughed out in a compassionate manner as he waved his hand. An expert from the Tang Family came forth carrying Qin Xiaobao’s body. Throwing Qin Xiaobao on the floor, he turned around and left.

“Qin Hu, I hear that this is your only son. I promise you, as long as you tell me everything, no matter what happens to the Northern City Clan, your son will not be harmed. I will protect this last remaining

heir of your Qin Family and ensure that no harm befalls him,” Grandfather Tang Wanli laughed affably, giving off a very amiable attitude. “Naturally, if you are still unable to remember anything at all, I believe you will have to witness your own son’s suffering soon. But, when that happens, everyone would not have a pleasant ending. You understand what I am saying, don’t you?”

“Father, save me...” Qin Xiaobao cried out miserably. This year had proven to be a very disastrous one for him. Back then, he had chanced upon a beauty in the streets and only spouted out a few flirtatious remarks. But in return, he was captured, his dantian broken and his xuan qi cultivation destroyed. After his body was better and he could finally move again, he went to a wine shop only to have a snot smack him on his face. Back then, he only let out a few curses but was rewarded with a beating and even had his leg broken. After having cried his way back home, he thought he would finally be able to start nursing his injuries. Unexpectedly, something like this happened instead. He was carried out and thrown on the ground despite his broken legs. Qin Xiaobao was currently drowning in a whirlpool of fear, nervousness and pain, sinking deeper into a pit of sorrow...

Grandfather Tang slowly extended his hand, his withered hands gently stroked Qin Xiaobao’s neck, just like how one would try to placate a frightened little puppy. However, everyone knew that if Qin Hu’s answer could not satisfy Grandfather Tang, those withered hands would transform into the token of command from the King of Hell!

Qin Hu suddenly let out a sigh and lowered his head. “You win.” Grandfather Tang smiled proudly and replied. “Qin Hu, you are truly worthy of being a Clan Leader. You understand how to grasp the situation properly, not bad.”

The sarcastic comment stabbed deep into Qin Hu, his face turning red. This humiliation caused his face to turn extremely ugly. After mumbling to himself for a bit, he finally said. “I believe that Senior Duke already understand that this matter was done under someone else’s orders. Otherwise, even if I had a sky piercing courage, I would never dare to steal something from the Tang Residence. That would be no different from courting death. Even if we wish to do so, we do not have the capital to... we really could not.”

## Chapter 68

Grandfather Tang is a veteran in the matters of the world. Considering the strength of Qin Hu’s Northern City Clan, there was no way he would have dared to act presumptuously against a great power like his Tang Family. At this moment in time, it was also highly unlikely for him to say any form of lies that would erode the trust he needed to gain from them. But if what he said was true, then there was a deeper layer of unknown factors within all this.



Grandfather Tang's reaction caused Qin Hu to feel that Grandfather Tang had chosen to trust him. He felt hope blooming within him. Even if he could not be spared, at least his son would have the chance to live on. He continued. "I do not know the origin of the person who instructed me. What I know is that this person has eyes and ears everywhere. The layout of Senior Duke's residence, the hidden location of the treasure; every aspect of the plan including the timing of our movement was decided by that person. I believe that the person in question must be one of the capital's..." Having said that, Qin Hu's eyes suddenly widened, a look of horror appeared in his eyes as he shouted out in fear. "Senior Duke, please save me!"

At this moment, a sharp sound suddenly rang out and a great yellow radiance rose forth; a great pressure converged upon them from all directions. It was as though the skies were suddenly filled with several small suns as an earthly yellow light completely illuminated the night skies!

Earth ranked Xuan Qi experts!

Three lithe figures descended like lightning, charging towards Grandfather Tang from three directions. Every one of them were masked and wearing black garbs, revealing only their yellow coloured eyes.

The experts from the Tang Family all cried out in surprise, all of them rushed forward without a care for their own lives. Unfortunately, with their limited level of strength, they were unable to stop the Earth ranked Xuan experts!

