

Immortal 661

Chapter 661: Playboy Cultivation Time

While Zu An was thinking to himself, Yun Jianyue was worried herself. After some hesitation, she said, "You don't need to worry about me. I don't want to drag you down."

Zu An was stunned. "What are you saying? If I was scared of being dragged down, I wouldn't have saved you back then."

"I know you're a valiant man, but this is different. I plan to make a trip to the prison. You've already helped me enough, so I cannot burden you further." Yun Jianyue watched him carefully while speaking. Even though this man talked a bit too much normally, he was much more reliable than those people from the sect who always bragged about how loyal they were. Even if Honglei ends up with this man, it won't be a disgrace. It was just a pity that the two couldn't do anything because of the technique she cultivated.

Zu An was a bit embarrassed when he heard her call him a valiant man. Honestly, I wouldn't be trying so hard if you weren't pretty.

As a veteran pervert, he at least understood himself this much.

However, he quickly realized something and asked with shock, "You're going to the prison? Don't tell me you still want to save your companions? Isn't that just courting death?"

Yun Jianyue shook her head, her long hair fluttering behind her. "It isn't to save them, but to kill them."

Zu An: "....."

Do all Devil Sect people jump to conclusions like this? I can't keep up at all.

Yun Jianyue explained, "Don't worry, I know what kind of situation we are in. With the emperor overseeing this place, I won't be able to rescue them out of the prison even if I was at my strongest, let alone now when I'm injured. I only wish to end their suffering. You told me how badly they were tortured. As the sect master, I should at least end their suffering if I cannot set them free."

His tone was incredibly bleak. She felt angry and conflicted from her powerlessness.

Zu An gave her a strange look. Yun Jianyue thought that he was about to dissuade her and said, "Don't bother. My dao will suffer if I do not settle this matter, and I might not be able to make any more progress. Your identity won't be exposed either if I do it."

It had already been a few days since Zu An convinced Gu Yueyi and the others that he could save them. Now that so many days had passed, they were probably starting to become worried. Once they felt despair, they might betray Zu An.

Zu An was a bit ashamed when he heard her say this. His big sis sect master was thinking about him, yet he was only focused on getting the most out of her.

He cleared his throat and said, "The security around the prison is strict. It'll be too dangerous if you go, so leave it to me. I'll try to see if I can save them."

"You're going to save them? How?" Yun Jianyue was stunned. She clearly didn't expect him to say this. In her opinion, with the emperor overseeing the palace, saving them was completely an impossible task.

"Not through force, of course, but by outwitting them." Zu An pointed at his head. He gave her a sincere look and said, "I've been to the imperial prison already, so I am more familiar with those people. Things will go much smoother if I am the one who does it. I've been trying to figure out a way to save them all this time. You're always lost in thought and looking towards the imperial prison. I wanted to surprise you before, but now that I heard that you are going to take the risk, I can only tell you now."

A white clothed angel appeared on his shoulder, cursing him for his stupid playboy self as he spoke these words. He was using the emperor's favor to chase after girls!

But then, another black-clothed devil sneered on his other shoulder. "Pah, it's just feelings, you aren't even doing anything serious."

Yun Jianyue was a bit alarmed when she saw his burning eyes. She subconsciously took a step back. "You... You actually already did so much for me."

Zu An sighed inside when he saw how alarmed she was. This woman might be a grandmaster in terms of cultivation, but she was completely naive in this field after remaining a maiden for so long. She is completely a novice before him.

"We're friends who lived together for some time at worst, right? How can I not help a friend out?" Zu An didn't go further. Their relationship wasn't at that point yet. Going further now would only ruin things.

The emperor's mission for me is to infiltrate the Devil Sect. Does this count?

"Friend..." Yun Jianyue's stirred heart calmed down a bit when she heard this word. She gave him a sidelong look. "Who's living... living together with you? Why did you have to say it like that."

She normally always upheld a cold and arrogant appearance. This was a rare immature side of her.

Zu An was momentarily stunned.

Yun Jianyue noticed that she lost her composure when she saw his expression. She quickly recovered her usual mighty and domineering appearance. "What are you looking at? I'll dig your eyes out if you keep staring."

At the same time, she warned herself that this was Honglei's man, that she shouldn't do anything laughable.

"Big sis sect master really is a goddess. You're so beautiful even when you're angry." Zu An almost burst out laughing when he saw her look angry on purpose. You can't hide anything from me in this field! I didn't sense any Rage points from you.

Yun Jianyue's brows couldn't help but ease when she heard him praise her beauty. However, she still said stubbornly, "I am Honglei's master. I advise you to be more careful when making jokes."

Zu An's nose wrinkled. "Didn't I say that we should just worry about our own relationship?"

Yun Jianyue's eyebrows rose. She was just about to flip out when Zu An quickly said, "I'm going to make a trip to the eastern palace. I can't always be missing as the crown prince's secretary."

Yun Jianyue laughed when she saw him leave in a sorry state, as if he was fleeing. "Hmph, and I thought that you were so fearless you were going to do something."

Her smile really was like the first budding of spring. There was now a bit of worldly beauty added to this cold lunar goddess.

...

Zu An thought about how he was going to save those Devil Sect assassins along the way. Even though he had the emperor's permission, he didn't dare make this matter public. He could only give some hints to related people. He still had to figure out how he was going to save them himself.

It wasn't that hard to rescue them from the prison, what was harder to manage were the consequences. He couldn't draw the Devil Sect's suspicion, nor did he want to draw any suspicion from the imperial guards. After all, none of them knew what the emperor was really thinking. Their first instincts would be to execute him for breaking out criminals.

Sending them out of the palace was another headache.

He unknowingly already arrived at the eastern palace while lost in his thoughts. The scene before his eyes left him shocked.

The fat crown prince was respectfully bringing a cup of tea to someone.

The crown princess was also standing respectfully to the side. Her discomfort was visible. She was probably on the verge of snapping.

Zu An was quite curious. The crown princess was normally like a proud little hen who looked at everyone else like trash. There was someone who could make her act like this?

The one seated was a scholarly middle-aged man. Even though there were some traces of age left, his brows were sharp, his eyes gentle like water. It was easy to see how popular he was with girls when he was younger.

His hair was meticulously combed with some white hairs on his temples. However, no one felt that he looked old, it rather gave him a bit of a classy feeling.

The crown prince said with a weak voice, "Great tutor, please drink some tea."

Zu An's mind jumped. He finally knew who the one before him was. No wonder he looked a bit similar to the emperor!

King Qi, Zhao Jing!

King Qi slowly spoke at this time. "It seems like in the time this king hasn't showed up in the eastern palace, the crown prince has forgotten many of the rules. That is why I am having the crown prince

review them today. I am your teacher, as well as your uncle. Do you have any complaints by having you serve me tea?"

"Not at all, not at all." The fatty was clearly scared of this uncle. He didn't dare talk back at all.

The crown princess' eyes were full of reluctance, but she couldn't find any reason to retort. She could only sulk by herself. She got more and more angry when she saw how timid and useless her husband was.

Zu An was startled when he saw this scene. There's a solution!

Chapter 662: Tit for Tat

"This subject pays his respects to the crown prince and princess!" Zu An said with a clear voice.

The atmosphere was originally quite strange, with even the crown prince and princess bowing their heads. The others of the eastern palace were keeping quiet out of fear as well.

Yet now, this loud voice suddenly sounded. It immediately became the focal point of everyone's attention.

Little Xu and Little He who was standing at the crown prince's sides stared in a stupor. This guy is really brave! He dares speak up at this type of time?

The imperial guards Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun who were close to Zu An winked their eyes as hard as they could from the distance. They were hinting towards him not to say anything bad.

Zu An felt warm inside. Looks like these friends were worth making! However, he had his own plans. He walked over to the crown prince and princess. "Hm? Apart from his majesty, who else can make the crown prince and princess serve him tea so respectfully? May I ask who you are?"

Publicly offending King Qi was a decision he made after careful thought. King Qi was the one who arranged most of those assassinations he experienced on the way to the capital. Why did he have to treat someone who wanted him dead nicely?

Furthermore, after all the things that happened after he arrived at the capital, there was no way the two of them could be on friendly terms again.

For example, it was because of him that King Qi faction's Murong Tong was transferred out from the crucial security officer position. Now, the Left Guard General Cheng Xiong was also dead. No matter how magnanimous King Qi was, his subordinates would definitely hate Zu An bitterly.

Zu An didn't even think King Qi to be that open-minded anyway. That was why he might as well just offend this person directly. That way, he would be tightly bound to the imperial princess.

As for the emperor's task of giving King Qi the fake Phoenix Nirvana Sutra, this wasn't a task with a time limit, so he couldn't care less.

He looked at King Qi while speaking. Meanwhile inside, he sighed in praise that this mature and graceful middle-aged man would definitely be lethal for young ladies.

King Qi also looked at him. There weren't any emotions visible in his eyes.

It was to the extent where Zu An didn't even receive any Rage points.

Zu An was quite surprised. This was a shrewd person who he had to deal with carefully.

The crown princess was overjoyed at the turn of events. She found this guy a bit annoying at first, but he seemed much more pleasing today.

She smiled inside, but on the outside, she still pretended to reprimand him. "This is the world renowned and wise King Qi. Zu An, how can you treat him with such disrespect?"

She deliberately emphasized the words renowned and wise precisely to mock him for bullying them juniors today.

The crown princess actually knew why he would come with this type of attitude today. It was precisely the crown prince's faction that put Cheng Xiong to death. It was easy to imagine how King Qi felt after losing such an important general. Regardless of whether it was for himself or for his subordinates, he had to come out and vent a bit.

