

## 961 NIGHT AMBUSH

Sun Zhongyang, Mo Xiaoya, and the rest looked at one another helplessly. There seemed to be no real need for Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu to stay behind. They were strangers who had come together by chance. Lu Shu had only established a deal with them to find the commander of the Wei Wu Army. He did not sell himself to them.

To be honest, Sun Zhongyang and the rest were very confident. They did not think that it would be of much help to have a peak Rank Two like Lu Shu to stay behind. Of course, Sun Zhongyang also suspected that this young man had some sort of background. If not, how was he able to advance to peak Rank Two?

Even when Sun Zhongyang and the rest of the geniuses were at Lu Shu's age, they were just as powerful as Lu Shu. But Sun Zhongyang did not know that this was the second time Lu Shu had trained to peak Rank Two...

But no matter what, when Sun Zhongyang looked at Lu Shu, he felt that he was unable to swallow this insult. Why did it feel like it was more dangerous for him to be with this group of people? In the palace, no matter where they went, people would revolve around them. Why were they being abandoned here? Sun Zhongyang could not bear this humiliation!

"I will add more money," said Sun Zhongyang as he calmly looked at Lu Shu.

"Brother!"

When Sun Zhongyang heard this, he started to have a headache. He suddenly felt that this young man had definitely not been sent by an enemy. If not, he would not be selling everything he had all the time...

Lu Shu's eyes lit up. "How much more?"

"One million notes. Escort us to the palace," said Sun Zhongyang. "When we reach the palace, you can take the money from any one of our private banks."

Sun Zhongyang did not actually hope that Lu Shu would be able to escort them to the palace. Rather, he was holding his breath. He wanted Lu Shu to stay behind in the trade caravan. You wanted to go, right? You loved money, right? Then stay behind!

Lu Shu thought about it. As expected, the Sun family was different. They were able to open private banks in the palace. But he shook his head. "The mission of escorting you will be very dangerous. Thus, one million notes will not be enough. I will have to collect three million notes!"

This time, no matter what Sun Zhongyang and the rest thought, Lu Shu felt that the better the background of the Sun family, the stronger the people who would attack them. These slaves might have come only to explore the routes. Thus, one million would not be enough for Lu Shu to travel with them.

If they encountered a danger that they could not face, Lu Shu could simply let Anthony bring him and Lu Xiaoyu to escape.

"Amazing, amazing." Lu Shu praised him. "Help me write a receipt and stamp your fingerprint on it."

"From Sun Zhongyang's distress, +777!"

Sun Zhongyang and the rest realized that Lu Shu desperately needed money. He did not even take time to consider his own abilities. He even dared to ask for this deal!

“People like you.” Mo Xiaoya said calmly, “To you, money is as important as your life. But have you thought about this? What if this spreads? Whoever becomes your employer is an idiot. In the future, you will have fewer opportunities to make money, right?”

Lu Shu paused for two seconds. Then, he looked at Sun Zhongyang. “She said that you are an idiot.”

Mo Xiaoya was confused.

Sun Zhongyang was speechless.

“From Sun Zhongyang’s distress...”

Sun Zhongyang and the rest realized that they had been more angry over the past few days than in their entire lives!

At that moment, the food in the trade caravan was ready. Before Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu went over to take food, Xu Mujun had already passed bowls of rice to them. Then, she squatted beside them and watched them eagerly.

Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu were helpless as well. This lady had always been like this since she joined the trade caravan. She was already in character...

“Miss Mujun,” said Lu Shu earnestly, “you don’t have to do this for us. With your conditions, you will be able to live a good life wherever you go.”

Xu Mujun shook her head. “They are not as good-looking as you are.”

“Ha ha ha ha. Is that the case... ouch!” Lu Shu turned and angrily looked at Lu Xiaoyu. What a painful pinch!

Xu Mujun did not say anything else. She brought a guqin<sup>1</sup> and sang while playing the guqin. Needless to say, she was very skilled. On the other hand, Lu Shu was eating a bowl of buckwheat noodles outside. He seemed as if he was eating a feast...

Indeed, Wen Zaifou had many resources. He even used this young lady as a planted agent. Lu Shu felt that something was wrong. It was as if Wen Zaifou had even greater plans.

At that moment, Lu Shu suddenly looked up into the sky. Something that looked like a shooting star was heading towards him at a high speed. But it was not a shooting star. It was an arrow!

Sun Zhongyang and the rest had seen the arrow as well, but had determined that the arrow was aimed at Lu Shu. Thus, they stood in one corner and watched quietly. They wanted to see how Lu Shu would react. They also wanted to see whether their judgment was right.

When the sound of thunder reached their ears, Lu Shu had brought his bowl of buckwheat noodles to another side with Lu Xiaoyu and Xu Mujun. He continued to eat his noodles.

Crash! The arrow caused a crater to form in the ground. But Lu Shu was no longer sitting there.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest looked at one another, then looked at Lu Shu, who was

eating noodles. The boss of the trade caravan was right. Although Lu Shu was greedy, he had his own standards.

Ordinary people would be different from Lu Shu. They would not be able to continue calmly eating their noodles when an arrow was aimed at them.

Lu Shu pondered. This probably happened after he had saved the boss of the trade caravan. The slaves lodged a report against him to mind his own business.

They probably could not sense Lu Shu's limits. Thus, they wanted to see whether they could scare him away.

The slaves had probably never expected that Lu Shu already had a plan. If these slaves caused any harm to Sun Zhongyang and the rest, he would not earn any money.

Lu Shu would demand the money he was supposed to earn from the slaves...

Sun Zhongyang said in a low voice, "He might be of use to us."

Mo Xiaoya said in disdain, "He'd better not run away."

"He doesn't seem like that kind of person to me." Sun Zhongyang shook his head.

"You might not have noticed it, but I could sense murderous intent from him amidst his calmness. He is keeping it in, but once he unleashes it, it might be like a thunderbolt..."

Before he could finish speaking, Sun Zhongyang suddenly heard Lu Shu shouting from not too far away. "What?! Run away!"

They heard a sharp noise from the sky. Countless arrows dropped down from the sky like shooting stars. A hundred people had just fired their arrows!

Then, Sun Zhongyang and the rest looked at Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu in shock. One of them carried the carriage, and the other carried a horse. Then, they ran away...

This was a bit too much. Since when were there air carriages?

Xu Mujun calmly carried her guqin and followed Lu Shu. She covered over a hundred feet in one step. She was like a deity crossing an abyss.

### **962 LU XIAOSHU, GREEDY FOR LIFE AND AFRAID OF DEATH**

The rain of arrows was very sudden. So was Lu Shu's escape. Sun Zhongyang had just promised that Lu Shu would not run away, but he did.

But if you wanted to run, just run. Why did you have to carry a carriage with you?

In reality, this rain of arrows was not much of a threat to him. Experts who were Rank Two and above would not die due to this kind of attack. Thus, Lu Shu determined that although they would be fine, the journey ahead would be difficult if their horses and carriages were destroyed.

Lu Shu nurtured his sword energy in the carriage everyday. Without the carriage, he would have to walk. This would be painful, but more importantly, it would delay the progress of his training.

Sun Zhongyang had not expected Lu Shu to do this, but even the slaves, who were lying in ambush in the distance, did not expect this to happen...

Someone asked in a small voice, "Is there anything particularly important in the

carriages?"

"That is possible. But let us mind our own business. Our master said that we only had to kill the 12 palace geniuses. They are already hard enough to deal with." Someone said in a cold tone, "We must keep our eyes on our target."

This group of people were professionals. They had killed many so-called experts for many years.

People from the trade caravan died under the rain of arrows. But those who had died were the slaves of the boss. Sun Zhongyang and the rest were unharmed.

