Primitive 241

Chapter 241: Adding an instrument for the ceremony – Drums

Regarding how to conduct the sacrifice this time, Shaman is consulting Han Cheng's opinion.

In the past, Shaman never asked others about this matter, even if it was Han Cheng, who was treated like a god.

But things are different now because, under Han Cheng's earnest assurance, the totem pole has been moved from the inner cave to the house, changing the environment. Shaman is now uncertain.

After a conversation, Han Cheng understands Shaman's intention.

He wants to move the totem pole back to the inner cave for the sacrifice and then back to the house after the ritual is complete.

Because the space inside the room is too small and unsuitable for a proper sacrifice.

However, they have never done this before, and Shaman is undecided because he is worried that moving the totem pole back and forth like this might offend the gods.

Han Cheng might have considered it carefully if he were a true god. However, he is just a time traveler pretending to be god, naturally fearless, and doing things as conveniently as possible.

After receiving affirmation from Han Cheng, Shaman suddenly becomes enthusiastic.

While arranging for the cave to be cleaned, he prepares to move the totem pole, but Han Cheng stops him.

Han Cheng tells Shaman that the totem pole cannot be moved so quickly; it needs something else to accompany it.

Shaman has never experienced such a situation before, and previous Shamans leave no precedents on how to handle such matters, so he must obey Han Cheng's command.

At the same time, he is curious about what the Divine Child mentioned that needs to accompany the totem pole.

Han Cheng mentioned a drum, a standard item in later times.

Adding drama to the totem pole was a spur-of-the-moment idea by Han Cheng.

Heavy snowfall restricts people's movements, leaving them with little to do. He also feels that the sacrifices of the Green Sparrow tribe lack ceremony, so he wants to do something about it. Therefore, he casually mentioned the drum.

After saying it, Han Cheng regrets it a bit because it's extremely difficult to make a drum at this time due to the lack of tools and materials.

Even if they didn't use wood to make the drum body and used pottery instead, it's not feasible because the clay would quickly freeze and could not be fired in cold weather.

After pondering for a while, Han Cheng realizes there is no good solution. He can't help but sniff and bitterly scold himself for making things difficult. What was originally a simple matter now feels like lifting a stone to smash his foot

With his hands behind his back, Han Cheng strolls. The old sheepskin cloak hangs down, swaying gently with his movement.

His slightly tense face, with his eyes occasionally scanning the surroundings cautiously, exudes an aura of scrutinizing subjects, like an emperor observing his ministers or a high-ranking figure hosting a court selection.

Of course, this premise requires the various pottery vessels placed on both sides to be replaced with ministers or carefully chosen and beautiful women

Han Cheng's footsteps stopped, and his gaze fell on a small nearby basin.

This basin is about seventy centimeters tall, with a diameter of about thirty centimeters at the mouth, thicker in the middle, and tapering at both ends.

"This is it."

Han Cheng says to Shaman and Hei Wa, who are following him.

Hei Wa steps forward and lifts the basin as instructed.

Then, following Han Cheng's instructions, the basin was turned upside down, and a relatively thin and rough stone was used to rub back and forth along its bottom.

After rubbing for a while, a shallow line appeared.

This task was tiring, so Han Cheng had someone fetch Mu Tou to take over Hei Wa's work.

He was more skilled at polishing stone tools.

You guessed it right: Han Cheng was planning to use this basin as the body of the drum, but first, the bottom of the small basin needed to be removed.

While Mu Tou dealt with the small basin, Han Cheng searched the Green Sparrow tribe's storage for something, specifically nitrate-treated hides.

After quite a while, he found a hide with little fur left.

Then he had someone bring a wooden stick and pounded the hide on a smooth piece of Mu Tou to soften it.

Then, using a carefully crafted stone knife, he scraped the hide repeatedly to remove the remaining fur and thin out the thicker areas as much as possible. This was a very time-consuming task.

It wasn't until the second day that the bottom of the small basin was removed. Mu Tou did an excellent job, leaving the basin undamaged.

Han Cheng then marked two circles on the wall of the small basin near its ends.

He then had Hei Wa take over from Mu Tou and carefully drill holes in these marks using relatively sharp stones. It was crucial not to damage the basin.

It took three days for these tasks to be completed thoroughly.

The hide, which Hei Wa had meticulously polished, and still had a considerable gap from those of later times, was split in half from the middle. Holes were pierced around the edges of the hide, each tied with a thin rope.

Han Cheng covered the mouth of the small basin with the hide, threading the ropes through the predrilled holes and pulling them tight.

He only demonstrated this, leaving it to Hei Wa and Mu Tou to complete.

This was mainly because stretching the drumhead required considerable strength and skill; otherwise, the drumhead would be loose, resulting in a weak sound.

Han Cheng was no stranger to big drums, gongs, cymbals, and brass instruments. Many villages had such sets, which would be brought out and played around the New Year.

Dragon dances, lion dances, spider dances, and the like usually accompany these brass instruments. Unfortunately, the dragon in their village had long been broken

Of course, these scenes were almost twenty years ago. As people gradually went out to make a living, life became faster-paced, and these things were rarely touched anymore, gathering dust in the houses of a few families in the village

To achieve a better effect, after the drumhead was stretched, Han Cheng went out with some people to fetch some pine resin not far from the Green Sparrow tribe. After heating and melting it in a small pottery jar, he used a small branch to plug each hole through which the ropes passed and sealed the edges of the hide attached to the basin wall.

After doing all this, the drum was finally complete.

Han Cheng tapped on it with his fingers, producing a dull sound. It wasn't as good as the wooden barrel drums from later times, but Han Cheng was already delighted with the drum considering the conditions.

Han Cheng didn't let people play the drum randomly.

Because, as he said, and they also knew, it was for use in the future worship of the gods, everyone, including the few people involved in its making, held a curious and reverent attitude toward the newly appeared drum.

After making the drum, Han Cheng instructed Hei Wa to cut out two wooden sticks that were about thirty centimeters long and three centimeters in diameter. One end of each stick was wrapped with the leftover hide from making the drum, and thus, two drumsticks were created.

Han Cheng regretted only that there was no red cloth or red fuel; otherwise, these two drumsticks would have been more festive and expressive.

After the drumsticks were made, wood was cut and tied together to make a drum stand. With this, the set was finally complete.

The people of the Green Sparrow tribe had never looked forward to a sacrifice like this before.

They were eager to see what effect the exquisite things made by the Divine Child with great effort would have and how they would be used in the sacrifice.

Even the old shaman couldn't contain his excitement and anticipation.

Chapter 242: Drums, Shaman, Dance

It seemed as if the sun, absent for several days after the snow stopped, decided to show its face today, causing everyone's anticipation to rise. The sun's rays reflected off the pure white snow, creating a dazzling brightness that filled the air. However, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe paid no heed to this spectacle as they eagerly craned their necks to peer inside the house.

Inside the room stood the prominent figures of the Green Sparrow Tribe: the Divine Child, the shaman, the Eldest Senior Brother, Shang, and the Third Senior Brother.

In the center stood the Divine Child, holding two drumsticks, explaining something to the others, who nodded in understanding.

After a while, the Eldest Senior Brother emerged and instructed everyone outside to stand properly while the shaman donned his feather crown and grasped his bone staff.

Normally, the shaman would dance during ceremonies, but this time was evidently different.

The people of the Green Sparrow Tribe were not accustomed to lining up, and although they tried their best to stand in order, it was still chaotic, with some indistinct and discordant voices rising like mosquitoes buzzing.

"Boom!"

At that moment, a deep, muffled sound suddenly reverberated, exploding in their ears.

The shaman's body trembled, and his bone staff nearly slipped from his hand. The Eldest Senior Brother and others also started, even though the Divine Child had forewarned them; the sudden booming sound still stole their attention.

The buzzing outside ceased, and everyone fell silent, mouths agape in astonishment.

After a brief moment of stupefaction, feelings of surprise, panic, and fear emerged among them.

Some timid individuals trembled, while others gazed up at the sky.

The sky was clear, without a single cloud in sight

But where did this sudden thunderous sound come from?

The crowd was baffled, and their fear of the unknown only grew stronger.

"Boom!"

Amidst the crowd's uncertainty, another identical muffled sound reverberated.

Then came a series of "boom boom boom!"

There!

It was the Divine Child!

Inside the house, Han Cheng's sudden pounding of the drum had left the Eldest Senior Brother and Shang, who had been momentarily stunned, at a loss. They only remembered the Divine Child's instructions and quickly moved to stand on either side of the totem pole.

As they left, the obscured scene inside the house finally became clear to the people outside.

The Divine Child!

It was the Divine Child!

They thought to themselves.

The Divine Child stood there, holding a drumstick in each hand, vigorously striking the newly crafted drum, which he called a "god's drum."

With each strike of the drumstick, a humming sound reverberated, awe-inspiring and spine-chilling, reminiscent of thunder during a summer rain.

This belonged in the heavens, yet now, it was tamed by the Divine Child and brought to their Green Sparrow Tribe

At that moment, they suddenly felt an urge to worship.

