

Firmament 331

[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 331: A Valuable Head

“Moreover, the auction in Ling-Bao Hall this time has created a legend in the history of auctions. We earned the favor from the king of the Kingdom of Chen, however, the 70 billion that we gave the Kingdom of Chen has caused some long and serious impacts. The three kingdoms in the Land of Han-Yang are at war. What we did was to show the world that we had chosen to stand by the side of Kingdom of Chen. The 70 billion pissed off the other two kingdoms seriously. They are both furious about it, so the assassins from those two kingdoms are coming over to end our lives.”

“Furthermore, the reward that the Kingdom of Chen gave us pushed Ling-Bao Hall to the edge of the blade.”

“There were over ten thousand superior cultivators in the martial world that were gathered by the auction in the capital. During these several days, none of them left the city. Now, there are over thirty thousand superior cultivators... It is apparently not the end of it. There will be much more coming over.”

“According to the official intelligence and the analysis of our own intelligence network, there are more than five thousand assassins rushing over from the two other kingdoms. Besides, there are much more cultivators coming for the reward.”

“For the present situation, the Kingdom of Chen is the enemy to all other kingdoms, while Ling-Bao Hall is enemy to everybody in the world. As for you, everybody wants to kill you!”

“Now, the Chen-Xing City has become a powder barrel that is filled with gun powders. It looks peaceful in appearance, but things will get real nasty when it bursts with a fire spark.”

“When I said that everybody wants to kill you, it was not a joke. On the reward list for assassination in the Land of Han-Yang... My lord... You are the No. 1!” Liu Changjun was a bit upset as he continued, “The name of Feng Zhiling corresponds with the Feng Monarch... though we both know it makes no difference. The Kingdom of Lanfeng has put half a billion for the head of Feng monarch! So has the Kingdom of Tianyu! Besides, the royal families of the two kingdoms have both put money in it, and that makes the number greatly increase. The reward for your head is reaching two billion, and the number is going up! Every second, there is a certain amount of money being put on the reward. In simpler words, every assassin wants your head right now...”

Liu Changjun explained everything about the current situation.

Ye Xiao was speechless about it.

[I just want to make some money. Why did it turn into some world war?

How am I supposed to deal with such a messy situation?]

“I never expected my head to be so valuable. I am just trying to be a citizen of the Kingdom of Chen and do some proper donation to my own country. Why is everybody aiming at me...” Ye Xiao rubbed his head and murmured, “That reward, that is a huge money. Even I want to cut off my head for that money...”

Liu Changjun was stunned, not knowing what to say at all.

If someone else was wanted dead with such a high reward, he would be scared to death. He would at least be nervous and terrified.

However, Liu Changjun found that Feng Monarch was actually a bit happy about it, and he wasn't just acting...

[I wonder how his brain had grown like this. How could he be so indifferent...]

"Two billion... If one of those assassins is lucky enough to have my head, is he really going to get the reward? Can he carry such an amount of money with him? If he can, how is he supposed to spend it..." Ye Xiao spoke in sad voice. He frowned and acted like he was feeling sorry for the one who might have his head.

Liu Changjun was speechless.

"So, I decided to keep my head to myself, so that they won't be bothered by such a problem," Ye Xiao spoke in a serious tone.

Even though he was saying things indifferently, he was thinking about how to deal with the current situation.

It had become really nasty now.

He really didn't know that the auction he held for making money actually put him and Ling-Bao Hall in such a dangerous situation!

[Hmm. Wait! For the great amount of money as the reward for cutting of my head, all the assassins gathered here aiming at Feng Zhiling. Everybody is afraid that they will be killed if they recklessly leave the city. These are all reasonable things to happen.

But why would those forces pay attention to the Ling-Bao Hall?

That is unreasonable. First of all, Ling-Bao Hall has no other supreme dan beads. There is no valuable target in there. Second, the important one, after the auction, everybody knew that Ling-Bao Hall is well connected with the House of the Chaotic Storms. They should think that we are allies, otherwise, how could Master Bai and Wan of the Clouds be so mean to the two great sects. They were apparently doing it for Ling-Bao Hall. If people still have fear for House of the Chaotic Storms, they shouldn't have locked on Ling-Bao Hall like this!

Unless...]

Ye Xiao was lost in thoughts, and then he suddenly figured something out. He couldn't help but make a bitter smile.

[That bastard Master Bai must have seen this in advance. He intentionally caused this situation. No wonder he promised to help me so easily. He even forced the two great sects out of the auction on his name.

He let the two great sects gain nothing. Since the two great sects gained nothing, that is the key to all that is currently happening.]

Ye Xiao would rather cut his head off than believe that the House of the Chaotic Storms didn't play any schemes.

He thought that Master Bai must have informed those forces other than the Sunlight Sect and Starlight Sect that Ling-Bao Hall and the House of the Chaotic Storms were no allies!

Otherwise, no one would dare to spy on Ling-Bao Hall like this!

"He really is a thousand years old fox!"

Ye Xiao had to admit that he was too far below Master Bai's league on playing schemes. Five of him wouldn't be as good as that thousand years old schemer.

Who could solve such a terrible situation right now then?

Who could give Ye Xiao any ideas about how to solve it all?

Ye Xiao was thinking about it.

"Wan Zhenghao is nervous like hell these days. He may break down at any second... There is a 300 million reward on his head! Wan is sighing all day... It is too much a pressure on him indeed," Liu Changjun said.

Ye Xiao coughed and said, "A crisis can sometimes also be an opportunity. After this, Wan will absolutely lose weight. It may be a great thing for him!"

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 332: All Solved In One Night

Liu Changjun found it both funny and annoying. He said, "I can't believe you have such a good mood to make jokes right now. The situation is most dangerous for us. What is your decision?"

Ye Xiao stood up; he casually paced for several steps and said, "What decision can I make? We defend the attack like we make a bank to keep the flood out. Liu Changjun!"

"Yes!"

Liu Changjun answered, chest out. He was solemn and not nervous at all.

"When I said a crisis may also be an opportunity, I was not joking. Maybe it is our opportunity this time." Ye Xiao spoke with a serious face, "You have been worrying about how we are short for assassins, haven't you? Now there is a great opportunity in front of us. All the top assassins will be here in this city—everyone of them. Is it not a gathering of resources for you?"

Liu Changjun found it funny. [If it is that easy to recruit those top assassins, the world would be much more enjoyable for us.

Those outlaws, they think more of benefits than friendship and loyalty; they love to kill; they are crazy for money. They have different kinds of personalities. How could they become my men while they are trying to take my life?]

“There are only things that you cannot think of, but nothing that you can not achieve.”

Ye Xiao blandly spoke, “Off you go now. Pay attention to all the moves around Ling-Bao Hall. Keep our place safe first. It is our groundwork. As for further tasks, just wait for my order.”

“Yes.”

Ye Xiao was being too confident.

Liu Changjun trusted him most, so he felt relieved and left.