The boss of the trade caravan was in agony. Once all his slaves died, he could only abandon his goods along the road. But he had some hope. The Sun family never wronged the people below them. If his trade caravan had suffered great losses because of Sun Zhongyang, the Sun family would definitely repay him.

It was not that the Sun family was kind-hearted. Everyone understood that this way, more people would be willing to sell themselves to the Sun family in the future.

There were two very important things now. Firstly, Sun Zhongyang had to survive. Secondly, he himself had to survive.

Businessmen valued material gain over righteousness. Thus, when the boss of the trade caravan saw his slaves die as a result of the arrows, he was not in much pain. Not all of his slaves had died. Half of them were still alive. But a majority of his horses and carriages had suffered.

The boss of the trade caravan had complex feelings. Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu carried

the horse and carriage while they slowly walked over. "Will they come here and fight?"

Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu had not put down their horse and carriage. If the boss of the trade caravan said that they would come here, they might run away again...

But Sun Zhongyang was not willing to give up just like that. He said coldly, "Rather than waiting for them to attack us, we should settle this once and for all."

At first, Lu Shu had thought that Sun Zhongyang was a young, prideful, and aggressive man who thought that he was invincible just because he was a Rank One. But he carefully observed Sun Zhongyang's expression. He remained calm and did not seem to be acting rashly.

Lu Shu understood. Sun Zhongyang was not asking rashly. On the other hand, he had understood that if the enemy was in the dark, and they were in the light, there was no use in delaying this. It would be best to take action when they were at their strongest.

If they were too weak, forget it. But they had four Rank Ones and eight Rank Twos. No one would look down on them no matter where they went.

Sun Zhongyang drew a red sword from his invisible storage equipment and held it. "Come and kill them with me. We must be careful while we do so."

Just as he finished speaking, he saw Lu Shu place the horse on the ground. He folded his sleeves and prepared to follow them.

Sun Zhongyang was dumbfounded. "What are you doing?"



"I am going to protect you," said Lu Shu, as if it was a natural thing to do. "Rest assured. I am being paid to do this. I do have accomplishments in my past work."

"Forget it. Don't go. It is far too dangerous." Sun Zhongyang shook his head. Although he wanted to annoy Lu Shu and leave him here, if they encountered danger, he did not want to involve Lu Shu. Thus, he rejected Lu Shu's offer.

Lu Shu felt that since he had collected money, he had to complete his mission. If not, how could his branding be stable?

Mo Xiaoya suddenly asked, "Where are your weapons? Do you not have any weapons?"

Lu Shu looked around. He could find a tree branch, but he felt that Sun Zhongyang and the rest would have definitely heard about the commander of the Wei Wu Army using a tree branch to kill his enemies. Thus, he could not expose himself with an obvious characteristic like that. Lu Shu had to think carefully in order to protect his character.

Lu Shu looked at the boss of the trade caravan. "I saved your life."

Then, he gazed at the boss for a long time.

"From Song Bo's distress, +666!"

At first, the boss of the trade caravan wanted to act as if he had not heard Lu Shu. He thought that as long as he showed his rejection, this young man would give up. But he had underestimated Lu Shu.

The boss of the trade caravan was speechless. "I don't have any weapons either."

"I saved your life," said Lu Shu calmly. Then, he gazed at the boss.

"From Song Bo's distress, +666!"

Before the boss of the trade caravan could take out his weapons, Sun Zhongyang could no longer wait. If he waited until Lu Shu obtained a weapon, the enemy would have run away.

Sun Zhongyang felt that although he was angry with Lu Shu, and even looked down on him, Lu Shu had been involved in this because of him.

Although Sun Zhongyang was a disciple of the palace, he would not involve the innocent. Thus, he wanted Lu Shu to stay behind. Sun Zhongyang said, "You..."

"Okay. I will stay behind," said Lu Shu calmly.

Sun Zhongyang was silent.

"From Sun Zhongyang's distress, +888!"

Sun Zhongyang did not say anything else. He led the other disciples of the palace towards the source of the rain of arrows. Lu Shu sat down and continued to eat his buckwheat noodles. He even looked up and asked the boss of the trade caravan, "Are there any more noodles?"

"Yes, yes, yes." The boss of the trade caravan forced a smile. This young man was probably the strangest person he had seen all these years...

Lu Xiaoyu carried a bowl of noodles as well. She asked in a soft voice, "Are we really not helping them?"

Lu Shu spoke as he ate. "We have to help them. If not, he will not pay us anything. But the problem is, the enemy definitely has some other tactics. We should observe the situation before doing anything. If we aren't making any money, and get involved in this, it will not be worth it."

Before Mo Xiaoya left, she looked at Lu Shu, full of despise. It was as if Lu Shu had become a person who was greedy for life and afraid of death to her.

### **963 DISASTERS INVOLVING BLOOD**

The boss of the trade caravan was extremely anxious when he saw the sparks in the sky. He was worried that Sun Zhongyang and the rest created trouble and he had to bear the consequences. He was unable to bear the consequences.

At this moment, he was slightly envious of Lu Shu. He looked at Lu Shu who sat cross-legged beside the bonfire and Lu Xiaoyu who was sitting quietly beside Lu Shu.

The battle was still ongoing. A long battle signified that both parties' powers were on par. However, that was what the boss of the trade caravan was worried about. Three days ago, he told Sun Zhongyang that he hoped that the expert of the Sun family could takeover but Sun Zhongyang hesitated for a long while and did not agree.

There were internal strifes between aristocrats. Direct descendants definitely had a more superior position than an extended family member. Although the extended family members were always envious of the direct descendants, they did not know that the direct descendants might not lead a happy life.

The ancestors of the Sun family was still alive and the position of the head of the

family was constantly eyed by people. In the Luniverse, as long as you had the capability, you would be respected regardless of seniority!

Although Sun Zhongyang did not stand a chance to get the position of the head of the family, his father was a good candidate. If he had to ask the experts in his family to help him because of a simple university experiment, he would definitely be laughed at by the others in his family.

If he was unrelated, Sun Zhongyang would definitely put himself in the safest position as possible. However, if things involving his family happened, no matter how doted upon he was, he could not stir up trouble.

Moreover, even if he managed to get the help of experts, Sun Zhongyang would not be able to confirm if the other party was there to help him. What if someone in the Sun family was a spy?

However, the situation was not as serious as he thought it would be. Mo Xiaoya had already contacted her family and Sun Zhongyang was unable to get the help of experts. Therefore, the Mo family was not worried about this.

Perhaps, the experts of the Mo family was already on their way and it was a matter of time before they arrived.

Suddenly, the boss of the trade caravan looked surprised. He realized that when Lu Shu was unintentionally moving his sword, the bonfire was being moved too.

The flickering of the flames of the bonfire was evidently faster. Moreover, the boss of the trade caravan saw a transparent sword in the fire and it had immense energy!

Although the boss of the trade caravan had the powers equivalent to that of a Rank Two, he did not push himself in this battle as he knew that he was capable but could not fight well.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest had to sharpen their skills in terms of battles while the boss of the trade caravan was busy earning money. Although this seemed extremely ordinary and relaxed in the Luniverse, everything was no longer limited to battles now.

The bonfire was still flickering and the boss of the trade caravan was impressed by how Lu Shu still had the mood to train. He felt that Lu Shu was an extraordinary teenager but could not state specifically the reason why.

Moreover, he also realized that Xu Mujun was also protecting Lu Shu like Lu Xiaoyu, as though she was afraid that someone would come over and attack Lu Shu.