To the gods, to the Divine Child, to this astonishing drum that could produce thunderthis was a thought they had never entertained during past ceremonies.

The shaman's aged cheeks turned pale, then flushed with excitement as he watched the Divine Child strike the drum, his body trembling with emotion.

Although he had previously learned about the drum's purpose and effects from the Divine Child, the power displayed by the drum at this moment far exceeded his imagination.

Like everyone else, he wondered if the Divine Child managed to capture the thunder from the heavens within this drum.

It seemed as if the sun, which hadn't shown its face for several days after the snowfall, was specifically waiting to witness the ritual of the Green Sparrow Tribe. Today, after hiding for days, its rays burst forth, casting a golden glow over the pristine white snow, creating a dazzling scene.

However, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe paid no heed to this spectacle. With hearts full of anticipation, they tiptoed and craned their necks to peer inside the house.

After a while, the Divine Child suddenly stopped.

The thunder ceased, and the world fell silent. Frowning, the Divine Child looked at the drum, muttering to himself.

The shaman, puzzled, stopped his impending dance and approached the Divine Child, wanting to know what had happened.

The Divine Child muttered, "This isn't right. The sound shouldn't be this soft"

The shaman froze, nearly stumbling.

My Divine Child, the sound was almost shaking the roof, and you still find it not loud enough?

Even the composed shaman didn't know how to express his feelings.

"Light a fire," Han Cheng said, breaking the silence after a moment of contemplation.

Two people were assigned to start the fire, and soon, a blaze crackled outside the door.

Following Han Cheng's instructions, the Eldest Senior Brother and Third Senior Brother, initially tasked with carrying the drum, took it outside.

They carried the drum with even greater reverence, mixed with awe, now that they knew its power.

As instructed by Han Cheng, they carefully placed one end of the drum over the burning fire, about twenty centimeters away, to let the heat seep into it.

After roasting for a while, they swapped ends as instructed by the Divine Child and then continued roasting.

The onlookers from the Green Sparrow Tribe were puzzled. Roasting food over a fire made sense, but why would the Divine Child want to roast a drum?

Of course, Han Cheng didn't intend to eat it. He remembered a method he had seen before to make the drum louder during cold weather.

As Li He wrote in "The Taoist Priest of Yanmen Pass": "With heavy frost, the drum's cold sound does not rise," and the Green Sparrow Tribe was just as cold now.

To make the drum louder, it was simpleheat it.

Once the fire heated the drum, it was carried back inside and placed on its stand. After signaling to the people inside, Han Cheng swung the drumstick down hard.

The skin covering the drum trembled rapidly, and a deep, thunderous boom reverberated from within the drum, spreading outward.

Both inside and outside the house, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe shuddered, feeling as if the sound was exploding in their minds.

The shaman's eyes were filled with awe and worship, and his spirit trembled along with the resounding drumbeats. For a moment, he forgot to perform the ritual.

It was only when Han Cheng reminded him that he began to dance within the house, his movements more agile than ever before, flowing naturally like water. This old man, who had never successfully communicated with the heavenly gods, now felt a different connection amidst the thunderous drumbeats.

It seemed as if they were one step closer to the heavenly gods

Han Cheng knew little about drumming. He followed the rhythm he remembered: "Dong dong dong, dong dong dong dong dong dong," occasionally drumming according to his mood. After all, whether anyone understood drumming or not, he was in charge here.

After the dance, the drumming temporarily ceased. Following previous instructions, the people gathered outside were separated, and the shaman, wearing his feathered crown and holding his bone staff, danced out of the house towards the cave entrance.

Next came the Second Senior Brother and Third Senior Brother, who carried the drum frame and the drum on top of it, and Divine Child, who carried the drumsticks and occasionally struck the drum as it was being carried low.

Following them were the Eldest Senior Brother and Shang, who carried the totem pole.

The rest followed behind the totem pole, heading towards the cave.

Inside the cave, amidst the booming drumbeats, the shaman danced around the totem pole, accompanied by the Eldest Senior Brother and Shang, who were carrying it, for three rounds, muttering something indistinctly.

After the three rounds, the totem pole was placed back in its original position.

A bonfire was lit, dispersing the darkness within the cave and illuminating everything.

Drumming was a strenuous activity, and Han Cheng was sweating by now.

Having had enough of drumming, he handed over the drumsticks to the idle Eldest Senior Brother.

The Eldest Senior Brother seemed hesitant because he desired to take on a more passive role; Han Cheng naturally didn't give him a chance to refuse.

After briefly explaining some simple drumming techniques, the drumsticks were in the hands of the Eldest Senior Brother.

The Eldest Senior Brother, gripping the drumsticks tightly, felt tense, excited, and a sense of sacred responsibility.

This was his first time participating in the ritual, not as a bystander.

Moreover, he would personally handle this object that could capture the sound of thunder

All of this filled him with excitement and anticipation.

Amidst the booming drumbeats, the ritual, different from before, began again.

Bows, arrows, and slings, the best offerings from the Green Sparrow Tribe to the heavenly gods, were respectfully placed on a stone platform in front of the totem pole.

Han Cheng, the pseudo-Divine Child, stood beside the totem pole as usual, enjoying the same treatment as the heavenly godsplaying the puppet role.

As the shaman danced and the drum thundered, the people sincerely thanked the heavenly gods for their blessings to the Green Sparrow Tribe and thanked the Divine Child for leading the Green Sparrow Tribe towards strength

With the drum's appearance, those participating in the ritual were more involved.

After a lively celebration, the ritual concluded, and the Eldest Senior Brother and Shang once again carried the totem pole back into the house.

Compared to the beginning, the ceremony seemed simpler and quieter.

Starting today, the ritual of the Green Sparrow Tribe was roughly divided into three stages: welcoming the gods, worshiping, and sending off the gods.

During these processes, the initial welcoming of the gods required the Divine Child to drum, the shaman to dance, and the chieftain and others to carry the totem pole where the gods resided.

During the worship, it was the chieftain who drummed

Compared to the shaman's solo dance in the past, this kind of ritual had more ceremony and allowed people to immerse themselves more fully.

It also highlighted the status of the Divine Child, shaman, and chieftain in the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Of course, these were just rough outlines, and new elements could be added as needed.

Chapter 243: Obsessed with sex, their will becomes focused

Two or three days after the ritual, the entire Green Sparrow Tribe was immersed in a mysterious atmosphere tinged with an inexplicable aura.

The drum received great attention from the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe. It was carefully placed in front of the totem pole and enjoyed the same treatment as the feathered crown and bone staff.

After the ritual, people became more enthusiastic about making bows, arrows, and slings.

Every day, as requested by the Divine Child, they would spend some time practicing with slings or arrows outside.

However, the arrows' target was no longer a makeshift wooden stake but a roughly woven rope about half a meter in diameter, tightly coiled in circles.

Han Cheng had painted a black circle using black charcoal at the center of this coiled grass rope target.

Initially, hitting the target would elicit cheers from the crowd, but as people became more adept with the bow and arrow, hitting the target became more commonplace and lost its novelty.

Only someone like Third Senior Brother, who could shoot an arrow into the black center of the target from sixty meters away, could still impress the crowd.

When someone went to retrieve the arrow, they were surprised by its power. Not only had it pierced the grass target, but it had also lodged itself into the wooden post behind the target!

After pulling out the arrow, the person was astonished to find that this arrow was different from the ones they were familiar with.

Instead of a wooden tip sharpened by fire, this arrow had a sharp bone tip polished to a fine point.

It could penetrate the grass target and embed itself into the wood behind it!

As they marveled at this, a realization dawned on them: they could attach bone tips to their arrows, too!

This discovery prompted many to inquire about making bone arrowheads from Third Senior Brother.

Naturally, Third Senior Brother was happy to share, and he took out the remaining arrows to show everyone and explain the process of making bone arrowheads.

The idea of adding bone arrowheads to the arrows had been conceived several days earlier.

When someone is deeply passionate about something, they tend to think about it and seek ways to improve it involuntarily.

As the great writer Pu Songling once said: "Obsessed with sex, their will becomes focused." Those obsessed with books excel in literature, and those obsessed with skills become proficient in their craft Those who fail in life are those who are not obsessed.

For the Third Senior Brother, it was the same with bows and arrows.

After his initial excitement about bows and arrows had subsided, he began to consider their practical use.

Bows and arrows could be used for hunting and defense against enemies.

After carefully considering these two purposes, he was no longer satisfied with shooting at wooden stakes daily.

Because wooden stakes were not prey or enemies.

Since there were no enemies to test the power of the arrows, he turned his attention to prey.

After sharing his idea with the Divine Child, the shaman, and the chief, he set out with his bow, arrows, and spears to hunt for prey outside the tribe, turning his experimental idea into the reality of fetching two rabbits from the rabbit warren

The results of the experiment were not very satisfactory. At close range, the arrows could pierce the rabbits' bodies, but as the distance increased, the damage caused by the arrows decreased.

Eventually, they couldn't even penetrate the rabbits' skins.

This discovery left Third Senior Brother deeply troubled. If they couldn't penetrate the thin skin of rabbits, how could they fare against sheep, deer, leopards, saber-toothed tigers, and other such creatures?