Grandfather Tang sneered and shouted. "Which rat dares!" With his white beard fluttering about, his entire body emitted an even heavier glow of earthen yellow light and he walked forward, keeping Qin Hu protected behind him.

The opposing faction's intention was obviously to silence the witness! But Qin Hu was currently the only clue that Grandfather Tang has in his quest to recover the Xuan Core. How could he allow them to succeed? No matter what, he must stop them and preserve Qin Hu's life.

Only with Qin Hu alive could he have any chance of finding out who was behind the theft; if he could find out who was behind the theft, he could recover the Xuan Core! Only by recovering the Xuan Core could his Tang Family build a foundation to preserve the Tang Family for the next hundred years!

Grandfather Tang's eyes have turned red.

“Hong! Hong! Hong!” Tang Wanli charged forward alone, blocking all three attacks by those experts who were cooperating. He attacked without defending, just like an insane tiger!

For these men, killing a mere Qin Hu was not a problem. However, if they were to kill Grandfather Tang, that would be an act of declaring war with the entire Tianxiang Kingdom! This type of consequence was not something that any ordinary person could casually accept! Thus, Grandfather Tang had nothing to fear! For one moment, he was able to hold back three Earth Xuan ranked experts who were at the same stage!

The four of them came together, circling one another as they attacked. Everyone in the yard became unsettled as the dust rose around the four of them. The other two Earth Xuan experts from the Tang Family immediately joined in the fray to support the House Master. These six men exchanged killing blows while those below Earth Xuan were simply unable to interfere in the fight.

“Bring Qin Hu to safety first!” Grandfather Tang shouted out.

It was at this moment that a pale blue light shone out and a masked man in white suddenly appeared. In the darkness of the night, his contrasting white clothes made him particularly conspicuous. His demeanour was casual, as though he was simply taking a stroll, but his speed was quick to the extreme. The blue light flashed out and four wretched cries sounded out in unison. Four of the Hall Masters of Northern City Clan had their heads burst open, their bodies then falling down onto the ground!

Beginner stage Sky Xuan! A Sky Xuan expert!

The two hundred experts from the Tang Family swarmed around him, forming a heavy defensive line. However, it was completely disregarded by this man who simply moved forward as though he was unhindered. His body floated three zhangs (9.12m) up in the air. With a flash of blue light, Qin Xiaobao who was lying on the ground could only cry out once as the area between his chest and abdomen was smashed to pulp!

Grandfather Tang Wanli howled out. He turned and charged towards the man in white. The man in white looked at the incoming Grandfather Tang, his eyes which were filled with contempt flashed with a dazzling blue light. His palm shot out to greet Grandfather Tang’s attack, causing Grandfather Tang to retreat several paces. Grandfather Tang gave out a “heng”, his beard trembling. The man in white swirled in the air as he moved forth, repelling all the experts from the Tang Residence by simply using

the domineering might of his xuan qi. Without looking to his back, he suddenly delivered a backhand strike.

The one behind him was none other than Qin Hu!

Qin Hu sprayed out mouthful of blood, hissing and crying out. "How... ruthless! Senior Duke Tang, this is the one who..." Before he could continue, he suddenly cried out miserably, his body falling softly onto the ground, not a single piece of his bones were left intact!

"Hehe..." The man in white lightly laughed before shouting in a low tone. "Let's move!" The blue light burst out, causing all the men from the Tang Residence to stagger backwards. The three Earth Xuan ranked experts moved quickly towards the wall. With a flash of yellow radiance, all three men leapt over the walls and disappeared.

The man in white however remained standing on the wall, his white robes billowing gracefully in the wind. He cupped his hands and said in a refined tone. "Senior Duke Tang, I had no choice but to offend you today. Your nobility is renowned; I hope you will not take today's incident to heart. May we meet again." He laughed out. With a flash of blue light, his body rose to the skies and the night sky regained its dark tone.