Ye Xiao watched Liu Changjun disappear in the hole of the floor before the hole itself disappeared. After which, he lost the confidence on his face right away. He didn't say anything for quite a long time, and then he only started to smile bitterly.

[Damn it. Everybody is waiting for my thought. Do I look like a man full of schemes? I wonder where I can find somebody to give me some ideas!]

Ye Xiao was worried and upset. He didn't look so calm and steady anymore.

After a long time, he moved to the door. When he got out of the door, he was not in the appearance of Feng Zhiling.

He would have been assassinated ten times on the street if he showed up as Feng Zhiling!

Only at the moment he reached the entrance of Wenren Chuchu's residence did he change his appearance into Feng Zhiling again.

“Are you okay these days?” Bing Xinyue looked at him and asked with hesitation.

Wenren Chuchu was looking at him too with concerns.

They both were well informed. They knew what was going on in the capital. They knew what would eventually happen, and they knew the pressure on Feng Zhiling must be overwhelming.

“How can I not be? I am all good. Don't you know I have earned a great one?” Ye Xiao smiled like nothing had happened. He was casual. “Let's start on curing the disease, shall we? I will be rather busy for the next few days. I may not have time for you two. Luckily, my cultivation have improved these days, so I may be able to go further in curing the disease. For a long time to come, there will be no reverse impact.”

Wenren Chuchu was clever enough to help Ye Xiao with some practical ideas. If she would like to help him, it would be easy to solve the situation. Even if it couldn't be so easily solved, it would be better. Ye Xiao wouldn't be helpless.

However, there was the pride in the Xiao Monarch's heart.

“Since when I, Ye Xiao, would need helps from a woman? Besides, this woman wouldn’t be happy to help me. We are in different sides. Why should I force others to do something they don’t want to. That is not a noble thing to do!”

Bing Xinyue heard him, but she was trying to avoid eye contact with Ye Xiao.

She and Wenren Chuchu had discussed about it seriously.

Wenren Chuchu was the princess of the Kingdom of Lanfeng after all. She could be a traitor for not stirring disturbance in the Kingdom of Chen, so how could she help Ye Xiao?

In fact, let alone Wenren Chuchu, Bing Xinyue could help him a lot. She was much stronger than any of the strongest cultivators in the Land of Han-Yang. If she backed Ling-Bao Hall up, it would be overwhelming. Ling-Bao Hall would be completely safe; in fact, whoever dared to attack Ling-Bao Hall would be killed instantly. All cultivators in this world meant nothing to her!

However, she couldn’t do it. To protect Ling-Bao Hall meant to be against the House of the Chaotic Storms. Bing Xinyue knew what Master Bai represented. If she messed with him, she would get herself killed and also draw disaster to the Misty Cloud Palace!

Besides, it meant she was standing opposite to her own disciple. The more she helped Feng Zhiling, the more people in her disciple’s country would die.

It was an unsolvable problem.

However, she was unable to stop herself from helping Feng Zhiling when she herself was accepting a favor from him.

That feeling was hard to bear for her.

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The whole night, Wenren Chuchu stood under the flower tree in the yard alone. She looked at the sky for a long time as a lot of thoughts bothered her mind.

The dew had soaked her clothes, yet she didn’t do anything to avoid it.

Feng Zhiling was in desperate situation; Wenren Chuchu could see it in sight. She knew that it was the House of the Chaotic Storms that pushed everything to the current situation.

In fact, even if she did whatever she could to help Ye Xiao, it wouldn’t help.

It was the truth. It was reality!

However, Wenren Chuchu knew that even if there was such a good excuse to not help him, even though nobody could pick any problem in that excuse, excuse was an excuse. Even though nobody would blame her, how could she live with the guilt in her heart!

She might fail if she tried to help, but it was a completely different story if she didn’t offer help!

However, she was meant to be enemy to the Kingdom of Chen. She could never help her enemy.

That was a good excuse that could persuade herself!

However, excuse was excuse. It was just a more powerful one. That was all!

It was late at night.

There was only one room in light in the yard.

The light was on for a whole night.

Ye Xiao was trying his best to solve Bing Xinyue's problem in this room.

He had improved two grades now, and his East-rising Purple Qi had reached the second level. It was much easier to solve Bing Xinyue's problem now, and it worked better than before.

It saved more than five times the time compared to last time!

He would have to operate the martial art dozens of times to clear all the death qi in Bing Xinyue before, but he actually spent only one night to clear eighty percent of it now!

There was only twenty percent remaining inside Bing Xinyue. Even if Ye Xiao died and couldn't continue the process, Bing Xinyue wouldn't have any problem in cultivation for hundreds of years.

When it was dawn, Ye Xiao withdrew his hands, completely exhausted.

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 333: Formidable Pride

It had been a whole night.

Ye Xiao didn't have any rest.

When he withdrew his hands from Bing Xinyue's beautiful skin, he felt something special.

He suppressed that strange feeling right away.

He stood up and blandly spoke, "It worked well. We will only need one more time, and it will be completely removed after a half night."

"It is not a good idea to keep going on with it. When it is slower to success, we should be more cautious. Any tiny mistake could lead to a reverse impact. That is extremely dangerous. You can just try to get used to your current situation. I will be back in two days." Ye Xiao smiled blandly and then walked to the door.

He had just made two steps before he suddenly felt dizzy. He nearly fell down on the floor.

It had driven him to his limits to operate the martial art for a whole night.

He had forcibly kept doing it till he had gone over the limitation, and now, he couldn't hold it anymore.

Ye Xiao shook his head and tried to keep himself steady. He looked at Bing Xinyue and smiled. He said, "I'm a bit numb in my feet."

He sounded so gentle and casual; he wasn't nervous at all.

Bing Xinyue looked at him with complicated emotions. In her eyes, there were special feelings.

[Feng Zhiling has tried to cure me even to the point of risking his life. He has truly done all he could for the night. Now he is so exhausted that he is barely able to stand steady. Why?

This time, the capital is in a huge mess. Things are getting strange and unpredictable, and Feng Monarch is in the middle of the disturbance. Under such circumstances, he cannot be sure about whether he will still be alive tomorrow. Can he?]

And then she realized something, [That is why he tried so hard to remove eighty percent of my illness at one time!

If he is able to, he will deal with the twenty percent in any cost. Apparently, he doesn't have that energy anymore.

He has truly tried his best, and he is now so weak because of it, but he is still explaining to me and trying to relax me. He knows there are countless assassins outside who want to kill him, yet he still promises that he will come for me in two days.

He has said nothing else at all.

He can ask me for help. In his current circumstances, it is quite a reasonable request. Only when he is alive can I have the chance to survive. He didn't bring such fair request at all.

He didn't even mention a word about it.]

Even though he didn't say anything about it, Bing Xinyue couldn't pretend that she didn't know anything.

However, she knew it, so what? Would she really help him?

Of course, she was able to help him. As long as she took some moves, it wouldn't be too hard to solve it all!

How could she face her disciple then?

Helping Feng Monarch meant helping the Kingdom of Chen.