In the following days, he continued to ponder this issue.

Initially, his solution was to manufacture a longer and thicker bow. He did so, and while it had some effect, it wasn't as significant as he had hoped. This discovery led him to abandon the idea of making a more powerful bow because the new one he made was already quite difficult for him to draw.

This line of thought continued until one distracted evening during dinner when a fishbone pricked him. The sharp fishbone could pierce his flesh, so he thought, if he tied fishbones to the arrowheads, wouldn't they be able to penetrate the flesh of prey?

He excitedly entertained this idea for a moment before shaking his head; fishbones were too fragile

With this idea in mind, it wasn't long before bone arrowheads appeared.

Han Cheng quietly observed all of the Third Senior Brother's actions without interference.

For the Green Sparrow Tribe to thrive and grow, it couldn't rely solely on him. Cultivating talent, among other things, was also essential.

Otherwise, they might end up like the Shu Han during the Three Kingdoms period, with talents dwindling and Zhuge Liang's departure leading to their downfall, a truly disheartening outcome.

Seeing Third Senior Brother spin around the bones and then start to select them, Han Cheng couldn't help but smile.

Under Han Cheng's instructions, a sling practice area was set up at a distance from the archery practice area.

This area was off-limits to outsiders because of the whirling slings and flying stones, making it highly dangerous.

In light of Han Cheng's glorious feat of smashing a patch of tiles with a single shot, the sling practice area was far from houses and readily accessible areas.

Second Senior Brother, who had been quite battered from using the sling to smash a rabbit a few days ago, noticed an unusual reaction in the archery area.

After watching for a while, he didn't pay much attention and skillfully loaded a stone into the sling, swung it around his arm a couple of times in the air, and then quickly let go. The stone flew out of the net and smashed into the straw target, knocking it down

Every day, the Green Sparrow Tribe allowed men and women to practice with bows and slings. The traditional gender roles of men working outside and women inside the tribe did not apply here.

Relying solely on men couldn't guarantee the tribe's safety in the face of major threats.

In today's Green Sparrow Tribe, there were many more women than men, and they indeed carried half of the tribe's burden.

On sunnier and slightly warmer days, the Divine Child would have everyone practice using these two new weapons by aiming at the straw figures and odd-shaped straw animals outside the perimeter, which were almost invisible under the snow cover.

When setting up these straw figures and objects made of straw, the people would be highly cautious, constantly checking a small sign standing a short distance away from the wall.

These inconspicuous signs bore an abstract skull drawn in charcoal with two crossed bones beneath it.

This was the Divine Child's creation, meant to remind the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe that on the side of the wooden sign facing the wall lay the dangerously obscured "stick array," covered almost entirely by snow

Chapter 244: Just as they were feeling pleased, a plane flew across the sky

Han Cheng wanted to go out and take a look. This desire was unprecedentedly strong.

It wasn't to search for iron ore, copper ore, or other things that were of great use to the Green Sparrow, nor was it to search for hemp, beans, bamboo, and other crops that would further develop the Green Sparrow. As for medicinal herbs, there wasn't such a strong driving force either.

What indeed drove him to want to go out and see afar was a sudden idea from a few days ago.

The weather was very nice that day, with the winter sun shining down, warming the cold air.

Han Cheng and some people from the Green Sparrow sat against the southern wall, enjoying the gentle warmth of the winter.

Some people were repairing bows and arrows, some women were spinning thread with spinning tops, and some were holding children, babbling hard-to-understand words.

Amid tranquility, Han Cheng enveloped in warmth, began to feel drowsy.

When he opened his eyes in the dazzling sunlight, he saw a group of unidentified birds flapping their wings across the sky.

He wondered what the meat of those birds would taste like.

As he, influenced by primitive thoughts, watched the not-so-small birds, a random thought crossed his mind.

His mind drifted aimlessly from the birds flying by to the planes carrying smoke during military parades and then to various things from the future. He surprisingly found himself missing them.

Humans are strange creatures, never satisfied.

In the past, what Han Cheng wanted most was to escape from the noisy and suffocating environment, to find a place with clear mountains and rivers, to cultivate a few acres of land, raise some chickens and ducks, dig a fish pond, plant some vegetables, read books in his leisure time, fish, and live a leisurely and carefree life.

However, when he had indeed everything he dreamed of, he began to miss the world that had once made him detest it so much.

In his reminiscence, that world unexpectedly began to seem beautiful and desirable.

Indeed, what is lost and cannot be obtained is always the best.

His thoughts drifted like this, circling until they returned to the plane flying above.

Then, a ridiculous idea slowly emerged in his mind.

How nice it would be if the group of birds just now were planes

Thinking like this, Han Cheng smiled, dismissed his whimsical thoughts, and continued his daydream.

But his leisurely mood quickly disappeared, and he became restless or suspicious.

He moved away from the wall he was leaning on and sat up straight, and his eyes looked very complex.

Because just now, he suddenly thought of a terrifying ideaafter he had put in so much effort to absorb the surrounding tribes into the Green Sparrow, and led the people of the Green Sparrow, step by step, to obtain copper, iron, weaving machines leading everyone towards agricultural civilization, establishing their cities after all the hard work, as he looked at this scene, reminiscing

and looking forward to the future with a hint of satisfaction and nostalgia, suddenly a plane flew overhead

How can the mood at that time be described as anything less than having ten thousand wild horses galloping through his heart?

The more he thought about it, the more uneasy Han Cheng became. The possibility of such an event was not nonexistent, as primitive people still existed even in his own era.

The image of primitive people shooting arrows at planes left a deep impression on him.

Shortly before he crossed over, Han Cheng also saw the news about a fellow countryman wanting to go to a secluded island to preach to the primitive people inside, only to be strangled to death with a rope by the primitive people who didn't buy into the national account

Thinking about this, Han Cheng's heart became increasingly uneasy. Since he arrived, he had not embarked on any far travels.

As for what he knew about this world, besides being a primitive society, there were a few small tribes besides the Green Sparrow. Further away, there was a tribe called Flying Snakes, which was aggressive.

Apart from this, he didn't have much understanding of the overall environment.

Who could say for sure if the periphery of this area was fenced off with barbed wire, with a sign erected saying, "Primitive People Protection Zone" or something like "200 RMB per Tour" slogans?

Originally, Han Cheng's idea was to wait until he grew up a bit more, then take some people away from the tribe for a trip. But with the rise of this ridiculous yet compelling idea, Han Cheng finally became unwilling to wait for even a moment longer.

However, not wanting to wait didn't mean he didn't have to wait because it was the cold winter. New snow would fall after the heavy snow had not completely melted. In such weather, it was not suitable to go out.

Although he was eager to verify his thoughts, Han Cheng had to suppress this idea because his life was more important than the verification results.

Making a sled and having the deer pull it to explore the outside world was a good idea, but Han Cheng ultimately vetoed it.

The greatest danger of traveling in such weather was not the possibility of encountering hungry wild beasts but the cold weather itself.

Han Cheng would not choose to travel in winter and explore the unknown world unless necessary.

This was a responsible behavior towards himself and others.

But with such things lingering in his mind, he couldn't achieve the peace he used to have.

The shaman and the Eldest Senior Brother, among others, noticed his somewhat abnormal state. After discussing it, they decided that the shaman and the Eldest Senior Brother would come to inquire about the Divine Child.

Han Cheng couldn't tell them about his thoughts, so when they inquired, he could only say that he was fine and just thinking about some things, telling them not to worry about him.

The shaman and the Eldest Senior Brother were not fools, so naturally, they wouldn't believe he was fine just because of his words.

After all, the Divine Child's condition was very different from before, and anyone familiar with him could see that the Divine Child was not well.

But since the Divine Child didn't want to say more, they didn't dare to ask again after asking twice.

However, their worries did not decrease and only increased over time.

The Eldest Senior Brother and the shaman met again by the rabbit enclosure, still discussing matters concerning the Divine Child.

After a while, they were still at a loss.

Turning their heads, they looked at the Divine Child, sitting by the southern wall, lost in thought. In the direction the Divine Child was facing, the girls from the Cheng, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li were blowing hard on the ice wind chimes hanging from the eaves.

The crystal-clear ice cubes collided, emitting crisp sounds.

The Eldest Senior Brother's eyes lit up, suddenly realizing something.

Chapter 245: Shaman: What's wrong with the Divine Child?

Eldest Senior Brother: He's feeling amorous.

"Shaman! I got it"

Eldest Senior Brother seemed somewhat excited.

His initial Shaman!' was loud, but then he realized something and lowered his voice.

"What?"

Caught off guard by Eldest Senior Brother's sudden outburst, Shaman, who was lost in thought, asked hastily after realizing what Eldest Senior Brother meant.

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled lowly and shared his thoughts with Shaman.

After listening, Shaman hesitated momentarily and said, "The Divine Child is not of age"

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled again. Who said one needed to be of age for this? He hadn't been of age back then

Of course, he didn't dare to tell Shaman about that.

"Divine Child, it's different," Eldest Senior Brother shook his head vigorously.

