## East Palace 661

Chapter 661: Ji Xueyan's Confession in the Asura Arena

In the city.

Some of the citizens who were still hot-blooded and wanted to protect their homes and their families, most of them were uneducated. However, when the war came and the Shang Dynasty's butcher's knife was right in front of them, they knew that there was no way back if they went out. Gritting their teeth. they bid farewell to their families. With reluctance, they took kitchen knives, hammers, and other farming tools and rushed into the streets to fight with the county constables and the army stationed in the city.

War was cruel. Every minute, every second, countless people fell. No matter how many people died, no one retreated. Even the civilians who participated in the war were the same. They shed their last drop of blood to stop the enemy from advancing.

On the city wall.

Over the past few days, Zhang Ming's cultivation had been progressing very quickly. He was at the border, fighting every day and walking on the edge of death. There was a great stimulation between life and death. Coupled with his hard work, he had advanced four levels in a row and broke through to the seventh tier of the grandmaster realm. He had mastered the Seven Blades of Breaking Void. With the support of internal strength, the hundred tempered steel blade in his hand exploded with green blade qi. Every blade made a blade sound and headed straight for Zhou Yuanba's vital points.

As the leader, Zhou Yuanba's cultivation wasn't weak. He was at Lv 8 Zongshi Realm, which was one level higher than Zhang Ming. However, he was no match for Zhang Ming. Firstly, he was born in the True Dragon Palace and had been immersed in martial arts for decades. The missions he carried out in the True Dragon Palace were even more dangerous than this. He had killed demons, monsters, beasts, or True Spirits, cultivating strong combat instincts and rich experience. Moreover, after cultivating the Boundless Vast Sea Art, his internal strength was like an endless sea. It was explosive and had ample endurance. Challenging someone who was a small realm higher was easier than eating.

The terrifying saber light was brandished in an airtight manner, enveloping Zhou Yuanba within. It had the absolute upper hand, suppressing him and chopping off his head.

In just a few minutes, Zhou Yuanba had suffered five or six wounds. Although they were not fatal, they were not light either. Blood dyed his armor red. As the blood flowed out, the speed of his inner energy circulation slowed down, and even the sword in his hand became powerless.

Seeing this, the Shang Dynasty warriors hurriedly abandoned their opponents and rushed over to help. The five of them surrounded Zhang Ming and suppressed his momentum, gaining the upper hand.

When Zhang Ming's deputy general saw this, he wanted to rush forward to help. However, his men and experts were the same. They were held back by the Shang Dynasty and could not leave. They could only watch as he was surrounded.

His eyes were spewing fire, and a strong killing intent erupted from them. If looks could kill, he would definitely cut this group of unethical beasts into pieces!

On the nameless path.

Not a single one of the Scarlet Heaven Hall's troops were riding on Divine Heavenly Dragon Horses. They were surrounded by mountain roads that were overgrown with thorns and steep paths.

The leader was a Green Angel, Xu Xing. He led 50 people and had just come from the Black Dragon Road. They were tasked to rush to Wangtian County to provide support. In the future, they would kill all the soldiers who violated the Shang Dynasty and not let a single one go!

This matter had to start from the last time they parted ways at the Fate Academy. At the invitation of Yang Hongling and Zhang Ronghua, they stayed for lunch before the three of them left.

As the Hall Master of the Hall of Fortune, Jiu Yue had received news from Jixia Learning Palace that they had created a new Righteous Qi foundational cultivation technique that could resolve the side effects of practicing Righteousness Bone-Setting. It could increase the speed of cultivation and balance power and quality. Only Princess Ming Yue had specially taken half a day to accompany her. After dinner, she returned to the Hall of Fortune to study the cultivation technique. Before she left, she had instructed him to send Princess Ming Yue back.

Riding on the Divine Heavenly Dragon Horse, he guarded Princess Ming Yue's carriage until she was on the Vermilion Bird Avenue, which was not far from the Vermilion Bird Gate. Only then did he bid farewell and leave.

He thought that after this incident, the two of them would not have any more interactions. Unexpectedly, two days later, they bumped into each other at the sea of flowers. After having a meal together, they chatted for a while.

After a round of conversation.

Even though Xu Xing was a member of the Scarlet Heaven Hall, he was knowledgeable, had extraordinary literary talent, and had elegant manners, causing Princess Ming Yue to look up to him.

The reverse was also the same.

Princess Ming Yue had a gentle and quiet personality. She was proficient in the four arts and had a rich knowledge. Her scholarly aura and royal nobility combined to form a unique temperament. She was the type that was not stunning, but the more he looked at her, the more profound she was. This left a mark in his heart.

Before they could continue their conversation, a White Angel from the Crimson Heaven Hall came over. He had a mission and was ordered to return quickly.

At this moment.

As the news from Ancient Slope Town got worse and worse, the Ministry of Works mobilized manpower and material resources to supply the Firethunder

Beads. After working overtime for a day and a night, all the Weapon Refinement 1–lalls were open. Coupled with the sufficient materials, they had already refined 30,000 Firethunder Beads.

He ordered Cao Zhao from the Scarlet Heaven Hall to lead a team and select a group of elites to ride the Kun Peng Ship to the border. They would deliver the Flamespark Pearl and destroy the invading Shang army to recapture Gu PO Town. Coincidentally, Xu Xing was also selected.

The Kun Peng Boat was a flying spiritual object, forged from the true spirit Kun Peng's skeleton and other rare and expensive materials. It was a true treasure of Grand Xia, and was priceless. It could fly, and its speed was much faster than the Divine Heavenly Dragon Horse.

When they arrived at Black Dragon Road, the battle just happened to break out. Cao Zhao couldn't leave, so he took out 10,000 Flame Thunder Beads and put them in a specially made Great Sumeru Bag. He asked him to keep them and immediately rushed to Wangtian County to support the garrison there.

The Great Sumeru Sack was specially made for transportation and logistics. Great Xia had it, and so did the Shang Dynasty.