To help the Kingdom of Chen meant to fight against the Kingdom of Lanfeng. How could she explain it to her disciple?

[Besides, she once told me that the House of the Chaotic Storms is the force that keeps pushing everything to the current situation. If I do anything to change the situation, I am enemy to the House of the Chaotic Storms. To declare war against Master Bai will lead to my death and eventually bring disaster to the Misty Cloud Palace!

But... How can I live with the guilt if I don't help him?]

Bing Xinyue was lost in thoughts. She didn't say anything for a while; she was utterly confused.

Feng Zhiling had rested for a while. He felt alright now, so he waved his hand to them and then walked to the door. While walking, he said, "I will be back in two days."

[Facing the entire martial world, the two kingdoms, and the two great sects, can you... come back really?]

Bing Xinyue was emotionally struggling with self-contradiction. She suddenly said, "Wait."

Ye Xiao didn't stop; instead, he just said, "I know what you want to say. I know what you want to do. Well, you don't need to. I never ask for any returned favors in my life. Don't look down upon me, and not upon yourself. Farewell."

[I know it is going to be real tough for me.

But I won't beg for any help. I tried so hard to cure you, because I think I may die in this disturbance.

That is why I want to do it for you in advance.

If I don't do it and if I die, Jun Yinglian will lose her best friend.

As for others...

I am a proud man. Since when have I begged for anything?]

Inside his heart, it was the formidable pride.

[I won't accept it even when you offered your help. Me asking you for help? Never!]

When he talked to Bing Xinyue, he was still in the room. When he finished talking with that last word [farewell", he was already in the yard.

Ten meters away it was the door in front of him.

At this moment, he saw somebody.

That was Wenren Chuchu.

It had been just one night since he last met her, but she looked much gaunter now.

She was all soaked by dew, and her clothes were all wet. Her eyes, that had always been sharp, were now dim and fuzzy.

At the moment, she looked up and saw Feng Zhiling. She suddenly trembled. She bit her lip as her eyes were filled with a complicated expression. That was difficult to describe!

Ye Xiao smiled gently and casually said, "See you around..."

He casually waved his hand and then got out of the door.

Behind him, Bing Xinyue, who had chased him out, and Wenren Chuchu were both showing complicated expressions on their faces.

They hadn't said anything for a long while.

Ye Xiao was gone.

Bing Xinyue stepped forward a bit and then stopped. She was quite frustrated, at least, she looked like so as she said, "This man is an extremely proud man. He would rather die... than ask for help."

Wenren Chuchu spoke with sorrow, "If he did... would you help him, master? Would I?"

Bing Xinyue was stunned; she said, "Chuchu, you have to understand. Feng Monarch cannot die no matter what!"

Wenren Chuchu's eyes became dim for a while. She looked away and tried to bury the pain inside her heart. She softly said, "Master, your clothes..."

Bing Xinyue was surprised and she looked down on her clothes.

She found her clothes in disorder. She was in a bad mood watching Feng Zhiling leave, so she just followed him out right away and didn't notice anything wrong about herself.

She blushed and then tidied up her clothes. She then said, "No matter what happens, even if the Kingdom of Chen disappears, we have to keep Feng Zhiling alive. The House of the Chaotic Storms only wants to collapse the kingdom. They are not specially aiming at someone. The difference is..."

Wenren Chuchu nodded. She took a breath out and said, "Master, I know what you mean. I think I need to get back to the Kingdom of Lanfeng this afternoon."

Bing Xinyue was surprised and she said, "Hmm?"

Wenren Chuchu bit her own lips. Her face turned pale as she said with a low voice, "I really don't want to face all these things here... I want to escape."

"It may be... the only escape I'll do in my life."

Wenren Chuchu stared at the door with wooden eyes. Actually, there was nothing there anymore.

Maybe she did it because it was where Feng Zhiling left.

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 334: Contradictory Mind

Wenren Chuchu looked at the door, feeling utterly disconcerted.

[Maybe he will never come back after stepping out of this door today. Maybe he will even... disappear from this world?]

Thinking about that, she felt sharp pain inside her heart. It was terribly painful.

That extreme pain made her face turn pale as her heart was twitched with cramp. She closed her eyes tight; she didn't want to face everything that was happening on her.

"Escape..." Bing Xinyue was disconcerted too. She murmured, "Escaping... is good."

Wenren Chuchu kept her eyes closed, then two teardrops fell down on her cheeks.

She knew she could do nothing if she stayed.

[Master seems to have some special feelings... for him. I can see that!]

She said our sect needs him.

I know it is an excuse. She just wants to help him. She just want him alive.

I can't unmask it!

I don't want to.

But it feels so bad to stay here any longer.

I don't want him dead. I don't want my kingdom to lose the hard-won opportunity either. I don't want to be in the opposite side against him...

I have to leave.

I have to escape to the time when I cannot anymore!

If I leave... on the other hand, it will be a relief to master.

Master will help him. She will...]

Wenren Chuchu sighed. She turned around and looked at Bing Xinyue. "Master, I am leaving."

At this moment, her eyes were filled with complicated expressions.

Facing her disciple's eyes, Bing Xinyue was shocked.

It was her first time to be stared by her beloved disciple with such a complex eye expression.

Under the watch, she felt guilty and nervous of no reason.

She felt like she was a thief.

She felt like she had stolen something from her disciple.

Her lips moved. She wanted to say, "Chuchu, don't worry. I won't take anything from you... |

That's what she was thinking about, for real!

But she didn't say it out.

If she said it, she admitted it, wouldn't she?

If she said it, she couldn't see Feng Zhiling anymore...

Moreover...

She was confused and disconcerted. She didn't know what to say; she could only stand there while doing nothing.

She didn't even noticed that her disciple had turned and gone.

When she came back to her mind and checked on Wenren Chuchu by spiritual mind, she found that she was packing things up in her room. Wenren Chuchu was sobbing. Was she crying? Or was she trying hard not to?

Bing Xinyue felt pain in heart.

When Wenren Chuchu finished packing and came to her master with an innocent smile to say goodbye, Bing Xinyue could not help saying, "Chuchu, don't worry."

Wenren Chuchu smiled. "What are you talking about, master? What should I worry for?"

Bing Xinyue took in a deep breath. She looked at her disciple's eyes and said, "What belongs to you will be yours. Nobody can take it away!"

The smile on Wenren Chuchu's face was gone. She blushed and then her face turned pale like white paper.

She nodded, "Master, I understand. I am off. Please... take care!"

She turned around and rushed out.

She disappeared from the door within a second.

Only a small sound was left behind her. - Pah. -

It was a drop of tear hitting on the doorsill.

Bing Xinyue looked at the tear on the doorsill. It was tear brought by pain that her disciple left. She could feel the pain and contradiction in her disciple's heart.

[Two kingdoms! Billions of lives! Countless fires and beacon.

You have what you should protect, but I have my responsibility too!

I want to be an ordinary girl who can risk anything for her love, her happiness... But I can't.

Because my name is Wenren.