That was why he deliberately troubled her and the crown prince, and she had no choice but to suck it up.

We've already obtained our benefits anyway. Do what you will with your pettiness.

But now that Zu An came, she suddenly discovered that she didn't have to put up with his pettiness.

"I greet King Qi." Zu An put on an alarmed look and greeted him respectfully.

"So you're Zu An?" King Qi's expression was a bit complicated when he looked at Zu An. After all, he always had the upper hand in his struggle against the emperor all these years. In his mind, his opponent was never this stupid nephew and his wife who thought she was smart. His real opponent was always his older brother on that dragon throne.

The emperor was indeed unrivaled, but he was no match against time. Furthermore, the crown prince was just too pathetic, so the situation was gradually leaning towards him.

Yet once Zu An appeared, he was completely caught off guard with his immortality granting 'Phoenix Nirvana Sutra'. When he learned of this, his mental state that had remained calm for so long became panicked for the first time. If the emperor really obtained immortality, then what the hell would he even be fighting for?

Once this news went out, even some officials who were secretly on his side began to waver. The reason they were on his side wasn't because they liked him, but rather because the most powerful emperor was about to die, and the crown prince was worthless.

Once they learned that the emperor had a chance of obtaining eternal life, why would these officials suddenly grow tired of living and betray the emperor?

He was already badly burned from before. After this fella arrived at the capital, he lost his Security Officer and the Left Guard General, these vital positions. This was the first time his faction suffered devastating losses in recent years!

Is this person my natural nemesis? He erased this thought as soon as it appeared. At his level, he wouldn't let himself have such useless thoughts.

Zu An replied, "This lowly official is Zu An. I have longed to meet with the renown King Qi."

King Qi's eyelids jumped. This fella expressed his hatred for me just now, yet now he says he has longed to meet me? Isn't this clear mockery?

You have successfully trolled Zhao Jing for +99 Rage points!

Zu An was disappointed when he received these Rage points. This was a grandmaster, for better or for worse! His soul force was incredibly powerful, he shouldn't be offering such a small amount.

However, mockery was still just mockery in the end. How could anyone who could contend against the world's most powerful cultivator for so long be weak?

When he was chatting with Yun Jianyue, she told him that there were two and a half people who scared her. The first two were the emperor and King Qi. As for someone like Zhuxie Chixin, he couldn't even count as half. He was just an ant who was a bit more troublesome.

King Qi picked up his teacup and took a sip, then, he said calmly, "Judging from Sir Zu's words just now, it seems that you don't think it's too suitable for me to have the crown prince serve me tea? Studies should be started from the basics, and a strict teacher will help the student appreciate learning. This is wisdom passed down from the ancient times. I fear that Sir Zu might not have heard of it before as you grew up in Brightmoon City's streets."

Zu An didn't get upset when he heard him mock him for being ignorant. He said with a smile, "However, the crown prince is the heir apparent to the throne after all. The crown princess will become the empress. I feel that King Qi's behavior does not really follow the dao of subjects."

Many people gasped when they heard these words. Little Xu and Little He's faces turned deathly pale. Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun sighed inside, thinking that Zu An was done for. He actually dared to speak like this to King Qi? He's dead for sure!

Even the crown princess' maid Rong Mo's entire body went taut. She was scared that King Qi's anger would shift to the crown prince and princess. Once this man attacked, not even she at her peak could be his match, let alone right now when she was still heavily injured.

She immediately cursed Zu An for being a good-for-nothing when she thought of this.

You have successfully trolled Rong Mo for +233 +233 +233...

Only the crown princess alone felt incredibly refreshed. She found Zu An more and more pleasing. She didn't expect this fella to be so loyal to them. She felt like she should spend some effort fostering him.

King Qi's eyes narrowed, but his reaction was quick as well. He said, "In the path of learning, respect for the teacher is the most important. Only when one respects their teacher will they attach importance to

learning itself. Hence, there are two situations when the ruler will not treat his subjects as subjects. The first is when the subject presides over a sacrifice to the heavens, and the second is when the subject assumes the role of a teacher.”[1]

Zu An thanked the heavens that he went through nine years of compulsory education before he crossed over. Otherwise, he wouldn’t understand what this stuff meant at all.

Even though he was in a world of cultivation, for the sake of a stable country, a system of etiquette has been inherited through thousands of years. There was no need for a teacher to show the courtesy of a subject when he teaches the ruler the classics. When the ruler is learning, he should forget his status as a ruler and seriously learn. This was the so-called respect for your teacher.

His intentions were clear. This even applies to a ruler, let alone a crown prince and princess.

The crown princess’ pretty eyes looked towards Zu An. This was precisely the reason why she held it all in. She was curious as to how Zu An was going to respond.

For some reason, she just felt like this fella wasn’t going to disappoint her.

Chapter 663: Grandmasters Should Not Be Provoked

Zu An replied, “As the crown prince’s great tutor, there is indeed a need for the crown prince and princess to be respectful towards you when you are teaching.”

The fatty to the side nodded his head stupidly in agreement. “Exactly, exactly!”

The crown princess’ brows furrowed. She was happy with this fella’s performance a moment ago, but this was all he had? Furthermore, the crown prince’s dumbness really was tiring.

Only King Qi alone remained quiet. With his status, he obviously knew that this person had more to say.

Sure enough, Zu An continued, “But King Qi is no longer a teacher before and after the lesson. There’s a reason why there is a difference between a ruler and his ministers. At those times, shouldn’t you be greeting the crown prince with respect when you see him?”

King Qi’s brows rose. This fella had quite the sharp mouth. However, this indeed left him in a tricky situation.

Zu An immediately looked at the crown prince. “Your highness crown prince, has your class with King Qi finished for today?”

The crown prince scratched his head and replied in a feeble-minded manner. “I think so. Are you going to play with the frogs with me outside?”

When he saw the crown princess’ face darken, Zu An thought to himself, like hell I’ll catch frogs with you. The bit of competency I barely managed to accumulate was almost done in by you!

He cleared his throat and calmed himself down before saying, “Since the classes have already finished, then it should be King Qi’s turn to show the crown prince respect.”

When he saw that King Qi was expressionless, he added fuel to the fire. "King Qi seems unwilling to pay respects to the crown prince. Could it be that you have thoughts of taking his place?"

King Qi's face finally showed a change in expression. Even though the struggle between the crown prince and himself over the throne could no longer be stopped, they still looked amiable on the surface. This wasn't something that should be brought out into the open at all.

You have successfully trolled Zhao Jing for +666 Rage points!

He was finally truly angered. He gave Zu An a cold look. In that instant, Zu An felt as if he fell into a frozen lake, as if he might die a second later.

Is this the power of a grandmaster... Zu An had a bitter smile on his face. What the hell was he doing? He was clearly already a cheat-like existence among those his age, yet he ended up provoking the number two cultivator in this world.

He was scared badly by the emperor not too long ago. Yet now, he was being pressured by King Qi.

King Qi was surprised when he saw that Zu An remained unfazed, his expression calm. After all, under this type of distance, normal cultivators couldn't withstand his pressure at all. Most of them would be kneeling on the ground right now. He wanted to teach this sharp mouthed brat a lesson this way and also shave off some of the influence his words just won him. However, he never expected that this would actually be useless!

With his pride as a grandmaster, if a junior survived his attacks once, then with his status, he shouldn't make another move. However, King Qi was also a politician who valued practicality. That was why he decided to release his pressure again. This time, he wouldn't hold back at all and would rather make sure this fella learned a harsh lesson.

But right at this time, the crown princess stood in front of Zu An. Even though her expression was a bit pale, she still raised her head and said, "It hasn't been long since he arrived at the eastern palace, so he does not understand many of the rules. I ask that King Qi be magnanimous if he has offended you in any way."

Zu An was surprised when he saw the frail figure in front of him. After all, the crown princess always hated his guts, yet now, she actually stood in front of him!

King Qi gave her a look and chuckled. "The crown princess speaks too seriously. Why would this king lower myself to his level?"

Then, he turned towards the fatty next to him. "Crown prince, do you want me to greet you respectfully?"

The crown prince quickly waved his big hands. "No need, no need."

He was always a bit scared of this teacher of his. He didn't dare make him bow towards himself.

The crown princess gave him an angry glare. She really hated this stupid and cowardly side of him.

But she also knew that King Qi's status was different. Pressuring him wasn't a sensible decision.

After experiencing this disturbance, King Qi didn't feel like staying here any longer. With his status, continuing to target Zu An would lower his status too much. He quickly found a reason to bid the crown prince and princess farewell.

The crown princess wanted this huge headache to leave as soon as possible. She naturally didn't keep him.

When King Qi was about to walk out of the door, he paused by Zu An's side. He said indifferently, "Sir Zu, you're quite something."

"Thank you, King Qi, for your praise." Zu An's attitude was extremely respectful, with nothing that could be picked from his attitude. He didn't want the other party to find any reason to act against him.

King Qi stopped breathing for a moment. Am I praising you right now?

He harrumphed, and then left with a brush of his sleeves.

Once he left, everyone in the eastern palace sighed in relief. It was way too suffocating just now.

Even though King Qi was the crown prince's great tutor, he only came occasionally. It was usually the lesser tutor who taught the crown prince. That was why most of the people in the eastern palace were the crown prince and princess' men.

Zu An greeted the crown princess under everyone's looks of admiration. "I greet the crown princess."

As for the crown prince, he already dragged the eunuchs with him to play around. He wasn't in the mood to pay him any attention.

The crown princess looked at her idiot husband, and then at the man before her. She sighed. Forget about Sir Eleven, the crown prince can't even compare to this fella!

She quickly sorted out her thoughts and showed Zu An a smile. "Thank you Sir Zu for what you did today."