The boss of the trade caravan went from the South to the North and initially had no time to care about Lu Shu because he wanted to deal with Sun Zhongyang. However, he suddenly realized that something was amiss. Based on the expression that his opponent gave when he left, he could tell that the lady was almost an expert too by her expressions.

Good-looking, talented, and an expert. Why did she suddenly eye up Lu Shu? There must be a limit no matter what...

Therefore, the boss of the trade caravan was thinking, if his speculation was accurate and Xu Mujun was actually appointed so that she could get close to Lu Shu and protect him, then what would be the background of this individual so as to make Xu Mujun take such actions?

Which aristocrat? Or... Or was it someone whom he could not imagine?

Suddenly, the sounds of footsteps were heard. The boss of the trade caravan was suddenly alert. The group of slaves brought people over, this meant that they did not want to let anyone off.

“19 people,” said the assistant of the boss of the trade caravan as he placed his ear on the ground, “I can’t figure out his capability from this.”

The boss of the trade caravan looked at Lu Shu. He was not good at battles. His slaves could still manage to fight against some bandits but were unable to fight against the attackers. Therefore, he placed his hopes on Lu Shu and Xu Mujun.

The boss of the trade caravan did not put any hopes on Lu Xiaoyu at all because he thought that with Lu Xiaoyu’s tender age, even if she was a genius of the palace, she would not be too powerful.

However, Lu Shu simply sat cross-legged and nurtured his sword energy. He did not have the intention to move at all.

At this moment, Xu Mujun said quietly to Lu Xiaoyu and Lu Shu, “Should I go?”

The boss of the trade caravan saw Lu Xiaoyu smile as she replied to Xu Mujun, “No, you don’t have to.”

Suddenly, a loud boom was heard from the direction of the footsteps. It felt as though the ground cracked open and the sky was collapsing.

Along with the cracking sounds came the cries and shouts of the killers. Almost instantly, the mood changed completely.

At the next instant, the assistant of the boss of the trade caravan suddenly raised his head. “God knows why after the explosion, all the footsteps disappeared and it seemed that everyone had died!”

Everyone in the trade caravan was shocked. Nobody had moved. Who killed the attackers?! Someone ended the battle just as they were panicking? Could it be that an expert hiding nearby had attacked?

The boss of the trade caravan looked at Lu Xiaoyu and frowned. The little girl did not attack but she evidently knew that someone was going to attack.

He could not understand who exactly were the young man and the little girl. Were there experts protecting them?

Strange, it was too strange!

The boss of the trade caravan could not help but to start imagining things. At this moment, Lu Shu spoke in a calm manner, “Boss, do you need protection? If you are willing to pay, I can assure you that you will not be hurt until you reach the palace...”

The boss of the trade caravan was speechless. If the young man had a terrifying background, why would he be so f\*cking greedy?!

Lu Shu kept silent and said again, “Judging from your looks, you will undergo a disaster involving blood in these few days...”

The boss of the trade caravan said, "... In order to earn money, you are resorting to bluffing people?"

"From Song Bo's distress, +666!"

Lu Shu shook his head. "I am not bluffing you... I am threatening you..."

The boss of the trade caravan was speechless.

"From Song Bo's..."

Xu Mujun sat quietly at the side while cupping her chin. She suddenly felt that not only was the young man good looking but he was also rather amusing.

### **964 REFUGEES WHO SOUGHT REFUGE WITH RELATIVES**

The boss of the trade caravan felt threatened by Lu Shu. He thought about it and said, "Let me settle this with you. You joined the trade caravan in order to earn money. You also hope that we will be able to bring you to the palace. Am I right?"

"Yes." Lu Shu nodded his head.

"Now, not only do I not want your money, I will give you money to protect me," said Song Bo, the boss of the trade caravan.

Lu Shu waved his hand. "Didn't you say that you didn't need my protection?"

Song Bo was speechless. "I need your protection."

"500 thousand," said Lu Shu.

"From Song Bo's distress, +666!"



No matter what Song Bo thought, Lu Shu felt that he was a very pure person. A bandit for a day is a bandit for life. He never forgot his original aspirations and maintained his morals.

At that moment, the sounds of fighting in the distance slowly died down. Song Bo eagerly looked in the direction of the fight, until Sun Zhongyang and the rest returned to the trade caravan at dawn.

This time, Sun Zhongyang and the rest had won, but the situation was not favorable. Lu Shu realized that their injuries were severe, especially that of Sun Zhongyang's.

Lu Shu had experienced many battles. Thus, he could tell that Sun Zhongyang had suffered the most pressure in this fight just by looking at his injuries.

Although Sun Zhongyang was a Rank One expert who could remain conscious, another palace genius had fainted. He was carried by his friend.

Sun Zhongyang tiredly looked at Lu Shu and the rest. Then, he said to Song Bo, "We will set off immediately. Prepare horses and carriages for us. We need to tend to the injuries."

The situation that Song Bo was most worried about had occurred. Of course, Lu Shu was worried as well. Although Sun Zhongyang and the rest had killed the slaves, they had paid a heavy price themselves.

"I'm afraid that it will be difficult for them to recover their combat power in such a short period of time, " said Lu Shu to Lu Xiaoyu. "Once a Rank One expert has given up on their ability to fly, it means that they have exhausted all their strength. If

someone ambushes them, I'm afraid that not a single one of them will be able to fight back. How young and aggressive."

Sun Zhongyang and the rest were obviously older than Lu Shu by a few years. But there was nothing strange about Lu Shu describing them as young and aggressive. Song Bo instinctively asked Lu Shu, "What do we do now?"

When he finished speaking, he wanted to slap himself. He was asking Lu Shu what they should do. Since when did he start to rely on Lu Shu...

It seemed as if Lu Shu was laughing at him. "Let's hurry up. We'll talk about it when something happens."

But Lu Shu did not panic at all. He even wanted to know whether the enemies had any money.

Swordplay was different from training the celestial map. As long as he earned distress points for the celestial map, he would be fine. But swordplay was different. This was the first time Lu Shu understood the meaning of "critical value" after slowly training until he reached peak Rank Two.

In the past, he often heard Li Xianyi that anything above Rank Two relied on one's aptitude. Rank One was the starting point where one would officially interact with the heaven and the earth. It was also the starting point where people officially started their pursuit of the Dao.

Lu Shu had not officially reached Rank One. He was like Nie Ting when he was stuck at peak Rank One. Back then, Nie Ting had gone to the Kunlun Mountains and came to a new realization when he fought the dragon. From there, he would be able to break

through almost immediately.

But the dragon was not as strong as they had imagined. To put it in another way, Nie Ting was stronger than they had imagined. Thus, Nie Ting did not find what he had been looking for. There was no way for him to obtain proof.

Lu Shu was also in a similar situation now. He needed proof.

Thus, when Sun Zhongyang said that he would pay him more money, Sun Zhongyang thought that Lu Shu had been disgusted. But in reality, Lu Shu would not do anything that caused him to incur losses.

What he needed most now was to be in his best condition when an enemy came again.

Later on, Sun Zhongyang and the rest realized that the carriages used to carry passengers had been destroyed in the rain of arrows. The carriages left were open carriages that were used to transport goods...

There was only one carriage left that could protect them from the elements. It belonged to Lu Shu...

Sun Zhongyang and the rest sat on a flatbed cart. They suddenly thought about how Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu had carried their carriage and ran around. They were slightly upset. Back then, all of them were thinking about the fight, but Lu Shu only bothered about the carriage. But after the fight, everyone sat on the flatbed cart with unkempt appearances. They looked like refugees who were going to their relatives for help. On the other hand, Lu Shu was able to sit in his carriage and nurture his sword energy. He remained calm and composed in this urgent situation...

