

### 981 NEW PLAN

"Who is the most prominent in the Sword Hut selections?"

At night, after the trade caravan had set up their tents, Lu Shu sat by the bonfire and asked Yi Qian this question. There were three distinct groups within the trade caravan. The first group was made up of Sun Zhongyang and the children of the palace. They gathered together and discussed. The Sun family and the Mo family decided to investigate who was behind this ambush. Whoever dared to ambush the wealthy families from the palace would have to pay a price.

Xu Mujun had surprisingly left the trade caravan. No one realized when Xu Mujun had disappeared. Sun Zhongyang and the rest even suspected that Xu Mujun worked with someone else in an attempt to kill them.

Thinking about it, did Le Yulu realize that there was something wrong with Xu Mujun? Thus, he had decided to humiliate her!

But to be honest, Sun Zhongyang and the rest thought too much about it. Lu Shu had taken Xu Mujun's "lifetime savings" not to humiliate anyone, but because he wanted more money...

The other group was made up of Song Bo's slaves. They stored their luggage and the goods. They served the children of the palace and silently guarded them. It was as if the people who had died in the past had nothing to do with them. They did not seem to care about what dangers there would be in the future.

When the freedom of a person was restricted, their enthusiasm towards life would also decrease. This was the reason why Lu Shu did not want to become a slave owner of the Wei Wu Army. He felt that the Wei Wu Army would only have a future if the

soldiers of the Wei Wu Army saw their own futures and were willing to construct them.

The last group of people was made up of Lu Shu, Lu Xiaoyu, and Yi Qian. They seemed out of tune with the rest of the trade caravan. Lu Shu subconsciously avoided creating deep bonds with the Sun family. He only had to enter the Sword Hut and find a way to go home. How the wealthy families in the palace contended and struggled had nothing to do with him.

He used Sun Zhongyang and the rest to get rid of his opponents in the Sword Hut selections and ensure that they would not be able to attack. He also avoided being exposed to others when he was unclear about the situation.

But he did not think that this was a long-term plan. It was said that one should not do the same thing three times. The first time that he caught the thieves would not be considered. Two more times, and Sun Zhongyang and the rest would definitely be suspicious of him.

Not only were Sun Zhongyang and the rest not foolish, they were extremely smart.

Thus, under these circumstances, Lu Shu had to employ his best and limited resources where they were needed most. He could not make use of Sun Zhongyang and the rest too many times. Thus, he would use them on the most troublesome Sword Hut candidates...

Yi Qian thought about it and said, "Many candidates who are participating in the Sword Hut selections have already gathered at the palace. Boss, if you want detailed information, I will have to go out and collect information."

Although Yi Qian knew many things, the Sword Hut selections had nothing to do with him. Many people would gather information on the candidates, like that of the FIFA World Cup on Earth. Then, many people would observe this grand occasion. The gambling dens in the palace did this.

But Yi Qian had many things to do. Everyday, he faced life and death. How would he have the time to care about things like the Sword Hut selections? Thus, if he wanted detailed information, Yi Qian had to go out and buy them.

Lu Shu nodded his head. "If we're buying information, buy the most accurate information. Then, get information on the bets by the gambling dens in the palace..."

"Boss, aren't you very familiar with the gambling dens in the palace?" Yi Qian asked curiously. Since the Qing Sai Army joined the Wei Wu Army, he had been observing the affairs in the South Region. Thus, he was familiar with how much goods his king had obtained from that battle...

Back then, the mercenary soldiers were shocked. They did not expect them to fight with so many variations. They were not fighting. They were obtaining money...

But to be honest, this king was very daring. With this sort of thing, if it was played well, it would become a story. But if it was not played well, it would become an accident...

Yi Qian subconsciously looked at Lu Xiaoyu. He was suddenly curious about Lu Xiaoyu's role. Although the Imperial Dragon Soldiers were very close to the King of Gods, they were not as close as the Puppet Masters.

Yi Qian had made some guesses about Lu Xiaoyu's identity. Sometimes, he would

ponder. Was she the new Puppet Master? Or was she an even higher existence?

Before Lu Shu had advanced, Yi Qian already knew that Lu Xiaoyu occupied a high position beside Lu Shu. Furthermore, the tyranny that she portrayed at that moment was hard for even Yi Qian to handle. It was not something that a young girl her age should have.

Back then, it was as if Lu Xiaoyu's gaze was saying, "If you are going to die, you will die in the manner that I have decided."

At that moment, Yi Qian thought about how he had faced three sources of threat at that moment. He seemed to have formed a new guess.

Sun Zhongyang and Mo Xiaoya sat by the bonfire. Mo Xiaoya said in a small voice, "There is definitely something wrong with Le Yulu. How did he take in a ferocious mercenary soldier just like that? Does he think that we are stupid?"

"You can't say that." Sun Zhongyang thought about it and said, "If you were Yi Qian, and realized that you could rely on the rear mountain of the Sword Hut, wouldn't you? I know I would."

"I would not," said Mo Xiaoya in a cold tone.

"That's because you lack nothing in your current environment. You are still unable to put yourself in his shoes and think about this problem," said Sun Zhongyang.

"I feel that we still have to listen to what they are saying. Although our experts have arrived, we still have to keep our guard up," said Mo Xiaoya. "Lin Lin, go there. Remember, don't look at them directly. If not, you will be discovered."

Lu Shu looked at Yi Qian. He felt that he had to appeal to the hearts of his new subordinate. He could not take away all of Yi Qian's money just after Yi Qian had sought refuge with him. Thus, Lu Shu asked, "How much savings do you have? Don't pass them to me. Keep them and use them to place bets in the gambling dens."

Yi Qian calculated. "I still have about 60 million."

"What!" Lu Shu was drinking water. He almost spat out his water. He had spoken too soon!

Earlier, Liu Yizhao had only saved about 2 million after ten years of being the commander of the Qing Sai Army. Thus, Lu Shu thought that even if Yi Qian was rich, he would not be as rich as Lu Shu. But he realized that Yi Qian was talented in earning money!

But when he thought about it, Lu Shu figured out where his train of thought had gone wrong. Liu Yizhao did not have much money because he used his money to support the Qing Sai Army. But Yi Qian did not have to do so.

### **982 SELECTION RANKING!**

Yi Qian said, "Boss, my money is your money. If you need anything, just tell me."

"Ahem." Lu Shu almost forgot what he had been saying. "Use it to place bets at the palace. I realized that many people have the means to carry out long-distance communication. What kind of magical item is that?"

Suddenly, Lu Shu said something completely irrelevant. "The commander of the Wei Wu Army should be at the palace. Go there and find him. Ask him whether he is willing to make a deal."

Yi Qian was dumbfounded. He could not understand why Lu Shu had said so. But he did not continue with the conversation. Instead, he took out a mirror from his invisible storage equipment. Lu Shu suddenly realized that the mirror... looked like his Sun mirror!

Yi Qian smiled. "I still have another transmission mirror with me. I will give half of it to you to facilitate our communication."

As Yi Qian spoke, Lu Shu saw him break the mirror into half! Yi Qian passed one half to Lu Shu and kept the other half. He injected the mirror with Spirit Qi and the surface of the mirror started to shine. Then, Yi Qian used his skills. Lu Shu saw Yi Qian's shadow appear in the mirror in his hand.

"So that's how it's used." Lu Shu nodded. "I have a magical item similar to this transmission mirror, but... its function is slightly different."

Yi Qian was dumbfounded. "Oh? How is it different?"

Lu Shu took out the Sun mirror from the Seal of Lands and pointed it in one direction. His celestial powers entered the Sun mirror. Yi Qian saw a ray of light emitted from the Sun mirror. It was as bright as the sun. In the distance, someone in the darkness shouted. He covered his eyes and ran away...

Lu Shu acted as if he was panicking. "Who is there?!"

Yi Qian was speechless.

Lu Xiaoyu was silent.

