

Protect OCL VL3 101

Chapter 101 Old Ancestor Shou Zhe

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Upon hearing Wang Mei Tao's words...

Wang Shihai immediately rolled his eyes. Over the years, he had been filled with regret. That purple gold note originally from his great grandfather was meant to support him...

As a result, the damn girl Wang Mei Tao had gained an unfair advantage.

Nonetheless, Wang Shihai probably knew that given his personality, if the purple gold note had been given to him, he would have squandered it long ago. Only that damn vampire, Wang Mei Tao, could maximize the use of those funds.

In the midst of their conversation...

Next to the flying carriage station, the Wang family's reception staff who had been waiting, began greeting the newcomers.

The one leading was a tall and dignified-looking young man, who bore a strong resemblance to the head of the Wang family, Wang Shouzhe.

He walked briskly towards them, warmly greeted, and said, "I apologize for not greeting you earlier, Wang Zongan, due to the arrival of our distinguished guests from the Southern Desert Sect."

This man was the current young clan leader, Wang Zong'an.

Wang Zong'an was now 65 years old. However, due to his successful cultivation and the addition of his strong yimu (ether) bloodline, his bodily functions remained youthful and vigorous.

"Zong'an, why have you gone through the trouble to greet us?" Wang Shihai also hastily returned the salutation. In the past, he had spent many years in Ping'an Town and was very familiar with his peers from the Wang family.

"There's no need for such formalities between us," Wang Zong'an said with a laugh as he supported Wang Shihai. Back when they were developing New Peace Town, he and Wang Shihai had cleared out fierce beasts together. They were quite familiar with each other.

In Prominent Families, the position of Young Clan Leader was always a special one. It represented the family's line of succession, future expectations, and also the family's face.

For the young and distinguished guests, it was too grand if the family head stepped out to welcome, but it would not be proper to send an elder. Therefore, the young clan leader had to shoulder a lot of family responsibilities on behalf of the family head.

Usually, it was considered a high honor if the young clan leader came forward to greet.

Subsequently, following proper etiquette, Wang Shihai began introducing the guests from the Southern Desert Wang family. Apart from one Elder who was at the level of Celestial Being, the rest were all young generations of the Southern Desert Wang family.

Take Wang Mei Tao, for example. Although she looked young, she was nearly 60 years old. Originally, the family did not arrange for her to visit Changning. It was only by hitching a ride with Wang Shihai that she managed to come.

"This is Wang Anli, the third son of my eldest brother, Wang Shishan," Wang Shihai introduced a young man.

"Anli greets fifth uncle Zong'an," Wang Anli gave a salute with perfect manners.

Wang Shishan, being the current direct line eldest son, held the position of Young Clan Leader. His third son, naturally, was also from the direct line. In terms of succession rights in the family, he was even above Wang Shihai.

The following young generations were also important direct descendants of the Southern Desert Wang family, and the future backbone of the Southern Desert Wang family.

This strong display was due to the Southern Desert Wang family having a positive view of the Changning Wang family's future, it was both to allow the younger ones to gain experience and foster close relationships.

By the side of the Young Clan Leader, Wang Zongan, was his eldest son, Wang Shizhao.

Wang Shizhao, who was over forty years old by now.

After years of cultivation and experience, he had already started taking charge of some core businesses in the family. He inherited his father's dignified and steady temperament, handling people and matters with meticulous care.

After Wang Zong'an welcomed the parties from Southern Desert Wang family, he handed over to Wang Shizhao who arranged accommodations for the rest and introduced some core members to Wang Shouzhe.

In the following days, the guests from the Southern Desert Clan would be fully taken care by Wang Shizhao, leading a group of core family members.

Young Clan Leader Wang Zongan remained to welcome important guests at Dingpu Port and the flying carriage station. Then he would arrange for family members of different ranks to take over according to the grade and status of the guests.

For ordinary 7th-rank Aristocratic Families, those sent to greet would all be direct descendants from the 'shi' or 'an' generation. Only for powerful Celestial families, would the 'zong' generation elders be responsible for hosting.

When operating, a large Clan or Family must be meticulous and cannot afford mistakes. Otherwise, it was very easy to breed discontent and be misunderstood as the Wang family not understanding the rules and intentionally slighting their guests.

Meanwhile...

At Wang Shouzhe's courtyard...

This courtyard, after several expansions and renovations, had become much larger than before. However, the overall layout was still maintained in its original style.

In particular, the bedroom for him and Liu Ruolan was still the same as when they got married.