Now, Sun Zhongyang and the rest did not seem like disciples of the palace. Lu Shu looked like one.

But forget it. Sun Zhongyang and the rest had to tend to their injuries. If they could only sit on the flatbed cart, then so be it. But they were annoyed by the fact that Lu Shu rarely did anything in the carriage. Furthermore, he would occasionally sigh at how good having a covered carriage was...

Sun Zhongyang could not bear this humiliation. He said that he wanted to buy Lu Shu's carriage, but Lu Shu told him that it was not for sale.

A carriage would not be that expensive, no matter the economy. Lu Shu was better off earning distress points from Sun Zhongyang and the rest. Mo Xiaoya bit her lips and looked at the carriage Lu Shu was in. She felt that he had no proper bearings.

In the stories of scholars, sons and daughters of officials were always elegant and brilliant. Before Mo Xiaoya left the palace, she had many fantasies about the outside world. But when she actually stepped out, she realized that the stories were all fake. There were only dirty carts and despicable people like Lu Shu in the outside world...

To ordinary people, Mo Xiaoya and the rest were high-ranking Practitioners. But she was just a young girl who had never seen the vicissitudes of the world. Thus, she burst into tears. She treated her wounds as she cried...

Lu Shu did not know whether to laugh or to cry. To him, this amount of suffering was nothing. What he had experienced back then was much more painful than this.

When he was in the Heavenly Network, he had suffered and gotten injured. He had even reached a point where he had to be carried by Coral. He had even parted with a

friend, never to see him again.

This was the reason why Song Bo did not feel that it was strange for Lu Shu to call Sun Zhongyang young and aggressive. Song Bo felt as if this young man had experienced too many life-and-death situations in his life.

The Lu Shu now was not like Sun Zhongyang and the rest, who had power but did not know about the world. He was the Ninth Heavenly King who was respected by thousands!

### **965 REAR MOUNTAIN OF THE SWORD HU**

The carriage approached them. There was no reaction from Lu Shu. On the other hand, Song Bo was delighted.

Before Lu Shu could do anything, Song Bo stopped the carriage. "Who is in the carriage? My trade caravan is willing to quote a high price for your carriage. I don't mean to offend you. Something has happened to us and we hope that you will understand. My trade caravan will fulfill your price and conditions to the best of our abilities."

Song Bo did not rely on his power to bully others. He did not force them to sell their carriage either. He was very polite when he spoke.

In reality, the first thing that these traveling businessmen learned was not to attack others once they have admitted their mistake. Before they understood the situation, they would first be polite. It usually brought more good than harm.

But the moment Song Bo finished speaking, he felt a strong force behind him. Someone was pulling on his clothes and dragging him back. In his haste, Song Bo could only see that Lu Shu was the culprit, but he did not understand why Lu Shu had

done so.

The next moment, a shell was fired from the carriage. The curtain of the carriage was torn into pieces by the shell!

Sun Zhongyang and the rest turned to look at what was happening. This shell would not inflict much harm if they were at their peak. But now, it was different. Sun Zhongyang and the rest did not have the strength to fight!

But the shell was slower than Lu Shu. Song Bo looked on as the sharp shell flew past him. If Lu Shu had been just a bit slower, his brain might have exploded!

How did Lu Shu know that the people in the carriage did not have good intentions? Who had sent this carriage?

The person in the carriage had not alighted. The driver had drawn a small dagger from his sleeve and threw it towards Lu Shu. Lu Shu single handedly threw Song Bo behind him. The driver looked on helplessly as Lu Shu caught the shell with his bare hands. Then, he threw it towards the driver like a shooting star.

In his panic, the driver felt as if his entire body had broken into pieces. He involuntarily flew back. The heavy shell did not pierce through his body. Instead, it slammed the driver against the carriage.

At the same time, Lu Shu snapped his fingers and the sword energy appeared. It was as if something in the air had been cut apart.

Lu Shu no longer needed to use a sword to fight. The sword energy possessed the power of thousands of swords.

The sword was an external object, but the sword energy was the core.

The person in the carriage did not dare to come into direct contact with the sword energy. He used the recoil between the driver and the shell to run away. The walls of the carriage was broken by the person. Then, he ran for his life. He seemed to have the ability of a Rank Two.

They looked at Lu Shu. Was this really the practitioner that they looked down upon?

Sun Zhongyang and the rest silently looked at one another. Even the Rank Two geniuses among them might not be able to defeat Le Yulu! The sword energy had a unique tyranny to it. It was as if the sword energy was invincible!

He was able to summon his sword energy at will. This was the highest level! What kind of master was he?

"Have you heard the old men in our family say," said Sun Zhongyang calmly, "that the masters in the Sword Hut are able to use anything as their swords? They can use sword energy and aurablade at will."

"Wait. Are you saying that he is from the Sword Hut? But since when did the Sword Hut have such young disciples?" Someone asked in surprise.

"You only know that the Sword Hut will choose people from the armies every year. But you have forgotten that there is a rear mountain of the Sword Hut," said Sun Zhongyang calmly.

"Wait. The rear mountain only exists in legends." Mo Xiaoya furrowed her

mountains. "The Sword Hut is in the palace. There are no mountains in the palace! Who had seen the legendary rear mountain?"

"It exists." Sun Zhongyang grew dejected. "My father told me that in this world, the King of Gods is Heaven. He is like a deity. He represents the people of this world. But back then, when he conquered the world, he was not that powerful. It was all thanks to the help from the Sword Hut."

"Everyone knows that." Mo Xiaoya asked, "What does this have to do with the rear mountain?"

"You may not know, but there is a rear mountain. The people who appear from the rear mountain are those who truly walk in this world for the King of Gods. The Imperial Dragon Soldiers are always among the government and the people. But the people from the rear mountain are all over the world. They did not enter by passing an examination. They were brought there when they were born. When I was just born, my father wanted to send me to the rear mountain, but I was rejected."

"Have you seen what the rear mountain looks like?" Someone asked curiously.

"No, but you may have heard of someone from the rear mountain." Sun Zhongyang said, "Long Que."

Mo Xiaoya was dumbfounded. "Are you talking about the lady called Long Que?"

"Yes." Sun Zhongyang sighed. "Do you remember the battle that happened three years ago? A traveling merchant called the Lord of Heaven fought a powerful patron of the North Lord of Heaven. You may not have believed it then, but I believed it."



"Do you mean that Le Yulu is also from the rear mountain?" Mo Xiaoya seemed puzzled. "Does a greedy person like him really exist in the rear mountain of the Sword Hut?"

"I don't quite understand either." Sun Zhongyang sighed with emotion. "But where else could this level of swordplay have appeared from? Let me ask you. He is at most 18 years old. Were you as powerful as him when you were 18 years old? Could you kill others with his calmness? I killed a person for the first time when I was 19, and vomited for three straight days!"

Mo Xiaoya could not understand. How could a young man who she had looked down upon suddenly appear from the rear mountain of the Sword Hut?

Or, even if Lu Shu was not from the rear mountain of the Sword Hut, she could not understand why Lu Shu was so strong. Just as Sun Zhongyang had said, Lu Shu's sword energy was tyrannical. Even a Rank One could be injured if they were not careful.

Mo Xiaoya had never seen any Rank Twos who were evenly matched with Lu Shu.

At that moment, Lu Shu caught up to the Rank Two expert, who was running away. He summoned his sword energy from his fingertip and pierced through his back. It was a quick death.

Just as Sun Zhongyang and the rest were deep in thought, they suddenly heard Lu Shu acting as if he was surprised. "Hm? Although this carriage is broken at the back, we can always repair it. Do you want to buy it?"

Song Bo was miserable. "Obviously, it's a cart with no owner."