“From Lin Lin’s distress, +666!”

Lu Shu went back to the bonfire. “See. This is its function.”

Yi Qian was slightly puzzled. “Boss, your mirror looks like half of the transmission mirror, but the problem is... I have never seen any transmission mirrors as bright as that...”

“This might not be a transmission mirror.” Lu Shu also felt that there was something wrong. In the past, he had pondered whether this had something to do with his celestial powers. Thus, this mirror was able to produce such a bright ray of light. But that did not make sense. Liang Che and Li Dian were almost blinded by this mirror, right?

Thus, this had nothing to do with Spirit Qi and celestial powers. The mirror itself was very troublesome...

Lu Shu carefully looked at the mirror. He suddenly asked, “I saw you use one of your skills on the transmission mirror. What was that?”

“Oh, that skill.” Yi Qian taught the skill to Lu Shu.

He thought about it. Even if the Sun mirror was a kind of transmission mirror, it was from Earth. Even if it could be connected to another half of a mirror, he would only be able to communicate with someone on Earth. It was unlikely that the other half would appear in the Luniverse, right?

Thus, he felt that there was nothing in the Sun mirror because of the barrier between the two worlds.

Lu Shu curiously asked Yi Qian, “This transmission mirror is very interesting. Who invented it?”

Yi Qian was dumbfounded. “Don’t you know? The old King of Gods invented it!”

Lu Shu had no energy to fight back. He thought that the old King of Gods was a demon king. But why did it feel like this demon king never did anything decent? Did he go to Earth and discover a telephone? Was he unhappy that the Luniverse did not have anything like that and invented one himself?

“Boss, do we have to be more vigilant there?” Yi Qian looked in Sun Zhongyang’s direction. He felt that they had even resorted to eavesdropping. They definitely did not have good intentions.

“No need.” Lu Shu happily said, “We can still use them.”

Lin Lin had just started to listen in on their conversation when he was discovered by Lu Shu. For some reason, after he had advanced to Rank One, he felt that his senses had become more sensitive. It was as if he had given himself a talent.

Yi Qian left the trade caravan with a mission and flew to the palace.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest could fly, but the other eight could not. Thus, they could only follow the trade caravan. Furthermore, it would take some time before the Imperial College started lessons again. They were not in a rush.

Sun Zhongyang and the rest were curious. Where did Yi Qian go? On the other hand, Lin Lin finally stopped crying after two hours. The destructive power of the light to



the eyes was frightening. Although Practitioners were strong, the eyes would be one of their weakest areas.

Lin Lin informed them of what Lu Shu had said. Sun Zhongyang said in a small voice, “I think that Le Yulu wants to make a deal with Lu Shu in order to obtain more rewards!”

“I think that he has a problem.” Mo Xiaoya laughed. To Mo Xiaoya, this Le Yulu fit the image that Lu Shu had wanted to create. He was greedy and sly!

“Could he have said that on purpose after discovering Lin Lin?” Sun Zhongyang asked curiously.

“But he has no reason to say so.” Mo Xiaoya and the rest did not know what Lu Shu was planning. To them, as someone from the rear mountain of the Sword Hut, what did the Sword Hut selections have to do with him? Thus, they did not think in this direction. If they knew that Lu Shu was planning to participate in the Sword Hut selections, they would have understood what was going on when they had injured the experts mistakenly.

Thus, in the end, Mo Xiaoya felt that Lu Shu was trying to make deals with two parties!

Three days later, Yi Qian returned. He had a small booklet in his hands. He said to Lu Shu in a low tone, “This booklet was sold at the gambling dens in the palace. The information is accurate. They have taken the names of those who are participating in the selections and compiled them into a list... you too are on that list.”

The names of those who were participating in the Sword Hut selections were no

secret. After Lu Shu had written a nomination letter for himself, he had to submit it to the North Region to verify the candidates from the Wei Wu Army and submit them to the palace.

Thus, the gambling dens in the palace were very resourceful. It was not a secret that Lu Shu was participating in the Sword Hut selections.

Lu Shu took the booklet and laughed. “They even ranked everyone. Who is the first? Let’s get rid of him?”

Yi Qian hesitated and did not say anything. Lu Shu flipped to the first page and saw that... he was the first...

What in the world... what were the people in the gambling dens preparing for? Why did they rank him so highly?

But Lu Shu did not know that these rankings were not just decided by the gambling dens. They had to consider public sentiment as well!

No one knew that Lu Shu had advanced to Rank One. Thus, Lu Shu had surpassed eight Rank Ones and was ranked first as a Rank Two. It was very bizarre.

Lu Shu took another look. His odds were the lowest. It was not something that he could make use of.

Lu Shu was depressed. Were you serious? A Rank Two had the lowest odds?

### **983 LONG YIN RIVER**

Lu Shu was slightly angry. Rationally, buying his way to victory was the most stable option. After all, he had advanced to Rank One. As long as his opponent was not unnaturally strong, he would be able to defeat them easily, right?

Thus, to Lu Shu, buying his way to victory was the way!

But this arrangement by the gambling dens in the palace surprised Lu Shu. He would definitely enter the Sword Hut. He could not bet that he would lose, right? He loved money, but this was more important than money.

Lu Shu was very unhappy. Why did the Song Ji gambling den not discuss this with him?

But the Song Ji gambling den could not be blamed either. Their chief officer, Zhao Shuai, was in Nangeng City. He had come to find Lu Shu, but... he could not find him!

Zhao Shuai did not know that Lu Shu was participating in the Sword Hut selections. He wanted to ask Lu Shu who was participating from the Wei Wu Army, and whether they could work things out.

Zhang Weiyu knew that they were all old friends. Thus, he did not conceal the truth. The Great Lord was headed towards the palace. Lu Shu himself would be participating from the Wei Wu Army. But he did not see where Lu Shu was or when he had set off.

Zhang Weiyu was worried that someone would determine where Lu Shu was. What if someone had evil intentions towards Lu Shu? He could imagine how many people in the palace wanted to kill Lu Shu...

But Zhang Weiyu did not know that not only had people from the palace come, they were traveling with Lu Shu. Zhang Weiyu underestimated Lu Shu's shamelessness...

As for Zhao Shuai, when he discovered that Lu Shu was the one participating in the selection, he was very shocked. It was his first time seeing a commander participate in the Sword Hut selections!

Then, Zhao Shuai decided to discuss what they would do with the gambling dens. Although they could not find Lu Shu, he would eventually reach the palace. They had worked together for a very long time. It was easy to discuss what they would do.

Thus, the gambling dens in the palace produced this small booklet. They decided to expose Lu Shu's strength. Others thought that the four Rank Ones in the Wei Wu Army definitely had a proper place, but Zhao Shuai had interacted with Lu Shu for a long time. He knew that Lu Shu was only a Rank Two.

Thus, Zhao Shuai felt that this selling point was very good. A Rank Two would turn the tides!

Zhao Shuai did not think about what to do if Lu Shu was not selected. To be honest, he had never considered this possibility. Subconsciously, Zhao Shuai felt that Lu Shu would definitely be selected, even if he was a Rank Two.

He did not know where this confidence in Lu Shu's abilities came from...

The gambling dens thought that this was very bizarre. They had never seen this happen in their many years operating gambling dens. People who often lost bets still ran towards gambling dens. They would still lose, right?

But they had overlooked one problem. In the long history of the Luniverse, no one was as ferocious as Lu Shu against the gamblers in the palace. Luniverse had taught

the gamblers in the palace a lesson. He firmly taught them one thing. It was right to bet on Lu Shu.

Thus, Lu Shu's odds were very low.

The gambling dens in the palace felt that they would not be able to earn much from this. After all, their strongest candidate had been blocked...

But at that moment, as Lu Shu was looking at the booklet, he suddenly thought of something. Everyone knew that the Sword Hut selections only selected four people every year. It was the standard and there were no exceptions.