"Divine Child understands everything"

Under Eldest Senior Brother's persuasion, Shaman also became hesitant.

He agreed with Eldest Senior Brother's words. Divine Child was the most intelligent person. Other than the possibility mentioned by Eldest Senior Brother, there didn't seem to be any other explanation for Divine Child's behavior. But something felt off.

Shaman hesitated, pondering over it silently.

"Shaman, look"

Seeing Shaman hesitant, Eldest Senior Brother sat down near the south wall and discreetly pointed.

"Divine Child has been staring at that spot for a long time without turning his head."

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled and added.

Shaman also noticed this. He didn't speak immediately but stood quietly, tilting his head and staring.

Divine Child was still staring in their direction when he saw Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li leaving. Shaman finally agreed with Eldest Senior Brother's explanation.

"They aren't beautiful enough"

After confirming this, Shaman reflected on Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li's appearances, feeling somewhat dissatisfied.

They genuinely wanted to offer Divine Child the best. Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li were far less attractive than the others, which disappointed Shaman.

Scratching his head, Eldest Senior Brother felt somewhat troubled. He suddenly considered offering his big-bottomed partner to Divine Child at that moment.

After sharing this idea with Shaman, Shaman thought about it for a while and rejected it.

His reason was that Divine Child had only been staring at Xing, not at Eldest Senior Brother's bigbottomed partner

After discussing for a while, they finally made a decision.

Xing, not Xiao Mei or Xiao Li, would be sent to accompany Divine Child to sleep.

The reason was simple: Xiao Mei and Xiao Li were less beautiful than Xing Cheng.

Although the matter was settled, Eldest Senior Brother still felt somewhat regretful. He believed that only the most beautiful woman could match Divine Child.

It wasn't just him; everyone in the tribe thought the same.

Eldest Senior Brother silently vowed that if he had the chance, he would find the most beautiful woman to be Divine Child's partner, even more beautiful Xing!

Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother were straightforward and had a primitive style. They wasted no time getting things done.

After confirming the matter, they immediately put it into action. Findd new updates on n(o)v/e/lbin(.)com

When Xing, playing outside with Xiao Mei, Xiao Li, and others, was called back and informed of the matter, she was taken to the tribe's cave to bathe.

There were three large tubs, one reserved for Divine Child and the other for communal use.

In the past, the people of the Green Sparrow tribe didn't bother with such formalities. They slept together when it was time to sleep.

The reason why Xing was sent to bathe was because Shaman knew that Divine Child liked cleanliness

It must be said that Shaman, this old primitive man, truly cared a lot for Han Cheng, considering everything very thoughtfully and comprehensively.

Unaware of everything, Han Cheng continued to lean against the southern wall, pondering over his upcoming journey, oblivious to the events unfolding around him.

If he knew, he probably wouldn't dare to daydream like this.

It would be feasible to start the journey next spring.

With the appearance of bows and arrows, as well as slings, the combat effectiveness of the Green Sparrow tribe was greatly enhanced, whether in defense or offense.

Taking advantage of this winter's leisure time, everyone needed to practice more and become proficient with these two weapons.

Of course, the water route was chosen as the mode of travel. It was convenient, labor-saving, and much safer than traveling on land.

Having accompanied Eldest Senior Brother and others on a few outings, Han Cheng had witnessed the difficulties of traveling on land, especially in places where people rarely tread.

And due to the era, as far as Han Cheng knew, there were far too many places where people rarely ventured

He pondered these matters, occasionally fantasizing about the things he might encounter during the journey and the fate of the Green Sparrow tribe when they reached a civilized world. He was deeply engrossed in these thoughts.

After dinner, as usual, Han Cheng put down his bowl, left the cave, and headed toward his room.

Lost in his thoughts, he didnt notice Xing passing by him several times during dinner.

"Knock, knock, knock"

There was a knocking on the door.

"Who's there?"

Han Cheng listened for a while in the room lit by an oil lamp. Seeing that the knocking didn't cease, he asked.

"It's me, Xing"

Han Cheng couldn't help but feel surprised. What was she doing here at this hour?

Other than the Eldest Senior Brother and Shi Tou, people from the tribe generally didn't come here quickly, and Xing had never visited before.

"Do you need something?"

Han Cheng asked after giving it some thought.

He had already crawled into bed and didn't want to get up to open the door at this moment.

"Yes I do."

After Han Cheng's reluctant response, Xing finally uttered the words Han Cheng least wanted to hear.

After telling Xing to wait momentarily, Han Cheng reluctantly put on some clothes.

After opening the door, he saw Xing standing there.

Whether it was an illusion or not, Xing seemed cleaner today than usual.

"What's the matter?"

After letting Xing in, Han Cheng asked, leaving the door open.

Although he was in a primitive tribe and many customs were more open compared to later eras, Han Cheng was still a person with principles. Therefore, he needed to be cautious about details.

Of course, this also had something to do with Xing being stronger and more solidly built than him.

Han Cheng's principles would have disappeared if it were a fair-skinned, beautiful woman with a charming face and figure. Not only would he have closed the door, but he would have

"Sleep."

Primitive people were indeed straightforward, without the coyness or thinly veiled intentions of later women. Faced with Divine Child's inquiry, Xing promptly stated her purpose for coming.

Eldest Senior Brother: He's feeling amorous.

"Shaman! I got it"

Eldest Senior Brother seemed somewhat excited.

His initial Shaman!' was loud, but then he realized something and lowered his voice.

"What?"

Caught off guard by Eldest Senior Brother's sudden outburst, Shaman, who was lost in thought, asked hastily after realizing what Eldest Senior Brother meant.

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled lowly and shared his thoughts with Shaman.

After listening, Shaman hesitated momentarily and said, "The Divine Child is not of age"

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled again. Who said one needed to be of age for this? He hadn't been of age back then

Of course, he didn't dare to tell Shaman about that.

"Divine Child, it's different," Eldest Senior Brother shook his head vigorously.

"Divine Child understands everything"

Under Eldest Senior Brother's persuasion, Shaman also became hesitant.

He agreed with Eldest Senior Brother's words. Divine Child was the most intelligent person. Other than the possibility mentioned by Eldest Senior Brother, there didn't seem to be any other explanation for Divine Child's behavior. But something felt off.

Shaman hesitated, pondering over it silently.

"Shaman, look"

Seeing Shaman hesitant, Eldest Senior Brother sat down near the south wall and discreetly pointed.

"Divine Child has been staring at that spot for a long time without turning his head."

Eldest Senior Brother chuckled and added.

Shaman also noticed this. He didn't speak immediately but stood quietly, tilting his head and staring.

Divine Child was still staring in their direction when he saw Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li leaving. Shaman finally agreed with Eldest Senior Brother's explanation.

"They aren't beautiful enough"

After confirming this, Shaman reflected on Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li's appearances, feeling somewhat dissatisfied.

They genuinely wanted to offer Divine Child the best. Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li were far less attractive than the others, which disappointed Shaman.

Scratching his head, Eldest Senior Brother felt somewhat troubled. He suddenly considered offering his big-bottomed partner to Divine Child at that moment.

After sharing this idea with Shaman, Shaman thought about it for a while and rejected it.

His reason was that Divine Child had only been staring at Xing, not at Eldest Senior Brother's bigbottomed partner

After discussing for a while, they finally made a decision.

Xing, not Xiao Mei or Xiao Li, would be sent to accompany Divine Child to sleep.

The reason was simple: Xiao Mei and Xiao Li were less beautiful than Xing Cheng.

Although the matter was settled, Eldest Senior Brother still felt somewhat regretful. He believed that only the most beautiful woman could match Divine Child.

It wasn't just him; everyone in the tribe thought the same.

Eldest Senior Brother silently vowed that if he had the chance, he would find the most beautiful woman to be Divine Child's partner, even more beautiful Xing!

Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother were straightforward and had a primitive style. They wasted no time getting things done.

After confirming the matter, they immediately put it into action.

When Xing, playing outside with Xiao Mei, Xiao Li, and others, was called back and informed of the matter, she was taken to the tribe's cave to bathe.

There were three large tubs, one reserved for Divine Child and the other for communal use.

In the past, the people of the Green Sparrow tribe didn't bother with such formalities. They slept together when it was time to sleep.

The reason why Xing was sent to bathe was because Shaman knew that Divine Child liked cleanliness

It must be said that Shaman, this old primitive man, truly cared a lot for Han Cheng, considering everything very thoughtfully and comprehensively.

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"Sleep."

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Chapter 246: The most beautiful woman is the only one worthy of the wise Divine Child

"Sleep sleep?!"

This utterly unexpected answer left Han Cheng dumbfounded, his mind momentarily blank.

Sleep?

Don't you have a place to sleep?

Why come to my room to say you want to sleep?

You can't just accuse me out of nowhere

Han Cheng instinctively crossed his arms over his chest, suddenly needing to defend his modesty. "Sleep?" After internal turmoil, Han Cheng looked at Xing and asked aloud to confirm that he hadn't misheard.

"Yeah, sleep." Xing nodded vigorously, her expression unchanged.

My goodness, can't you be a bit more subtle?

Han Cheng lamented inwardly.