Lu Shu picked up the shell on the ground and pointed it at Song Bo. "Rephrase your sentence."

"It's your carriage, yours, yours..."

### **966 BAD INFLUENCE**

Sun Zhongyang and the group of sick people finally had a carriage to sit on. Although there was a big hole at the back of the carriage and they spent 50,000 worth of notes on that carriage, they did not seem to mind at all.

At least, they had a shelter. The evening after Lu Shu obtained the carriage, it rained cats and dogs. Mo Xiaoya felt grateful to Sun Zhongyang.

The carriage could barely fit five people. Therefore, Sun Zhongyang and the rest gave the opportunity to sit in the carriage to Mo Xiaoya and four other girls.

Without comparison, one would not know who was good and who was bad. Therefore, after experiencing Sun Zhongyang's gentleman-like manners, Lu Shu failed so much in comparison.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest were extremely familiar with each other. They had known each other for more than 20 years. Therefore, they seemed to have been used to each others' characters. Therefore, Sun Zhongyang's kindness was gradually neglected and it was difficult for them to develop feelings for each other.

However, on this night, a girl suddenly felt that Sun Zhongyang was really nice and developed some feelings for him...

Lu Shu looked at them in joy and did not care about how they viewed him. He even felt that if any couples arised from this group of people, they had to thank him...

Although he avoided the assassination, Lu Shu was still worried. That was because the people who attacked were only testing. Moreover, the assassination that came after the slaves were massacred made Lu Shu confirm his judgement. His opponents had prepared more than one attack.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest tried their best to recover but because their injuries were severe, they would need at least three days to recover.

Therefore, in those three days, the trade caravan was in extreme danger.

For some reason, Mo Xiaoya always felt that Lu Shu did not have a sense of emergency and was still casually practising his sword techniques.

On the second day during lunch, Mo Xiaoya suddenly said, “Are you not worried at all? Since you are protecting us as a form of exchange of terms, you won’t be able to leave as and when you like. If you decide to betray us now, the twelve families will find you and kill you.”

Lu Shu raised his eyebrows. “Who said I am not protecting you guys, don’t make it sound as though I am so bad.”

Mo Xiaoya thought, Lu Shu was pretty reliable normally and she would not need to worry about his intentions and suspect him.

In fact, she wanted to test if Lu Shu was the spy of the rear mountain of the Sword Hut. However, when she did that, would Lu Shu ask her if there was a rear mountain of the Sword Hut?

The Sword Hut did not have many proper businesses, even if the fees for accepting successors were expensive, with only four successors per year, the income of the Sword Hut was limited. Nevertheless, Sun Zhongyang and the rest did not dare to underestimate the capability of the Sword Hut.

Firstly, 20 percent of the tax income went to the palace and 80 percent went to the King of Gods. Secondly, the offerings of the disciples of the Sword Hut, who were located all over the Luniverse, added up to an immense amount.

Someone in the palace had once said that the Sword Hut was one of the rare places that did not need to worry about money as money was always sufficient.

Therefore, it was really unimaginable for someone who was greedy for money to come from a place which did not lack money!

“Could it be that the trainees of the rear mountain of the Sword Hut were not given allowance and had to make their own living?” Someone asked curiously.

“Stop finding excuses for him,” Mo Xiaoya said firmly, “He is just poor.”

“Now is not the time to think about this,” said Sun Zhongyang suddenly, “Xiaoya, when can the expert of your family reach?”

“Based on the distance, I think he needs two days to fly from the palace to this place,” said Mo Xiaoya, “We need to find a way to survive these next two days.”

“I wonder if the young man can last through,” sighed Sun Zhongyang, “I guess not. No matter how powerful he is, he is only a Rank Two and can never match up to a Rank One.”

Sun Zhongyang placed hope in Lu Shu as he guessed that Lu Shu's identity was related to the Sword Hut. However, if the people who wanted to kill them sent Rank One experts again, they would be doomed.

They were hoping that their opponent would not dare to send their Rank One experts or were unable to find the Rank One experts who were hiding.

Each family's Rank One experts had their names and would be easily discovered by other families if they moved around. After all, each party was holding their guard up against each other. Once someone found out that one sabotaged another family's descendants, the two families would go all out to fight against each other.

The aristocrats of the palace liked to carry things out in the dark. Like the ocean, no matter how aggressive the current was under the water, the surface was always calm.

Everyone was used to having a backup plan for themselves.

At this moment, the boss of the trade caravan said suddenly, "I think there is a higher probability for him to be the successor of the Sword Hut."

"Oh? Why?" Sun Zhongyang was curious.

Song Bo mentioned the story about how someone died strangely last night. "I suspect that there's an expert protecting them secretly. Perhaps there was more than one assassin. Therefore, I think we are not in as dangerous a position as we had expected. Did you guys not see how the young man was so composed and calm!"

Sun Zhongyang thought about it. "Judging from this, he has a reason to collect

money. However, none of us noticed that there were people protecting him from the back. Could it be that the person was more powerful than us, therefore they can't be noticed by us?"

"Possible," said Song Bo.

A group of them were discussing in the shadow near the carriage. At this moment, Sun Zhongyang was stunned and said, "Hold on, where is Le Yulu?"

They looked around and did not see Lu Shu. Wasn't he just beside the bonfire earlier on?

Then, a voice was heard from overhead, "I am here, I am here."

Sun Zhongyang and the rest lifted their heads and got a shock of their life when they saw Lu Shu at the top of the carriage! All of them were severely injured and did not notice it when someone came close!

Lu Shu smiled as he looked at the rest. To be honest, when Sun Zhongyang asked the question regarding where Le Yulu was, he almost did not realize that Sun Zhongyang was calling himself.

"Why are you on the top of the carriage?" Mo Xiaoya's face was black. She wanted to scold Lu Shu for eavesdropping but did not put it bluntly because they still had to depend on Lu Shu to protect them for these two days.

Lu Shu smiled. "I am eavesdropping."

Mo Xiaoya's face turned even blacker. Why was he so blatant about eavesdropping?

Then, everyone looked up and saw Lu Xiaoyu and Xu Mujun sitting crossed-legged on the top of the carriage too...

### **967 THERE'S A SPY**

"Why are you eavesdropping on us?" Mo Xiaoya was very angry. She had never seen someone as shameless as Lu Shu who thought that he was right although he was eavesdropping on others!

"Oh," Lu Shu said after thinking, "I suspect that there's a spy within you guys so I came to eavesdrop as an attempt to identify the spy."

Sun Zhongyang's expression changed immediately. He said in a deep voice, "Do you know what you are saying? How dare you insult our over 20 years of friendship?"

"I am merely being suspicious," smiled Lu Shu.

"Please leave. Our friendship doesn't need your suspicion," said Sun Zhongyang coldly.

"Fine, you guys can continue chatting." Lu Shu waved his hands and left with Lu Xiaoyu, with Xu Mujun following behind.

He did not bother arguing with Sun Zhongyang. The outcome was the most important. Whether Sun Zhongyang believed it or not was not important.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest felt speechless. Then, they suddenly realized that it should be the time to settle bills with Lu Shu. Before they settled the bills on him eavesdropping, how could he leave?

Mo Xiaoya became angrier. "Sun Zhongyang, why are you allowing him to leave?"

Sun Zhongyang thought about it for a long while before he realized he had taken a huge blame. "I... I am angry because he was being suspicious of our friendship..."

"From Sun Zhongyang's distress, +666!"

"From Mo Xiaoya's distress, +666!"

"From..."

Everyone was annoyed. They could not do anything with the young man called Le Yulu. It was alright if they were not injured but now that they were injured, they could not defeat him at all...