This was the result of this scene.

Looking at the Wangtian County City that was getting closer and closer, the deafening battle cries could be heard even from far away. Xu Xing's expression changed drastically, and he was anxious in his heart.. He roared furiously: "Use secret arts and risk expending essence qi to rush over as quickly as possible!"

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He made a hand seal and used a secret technique to double his speed. He turned into a green light and rushed forward.

The other people of the Red Heaven Palace didn't hesitate to cast their secret skills and followed closely behind. This alone made them much stronger than the notorious True Dragon Palace.

A few minutes later.

Xu Xing took the lead. In a few flashes, he stepped on the city wall and rushed to Zhang Ming's side. Seeing that Zhang Ming was in a precarious situation, under the siege of Zhou Yuanba and the others, with a fatal sword wound on his chest and more than ten knife wounds, he was still holding on. Even if he died, he would drag Zhou Yuanba down with him. Xu Xing was respectful. This person was worthy of admiration!

Now was not the time to reminisce. The most important thing was to deal with the 40,000 soldiers of the Shang Dynasty. He unsheathed the Fire God Kylin Sword and used the Nirvana Swordsmanship. He poured his inner energy into the sword and the sword shook violently. A 20-foot-tall Fire Kylin phantom appeared. It stabbed out like lightning. The Fire Kylin roared and charged forward. Its long fangs tore everything in its way and killed Zhou Yuanba and his assistant.

"I'll leave this to you. I'll deal with the Shang Dynasty's army," Yi Jian said hurriedly.

Looking at these people in front of him, although they were all elites of the Scarlet Heaven Hall, what use would they be in front of a huge army?

"Just you guys?" Zhang Ming asked with hope.

Xu Xing guessed what he was thinking. Looking at the Shang army below, they were still throwing Fire Thunder Beads, heavily injuring their soldiers. Every Fire Thunder Bead that fell killed many people. Xu Xing narrowed his eyes and said," Doctor Zhang of the Ministry of Works has refined Fire Thunder Beads. One Fire Thunder Bead killed a Hou Tian realm warrior and heavily injured a Xian Tian realm warrior. I brought 10,000 Fire Thunder Beads to help. I can kill them like slaughtering dogs!"

With a tap of his foot, he left behind an afterimage and jumped down from the city wall.

He held the Great Sumeru Bag in his left hand and a handful of Flame Thunder Beads in his right hand. At a glance, there were at least a dozen of them. He didn't know how expensive rice was, nor did he know what thrift was. He threw them at the place where the crowd was the most.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Explosions sounded out one after another as more than ten Flame Thunder Beads exploded at the same time. The destructive power was terrifying. The surrounding Shang soldiers were all killed, and not a single intact corpse was left.

His feet did not stop as he continued to shuttle through the Shang army. Wherever there were more people, he would throw Flame Thunder Beads like he was frying fish, exploding a large area. Watching the enemy die, Xu Xing was very happy and also very proud. He fiercely vented his anger and secretly thought that Physician Zhang was extraordinary. The things he refined were really useful, much stronger than that bullshit Heaven Shaking Thunder.

The experts of the Shang Dynasty reacted and wanted to stop him, but their commander Zhou Yuanba had been killed. The strongest person in the army was only at the Zongshi realm. How could he be Xu Xing's match? She couldn't even touch his clothes. She followed behind him and ate the dirt. She was like a dog being walked around.

In a short 15 minutes.

Half of the Flame Thunder Pearl had been used up, and the results of the battle were also very rich. Almost 20,000 soldiers of the Shang Dynasty had been wiped out, and the remaining people were all afraid of being killed. The surviving experts roared in their hearts. Didn't the higher-ups say that Wu Yangjian, the doctor of the Ministry of Works of Great Xia, was dead? The lack of Sky Shaking Powder had forced the refinement of Sky Shaking Thunder to stop. What was going on? Were the intelligence agents hiding in the capital of the Xia Dynasty all useless?

Also, why didn't they send reinforcements when the experts from the Scarlet Heaven Hall arrived? Where were those arrogant and arrogant fellows?

The people of the Shang Dynasty did not know that the battle at the Black

Dragon Path was several times fiercer than the battle here. The experts of the Shang Dynasty who had rushed over had all gone over to help. Cao Zhao and the other experts of the Crimson Heaven Hall were also delaying the battle, so they could not spare any time to help.

It was unknown who took the lead and retreated.

Like a dam that was leaking its gates, there were still few people in the beginning. As Xu Xing killed more and more fiercely, smashing the Flame Beads like candies, more and more people joined in the escape.
On the city wall.
Zhang Ming was stunned. He thought to himself that the Flaming Thunder Bead refined by his master was really ferocious!
His eyes were burning, and his battle intent soared. He seized the opportunity to beat the defeated Shang soldiers. The Shang soldiers in the city had been dealt with. He decisively ordered," Follow me and kill!"
He jumped down from the city wall and led the remaining 10,000 soldiers to chase after the deserters of the Shang Dynasty
Beijing.
Above the dark clouds.
Zhang Ronghua and Yang Hongling sat side by side, less than a fist apart. They had been looking at each other until now. Unknowingly, it was already dawn.
Yang Hongling stretched out her jade-like hand and stroked her hair, which had been messed up by the Nine Heavens Squall. She turned her head and said," You still have to attend court tomorrow. It's time to go back."
"Are you done?"
One has to learn to be content. If you get tired of looking at beautiful things once, it'll be boring."
"You're quite open-minded." Zhang Ronghua smiled knowingly.