People are like this, the older they get the more they cherish the past.

The early autumn sunlight was very clear.

Wang Shouzhe was half-lying in a sun lounger, squinting and basking in the sun while vividly narrating the story of Zhu Ba Jie carrying his wife in "Journey to the West" to a few children.

This story, he had been telling for over sixty years, accompanying generations of children in the family as they grew up.

Lying on Wang Shouzhe's belly with his eyes opened wide was his youngest great-grandson, Wang Anru. He was a mischievous little one.

He was four years old this year, his father was Wang Zong'an's legitimate second son, Wang Shihao.

"Great-grandpa, great-grandpa, why does Zhu Ba Jie need to carry his wife?" Wang Anru asked with a childish voice, "Having a wife is bothersome, isn't it? Papa says ever since he married mother, he has been held tight all the time and has no freedom at all."

"Err...", Wang Shouzhe twitched the corners of his mouth, always hearing some weird things from these young children's mouths.

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Shihao, unlike his older brother Shizhao, was always a lively and active boy. After becoming an adult, his biggest hobby was sailing, especially in the Qingluo Sea~

But Lady Bilian of Yuwen Clan in Longzuo was always rather critical of Wang Shouzhe. Indeed, it was quite understandable why. All too frequently, the firefox old ancestor from Wang's family would drop by the Yuwen clan for a visit, only finally returning home when their resources ran a bit low...

In such a situation, it would be odd if Lady Bilian didn't get cross. As such, she proposed a union through a marriage between the direct descendants to strengthen their in-law relationship and avoid having the firefox old ancestor completely stolen away.

Upon this, Wang Shouzhe asked around his grandchildren; many of them indicated they did not want to marry yet. The only one of a suitable age was Shihao, but he was not ready to settle down.

As a result, Lady Bilian loudly demanded that either their Wang Shihao marries the main daughter of the Yuwen Clan, or Wang Shouzhe marries her, Lady Bilian, himself. Otherwise, the Yuwen family would firmly resist the firefox old ancestor's dual consumption~

Marry Lady Bilian? Wang Shouzhe would have to go mad before agreeing to that.

Naturally, Wang Shouzhe arranged it for Wang Shihao...

Although the young Shihao would grumble in private, that's what's expected of a scion in a prominent family. As a direct male descendant, it's hard to have the right to choose; when it's time to get married, don't even think about running away.

However, this is just a minor episode.

Wang Shouzhe wouldn't stoop to interfering with his grandchildren's love life, would he? Each generation should have its own blessings.

Among those around him, apart from little great-grandson Anru, there were also the eldest great-grandson Anye and little granddaughter Yuxuan. However, Anye was already nine years old and Yuxuan was eight.

They've each had their aptitude tested, showing excellent performance, and have started to cultivate and warm their meridians. They're also expected to attend the Clan School faithfully.

It seems that Wang Shouzhe's genes are simply too good. The bloodline of the children he passes down is very good, and they all start off as Middle Sub- Grade Little Sky Pride.

There are even a few children who have directly reached the status of Mid-Rank 'A' Level Little Sky Pride.

Under such circumstances, if you feed them a Treasure Pill or a Bridal Clothes Blood Gu, they would certainly become quite prominent among the Heavenly Chosen.

Although eldest daughter Liyao and eldest son Zong'an are still the strongest, the children of the Wang family's direct line are generally not far behind.

As for whether they can advance to the Great Heavenly Pride Bloodline, that depends on the children's own luck.

Even with the current financial strength and resources of the Wang family, the enormous expense for the clan is already a great strain. Moreover, it's quite difficult just to purchase a Treasure Pill; this commodity is very scarce and only occasionally comes to auction.

Not to mention creating an additional Great Heavenly Proud...

Also, precisely because all the children's bloodline rankings are high, it's fine to match them with wives. After all, a wife can be downwardly compatible, unlike insisting on marrying a Heavenly Proud.

However, it's a bit difficult for the three daughters and two eligible granddaughters to find husbands.

Let's not talk about Liyao; as an outstanding figure among the Great Heavenly Proud, she is Tianhe Enlightened One's lifetime's pearl and highest expectation... Even if she does not ultimately win the Saint, she is destined to be a figure who steps on the cloud.

If Wang Shouzhe dares to give Liyao away in marriage, Tianhe Enlightened One would dare to tear apart the Wang family in minutes.

As for second daughter Liyue and third daughter Lijue, although they're not as extraordinarily talented as elder sister Liyao, they're also Heavenly Proud-grade women; where can they be married off to?