What's going on? Why did Xing suddenly come to my room to talk about sleeping? Are primitive women so direct in pursuing men?

Looking at Xing, who was nearly an adult and a whole head taller than him, Han Cheng discreetly moved closer to the door, creating distance between himself and Xing.

Given their current physical strength and size, Han Cheng wouldn't be able to resist if Xing were to try anything.

Han Cheng had to prepare for the worst in advance to safeguard his chastity. After all, women at this time were highly straightforward.

"Why did you come here to sleep?" Han Cheng asked again, ensuring he could escape if things turned wrong.

"Shaman and the chief said they wanted me to come sleep," Xing replied, finally showing a hint of shyness.

Shaman and Chief were playing matchmaker?

Han Cheng didn't know how to express his feelings about this. These two guys suddenly thought of having someone warm his bed.

Even if they wanted to arrange something, they should have picked someone more slender. Having Xing come over Han Cheng couldn't agree with their aesthetics.

Moreover, wasn't it said that in the tribe, one had to wait until adulthood to? How come now that he's grown up, everything has changed?

"You should go back first. I don't need to sleep with you" Han Cheng hesitated momentarily before gritting his teeth and saying the somewhat embarrassing words.

It was strange. In modern times, as a single man, he had often fantasized about various romantic encounters. Even when he had nightmares about female ghosts at night, realizing that the ghost was a woman would turn the nightmare into a wet dream. But now, encountering someone who actively sought him out, he acted reserved.

Was there a big difference between fantasy and reality, or was Xing not as attractive as the white-clad female ghost from his dreams?

Of course, he couldn't say that out loud; it would be somewhat hurtful

After hearing the shaman's words, Xing looked somewhat surprised. Instead of leaving as instructed, she stood there watching Han Cheng without moving.

This alerted Han Cheng, as he suddenly remembered some unwritten rules circulating within the tribe.

Not only men could choose a mate, but women also had the right to take the initiative.

In choosing a mate, if a woman fancied a man and the man didn't agree, the woman could still challenge the man, just as the man could challenge the woman.

"If the woman wins, the man must marry her, but if the man wins, it's another story."

In this situation, according to the rules, it seems that Xing can take action against Han Cheng.

Just thinking about the scene of being pinned down by Xing, Han Cheng couldn't help but break out in a cold sweat.

That image is too violent

He quietly moved towards the door again, fully prepared to rush out and shout if things went wrong.

Han Cheng imagined the worst-case scenario, but thankfully, Xing, although eager to become Han Cheng's spouse, didn't dare to do anything violent to him.

After standing there for a while, Xing left disappointed.

Seeing Xing leave, Han Cheng couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief, secretly happy for his chastity.

He then closed the door and headed towards the shaman's dwelling.

This matter must be clarified with this shameless primitive man, or else he'd be living in constant fear for his chastity, which wouldn't be pleasant.

Upon entering the shaman's room, Han Cheng didn't see him on the heated bed. Turning around, he found the shaman standing near the wall not far from the doorway, looking somewhat unnatural as he gazed at Han Cheng.

Han Cheng couldn't help but feel a mix of amusement and exasperation. This guy, shameless as ever, even learned to eavesdrop on conversations.

He didn't expect the Divine Child to come in suddenly. Unable to return to the heated bed in time, the shaman stood there looking awkwardly at Han Cheng for a while before forcing a smile.

"Shaman"

After a simple greeting, Han Cheng asked why the shaman had considered finding him a spouse. The shaman then recounted his and the Eldest Senior Brother's plan.

Feeling touched yet somewhat helpless, Han Cheng couldn't help but sniffle. Was he so desperate for companionship?

He explained to the shaman that he wasn't interested in finding a spouse and expressed his desire to explore the surrounding areas.

The shaman was surprised and puzzled by Han Cheng's words. He couldn't understand why, when everything was fine in the tribe, Han Cheng suddenly wanted to venture out into the world.

Of course, Han Cheng didn't mention the idea of a plane suddenly flying over. Instead, he told the shaman that he wanted to search for things useful to the tribe but hadn't been discovered yet.

Initially, the shaman opposed Han Cheng's idea of going out because Han Cheng was still young and the outside world was too dangerous.

However, after hearing about the tribe's importance of the wall, bows, and slingshots and understanding the significance of Han Cheng's actions, the shaman finally agreed to let Han Cheng go but kept reminding him to be careful.

Then they called the Eldest Senior Brother, who hadn't gone to sleep yet and discussed the matter with him.

Compared to the shaman's cautiousness and reluctance to venture out, the Eldest Senior Brother appeared more ambitious and quickly agreed to Han Cheng's proposal.

This might be because the shaman was older and more conservative, while the Eldest Senior Brother was younger and more adventurous.

After the matter of exploring next year was settled, the Eldest Senior Brother asked Han Cheng for his opinion on finding a spouse. Upon learning that Han Cheng wasn't interested in Xing, Xiaomei, or Xiaoli, the Eldest Senior Brother nodded in approval, agreeing that these three weren't suitable for the divine and wise Han Cheng.

Seeing that the two of them didn't press him further about finding a spouse, Han Cheng breathed a sigh of relief.

But what the Eldest Senior Brother said next almost knocked Han Cheng off his feet.

After nodding in understanding, the Eldest Senior Brother immediately thumped his chest and made a promise to Han Cheng.

He said that when the time came, he would find a gorgeous woman to be the spouse of the great, wise, and irreplaceable Divine Child

Han Cheng almost choked on his breath, coughing repeatedly while waving his hands.

Could he even stand a chance with the women the Eldest Senior Brother would choose based on his aesthetics?

With just one glance, his kidneys would fail!

Chapter 247: Canoe, arrows of various kinds, and Old Li from the Independent Battalion.

With the expedition planned for next year, Han Cheng's anticipation gradually eased, but some anxiety still lingered.

The next step was to prepare for this journey in advance.

The most important thing was constructing boats capable of navigating the river.

Of course, these boats were not Noah's Ark; Han Cheng couldn't build such large ships.

Regarding boat-making, Han Cheng's idea was to burn some large tree trunks, which were too big for several people to embrace, lying around the vicinity of the Green Sparrow Tribe and then chisel a shallow groove on top with stones.

Then, by burning holes, the trunk's interior would be hollowed out to create a suitable canoe for sailing.

However, after actually doing this, it was found that this operation was not easy.

Leaving aside other difficulties, burning such thick tree trunks was challenging.

It took more than half a month to try this once.

However, considering that rafts were prone to leakage and not conducive to long-term stay on them, and now it was winter, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe didn't have much else to do besides practicing archery and slingshots every day. Spending a little more time didn't matter.

It's worth mentioning that after this seemingly neglectful practice for some time, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe gradually became familiar with archery and slingshot use.

Their accuracy had improved a lot compared to when they first started.

After Third Senior Brother initiated the groundbreaking move of installing sharpened bones on arrowheads, the feather arrows that the Green Sparrow Tribe now possessed were quite different from before.

They could be described as diverse.

Some were made with bone arrowheads, some with stone arrowheads, some with suitable wild animal teeth as arrowheads, and even one or two had the sudden idea of wanting to have Hei Wa burn a batch of pottery arrowheads...

Regardless of the type of arrowhead used, they were much more potent than the wooden arrowheads polished from branches.

For archery, this was a significant leap forward.

Significant progress was also made in terms of slingshots. Although the accuracy was not as good as with bows and arrows, at a distance of thirty to forty meters, quite a few people could still hit two or three out of ten shots.

For Second Senior Brother, who was already proficient in slingshots, hitting seven or eight times at this distance was normal.

Given this, Han Cheng began organizing the teams after discussing with Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother.

The specific scene was as follows.

Lazy sunlight scattered from the sky, and snow was white in the distance. In the courtyard of the Green Sparrow Tribe, piles of snow were estimated not to completely melt until spring.

Some of the Green Sparrow Tribe members were basking in the sun doing some miscellaneous chores at the base of the wall, while more were practicing using both bows and slingshots at the archery and slingshot ranges.

Under such circumstances, prompted by Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother, Divine Child, who had ultimately come back to his senses after being stimulated by the prospect of being paired with a spouse, directed people to carry out the large pot used for cooking from the cave and place it in the space in the courtyard.

In addition to the large pot being used, wooden racks were used for placing food ingredients, a not-too-large pot was used for cooking, and a rarely used flat-bottomed pottery pot was also present.

With the hustle and bustle of Fire One, Fire Two, Xing, Xiao Mei, and Xiao Li, the wooden rack for placing food ingredients had already been filled with quite a lot of food, with the large piece of pork that had been cooked and salt-pickled being the most eye-catching.

Of course, after that small jar of yellowish stuff appeared, the grade of the pork immediately plummeted.

The Green Sparrow Tribe members who witnessed this scene were shocked. What day was it today? The Divine Child brought out the precious millet.

And it seemed that he was going to cook it himself!

Han Cheng instructed Xing to use a stone knife to cut the cooked wild boar meat into slices as best as possible for later use.