"As a subordinate of the eastern palace, I naturally need to help the crown princess with her troubles." Zu An also directly left out the crown prince.

Everyone knew that the real head of the eastern palace was the crown princess. No one felt that this was unsuitable.

The crown princess' expression eased up even more. She was clearly happy with the loyalty this man showed. "You should take note of your own safety in the future."

She was warning him about King Qi's revenge.

Zu An smiled and said, "With the crown prince and princess' fortune and protection, I believe that I'll be fine."

The crown princess said with a look of disdain, "You only know how to say pretty words. What kind of fortune do I have?"

Zu An said with a deadly earnest expression, "The crown princess will become the mother of this empire. How can you not be blessed with fortune?"

The princess' maid was stunned when she saw how shaken up the crown princess was. Weren't this fella's words a bit too flirtatious?

But what was even more shocking was that the crown princess didn't seem annoyed at all. I only took a few days off. Is there something that happened in the time that I was gone?

Zu An took this chance to say, "Crown princess, I'm taking some time off to visit the imperial prison."

"Imperial prison?" The crown princess frowned. "Why are you going there?"

Cheng Xiong's case was already settled. The criminals there were already meaningless for her.

Zu An replied, "I am going to interrogate those assassins further to see if I can get some more information about him."

The crown princess knew that he was talking about King Qi. She replied, "Fine. However, even if you find out something, do not act rashly and discuss it with me first."

When Zu An left the palace, the princess' maid Rong Mo couldn't help but ask with a hushed voice, "Your highness, why are you treating that brat so well? Didn't you find him really annoying before?"

The crown princess sat down leisurely and took the tea her maid brought over. Then, she said slowly, "I do not mind an annoying person, what I mind is an incompetent one. Even though this Zu An is quite annoying, he is a talented individual. I just happen to lack someone like that under me."

The main forces in the struggle against King Qi were his majesty's trusted aides, the Liu clan behind the empress, as well as her own father. However, she had too few trustworthy men under her.

In her opinion, King Qi wasn't the only enemy. Once she defeated King Qi, she had to worry about the empress' family.

Even though her first meeting with Zu An was quite disagreeable, he has done quite well later on. Having someone like him on her side would definitely be of great help.

Sigh, it's all the crown prince's fault for being so useless. I have to take care of everything.

...

Meanwhile, King Qi was slowly drinking tea in another gazebo within the palace. A golden armored imperial guard troop quickly arrived and greeted him. "We greet King Qi. We await your orders."

Even the Left Guard General was under King Qi's faction. Placing some of his men in the guards was too easy.

King Qi stared at the golden fish swimming about in the lake nearby. He smiled and said, "Invite Zu An here."

How many years has it been since someone dared to provoke him like this?

The last time seemed to be a few years ago. There were some guards who acted arrogantly because they were the crown prince's personal guards. In the end, didn't they all turn into heads inside of wooden boxes?

Regardless of whether it was his status or the fact that he was a grandmaster, he definitely wasn't someone a nobody can humiliate.

Furthermore, many of his subordinates were furious at Cheng Xiong's case. They needed something to appease them. It was this kid's fault for being so unsightly.

Chapter 664: If We Can't Be Saved, Then Just Wait For Death

Those guards exchanged a look. They said with worry, "Zu An is now his majesty's baron, and he is also the crown prince's secretary. Would it be..."

King Qi said indifferently, "It's fine. You all just need to bring him here."

Seeing that they didn't have to do the deed themselves, those guards sighed in relief. They cupped their hands and left to carry out the order.

King Qi looked in the eastern palace's direction. His lips carried a hint of ridicule. The crown princess' intent to raise a right hand man didn't escape his notice. He won't let it happen that easily.

Meanwhile, Zu An had just left the eastern palace, yet he was stopped by Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun.

"What's wrong?" Zu An was curious when he saw the two want to say something, but hesitate.

Piao Duandiao hesitated for a long time. When he saw that no one noticed them, he said with a lowered voice, "Sir Zu, you really have to be careful in the following days."

"Why would you say that?" Zu An was also a bit alarmed when he saw how serious they were.

Jiao Sigun said, "Do you know why the two of us were able to become the eastern palace's lesser guard leaders?"

"Because the two of you are hidden dragons of the eastern palace?" Zu An couldn't help but smile when he looked at these two.

They were stunned and didn't understand what he was saying. However, they said, "With our qualifications, we have no right to rise up to become the guard leaders of the eastern palace so quickly. The two guards before us, regardless of whether it was their qualifications or cultivation, were top notch within the imperial guards. They were also high-spirited back then and wanted to do something great."

"In the end, there was an instance where their attitude towards King Qi was... a bit arrogant. They berated him directly. King Qi didn't say anything at the time, yet the next day, they didn't report for the morning roll call. Everyone looked for them. Eventually, they found two headless corpses."

"The subordinates who criticized King Qi with them all had their heads removed as well."

"This matter created a huge disturbance. However, it soon ended without anything being settled."

Zu An was stunned when he heard all of this. No wonder everyone in the eastern palace was shaking like quails. So there was this type of thing!

He really couldn't tell at all. King Qi looked like a refined and scholarly person, yet he was actually this vicious.

No wonder he could fight against the emperor for so long, as expected of his own blood brother. The viciousness and paranoia ran in the family.

He suddenly noticed that the two guards were looking at him with a strange expression. He was shocked. "Why are you looking at me like that?"

The two said, "Those two didn't leave King Qi as badly burned as what you did back then. Good luck."

Then, they left with a sigh, as if this man was beyond saving and already a dead man.

Zu An: "....."

He had to admit that even though these two were quite the amusing bunch, they were quite loyal. At the very least, they would do their best to warn him. They didn't let him down.

But he wasn't all that scared, because offending King Qi was part of his plans.

The Right Guard General Guo Zhi just happened to be on his patrol when he arrived at the imperial prison. He immediately smiled in a friendly manner when he saw Zu An. "Oh my, Brother Zu, which wind brought you back today?"

This fella solved such a difficult problem for him back then, so he found him rather pleasing.

Zu An smiled and exchanged some conventional greetings. Then, when he expressed his intent, Guo Zhi was surprised. "Didn't we already obtain an oral confession? What else is there to investigate?"

Zu An said, "The crown princess told me to question them some more. It's just routine business."

Guo Zhi had a look of understanding on his face. "No problem, Brother Zu can question them as much as you want. I've actually been quite conflicted by how I should deal with these fellas. Cheng Xiong's case has already concluded, so they're already useless. Keeping them here is a problem too. There were many times where I just wanted to..."

He brought his thumb across his neck while speaking. Then, he said, "But his majesty didn't say anything, so I don't dare go too far on my own. Brother Zu, if you could, could you sound out his majesty's attitude? How should I deal with these fellas?"

"Why hasn't Brother Guo asked about that yourself? Your rank is much higher than mine." Zu An was shocked. The emperor actually didn't tell him that he was going to let them go. This would make his following plans much more difficult.

Guo Zhi said in annoyance, "I don't dare take such a risk! The palace just experienced that attack, and his majesty already berated us several times. Now, even Cheng Xiong was done in, so I should be lying low. But Brother Zu, you're different! His majesty told me that you can freely visit the prison and to

cooperate with any request you have. I'm honestly quite envious. Brother Zu has only been here a few days, yet you have already obtained the favor of his majesty!"

Zu An cursed inside. The emperor is being too tactful here! Guo Zhi might not be able to get the hint! Looks like I'll have to figure out a way to save them on my own.

He thought for a bit, and then he said, "Then please withdraw all of the experts from the prison for now."

Guo Zhi was shocked. "But what if the prisoners get away?"

Zu An said, "We are inside the imperial palace's inner palace. How could they get away? Furthermore, they still have the Soul Reaping Chains of the Embroidered Envoy on them."

Guo Zhi was quite troubled. "But why are we suddenly removing the guards?"

Zu An pulled him to the side and said quietly, "I want to make an illusion for those prisoners, to make them misunderstand and think that there is a chance for them to escape. With the hope of life, they will start to treasure life and relax a bit. This will allow me to gain more information."

Guo Zhi's eyes lit up. "Brother Zu is brilliant as expected! No wonder you were able to get out so much information from them last time."

After saying this, he ran over to pull out his subordinates. He only left behind the lowest level jailers for the prison's normal operations.

After completing all of this, he rushed over to Zu An and said, "Brother Zu, please feel free to do what you need to. The imperial palace's security has become more strict after the recent attack, so I need to continue my patrol. I won't be keeping you company."

"Then I'll invite Brother Guo for a drink next time." Zu An cupped his hands.

"Sounds good!" Guo Zhi waved his hand and then left with his men.

Zu An remained silent for a moment. This fella had a simple appearance, but how could anyone in his position be stupid?

Ever since he was almost done in by Cheng Xiong, he didn't dare to look down on the IQ of these officials anymore.

Guo Zhi probably guessed at what he wanted to do, and that was why he was leaving far away. He didn't want anything to do with this matter.

Of course, if it wasn't because the emperor already gave him some instructions, he wouldn't have withdrawn his men so quickly.

Zu An sorted out his thoughts, and then walked straight into the prison.

Within the deepest level of the prison, there were a few people who were whispering among themselves.

“Elder, Sir Fire, why hasn’t anyone saved us even after all this time?” The one who spoke was Gu Yueyi. He had unreal expectations during these days, yet the higher his hopes climbed, the more restless he became.

“How can it be that easy to rescue someone from the imperial prison? Just wait patiently.” Elder Sun Luzhen opened his eyes and said. Even though he was covered in blood, his eyes were still bright.