A Fifth Grade Prominent Family's direct line only produces a Heavenly Arrogance every so many years.

If they married a Little Sky Pride, it would be pure waste.

Moreover, women who are generally at Heavenly Arrogance Level tend to be very proud and unless they find someone they like themselves. Not even Wang Shouzhe could force them to marry someone with a lower cultivation base and bloodline than them.

Unfortunately, even among the Fifth Grade Prominent Families, there are very few Heavenly Arrogance of the right age. Not to mention that even if a Heavenly Arrogance does come along, after the offspring are married off, the Fifth Grade Prominent Family may not have the resources to cultivate two Purple Abode Realm.

It appears that the options within a Grade Four Prominent Family are a little wider, but Wang Shouzhe is only familiar with the Zuoqiu family of the Grade Four Prominent Families...

As for the Third-Class Aristocratic Families... they are simply out of the Wang family's league...

Besides, the two eligible granddaughters, Yingting and Yingrong, are in a similar situation.

So, let these girls stay single.

Anyway, Heavenly Arrogance level female children seldom find suitable matches earlier. Keeping them in the family itself is a great talent resource.

Liu Ruolan marrying him, Wang Shouzhe, was purely an oddity. She just wanted a chill life and wouldn't even go to the Academic Palace...

As Wang Shouzhe was considering various matters, he was playing with his grandchildren, indulging in the joy of having them around him.

Seeing each generation grow up also makes Wang Shouzhe feel the reality and completeness of life.

"Grandpa~" His eight-year-old granddaughter, Wang Yuxuan, shook Wang Shouzhe's arm and said, "I don't like to listen to the story of Zhu BaJie. My daddy has already told me all these stories."

Daddy says he envies Aunt Lici and Aunt Liyao the most. They can go on adventures in the world and realize their dreams. Grandpa, can I go to the Academic Palace when I grow up?"

This kid is the eldest daughter of Wang Shouzhe's second son, Wang Zongrui. Her mother comes from the newly advanced Purple Abode Prominent Family, the distant Fang family. Zongrui and his wife, after having two sons, gave birth to Yuxuan and naturally adored her.

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Wang Ying Xuan just had her talent tested this year and thanks to her Mid-Rank 'A' Level, she is about to reach Heavenly Proud Level. Such innate talents are considered top amongst Wang Shouzhe's offspring.

As a result, her maternal family's 'Old Ancestor', Fang Youan, pleased as punch, promptly paid a visit.

The present Fang Youan is far from average, his cultivation base has reached the ninth layer of the Heavenly Human Realm. If he pours his efforts into secluded cultivation for a few decades, he has a fair chance of achieving the Purple Abode Realm.

He personally brings along a Bone Marrow Cleansing Pill, a Treasure Pill, and a well-prepared Bridal Clothes Blood Gu King!

He said that he saved these all for Wang Ying Xuan, in the hopes that in the future she could cultivate at the Academic Palace.

And quietly started promoting the benefits of the Academic Palace to Wang Ying Xuan at every turn...

As for Fang Youan's "tricks and tactics", Wang Shouzhe had already seen through them.

The previous Fang Youan had been observing and assessing in secrecy, speculating on the possibility that Shouzhe had the ability to suppress the dreadful side effects of the Bridal Clothes Blood Gu King.

Thus he went to great lengths to obtain a Bridal Clothes Blood Gu King early on. Furthermore, he drew on resources from both Fang Family and his own connections to acquire a Treasure Pill.

Under this arrangement, should Wang Shouzhe really have the ability to neutralize the side effects of the Bridal Clothes Blood Gu King, then Wang Ying Xuan could possibly rise to the Great Heavenly Pride Level!

If Wang Ying Xuan attended the Academy, the Fang Family could justifiably allocate a portion of resources to cultivate their granddaughter. And this Great Heavenly Pride granddaughter would, as a result, be considered half of the Fang Family's, wouldn't she?

Having such a powerful grand-daughter as their backing, the future development and existence of the Fang family would be much more secure.

This trick is essentially approach similar to Wang Shouzhe's experience of sweet-talking the Firefox Old Ancestor...

As for why Fang Youan did not cultivate the Great Heavenly Pride within the Fang Family itself?

The reason is simple. Firstly, he feared that Wang Shouzhe might be reluctant to use his full power to neutralize the effect, an operation that couldn't be made widely known. Secondly, bringing up a Great Heavenly Pride to the Divine Power Territory is not so easily accomplished.