Grandfather Tang clutched his chest and coughed out a number of times. He could feel that the man in white's strength was truly impressive and had been going easy on him. Otherwise, the earlier palm would have been sufficient to deal a serious internal injury to him. Even though he realized this, Grandfather Tang could not help but tremble with fury!

Observing the corpses of Northern City Clan's Qin Hu and his son and that of the four Hall Masters' whose heads were burst open, Grandfather Tang felt his hands and feet turning cold.

A Sky Xuan expert like this should have appeared in my own family!

I am unable to accept it!

It was not easy for them to find this major clue. And yet, during the moment of success, someone suddenly appeared to cut it off. He had assembled the strongest two hundred men from the Tang

Family. However, they could only stand and watch as their witness was silenced. Grandfather Tang himself had to accept a humiliating act of mercy from the enemy!

This was simply intolerable!

Watching Grandfather Tang gasping for breath, the surrounding men from the Tang Family all lowered their heads in shame.

Suddenly, a deep, imposing yet mournful pounding sound reverberated out throughout the sky from somewhere far away! It was like the billowing waves of the horizon, the muffled sound of thunder from the edge of the world; it slowly spread out with each beat bringing an image of storm crushing and world trampling momentum!

As this sound rose out, the atmosphere throughout the world seemed to have transformed into one of grievances and bloodshed! Even the darkness of the night was no exception, as it became even heavier!

The towering sound that had appeared so suddenly did not become slower due to the passage of time. It instead became louder and louder, eventually the sound resonated out from all four directions within Tianxiang City. It had begun as a slow deep pounding before growing in intensity, again and again until it turned into a huge flood, drowning all of the world within its rampant sound!

This is the thunderous sound produced from the drums of war! A prelude to a scene of carnage and bloodbath!

This is a ground splitting, sky shocking sound! It served as the spark that would bring forth the fires of war!

Generals Summoning Drum!

After decades of silence, in this quiet night, the highest form of command from the most powerful military family in Tianxiang Kingdom had suddenly begun rumbling again!

Whenever the Generals Summoning Drum was heard, it could only result in a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood! Ten thousand cavalry and thousands of soldiers would begin rampaging, causing the demise of countless lives! It also meant that a portion of these soldiers would close their eyes forever while a small number of them would traverse the sea of blood and climb the mountain of corpses to claim a position of power!

Everywhere within the Tianxiang, countless soldiers woke up from their sleep with a start and they quickly get dressed. Within the eyes of these soldiers, a bloodthirsty flame burned brightly!

“This is Grand Marshall Jun’s Generals Summoning Drum!” One of the Earth Xuan experts from the Tang Family shouted out, causing everyone to become startled.

## Chapter 69 Raging Despair

Tang Wanli stood there in absolute shock, his eyes opened wide, his mouth gaping. This sudden sound from the drums of war had caused him to forget about the humiliation and unhappiness that was just roiling about within his heart. His entire being had only one thought: Jun Zhantian has gone mad! This old bastard! Why is he going crazy? He is going to go mad while his Jun Family is at its weakest?

“Everyone is to return to the Tang Residence immediately! Those who serve in the military are to return now and report after changing! As for the rest, without my orders no one is allowed to take even a step out of the residence!” Grandfather Tang acted decisively, giving out one order after another in succession.

Instantly, dozens of them ceremoniously saluted before turning around and running away hastily. Their movement speed had exceeded the fastest speed that they could muster.

The moment that the Generals Summoning Drum resounded, it signified that the situation had reached a highly critical point. There was no doubt that any officer who dared to show up late would end up being decapitated! The strictness of Jun Zhantian was known to all in the military. Right or wrong would be decided with a finger!

Those who violate his command, regardless of status, be they royalty, generals, children from the first-rate families, child of a phoenix or even the grandchild of a dragon, all shall be killed without exception!