“What if he never planned to save us? What if he lied to us?” When Gu Yueyi said this, his face became more and more pale. He felt like this was more and more likely to be the case.

Sun Luzhen and Solitary Fire also became quiet. The two of them also already vaguely thought of this possibility.

“Cease your complaints.” Sun Luzhen still kept his composure in the end.

Solitary Fire also said, “Indeed. We set our resolution to die during this assassination to begin with. If he can save us, then we will be thankful. If not, then that is to be expected.”

Gu Yueyi’s expression changed. He thought to himself, the two of you are already so old, so you’re obviously content with life. I’m still young!

He even thought that if Zu An really went back on his words, then he would just confess everything to Sir Guo. He wanted to see if he could use this secret to exchange for his life.

A clear voice sound. “I didn’t expect Solitary Fire to still be so open-minded. It really is admirable.”

Their group was shocked and pleasantly surprised. They all turned around and saw Zu An nearby. All of them sighed in relief.

Even though they gave no thought to their personal lives, living was obviously better than dying.

However, when they noticed the group of jailers standing behind him, their expressions all changed. Gu Yueyi said with a trembling voice, “You... you’re not here to silence us, are you?”

Zu An chuckled. He was just about to reply when there was suddenly a burst of noise. Several jailers were pushed down the stairs.

Eight golden armored imperial guards strut inside and viciously berated, “You blind things, you dare to stop us from bringing over the one King Qi wishes to meet?”

Chapter 665: Ingenious Plan

The jailers all drew their blades and were about to stop them when they heard the disturbance. Who would dare to act so domineeringly in this type of place?

But when they heard the words King Qi, all of them withdrew their blades again.

King Qi’s prestige in the court was tremendous, and he had always maintained a decent reputation. These jailers didn’t dare to offend him.

Those golden armored guards were satisfied when they saw the fear in their eyes. With King Qi behind them, they could walk proudly wherever they went.

They arrived in front of Zu An, their expressions so arrogant their noses were pointing at the sky. “So you’re Zu An?”

Zu An sized up the other party. Of course, it wasn’t their appearance, but rather their auras. The leader was at the sixth rank, while the rest were at the fifth rank. Together with the formation combat style imperial guards were familiar with, taking down a seventh rank cultivator wasn’t too big of an issue.

Furthermore, this was inside the imperial palace. There has never been someone who refused the invitation of an imperial guard.

“I am. May I ask what you all came here for?” Zu An asked.

“King Qi invites you for an audience.” The leader with the big nostrils casually cupped his hands.

The Devil Sect assassins in the prison were all alarmed. They finally managed to await Zu An’s arrival, yet he was now being brought away by someone?

Zu An looked quite troubled. “The crown prince and princess asked me to question these prisoners. How about I head over once I’m finished?”

The one with the big nostrils sneered and said, “If King Qi wants to meet someone, all of them would be running over as fast as they could in fear and respect. When has there ever been someone like you who uses all sorts of excuses?”

Zu An said, “So the crown prince and princess’ orders are not orders? Could it be that in your respective selves’ eyes, King Qi is greater than the crown prince and princess?”

The jailers silently stood to the side, their eyes looking straight at the ground. They didn’t dare participate in this level of battlefield.

The breathing of the person with the big nostrils’ stopped momentarily. He said with a bit of annoyance. “You can forget about trying to instigate anything. King Qi is the crown prince’s senior, as well as the crown prince’s teacher. Even if the crown prince was here, he would send you to King Qi first. If you do not believe me, you can seek out the crown prince and ask him.”

You have successfully trolled Liu Chenyu for +444 Rage points!

The jailers subconsciously took a few more steps back. All of them were complaining inside. Why did they have to be caught up in this type of thing?

Zu An shook his head and said with a sigh, “King Qi is King Qi, you are yourself. Even though the crown prince and crown princess do not dare do anything to King Qi, do you think that they cannot take care of a trifling guard like you? Once your words reach the crown prince and princess’ ears, do you think that they will let that slide?”

The one with the big nostrils was a bit shaken. He was also starting to feel a bit of regret. It was all this Zu An’s fault, or else how could he possibly misspeak like this?

Hmph, whatever. This brat won't be able to act smug for long. Once he reaches King Qi's hands, he might just immediately lose his head.

You have successfully trolled Liu Chenyu for +567 Rage points!

Now!

Zu An was waiting precisely for the moment he became distracted. He rushed over and stabbed his forehead.

His cultivation was not at a level that could be compared to an ordinary seventh rank. Furthermore, with his instantaneous movement skill, how could his opponent possibly dodge his attack?

Bang!

A blast of blood gushed out of his forehead. Liu Chenyu was so shocked his eyes were completely wide open. He didn't expect the other party to attack him, let alone go straight for a killing blow.

The imperial guards who followed him were all stunned. They hurriedly tried to draw their blades and surround Zu An.

But right at this moment, they felt a tremendous suction force. All of their ki seemed to have suddenly vanished into nothing.

Their center of gravity became unstable. They staggered towards the center where Zu An was. Zu An's finger thrust out and instantly ended their lives.

All of this happened too quickly for anyone else to react. Those golden armored soldiers were already lying all over the ground like dirt.

Elder Sun Luzhen was shocked. The reaction ability and cultivation he displayed were shocking. He even wondered if he had the ability to dispatch all of these guards himself this efficiently.

Solitary Fire's eyes widened. This kid's cultivation is higher than what he saw on their way to the capital! Just how much time has passed since then?!

Gu Yueyi was incredibly jealous. After all, Zu An was but a drafted son-in-law who everyone looked down on. Even though he displayed his talents during the clan competition, Zu An was still not someone he treated with any importance. However, in such a short amount of time, Zu An already climbed to this level, far surpassing himself! No wonder his junior sister liked him.

Pah! Junior sister will be mine one day!

Those surrounding jailers all drew their blades and faced Zu An like he was a great enemy. They stammered, "Sir... Sir Zu, what is the meaning of this?"

They were scared badly by this scene.

Zu An chuckled and said, "Don't worry, this is my grudge with King Qi, it has nothing to do with you guys."

Those jailers looked at each other in dismay, and then they sighed in relief. However, they all cursed silently. Is this guy an idiot? He is willing to publicly go against King Qi like this?

The instant they relaxed, Zu An summoned Hundredwarble. An invisible sound wave rippled outwards.

He had Guo Zhi transfer away the experts here, so these jailers were just ordinary people. How could they withstand this type of power? All of them fainted.

It wasn't just the enemies that were knocked out, everyone from the Devil Sect also fainted.

Sun Luzhen and the others had high cultivations, but their strength was sealed by the Embroidered Envoy's seals. After the torture they suffered, they already became far weaker than before.

Zu An moved over to strike the jailers' acupoints. Suddenly, he sensed an incredibly powerful divine will sweep over him.

Zu An's expression changed. This might was extremely familiar, and he had already experienced it several times. Only the emperor alone had this type of power.

...

Meanwhile, King Qi, who was enjoying tea in his gazebo, felt his body go rigid. He looked towards the prison with curiosity and muttered, "What happened in that place for even brother emperor to be startled?"

But this divine will arrived and left quickly. He figured that it was probably because the emperor noticed it was just Zu An, and then he didn't pay that place any more attention.

Zu An sat down on a stool to the side, gasping for air. His entire body was soaked with sweat.

No wonder everyone said that the emperor's will stretched across the entire palace. So this was what they meant!

The emperor obviously didn't care about the conversations of ordinary people, but if there were any strange auras that erupted in the palace, then he would immediately detect it.

No wonder Yun Jianyue chose to come when the emperor wasn't here. Otherwise, the emperor would immediately pacify the situation as soon as they tried anything.

Zu An looked at those jailers again. He called all of the remaining people here beforehand, so no one should've figured out what happened yet.

However there was one more thing that he had to take care of. He took out a bottle from his Brilliant Glass Bead and poured a few drops into a teapot. Then, he fed the tea to those jailers.

Ever since he received the emperor's mission, he had always been wondering how to deal with this situation. Breaking them out of the imperial prison wasn't hard, what was annoying was the aftermath.

He couldn't draw suspicion from the Devil Sect, nor could he draw suspicion from the palace.

That was why he needed a scapegoat.

In the end, the only one who had the ability and motive to break out the prisoners was King Qi.

Furthermore, by using King Qi as an excuse, once everything was dealt with, the emperor could easily sort this entire thing out. Since it was related to King Qi, they won't publicly fall out unless there was absolutely no choice.

This way, Guo Zhi and the others wouldn't suspect that anything was strange.

That was why he deliberately infuriated King Qi just now, precisely so that he would send his people to act against himself. He just didn't expect him to respond so well and send his men so quickly.

Of course, there was another issue. He couldn't let these jailers' confessions sell him out.

Killing them was the easiest way, but he didn't want to kill the innocent for no reason. Furthermore, he had just asked Guo Zhi to transfer away his cultivators. If these people were killed afterwards, then even an idiot would be able to guess that it was him.

That was why he needed these jailers alive, to serve as witnesses to the arrival of King Qi's men.

As for the things he did, he needed these jailers to forget about them.

The 'Worries Be Gone' he added to the tea was something he got during the Chu clan's rebellion, something that was originally to be used on Qin Wanru. This medicine would make one forget the things that happened within a set period of time.

"I really am a genius." Zu An was a bit amazed at his own work. However, he was hurting inside, because he used one of the world's strongest aphrodisiacs on a group of ugly men.

Chapter 666: Exposed

The jailers were all bunched up together. When Zu An saw how high up these fellas' trousers were bulging, he wondered if their butts will hurt once they get up.

He suddenly noticed something. One of these guys' trousers were ordinary. He felt great sympathy. If not even one of the world's most powerful aphrodisiacs worked on you, then what was the point in living anymore?