The required resources are as vast as the sea...the current Fang Family can't afford it.

Let's not speak of the Fang Family.

Even for the present Wang Family, cultivating a Great Heavenly Pride to the Divine Power Territory is a tough task. What Wang Shouzhe was betting on was that the more powerful the Wang family becomes, the stronger their earning abilities will be in the future, enabling them to fill the huge gap.

With the initial development of the Qing Luo Guard coming to an end, it would not be long before they could turn the tide and enter a beneficial cycle. After freeing up their hands, they could then invest their energy into expanding their territories, adding to the foundation of the Wang family.

Upon this thought,

Wang Shouzhe's confidence in the future doubled, and he affectionately tousled his little granddaughter Wang Ying Xuan's hair: "Good, good, good, Grandpa agrees with you. But forget the Longzuo Academy, when you turn eighteen, Grandfather will send you directly to the Sacred Land."

Although the Fang Family wanted to take a little bit of advantage and hitch a ride on the Great Heavenly Pride. Wang Shouzhe was not opposed to it, after all, they are families related through marriage. And within Ying Xuan's body, the Fang Family's bloodline flowed as well.

On the whole, compared to the local academies, the resources and stage of the Sacred Land are much broader. Previously, due to the lack of familial resources, they could only be sent to Longzuo Academy.

But now the Wang Family is not what they used to be. It was time to open up the Sacred Land.

"Great, thank you Grandpa." Wang Ying Xuan happily gave Wang Shouzhe a kiss.

Off to the side, the now nine-year-old Wang Anye, looked enviously at his aunt Ying Xuan. He also yearned for the academic life.

Unfortunately, being the eldest great-grandson of the Wang Family, he is destined never to truly become a disciple of the academy. He could only dutifully stay at home, waiting to inherit the family business. His life, Wang Anye's, was doomed to be dull and monotonous, with the end visible...

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They were in the middle of a conversation.

From the courtyard outside came the respectful voice of Wang Shizhao, "Grandfather, Brother Shihai from the Southern Desert is requesting to meet you."

"Shihai is here? Let him in directly," Wang Shouzhe said with a smile, not bothering to get up from his lounge chair. With his current cultivation base and powerful divine mind power, he could easily cover the entire yard, and not even the slightest wind or movement could escape his notice.

Just as his words fell.

Wang Shizhao led Wang Shihai and Wang Mei Tao into the courtyard. Then the two of them saluted and said, "Shihai greets Fourth Grandfather. It's been many years, how has Fourth Grandfather's health been?"

"Mei Tao pays her respects to the Old Ancestor." Wang Mei Tao gave a very sincere nod, her attitude extremely devout.

Technically, Wang Shouzhe was at the same level as her great-grandfather. However, due to the long lifespan of cultivators in the Celestial Realm and the Purple Abode Realm, the generational difference could often be quite significant. Therefore, anyone beyond the level of a great-grandparent was usually referred to as an old ancestor.

"Who is this girl...?" Wang Shouzhe was slightly surprised - Mei Tao - the name sounded somewhat familiar.

Wang Shihai had a embarrassed look on his face, just as he was about to explain.

Wang Mei Tao cheerfully chimed in first, "Old Ancestor, I'm the young girl you met in the main house in the Southern Desert all those years ago. Your Purple Gold Note greatly assisted me."

"I remember now..." The corner of Wang Shouzhe's mouth twitched twice and then he looked at Wang Shihai with an unusual gaze.

Wang Shihai coughed awkwardly a couple of times and then hurriedly took out a gift list, "Fourth Grandfather, this is the list of gifts that my father has prepared for the promotion of the Wang family. Please take a look. Due to the large number of gifts and the long distance, they have already set off in advance. They should arrive in Changning soon."

"Clan Chief Zong Hao is really thoughtful," Wang Shouzhe received the list and glanced over it, seeing that it was all well-refined iron, along with a large amount of high-quality livestock such as cows, sheep, and horses, amongst which there were spirit kind horses and cows.

It's clear that the Southern Desert Wang family has taken the promotion gift to Changning Wang Clan very seriously. The gifts given are all basic resources that the Wang family urgently needs. Especially the iron resources, the Wang family has always been short of iron.

"Shizhao, handle this matter," Wang Shouzhe handed the gift list to Wang Shizhao.

"Yes, Grandfather," Wang Shizhao took the list and stood aside. He is mature and steady, and this is a trivial matter for him.

The maids served immortal tea and spirit fruit, and Wang Shouzhe personally sat with relatives Wang Shihai and Wang Mei Tao, chatting about family matters.