He controlled the black cloud to charge toward the ground. In a few breaths, he landed on the ground.
He waved his right hand and kept it.
The two of them walked side by side and headed outside.
After leaving Xixia Forest, the guard hurriedly made way for her. He placed the small stool on the ground and helped her get into the car. When she got on, he put the small stool away and jumped onto the car. He pulled the reins and turned around, driving towards Destiny Academy.
'What?" Yang Hongling raised her eyebrows. Her beautiful gem-like eyes rolled around" Are you curious about tomorrow's reward?"
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Zhang Ronghua shrugged." It's my duty. I'll do my part to help the soldiers at the border and reduce casualties. I'll do it even if there's no reward."
"Pure people like you are rare in the imperial court!"
"Some people don't deserve to be called officials. They should be called 'bureaucrats'."
"Hehe 4" Yang Hongling covered her mouth and giggled.
The carriage drove on and stopped at the entrance of the Fate Academy. Just as Ji Xueyan had guessed, after the fun, they would send Yang Hongling back first.
He got out of the carriage.



He parked the Tianji Carriage in the stable and did not return to the backyard. Instead, he stopped at the Tranquil Heart Lake. He had been playing until now and even cooked. After getting a little bit of oil smoke, he took off his clothes and jumped, hitting a huge stream of water into the lake.

After showering.

He came out of the lake, took out a set of clean clothes, put them on, and walked towards the room.

When they arrived at the backyard, they looked at the bright hall. The candlelight reflected the backs of a man and a cat on the door.

Zhang Ronghua frowned. He was puzzled. When he left with Yang Hongling, Ji Xueyan was hiding in the dark. Logically speaking, shouldn't she go back? Why was he still waiting for him? Could it be that Jixia Hall had been pressing him to come back and had been waiting for him?

It should be like this! Otherwise, other reasons would not make sense.

He walked over and deliberately made some noise so that she could hear him.

In the hall.

Two hours ago, Ji Xueyan had already taken a bath and had even dressed up again. She had spent half a day putting on her makeup in front of the bronze mirror, showing off her most beautiful appearance, not letting down her previous embarrassment.

Purple Cat licked the tea in her cup and raised her little paw to her nose. She smelled the fragrance coming from her body and her mood relaxed. She was so happy. It was so refreshing. If she had known this would happen, she would have waited at the Grand Tutor's Mansion. When she was bathing, she would rub against her and happily meow," Meow!"

Her pair of small eyes were narrowed together, and she was filled with joy from the inside out.

As time went by, Ji Xueyan's heart was in her throat. She had already made up her mind, but she was about to reveal her cards. She felt nervous and uneasy. What if Zhang Ronghua was afraid or didn't agree? If she thought about it further, what if he thought of her as a " casual woman "? Wouldn't his image completely collapse?

He was afraid of failure and wanted to give up!

The scene of him and Yang Hongling leaving in the Tianji Chariot still lingered in his mind. If he didn't seize the opportunity to lay his cards on the table, he wouldn't have the courage to do so next time.

She was worried about her gains and losses, and then her deep, beautiful eyes that were like autumn waters regained their firmness and brightness before she regained her calm.

She stretched out her slender fingers and stroked her fur. Her movements were light and gentle. It was comfortable to touch. Purple Cat felt good being stroked. She closed her eyes and enjoyed it. The few whiskers at the corner of her mouth curled up proudly.

Footsteps sounded from outside. It was a unique rhythm. One could tell who it was. A human and a cat seemed to have a telepathic connection. They looked outside at the same time and then looked at each other.

"Meow!" Purple Cat meowed.

He was saying that he was back.

However, she didn't understand.

Taking a deep breath. Ti Xuevan decided that no matter what the outcome was.

she had to have a serious talk with him. If his choice disappointed her, then she would cut off all ties and become a stranger!

Yiya!

The door was pushed open, and Zhang Ronghua walked in and closed the door.

The atmosphere was not right! It looked relaxed, but it was actually serious and solemn, as if something big was about to happen.

He looked at Ji Xueyan, who was sitting on the chair. She had changed into a completely different outfit from before. She was wearing a moon-white dress that covered her two jade arms. There was a golden and red phoenix embroidered on her chest. She was wearing a golden hairpin that fixed her hair, revealing her exquisite and delicate ears. She had a pair of golden phoenix earrings, and her eyes were adorned with rubies. He looked down and saw the glazed jade bracelet on her wrist.

She was already beautiful to begin with, but with her clothes and accessories, she was even more beautiful. Her cold and quiet temperament was vividly displayed, and her aura was powerful. She didn't even need to move deliberately. One look was enough to make people submit and not dare to look straight at her!

This was the first time she had seen him dressed like this.

He couldn't help but think of Yang Hongling. One was cold and quiet, while the other was fiery and like the sun. Their different temperaments formed a sharp contrast, but it had to be said that they were both peerless beauties.

Zhang Ronghua was stunned for a moment before he came back to his senses. He walked forward and pulled out a chair to sit down.." Have you been waiting for a long time?

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Ji Xueyan didn't speak immediately. She took the freshly brewed Eastern Sea Ten Thousand Spirit Tea and took a clean teacup from the tea tray. She poured a cup and placed it in front of him. Her deep eyes were wide and sharp. She looked straight at him." I came when you guys went out."

The beginning was to force the abdication! Zhang Ronghua didn't know how to answer.

The face in front of her was clearly very beautiful. It was not stained with dust and had been applied with rouge. It was just right. Two red lips that were as thin as cicada's wings. The lipstick was very bright. It was sexy and tempting. The crystal luster flowed, adding 30% charm.

Holding the teacup, pinching the lid, holding the tea, ripples rippled in silence.

But Ji Xueyan's attack was just the beginning. She wouldn't give up just because he lowered his head. Her red lips opened slightly and she spoke again. This time, she was even more aggressive and aggressive." Do you still remember what happened at the ruined temple?"

Boom!

Zhang Ronghua's entire body trembled. He raised his head and frowned. His eyes were sharp and cold as he looked at her seriously.

Their eyes met.

Ji Xueyan didn't dodge. Although she was shocked by the powerful aura he was emitting, as the daughter of the Grand Tutor and the future successor of Jixia Learning Palace, she had seen all kinds of situations. He calmly met the cold gaze, as if he didn't notice the heavy atmosphere. He continued," Eastern Palace, Shang Wen Palace!"