What if... was it possible for him to do something to this?!

This fell in line with his earlier plan!

After more than one month, the trade caravan finally reached the palace. To Lu Shu's shock, the walls of the palace were painted with various words.

“The Song Ji gambling den welcomes you. Your address, please...”

“Little Dragon Inn welcomes you...”

“Hot springs...”

Lu Shu was dumbfounded. “What is this? Can you write these on the city walls?”

The city was lofty, like a mountain. In the past, Lu Shu had felt that the Tiger's Back was very magnificent, but this palace exceeded his expectations.

There seemed to be no end to the city walls. Lu Shu stood in front of the wall and looked around, but he could not find the end.

Just how big was this place?

Many intricate advertisements were pasted on the entrance of the city. Government servants were even running around, pasting new advertisements...

Yi Qian did not seem puzzled. "Advertisements spread far and wide. This was something that the old King of Gods had established. Every advertisement space is very expensive. Only money squandering establishments are able to afford them. But they are quite useful. Visitors are very easily attracted to these advertisements."

Lu Shu was speechless. He wanted to return to Nangeng City and tell the elders that advertisement spaces were for rent...

The old King of Gods dared to do such a taboo thing, but the heads of cities would not...

But Lu Shu did not care much about this. The moment he entered the city, he promised to Sun Zhongyang. "I will help you to find the commander of the Wei Wu Army. But I have some private affairs to attend to. Tomorrow, I will visit the Sun residence."

Then, Lu Shu asked Yi Qian to lead the way.

The gamblers and wealthy families in the palace did not know that their most hated person had silently arrived at the palace. Furthermore, he was contemplating how to

make them jump into the Long Yin River again...

Zhang Weiyu had been looking forward to what would happen when Lu Shu arrived in the palace. Now, Lu Shu had finally reached the palace.

Sun Zhongyang did not stop him. He waited for Lu Shu to leave before laughing coldly. "As expected, he is preparing to sell goods to two parties. What else would he have to do in the palace? He is not going in the direction of the Sword Hut either. He must be looking for Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army!"

"Follow him." Mo Xiaoya laughed coldly. "Let me capture him in the act. I will have to inform the Sword Hut as well!"

"Ahem." Sun Zhongyang interrupted her. "I don't think you should say that. After all, it is the Sword Hut. What can you do?"

Mo Xiaoya was silent. She sighed. The Sword Hut was impressive.

They silently followed Lu Shu, Yi Qian, and Lu Xiaoyu. But they were puzzled. Why were they going to the gambling dens?

Sun Zhongyang got Sun Zhongyang to ask the people in the gambling dens what this young man was doing. But they did not have any impression of Lu Shu.

How very strange!

In reality, Lu Shu knew that Sun Zhongyang and the rest were following him. Thus, when he placed his bets, he used his mask to change his appearance.

Yi Qian led Lu Shu in all directions. Sun Zhongyang and the rest followed behind. In the end, Lu Shu came to a small courtyard. He did not even say a greeting before he opened the door and went in. A valiant young man turned around and coldly looked at Lu Shu.

But before he could say anything, Sun Zhongyang and the rest had flown in. “Ha ha ha ha, Lu Shu. Have you expected that today would come?”

The valiant young man looked up and stared at Sun Zhongyang. “I am not Lu Shu.”

Sun Zhongyang was full of vigor. “I know that you wouldn’t admit it!”

The day Lu Shu arrived in the palace, Ding Qiushui, one of the most popular candidates for the Sword Hut selections, was mysteriously eliminated...

### **984 THE TRUTH IS OU**

Sun Zhongyang and Mo Xiaoya were very proud. They felt as though they were intelligent enough to familiarize themselves with Lu Shu's plan beforehand and therefore was able to find "Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army" so successfully.

"Hehe." Sun Zhongyang laughed, "This is what I found. I can't pay you. You should be thankful that I am very forgiving and won't look into the fact that you sneakily came over to look for Lu Shu. No matter what agreement you had with him, this issue has been settled."

According to what Sun Zhongyang thought, it was better not to offend the rear mountain of the Sword Hut. Therefore, he found this way out while conveniently getting the rewards for "finding Lu Shu".

Meanwhile, just as Sun Zhongyang felt extremely proud, Ding Qiushui, who was on



the ground, spat out a mouthful of blood. "Are you guys f\*cking crazy, I am not Lu Shu, I am Ding Qiushui from the Guangan Army of the North Lord of Heaven, Yu Fuyao!"

As he said that, Ding Qiushui took out his tag. He was afraid that he would have been beaten to death if he was any slower...

"From Ding Qiushui's distress points, +999!"

Ding Qiushui was extremely indignant. He was pressed on the ground and beaten up for no reasons. He initially thought that he was powerful enough as a Rank One. The recommendations by the Sword Hut were extremely popular, four Rank Ones came over!

Although he was the best out of all the elites, he could not win against four Rank Ones!

Ding Qiushui was troubled. Who the f\*ck were they?! Ah?!

He had been to the palace for a while. Everyone knew that the selection of the Sword Hut involved fierce competition. If one did not look for others, others would still come after one.

However, he did not expect one to be so fierce. Wasn't that f\*cking cheating!

Ding Qiushui felt indignant when he initially saw how Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army, was ranked number one in the small book. He wanted to meet Lu Shu but it seemed impossible now.

He definitely could not stay in the palace. He was severely injured and many people were staring at him. If he did not leave, his competitors in the Sword Hut selection would definitely attack him. By then, it would be too late for him to leave!

This was the unspoken rule of the Sword Hut selections. Leaving the palace meant that one had voluntarily forfeited. After that, nobody could take advantage of this situation.

Because of this rule, everyone was able to fight in the palace without any worries. If not, they would be attacked if they were severely injured and they would have been dead by now.

Actually, many people wanted to target Lu Shu. At least, the rest of the Rank One experts after Lu Shu had thought about that. To let a Rank Two get first place? What a joke.

Of course, nobody would demand for a face-to-face fight. After many years of the Sword Hut selections, everyone knew that no matter how talented one was, if one was too cocky, one would not be able to last. The strategy was what mattered.

Therefore, some people disappeared after reaching the palace as they attempted to hide to monitor the situation.

Some people had discussed and wanted to collaborate and eliminate others. Since the start of the Sword Hut selections, everyone thought that a Rank Two was only a foil to the Rank Ones. However, that was not the actual case.

In the history of the Sword Hut selections, there was a Rank Two who passed the selections for almost every batch. Rank Ones were not undefeatable as there were

many other Rank Ones waiting for their fall.

For this year's Sword Hut selections, there were 47 people in total, comprising of eight Rank Ones and 39 Rank Twos. Of course, they did not calculate Lu Shu's capability correctly and therefore, he could be considered to have a hidden capability.

Amongst the 30 over Rank Twos, there were definitely those who wanted to get rid of the Rank Ones. Those who dared to take part in the selection definitely had to be ambitious and courageous, or why would they be there?

To ordinary people, when they found out he who was meant to be a Rank One but was viewed as a Rank Two, they would definitely laugh about it.

However, Lu Shu could not laugh. That was because even if he was a Rank Two, he had been ranked first... Therefore, Lu Shu was slightly unhappy with the Song gambling den. Why didn't they discuss with him?

The Song gambling den also felt desperate. They did not expect such a thing to happen too!

However, the biggest strength of Lu Shu was still his capability. At least, he was able to match up to a Rank Two. He was already thinking about how to get into the circle of the other Rank Two candidates...

Ding Qiushui stood up with the support of the wall and was ready to walk out as he packed his things. "I am really not Lu Shu, are you guys done beating me up? I'm leaving now."

Sun Zhongyang realized that something was amiss. He turned to look at Lu Shu. Lu

Shu was very surprised. "Why is he Lu Shu? I have met Lu Shu before, he is not Lu Shu!"