"Shihai, I heard that Ninth Uncle Dingxin has recently ascended to the Purple Abode Realm, It shouldn't be long before our Southern Desert Wang Clan hosts a Purple Abode Banquet, right?" Wang Shouzhe asked casually.

"Hehe, Fourth Grandfather you truly have ears and eyes everywhere," Wang Shihai picked up a spirit fruit and ate it with relish, then said, "Ninth Grand Uncle's intention is to stabilize his current realm a bit, and then hold the Purple Abode Banquet in three to five years."

Wang Dingxin is the successor to the Purple Abode that the Southern Desert Wang Clan has cultivated. He is now close to three hundred years old and is at the prime age for those in the Purple Abode Realm. His successful ascension means that the transition of the Southern Desert Wang Clan to the Purple Abode has been very smooth, and their glory can be continued for at least a few hundred more years.

Unfortunately, the first ancestor of the Southern Desert is nearly seven hundred years old and may not live much longer. Therefore, the Southern Desert Wang Clan's current structure cannot yet be called a dual Purple Abode strong Fifth Grade.

"When the time comes, I'll personally visit the Southern Desert Wang Clan and congratulate Ninth Uncle Dingxin," Wang Shouzhe was quite happy about this matter. His kinsman Wang Dingxin achieving the Purple Abode was indeed something to be proud of.

"Shihai will definitely give Fourth Grandfather proper hospitality," Wang Shihai was overflowing with enthusiasm, but suddenly his expression dimmed as he sighed regretfully, "It's just that the Fairy of Tianyan Boat, is nowhere to be found now. Otherwise, I could have invited Fourth Grandfather to visit Dong Cha Cha Lake again together.

Without the Fairy of Tianyan, Dong Cha Cha Lake has lost its soul~"

"Well, I didn't expect Wang Shihai you would still remember me?" A cold, quiet voice sounded from behind.

Wang Shihai hurriedly turned around, looking as if he had just been struck by lightning. The woman was wearing an ice-blue long dress and a mysterious veil, and if it wasn't the Fairy of Tianyan, who could it be?

"How is it possible?" Wang Shihai looked at Tianyan, then looked at Wang Shouzhe, and couldn't help inhaling sharply, his mind buzzing.

Fourth Grandfather, you, you, you actually... hid the Fairy of Tianyan away?

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As a Sky Pride from a Fifth Grade Prominent Family, there aren't many people that Wang Shihai admires. Even the Old Ancestor Dingxin, who had accomplished the Purple Abode transition for their family, didn't really impress Wang Shihai as he believed he had a great probability to achieve the Purple Abode in the future too.

However, his Great-uncle Wang Shouzhe had repeatedly shocked his youthful heart. Starting from initial admiration, to subsequent reverence, Wang Shihai now almost felt like throwing himself down in worship.

His Great-uncle did things so quietly ... yet so dominantly.

"Pow," Wang Shouzhe pointed at him casually which consequently resulted in an outburst of energy that gave him a smack through the air.

This kid, his face was just asking for a beating. Keeping his hands to himself wouldn't have worked anyway.

"Immortal has been residing at Changning Wang Clan as a guest for some time," Wang Shouzhe explained solemnly, "Shihai, don't let your imagination run wild. I have no relationship with this Immortal."

"Master Shouzhe," After glancing at Wang Shihai, Immortal Tian Yan floated over to Shouzhe and presented a bowl of soup, "During the hosting of her maternal tribe earlier, sister still didn't forget to ask me to stew some nutritious soup for Master Shouzhe, please drink it while it's still hot."

"Immortal is a distinguished guest, such trivial matters... "

"This is a request from Sister, I dare not conceal from you, Master Shouzhe, you must not leave even a single drop ~"

"Alright then." Wang Shouzhe muttered and finished off the nutritive soup invented by Liu Ruolan in one gulp. It was so bitter!

Wang Shihai's face was stiff on the side. Great-uncle, is this what you called "no relationship"? Alright then, good game, Grandpa. I won't interrupt you anymore.

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In the following days,

Many prominent families visited Ping'an Town. The Wang family, naturally, entertained them all based on etiquette and arranged everything meticulously. Wang Shouzhe managed to see all the representatives of the 7th-rank Aristocratic Families to show his courtesy.

Each family respectfully offered generous gifts.

Thankfully, the Wang family is not like before. There are many family members and they have ample servants and household heads to manage things.