The sound of horse hooves striking the ground could constantly be heard from all directions. Like the waters of a raging river, all of them surged towards the military field within the city centre. Every one's armour was distinctly clear, their faces filled with eagerness as they urged their warhorses forward!

"Duke, what do we do with the rest of them?" One of the experts from the Tang Family asked, indicating the remnants of the Northern City Clan.

"Bring them all home and question them all carefully!" Grandfather Tang knew that this would not bear any fruit, but decided to hold on to the hopes of a 'what if'.

As the warhorses galloped forth one after another, the military forces within and outside the city all gathered within their barracks in a state of urgency. The military trumpets of the barracks were blaring out at full force as every soldier maintained the highest state of readiness. They were ready for their superiors to return and accept their orders. Once their orders were received, they would all move out!

Grandpa Jun has gone mad!

These words were not false in the slightest.

By the time Princess Ling Meng sent someone to the Jun Residence, it had already been half a long hour since the assassination attempt took place. Then, Grandpa Jun was reading in his study, his old face was smiling, expressing satisfaction. His grandson had turned over a new leaf. In addition, the level of strength and perseverance that he had shown was far beyond the Young Masters of the noble families in Tianxiang City. None of them were worthy of compare!

Seeing such a hope appear at the moment when the Jun Family was slowly dying, how could Grandpa Jun not feel elated?

As he was feeling highly elated, the Housekeeper Old Pang gently knocked on his door. With a heavy face, he walked in and informed that Princess Ling Meng had sent someone to report a matter to the House Master.

Jun Zhantian immediately had the man sent in. But when he met the man, he saw that the man was covered in blood. This caused Grandpa Jun's heart to thump; seeing the man's hesitant manner of

speech and eyes that darted to the left and right, Grandpa Jun started to feel a sense of foreboding, his face turning ugly. Old Pang who was standing behind him was wearing a strange expression, causing Jun Zhantian to further feel that something was wrong...

Under the constant pressure of questioning, the bodyguard finally said. "The Third Young Master Jun's corpse had disappeared..."

It was a simple and short sentence! But for Jun Zhantian, it was like the booming sound of ten thousand thunders from the Nine Heavens roaring out in unison! His body trembled a few times, his face turned pale and the atmosphere around him turned silent in an instant!

Old Pang was surprised, but thankfully he was prepared. He immediately pinched and slapped Grandpa Jun on his chest, allowing Grandpa Jun to recollect himself. The bodyguard trembled as he knelt on the floor, not daring to move in the slightest. Everyone knew how important the debauchee, Jun Moxie was in Grandpa Jun's heart. Any mistake in dealing with him would end up inviting a terrifying disaster!

After Grandpa Jun recollected himself, he coughed out some blood, his face turning greyish white, his pair of eyes turning dim and hazy. However, his mouth did not lose its strength as it asked in a deep voice. "What exactly happened? Tell me everything slowly; do not miss out on even a single detail." Even though his voice was low, the words carried a heavy feeling to it, akin to a huge mountain, pressing down with immense force.

The bodyguard had already been scared stiff, his face deathly white, he slowly described the details of what happened. As he was talking, Grandpa Jun's face turned into a scowl, not uttering anything at all. After the bodyguard finished talking, Jun Zhantian weakly waved his hands and said. "You can leave now."

The guard reacted as though he had just received amnesty and retreated while shivering. He then realized that his whole body had been soaked with his sweat!

In the study, Jun Zhantian closed his eyes and raised his head upwards, his Adam's apple rolled up and down for a bit. A tear slipped out from his wrinkled eyes...

If Jun Xie had been the same as the original Jun Moxie, an unbearable and misbehaving debauchee, Grandpa Jun would not be in such pain due to this matter. Because he had already given up on him,

even if such a tragedy had occurred, so what? The demise of the Jun Family was a foregone conclusion. For it to come earlier was no big deal.