Ding Qiushui heaved a sigh of relief. Thankfully, there was someone who could make sense of things... Hold on, Ding Qiushui suddenly realized that it was because of this young man who caused him to be beaten up?

However, he could not care about that any further. Ding Qiushui walked out of the backyard and announced at the top of his voice, "I, Ding Qiushui, am quitting the Sword Hut selection!"

After he finished his sentence, he pushed the rest aside and walked out of the courtyard. It was not because he had lost his flying capability but rather because the old King of Gods had changed the rules when he was building the palace. It was a land with a completely restricted airspace!

Sun Zhongyang was stunned as he stood in the courtyard. Why did they beat up the wrong person again? Hold on, everyone came over after hearing what Lu Shu said, moreover, Lu Shu's actions were the same as what they had guessed. However, they mistook Ding Qiushui as Lu Shu!

Ding Qiushui did not know Lu Shu and neither did Lu Shu know Ding Qiushui. Everyone could tell that. So why did Lu Shu go there? Just to make use of the rest to kill Ding Qiushui?

However, what beneficial relationship did Lu Shu and Ding Qiushui have that required Lu Shu to do that? Lu Shu was not even a candidate for the Sword Hut selection!

Hold on, Sun Zhongyang looked at Lu Shu. There must be a reason for this. Ding Qiushui came from a foreign place and did not interact with Lu Shu before. The Sword Hut selection was the only possible reason why Ding Qiushui got into some conflicts with others!

When his deductions had eliminated all possibilities, the only answer, no matter how unbelievable, must be the truth.

Sun Zhongyang felt extremely horrified when he saw Lu Shu's smiling face. If his deduction was accurate, then it meant that throughout their entire journey...

Sun Zhongyang suddenly fell silent. "You all came from Nangeng City."

"That's right." Lu Shu nodded his head.

"Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army, had always been very mysterious. Even someone like Song Bo did not meet him before, yet you said you met him before," said Sun Zhongyang calmly.

"That's right." Lu Shu was smiling very happily. His white teeth were reflecting light under the sun. "You guessed it, I am Lu Shu."

Therefore, not only did Sun Zhongyang not manage to beat Lu Shu up, but he also helped Lu Shu get rid of two candidates of the Sword Hut selection after paying Lu Shu a huge sum of money. Sun Zhongyang was stunned. "Are you a demon?!"

"From Sun Zhongyang's distress, +999!"

"From Mo Xiaoya's distress, +999!"

### **985 ARRIVAL OF LU SHU**

Sun Zhongyang was very intelligent. To Lu Shu, that was a known fact since the beginning. Many people hoped that aristocrats were rich and foolish, but in reality, the fact was that what he had was actually hard-earned.

For example, Sun Zhongyang had an elegant demeanour. This was because his father hoped that he could have sufficient capability and charisma during the next contest for the head of the family.

For example, Mo Xiaoya had figured out Lu Shu's true personality since the start...

Therefore, the same thing could not be done three times. After Ding Qiushui was dealt with, Lu Shu did not intend to make use of Sun Zhongyang and the rest anymore. It would be disastrous if he annoyed them too much.

Moreover, if he was exposed, Sun Zhongyang would not give him the remaining three million dollars.

Sun Zhongyang wanted to punch Lu Shu's face. He recalled when Lu Shu said that he knew Lu Shu and could help to identify him, his expression was so natural and his acting skills were flawless...

He could not understand how Lu Shu managed to both stay so calm all this time and cheat them of their money.

Sun Zhongyang sighed. Actually, Lu Shu did not cheat them of their money. Without Lu Shu, they would have died on the way.

“You trained the Wei Wu Army?” asked Sun Zhongyang curiously.

“Yes.” Lu Shu smiled happily. “Pay up the remaining sum and remember our agreement. I want the magical armor.”

Sun Zhongyang signalled for someone to pass the box of notes to Lu Shu. He examined the young man from head to toe. He would not have believed that he trained the Wei Wu Army if he had not followed him for the entire journey.

In the Luniverse where power was honored, most of the children of the palace hoped to become famous fighters when they achieved a high level of skills. Although Sun Zhongyang said that he wanted to beat Lu Shu up, he was also very impressed by Lu Shu.

The entire Luniverse knew how the Wei Wu Army was like in the past. And now, everyone also knew how the Wei Wu Army could not be messed with...

Sun Zhongyang’s emotions were extremely complicated. However, he felt that he met the criteria to become friends with Lu Shu? As long as he had money... He understood why Lu Shu collaborated with the gambling dens of the palace to make the bets, it was all for money!

Mo Xiaoya, who was beside him, was even more shocked than Sun Zhongyang. Initially, she looked down on Lu Shu as she felt that it was bad for Lu Shu to betray others. However, she did not expect Lu Shu to betray himself...

At this moment, the news that Ding Qiushui was eliminated was spread throughout the entire palace. Some people said that the palace was so big that even a Rank One expert needed to fly for one entire day to get to the other end.

However, the news regarding the Sword Hut selection seemed to “fly” faster than the Rank One expert.

Everyone was extremely shocked. The gamblers had nothing to say as they held onto their worthless bets. Ding Qiushui’s background was extraordinary. There were rumors claiming that he was the illegitimate child of one of the great masters under the rule of the North Lord of Heaven, Yu Fuyao.

Besides that, during the five years where Ding Qiushui served the Guangan Army, he killed two Rank One experts.

This was the reason why Ding Qiushui was so confident of entering the Sword Hut selection, as well as the reason behind why the gamblers of the palace placed their bets on him. Some of them bet that he would win the first place while some bet that he would be able to clinch one of the four vacancies. Those who were more cautious bet that Ding Qiushui would last through the first round.

However... Everyone was disappointed.

Nobody expected Ding Qiushui, near the top of the candidate list, to be eliminated. Moreover, the people who attacked him were also identified. It was the expert of the Sun family and the Mo family, the 12 of them attacked and beat Ding Qiushui up violently.

Many of the gamblers could not understand as they stood beside the Long Yin River. Why did the Sun family and the Mo family beat Ding Qiushui up if they were not involved in the Sword Hut selections? Ding Qiushui was so likeable, how could they beat him up!



At this moment, the entire world of the gamblers fell apart. Nobody bothered about whether Ding Qiushui was likeable or not.

However, the Sun family, Mo family and the other families did not give any explanation.

Yi Qian went around the city with the gambling den's receipt that Lu Shu gave him. Lu Shu had placed a heavy bet. Apart from the Song gambling den, the ten other gambling dens in the palace were also extremely unhappy and looked as though they had been robbed.,,

Lu Shu knew it by a simple calculation. He was able to obtain 2000 magical armors this time.

Initially, he was worried that the gambling den would not admit it. However, he underestimated the capability and credibility of the gambling dens of the palace. The Song gambling den had been established for almost a thousand years. If they were not credible, how would anyone be willing to place a bet at their den?

Moreover, although Lu Shu took away nearly six months' worth of profits of the palace, as compared to the long days to come, this small amount of losses would not shake the foundations and was not worth the outrage of the gambling den.

The boss of the Song gambling den was sitting in the backyard of the gambling den and making his cup of tea. He looked extremely calm.

However, no matter how calm he was, he could not control how his hand shivered.

Accompanying a king was like accompanying a tiger. The aristocrats were like their king. If they lost such a great sum of money, the boss of the Song gambling den would be taken over by someone else.

The managers nearby did not dare to speak. They were waiting for Xiao Mingze to think about his life.

At this moment, Xiao Mingze suddenly asked, “Have you figured out who he is?”

“We didn’t manage to follow him. He is a Rank One expert and it’s difficult for us to catch up.” One of the managers shook his head. “Moreover, the rules of the gambling den stated that we are not allowed to check on Rank One experts. We have already violated the rules.”

Xiao Mingze put down his teacup and said firmly, “I have a feeling that Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army, has already reached the palace...”

“You mean?” asked one of the managers cautiously.