I am Wenren Chuchu!]

...

Zuo Wuji was standing in front of the widow in the study room. His pretty eyebrows were frowning.

The situation in the capital was in a mess. It was peaceful in appearance, but under that peace, there were waves. Whoever knew about it were scared, terrified, shocked.

Zuo Wuji was one of them!

"If such a disturbance really happens here, I am afraid... Inside the capital of the Kingdom of Chen, rivers of blood will flow! Terrible scenes will be everywhere!" Zuo Wuji sighed to the sky.

"If the capital breaks down, no matter how strong we are in the four battles, our country will be collapsing."

He had been hanging around with the little prince these days. It looked like he was having fun, but in fact, when the auction has ended, Zuo Wuji found that things were not right.

After checking for several days, he surprisedly found that even though the kingdom got a lot of money and became safe again, it was actually falling into a crisis that was even more dangerous than before!

Since the auction began, things gathered in the Kingdom of Chen. As the auction was finished, nothing stopped. More and more waves showed up under appearance.

It was like a volcano hidden under the ground of the Chen-Xing City.

Things had become so strange and unpredictable!

An opportunity wasn't an opportunity anymore. In fact, maybe it still was, but the Kingdom of Chen was getting into a much worse situation. However, it appeared that the kingdom had gained a huge amount of money!

Zuo Wuji reckoned that behind all this, there must be a huge hand pushing it into the current situation. Maybe that powerful hand had set up everything. It just used the auction of the Ling-Bao Hall to achieve its plan!

Whoever held that hand was horrible. The really horrible thing about him was that he made everything going on in public. Nobody could stop or escape it—everybody had to do as he wanted. Even though they knew it was a pit of hell, they had to jump in, even if they dug it themselves!

Ling-Bao Hall would have to hold the auction. It was a great plan. They were doing a great thing for the country!

The entire Kingdom of Chen was benefited by this auction!

Kingdom of Chen was weaker than its enemies in the four sides. It had to be a long war if Kingdom of Chen wanted to win. Money was absolutely needed—a huge amount of money.

Materials, food, weapons, horses, medicines... all required money.

Salaries and pensions also required money!

The fire of the war had flaming in the land of the Kingdom of Chen. There needed to be money to comfort the citizens in the country.

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 335: About Zuo Wuji

The fire of the war flamed every piece of land in the Kingdom of Chen. None of the cities was able to pay tax to the court for the coming few years, instead, they would have to ask for money from the court...

Everything needed money. Kingdom of Chen needed a lot of money—a huge money!

Where did that money come from?

Would it be from the sky?

Would it?

Impossible things sometimes became possible!

Ling-Bao Hall, whose branches covered the entire Land of Han-Yang, who had never been related to any forces or countries in the world, surprisingly declared that they supported the Kingdom of Chen. Half of their incomes from the auction would be donated to the Kingdom of Chen to fill the royal treasury!

Nobody knew how powerful Ling-Bao Hall was in fights, but everyone knew that Ling-Bao Hall was the wealthiest in the Land of Han-Yang.

Even in a normal auction, half of the income would be a large number. This time, it was an auction for the supreme dan beads!

That must be a enormous number!

As expected, Ling-Bao Hall had made a historically huge amount of money.

The money that they donated to the Kingdom of Chen was 70 billion!

It was truly an unbelievable number!

None of any kingdoms in the world could gather such an amount of money on their own. Even if all the kingdoms sat together to pool the money, they might not be able to make it that much!

Besides, it was all in cash.

Such a great amount of money surely wasn't easy to raise. If Ling-Bao Hall didn't have the supreme dan beads, how could they make this much money so easily!

And there was the House of the Chaotic Storms who helped a lot in this. These were what made a legendary auction in the history!

How could the Kingdom of Chen refuse such a big amount of money?

Absolutely not. Even though they knew it would put them into a dangerous situation, they would still do it. Even if they would die after that, they would still do it!

Such a great wealth brought by the auction, would Ling-Bao Hall let it go?

After so many hard works to prepare, after socializing with different forces, they finally earned that money. Even if they knew it would lead them into a dangerous situation, would they give up?

Absolutely not.

The Kingdom of Chen or Ling-Bao Hall, even if they knew what the consequence would be, they would still do the same thing. Others surely had no reason to give up.

Things were just going as it would go. The current situation was a certain consequence.

The hand that pushed all this was a hand with aboveboard scheme. Even though people knew there was danger, they would still step on it. It was such a marvelous and shocking strategy!

However, no matter how admiring it was, it should be unruly.

The Kingdom of Chen was in a dangerous period of time. As a citizen of the kingdom, people should do whatever they can to help!

What could solve such a problem anyway?

Zuo Wuji looked out through the window. He deeply sighed. [The man who set all this up has profound thoughts. He knows well about his enemy, and he does things quick and fast. He must be a powerful man. Even if I have ideas to save the kingdom from the current situation, where do I find such power to actualize it? My power is weaker than my thought!]

While he was just being upset, someone came to report, "Lord Ye has come for a visit."

[Ye Xiao? What does he come for?]

Zuo Wuji thought about it and then his eyes lit up. "Quick! To the study room!"

And then he added, "To my study room."

After he had shown his capability in the family, he had become quite important in the family. He now had his own study room in the house.

This was the first time he and Ye Xiao got together in his own study room!

Neither of them knew that this was a meeting of a milestone. It was an important event in the history that happened afterwards!

The legend began from this moment!

When Ye Xiao entered the room, he was "frightened" by the study room.

"This... This is a study room?"

Ye Xiao's eyes were wide opened.

The room was about 33 meters wide, 52 meters deep and 13 meters high!

[It is no way a study room! It is apparently a warehouse!]

Except it was too spacious, it was totally like a study room though. There were lots of bookshelves in the room, and all bookshelves were filled with books. When Ye Xiao just entered the room, he felt like he was drowning in the ocean of books. He couldn't help feeling dizzy.

All the books were sorted into different categories, tidy and clean. There were lots of papers on the bottom floor of each bookshelf. Those were Zuo Wuji's notes about what he had read in the bookshelf.

"It used to be a waste warehouse of this house... My grandpa allowed me to have my own study room one day, so I asked for this room." Zuo Wuji smiled. "Now I feel it is still too small. There surely is no end for learning... I am going to expand it some days later."

[Such space, such size, you call it small?]

Ye Xiao was speechless. He sat down on a chair and looked around. He found that there were five sets of chairs and tables in the room, other than those bookshelves. They were placed in the shape of a plum

flower. He curiously asked, "Zuo Zuo, your study room is really special. There are so many bookshelves and books. That is good, however, there are also lots of chairs and tables. How do you use them all? I think maybe when you become the prime minister in the court, the entire city won't be spacious enough to be your study room. Holy sh*t."

Zuo Wuji smiled. He made tea for his guest and blandly smile. "A comfortable place is always helpful in study. The room is spacious. When I want to pick a book, sometimes, I will have to walk for a while. There are chairs and tables all around. That would be much more convenient. When I become the prime minister, there will only be books that I write myself. So when that day comes, maybe my study room will just be even smaller than any one else's!"