After completing these tasks, Zu An quickly arrived at the golden armored guards' corpses side and stripped off their armor and clothes. Then, he stored their corpses into the Brilliant Glass Bead.

The reason why he didn't use any weapons was because he was worried that the blood might stain these clothes. Things might get annoying later on once the investigations began.

After completing all of this, he opened up the prison cells and woke up the Devil Sect's people.

"What happened just now?" Gu Yueyi looked around in confusion.

Sun Luzhen and Solitary Fire were more collected. They could both sense that it was a spiritual attack.

Zu An didn't explain anything and said, "I knocked them out. Hurry and change into these clothes. I'll bring you out of the palace."

The Devil Sect's people snapped out of their daze. All of them were excited when they discovered that there was hope in living again. All of them rushed over to change into these clothes.

Even though there were many people who were captured, many of them were wounded from the day of the attack. Then, after strict torture, more and more died in succession. Now, including Sun Luzhen, there were only seven left.

There were eight golden armor guards who entered, so it was perfect.

Zu An quickly helped them undo the Embroidered Envoy's restrictions. They were already incredibly weak from the torture. It would take a long time for them to recover their original strength.

When he saw that some of them were having trouble even walking, Zu An sighed. He took out some of the medicine he got from Divine Physician Ji before.

Warm streams filled their bodies when they took the pill, allowing them to recover quite a bit of strength. Even the weakest one among them could walk again.

Sun Luzhen was the first to cup his hands towards Zu An. "Sir Zu, you have shown us great favor this time. We will engrave this gratitude forever. Even if there are mountains of daggers and seas of flames, as long as Sir Zu requests it of us, we will not show any hesitation."

Zu An replied with a smile. "There's no need to speak so seriously. We still haven't gotten out of danger yet, so let's not lower our guard."

He didn't take these people's words to heart. They might be sincere when they were saying these things now, but people will always change. There was probably no one in this world willing to go through mountains of daggers and seas of flames.

He was doing this to gain Yun Jianyue and Qiu Honglei's favor anyway. These fellas' gratitude was just a bonus.

They all snapped back to reality and voiced their agreement. They were still in the palace, so it was still too early to feel happiness.

After they changed into the armor, Gu Yueyi raised a blade to end those jailers' lives. They had been tormented by these fellas day and night. Now that the situation had turned around, how could he just let them live and swallow this down?

Zu An quickly stopped him. "Brother Gu, I still have a use for these people here."

Gu Yueyi said reluctantly, "But many of our brothers died under these people's interrogations!"

Zu An said with a serious voice, "The top priority is to rescue all of you right now. I need them to deal with the aftermath."

Sun Luzhen frowned and said, "Yueyi, do not bring young master Zu trouble."

He was an elder with great status in the sect. Gu Yueyi could only resentfully put away his weapon.

Zu An sighed in relief. He beckoned towards them and led them out.

They didn't bump into anyone along the way because he already called all of them down beforehand.

All of them were moved when they left the imperial prison and saw sunlight once more. They thought that they were dead for certain, yet they were actually able to see the light of day again.

All of this was thanks to young master Zu!

They looked at Zu An with gratitude. Even Gu Yueyi's positive feelings surpassed the negativity of when they were at odds before.

"I'll bring you guys out of the palace gates. You all have King Qi's waist tokens. Together with this set of armor, it shouldn't be too hard to leave." Zu An said with a lowered voice.

"Thank you, young master Zu." All of them cupped their hands.

However, not long after they left, there was a soft voice that suddenly sounded. "Wait!"

Zu An's entire body went rigid when he heard this voice. He felt as if he sunk straight into a frozen sea.

How was he this unlucky? He actually ran into King Qi here!

He noticed that Sun Luzhen and the others silently moved their hands to their sword hilts. He quickly sent them voice transmissions. "Don't act rashly. The one who came is King Qi. He has grandmaster level cultivation."

He didn't need to continue. When they heard his identity, all of them gave up their plans of taking down this person.

They were well-aware of King Qi's reputation. This was a man with grandmaster level cultivation! Forget about all of them being seriously injured right now, even if they were at their very best, they still wouldn't be able to put even a scratch on him!

"Where are you all going?" King Qi asked with a frown.

He noticed that the emperor's will descended here. He wondered what kind of thing happened here that drew his attention, so he decided to come for a look.

He just happened to run into Zu An's group.

Zu An's thoughts moved quickly. He immediately produced many methods to deal with the other party. In the end, he said, "Didn't King Qi ask me to come meet with you?"

He thanked the heavens that he didn't make these people wear the uniform of the guard with the big nostrils. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to bluff his way through.

King Qi shouldn't have recognized the normal guards, right?

There wasn't anything else he could do, he could only make a gamble here.

If there really was no choice, then he would just call over the emperor. Screw it all, if his plan to have him infiltrate the Devil Sect failed, he couldn't just throw his life away here.

King Qi replied with an 'oh'. "Indeed, I was looking for you about something. The rest of you can withdraw for now."

The first half was for Zu An, the latter half was for the guards.

Zu An sighed in relief. Thank goodness the other party didn't recognize them, or else the consequences would be horrifying.

He gave Sun Luzhen and the others a look, indicating for them to leave first. Now that King Qi was so close, he didn't even dare send a voice transmission out of fear that he might notice something was off.

Either way, he already told them everything they needed to know. As for leaving the palace, they even managed to infiltrate the palace that day, so it shouldn't be an issue, right?

Sun Luzhen's group didn't even dare to raise their heads. They cupped their hands and turned around to leave.

"Wait!" King Qi suddenly frowned. "Why don't I see Liu Chenyu?"

Sun Luzhen and the others' hearts began to pound. They didn't even know who Liu Chenyu was, so what were they supposed to say?

Zu An received this person's Rage points before, so he knew that it was the big nostril leader. His mind moved quickly and he said, "Leader Liu was summoned by the emperor just now."

"Summoned by brother emperor?" King Qi's expression changed. Could it be that the reason the emperor's will descended was because of Liu Chenyu?

But that doesn't seem right. Would he be able to draw the emperor's divine will?

He looked at Sun Luzhen's group. "Hm? Why don't I see leader Wang either? All of you, raise your heads."

All of them felt chills run through their bodies when they heard this.

Zu An was panicking. He didn't know how to explain himself now either.

Chapter 667: Suspicion Aroused

At this time, a delicate voice sounded from the side. "Sir Zu, why are you still here after such a long time?"

King Qi frowned when he heard this voice.

Zu An was immediately overjoyed when he heard the voice. He saw a beauty in a palace dress standing there, behind her a group of imperial guards led by Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun.

He quickly greeted them. "I greet the crown princess."

Everyone from the Devil Sect lowered their heads as well. Gu Yueyi sneaked a look at her, and then his eyes widened.

The girls he spent his life around were all the flirtatious and witch-like sort. They were incredibly charming and lovely. However, in terms of class and elegance, none of them could compare to the girl in front of him.

He felt his throat go dry when he saw the graceful palace outfit and the lavish decorations. His heart began to pound. Holy sh*t, holy sh*t, how can someone be this pretty? Junior sis, it's not that I'm not loyal to you, it's just that this crown princess is too pretty!

It wasn't that Qiu Honglei's appearance was better than the crown princess'. In terms of beauty, this crown princess instead seemed to pale a bit. The key was that Gu Yueyi lived his life at the bottom levels of society, and he was always around the Devil Sect's people normally. That was why this type of high class feeling was fatal against him.

Things like princesses, upper-class ladies, as long as their looks were about the same, these people were much more charming than the girls of the world of warriors.

The crown princess slowly walked over. There seemed to be a bit of sweet fragrance lingering about the air. This type of smell was different from the perfumes of brothels, but rather a high class smell. He couldn't describe it in detail, but it smelled like burning silver.

King Qi's attention shifted as well. He looked at the crown princess. "Linglong, why did you have the leisure to suddenly pay this place a visit?"

The crown princess was annoyed when she heard that he called her by her name and not the crown princess. He was clearly trying to exert pressure over her with his status as her senior. However, she didn't act out and only replied, "I had Sir Zu take care of some matters, but he didn't come back after so long. The palace has been rather restless after the assassins' attack, so I was worried that he might have been attacked by someone with ill intent. That was why I decided to come here for a visit."

Zu An felt warm inside. This woman acts fierce on the outside, but she's not so bad inside after all, huh?

He saw Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun behind her as well. It was probably these fellas who warned the crown princess. I'll take them to the government brothel once things calm down.

Everyone from the Devil Sect was incredibly shocked inside. They didn't expect this young master Zu to already have so much status! Just how many days has it been since he entered the palace? Yet the Right Guard General was already calling him brother, and now the crown princess cared so much about him too.

Gu Yueyi was incredibly jealous. Zu An is only a bit more handsome than me, so why do all these pretty girls like him so much?

Junior sister is like this, and now even the crown princess is acting like this! How are the rest of us supposed to even live?

King Qi remained expressionless. However, he obviously knew that the other party was hinting towards him. "Sir Zu is someone who easily gains the favor of others after all. It's only been a few days, yet Linglong is already taking such good care of him."

The crown princess knew that the other party was implying that she was only doing this because he was handsome. She was furious and said coldly, "I will take care of everyone who works earnestly for the crown prince's sake."

King Qi chuckled and didn't debate with her further on the topic. "This king merely wanted to invite Zu An for a chat. Linglong won't mind, right?"

The crown princess chuckled. "King Qi, please feel at ease. I'll just be waiting right here."

She made it clear that she was watching, so he better not try anything.

King Qi laughed. He said to Zu An, "Sir Zu, follow me."