“He could have taken the money and left,” sighed Xiao Mingze. He had been worried that Lu Shu would become the top ranked candidate after he sold the booklet. This would definitely cause Lu Shu to be unhappy as everyone knew that Lu Shu was more concerned over the outcome of the Sword Hut selection.

There was a common understanding that anyone would choose to enter the Sword Hut for the prestige as compared to simply earning money.

Although Ding Qiushui’s elimination seemed to be completely unrelated to Lu Shu, Xiao Mingze’s intuition told him that Lu Shu was the culprit.

In the past, they had collaborated with Lu Shu to sabotage others. Now, Lu Shu secretly sabotaged them. It must be karma!

“So what do we do?” asked the manager, “We really created more trouble.”

“I will report this matter to the owner of the family. He likes Lu Shu a lot,” said the big boss Xiao Mingze, “Send all the forces to look for Lu Shu and tell him... We can discuss matters!”

### **986 LU SHU'S PLAN**

Lu Shu did not live in the house that the Song Ji gambling den helped him to purchase. He knew that there would always be gaps in protection. Furthermore, the Song Ji gambling den was not a spy organization. The news of them buying a house would definitely leak out.

Thus, when Lu Shu entered the house, he would be witnessed by countless people. Many people had been cheated by Lu Shu. Furthermore, they had come to take part in the Sword Hut selections. It would be enough for them to face these candidates.

But Lu Shu was different. There were many people in the palace who wanted him dead...

Thus, if others said that coming to the palace for the Sword Hut selections was difficult, it would be hellishly difficult for Lu Shu...

To be honest, Lu Shu did not know what frightening things would happen if he stepped into that house.

He brought Lu Xiaoyu to an inn. Since they were rich, they requested for the best

room. After all, it was an experience. Coming to the Luniverse was like traveling. When they were outside the country, they would eat well and sleep well. This was what the people of China thought.

Lu Xiaoyu rarely went out. Thus, since Lu Xiaoyu was here, Lu Shu wanted her to experience the best.

The best room in the inn was different from what Lu Shu had expected. In Wuxia dramas, the best room was on the top floor with the best scenery. However, the room would not be very big.

But the inns in the palace were different. The best room was an entire courtyard. There were fake mountains and rivers. It seemed like the mountain villas on Earth. It was very impressive.

Lu Shu sat in the courtyard and continually ate fruits. The celestial fruits had advanced into nebula fruits, but it was still very tiring to eat them. There was just too much to eat!

Lu Xiaoyu sat by the side and settled the accounts. She had taken down all the income and expenses throughout the entire journey in her account book. She had even calculated the resources that Lu Shu had gathered from the large organizations on Earth.

"I think that you can upgrade the Wei Wu Army's weapons. You have thousands of weapons in the Seal of Lands. The Wei Wu Army will not use up many weapons. You can even bring the combat power of the entire Wei Wu Army up by one level." Lu Xiaoyu calmly analyzed. "If you want to sell them, putting too many weapons up for sale will disrupt the market. You won't be able to sell them for a good price. Of

course, the money that you have now will be exchanged for weapons and armor. Our way of thinking is the same. Money is not important. What is important is what it is exchanged for. Thus, don't sell the standard weapons that you have now. You can use some to equip the Wei Wu Army."

As he spoke, Lu Shu felt that he was very rich...

But Lu Xiaoyu rejected Lu Shu's suggestion. "I think that we should wait and see. Although the Wei Wu Army is loyal to you, if you give them tridents, they might become over-reliant on their weapons. I think that it is best to give them the tridents after their abilities have advanced to another level."

Lu Shu looked at Lu Xiaoyu and sighed with emotion. In the past, she did not think about affairs like this. But now, she was planning intricate details for him.

Lu Xiaoyu was already very obedient, but now, she was forcing herself to be even more obedient in order to match Lu Shu.

Lu Shu could sense that Lu Xiaoyu was forcing herself to grow and share the pressures with Lu Shu.

"You take the lead," said Lu Shu. "I don't dare to unlock the fifth level of Nebula yet. With the fruits I have now, I can light up the fifth star of the fifth Nebula, which is a high Rank One. But I am afraid that when I reach a new level of Nebula, it will trigger a heavenly vision or the sound of the Dao. Thus, I think that it is best to find a suitable place to do so."

For some reason, Lu Shu felt that something major would happen the moment he unlocked the fifth level of Nebula. He did not know how the sound of the Dao would

be like when his celestial map advanced to Rank One, but he had an unpleasant premonition.

It was never wrong to be more prudent. Advancing in the palace would be too aggressive...

The distress points that Lu Shu had accumulated had reached hundreds of millions. Lu Shu thought about it. Had he really caused so much trouble during this period of time...

But Lu Shu realized that not only could he light up the fifth star of the fifth level of Nebula, Lu Xiaoyu had accumulated enough distress points to unlock the fifth level as well.

It was time to find an opportunity to bring Lu Xiaoyu and advance to Rank One together. The Luniverse was very chaotic. Lu Shu could only relax once Lu Xiaoyu had advanced to Rank One.

Furthermore, Lu Shu thought about it. Typical Practitioners would be able to fly when they achieved Rank One. Furthermore, their abilities and methods would improve. So, would there be any new changes when he unlocked the fifth level of Nebula?

Lu Shu was quite excited. This seemed like a major stage, where quantitative change turned into qualitative change. He anticipated the surprise that the celestial map would bring to him and Lu Xiaoyu.

At that moment, Yi Qian returned. He softly said a few words to Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu. Then, Lu Shu packed his things and went out with Yi Qian.

The palace at night was bustling. It was decorated with lanterns and colorful banners.

The people seemed to be free of troubles. The shops along the street were flourishing. Lu Shu felt as if he was at a night market on Earth, where people crowded together and walked around.

Lu Shu followed Yi Qian and finally reached a deserted alley. There was no one in the alley, but Lu Shu could sense waves of energy.

He looked up and looked at the wall of the alley. It was pitch black. Lu Shu also stood in the shadows so that the person would not be able to see him.

There was a voice. "Are you Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army? What have you come here for?"

Lu Shu remained calm and composed. He said, "It is risky for Rank Twos to participate in the Sword Hut selections. I'm sure that you know better than me. I know that a few of you have formed an alliance to counter the Rank Ones."

The person on the wall did not speak, as if he was waiting for Lu Shu to continue.

Lu Shu smiled and continued. "Although I am first, you know that I am only a Rank Two. Thus, I'd like to join you and counter those Rank One experts. How about it?"

Lu Shu felt that his plan was perfect. Although he was ranked first, it was indicated that he was still Rank Two in ability. It would be very pleasant if Rank Twos defeated Rank Ones and finished their operations.

At that moment, the person on the wall said, "No need to trick us. Someone from the

Sun family has told us that you have attained Rank One."

Lu Shu was shocked. "What in the world..."

Could they just let him plan a decent plan? Huh?!

### **987 ILLEGITIMATE CHILD**

The elimination of Ding Qiushui was the prologue to the Sword Hut selections. Everyone grew nervous.

Lu Shu did not expect Sun Zhongyang to leak the news that he had advanced to Rank One... he had failed to break into the ranks of the Rank Twos.

Not only that, he had been ranked first as a Rank Two. But at that moment, Ding Qiushui was the strongest. Thus, everyone was unhappy with Lu Shu's ranking, but saw Ding Qiushui as the most troublesome candidate.

They were unhappy, but did not plan anything that targeted him. After all, he was only a Rank Two. Even the losses that the people inside and outside the palace had made in the gambling dens, it was nothing compared to the importance of the Sword Hut selections.

Who would calculate the money they had lost in the past during the Sword Hut selections? They would definitely get rid of their past resentment and calmly think about who to target.

But now, it was different. He was a Rank One... it felt as if many people had old scores and new grievances against him.

Lu Shu looked at the person on the wall and asked curiously, "Do you really believe



the Sun family?"