The atmosphere changed again, and it was even heavier than before. It was as if a level 12 storm was hidden in the air. Once it erupted, it would be unstoppable and mercilessly destroy everything.

Cats had the most sensitive senses. They were fine just now, but as Ji Xueyan attacked, the atmosphere became heavier and heavier. It was as if there was a mountain pressing down on them, making it hard for them to breathe. The purple cat looked at them and meowed." Meow!"

She walked to Zhang Ronghua's side, lowered her head, stuck out her tongue, and licked his palm a dozen times. Then, she walked to Ji Xueyan and licked her jade-like fingers a dozen times. She lay down on the table and rolled around cutely, acting cute and funny, trying to ease the atmosphere. Ji Xueyan stretched out her jade-like hand and pressed it on the purple cat's body, not allowing it to move. He said again. "A few nights ago, you kissed me!" One after another, the things of the past came out of her mouth like beans being poured out of a bamboo tube. They continued to look at each other! Their gazes met without moving away. As time passed, the atmosphere became more and more solemn. It was about to reach its limit and explode. "Sigh!" Zhang Ronghua sighed softly. The heaviness, oppression, and killing intent in the air dissipated. Although it did not return to its previous state, it had eased up a little.

"What are you trying to say?

At this moment, Ji Xueyan hesitated again. She had already done what she needed to do and had even forced him to this step. What was the point of retreating now? After just three breaths, he spoke decisively.

In this aspect, she was stronger than Yang Hongling!

Yang Hongling obviously liked it, but she didn't dare to say it out loud. She needed a process to get used to it slowly. She would only reveal her heart after Zhang Ronghua had completely integrated into her life.

Although Ji Xueyan was quiet, cold, and rarely spoke, she was very decisive. Once she set her mind on something, she would do it.

It could also be related to his previous experiences. The dilapidated temple, the Shangwen Hall in the Eastern Palace, and the kiss a few nights ago. The most mysterious and most seductive things had all been seen by him, and he had even kissed them. What was there to say?

I, I, like, you!"

Shua!

Zhang Ronghua was like a chameleon, his expression changing rapidly. Shock, disbelief, astonishment, and doubt that he had misheard appeared one after another. The impact was even stronger than before. His heart was shaken violently, and he could not calm down for a long time.

He had thought of countless possibilities, but he had never thought of this.

He even thought that Ji Xueyan would use this to threaten him and force him to do some things. He never expected that she would throw out a bomb that was even more ferocious than them! He almost fainted from the explosion.

He held the teacup and drank it in one gulp. He was eager to calm himself down. His thoughts spun as he quickly thought about why. No matter how heaven-defying his talent was, he still could not understand.

He put down the teacup and looked into her eyes. It was serious and serious. She didn't look like she was joking. After interacting with Ji Xueyan for the past few days, based on his understanding of Ji Xueyan, it was impossible for her to joke about such an important matter. There was only one possibility left. She was serious!

"Phew!"
'Are you serious?" he asked after taking a deep breath.
"Yes." Ji Xueyan nodded without hesitation.
"Why?"
'When I saw you and Yang Hongling leaving in the Heaven Fate Carriage, my heart seemed to have bee

'When I saw you and Yang Hongling leaving in the Heaven Fate Carriage, my heart seemed to have been crushed and my soul sucked away. I was like a walking corpse Witnout any Will! "At that time, I understood that the more I avoided it, the more I suppressed it. When it erupted, it became even more violent! Unknowingly, you have already walked into my heart." She stretched out her jade-like hand and pointed at her heart.

"I, I..." Zhang Ronghua wanted to say something, but he couldn't even say a second word.

"You like me?" Ji Xueyan continued to force him.

These four simple words were even more terrifying than being cut into pieces. Zhang Ronghua was so powerful that he could do anything. There was nothing he couldn't do, but he was stumped at this moment.

He recalled the things that had happened between the two of them. Everything that had happened in the past felt like it had just happened yesterday. From the first visit to the Grand Tutor's Residence, to the dilapidated temple, to the Shang Wen Hall in the Eastern Palace, to what had happened a few nights ago, including the time they had spent together. Her beauty, temperament, knowledge, and kindness were imprinted in his heart..

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To be honest, he liked it!

Otherwise, he wouldn't have cultivated so crazily during that period of time and tried so hard to forget about the two of them.

One minute, one second.

Seeing that he didn't speak for a long time and didn't get the answer she wanted, Ji Xueyan's heart gradually fell into the abyss. It was cold, cold. She was in despair and didn't dare to have any more hope. Her voice was very cold, and the temperature in the air dropped by more than ten degrees." Sorry for disturbing you!"

He stood up from the chair and walked out.

Tears welled up in the depths of her eyes. She stubbornly held them back and did not let them flow out. Seeing that she was about to reach the door, the purple cat jumped down from the table and hurriedly called out," Meow!"

He pounced and landed on the ground. Like a pendant, he hugged her feet tightly, trying to stop her from leaving.

Zhang Ronghua's heart ached. He was sure that he liked her!

Grand Tutor, Crown Prince, Empress, and the Imperial Family, scram!

No matter what he faced in the future, he would accept it! Even if everyone in the Great Xia Dynasty was his enemy, he didn't want to miss her!

Some good girls, once they let go, would miss it for the rest of their lives. Looking back behind the scenes, as they grew older, it would become a knot in their hearts that could never be untied. They regretted not giving it a try back then. Work hard to love?

## Whoosh!

With a flash of golden light, he stood up from the chair at the fastest speed in his life. He took a step forward, as if he had teleported, and appeared behind her. He grabbed her soft and boneless hand with lightning speed, and pulled it fiercely. Ji Xueyan turned around, and her face was facing him. Before she could come back to her senses, he reached out his palm and held her face. Zhang Ronghua lowered his head and kissed her.

Ji Xueyan was stunned. She couldn't believe that this was real. The surprise had come too suddenly. Looking at this handsome and handsome face, she felt as if she had been electrocuted. Xia Fei's cheeks were flushed, and she closed her eyes shyly. Only her long eyelashes were beating violently, betraying her nervous and anxious heart.