Now, Sun Zhongyang did not even know if Lu Shu was being truthful about the statement that there was a spy in the team.

This was a disturbing issue. Sun Zhongyang believed that something so terrible would not happen with their over 20 years of friendship. However... What if it happened?

This time, Lu Shu was actually being serious. In the past, before the slaves attacked, they would warn him first. After Sun Zhongyang and the rest were injured, assassins came immediately. They did not have a high status. Their intention was to kill Song Bo, the boss of the trade caravan.

Their opponent was very certain that Song Bo was only a Rank Two and his biggest wish was to buy a carriage. Therefore, they sent two Rank Twos with a carriage to lure him. Initially, they were rather confident of killing Song Bo but Lu Shu ruined their plan.



Lu Shu felt that there were many strange parts to this whole event. Therefore, it was better to be safe than sorry.

The trade caravan advanced in the wilderness. Sun Zhongyang and the rest were recuperating on the wooden carriage while Mo Xiaoya and the rest sat in the carriage with big holes.

However, no matter how good the slaves were, they were unable to participate in the battle amongst the Rank One experts.

At this moment, Song Bo felt that the crucial thing was to be powerful.

Everyone in the trade caravan looked unkempt. The trade caravan had passed by several towns but Song Bo was afraid to create problems and therefore did not enter. He decided to head to the palace straightaway.

Therefore, by right, when the trade caravan passed by any towns or fortresses, Song Bo would send some of his slaves down to refill basic supplies like water. They would not enter the town.

The slaves in the trade caravan left hurriedly the day after Lu Shu said that there could be spies. Song Bo explained to them that there would be a town nearby the state highway and sent the slaves to buy some supplies.

Then, Song Bo realized that the atmosphere was strange. When he turned around, he saw Lu Shu, Lu Xiaoyu and Xu Mujun staring quietly at him...

Song Bo felt goosebumps forming. He asked Lu Shu, "Why are you staring at me?"

Lu Shu said calmly, "You are the person who comes into contact with the outside world the most often. You are merely sitting here. Yesterday, the other party did not take any actions, seemingly to be waiting for an opportunity. When the slaves return with the food, nobody shall touch them and you shall take the first bite?"

Song Bo felt unwell. He was always afraid that the food he bought would be poisoned and always asked his slaves to test it before he ate them. Now, he was told to test the food. Everyone knew that they were under special circumstances and poisoning of food was very probable. Therefore, if he was the one who was supposed to do the food testing, he would probably die suddenly...

Sun Zhongyang suddenly said coldly, "Stop being suspicious. We had destroyed so much food and other supplies. We also threw many of them away because the carriage and horses are destroyed. If we don't buy food from the town, we would have died long ago. Moreover, Song Bo had done so much for the Sun family for decades, the Sun family trusts him."

Lu Shu glared at Sun Zhongyang. To be honest, he had nothing against Sun Zhongyang as Sun Zhongyang was extremely fair and straightforward.

Therefore, Lu Shu knew that there was a reason that made Sun Zhongyang the "leader" of the team. Everyone was willing to obey him and this made Sun Zhongyang charismatic.

Now, upon seeing how Lu Shu made things difficult for Song Bo, Sun Zhongyang could not stand it. He could clearly remember whatever Song Bo did for him along the way, how could he suspect someone at this point in time?

Lu Shu shrugged. "Then what shall we do if there's poison?"

At this moment, Song Bo's slaves had returned with buns wrapped in paper packaging. Song Bo thought about it, "How about this, nobody shall do the food testing. I will use the silver needle to test if the bun is poisoned. If it is, I will die as punishment. I only hope for the Sun family to treat my family well."

As he said that, he took out a silver needle and pressed it into the bun. When the silver needle was pulled out, it really turned black!

This time, Sun Zhongyang was speechless.

The slave who was holding the bun was also speechless. Lu Shu said, "Are you stupid? This is a f\*cking red bean bun!"

Lu Shu was puzzled. "Who told you that the silver needle can test if food is poisonous?"

Song Bo was stunned for a moment. "The "Water Margin written by the old King of Gods."

Lu Shu suddenly felt that the old King of Gods was really free. He copied the long "Water Magin"?! However, he could not say much as the idea about using the silver needle to test for poison on Earth also came from the "Water Margin". However, the spreading of this idea made one think that it was a hundred percent accurate special tool in Wuxia novels.

However, the principle behind this was targeting arsenic. Lu Shu did not believe that arsenic could have any effect on Rank One practitioners...

## 968 PANIC

At first, Lu Shu had wondered why the Luniverse did not use gold and silver as hard currency. At first, they had used magical stones. After they standardized the currency, they used notes. Now, they even used silver needles to test for poison.

After a long time, he realized that the old King of Gods had copied this from Water Margin 1...

Lu Shu tried to explain the reasoning behind using silver needles to test for poison. He told them that it was not an accurate indicator. But Lu Shu felt that based on their level of education, he would not be able to properly explain it to them.

Sun Zhongyang was a famous scholar from the palace. He was an outstanding student in the Imperial College who excelled in both morals and studies. He never expected to be treated as an uneducated person by Lu Shu...

“There is no way to test for poison,” said Sun Zhongyang. “But I will not allow human lives to be used to test for poison! The Sun family will not gamble with human lives!”

Lu Shu realized that the expression of the girls around Sun Zhongyang had changed. They all adored Sun Zhongyang. They were willing to devote their lives to him.

The differences in the innate nature of Sun Zhongyang and the other playboys were evident after a problem occurred. Lu Shu cheerily observed this. He quite admired Sun Zhongyang. In the past, he had thought that the people in the palace did not think highly of human lives.

Lu Shu let go. “Then, if you are not willing to test for poison, you will definitely not eat food from the outside world. Am I right?”

Sun Zhongyang nodded his head. “That is true. But we have run out of food in the trade caravan. We have to find a solution.”

“We can’t starve either.” Mo Xiaoya looked very worried. “It will take at least half a month to reach the palace.”

“But without testing for poison, we cannot eat food from the outside world,” said someone.

Spies and food became the worry of the trade caravan. Putting spies aside, food was the most urgent matter.

Suddenly, someone realized that although they had been injured, they still felt fine. How did they become so melancholic overnight? What was the reason?

When everyone carefully thought about it, they suddenly realized that it was all because of Lu Shu...

Lu Shu had told them about the spies. He had also told them that the food might contain poison. Was he intentionally trying to cause panic in the trade caravan? But why would he do so?

Mo Xiaoya looked at one of the others. They had been worried about whether Le Yulu would bribe them. With his greedy personality, it was not impossible!

Thus, Sun Zhongyang and the rest could not help but suspect that Lu Shu was the source of panic in the trade caravan!

Sun Zhongyang calmly asked Lu Shu, “What should we do now?”

At that moment, Lu Shu looked at Sun Zhongyang and the rest. He paused for two seconds before saying, “My price for grains is fair and reasonable. It is enough for everyone...”

“From Sun Zhongyang’s distress, +777!”

“From Mo Xiaoya’s distress, +999!”

“From...”

Sun Zhongyang and Mo Xiaoya were very angry. Everyone was guessing why Lu Shu had tried to get everyone involved in the panic. Everyone had thought about the worst possible scenario. But he had spent so much effort only to sell his grains!

Mo Xiaoya laughed coldly. “Your greed has exceeded my expectations. Is the money you will earn from grains worth all this effort?”

Lu Shu was puzzled. “The meager amount of money I will earn from selling grains?”

“What? Are you thinking of selling your grains at an exorbitant price?” Mo Xiaoya laughed coldly.

Lu Shu patiently explained, “You don’t quite understand me...”

“From Mo Xiaoya’s distress, +666!”