"Why not? The Sun family has no reason to trick us. There is no conflict of interest."  
The person laughed coldly.

Lu Shu was puzzled. "Then, if you know that I am a Rank One, why do you still dare to speak to me?"

Within the two days that Lu Shu had entered the palace, the number of candidates had dropped from 46 to 44.

Up till this point, Lu Shu was responsible for all those who had been eliminated... it had nothing to do with the rest...

Lu Shu moaned and groaned as he led Yi Qian back to the inn. There were three houses in the courtyard, one for each person.

Lu Shu went back and continued to eat fruits. Lu Xiaoyu curiously asked Yi Qian what had happened. After Yi Qian had explained the situation to her, he asked curiously, "Was the king always so irritable?"

To Yi Qian, Lu Shu was very irritable. The Rank Two would not have been able to run away. He was fiercely beaten up after being pinned to the ground by Lu Shu. Lu Shu even asked for ransom from him.

Lu Xiaoyu calmly said, "He has a special ability."

Yi Qian was even more curious. How was his special ability involved in this? He could not help but ask, "What special ability?"

"He has the ability to make dog poop regret before him when he steps on dog poop..."

Yi Qian was speechless.

Lu Shu clearly knew that there were some gaps in his ability to plan. After all, a majority of his intricate plans had not succeeded. Even the plan to purposely trick Sun Zhongyang and the rest when Lin Lin was eavesdropping on them had been brought up by Lu Xiaoyu.

But Lu Shu was not convinced. Why did Lu Xiaoyu's plans always succeed? Why was it that he always harmed himself with his plans?

If not, how would he protect his dignity?

During breakfast in the morning, when Lu Shu saw Lu Xiaoyu laughing at him, he was unhappy. "What are you laughing at? I have thought it through last night. My plans in the past might have been wrong. With my abilities now, do I really need to work with a Rank Two? No!"

Suddenly, Lu Xiaoyu interrupted him. "I want to ask you something. Where do your fruits come from?"

Lu Shu was stern. "I am talking about something important here. Don't interrupt me. I think that I have to change my strategy..."

"Heh heh." Lu Xiaoyu folded her arms and laughed coldly. Last night, all the stars in the fourth Nebula had lit up. Since Lu Shu's celestial map had been locked up, there was no way for him to train. She was slightly curious about where these fruits had

come from.

Lu Shu was not willing to tell her. There was definitely something fishy about this secret that he could not tell others about!

Yi Qian asked, "Boss, what strategy are you planning to change?"

Lu Shu looked at Yi Qian, as if he was telling him, "You are very obedient." Then, he continued the conversation. "Why do we have to work together with Rank Twos? Not only are they weak, there are a lot of them. They definitely have evil intentions. Since the news that I have advanced to Rank One has leaked out, we have to work together with Rank Ones to kick the Rank Twos out! Perfect!"

"That's perfect?" Lu Xiaoyu did not share her opinion.

Yi Qian went out. After Lu Shu and Lu Xiaoyu had come to the Luniverse, they were unfamiliar with their surroundings. But Yi Qian was different. Not only was he a native citizen, he was a big boss in the underground. He was even an Imperial Dragon Soldier in the past.

Since Yi Qian had signed a Treaty of Alliance with Lu Shu, Lu Shu did not have to worry about Yi Qian betraying him. Thus, he only had to wait for information. He suddenly felt that it was rather nice to have someone run around for him...

Yi Qian came back at night. He said to Lu Shu in a soft voice, "I have found the person who is ranked number three. He is from the West Capital, and is the illegitimate son of Duanmu Huangqi."

Lu Shu was puzzled. "Ding Qiushui was also the illegitimate son of a Master. Now,

there is another illegitimate son. Are illegitimate children so common? Why don't they nurture their children themselves? Why were they sent to the Sword Hut?"

Yi Qian was dumbfounded. "Their training will never be as good as that of the Sword Hut."

This time, Lu Shu was dumbfounded. From Yi Qian's words, he completely understood how highly regarded the Sword Hut was to the people of Luniverse. Yi Qian felt that the training from a Lord of Heaven was not as good as that of the Sword Hut!

This was a matter of fact to them.

Lu Shu asked curiously, "Is the Sword Hut that mystical? Can't the Lord of Heaven nurture a Master? Furthermore, look at Ding Qiushui. He is participating in the Sword Hut selections with the strength of a Rank One. There must be a limit to how much he can grow."

"It's different." Yi Qian shook his head. "To many people, the Sword Hut is like a belief. Back then, when wars raged throughout the Luniverse, we followed the old King of Gods to open up new territory. But in the process, we gained many enemies. The Sword Hut had helped the old King of Gods to save a desperate situation many times. Furthermore, entering the Sword Hut is equivalent to having a gold medal that prevents death. No matter how intense the battles are, they will be able to protect their lives. This is also the reason why Liu Yizhao survived."

"Who would dare to touch the illegitimate son of a Lord of Heaven?" Lu Shu did not understand.

"There are other Lords of Heaven," said Yi Qian. "Moreover, the Masters have to create their own rules. To many people, this cannot be taught. They have to rely on their aptitude, talent, and fate. But it seems as if the Sword Hut has a direct route to achieving the Master Realm. Although it is still very difficult, they can see the path that they have to embark on."

### **988 ONLY 30 PERCENT OF THE SCENERY NEEDED**

"Till date, there are four people who reached the Master Realm in the Sword Hut," explained Yi Qian.

"That's not a lot," said Lu Shu casually. After all, the number 'four' is rather little to ordinary people.

"One person of the Master Realm is terrifying enough." Yi Qian was surprised.

"Being a Rank One expert allows the aristocrats of the palace to last for thousands of years. The Sun family had become the leader of the palace because Sun Zhongyang's father had been named as the genius who was the most likely to reach the Master Realm in the family. Don't you dare think that those who were willing to become the sacrifice for the Lord of Heaven were incapable. Their powers are extremely shocking."

"Oh." Lu Shu suddenly realized that he had misunderstood. "Then it is sufficient."

"Everyone says that there are less than ten people who had reached the Master Realm in the Luniverse. However, we had surpassed the 10 people mark hundreds of years ago. Amongst them, one-third of them came from the Sword Hut." Yi Qian sighed.

"This is the reason why everyone scrambles to enter the Sword Hut. The owner of the Sword Hut had once said that she only wants 30 percent of the power of the world. Therefore, the King of Gods collected 30 percent of the tax of the palace and passed it to the Sword Hut. Everyone felt that it was too much. However, everyone eventually realized that 30 percent of those who had reached the Master Realm came from the

Sword Hut..."

For some reason, Lu Shu was stunned. He felt as though he could visualize the outstanding appearance of the owner of the Sword Hut. How powerful must she have been to make the other party say that.

Lu Shu said, "Indeed, if one-third of those who had reached the Master Realm came from the Sword Hut, the training capability of the Sword Hut is terrifying. No wonder, the Sword Hut is able to live with its name."

"No no no, a total of seven people of the Master Realm came from the Sword Hut. Three of them died in the battle for the King of Gods and the remaining four..." explained Yi Qian. He did not understand why Lu Shu did not understand the situation on the Luniverse. However, his task was to explain to him and did not have the power to ask why Lu Shu was unclear.

After waiting for more than ten years, he was not as lucky as Liu Yizhao to be enlightened by the owner of the Sword Hut. Therefore, he could only be stranded out in the wild. However, he did not regret it.

He had never regretted it and would never regret it in his life.

At this moment, Yi Qian said, "However, the main reason behind why the Sword Hut was able to gain its reputation was not because of the number of Masters, but rather because the owner of the Sword Hut was able to surpass the Master Realm. The people whom I was talking about did not include..."

"Surpass the Master Realm?" Lu Shu was deep in thought. "How powerful would that be?"

It was no wonder why the vacancies for the Sword Hut selection was so limited. No wonder the Lords of Heaven wanted to send his illegitimate sons into the Sword Hut. It was a chance to rise to the top.