Purple Cat retracted its paws and took a few steps back. It looked at the two people in front of it and felt embarrassed! She raised her little claws to cover her eyes, but she couldn't help but want to take a look. Just one look, to see what they were doing?

A crack appeared between its two little claws. It opened its eyes wider than an egg, wishing it could record the scene in front of it.

Ji Xueyan seemed to have sensed its gaze. She shyly pushed him away and hurriedly took a step back. She tidied her messy hair and took a few deep breaths to calm herself down. She looked over again." You haven't answered my question!"

Zhang Ronghua smiled from the bottom of his heart. He was relaxed and happy." I like you!"

He pointed at the chair. "Sit down and talk!"

"Yes." Ji Xueyan nodded.

He took the teapot and poured a cup for her. Purple Cat jumped up and pushed the teacup over. Zhang Ronghua smiled and poured a cup for the little girl. He put down the teapot and stopped smiling. He said seriously," Have you thought of a solution?"



Ji Xueyan understood. She was smart enough to understand everything from a little bit of information. If the Crown Prince was hiding a huge force, then this confrontation with the Empress was worth pondering. There must be a bigger secret hidden in it.
"I'm investigating this matter in secret, but I don't have any leads yet," said Zhang Ronghua.
"What about the army?"
' We've already made arrangements. Right now, our forces are still very weak.
What we lack is time."
"Just let me know if you need my help," Ji Xueyan said gently.
She took the initiative to hold Zhang Ronghua's hand. Her skin was fairer and smoother than a woman's. This was too much. Other than being thick, warm, and strong, it also made her feel at ease.
Confirm their relationship.
A girl should be reserved when she was shy, but she knew how much pressure
Zhang Ronghua was under at this moment. She wanted to comfort him in this way, cheer him up, and tell him that no matter what the future faced, she would always stand firmly with him.
Zhang Ronghua patted her hand and smiled gently.
'I'll keep an eye on the imperial court and the army. I'll think of a way to deal with the experts. What you need to do is to take control of Jixia Learning Palace as soon as possible and become the Palace Lord!"
"I will!"

If you need help, don't hide it. Don't be shy and shy like before. No matter what is in front of you, I will always be your strong backing!" "Yes." Ji Xueyan nodded heavily.
"Help me investigate someone!" Zhang Ronghua said
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Inside the car.
Zhang Ronghua smiled bitterly. "You're waiting for me?" he asked as he lifted the curtain and got out of the carriage.
"Yes." Ding Yi's expression was solemn as he nodded heavily. There were too many people around and it was not a good place to talk.
Waving his hand, he let Uncle Shi go back first.
After entering the Vermilion Bird Gate, he found a corner and stopped.
"What happened?" asked Zhang Ronghua.
"Brother, you don't know?"
He pondered for a moment.
Zhang Ronghua thought about everything that had happened recently. He had basically solved everything except for the Flame Thunder Pearl. He asked tentatively," Is there any news from Wangtian County?"

Ding Yi was impressed. He gave a thumbs-up and praised," You're my brother indeed. You guessed it so quickly."
He told her everything.
As Cao Zhao from the Scarlet Heaven Palace arrived in time, the Black Dragon
Path used the power of the Flaming Thunder Pearl to wipe out 30,000 enemies.
There were also some powerful cultivators. At the Tian County side, Zhou Yuanba was killed, 30,000 of the 40,000 enemies were wiped out, and the remaining people fled. The lost Gupo Town and other territories were also taken back and once again fell into the hands of the Great Xia Empire.
"Brother, the news that came back is that the Flame Thunder Pearl is very powerful, much stronger than the Sky Shaking Thunder."
"I've already tried."
"How are our losses?" Zhang Ronghua asked after a pause.
" The Black Dragon Path lost nearly ten thousand men, and Wangtian County lost eight thousand men. Overall, it's much better than the sixty thousand men the Shang Dynasty lost."
This was unavoidable.
Although the Flame Thunder Pearl was powerful, it was limited to the soldiers and low-level martial artists below. In addition, time was tight and the number of refinements was limited. It was rare to achieve such results.
There was another point. The Shang Dynasty had also used spiritual items.

Other than the Fire Thunder Pearl, there were other powerful spiritual items. Even if they were suppressed by the Great Xia's firepower, they would still cause casualties if they counterattacked.

"How did you know?" Zhang Ronghua asked again.

Ding Yi rubbed the back of his head and smiled smugly. I'm from a family of generals. "

Boom!

Above the nine heavens, a silver-white lightning bolt tore through the sky without any warning, wanting to strike down and destroy everything. As this lightning bolt appeared, dark clouds gathered, and a strong wind blew, sweeping up dust and fallen leaves.

"It's going to rain again," Zhang Ronghua sighed.

Ding Yi nodded in agreement. Recently, there had been a lot of rain, and it was very annoying. He said," Lord Shen Yuanxiao, please send a report to Your Majesty urgently. Please refine more Flame Thunder Beads and prepare to take down the remaining half of the province. We will bite off a piece of meat from the Shang Dynasty."

It's impolite not to reciprocate. It's not in our nature to take a beating passively. Let them feel the flames of war from the Shang Dynasty."

"Brother, do you think His Majesty will really agree?"

'I'll definitely refine the Flaming Thunder Pearl. I'll work overtime and go all out to take down the remaining half of the province. Just the garrison in

Wangtian County is not enough. I'll have to transfer troops from the East Barren camp and consider many things. A large-scale battle shouldn't happen in a short period of time. I'll probably let Shen Yuanxiao gather the troops of Moxia and the garrison in Wangtian County. He'll leave some troops to guard and lead the rest of the troops to attack. Then, I'll transfer heavy troops from the East Barren

camp to set up camp in Wangtian County and take over for them. We'll slowly nibble away at the remaining half of the province."