This point needs to be specially mentioned: the straightforward nature of primitive people was indeed excellent at this time. At least, after Han Cheng explicitly expressed that Xing should not sleep, Xing did not make much trouble. Apart from occasionally glancing at Han Cheng, she did not harbor any grudges and remained the same.

At first, Han Cheng felt somewhat guilty about this and didn't know how to face Xing, who was always around. After discovering this situation, his somewhat unnatural feeling slowly subsided.

He chuckled self-deprecatingly, realizing that even after staying here for so long, he still involuntarily viewed things from the perspective of modern times. This matter would indeed be embarrassing from a modern perspective, but in this highly straightforward tribe, it was not a big deal.

Agreeing to be a spouse meant sleeping with you; disagreeing meant fighting and sleeping with you.

Of course, as a Divine Child, Han Cheng still had certain privileges. If he hadn't demonstrated various miraculous abilities to become a significant figure in the Green Sparrow Tribe and was just a small, ordinary primitive person, Han Cheng didn't dare to imagine such a pleasant scenario.

Under Han Cheng's arrangement, Xiao Mei and Xiao Li went out to the vegetable field with baskets to pick rapeseed.

When they left, Han Cheng specifically instructed them only to pick ordinary rapeseed and not to touch the two patches of rapeseed deliberately separated.

This time, they didn't need to pick too much rapeseed; two not-too-large baskets filled with it would be enough.

There wasn't much cooking for today's meal.

After arranging these matters, Han Cheng added an appropriate amount of water to the cleaned millet and placed it on the fire, instructing Fire One to use a low flame to cook it slowly and occasionally lift the lid and stir to prevent burning. Then, he walked towards the eagerly curious crowd.

Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother had already gone over there and summoned all the adults of the Green Sparrow Tribe.

The people didn't know what this grand occasion meant today, and each of them was very curious.

Han Cheng arrived in front of the gathering crowd and raised his voice. "Over there, I'm steaming millet rice. Later, I will personally stir-fry some vegetables. Do you want to eat this kind of food?"

Because millet rice is scarce, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe have only eaten it once so far, so it seems even more precious.

Many people had forgotten the exact taste of millet rice, but their vivid memories of its deliciousness became clearer.

The consensus in the Green Sparrow Tribe was that if the Divine Child made it, it must be exquisite.

Upon hearing that the Divine Child would steam millet rice and cook it himself and then stir-fry some vegetables, many people couldn't help but swallow their saliva.

"Want!"

These people, who were usually messy and unorganized actually answered in unison, this time without deliberate arrangement.

Recalling the appearance of Captain Li Da Tuan, Han Cheng also waved his hand and chuckled, "Want to eat? No way!"

"There's only that half-jar of millet rice. With so many of us, who will get to eat it?"

The excited members of the Green Sparrow Tribe were puzzled by Han Cheng's sudden question and looked at each other for a while. Yes, there was only that much millet rice. Who would get to eat it?

Han Cheng thought to himself that Captain Li's method was indeed suitable, but these primitive people lacked the cleverness of the Independent Regiment members, and no one chimed in with questions.

He waited a while, thinking like this, then raised his voice again. "This time's millet rice and stir-fried vegetables are only for those who shoot arrows accurately and throw slingshots accurately to eat!"

Chapter 248: Simple division of arms

In the future, Han Cheng didn't watch many TV series, not because he didn't like watching them but because many were unwatchable for him.

However, "Bright Sword" was an exception.

He watched Li Youbin's version of "Bright Sword" at least four times, and he vividly remembered many of the plotlines.

For example, "Half a Jin of Sweet Potatoes Stew," "Zhu Zi, you damn messed up," "Cavalry Company, Charge!" "Li Yunlong, fire the cannon!" "There is a victory parade," and so on. As long as he recalled them even a little, they could reappear in his mind.

As a senior fan of "Bright Sword," when preparing to select people from the Green Sparrow Tribe, Han Cheng immediately thought of Old Li's method of killing pigs.

Of course, if possible, he would have loved to shout, "Second Company Commander, where the hell is your Italian cannon?"

As Han Cheng recalled Colonel Li's grandeur, he addressed the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe: "Archery, at a distance of forty meters, hit five arrows out of ten, then eat; slingshot, at a distance of forty meters, hit three times out of ten, then eat!"

After Han Cheng finished his requirements, the Second Senior Brother and the Third Senior Brother's eyes immediately lit up.

For them, these requirements were too easy.

With a shout to Han Cheng, the two took their belongings and left.

Third Senior Brother came to the designated forty-meter spot, took out a feathered arrow from the bark-made quiver hanging from his waist, pulled the bow, and without much aiming, released his hand.

With a "thud," the arrow pierced through the straw target and stuck to the wooden stake behind it.

"Dudududu"

The third Senior Brother shot the bow consecutively, and nine out of ten arrows actually hit the straw target.

The surrounding crowd couldn't help but cheer.

Having never seen a hundred-step shot, Han Cheng was already extremely satisfied with Third Senior Brother's archery skills.

"Watch me!"

Inspired by the Third Senior Brother's archery skills, the Second Senior Brother shouted, carrying his slingshot toward the slingshot practice area.

Standing forty meters away, he took a stone from his net bag, swung his arm in a circle, and released the stone bullet from the net bag. After a bit of white smoke rose at the target, a "clang" sound followed.

Out of ten stone bullets, seven hit the target!

Cheers erupted again from the crowd.

With the Third Senior Brother and Second Senior Brother's successful demonstrations and the incentive of millet dry rice, the enthusiasm of the remaining people was wholly aroused.

Archery and slingshot practice became extremely enjoyable.

Some who didn't practice were now regretting it.

After watching for a while, Han Cheng instructed Shaman and the Second Senior Brother to monitor each side while he went to cook.

The water in the big pot was already boiling, and it was perfect to neutralize it with cold water for washing vegetables and pots.

Xing had already cut the meat, which was much easier to cut when cooked.

The twin sisters, Xiao Mei and Xiao Li, also returned with two rapeseed baskets; without Han Cheng's orders, they began to pick them automatically.

Seeing that the ingredients were almost ready, Han Cheng began his performance.

He heated the frying pan over the fire, scooped up some solid fat and put it in the pan, added some chopped scallions to fry until fragrant, then added the meat slices, rapeseed

Han Cheng skillfully cooked these dishes, and the fragrance of the food had already spread far and wide, teasing people's noses.

Second Senior Brother, Third Senior Brother, and others who had already been determined to be able to eat stood not far away, watching Han Cheng do all this, their throats rolling up and down incessantly.

Those who did not meet the requirements for archery or slingshot could only swallow their saliva when they smelled the fragrance.

At the same time, they felt envy and regret and made a firm determination to practice these two weapons well in the future.

When people's living conditions and requirements are not high, it only takes a small cost to mobilize their enthusiasm.

Just like the Green Sparrow Tribe at this moment, half a pot of millet dry rice and a large bowl of stir-fried meat with vegetables were enough to fill everyone with vigor.

After selection, there were a total of eight people who met the requirements for archery, including the Third Senior Brother.

Controlling slingshots was not easy, and the accuracy was lower. Even though Han Cheng had lowered the requirements and included the Second Senior Brother, only six people were in total.

Among them, Eldest Senior Brother was relatively accurate in archery, while Shang was relatively accurate in slingshot. Both of them met the requirements.

After Han Cheng's proposal and discussion with the Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother, such an arrangement was made for the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Eldest Senior Brother and Shang were each removed from the archery and slingshot groups, and another person who was good at archery or slingshot was found to fill their vacancies.

These fourteen people were divided into two teams, one specializing in archery and the other specializing in slingshots.

The leaders were the Third Senior Brother and the Second Senior Brother.

As for Eldest Senior Brother and Shang, Han Cheng had another arrangement.

Within the tribe, relying on long-range attack methods for defense with the help of the walls was not a big problem. However, leaving the walls to attack was not enough.

Once the enemy rushed over amidst the rain of arrows and stones, these people who were only good at long-range attacks would no longer have an advantage.

So, Han Cheng prepared to develop another type of troop to avoid this situation.

Vine Shield soldiers and Spearman.

These people were made up of those who were not good at archery or slingshots.

Considering Eldest Senior Brother's calm personality and Shang's somewhat extremist character towards enemies due to his past experiences, Eldest Senior Brother led the defense team of Vine Shield soldiers, while Shang led the Spearman team.

These attack and defense teams had eight members, including the team leader.

There is a saying that "an inch longer is an inch stronger, an inch shorter is an inch riskier" in close combat, and the power of the Spearman formation has been verified in history.

So, when Han Cheng envisioned and arranged the armament of the Green Sparrow Tribe, he decisively introduced the simple and practical Spearman.

When the time came, if they encountered a battle with other tribes in the wilderness, the Vine Shield soldiers would be in front, the Spearman behind, and the archery and slingshot teams on the flanks and rear.

Before the enemy arrived, they would eliminate a wave with arrows and slingshots. If the enemy managed to get close, they would be stopped by the Vine Shield soldiers, while the Spearman would already have thrust

Such a combination undoubtedly had tremendous lethality against people who relied solely on running on two legs without mounts.

However, when arranging these affairs, a few people were exceptions and did not need to participate.