However, Lu Shu did not really mind it. That was because he and Lu Xiaoyu only needed to earn distress points in order to surpass the Master Realm. After all, he had already reached the capability of a Rank One but had yet to achieve the fifth, sixth and seventh layers of the nebula.

Lu Shu felt that this was quite amusing. It felt as though, if the number of people were enough, the powers of that individuals would come naturally.

Oh, hold on a second, Lu Shu felt that something was amiss. The celestial map had always been extremely unreasonable. The method to rise in ranking was also extremely unreasonable. It required others' distress points.

However, when this landed in a stupid person's hand, it could be in vain and end up without any distress points.

Therefore, sustainability was crucial. The future of the celestial map determined if murders were right. The person who owned the celestial map must be concerned about people's lives...

Lu Shu felt that he was extremely philosophical.

"Alright, who cares if he is the illegitimate son of a Lord of Heaven. Let's go and meet him and that will be the first stage to get to our objective of Rank One," Lu Shu said in confidence, "Look at how I will persuade him!"

Lu Xiaoyu did not say anything since the start. She looked at Lu Shu's confident face and said, "Good luck."

"You are just waiting to watch me make a fool of myself, right?" Lu Shu made a gesture. "I will not give you the chance to do that."

The illegitimate son of Duanmu Huangqi was called Duanmu Yunge. He did not show his face after reaching the palace but moved into Duanmu Huangqi's residence in the palace.

The residence was not official. Very few people knew that it was Duanmu Huangqi's property.

However, no secret can remain hidden forever. The palace was the center of political fights. There were definitely spies placed by the different powers, as well as those spies who earned money through tip-offs.

Yi Qian was the most famous mercenary. He had dealt with some of these people. Therefore, it was easy for him to buy the information about Duanmu Yunge who was the third place on the list.

Moreover, another advantage was that nobody had thought that Yi Qian was bought over by Lu Shu. Therefore, nobody knew that Lu Shu was the one who was interested in Duanmu Yunge.

Lu Shu and Yi Qian arrived outside the residence and flew in. The tall walls were not an obstacle to practitioners.



Lu Shu strolled into the residence leisurely and sighed. There were no guards in the residence and it seemed like Duanmu Yunge was living alone. Lu Shu had once heard that a simple-minded person loved to live in a crowd while those with a complicated state of mind liked to live alone as they did not trust anyone.

That was right. As the illegitimate son of the Lord of Heaven, Duanmu Yunge experienced all different types of battles, including internal family fights and those amongst the Lords of Heaven. All of them were very dangerous.

If Lu Shu grew up in this environment, he would also be unable to trust anyone.

"Who are you guys?" A cold voice was heard from the residence.

Lu Shu turned at the long corridor and saw a young man in a white shirt sitting with his eyes closed on a floor mat in the backyard. The arrival of Lu Shu and Yi Qian did not cause him to open his eyes. This implied that he was extremely confident.

Lu Shu glanced at Yi Qian: Don't move, watch me!

Lu Shu said, "I am here to discuss whether the Rank Ones can collaborate and get rid of the Rank Twos..."

"Scram," said Duanmu Yunge calmly.

Lu Shu sighed and looked at Yi Qian, "Why?"

Yi Qian said, "Ah?"

After half an hour, more than half of the residence that was over ten mus had

collapsed. Lu Shu sighed as he got rid of the dirt on his palms, "Why can't we talk nicely?"

### **989 BUYING RANKINGS**

The next morning, Lu Shu brought Yi Qian and Lu Xiaoyu out to eat. It was not that an expensive inn like theirs did not have breakfast. Instead, Lu Shu wanted to see how public opinion had changed after the elimination of Duanmu Yunge.

Lu Shu understood the cruelty of the Sword Hut selections. He had as strong a background as the illegitimate son of a Lord of Heaven. But even he did not dare to wait at the palace, let alone those without a strong background.

But Lu Shu was slightly troubled. There were candidates from wealthy families in the palace that were participating in the Sword Hut selections. Since they hid in their houses, Lu Shu had no other solution. He might as well start a war with the wealthy families in the palace as the commander of the Wei Wu Army.

"We've incurred losses," said Lu Shu suddenly as he ate his porridge.

Yi Qian was puzzled. He did not understand why Lu Shu would say so. Lu Xiaoyu continued to eat her porridge. She knew what Lu Shu was talking about even without looking up. "Wasn't this your plan? Are you regretting not placing bets in the gambling dens earlier?"

"We have lost a big sum of money," said Lu Shu with bitter hatred. "If you aren't distressed, so be it. But do you really have to mock me?"

Lu Xiaoyu looked at Lu Shu and took out a receipt from the gambling den. "I placed some bets. The odds of Duanmu Yunge being eliminated were quite high."

Lu Shu beamed with joy. He completely did not care about Lu Xiaoyu mocking him.

When Yi Qian saw the two of them, he was shocked. When Lu Shu said that he would convince Duanmu Yunge, he was serious. He thought that Lu Shu's plan would definitely be successful.

Now he knew that Lu Xiaoyu did not trust Lu Shu. After he and Lu Shu went out, she went to the gambling dens and placed bets...

So what kind of combination were they? They had earned money despite mistakes and a strange combination of circumstances!

But Yi Qian did not know that this was not a mistake. Lu Xiaoyu had gone to the gambling dens to place bets because of her understanding of Lu Shu...

Lu Xiaoyu did not place the bets herself either. Instead, she gave the Ambilight Soul Pearl to Anthony and asked him to place the bets.

After all, no one had seen Anthony before. There were many people with strange facial features in the Luniverse.

Thus, when the bosses of the gambling dens in the palace heard that Duanmu Yunge had left the palace after being eliminated, they were annoyed...

The boss of the Song Ji gambling den, Xiao Mingze, issued a death order to his subordinates. They had to kill Lu Shu within three days.

Xiao Mingze did not doubt whether Lu Shu had the ability to do so. His chief officer, Zhao Shuai, had conveyed the information that Lu Shu was the strongest Rank Two he had met.

If Lu Shu had successfully advanced to Rank One, he would be unusually strong.

This time, Anthony went to exchange the receipt from the gambling dens. When he took out the receipt, Xiao Mingze was shocked. Xiao Mingze said something to Anthony, but Anthony did not answer. He took the money and left.

Xiao Mingze sent someone to stop Anthony, but he entered a dead end and disappeared.

There was more than one person following Anthony. They had almost surrounded the dead end, but never saw Anthony go out.

Anthony had disappeared right in front of so many people. They suddenly thought of one technique: Mid-Soil Escape...

Xiao Mingze was very uncomfortable. He suddenly realized that there might be experts supporting Lu Shu. The foundation of the Wei Wu Army was much stronger than he had imagined!

Lu Shu happily sat at the table, as if he had won the lottery. It had just fallen into his lap!

He suddenly said, "Look! Two out of the eight Rank Ones have been eliminated! No one has suspected me even though the number of my competitors have decreased! Although there are some mistakes in my plan, the results are still good!"

Lu Xiaoyu looked at him, puzzled. "Why do you think that no one has suspected you?"

Lu Shu was dumbfounded. “Duanmu Yunge has left. No worries. He has not interacted with anyone. Furthermore, when I went there, no one looked at me. No one will discover that I was the one who did it. Thus, I’m still hiding in the dark. No one will know about my ability!”

At that moment, two people walked past them. One of them said, “Duanmu Yunge has been eliminated. I even bet that he would be able to enter the Sword Hut! Who would do such an immoral thing?”

When Lu Shu heard this, he was unhappy. Helping them quit gambling was a good thing. How had it become immoral? But as he was about to make them rephrase themselves, the other person suddenly said, “Don’t you know who did such an immoral thing? It was definitely Lu Shu, the commander of the Wei Wu Army! Who else would do this?”