Ding Yi was very smart. He was a family of Generals. The battle that would erupt from an all-out war would be far more intense than what was happening now. Both sides had invested at least a million troops. It was easy to mobilize troops from the East Barren Territory. However, the logistics, support, rations, spiritual items, and formations were not ready yet. If they started a war now, even if they had the upper hand, it would be very disadvantageous!

Great Xia wasn't the only enemy of the Shang Dynasty. The True Spirit race, the beasts, the demons, and some small countries didn't have a foolproof plan.

It would be fine if they won, but if they were at a disadvantage or lost, these people would be even more terrifying than wolves, tigers, and leopards. They would charge at Great Xia like a swarm of bees and bite off a piece of flesh from its body.

He took another step back.

Even if they were prepared, they would not start a full-scale war against the Shang Dynasty. They would first destroy the surrounding small countries and incorporate them into their territory to increase their own strength. They would also be able to prevent them from launching sneak attacks at the critical moment. Then, they would eliminate the demons and ghosts. Only when everything was ready would they start a Dynasty War to destroy the Shang Dynasty in one fell swoop and kill all the members of the royal family. Only the Empress Dowager, Empress, concubines, and princesses would be left behind.

"War of attrition?"

"Yes." Zhang Ronghua nodded.

"The cost of refining the Flame Thunder Pearl is low, it's easy to carry around, and it's powerful. Let Shen Yuanxiao take action and stall the Shang Dynasty. If they send an army to wipe out the city, they will retreat. If they don't send an army, they will attack the city and seize everything. They won't leave anything behind. As time passes, the Shang Dynasty will definitely be anxious. No matter how they respond, they will fall into our trap."

Ding Yi chuckled. The cost of refining the Fire Thunder Pearl was much higher than the Flame Thunder Pearl, and its power was also much weaker. If they really fell into a stalemate, no matter how big the Shang Dynasty was, they would be dragged to death. He asked again," Do you not want the city?"

"What do you want it for? We can't build it? They would take away all the people, wealth, and cultivation resources, and drag the men to do hard labor. As long as they could not die, they would do it to the death! Throw all the women into the Education Bureau or use them for other purposes. What was the point of guarding the Sky City? Waiting for the Shang Dynasty to attack?"

The wind was getting stronger and stronger, and the storm could fall at any time.

It's almost time," Zhang Ronghua said." Let's go in first. We'll talk later.."

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He entered the Heaven's Might Gate and went up the Purple Extreme Avenue until he reached the outside of the Purple Extreme Hall. He entered from the side door on the left and stood in the line of the Ministry of Works.

She followed him over.

The nearby officials and some well-informed people had already received the news. They knew that the Flame Thunder Pearl had displayed its might in Wangtian County. It had severely injured the Shang army and killed 60,000 enemies. As the person in charge of refining it, how much credit did he have? She was envious and jealous in her heart. He had taken all the benefits.

Zhang Ronghua ignored the strange gazes around him and stood straight like a sharp sword. He looked down at his nose and mouth, fishing in the water. As long as it didn't call him or involve their faction, he wouldn't move.

A few minutes later.

Eunuch Xiao came in with two eunuchs and closed the Purple Extreme Door and the two side doors. The sound of the door closing could be heard, and everyone's hearts trembled. They secretly thought that the real show was about to begin.

They raised their heads and looked over. Under their gazes, heavy and powerful footsteps could be heard from behind them. They carried a certain rhythm, but also seemed to carry a great pressure. It entered their hearts, causing everyone to be unable to breathe. Emperor Xia wore a golden silk dragon robe. His gaze was dignified and pointed straight at the heart, emitting a great pressure. With his hands behind his back, he walked up from behind. Wei Shang and two eunuchs followed closely behind, but the Crown Prince was still nowhere to be seen.

Zhang Ronghua's heart skipped a beat. Could it be that his vitality had not recovered yet?

This matter should be suppressed for now, and the lower value should be discussed later.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Loud thunderclaps echoed between heaven and earth. Nine bolts of lightning fell from the sky like flowers scattered by fairies. They struck in all directions and enveloped the entire sky. Bean-sized raindrops poured down ferociously, smashing into everything. Strong winds howled, and a low, depressing sound was heard.

The officials cursed inwardly. This lousy weather!

The Xia Emperor sat on his dragon throne.

Wei Shang took a step forward. His face was tense, and his eyes were cold. He said in a deep voice," If you have something to report, then report. If not, then withdraw!"

Xu Shidao stepped forward and bowed. The Flame Thunder Pearl refined by Doctor Zhang from the Ministry of Works was extremely powerful in the battle at Wangtian County last night. It wiped out 60,000 enemy troops and subdued the lost Gu PO Town. I suggest that you reward it heavily!"

Pei Cai stepped forward and bowed.

His faction, the Crown Prince's power in the court, Xu Shidao's power, and the power that Zhang Ronghua had nurtured himself all stood up.

For a moment.

Nearly one-tenth of the people in the court stepped forward!

The officials were shocked. It had only been a short while, but Zhang Ronghua had suddenly gained a huge amount of power that no one could ignore.

It wasn't over yet. The military had benefited the most from the Flame Thunder Pearl. Firstly, it was for their own use. Secondly, they were united against a common enemy. The troops of Wangtian County had killed 60,000 enemies. Although they didn't go to the battlefield, they were happy to see so many enemies killed. Even if they had any thoughts, they wouldn't show them now.

It was not worth it to offend Zhang Ronghua! Judging from the talent he had displayed, if he could refine the Flame Thunder Pearl, he might be able to refine other powerful feys. The stronger the feys, the more contributions they would make when the war started, and the fewer soldiers they would die.

He immediately stood up and agreed with Xu Shidao's proposal. Almost one-third of the officials in the court stepped out.

No one, no matter who it was, would be able to ignore such immense power. Even the Xia Emperor would have to treat it seriously.

The neutral party saw that the situation had already taken shape and was a fence-sitter. They acted according to the situation. If there were benefits, they would take them. If there were no benefits, they would follow the wind. They immediately stepped forward and agreed to reward them heavily!