The entire trade caravan had mixed feelings. Song Bo felt that ever since Lu Shu had

joined the trade caravan, many annoying things had happened.

When Lu Shu talked about selling his grains, everyone realized that Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu might have invisible storage equipment.

The identities of Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu became more mysterious.

At first, Mo Xiaoya had said that Lu Shu was poor. Thus, he was greedy. Although Lu Shu's power was mysterious, he definitely did not have any background or experience. They could sense this, as Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu felt that many things were new.

But now... they even had invisible storage equipment!

Even for Sun Zhongyang, he was only gifted a space ring after he had officially advanced to Rank One.

Out of the twelve of them, only two possessed invisible storage equipment. After all, they were not the only children of their families.

The possession of invisible storage equipment became a dividing line among the children of the palace. If one had invisible storage equipment, this meant that they were valued by their families and had the right of authority.

But Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu had such a rare item... and not just two of them!

At first, when Lu Shu had killed seven Rank Two experts at Port Artyom, he thought that he would be able to obtain one or two pieces of invisible storage equipment. But he did not obtain any.

But there had always been a space ring that Lu Shu had kept. It was the space ring that Lu Shu had obtained when he killed Howard.

The mask that allowed Lu Shu to change his appearance also had a space within it, but Lu Shu had never thought of using it as an invisible storage equipment.

Thus... the combined wealth of Sun Zhongyang and the rest did not even come close to Lu Shu's wealth. But Sun Zhongyang and the rest were not able to accept this answer...

In the end, Song Bo spent a few hundred thousand notes to buy 300 kilograms of grains and some preserved vegetables from Lu Xiaoyu.

Mo Xiaoya and the rest saw the words "Long Meng Army" printed on the packets of grain.

Mo Xiaoya softly said to Sun Zhongyang, "So he was from the Long Meng Army!"

The Wei Wu Army had obtained grains from two armies, the Long Meng Army and the aristocrat armies. They had stolen grains from the aristocrat armies in a commotion. If the packets of grain they had stolen had the seal of an aristocrat family on them, the identities of Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu would have been exposed.

But when Lu Xiaoyu had stolen grains from the Long Meng Army, she had done so by sinking the trucks underground. Even the Long Meng Army had thought that it was the doing of the Black Feather Army. Thus, they wiped out the spies from the Black Feather Army, resulting in a great war...



Thus, no one knew that the Long Meng Army had been robbed by the Wei Wu Army...

Back then, the Long Meng Army and the Black Feather Army engaged in a very vicious fight with each other. Lu Xiaoyu still felt that everything was under control...

“That should be the case. If not, why would he have grains from the Long Meng Army?” Sun Zhongyang nodded his head. “He might have trained in the Long Meng Army.”

Sun Zhongyang was certain that Lu Shu was from the rear mountain of the Sword Hut and had trained in the Long Meng Army.

“No wonder he is willing to betray the commander of the Wei Wu Army. I heard that the Long Meng Army has a grudge against the Wei Wu Army for looking on at their troubles with indifference.” Sun Zhongyang finally found a reasonable explanation for Lu Shu...

### **969 YOU HAVE TO PAY!**

Mo Xiaoya's view of Lu Shu had been fixed. But was Lu Shu doing this for money? He was trying to rid any suspicion that he was the commander of the Wei Wu Army. He was just earning money along the way...

After all, there were many clues. Lu Shu was from Nangeng City and he was powerful. If one did not think carefully about it, there would be no suspicions. But Lu Shu could not treat Sun Zhongyang and the rest as fools.

Thus, he brought in some side details in order to get rid of any suspicion. It would then be easier for him to carry out his plans in the future.

Lu Shu secretly looked at the expressions of Sun Zhongyang and the rest. Then, he told Lu Xiaoyu, “They’ve believed it! Your idea is not bad!”

“Of course it will,” said Lu Xiaoyu with a smile. Lu Shu had told her about his worries. Thus, after some painstaking investigation, she felt that the grains from the Long Meng Army would be useful. After all, no one knew that she was the one who had taken the grains away from them. Everything was under control!

At that moment, Lu Shu was dumbfounded. Countless birds flew overhead from the forest. They crowded together and formed a layer.

The flapping of their wings produced a large commotion. It was as if danger was approaching.

Sun Zhongyang and the others grew serious. They calmly looked in the direction of the forest. “They’re here.”

Everyone knew that if those who wanted to kill them did not give up, they would attack within three days, as Sun Zhongyang and the rest only need three days to recover.

After three days, the slaves would have died for nothing.

Mo Xiaoya asked calmly, “What do we do now?”

She subconsciously looked at Lu Shu. Their wounds had not fully healed. They did not have much combat strength.

The enemy had spent a lot of money to ask the slaves to reduce the strength of Sun

Zhongyang and the rest. The following forces might not be as powerful. Just as Sun Zhongyang had said, the more combat power they used, the easier it was for the Sun family to find clues.

But, if a Rank One appeared, they would not be able to defend themselves.

Mo Xiaoya was most worried that Lu Shu would discard his loyalty and run away. She could be slightly relieved, but she could not completely trust Lu Shu.

They could already see soldiers coldly observing them. It was as if an even more frightening opponent was hiding in the woods.

When Song Bo saw these cold armored soldiers, he did not feel safe. “They are the notorious mercenary soldiers. How did they come from the North Region?”

It was all because a senior disciple of the Sword Hut had said so.

Sun Zhongyang said, “They are still not willing to reveal their identities. They actually made these fugitives come all the way here. They are really willing to spend money.”

Lu Shu looked at Sun Zhongyang. “How much does it cost to hire them?”

Sun Zhongyang looked at Lu Shu with a puzzled expression on his face. He did not expect this young man to still be thinking about money. “Not more than seven million. Don’t touch them. They have a Rank One expert among them.”

Lu Shu laughed. “Then I will be at a loss. Let me work this out with you. If I kill them, will you give me seven million?”

“Are you out of your mind?” Mo Xiaoya could not believe it. “Do you value money more than your life?”

“Let me add one more condition.” Lu Shu did not care about Mo Xiaoya. “When we reach the palace, help me convert all my money into goods.”

“What goods?” Sun Zhongyang was puzzled.

“I’ll talk about it when we reach the palace. I promise that it is something that you can buy. I won’t ask for the stars in the sky,” said Lu Shu with a smile.

“Even if you want the stars in the sky, we don’t have them,” said Mo Xiaoya with disdain.

“I have them,” said Lu Shu jokingly.

He wanted to convert the money for magical armor.

There was enough armor for the Wei Wu Army, but the Heavenly Network still lacked armor. He only had 20 thousand sets of bronze armor. But after the new batch of Practitioners came from the seven major Cultivation Colleges, they would reach 100 thousand people!

Not only was Lu Shu the commander of the Wei Wu Army, he was also the Ninth Heavenly King of the Heavenly Network. Earlier, Lu Shu was thinking about how the fatality rates in the Heavenly Network would decrease if everyone had a set of armor.

Lu Shu looked forward to it. What would it be like for 100 thousand Heavenly

Network members to charge forth with their armor?

But he could not tell Sun Zhongyang and the rest that he wanted magical armor.

After all, many people knew that the Wei Wu Army was collecting armor. It would be easy for them to make connections.

“Okay. I agree,” said Sun Zhongyang. “But you’d better think about it. I don’t think that you will be able to kill these people.”

Mo Xiaoya was silent. She then said, “I don’t think money is as important as your life. Don’t throw away your life for money.”

No one believed that Lu Shu would be able to kill them.

But at that moment, Lu Shu happily jumped off the carriage. “Wait here. Don’t worry. Since you have paid me, the situation that you are most worried about will not happen.” With that, Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu went into the forest.