Lu Shu was dumbfounded.

He had been discovered just like that?

The person said, “Look at the new booklet that the Song Ji gambling den released today. Did you realize something? The people ranked second and third have been eliminated, but Lu Shu is still there. What does this mean? It was not a coincidence that the second and third people were eliminated by a fluke. Lu Shu is unharmed. It must have been him! Everyone in the palace thinks that he is the culprit!”

Lu Shu was shocked. “What in the world...”

Lu Xiaoyu continued to drink her porridge calmly. She looked at Lu Shu, as if she

was saying, “Are you still going to boast?”

At that moment, the passers-by sat at the store and shouted to the owner, “Boss, two bowls of porridge and two plates of carrot sticks!”

“Got it!” The boss shouted.

The passer-by continued. “Your family is too strict to not allow you to go out. You don’t know how severe the situation in the palace is now. Everyone thinks that Lu Shu is upset by the fact that his previous attempt was not harsh enough. Thus, he came to the palace to cheat everyone else. Have you ever heard of the commander participating in the Sword Hut selections? I have never heard of this before...”

“Then what about the bets you have placed in the gambling dens?” The other person was curious.

“What else can I do? I adjusted the odds. The bets that I placed the other day are all gone. Now, people are betting on who will be the next to be eliminated.” The passer-by drank his porridge. “Now, the odds of the person ranked fourth are the lowest. He is the heir of a wealthy family. He might even become the head of the family in the future. Although he is still nowhere to be seen, Lu Shu might already have his eyes on him.”

“What does this have to do with him?”

“Lu Shu is going down the list as he eliminates people. The people ranked second and third have been eliminated. The fourth person will be next, right?” The passer-by laughed. “You might not know this, but his family is talking to the gambling dens. He is trying to get money from people. Not only is the Li family doing this, all wealthy

families want to enter the Sword Hut. They have started to buy rankings for others...”

In the past, everyone wanted higher rankings to increase their influence. But now, it was different. They wanted to buy higher rankings for others...

### **990 THE WEI WU ARMY BEATS UP THE BANDITS**

Lu Shu silently listened to the passers-by chat. He was melancholic. Why was the entire palace sure that he was the one who had eliminated Duanmu Yunge and Ding Qiushui? Did they have proof to say so?

But the problem was, no matter whether it was the people of the palace, or the candidates of the Sword Hut selections, they did not quite know him.

To everyone, their impression of Lu Shu was that of an expert who considered himself to be the best in the world. He targeted the strongest candidates on the list.

Thus, they felt that Lu Shu went down the rankings. As a result, this had happened. All the Rank Two candidates that had been eliminated by Lu Shu were overlooked. Many people did not know that Lu Shu had eliminated them as well.

But to Lu Shu, he had just done some planning. When he visited these people, he did not plan on eliminating them...

"Have you realized a rule?" Lu Xiaoyu looked at Yi Qian.

Yi Qian was dumbfounded. "What rule?"

Lu Xiaoyu calmly said, "All the candidates of the Sword Hut selections that Lu Shu sees have a 100% chance of being eliminated... there is no use buying rankings. They just have to pray that they are not seen by Lu Shu..."

"... that seems to be the case. You understand Boss well."

Just as they were talking, Yi Qian suddenly realized that Lu Xiaoyu was slightly happy after Yi Qian had spoken. Lu Xiaoyu said to Yi Qian, "Yi Qian, you have a pair of eyes that are good at discovering things!"

Yi Qian was speechless.

"What are you talking about?" Lu Shu had thought about it thoroughly. He turned and said to Lu Xiaoyu, "I think that if they are really buying rankings, we can decide how to make money after observing for one day. After all, I really am not going down the rankings when eliminating people."

"Then, Boss, how will you eliminate people?" Yi Qian asked curiously.

"I will eliminate the person whose odds are the highest," said Lu Shu as if it was a matter of fact.

With Lu Shu's current amount of money, he could buy 4500 sets of magical armor. Of course, this was not including the money made by the Wei Wu Army when they sold soap.

Lu Shu felt that although the gambling den was a profitable business, there were not many opportunities to do so. They bought and sold tickets. After all, they still had to wait for some time before earning money.

But for the Wei Wu Army, selling soap was a constant supply of income for them. Many major traveling businessmen and even small businessmen headed towards



Nangeng City. It was a lucrative product. Everyone wanted to earn some money from this.

Thus, he did not earn less money from his soap business.

Furthermore, Nangeng City attracted many foreign traveling businessmen who wanted to invest in the entertainment industry. The entire Nangeng City was flourishing. Even the taxes had increased significantly.

The roads of Nangeng City were paved with limestone bricks. The city was much cleaner than before. There were people cleaning the streets everyday. There was even a place to burn rubbish outside the city. There was a significant increase in the number of service staff in the city. This was what the taxes collected were used for.

Recently, there was a saying among the traveling businessmen. In the past, when they went to other cities, they felt that they paid taxes for the head of the city to use. It was only in Nangeng City where they felt that the taxes were truly used for the sake of the people.

This was a compliment. This meant that everyone had enjoyed the benefits of service in Nangeng City.

Of course, the brothel industry started to flourish as well, but Lu Shu had no way of telling Zhang Weiyu that this was no good. The concepts were different. On Earth, it was against the law. But in the Luniverse, it could only be classified as a hygiene problem at worst...

Other than the basic facilities in Nangeng City, Lu Shu also requested the Wei Wu Army to get rid of any bandits who were hiding. This was to ensure that the traveling

businessmen felt safe coming here.

With the current ability of the Wei Wu Army, killing bandits was extremely easy. The bandits near Nangeng City all moved away. They could not provoke the Wei Wu Army.

Under typical circumstances, a Rank Three bandit would be considered amazing. But the Wei Wu Army was different. Rank Three was considered a low rank in the Wei Wu Army...

They lived in the mountains. They did not have to worry about any dangers. What natural dangers could stop a Practitioner? The only thing that could stop a Practitioner was another Practitioner.

Furthermore, their scout could fly...

Later on, after the bandits left, they realized that the Wei Wu Army was expanding their range of attack. They could still see the Wei Wu Army after moving over 50 kilometers away!

Everyone was puzzled. This was too much!

But they did not know that this was the characteristic of the Wei Wu Army! Now, the Wei Wu Army was not lacking in money. They felt no pressure outside. Furthermore, the greatest benefit in eliminating these bandits was that... they did not have to do homework!

When Li Heitan and the rest found out about this, they went crazy. When they heard that there were bandits, no matter how far away they were, they would eliminate

them!

At first, the bandits had no choice but to hide. Later on, they felt that there was something wrong about the mice around them. On one hand, there were changes in their appearances. Many mice had a tuft of black fur on their head. On the other hand, these mice were much more powerful than them...

Before the Wei Wu Army came, they would dream about a white squirrel asking them whether they wanted to buy soap...

Beating up bandits changed the impression of Nangeng City for the traveling businessmen.

In the past, when people were beaten up, they would find a governor and say, "Master, we have been beaten up. We cannot do our business. Please help us to eliminate them."

The Nangeng City was on another level. Li Heitan waited at the entrance of the city and asked people whether they had seen any bandits. As long as they were in the North Region, it did not matter where they were. The Wei Wu Army would help them to get rid of their worries...

The traveling businessmen in Nangeng City sighed with emotion. This was the correct attitude to have when doing business. They could decrease the prices of their goods slightly. The traveling businessmen thought that it was not easy for the Wei Wu Army to earn money. It must have been very difficult!

Now, Nangeng City was very peaceful...

Thus, Wei Wu Army started to expand their sphere of activity. They even entered the territory of many aristocrat armies and the Long Meng Army.

Everyone was very angry. Their activities did not follow the rules. Which other army was like them?

Everyone gathered and discussed whether they should warn the Wei Wu Army.

But when the time came, they were all scared. No one dared to say anything. After all, it was already difficult enough to live...