These people were Lame, Hei Wa, Liang, and Tie Tou.

They all had unique skills and talents that Han Cheng had worked hard to cultivate, which was extremely important for the tribe.

Such talents were precisely what the Green Sparrow Tribe lacked. Each of them leaving would be an incalculable loss for the Green Sparrow Tribe, so Han Cheng naturally would not let them engage in such dangerous activities.

They were all quite reluctant about this and thought it displayed cowardice.

After Han Cheng explained the reasons to them in detail, emphasized the importance of logistical production, and mentioned that they must participate in the tribe's defense in combat, they quieted down.

Of course, the selected individuals were not idle every day, only responsible for training. Considering the current situation of the Green Sparrow Tribe, it could not afford such specialized armed forces.

After all, these thirty people already accounted for more than half of the Green Sparrow Tribe's adult labor force.

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The third Senior Brother shot the bow consecutively, and nine out of ten arrows actually hit the straw target.

The surrounding crowd couldn't help but cheer.

Having never seen a hundred-step shot, Han Cheng was already extremely satisfied with Third Senior Brother's archery skills.

"Watch me!"

Inspired by the Third Senior Brother's archery skills, the Second Senior Brother shouted, carrying his slingshot toward the slingshot practice area.

Standing forty meters away, he took a stone from his net bag, swung his arm in a circle, and released the stone bullet from the net bag. After a bit of white smoke rose at the target, a "clang" sound followed.

Out of ten stone bullets, seven hit the target!

Cheers erupted again from the crowd.

With the Third Senior Brother and Second Senior Brother's successful demonstrations and the incentive of millet dry rice, the enthusiasm of the remaining people was wholly aroused.

Archery and slingshot practice became extremely enjoyable.

Some who didn't practice were now regretting it.

After watching for a while, Han Cheng instructed Shaman and the Second Senior Brother to monitor each side while he went to cook.

The water in the big pot was already boiling, and it was perfect to neutralize it with cold water for washing vegetables and pots.

Xing had already cut the meat, which was much easier to cut when cooked.

The twin sisters, Xiao Mei and Xiao Li, also returned with two rapeseed baskets; without Han Cheng's orders, they began to pick them automatically. ViiSiit novelbi/n(.)c/(o)m for latest novels

Seeing that the ingredients were almost ready, Han Cheng began his performance.

He heated the frying pan over the fire, scooped up some solid fat and put it in the pan, added some chopped scallions to fry until fragrant, then added the meat slices, rapeseed

Han Cheng skillfully cooked these dishes, and the fragrance of the food had already spread far and wide, teasing people's noses.

Second Senior Brother, Third Senior Brother, and others who had already been determined to be able to eat stood not far away, watching Han Cheng do all this, their throats rolling up and down incessantly.

Those who did not meet the requirements for archery or slingshot could only swallow their saliva when they smelled the fragrance.

At the same time, they felt envy and regret and made a firm determination to practice these two weapons well in the future.

When people's living conditions and requirements are not high, it only takes a small cost to mobilize their enthusiasm.

Just like the Green Sparrow Tribe at this moment, half a pot of millet dry rice and a large bowl of stir-fried meat with vegetables were enough to fill everyone with vigor.

After selection, there were a total of eight people who met the requirements for archery, including the Third Senior Brother.

Controlling slingshots was not easy, and the accuracy was lower. Even though Han Cheng had lowered the requirements and included the Second Senior Brother, only six people were in total.

Among them, Eldest Senior Brother was relatively accurate in archery, while Shang was relatively accurate in slingshot. Both of them met the requirements.

After Han Cheng's proposal and discussion with the Shaman and Eldest Senior Brother, such an arrangement was made for the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Eldest Senior Brother and Shang were each removed from the archery and slingshot groups, and another person who was good at archery or slingshot was found to fill their vacancies.

These fourteen people were divided into two teams, one specializing in archery and the other specializing in slingshots.

The leaders were the Third Senior Brother and the Second Senior Brother.

As for Eldest Senior Brother and Shang, Han Cheng had another arrangement.

Within the tribe, relying on long-range attack methods for defense with the help of the walls was not a big problem. However, leaving the walls to attack was not enough.

Once the enemy rushed over amidst the rain of arrows and stones, these people who were only good at long-range attacks would no longer have an advantage.

So, Han Cheng prepared to develop another type of troop to avoid this situation.

Vine Shield soldiers and Spearman.

These people were made up of those who were not good at archery or slingshots.

Considering Eldest Senior Brother's calm personality and Shang's somewhat extremist character towards enemies due to his past experiences, Eldest Senior Brother led the defense team of Vine Shield soldiers, while Shang led the Spearman team.

These attack and defense teams had eight members, including the team leader.

There is a saying that "an inch longer is an inch stronger, an inch shorter is an inch riskier" in close combat, and the power of the Spearman formation has been verified in history.

So, when Han Cheng envisioned and arranged the armament of the Green Sparrow Tribe, he decisively introduced the simple and practical Spearman.

When the time came, if they encountered a battle with other tribes in the wilderness, the Vine Shield soldiers would be in front, the Spearman behind, and the archery and slingshot teams on the flanks and rear.

Before the enemy arrived, they would eliminate a wave with arrows and slingshots. If the enemy managed to get close, they would be stopped by the Vine Shield soldiers, while the Spearman would already have thrust

Such a combination undoubtedly had tremendous lethality against people who relied solely on running on two legs without mounts.

However, when arranging these affairs, a few people were exceptions and did not need to participate.

These people were Lame, Hei Wa, Liang, and Tie Tou.

They all had unique skills and talents that Han Cheng had worked hard to cultivate, which was extremely important for the tribe.

Such talents were precisely what the Green Sparrow Tribe lacked. Each of them leaving would be an incalculable loss for the Green Sparrow Tribe, so Han Cheng naturally would not let them engage in such dangerous activities.

They were all quite reluctant about this and thought it displayed cowardice.

After Han Cheng explained the reasons to them in detail, emphasized the importance of logistical production, and mentioned that they must participate in the tribe's defense in combat, they quieted down.

Of course, the selected individuals were not idle every day, only responsible for training. Considering the current situation of the Green Sparrow Tribe, it could not afford such specialized armed forces.

After all, these thirty people already accounted for more than half of the Green Sparrow Tribe's adult labor force.

Chapter 249: The military power must be held in one's own hands.

The armed forces initially organized by Han Cheng resembled more of a militia than the militia during the Tang Dynasty. They were busy with farming but trained for combat during their leisure time.

Of course, there is still a significant difference compared to militias or garrisons, at least in the current situation of the Green Sparrow Tribe, where agriculture hasn't fully developed yet, and farming doesn't occupy too much time.

According to Han Cheng's plan, these selected individuals are to collectively train one day every three days, with adjustments made if necessary due to other matters.

Han Cheng's enthusiastic development of the Green Sparrow Tribe's armed forces also has his considerations.

Being backward invites aggression. Without establishing national defense, it's impossible to focus on development peacefully. As someone from the future who, like most people, has a profound impression of that historical period, he naturally understands such principles.

It's precisely because he deeply understands the importance of his brutal power that immediately after his arrival, he established authority and promptly led the Green Sparrow Tribe to build walls.

Under his intentional manipulation, the prosperity of the Green Sparrow Tribe has left a deep impression on surrounding tribes. Although primitive people are generally simple and unlikely to do anything outrageous, human nature is unpredictable. Who knows when a tribe might suddenly act irrationally?

Moreover, he plans to lead a group on a journey to validate his ideas next year. The strength of the Green Sparrow Tribe will be dispersed and weakened. To prevent the tribe from being occupied by other tribes after returning from the journey, further developing and strengthening the armed forces of the Green Sparrow Tribe becomes necessary.

It's not for aggression against others, but only for self-preservation.

Of course, this also has to do with the small population of the Green Sparrow Tribe. Swallowing too many people rashly could lead to indigestion and various adverse reactions.

After roughly dividing the Green Sparrow Tribe's strength into four different types of squads, the unified command of these forces becomes particularly important.

Han Cheng has always believed in the wisdom of the saying, "Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." Upon careful reflection, throughout recorded history, which political power transition did not involve the presence of guns?

Even in relatively peaceful and low-bloodshed events like Chen Qiao Yi's mutiny during Zhao Laoda's time, the reliance was still on the strength of arms.

Of course, factors such as public sentiment and economic strength also play a role, but it cannot be denied that the gun barrel plays a more direct and decisive role.

The easiest time to grasp the gun barrel is during the initial poverty-stricken stage. Missing this opportunity would lead to resistance from vested interests, requiring much more effort and cost to seize it later.

In fact, things become complicated not just in the gun barrel but in all other aspects as well, as long as interests are involved.

With Han Cheng's vision and insight far surpassing those of the Green Sparrow Tribe, he naturally won't shy away from taking the lead at this critical juncture.

The newly established armed forces of the Green Sparrow Tribe are under his management and deployment.

Over the past year or two, Han Cheng has unconsciously established extremely high prestige among the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe. Additionally, since he proposed the method of dividing into different branches, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe don't see it as a big deal. The vast majority of them consider it to be only natural.