Ye Xiao was surprised, and then he understood.

[I am truly not a man with lots of thoughts. For Zuo Wuji when that day comes, what does he need to learn from others' books? He must have his own theory!

He surely won't need such a huge study room, or 'study house'.]

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 336: Not So Easy

"Have some tea." Zuo Wuji put a reeky cup of hot tea on the table on Ye Xiao's side. He casually sat by Ye Xiao's side, and he was acting casually. Apparently, he felt comfortable being with Ye Xiao. He said, "Since you come to me, it must be for something important, right?"

Ye Xiao looked at this confident and relaxed man in front of him. He was shocked.

When Zuo Wuji stole the Jade Ruyi for money from his own house, he was so embarrassed.

In the old days, he could be scared by just some words from others. Now, he was casual, confident, decent. That was such a huge difference!

It had only been half a year. How could he change so much?

Zuo Wuji was now giving Ye Xiao an impression that he was a bit like Master Bai of the House of the Chaotic Storms. He could actually be another Master Bai really.

"Zuo Zuo, I can see a big change you have made. A man should be seen in a different way after three days. You are this man." Ye Xiao didn't talk about anything serious and just sighed.

"I have never changed," Zuo Wuji calmly spoke, "I was like this before. I have always been interested with these things. However... I did have some crazy times before. That is all."

Ye Xiao nodded. "Hmm. You mean you are actually a man with lots of secret deep inside your heart. The reason why you are one of the 'three lords in town' is that you act like a prick. The bastard appearance you show people is just your cover..."

Even though Zuo Wuji was profound in thoughts, he was surprised. He turned serious and blandly said, "Xiao Xiao, the stone carving you took away from my house, is it good?"

Ye Xiao laughed out loud. "You bastard. You actually know everything. You have been just playing foolish."

Zuo Wuji humphed and said, "That thing, my grandpa worked so hard to get it. Since he got it, he had changed a lot of places to put it. He didn't find a perfect spot for it at the end, so he just hid it... Haha. My grandpa was always lost in thoughts in front of that thing. Since that thing got into our house, every several days, there would be somebody dead..."

"It may be a good thing, of good use, however, no matter how good it is, if there is no proper way to use it, it will only bring danger to the house. Instead of keeping it in the house and bearing the misfortunes in the family, I would like to send it away, so it would stop bothering me. Things could be avoided in my house." Zuo Wuji smiled. "It is good that you like it. Even if you didn't want it, I would try to find a way to give it to you as a returned favor... Truth is, that thing works for you. Well, you could just take it. It helped you and also helped myself. What a good thing to do!"

Ye Xiao was surprised. "One's only crime was only to carry a jade. The spirit in it isn't something everybody will agree and accept. Zuo Zuo, you are really a generous man!"

Zuo Wuji smiled like a fox. "Old saying is always right in some ways. In fact, the truth has proven me right after all. Since that thing was gone, no one else died in my house."

Ye Xiao was enlightened. "I see."

[It was truly so unbelievably easy to get that thing, so this is why.

I wanted it for sure. Because Zuo Wuji wanted me to have it, I got it in such an easy way.

How could anything just be taken away so easily from the House of Prime Minister Zuo?

Damn it! There are a lot of fools in the world! When I think somebody is a fool, the most foolish one is myself.] Ye Xiao found it both funny and annoying.

Twisting people around the fingers felt good; while to be twisted around somebody's fingers was annoying!

He thought he was twisting others around his fingers, but in fact he was the one who was being twisted. That was utterly annoying!

Was there anything more annoying? Absolutely. When the truth was told and the fact was revealed to everybody involved! It was super annoying to find out that he was the most foolish one!

Ye Xiao felt both funny and annoyed!

Zuo Wuji blandly smiled. "Don't be so upset. You are the one who has benefited the most after all. When that thing belongs to you, it is in good use. I reckon your recent improvement must be its credit!"

Ye Xiao nodded to agree.

The Heavenly Crystal Marrow had the capability to create. It produced the life qi by its own, and it raised everything in the universe. It had spirit itself, so it wouldn't keep producing life qi without limitation.

When it produced life qi, it would also absorb the spiritual energy from the sky and earth. That was its way to keep the world in balance.

Anybody who knew about such good stuff would surely put the Heavenly Crystal Marrow somewhere with dense spiritual qi. It would drive it to produce more life qi, so that it would help the owner cultivate better.

Prime Minister Zuo was of course a discriminating man, yet he didn't know the truth about the Heavenly Crystal Marrow. He didn't know how much it meant to a cultivator; in fact, even saints would want it. However, it barely had good influence to ordinary people.

A small Heavenly Crystal Marrow would not be powerful enough to absorb as much spiritual energy as it required. After it produced life qi for a long time, it would be used up and disappear!

The Heavenly Crystal Marrow that Prime Minister Zuo collected was a big one. It produced lots of life qi, yet it would need to absorb lots of spiritual energy as well. The House of the Prime Minister Zuo surely couldn't have so much spiritual energy. People's life was spiritual energy though. That was why people died so frequently in the old days.

Anyway, it was helping others as well as helping themselves! It made both sides happy!

"That thing..." Ye Xiao smiled. Apparently, he was trying to find some proper words to describe the truth.

"You don't need to tell me that..." Zuo Wuji stopped him. He smiled, "It is yours now. It has nothing to do with me. Besides, I got what I earned. That is enough for me!"

He gently looked at Ye Xiao and said, "To be honest, I am so happy that that thing didn't kill you."

Ye Xiao rolled his eyes.

[Bastard...]

You truly are full of schemes. However, among those vicious schemes, there was a good one, the one you hold for your friends.]

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 337: Martial World Resentment!

No matter how, and no matter what Zuo Wuji had been planning in the past, he and Ye Xiao were now good friends.

Truth about the past didn't matter really.

Maybe Ye Xiao had set Zuo Wuji up earlier, and Zuo Wuji set Ye Xiao up instead. Both sides were to be blamed. It didn't matter how it was before. What mattered is that they were good friends, brothers, now!

"You are not here to just hang around with me, are you?" Zuo Wuji said, "What is it? Cut the roundabout and just tell me."

Ye Xiao humphed and said, “You cunning gawky tricky prick. Why would I come if I don’t have anything serious? Today, I am here for the messy situation in the capital. I need a wise man to sort all things out for me. Among all that I know, you are the wisest one, surprisingly. I guess I have to come to you.”

Ye Xiao was right.

In the entire Chen-Xing City, there were only two people who could help him with any ideas. One was Wenren Chuchu, while the other was Zuo Wuji.

Even if Wenren Chuchu would like to help, Ye Xiao would not dare to accept. He didn’t want to either.

He didn’t dare to, because they were in opposite sides.

He didn’t want to, because he had a strong pride.

[I am a proud man. I have laughed at all heroic figures in the martial world, so how can I ask for a favor by giving one?]