Zu An bowed. "King Qi, please."

King Qi nodded and walked towards the side on his own first.

Zu An gestured towards Sun Luzhen and the others, indicating for them to leave right away.

Sun Luzhen and the others weren't stupid. They quietly withdrew using this chance. Only Gu Yueyi gave the crown princess one last reluctant look.

King Qi was already further away, and the crown princess' group was watching Zu An, so no one was looking at them.

After walking a couple dozen meters, King Qi stopped by a rock garden. "Let's talk here. Any further and Linglong will worry since she won't be able to see you."

Zu An replied in a standard manner, "The crown princess empathizes with us subjects."

At the same time, he mocked inside, do you really have no understanding of yourself? The reason she is acting like this is because you killed without a second thought before.

King Qi sized him up out of curiosity. "Linglong has never cared so much about someone before. You're a first."

Zu An replied with silence. He suspected that the reason he said these words was to make him produce unnecessary delusions about the crown princess. If the crown princess actually fell in love with him, then that would be too great.

King Qi continued, "I heard that the Chu clan's first miss took you in as a drafted son-in-law. I am quite surprised, as I've met that girl before. It isn't going too far to call her a stunning talent. Everyone in the capital was wondering just who this outstanding girl was going to marry. When they learned that she was going to marry you, their eyes almost fell out of their sockets. I even found it quite surprising myself. But now that even the crown princess cares so much about you, it seems like there really is something special about you."

Zu An revealed an embarrassed expression. "I'm really not as great as King Qi is making me out to be. Maybe I am a bit handsome, I'm pretty cool too I guess, and I am loyal, upstanding... The rest isn't worth talking about, since I can't compare to King Qi at all."

King Qi's eyelids twitched. For some reason, he really wanted to give this brat a beating whenever he spoke to him.

You have successfully trolled King Qi for +213 +213 +213...

He took a deep breath and suppressed the urges he felt inside, wisely choosing to change the topic. "What does Sir Zu think about the Cheng Xiong case?"

Zu An feigned naivety. "It hasn't been long since I arrived at the capital, and I am merely a trivial small official. The amount of information I have access to is very limited. I really do not know the details of Sir Cheng's case at all."

King Qi couldn't help but give him another look. There was something this shameless in this world?

If it wasn't because the crown princess was watching nearby, he might just smack this kid dead.

You have successfully trolled King Qi for +300 +300 +300...

Even though he was usually shrewd and careful, he was really annoyed after experiencing this type of situation again and again. He said coldly, "According to what I know, it was only after those assassins met with Sir Zu that they decided to implicate General Cheng."

Zu An was alarmed. This man's sources ran deep, he had eyes even in the imperial prison.

He replied without batting an eyelid, "King Qi should know who the one who wanted to bring down General Cheng really is. I am but a small figure. How could I affect the greater situation on my own?"

King Qi gave him a look of surprise. "You're quite daring. You dare to even say something like that."

Zu An spoke with an honest face, "In front of King Qi, how could I dare to hide anything?"

King Qi smiled ambiguously. "Is that really true?"

Zu An slapped his own chest in assurance. "Of course it is! Heaven and earth can serve as witnesses."

"Fine then. I just happen to have something I want to ask you about." King Qi stared into his eyes. "Can the Phoenix Nirvana Sutra truly grant eternal life?"

Zu An revealed a forced smile. "His majesty has already informed the world. There is no need for King Qi to ask me."

King Qi said coldly. "I am asking you to speak right now."

Zu An immediately replied. "His majesty obviously cannot obtain eternal life through this technique."

As for whether or not I can, I didn't say anything about that.

When he heard the sincerity and assurance in his voice, King Qi was surprised. "Do you know that you might have just committed a capital offense if these words reach his majesty's ears?"

Zu An revealed a forced smile and said, "King Qi is such a renown and wise sage. I believe you will not trouble me over such things."

King Qi chuckled and gently patted his shoulder. "You have some prospects, kid. I am optimistic about you."

Zu An's expression changed. His eyes looked at his shoulder. Don't tell me this is some bone melting palm or something, right? I won't even know how I died if a grandmaster wanted to kill me.

"Hurry and go back. Linglong is already starting to panic." King Qi said with a smile.

"Thank you, King Qi." Zu An hurriedly left. The pressure he faced when being around this type of person was just too great.

When he saw that Zu An was far away, a finger appeared a zhang behind King Qi. King Qi's smile instantly vanished. "Help me look into two things. The first is why the emperor would ask for Liu Chenyu, and the second is to help me keep an eye on Golden Token Eleven. For some reason, I feel like he and Zu An are the same person. The timing for these two's appearance is a bit too odd."

The one in the shadows replied, "Understood!"

Chapter 668: Guiding Light

King Qi looked at Zu An's figure. A Golden Token Eleven suddenly appeared as soon as he arrived at the capital. After all, all these years, the Embroidered Envoy always only had ten golden token members and they were selected after strict requirements. This Golden Token Eleven seemed to have come out of thin air. He couldn't even find out anything about him even with his information network.

Furthermore, after Cheng Xiong's case erupted, he looked into this matter and saw that Cheng Xiong previously suspected Golden Token Eleven. Then, after Zu An entered the imperial prison, those assassins immediately changed what they were saying. Their confessions were the last straw that took down Cheng Xiong.

Even though he didn't think that it was too likely, he still had someone look into it in private just in case.

He was thinking about the Phoenix Nirvana Sutra as well. Even though Zu An said that it didn't grant immortality, he definitely wouldn't believe him so easily. The only way he would be sure was if he grabbed a copy and took a look at it himself.

The reason he called Zu An over was precisely to get the Phoenix Nirvana Sutra out of him. However, after several meetings with him, he understood well that Zu An wasn't someone easy to deal with. Furthermore, with the crown princess sheltering him like this, he couldn't go too far, or else he'll incur the emperor's dissatisfaction.

Then how was he going to get the Phoenix Nirvana Sutra out of him?

King Qi suddenly thought of something. He recovered his usual composure again.

...

Meanwhile, the crown princess saw that Zu An returned. She quickly walked over and said with a quiet voice, "Did King Qi do anything to you?"

Zu An said with a bitter expression, "Do you think King Qi is the type who will pat you on the shoulder and it seems like nothing much, but a few days later, all of your blood vessels will explode?"

The crown princess was stunned. She subconsciously replied, "He is a grandmaster, so he probably can do that..."

Zu An's expression became even more ugly when he heard what she said.

"Did King Qi make things difficult for you?" The crown princess' face changed as well.

Zu An shook his head. "He didn't, he only asked me some questions."

There were many things that wouldn't help even if he told her. Would she get revenge on King Qi for him?

But he still expressed his gratitude. "Thank you, crown princess, for saving me. If you didn't show up, I might have been finished today."

Regardless of whether it was the Devil Sect's assassins being exposed or King Qi's questioning, both would lead to a bad ending.

The crown princess voiced her approval. "You don't need to think too much about it either. I am not doing this specially to save you. If it was any other subordinate who was loyal to the crown prince, I would do my best to save him too."

Zu An couldn't help but chuckle. King Qi's earlier words were already effective. This woman was scared that he would have any unrealistic expectations about her.

He said with a smile, "The crown princess empathizes with the officials. We all understand."

The crown princess nodded. "We're heading back to the eastern palace before King Qi finds you alone and seizes you again."

Zu An was rather troubled. "I won't be going back with the crown princess. I still have some matters I haven't finished taking care of."

He had to clean up the imperial palace's side, or else everyone would start suspecting him.

"What else do you need to take care of?" The crown princess was curious.

Zu An thought for a bit, and then he said, "His majesty requested something of me." He wasn't entirely lying. Infiltrating the Devil Sect was what the emperor ordered of him, right? Even if he found out afterwards, he didn't have to worry about it.

The crown princess was quite surprised. She gave him a few more looks. This kid gained his majesty's favor too?

Yup, I do need to do my best to rope him in.

...

When the crown princess' group left, Zu An pulled Piao Duandiao and Jiao Sigun behind. "I won't thank you guys since we're bros. We'll go to the government brothel when there's some free time, my treat."

Piao Duandiao's eyes that were covered in dark circles lit up. He said with a laugh, "Sounds good!"

Even though his back was already about to break from how often he visited that place, if someone else was paying, why would he refuse?

Jiao Sigun couldn't help but say, "This is where you're wrong. Since you already said that there is no need for thanks, then why are you inviting us to..."

Piao Duandiao cut him off before he even finished his sentence. "All you need to say is whether you want to go or not!"

Jiao Sigun seemed conflicted, but in the end he still couldn't help but say, "I want to!"

"If you want to, then just shut up." Piao Duandiao smacked him in the back of the head, and then he smiled towards Zu An. "Then it's decided! We'll meet up when we have some free time."

Zu An chuckled. It was as if he was back with those friends of his from his past world... Pah, was I this type of person before?

When he saw that there was no one around him, he quickly went back inside the imperial prison. He had to somehow wake up those jailers, and then pretend to have just woken up as well.

Those jailers blinked their eyes when they saw that the prisoners were gone. All of them began to panic.

"This is a clan eradicating sin..."

All of them mumbled to themselves. The leader quickly rushed over to sound the alarm.

Zu An grabbed him. "What are you doing?"

That jailer quickly said, "Obviously contacting the other imperial guards to search for the criminals."

Zu An said, "Are you sure that's what you want to do? Once this gets out of hand, then all of your possessions will be confiscated and your entire family will be eradicated!"

"But if we don't immediately issue a report, then it's the same result..." That prison head was sullen.

Zu An said, "All of us are responsible for the escape of the criminals today. None of us will be able to live once the higher ups issue blame."