But the problem lied in the fact that Jun Zhantian had just witnessed his own grandson's incredible transformation, he had finally seen a dazzling light, a brilliant radiance of hope! He had become excited and had begun to imagine how the Jun Family could climb back up when this unexpected news suddenly came, throwing Grandpa Jun into an abyss of despair!

Considering the situation, for Grandpa Jun to not go crazy on the spot was something that required quite the respectable amount of self-control.

Moxie had died for the sake of warning Princess Ling Meng! This was Grandpa Jun's first inference.

The assassin's goal was Princess Ling Meng and the only ones with such an outrageous amount of courage would be either the three princes or the hostile forces from the other kingdoms. However, the current position of Crown Prince remained vacant and the three princes were in the midst of competing against one another for it. Under such circumstances, the other kingdoms would not choose to make such a radical move. Thus, the most probable suspects were the three princes! This was his second inference!

Thirdly, the princess was supposed to be the main target of the assassination attempt. But Moxie had died while the princess did not! This had revealed something strange within this matter. Could it be that it was Moxie's enemies, the Li and Meng Families? Did they hire the assassins to create such a scenario? Was the assassination attempt on the princess just a camouflage for their real target? This was the third inference.

Moxie had delivered a warning but ended up dying while the princess who was the target of the assassination remained alive. This meant that although Moxie had delivered the warning for the princess, she did not send anyone to protect Moxie and had instead focused on protecting herself. Thus, Moxie had been easily killed! This was the fourth inference!

The more Jun Zhantian thought about it, the colder his face became, and the sharper his eyes shone. Eventually, it had become a ferocious visage!



Why is it that my grandson that went to deliver the warning ended up dying while that damned girl did not?

I, Jun Zhantian joined the army even before I could shave, fought through hundreds and thousands of battles! I massacred my way through millions of corpses to become a grand duke, contributing brilliant exploits for the kingdom, unparalleled within the kingdom! I, Jun Zhantian had three sons and three grandsons; two sons died fighting for the country while the youngest one was crippled for life. Of my three grandsons, two left on a war campaign only to never return. Now, my only heir died for the sake of the princess...

Is this how my family of valiant warriors would end? If such is the case, what else do I have to live for? Since it would come to an end either way, I might as well drag everyone who is trying to take down my Jun Family with me!

Jun Zhantian began to laugh, a bitter and sorrowful laughter, louder and louder, his face filled with tears. He suddenly sprang up violently, his eyes emitting sparks of lightning accompanied by a red shade of blood. Glancing coldly at the night outside the window, he turned and walked slowly to stand before the portrait of his late wife. He stood upright, gazing at it for a long while, his mouth moving as though he was about to say something but in the end chose not to. He extended his hand, stroking the air as though trying to feel something, as though he was trying to say goodbye for one last time...

Grandpa Jun narrowed his eyes slightly, as though he was trying to forcibly hold something back. He abruptly turned away and lifted his sword that had been left on the walls for a long time. His white hair flowing in a desolate manner, he strode out without looking back!

The moment he turned away, two drops of tears fell onto the ground, breaking into countless pieces!

On the portrait hanging off the wall was the image of a benevolent and motherly looking old woman, her smile remained everlasting. But her eyes seemed to reveal a sense of sadness. A wind blew into the room through the window, causing the portrait to flip back once, showing how powerless it was...

Chapter 70 Rising Thunder

The Housekeeper, Old Pang stretched out his hand and pulled a thin wire behind Jun Zhantian's chair. An ear-piercing bell sound suddenly resounded through the Jun Residence's courtyard. After that, he followed Jun Zhantian silently, his face cold and decisive.

He had already deduced what Jun Zhantian would do next, but he did not intend to stop him. Moreover, he had decided to accompany him! No complaints! No regrets!

Downstairs, a wheelchair was resting quietly. Jun Wuyi was seated upright upon it; his pair of sword like eyebrows exuded a murderous aura, which soared through the skies. His face remained expressionless as he watched his father walk down the stairs. Their eyes revealed the same determination as they turned around without speaking.

At this point, there was no need to say anything.