Zuo Wuji was his only choice.

Ye Xiao didn’t made a wrong decision. According to what he learned about Zuo Wuji just now, Zuo Wuji, Lord Zuo, really had such capability.

In fact, he might be even better than Wenren Chuchu in strategies and schemes!

No wonder he was the head of the “three lords in town”, who was even above Ye Xiao!

“The situation in the capital...” Zuo Wuji became solemn. He stopped being casual and instead became upset. “Even if I thoroughly think it through, so what? We have limited power. What can we do about it to solve the problem? Maybe a small power could lift a heavy thing, but a small power will still be required. What we are talking here is much more difficult than lifting any heavy things. In fact, we don’t even have our small power. What can we do?”

Ye Xiao said, “That is not yours to concern. You just need to sort it out thoroughly and make me a practical strategy for it. The rest will be my task. You don’t need to worry.”

While he was speaking, he sounded so confident and overwhelming.

Zuo Wuji heard him. He looked at Ye Xiao for a while and then took a deep breath out. He said, “Okay!”

Ye Xiao smiled with pleasure.

Zuo Wuji said, “Maybe I am going to make a cloud-built theory now. Maybe it is just whistling jigs to a milestone. Anyways, I am going to drive my brain seriously!”

Ye Xiao was a bit angry and speechless!

[You prick! Why can’t you just say something I would like to hear?

Cloud-built theory? Fine. What do you mean whistling jigs to a milestone? Do you think I wouldn’t know you are calling me dumb?

Hmm. You said it loud and clear in front of me!

What the fxxk...]

Zuo Wuji teased Ye Xiao first, but he didn't let the third one of the 'three lords in town' go. "Lan Langlang, that bastard, what a covert he played. Well planned... Damn it. He got away and escaped the crisis in the capital. Now the whole world is looking at Chen-Xing City. All those men in the martial world... He must have had a safe and happy tour to the battle. That is for sure."

He sighed. "In fact, what he is doing should be full of danger. His life is put in risk. You never can predict the future though. He, such a silly dude, actually made everything. Foolish men sometimes have good fortune."

"Foolish or not, he did play a good scheme this time." Ye Xiao nodded.

Zuo Wuji replied with a "hmm". He stood up and walked to the biggest table among the five. It was in the center of the room. He pulled a hanging rod, and then suddenly put a map on the table.

"This is the map of Chen-Xing City," Zuo Wuji said, "it was finished last night. I never thought it would be used today so soon. What a luck. I don't know how much use it has though."

Ye Xiao looked closer and found that it still smelled ink.

There were directions, locations, houses names, and the spots of all those martial forces on the map.

"I don't think I need to tell you what is happening in the city now. We both know it. Anyways, it is serious, and it is indeed terrible," Zuo Wuji said, "under the peaceful appearance, there are many volcanoes hidden under it that will burst at any second."

"Look here. It is the area of the royal house." Zuo Wuji used a narrow white stick to point the center of the map. "Outside the royal house, there are houses of those officials... My house is here. And yours is there..."

"I don't know if there are any strangers living in your house, but in other officials' houses, there are all kinds of martial world people staying. Even in my house, there is a group of people..." Zuo Wuji said, "There are seven guys in black living in my house. They act secretly. They come and go without a sign. I don't know how strong they are, because I don't have a pair of eyes that are capable to. I can roughly make a guess that they are all Sky Origin Stage cultivators."

Ye Xiao took a breath and didn't make a sound.

"They are carrying some strong aura of depression. I don't think they are of any good kind. I tried to check on their background, but I am not so capable of it. The only useful information is that they were not on the list of people who attended the auction, and it is said that the Boundless Saint has arrived in the Chen-Xing City. He just hasn't shown up yet..."

"What I have learned about the Boundless Saint is that he feels quite similar to these seven men... I boldly conjecture that they are very likely from the Boundless Lake," Zuo Wuji spoke in a deep voice.

Ye Xiao was shocked.

It didn't shock Ye Xiao that Zuo Wuji knew about the martial world figures hiding in his house.

What shocked him was that Zuo Wuji was actually able to tell all the forces and sort them out well. He could actually come to a conclusion that the seven men were from the Boundless Lake.

A man who wasn't in the martial world and didn't know how to cultivate had such information about the martial world. It proved that Zuo Wuji had a marvelous brain.

However, what shocked Ye Xiao the most would be something else.

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 338: Fine-draw

When Ye Xiao took the Heavenly Crystal Marrow from Zuo Wuji, those men who got to the House of Zuo to make a disturbance were most likely people from the Boundless Lake.

When those men mistook Ye Xiao for Ning Biluo, they said, "Ning Biluo, the Saint would never let you go!"

However, Boundless Lake people settled in the House of Zuo now.

What was the truth behind all? What relations were there between things?

What connection did House of Zuo had with the Boundless Lake?

It wasn't a proper time to try figure this out though.

"In the Crown Prince's Palace, there are Mu Clan people. In the second prince's place, there are people from the Nangong Clan. In the third prince's house, there are people from Gongsun Clan..."

"Each of the three oldest princes is apparently in the opposite side to the other princes. Each of them knows that the other two princes are his threats, since they are all fighting for the crown. So, Mu Clan is not in good terms with the other two clans."

"The three clans are all inside the Kingdom of Chen. They all have different interests though. They support different sides. That is obvious."

Zuo Wuji said, "Nangong Clan and Gongsun Clan cannot be in good terms with each other. That is for sure."

"The other five clans didn't reside in any other officials' houses. They just stay in the hostels... and they have obvious purposes. They don't want to arouse suspicion. Interesting thing is they stayed in five different hostels at the beginning. The nearest two hostels are several miles away from each other. It seems all those noble clans have problems against each other. They are all with different thoughts."

"Recently, the five clans all moved into the biggest hostel in the Chen-Xing City, Chen-Xing Hostel, where the Long Clan has been staying. They must have felt the pressure. They know they have to cooperate with each other against outer forces. They are trying to save themselves. Because of their weakness, they don't want to snatch anything anymore. The only thing they want is safety. They don't want to be... robbed."

Zuo Wu talked about his thoughts about the eight noble clans, who were martial clans that had strong connections with different kingdoms!

Ye Xiao's eyes lit up when he heard it.

"The Cyan Cloud Sect is in the east city. They are staying still, and they don't seem to be connected to any other sects. They are steady, however, they are much weaker than the two great sects. Why aren't they afraid then? And, during these days, no superior cultivators from the Cyan Cloud Sect has come to the capital. That is some special move... The only explanation is that they have strong backing."

"I reckon one of the two great sects must be strongly related with Cyan Cloud Sect, that is why they are not afraid."

"They know they would never be robbed. They wouldn't be robbed by the great sects at least. Except the two great sects, they can handle any other forces."

"Green Mountain Sect and Reaching Cloud Hall are staying in the same place. There are not enough hostels for such amount of people now. They rent people's house by paying a lot."