The prison head grabbed his clothes. "Sir Zu is experienced and knowledgeable. Please tell us if you have any suggestions."

Zu An said, "How about we send some people to see if the criminals have done anything yet?"

The prison head was stunned. He quickly sent out some of his men to investigate. Soon afterwards, there was information that came back. "The palace is peaceful. Nothing seems to have happened."

Zu An sighed in relief. Looks like Sun Luzhen and the others have already escaped.

That prison head was confused. "But how could that be? Why would the escaped prisoners not make any sounds?"

"I know!" Zu An pretended to have suddenly realized something and drew the prison head's attention. He pulled him to a corner and said, "Do you remember those golden armored guards that just barged in?"

Because of his conversation with King Qi, he found out that King Qi knew about the events of the prison. As such, there might be eyes in the prison. That was why he had to talk to this prison head privately to prevent more information from reaching King Qi's ears.

"Were there? I don't remember." The prison leader scratched his head in confusion. His brain felt extremely foggy. He just couldn't remember.

Zu An criticized some of the jailers and said, "How can you remember nothing? They are King Qi's men. Your men tried to stop them from barging in, and then they were knocked out."

"Huh? I think I remember a bit about what you are saying. I was pretty angry too. What happened afterwards..." The prison leader felt like his head was about to explode, yet he still couldn't figure anything else out.

Zu An sighed. Worries Be Gone really could make one forget. However, it didn't completely erase the memory, but rather broke up the memories into fragments. If there were enough reminders, they can still remember some things. That was why after telling them half-truths just now, the prison leader finally remembered that King Qi's men came.

He continued and said, "Who do you think could possibly rescue these criminals in such a crazy way, furthermore not alarm any of the guards?"

That prison head was alarmed. "Are you talking about King Qi?"

He remembered that these criminals insisted that they were working for King Qi as well. Could it be that King Qi was saving his own people? Or perhaps he was silencing them?

Zu An immediately took a step back. "You said that, not me."

That jailer jumped in fright and quickly said, "I... I was only speculating! I don't dare to slander King Qi."

Zu An walked over and put his arm around this jailer's mouth. "We're all bound to the same ship now. Since King Qi rescued those people, we don't need to make this a public affair. Let's just secretly report this. The higher ups will deal with it how it should be dealt with."

The prison head hesitated. "But we will still be punished for our negligence..."

"Are you stupid? Think about who the other party is for a minute! It's freaking King Qi, his majesty's own brother! Would his majesty really investigate him over this matter? This matter will definitely remain unsettled indefinitely. Since no one is going to investigate, then we haven't committed any crimes." Zu An explained.

The prison head's eyes lit up. "Sir Zu is the guiding light that shows us the way! If it wasn't for Sir Zu, all of us would have been dead many times over."

Zu An had a gloomy look on his face. Is this how a guiding light is supposed to be used?

But he still warned repeatedly, "This matter is extremely important, so do not tell anyone else about it. The more mouths, the more things get out of hand. Once the court's nobles find out, it'll be a bloodbath. At that point, his majesty cannot keep the peace even if he wants to and we'll be done for."

The prison head patted his chest and said, "Of course I know that! Don't worry, I won't tell anyone about those things. As for my fellas over there, I have a way to shut their mouths too."

"Then that's good." Zu An left the imperial prison in a better mood. The only thing left to take care of now is bringing Yun Jianyue out of the palace.

Sigh, to be honest, I really want to keep living with incredible beauty...

While he was feeling some regret, he suddenly felt something and looked behind him. Unfortunately, there was no one there.

Is there someone following me? Or was that just me being paranoid?

Chapter 669: Two Faces

Zu An felt quite restless. Danger lurked around every corner, so he didn't dare to act carelessly.

Even though his cultivation was quite high now, in a place like the imperial palace, there were too many people who were stronger than him. Furthermore, there were many techniques to hide one's traces in this world. It wasn't surprising at all if he couldn't sense the other party's aura.

As such, he quickly used the jade badge to communicate with the nearby little creatures. His line of sight expanded to over ten zhang around him through their eyes.

Apart from the patrolling guards, there was no one else...

Hold on... Zu An suddenly noticed someone familiar around the corner a few zhang out. It was a chubby and pale eunuch.

"It's him?" Zu An frowned. This person was precisely Eunuch Wen who served at the emperor's side.

Normally, Eunuch Wen was always smiling regardless of who he was around. Together with how chubby he was, he naturally gave off a friendly feeling. His current expression was overcast, completely different from his previous amicable feeling.

Was this his true self?

Zu An shivered. He really was tricked by this guy's smiling face before.

He thought that it might have been King Qi who sent someone after him after suffering a loss last time. He didn't expect it to be someone on the emperor's side.

Did the emperor always have someone tail me?

That doesn't seem right... With the emperor's divine will, he doesn't need anyone to tail him. Furthermore, this feeling only appeared recently, probably right after he offended King Qi. Hm? Is Eunuch Wen one of King Qi's men?

Zu An immediately jumped in fright as soon as this thought emerged in his mind. After all, Eunuch Wen was someone who served at the emperor's very side! If even he was bought out by King Qi, then it was easy to see just how terrifying King Qi was.

But didn't this make the emperor seem a bit stupid? With how powerful he was, would he really be completely oblivious to the fact that those at his side were bribed? That shouldn't be, right?

But he recalled the shows from his past world. The more unlikely it was, the more deadly...

All types of thoughts rushed to his head. His head was all over the place.

Eunuch Wen was sorting out his clothes from the other side of the corner, and then he rubbed his chubby face. The smile he was used to seeing returned to his face.

He looked at Zu An with a look of pleasant surprise when he turned the corner. "Sir Zu, I was looking for you."

Zu An forced out a smile. After knowing that this person had two faces, it really was hard for him to act with as much ease as before. "So it was Eunuch Wen! Is there anything you need from me?"

Eunuch Wen said with a smile, "His majesty wishes to meet with you. Sir Zu, please come with me to the imperial study."

Even though the sun was hanging bright up in the sky, when he saw this eunuch's smile, Zu An still couldn't help but shiver. "I've troubled you. I'll go over right now."

"Sir Zu, please!" Eunuch Wen said with a smile.

Zu An bowed, and then he followed this man to the imperial study.

After meeting with the emperor again and again, he was now no longer as scared as before.

Either way, the emperor still had many things he needed Zu An to take care of. He'll use his political tricks to scare him a few times at most, he wouldn't really harm him.

It was instead this Eunuch Wen who hid behind his smile that he felt was hard to deal with.

Should he bring this up to the emperor later and find out if this guy really was working for King Qi or not?

But Zu An immediately cut this thought short as soon as it appeared.

If Eunuch Wen was sent by the emperor to monitor him, then he would instead be the one being exposed.

Even if there really was something wrong with Eunuch Wen, I have no proof. Now really isn't the time to say strange things and ruin my relationship with the emperor. This man has served the emperor for so long, so he'll definitely trust him more.

It'll become really bad once Eunuch Wen gets revenge.

It's better if I don't expose anything right now. Eunuch Wen doesn't know that I know his true side, so I am the one with the advantage. If I unmask him now, I'll instead lose this advantage in information.

“Sir Zu, is there something on your mind today?” Eunuch Wen asked with a chuckle, “You seem much more quiet than usual.”

Zu An shivered. Did he notice anything? He quickly smiled and explained, “I can’t help but feel a bit of alarm when his majesty summons me.”

“So that was it.” Eunuch Wen felt relieved. “Actually, there is no need for Sir Zu to feel too worried. His majesty’s mood seems to be quite good today.”

“Thank you for letting me know.” Zu An gave him two more hundred tael silver notes. It was always better to appease this type of cunning fella first.

Eunuch Wen’s smile became even bigger when he saw the silver notes. His eyes were about to turn into slits.

...

When they arrived at the imperial study, Eunuch Wen waited outside. When Zu An walked in, the emperor was currently reading a book on his dragon throne. His expression seemed quite relaxed.

“I pay my respects to your majesty.” Zu An greeted him.

The emperor voiced his reply. A while later, he lowered the book and said, “You already released the assassins in the imperial prison?”

“I am fortunate to have not disappointed his majesty with this task.” Zu An cursed inside, aren’t you asking a question you already know the answer to? Your freaking divine will even swept by.

The emperor nodded in satisfaction. “Does the Devil Sect suspect anything?”

“I don’t think so, I pushed all of the blame onto King Qi...” Then, he told the emperor what happened while leaving out only a bit.

“You are quite sharp. Now, those people in the imperial prison won’t suspect anything, and no news will get out.” The emperor smiled. This kid from the streets is much better than those well studied children of nobles! I don’t think there are many others who could take care of this matter as cleanly as he did.

Zu An quickly replied, “However, I ended up accidentally bumping into King Qi when I left the imperial prison. Back then, he was suspicious of those assassins that were disguised as imperial guards. In a moment of desperation, I could only say that the guard leader Liu Chenyu was called over by your respected self...”

The emperor laughed out loud. “I didn’t expect that resourceful little bro of mine to be completely fooled by a kid like you.”

Zu An’s expression grew strange. He knew that the two of them were brothers. The emperor was the older brother, while King Qi was the younger, making him number two. However, calling him little bro just sounded so weird.[1]

He didn’t want to draw any suspicion and quickly said, “I’m only clever in trivial matters. King Qi was only tricked because of his carelessness. Once he looks into it, he will know that I was lying.”

He had a worried look on his face when he said this.

Sigh, I've hung out with these old foxes for so long that I'm about to become one myself.

The emperor waved his hand and said, "You don't have to worry about that, I will make some arrangements."