Only the prince's faction, Grand Secretary Cui, and the other opposing factions were left. Although they hated Zhang Ronghua and wanted him to suffer, they had no choice but to agree with the majority.

Emperor Xia spoke, and his majestic voice rang out in the hall." Zhang

Ronghua has made great contributions in refining the Flaming Thunder Pearl. Zhang Qin will be conferred the title of Grand Doctor Xuanhe, and Zheng Rou will be conferred the title of Madam Zhongshan. He will be rewarded with a shop on the Vermilion Bird Avenue, a thousand taels of gold, a pair of jade ruyi, and ten bolts of high-quality silk!"

Doctor Xuanhe and Madam Zhongshan were of the fifth rank. They only had honor and no power. Those who did not make great contributions had no chance of obtaining them.

Although Zhang Ronghua had only obtained a shop on Vermilion Bird Avenue, the actual benefits were far more than a little power.

It was exactly the same as the conversation that night.

When you were young, you were proud of your father. When you grow up, your father will be proud of you!

Zhang Ronghua stepped forward. He had guessed that he would not be promoted. He did not expect the Emperor to reward his parents. It was a pleasant surprise. He bowed and thanked the Emperor." Thank you, Your Majesty!"

The Xia Emperor smiled. A gentle smile appeared on his aged face." Three generations of loyal and faithful men. A plaque of loyalty and loyalty!"

Boom!

The officials were shocked. This reward was even greater!

Although it was just a plaque, its value was too great. Jian was in the emperor's heart. The way he looked at Zhang Ronghua changed. He wanted to replace him.

The First Prince, Grand Secretary Cui, and the others clenched their fists tightly under their sleeves. The enemy had become more powerful, but they couldn't stop him.
"You may leave!" The Xia Emperor waved his hand. <b>f</b> reew <b>e</b> b <b>n</b> o <b>ve</b> l.com
Zhang Ronghua returned to his formation and continued standing.
The matter of Wangtian County had not been brought up in the Imperial Court, so it should have already begun. The Ministry of Works was in charge of forging, while the Bureau of Military Personnel would formulate a plan. The Pavilion of Heavenly Secrets would then complete it and submit it to the Xia Emperor.
There were too many people in the Imperial Court, and there might be spies from the Shang Dynasty. If the plan was approved and they were prepared in advance, it would be a huge loss for Great Xia
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The next things to discuss were all other government affairs.
An hour later.
The court session ended.
Zhang Ronghua noticed that the five Pavilion Elders and the six Ministers of the Pavilion of Heavenly Secrets were left behind. He smiled in his heart and guessed it.
He nodded and greeted Chen Youcai, Lu Junxiu, and the others.

He brought Ding Yi out of the Purple Extreme Hall, took the umbrella from Eunuch Xiao, and walked towards the Ministry of Works.

Outside the courtyard.

Huang Zhongdao had been standing guard here for a while. When he saw them coming over, he showed a fawning and enthusiastic expression. He quickly went up to them." Greetings, sir!"

Zhang Ronghua was clearly holding an umbrella, but he still used it to block the rain from getting his clothes wet.

After entering the courtyard, he stopped in the corridor and placed the umbrella by the side.

He circulated his energy and evaporated the rainwater on his body. He pushed open the door of the hall and walked in. He pulled out a chair and sat down.

Huang Zhongshi was very observant. Without any instructions, he took the teapot and brewed tea. Then, he poured two cups of tea and placed them in front of them. He bent his body and waited by the side.

He looked at the torrential rain outside. It was getting more and more violent, and the thunder was incessant.

"There's so much rain this season," Zhang Ronghua sighed.

Holding the teacup, he pressed the lid of the teacup down a few times and took two sips. Then he put the teacup down and looked at Huang Zhongshi. He seemed to know what he wanted to ask, so he briefly explained what had happened in the imperial court.

"Congratulations, my lord! I'll leave a heavy mark on my qualifications. If I endure for a period of time, I'll be able to advance in no time."





At Zhang Ronghua's house.
In the lobby.
Zhang Qin and Zheng Rou sat across the table. One was drinking tea and playing chess alone, while the other was embroidering. She was skilled in embroidery and was already halfway done. She was like a phoenix spreading its wings and flying in the sky.
The storm had been pouring since morning. Not only did it not stop, but it was also getting heavier and heavier. Zhang Qin put down his chess piece and cursed unhappily," Is it endless?" It had just rained two days ago, and it rained again! Can't you stop for a while?"
"I wonder what His Majesty will reward me with!" Zhang Ronghua muttered to himself.
"You're worrying for nothing," Zheng Rou raised her head and glared at him.
" What?" Zhang Qin's interest was piqued as if he had found someone to talk to." Qing Lin will be promoted?"
Speaking of his son.
Zheng Rou's interest was piqued. She put down the embroidery and pondered for a while." I was just promoted a while ago. How long have you been in the Ministry of Works?" He only refined a single Flamespark Pearl, and his qualifications aren't even full yet. He shouldn't be able to." He glared at her fiercely.
"Can't you say something nice?" Zhang Qin said unhappily.
If I can get promoted by saying good things, I'll say it every day. I'll make Qinglin one of the three dukes as soon as possible and then marry Hongling." I'm so sorry!

Zhang Qin couldn't take it anymore. He took a sip of tea and was about to continue playing chess when Zhang Feng rushed in from outside. He didn't even open his umbrella and let the rain hit him. He was so excited that he smiled like a flower. He ran and shouted," Master, Madam, someone from the palace is here."

He walked into the hall quickly. Just as he was about to speak, Zhang Qin interrupted him roughly and glared at him." You're so flustered. What's wrong with you?" Can't you be more stable?"

Zhang Feng didn't seem to hear him. He quickly said," People from the palace are here. The leader is Eunuch Xiao. Read out His Majesty's decree!" Suddenly!