Mo Xiaoya looked at Lu Shu’s back. She realized that he was calm as usual. When she thought about how greedy he was, Mo Xiaoya could no longer understand how such conflicting characteristics could be found in one person.

For some reason, this moment made Sun Zhongyang believe that this young man would be able to return from the forest.

When the soldiers saw Lu Shu walking towards them, they retreated into the deeper part of the forest. They wanted to set up their formation in an advantageous place.

Although they had received information that this young man was only a Rank Two, they had lived comfortably as notorious soldiers as they were careful and ferocious.

They did not have the tyranny of a male lion, but they were ferocious wolves.

Song Bo looked at them leave with mixed feelings. He straightened his clothes and saluted to Sun Zhongyang. "I will assist him. Although I am a businessman, I have to do justice to my strength as well..."

Sun Zhongyang sat cross-legged on the flatbed cart and looked at Song Bo with mixed feelings. In the past, he looked down on Song Bo, as he was inherently a businessmen who prioritized profits. But now, his impression of him had been renewed.

But before Song Bo could take a step, and before Sun Zhongyang could say anything else, they saw Lu Shu suddenly turn back. "If you want to come, you have to pay!"

Song Bo suddenly felt as if he had been humiliated...

"From Song Bo's distress, +666..."

Xu Mujun sat on the carriage and supported her chin with her hands. She looked at Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu walk away. In the past, that person in a ceremonial dress had told her that she would have good luck.

### **970 A SECRET GUES**

Luo Shen Cultivation College, Luo City. In the species research specialization laboratory, there was the clicking of a mouse and the tapping of a keyboard. There were even sounds of gunshots.

"Young lady, young lady, do you want to have an online affair?" Chen Zuan skilfully

controlled his character to jump behind a girl. The girl spoke and sang well...

He heard her voice through his earphones. "If you give me a Class Three armor, I will have an online affair with you."

Chen Zuan sat in front of the computer and remained silent for a long time. "I have lived for 19 years, but this is the first time I have been asked to take off my clothes by a girl. Are you making me take off the Class Three armor I have just obtained..."

Then, Chen Zuan picked up a grenade and perished together with the girl.

Cheng Qiuqiao laughed and slapped the table. The computer in the laboratory started to give off a buzzing sound. This computer was configured very well. It displayed game graphics well. But the computer was supposed to be used to handle data. It was not being used in the manner that it was created for.

Chen Zuan expressionlessly looked at Cheng Qiuqiao. "What's so funny?"

"Do you know what 'fate-locked' means?" Cheng Qiuqiao asked with a serious expression on his face.

Chen Zuan was confused.

"You are now in a fate-locked situation," said Cheng Qiuqiao with a serious tone.

"Your fate with others has been locked up. There are no more changes."

Chen Zuan was rendered speechless.

Chen Zuan was very bored during this period. He dragged Cheng Qiuqiao to play

games with him. He also pursued online affairs. But these online affairs had become the site of a large-scale accident.

The pretty young women online all uploaded captivating pictures, but when their actual appearances were revealed, they were either fake pictures or men.

Since the time he had encountered a young lady who turned out to be a man, Cheng Qiuqiao told Chen Zuan that if he could not report this as an industrial injury, he would no longer accompany Chen Zuan.

In the past, Chen Zuan felt that his university life would be very exciting. The Luo Shen Cultivation College species research specialization was outstanding. He wanted to ride on this trend.

But the person who had raised the standards of the species research specialization had disappeared. Lu Xiaoyu had disappeared as well. It was as if life had suddenly calmed down. It was plain and boring.

"Where did Cao Qingci go?" Chen Zuan curiously looked around the laboratory, but did not see Cao Qingci anywhere.

"She's probably at the training ground," said Cheng Qiuqiao. "Recently, she's given up on researching on time. She has been training her swordplay."

"Yes. Luo Shen has become a sacred training ground for people overseas. Coming here is like going on a pilgrimage. Once they go back, they can bring honor to their ancestors," said Cheng Qiuqiao with a smile.

Then, the laboratory fell silent. Chen Zuan said, "I don't know what happened to



Brother Shu... I'm worried about him."

"I'm not worried about Brother Shu at all," said Cheng Qiuqiao as he looked at the ceiling. He was very bored. "There's no need to worry about his safety. I'm worried that the passage of time over there is different from that of on Earth. I believe that he will find a way to return, but what shall we do if we are old by then?"

At that moment, Chen Zuan and Cheng Qiuqiao's phones suddenly lit up. They looked at each other and picked up their phones.

Chen Zuan and Cheng Qiuqiao were considered extremely strong in the entire Luo City. Thus, they were different from typical students. Zhong Yutang would directly contact them to settle some troublesome affairs.

Chen Zuan unlocked his phone and took a look. "A Practitioner has kidnapped a villa dealer in Longmen Mountain. Do we really have to go there?"

"There's definitely a reason behind this." Cheng Qiuqiao nimbly picked up his sword and walked out. Since Zhong Yutang had notified them, there was definitely a need for them to be there.

The two of them hurriedly headed towards Longmen Mountain. They did not drive there. Instead, they ran along the rooftops of buildings.

When the civilians in Luo City looked up and saw two people jumping on the rooftops, they took out their phones and took pictures. But they did not think that this was strange or new... this was now a common sight.

When the members of the Heavenly Network went on missions, they often disliked

the fact that traveling on the ground was very slow. Thus, they would often show off their skills by leaping onto roofs and jumping over walls.

The worlds of ordinary people and Practitioners started to integrate with one another. Everyone did not think that this was strange.

When they reached the district of villas as instructed, they realized that the entire district had been closed off by the Heavenly Network. Zhong Yutang stood at the entrance and looked at the documents that had just been compiled. He looked up and saw Chen Zuan and Cheng Qiuqiao. "The dealer is in a stable condition, but some strange things have happened. I want you to prevent any accidents from happening."

"Strange?" Chen Zuan asked curiously.

"This guy seems to be mentally unsound," said Zhong Yutang. "But he is shrouded in a veil of mystery. After the dealer was kidnapped, he was not injured. But he was interrogated with questions like what place this is, what kind of people are here, and other very fundamental questions. He did not even realize when the dealer secretly called the police. Now, his phone still has stable connection. We can still hear the sound of the bandit speaking. Our colleague has used a telescope to look at the situation. The phone is on the tea table in front of the bandit, but the bandit does not seem to understand what the phone is for..."

Zhong Yutang passed Chen Zuan and Cheng Qiuqiao a pair of wireless earphones each and gestured at them to put them out. But the earphones were silent, except for the sound of the bandit walking.

"Which mountain did this strange person materialize from?" Chen Zuan was dumbfounded. "Did someone from the institute of mental health awaken again?"

Chen Zuan used the word "again" as the concentration of magical energy had been increasing at an accelerated pace. The current amount of magical energy in the world was four or five times that of in the past. Thus, the rate of progress in training had increased. Even those who could not awaken in the past had awakened.

The institute of mental health had become the most badly affected area. In the past, one of the patients had suddenly said that he was a mushroom. While the psychiatrist was doing psychological treatment, the patient actually turned into a mushroom. The psychiatrist almost collapsed.

But Zhong Yutang shook his head. "That doesn't seem to be the case... earlier, we discovered massive waves of energy above Longmen Mountain, but they disappeared. The appearance of this person is likely to have something to do with these waves of energy."

The waves of energy above the Longmen Mountain had always been unstable. The Heavenly Network had thought that a new remains would appear, but it had not appeared.

There were no remains, but the waves of energy remained unstable. Zhong Yutang and the rest were very nervous. They did not know what was happening.