"During these days, they have sent lots of superior cultivators. They seem to feel that they will be the targets for the two great sects, and thus, they gathered as many people as they can to try solve their problem."

"..."

Zuo Wuji talked about every sect, and every family while pointing them on the map with that narrow stick. He talked systematically.

Ye Xiao was absorbedly listening to him and absorbedly memorizing all.

There were over seventy top powerful forces in the Chen-Xing City. Zuo Wuji talked so well and he was very familiar with them.

"Next. I am going to talk about the Sunlight Sect and the Starlight Sect." Zuo Wuji took in a deep breath and said, "I have to say that they are truly two shameless sects. The Sunlight Sect is in the east of the city, while the Starlight Sect is in the west. They stay in these two sides, and obviously, they are trying to keep watch on the entire city. They even sent their men to the south and north gates. That is a bold move. Apparently, they are not just here for the dan beads. They want to vent the anger in their chests."

"What they are aiming at are those martial forces, and especially the Ling-Bao Hall."

"In their sects, there are master superior cultivators. They are truly stronger than any other sects. However, they don't have enough money to take all the sects down at one time. Thus, during the days, they have sent people coming too... They are waiting for an opportunity."

"When they have it, they will go for it. All the other sects will be wiped down."

At this moment, Ye Xiao finally interrupted him, "The opportunity will be when all the forces leave the Chen-Xing City and on their way home... The great sects can take them down one by one and take as much as they can."

“Yes,” Zuo Wuji agreed and said, not only the great sects, but also over seventy other sects know it. That is why no one chose to leave. They are all staying in the city. They are waiting for a change... It is a capital of a kingdom after all. There are protection forces of the king, so the two great sects will not take any reckless actions... All of these leads to the biggest problem for us.”

“If they don’t leave, the two great sects would lose their patience anyway. When they think they have enough manpower, they will do it no matter where it is. The royal protection force is just a limited shield...”

“When they start to do it, it will be the beginning of a great mess.”

Zuo Wuji said, “There is an uncertainty though. That is the people from the Boundless Lake, who have been hidden in my house all these days. It is said that the Boundless Saint is the evilest man in the world! Such a man in the dark will be a threat, like a knife above the head for everyone. Nobody should ignore him.”

“What I said is the current situation about the martial world.” Zuo Wuji took a breath and drank some tea, and then he said, “These are what I can gather and analyze. Those people, they maybe very strong and powerful, but if we use some strategy to alienate them, it will become a much easier task... Surely, no matter what strategy we will use, we need certain power. If we don’t have it, we can just have thoughts. It won’t help if there are only thoughts.”

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Realms In The Firmament

Chapter 339: God Damned Feng Monarch

Ye Xiao took a breath out too and sighed as he murmured, “This bunch of bastards are more than enough to stir the Chen-Xing City up... You said these are the people you know about their connections. Who are those you cannot then?”

Zuo Wuji rolled his eyes and said, groaning, “Those are the real enemies of ours. They are the ones who fish in troubled waters. Ah. It is all Ling-Bao Hall’s fault...”

Ye Xiao coughed. “Uh, why don’t you give me some details.”

“Ling-Bao Hall...” Zuo Wuji spoke like he was having a headache, “I have to say that Feng Monarch of the Ling-Bao Hall has no other strong points except he has a bold heart. He must be either without a brain or a rotted brain. He must be using his knees to think, and his brain is just for decoration, I am afraid...”

Ye Xiao stared at him with his eyes wide opened for a while, and then he took a breath out. “Go on.”

“That asshole, he created such an auction. He actually made a great hornet’s nest on his own and raised it to a huge one. At the end, he broke it himself too...”

Zuo Wuji spoke with hatred, “He has made a huge mess that is bigger than the sky. Most annoying, he actually disappeared after making such a mess to the city... He hasn’t been seen for days. Maybe he has already been killed. He should have been killed earlier. If he died before the auction, none of this sh*t would happen...”

Ye Xiao looked at the prick who was insulting him right there. He really wanted to throw the cup on his face, but he knew he couldn't, so he didn't do it.

He couldn't expose himself.

"Come on. Can you say anything useful now? What is it really?" Ye Xiao was impatient. "Can you solve the problem by just abusing people? Besides, he has donated 70 billion for our kingdom. Why don't you go solve the financial problem for our kingdom if he didn't do it?"

Zuo Wuji was stunned. He spoke in anger, "What is it? You actually defended that guy. Is this thing relevant to you?"

Ye Xiao angrily spoke, "I said that Feng Zhiling is the hero of our kingdom! I will not allow anybody to insult our great hero!"

Zuo Wuji looked at him for a long time and murmured, "Hmm. I never deny it. He might have done things in the wrong way, but what he has done is admirable. It isn't wrong to call him our hero..."

Ye Xiao said, "Fine. Go on you. Say something serious. Come on."

Zuo Wuji murmured, "I was talking about someone else after all. What is wrong with you..."

He cleared his voice and said, "The auction has solved a big problem for our kingdom, however, it brought a huge problem at the same time. It benefits the kingdom for one time, yet put the future in danger for a long time."

"Ling-Bao Hall offended the two great kingdoms in the world as well as our enemies in the south and north. The 70 billion money disrupted their plans. Over three billion people in the world hate Feng Zhiling in the Land of Han-Yang! ..."

"Three... billion!" Ye Xiao shivered.

[Damn! I didn't think of it when the auction was on. There are actually so many people cursing me?!

Oh my god!]

"Now, different forces from all kingdoms all wanted Feng Zhiling's head. They all put a bounty for it. That is reasonable though. Feng Zhiling's miserable situation is because of nothing but his own fault." Zuo Wuji sighed.

"What? Come on, Zuo Zuo. Isn't it too over to talk about a hero like that!" Ye Xiao was annoyed.

"Xiao Xiao, why do you care about him so much? Why do you keep defending him?" Zuo Wuji seemed to find out something interesting!

He looked at Ye Xiao with a smile on his face. Deep in his eyes, there were profound thoughts.

"I am not precisely defending him. I just think that after a man has done so much for our country, it is not right to question his good will for benefiting our kingdom. I don't think you should slander him like that!" Ye Xiao seriously said.

"I am not slandering him. It is my impersonal view!" Zuo Wuji said.

“What the hell. What more do you want to speak ill of him if what you said isn’t slandering him? Feng Zhiling is on our side after all. Do you really have to talk about him like that?” Ye Xiao wasn’t so happy right now.

“Xiao Xiao, we are talking about the whole vision of the situation here. What we are doing requires us to be absolutely objective. You cannot bring your personal emotion into it. I have my reasons to get the conclusion about Feng Zhiling, but you, you’re just being emotional. Do you know Feng Zhiling well?” Zuo Wuji said.

“Hmm? Me? We... No... Not at all... Not anymore...” Ye Xiao became incoherent!

“Forget it. I don’t care whether you two know each other or not. Now he is missing. Even if you want, you can’t possibly bring him to me right now anyway... Let me tell you what exactly Ling-Bao Hall is facing right now, and then you will understand why I have that conclusion about Feng Zhiling!”