Zhang Qin's buttocks seemed to have a spring installed. He stood up like lightning and pushed him away.." Why didn't you say so earlier?!"

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With a tap of his foot, he used all his movement techniques and rushed out.

"Umbrella..." Zheng Rou reminded.

It was already gone.

The Emperor had decreed that she had to go over as well. After leaving the hall, the servant girl held an umbrella and shielded her from the storm as she walked out.

They arrived at the front yard.

Zhang Qin happened to meet Eunuch Xiao who had just entered. He brought a team of Human Emperor Guards with him, and one of them held an umbrella for him.

Eunuch Xiao's tense face smiled knowingly. He pointed inside." Go inside and receive the edict!"

"Yes." Zhang Qin replied.

He quickly swept his gaze over and saw a Human Emperor Guard holding a plaque in his hands. It was covered with a red cloth and protected by internal energy to prevent the rain from getting wet. He was curious as to what was written on it. Suppressing his doubts, he led the way to the backyard and met Zheng Rou who had rushed over. He greeted her and entered the hall.

Eunuch Xiao took out the imperial edict from his bosom. He stopped smiling and said in a deep voice, "Zhang Qin, Zheng Rou, accept the imperial edict!" The two of them hurriedly knelt on the ground.

Opening the imperial edict, Eunuch Xiao read out, "By the will of heaven, the emperor's edict says... You taught your son well. Zhang Qin is conferred the title of Doctor Xuanhe and Zheng Rou is conferred the title of Madam Zhongshan. You are a fifth-grade official and have been loyal for three generations. You are also bestowed with a loyalty plaque!"

He had already retired for a few years, and he could still be promoted?

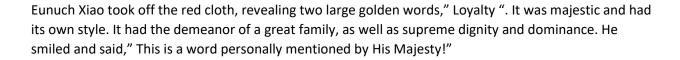
He came back to his senses.

Zhang Qin's heart was filled with excitement, and his blood was burning. He smiled happily. If there weren't outsiders around, he would have laughed out loud and laughed to his heart's content. He hurriedly expressed his gratitude." Thank you, Your Majesty!"

He stood up from the ground and took the imperial edict and the matching official robe.

He didn't need to go to court, nor did he need to do anything. He received a salary every month. Although the money was small, was this something that money could measure? Moreover, they did not lack money. Although they were not very rich, with the daily income from the six properties, they could still be considered middle-class even in the capital. This was an honor, a supreme honor that could not be bought with money.

The Human Emperor Guards stepped forward.



Boom!

Zhang Qin was once again shocked. He looked at the plaque in disbelief and thought about it for a long time. It seemed that the matter of the Flamespark Pearl was very important, and the contribution he had made was also exaggerated. That was why he was rewarded. With this plaque, there were many benefits. As long as the Zhang family did not make any mistakes, they would be able to soar!

"Phew!"

Taking a deep breath, he suppressed his excitement and hurriedly ordered Zhang Feng to hang the plaque on the wall with his guards.

He waved his hand.

He ordered people to bring ten silver notes, each of which cost two hundred taels. It was not a lot of money, but he gave it to the ten Human Emperor Guards out of goodwill.

"Thank you, Doctor Xuan He!" Eunuch Xiao said with a smile when he saw their hesitation.

"Thank you, Doctor Xuan He!" The ten Human Emperor Guards cupped their fists and said.

Eunuch Xiao waved his hand, signaling them to leave and stand guard outside.

Zhang Qin also ordered his men to leave, leaving them alone in the hall.

Eunuch Xiao smiled and said," Qinglin has made a great contribution this time. In addition to these, there is also a shop on the Vermilion Bird Avenue, a thousand taels of gold, a pair of jade ruyi, and ten bolts of high-quality silk cloth. I will give these things to him when they are worth it."

Zhang Qin poured the tea and took out the spiritual tea, Bitter Bodhi Tea. He brewed another pot and poured two cups. He handed one cup over and said," It's just as I guessed. Qing Lin was promoted too quickly. Even if he did meritorious deeds, he couldn't be promoted. It must be some other reward. I didn't expect it to fall on us."

"This is also a helpless move!"

After chatting for a while, Zhang Qin got up and sent him out of the residence.

He looked at Zhang Feng and ordered," Send someone to Ru Family Restaurant and inform He Bao that we won't be having any guests at noon. Tell him to prepare demon meat. Master is treating us."

"I'll do it now!"

She waved her hand and asked him to leave.

They entered the lobby.

Looking at the light red official uniform on the table, Zhang Qin couldn't help but take off his clothes and change into it on the spot. He then put on his official hat and pulled a long face. His temperament changed. He was serious, threatening, and had a strong aura. The awe-inspiring aura he had in the Flood Dragon Guards came back. He asked in a deep voice," How is it?"

Puchi!

Zheng Rou couldn't help but break through her defense, covering her mouth and giggling.

Spirit Research Department.

In the Book Palace.
Zhang Ronghua had read more than half of it last time, and there were still some that he hadn't read yet. After he came here, he continued to read. He read very quickly, ten lines at a glance. In a few breaths, he had finished reading a page. He memorized the contents and comprehended them. He was multitasking like a high-speed machine, increasing his foundation. He skimmed through the books one after another.
An hour later.
Brother!" Ding Yi ran over and knocked on the door." Brother, open the door quickly."
Zhang Ronghua frowned. Was it done so quickly? He put down the book, walked over, and opened the door.
"Let's go!" Ding Yi called out.
He walked out of the palace and walked along the corridor.
After a while.
They stopped at the corner and looked at the courtyard in front of them. There were people everywhere. They ignored the rain and stood in the courtyard. They waved their fists and shouted," Cui Jiancheng, get out here!"
The sound was so loud that even the thunder above the nine heavens could not cover it.

Zhang Ronghua leaned against the wall and crossed his arms. The corners of his mouth curled up. He smiled unkindly." It's alright."

Ding Yi sighed." This is a talent. To be able to accomplish all of this in such a short period of time have been hard on him"	, it must