Tens of dark figures rushed over from all directions, standing quietly in rows of three in the courtyard. They calmly looked at Jun Zhantian. No matter what it was that Jun Zhantian planned to do, they would follow him... until the very end!

Within the shadows, countless others appeared like ghosts, assembling and awaiting their orders. All of Jun Family's hidden forces have at this moment, been deployed without reservation...

Grandpa Jun stepped forward and said a few words in a low tone. The men within the shadows suddenly disappeared without a trace, just like blood being scattered across the skies. The whistling sound of the wind on the other hand seemed to have increased in intensity...

Jun Zhantian stood silently for a moment and inhaled deeply, taking in the fresh night air. However, he felt as though the air he inhaled was filled with a thick stench of blood, causing his heart to suffocate! Turning, he got up on a horse, his face was cold as iron, his red cape fluttering about in darkness, seemingly infused with blood.

The rest of them remained silent; each of them climbed up their horses and followed him. Jun Wuyi slapped his wheelchair with his hands and flew up into the air, landing on top of his horse. Flicking the reins, he urged his horse forward and followed them.

Moments later, Jun Zhantian was seated upon the stage of the military grounds. Outside, the sound of forty drums were slowly on the rise...

As the drums boomed out, men constantly donned their military uniforms, armours and helmets. Picking up their weapons, they galloped towards the military grounds on their horses! Once they reached the military grounds, they dismounted and stood as straight as a spear!

The number of men on the grounds increased, but none of them said a word. They all stared attentively at Jun Zhantian who was seated upon the chair of the Grand Marshall, their eyes exuded an unmatched blaze of fanaticism!

Old Marshall! It has been too long... too long since we have heard the pounding sound of this Generals Summoning Drum! The raging fires of a hundred battles... we have missed it!

The sound of drums stopped!

The many generals stood attentively on the military grounds. On both sides, dozens of banners flapped about in the wind, creating "hula" sounds, resembling that of the mournful weeping of a thousand people!

Jun Zhantian stood up, walked to the front side of the stage and asked as he gave everyone a sharp gaze. "Is anyone absent here?"

"Everyone has arrived! We are all awaiting Senior Marshall's orders!" The hundreds of them chanted simultaneously.

"Very well! Tonight, this old man will move the land and shake the skies!" Jun Zhantian's sharp eyes burst out with murderous intent.

"All captains, listen up!"

"Here!"

“Chen Zhounan!”

“Here!”

“You are to marshal your forces and hold the West Gate! Without my orders, no one is allowed to leave the city! Once a riot is discovered, send out your troops to suppress it!” Jun Zhantian placed a great emphasis on the words “no one”.

“Affirmative!”

“Jun Nianfeng!”

“Here!”

“You are in charge of the East Gate!”

“Affirmative!”

“Zhan Jitian!”

“Here!”

“North Gate!”

“Understood!”

“Chan Linyu!”

“Here!”

“South Gate!”

“The rest of you will follow me...”

A series of commands were issued. Every one of them stepped forth to accept the token of command before turning and leave. Not a single one of them asked for a reason! All of them had served under Jun Zhantian before and made up the backbone of the Jun Family’s military power. They would obediently obey any orders from Jun Zhantian without question!

Even if it meant their deaths!

This was especially true for Chen Zhounan, Zhan Jitian, Chan Linyu and Jun Nianfeng. The four of them were Grandpa Jun’s most competent great generals! They are also a group of wild, prideful iron blooded war maniacs. The only one who could give orders to them is Jun Zhantian. Regardless of right or wrong, they would execute the commands to the end! These four form the backbone of the Jun Family’s military power!

As the generals received their commands one after another, Jun Zhantian’s eyes turned colder.

Moxie, just watch as grandpa takes revenge for you! Tonight, those that were your enemies, those that are suspects, all of them must pay...

As the sound of the drums was resounding...