Of course, when dealing with specific matters such as training, Han Cheng still consults with the Shaman and the Eldest Senior Brother, as usual.

Today marks the first training session after the division of branches within the Green Sparrow Tribe, and everyone is eager and excited about it.

Some with exceptional skills have even shown signs of eagerness to try.

During the upcoming training, they want to perform well in front of everyone, including the Divine Child, Shaman, and the Chief.

The desire to perform is instinctual for humans. No one is genuinely accustomed to quietly standing by as a bystander.

Some people may appear uninterested, but their desire to perform has been suppressed by other factors, such as poor skills, lack of confidence, or being easily intimidated.

However, those eagerly anticipating today's training are bound to be disappointed because Han Cheng, unlike last time during the selection process, did not ask them to demonstrate their skills with slingshots, bows, or arrows.

Instead, he did something completely unexpected and incomprehensible to them he made them line up.

Yes, line up.

Han Cheng divided the thirty people into four teams, each wielding different weapons and belonging to different branches. After comparing and exchanging positions for a while, they were reluctantly arranged in order of height. DiiScôver new stories on no/v/e()/lbin(.)com

When everyone thought this was the end of the matter and they could proceed with training in archery, slingshot usage, spear thrusting, and shield dancing, they were caught off guard again by the Divine Child's unexpected command.

"Have you all remembered your positions?"

Han Cheng looked at the four columns of people lined up before him and asked.

They looked at each other and replied, "Yes, we remember."

Han Cheng nodded, then continued, "Wait a moment. When I say disperse,' you scatter. When I say assemble,' you return to your current positions. You must do it quickly, within the time it takes me to count to thirty."

He repeated this a few times slowly to ensure that everyone understood his instructions.

The people were puzzled, not understanding the purpose of the Divine Childs actions.

Remember their positions and return later? Isn't this a simple task that doesn't require deliberate training?

It could quickly be completed in ten counts, yet the Divine Child is giving them thirty counts

They thought the usually wise Divine Child seemed to be overdoing it this time.

"Disperse!"

The people didn't seem to care much, so Han Cheng didn't say much either. He just waited momentarily, then raised his voice to give the command they had already understood.

Upon receiving the order, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe dispersed as instructed. Some casually removed the bows from their backs, some waved their shields, and others stabbed forward with their spears a few times, all rather casually.

They didn't pay much attention to the Divine Child's instruction to assemble later.

It's not that they disrespect the Divine Child, but rather that what the Divine Child asked for was too simple, and there was no need to take it too seriously.

Just standing in line for a moment and for thirty counts at that

"Assemble!"

Han Cheng observed the situation, secretly smiling, and then shouted the command.

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Chapter 250: It's Difficult to lineup

After Han Cheng shouted, "assemble," the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe immediately began to act, preparing to line up the team quickly to show the Shaman their abilities.

However

Contrary to expectations, what should have been a straightforward lineup became extremely difficult at this moment.

"Zhuang, you're here"

"Qi Qiu, don't run around"

With Han Cheng's call to assemble came chaos and noise.

Confident individuals became bewildered and lost at this moment. Some had already taken positions, while others were still spinning in circles. The most exaggerated was Mu Tou, a person holding a spear who had somehow ended up in the shield team.

"Mu Tou, you're over here," someone shouted at him.

Mu Tou, completely confused, hadn't even settled into his position when someone said he was in the wrong place and should be in the back.

Mu Tou moved back.

But just as he got there, before he could stabilize himself, someone said his place was in the front, so Mu Tou, holding his spear, returned to the front again.

"Your place is in the back"

Amidst the hustle and bustle, Han Cheng, standing in front, slowly counted.

"Twenty-nine."

"Thirty."

Thirty counts had passed, but the simple four-column formation still hadn't formed properly. Some were still spinning in circles, unable to find their positions.

Han Cheng didn't stop them from doing so. Instead, he continued to count calmly, counting to one hundred and nineteen before the four columns finally formed, albeit crookedly.

Yet, many people were still in the wrong positions.

Seeing the Divine Child's amused yet stern gaze, those who had previously thought it was no big deal felt ashamed and hung their heads.

Some quietly complained that they couldn't find their positions.

"Do you still think this is a simple task?" Han Cheng's tone grew serious.

No one said a word.

Han Cheng didn't say much more. Instead, he corrected the positions of those in the wrong place and reminded them to remember who was in front and behind them before announcing the dismissal.

Before announcing the dismissal, Han Cheng said to everyone, "This time, you still have thirty counts. The entire team will be punished if any team fails to line up properly within these thirty counts."

As for what the punishment would be, Han Cheng didn't say.

With the previous experience, everyone dared not take it lightly this time, and each one sharpened their focus.

Some prone to losing their positions used some clever tricks, such as Mu Tou, who had been spinning around with his spear, standing still in his original position.

"Assemble!"

Han Cheng shouted again.

Although they had the experience from the last time, more than half of the people still didn't think lining up was difficult.

They believed that they hadn't lined up properly last time because they hadn't tried hard enough, and as long as they put in the effort this time, there wouldn't be any problems.

However, lining up wasn't solely an individual's task; it involved the entire collective, and many times, it wasn't just a matter of whether you wanted to do it well or not.

As Han Cheng shouted "assemble" again, although everyone was spirited and put in effort, chaos was still inevitable.

By the time Han Cheng counted to thirty, it was only then that the Third Senior Brother's archery team and the Eldest Senior Brother's shield team managed to stand properly.

However, the teams led by Second Senior Brother and Shang continued to be chaotic.

The main cause of chaos in Second Senior Brother's slingshot team was that their leader kept losing his position.

As for the spear team led by Shang, the biggest problem was with Mu Tou.

When Han Cheng counted to sixty-seven, the Second Senior Brother finally found his position, but the spear team was still in chaos.

Mu Tou stood there stiff-necked, holding his spear, while Shang and others said he was in the wrong place.

Learning from the last time when he was told to run around but still couldn't find the correct position, Mu Tou had firmly decided this time to stay put, no matter what anyone said. He remembered very clearly that from the Divine Child's announcement of dismissal to the call to assemble, he hadn't moved from this spot. This time, he wouldn't be wrong, no matter what.

When Han Cheng reached one hundred and twenty, he stopped and looked somewhat sternly at the still chaotic spear team.

As the shouting people felt the Divine Child's gaze and the change in atmosphere, they gradually quieted down.

Mu Tou, standing stiff-necked, straightened his neck.

Seeing Mu Tou standing there like a donkey among a flock of sheep, clearly out of sync with the others, Han Cheng asked him why he refused to move.

Facing the Divine Child's question, Mu Tou said with some grievance, "I've been standing here without moving"

Following Mu Tou's thought, Han Cheng realized it was unfair. Afraid of making a mistake, Mu Tou hadn't dared to move, but he still got it wrong in the end.

It seemed like there needed to be an opportunity to explain to Mu Tou the relationship between absolute motion and relative stillness. If he didn't grasp Ma Lao's theory well, not only would his intellectual level not improve, but he wouldn't even be able to line up correctly

Han Cheng found this quite amusing in his mind.

"You haven't changed, but they have. You also need to change with them Don't remember where you originally stood; remember the people in front and behind you" After correcting Mu Tou's position again, Han Cheng said to him.

Mu Tou wouldn't listen to others but obeyed the Divine Child's commands.

"The slingshot team and the spear team have not completed the task. You will now receive your punishment. Each member of the slingshot team will do ten push-ups, and within one hundred and twenty counts, the spear team has failed to line up properly and must do twenty." Returning to the front of the line, Han Cheng said sternly.

Everyone looked at each other, obviously not understanding what the Divine Child meant by pushups.

Han Cheng demonstrated.

This peculiar movement, which the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe had seen the Divine Child do before but didn't know what it was called, suddenly dawned on them. It turned out this strange movement was called push-ups.

Han Cheng had always kept up with physical exercise in his room, so doing a dozen push-ups didn't make him look tired, although his hands were cold from pressing against the frozen ground.

The Divine Child was still a child, not particularly strong. This was a consensus in the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Seeing the Divine Child do a dozen push-ups without blushing or panting, looking quite relaxed, the others didn't take this so-called punishment seriously anymore.

After all, they were all adults, and each one was stronger than the Divine Child. They had never dared to think about being on par or surpassing the Divine Child in intelligence, but when it came to strength, they didn't accept it.

Push-ups weren't a complicated exercise and were easy to learn.

After seeing Han Cheng's demonstration, the slingshot team and the spear team members dispersed under Han Cheng's command, placing their hands on the cold ground and performing what they now knew to be called push-ups.

"One," Han Cheng counted.

Following Han Cheng's instructions, everyone bent their arms down and pushed back up.

This simple action made many people realize that this punishment wasn't simple, especially the Second Senior Brother, who was overweight, and Qi Qiu, who had ballooned up like a puff of air.

Just this one time, their arms couldn't help but tremble.

"Two," Han Cheng paused momentarily, then continued counting.

Second Senior Brother and Qi Qiu, who were suffering from pushing up their arms, quickly bent their arms down again and pushed up, their buttocks unwittingly raised

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