Zu An sighed. He was scared that King Qi would look into Liu Chengyu's whereabouts. Now that the emperor said he would take care of it, then there was definitely nothing to worry about anymore.

The emperor remained quiet for a moment, and then he said, "You've now offended King Qi. How are you going to complete the first task that I have given you?"

Zu An explained, "King Qi is full of suspicion and incredibly shrewd. If I hand him the fake manual directly, he will instead become more suspicious. By doing the exact opposite and making him think that he obtained the manual through his own methods, things will go even more smoothly."

"Hmph, not bad. What you say makes sense." The emperor nodded. With his understanding of his little brother, he indeed did fit this description.

Zu An suddenly thought of something and quickly said, "Your majesty, I was patted three times by King Qi just now. I'm worried that he might have used something like a bone melting palm treacherous technique on me, but I won't know anything immediately. Can you help me take a look? My life is so petty that I fear I will fail to carry out your majesty's mission!"

The emperor was stunned. When he heard what Zu An said, only then did he react to what this bone melting palm was. He became serious as well. "Come over and let this emperor take a look."

"Yes!" Zu An was overjoyed. With the number one expert helping him out, even if King Qi really did place any restrictions on him, he could still easily deal with it.

The emperor looked him over. Suddenly, he patted his body gently three times. "It's done."

Zu An was overjoyed. "Thank you, your majesty!"

The emperor sneered and said, "It's too early for you to be happy. King Qi doesn't know the restriction methods that you described, but I just happened to know them. You've reminded me about it just now, so I set up some restrictions on your body. This way, you'll carry out the tasks I have assigned you with more care."

Zu An: "???"

Chapter 670: Looming in the Shadows

Goddammit! I shouldn't have said what I shouldn't have said!

Zu An felt like an absolute fool. I'm so stupid, I'm so, so stupid. I've met this emperor so many times already, but I still haven't figured out how his morals are!

If he could receive his own Rage points, then it might be a string of 1024s right now.

The emperor felt amazing when he saw Zu An's expression. With his status and cultivation, how long has it been since he felt like this?

He coughed and said, "But you don't need to worry too much. This seal won't activate for some time. As long as you do things well for me, then I will remove it for you after the matter."

Zu An furiously cursed this man in front of him. Like hell I'll believe your stupid ass! This guy is just too evil.

He knew that even if he completed those tasks, the emperor still wouldn't remove the seal so easily. He might have to do more things, all the way until he had no value left...

However, he still pretended to be moved to tears on the surface. "Thank you so much, your majesty!"

The emperor nodded in satisfaction. He liked the feeling of having the lives and deaths of numerous people within his grasp. "You can leave!"

"Understood!" Zu An bowed respectfully, but he left with a stomach full of curses.

When he passed through the entrance, Eunuch Wen nodded towards him with a smile. But in Zu An's eyes, this smile appeared especially sinister.

Sigh, I wonder who this Eunuch Wen really is.

A while later, he frowned. The feeling of being tailed appeared again.

He controlled the nearby little birds, but he didn't see anyone suspicious.

Am I being paranoid?

Zu An shook his head. He was under way too much pressure recently. He was even starting to wonder if he was developing paranoia.

However, he still didn't dare to act careless. He made a few circles around the palace and changed the animals that were watching. He still didn't see anyone monitoring him.

He sighed in relief and headed towards his Golden Token Eleven courtyard. He had to let Yun Jianyue know about Sun Luzhen's matters, and also help bring her out.

Even though he didn't want to separate with a beauty like Yun Jianyue, the emperor was too dangerous. Once he found out, then he would really be dead. He didn't dare take any risks after the encounter he just had in the imperial study.

Zu An almost felt like he was coming home when he saw the courtyard hidden in the forest. When he thought about how there was a woman waiting for him, the feeling was really good.

However, when he remembered the feeling of being tailed, just to be sure, he didn't walk straight in and instead pretended to pass by from the side.

After walking around for a while, he saw that there was nothing wrong. He was just about to head back when he heard Yun Jianyue's voice. "Don't turn around. Someone's following you."

Zu An: "???"

There really was someone following him! Yun Jianyue was a grandmaster after all. Now that she recovered some of her strength, her senses were much sharper than his.

“Do you know who it is? Is it a fat eunuch?” Zu An asked.

“His hiding technique is extremely skilled. I haven’t recovered from my injuries yet, so I do not know where exactly he is, nor can I see him. However, I know that he is there.” Yun Jianyue’s voice was cold, yet carried a bit of elegant charm. It really was pleasant to listen to.

But Zu An wasn’t in the mood to enjoy anything at all. Instead, he felt goosebumps.

After all, he already tried all different ways to find out who it was, yet he didn’t see anything. It was easy to see just how formidable this person was.

He had way too many secrets. Having a terrifying person like this monitoring him was frightening.

“How about we bait him out, and then we take him out together?” Zu An rejected this idea as soon as he proposed it. The emperor was overseeing the palace right now. He will immediately know if there was any activity. Once Yun Jianyue got involved, then the aura would be too obvious.

“I have a way. Wait a bit.” Yun Jianyue became quiet after saying this. Soon afterwards, the door creaked open.

Zu An was stunned. What is going on?

He turned around. He saw a masked golden token envoy walk out from inside.

Was there another golden token envoy that entered my room? Zu An was shocked. However, he quickly realized that these were his clothes. It went without saying who this person was. No wonder Yun Jianyue asked for a set of his uniform before.

Yun Jianyue was tall and slender. Together with how the uniform was designed to hide one’s identity anyway, there was nothing strange at all when she pretended to be Golden Token Eleven.

Zu An saw her walk around. He really didn’t know how she was hiding that fat ass of hers. Furthermore, even though the clothes seemed like they were right, he couldn’t see anything. However, this didn’t stop Zu An from imagining her wonderful figure.

The uniforms of golden token envoys were handsome to begin with, but they had always been worn by men. Now that a woman wore it, it added a different type of style.

Was this the so-called uniform seduction? Like a female police officer?

A bunch of thoughts passed by Zu An’s head. However, he shook his head. Now was not the time to be thinking about these things.

Zu An’s mind moved quickly. He walked up and said, “So it was Sir Eleven! Thank you for rescuing the crown prince and princess last time.”

Yun Jianyue gave him a look, thinking to herself that this fella really was quite the actor. She replied impatiently with a low voice.

With her experience, as long as she didn't speak too much, others wouldn't be able to tell that she wasn't a man.

Zu An cupped his hands. "Looks like sir has some matters to attend to. I won't disturb you then. Sir, please feel at ease."

Yun Jianyue nodded. Then, she walked in another direction.

She spoke to him through voice transmission. "I'm going to walk around and see if I can find that person."

Zu An replied, "Head towards the palace gates. I already saved Sun Luzhen and the others. You should use this chance to leave as well."

Yun Jianyue was surprised and happy. She didn't expect him to have really saved them from the imperial prison! She was curious as to how he did it, but she knew that now wasn't the time. As such, she said with a bit of worry, "But what will you do once I leave? There is an expert tailing you."

"You won't be able to help me fight against him even if you stay." Zu An chuckled and said, "Don't worry, this is the imperial palace. With the emperor overseeing things, that mysterious expert won't dare to do anything. He'll only follow me for a while, and you're my biggest secret right now. Once you leave, I won't be scared of him following me."

When she heard him say that she was his biggest secret, Yun Jianyue's expression became strange. These words made her heart rate speed up for some reason. However, she quickly collected herself and said, "Okay, I'm leaving first. Let's find a chance to meet up later."

When he saw the two leave in separate directions, a figure slowly emerged in the shadows of a large tree.

If there was someone who was watching this exact spot, their eyes might pop right out. There wasn't anyone in the shade of this tree before, and this person seemed to have crawled straight out of the shadows.

"Hm? There are two people. Looks like King Qi guessed wrong." That person muttered. He looked left and right. He hesitated for a bit, and then in the end, he headed after Yun Jianyue.

Yun Jianyue's voice sounded by Zu An's ears. "That person is following me."

Zu An was alarmed. "You need to be careful!"

Meanwhile, he was quite confused. He thought that this person came after him, yet now, it didn't seem like it. What kind of background did this person have? What was he after?

Yun Jianyue chuckled. "The one who should be careful is him."

Zu An quickly realized something. Yun Jianyue was a grandmaster after all. Even after being injured, she was still a grandmaster. The one in the shadows thought that he was catching fish, but it was instead a huge shark that bit the bait.

The two got further and further away from each other. It already went beyond the range of ki transmission.

Yun Jianyue could continue to transmit her voice, but the ki she had to use was greater. This would easily draw the emperor's attention, so there was no need to do so.

Zu An continued to walk for a while. Then, he secretly turned around and followed her. He just didn't feel at ease if he didn't see Yun Jianyue leave the palace with his own eyes.

Either way, that feeling of being followed was now gone, so he wasn't scared of being discovered.

He followed her to the imperial palace's western gate. He saw that Yun Jianyue didn't walk too quickly or too slowly. His gait was just like that of an expert.

"I should make her wear these clothes again when there is a chance..." All types of perverted thoughts filled his mind. A stupid smile unknowingly appeared on his face.

Yun Jianyue arrived at the gates. She showed his Golden Token Eleven waist tile, and then those imperial guards quickly let her through.

Golden token envoys had tremendous status to begin with, and this one had just saved the crown prince and princess. He was a popular fella in the eastern palace. Who would want to offend someone like that?

A beautiful voice sounded when she was just about to leave. "Wait!"

Yun Jianyue frowned. Zu An also cried out in complaint. Why did they have to run into her at this type of time?!

The sounds of jewels clanking sounded from not far away. A gorgeously dressed woman slowly walked over gracefully. Who else could this be but the crown princess?