“Okau. I am listening!”

“Ling-Bao Hall has branches all over the world. It is famous for not standing any side among the kingdoms. Because it has been aloof to all kingdoms, it has survived for thousands of years. It is an extremely powerful organization, and it never picked a side when two kingdoms are on war. That is the reason why it can stay strong in the history!

However, Feng Zhiling has broken the rule this time. He declared that they supported the Kingdom of Chen. What he did has offended most people. He did benefit the Ling-Bao Hall for now, but in the future, there is full of danger for Ling-Bao Hall. I can be sure that if no other forces assist Ling-Bao Hall, this salesroom, which has been existing for centuries, will fall soon. It will disappear!” Zuo Wuji said seriously.

“I don’t think it is so severe, is it? I think Feng Zhiling is quite an experienced and capable man. Ling-Bao Hall shouldn’t be so weak though. Besides, even though Ling-Bao Hall doesn’t have branches in other kingdoms anymore, it can always stay in the Kingdom of Chen. Don’t tell me the Kingdom of Chen is planning against Ling-Bao Hall too?!” Ye Xiao said, “Would they be biting the hands that feed them?”

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[Realms In The Firmament](#)

Chapter 340: Know Nothing About Politics

Zuo Wuji sighed, “Xiao Xiao, you really know nothing about politics in the country. While Ling-Bao Hall is trying to benefit the kingdom, the kingdom is surely grateful for it. However, when Ling-Bao Hall can no more benefit the kingdom, and CAN even become a burden to the kingdom, the kingdom will kick it out without hesitation. No matter how capable Feng Zhiling is, I can be sure about another thing, Feng Zhiling can be the Monarch of Ling-Bao Hall for not long. Wan Zhenghao has thousands years experience. He would never do such a stupid thing!” Zuo Wuji said.

Ye Xiao opened his mouth but said nothing. What Zuo Wuji said was all true. He couldn’t deny it!

“Alright now. Let’s go on with the current situation. The number of assassins from different kingdoms is huge. It is hard to sort them into different kinds. However, there is something we can divide them for.

Generally, there are over five thousand assassins that are on records in the Chen-Xing City right now! However, they disappeared as soon as they entered the city..."

"In other words, there are more than five thousand assassins hidden in the city."

"Besides, they are all here for official orders," Zuo Wuji said, "more scarily, there are assassin associations from the martial world and those freelance assassins...These people are well hidden. Nobody knows about their background, but there is one thing I can be sure about: the number of people entering the city through the city gates is twice as much as usual!"

"Don't be surprised though. Not yet. The real astonishing thing is coming. That is the number of people entering the city. The number of people leaving the city is the same as usual. That means there are more than a hundred thousand people who entered the city and didn't leave. What are they here for? Who are they? We know the answer.

"Many of them are here for Ling-Bao Hall, Feng Zhiling, and Wan Zhenghao for sure, but not all of them are locking on Ling-Bao Hall and its people. It is the capital of the Kingdom of Chen after all. I believe many people would come here for the royal house. Actually, they may be aiming at the entire city!"

"Hmm. I understand what you said. Reasonable enough. However, do you really have no idea how to deal with these people? Or what do you need to deal with them?" Ye Xiao asked.

"Since there is a lock; there must be a key. I surely can think about something. What it needs on me is absolute power. Strength. If you have no hands, you can't make fist. Without power, every thing is just a joke!" Zuo Wuji said.

"Like what? I mean, if somebody can provide certain power for you, what do you have to deal with the situation?" Ye Xiao kept asking.

"That's easy. We give whatever these men want!" Zuo Wuji looked at Ye Xiao and said word by word, "We use Ling-Bao Hall, Feng Zhiling, and Wan Zhenghao as baits to draw them out first."

"Bait!"

Ye Xiao was shocked.

"Zuo Zuo, would it be too... over? Ling-Bao Hall has helped the kingdom for big one. We plan to give up on them... That... That is not so honorable, is it?" Ye Xiao didn't feel comfortable about it.

"Xiao Xiao, you simply know nothing about politics. No matter how things look like, if it is relevant to the national interests, everything can be sacrificed. In fact, the auction is over, and the seventy billion is in the kingdom's royal treasury. What happens to Ling-Bao Hall and Feng Zhiling is not the kingdom's problem. They are sacrificed, so what? Don't you think the king will think about baiting? He doesn't have the right and capable man to complete the mission. That is all!" Zuo Wuji helplessly spoke.

"Hmm. I see. So what should we do to proceed with the baiting plan?" Ye Xiao asked.

"Hmm... Xiao Xiao, you are not saying you will do it, right? You know, if Feng Zhiling and Wan Zhenghao are going to be the baits... they are very likely going to die." Zuo Wuji sighed.

"Don't you worry about it. Just tell me... how to proceed it," Ye Xiao asked. In fact he was speechless.

[Feng Zhiling is sacrificed... So be it.

I am alive. That is all I want!]

“It isn’t that difficult to solve the problem. If we have the power, we just need to...” Zuo Wuji told Ye Xiao everything about the plan. Ye Xiao’s eyes were lit up.

Zuo Wuji told him dozens of schemes one after another, and they were all connected.

Ye Xiao kept thinking about how practical the schemes were. He couldn’t help praising, [What a brain of Zuo Wuji. That is awesome.]

“In fact, to deal with those hidden ones, it is not so hard. It can be easily done as long as we are powerful enough. The most difficult problem in this issue is the House of the Chaotic Storms.” Zuo Wuji sighed. “There must be a force pushing all this ahead. Everybody is under its control. House of the Chaotic Storms is the only one who can do this.”

Ye Xiao nodded. The image of Master Bai acting casually showed up in his sight.

It was sure that Master Bai’s demeanor was impressive even in Ye Xiao’s eyes. Among all the enemies Ye Xiao had in both his lives, he must be the scariest one!

Power, strength, strategy, in every aspect, he was overwhelming. How could Ye Xiao defeat a man like that!

“What a shame. There is nothing I can think of that can deal with the House of the Chaotic Storms.” Zuo Wuji was frustrated as he said, “We can only wait till they strike, and then we figure out something to defend it.”

Ye Xiao was quiet.

He couldn’t blame Zuo Wuji. There was really no way for it.

No matter how good they made a plan, the House of the Chaotic Storms would change everything just within seconds and take control again!

It would be better to just wait for their moves and see what they should do to deal with it.

It would be rather reckless to have a fight against the enemy who was much stronger than themselves!

The only chance that stood in the current situation was the possibility of changing! They might be able to defeat the enemy by schemes!

However, they might also be weaker in schemes!

...

When Ye Xiao left the House of Zuo, it was dark already. Lights were about to be put on in the city.

He made a turn into an alley and blandly said, “Show yourself.”

A figure flashed, and a slim figure showed up in front of him.

The man had a rawboned face, and a pair sharp and cold eyes.

It was Ning Biluo.

The famous No. 1 Assassin in the Land of Han-Yang.

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