Within the palace, the Emperor of Tianxiang Kingdom, Yang Huaiyu woke up from his sleep with a start, and asked. “What is that sound?” His Majesty, the Emperor who is at the prime of his life and had once been plagued with many military problems felt an inexplicable sense of crisis! It felt as though a sky-shattering event was occurring.

Outside, a feminine voice replied. “Reporting to Your Majesty, it seemed to be... the sound of war drums.”

“Sound of war drums?” The Emperor frowned, but suddenly became shocked. “War drums? Generals Summoning Drum!” His face turned pale! He rolled out of bed and draped himself with only a cloak over his inner clothes before walking out of the room. He stopped and listened attentively, his face turning heavy.

Jun Zhantian!

With just a moment, the Emperor was able to deduce that this was the sound of Jun Zhantian’s war drums! Jun Zhantian’s Generals Summoning Drum was the only one within the city that could produce such a spectacular, yet tragic sound! It was also only Jun Zhantian’s war drums that could produce such an imagery of power and influence; enough to shake the entirety of Tianxiang Kingdom!

“What happened today? What do I not know?” The Emperor’s face turned sullen as he slowly asked. At the current, no matter what he chooses to do, he must maintain a state of tranquillity and not become anxious. Only by first finding out what had transpired would he understand why Jun Zhantian would drum the Generals Summoning Drum at this time! It was only after knowing all these would he be able to take the appropriate measures to resolve the problem.

“This one does not know,” The six palace attendants went on their knees, none of them able to answer the question.

“Go find out!”

“Reporting to Your Majesty, this one remembers that one long hour ago, Princess Ling Meng had requested an audience with Your Majesty. I am uncertain the reason for her request,” An eunuch stepped forward from behind the Emperor and answered in a feminine manner.

“Ling Meng? What happened to her? Ling Meng have always been well behaved. Unless something major had happened, she would not disturb me at such a late hour! Why didn’t anyone report it to me? Who was so presumptuous to the point of interfering with my matters?” The Emperor realized something out of place here.

“...” The eunuch remained silent, his eyes drifting towards the bedchambers.

“Quickly summon Ling Meng over!”

“Yes!”

“Concubine Meng! Get out here now!” The Emperor shouted out in fury. A beauty whose body was covered only in a layer of translucent cloth came out and knelt on the floor.

“Answer me, why was Ling Meng looking for me? Why did you stop her?” The Emperor’s eyes were like ice, devoid of warmth.

“The Princess... she said that someone tried to assassinate her, but I, I saw that she was not hurt and was able to talk in her usual manner, so I believed that she was only being mischievous. In addition, Your Majesty was already asleep, this concubine... dared not disturb you,” Concubine Meng answered as she trembled.

“My daughter suffered from an assassination attempt and you stopped her from meeting her father, and you had the gall to say that she was being mischievous? Hehe... You are quite the considerate concubine,” His Majesty said in a gentle voice, seemingly undisturbed by everything that had occurred. But Concubine Meng who was kneeling on the ground started trembling all over. She knew that once His Majesty used such a kind of voice to speak, it meant that someone’s head was about to roll!

The Emperor moved forward and gently whispered into her ear. “I know that someone like you would not have the guts to do something like this. However, whatever it is that your master had promised you, it would never be accomplished. I will also ensure that he fails to accomplish it!” Concubine Meng was suddenly overwhelmed with fear and stared with wide-open eyes, her body slumping onto the floor.

“Men, bring Concubine Meng away and have her sent into the Cold Palace! No one is allowed to come in contact with her!” The Emperor’s face remained calm as he declared the fate of Concubine Meng who had once stood above thousands.

“Imperial Father!” Princess Ling Meng rushed towards the Emperor; her hair was still in a bit of a mess.

“Do not be nervous, just tell me what had happened today. Come, talk to your father, make sure you tell me every detail,” The Emperor smiled kindly as he looked at his daughter, as though nothing had happened earlier; the chilling coldness within his eyes was already completely concealed.