In Longzuo County, the Qian, Wang and Yuwen clans of Longzuo are regarded as the most extravagant. Each long list of gifts added together is worth no less than a million Qian Gold, with the Qian family's gifts alone amounting to a value of two million Qian Gold.

Moreover, they also know that the Wang family most likes raw materials, such as coarse iron, fine copper, Spirit Wood Material, etc. Hence, these basic materials form the main gifts.

It is evident that these prominent families maintain good relationships.

Besides that, Wang clansmen either in the Academic Palace or stationed outside all returned to the family clan. Whether it is to participate in the rare centennial event of the family or to add manpower to the family.

Except for the eldest Miss, Wang Licui, who went to Frost Moon Immortal Dynasty early and has so far not sent any news. The other members of the Wang family, even those who have married out, are all present without exception.

The main residence of the Wang family.

The "Liyao Residence" located by Zhuwei Lake, this exquisite little courtyard has a prime location and an elegant environment.

Every corner of this courtyard was designed by Wang Shouzhe.

Although the courtyard appears classical in style, its interior structure is quite intricate, with a Talisman Array energy lighting system, a water system, and other facilities fully equipped. Even the bed and some tables and chairs are all made from the Water Spirit Wood Material with exquisite craftsmanship.

Especially the plants and flowers inside; Wang Shouzhe carefully selected and nurtured them.

Wang Shouzhe has always doted heavily on his eldest daughter, Wang Liyao. Since Wang Liyao went to the Purple Abode Academic Palace at the age of nineteen, Wang Shouzhe personally renovated her courtyard, despite her only living there for about ten days each year during New Year.

The "Liyao Residence" of the Wang Family's main residence is a place where guests dream of stepping into. Seeing Great Heavenly Proud Wang Liyao is already a great honor; if one could build some relationship and leave a good impression, that would be worth celebrating.

Therefore, many 7th-rank Aristocratic Families had been preparing early. They brought the most gifted and beautiful girls from the younger generation of their families, and prepared generous gifts, intending to meet Wang Liyao under the pretext of seeking instruction. Then, they shamelessly tried to curry favor in various ways, attempting to become a maid or something similar...

At first,

Out of courtesy, Wang Liyao took time to meet them.

However, as the visiting cards grew more and more, and these girls shamelessly flattered her over-the-top, even her good patience grew weary.

At this time,

Outside Liyao Residence.

A woman in a blue dress, who looked pretty and was holding a sword stood at the entrance of Liyao Residence. She looked down coldly at a group of young girls who were carefully dressed at the door. A trace of disdain crossed her eyes as she said lightly, "I've said before that I can control those with equal cultivation. Anyone who can take my three swords, deserves to meet Miss Liyao."

This woman in a blue dress was Mo Wanqiu, a Sky Pride disciple from the Xuanyao lineage in the Purple Abode Academic Palace of Longzuo. She was from the Mo family in the Southern Desert. She originally wanted to follow Miss Liyao, but she didn't even have the qualifications.

Later, her family prepared a unique Treasure Pill for her, but they were preempted by Wang Shouzhe.

Fortunately, to support her, her family spent a lot of money to buy a Treasure Pill which helped her achieve Sky Pride status. Subsequently, after spending a few years of effort, Mo Wanqiu finally won over Wang Liyao and was taken under her wing.

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Mo Wanqiu, a Sky Pride herself, also found it difficult.

In this group of young girls, most of whom couldn't even reach the middle grade, only a few barely qualified as middle-grade, Fourth Rank, Third Rank!

Is this it?

And they dare to dream about a crow becoming a phoenix?

A servant of a Great Heavenly Proud isn't to be underestimated.

"Mo Wanqiu, we seek to meet Miss Wang Liyao, what does it have to do with you?"

"Fairy Wanqiu, please let me see Miss Liyao."

"Mo Wanqiu, don't be so arrogant, take my sword!"

Begging or cursing, their voices rose and fell, yet Mo Wanqiu always remained firm, stopping every attempt from the ladies from prominent families.

Even though she was limiting her cultivation, no one could withstand her three strokes.

The women were horrified and marveled. Mo Wanqiu, a Sky Pride from the Academic Palace was so formidable - is this the strength a follower should possess? Then how powerful would Wang Liyao, the legendary Great Heavenly Proud, be?

As for Wang Liyao, this was only the tip of the iceberg.

During this period, many daughters of prominent families used various excuses to enter the main residence of the Wang family, hoping for a chance encounter or to build connections with the young and handsome Wang family members.

Unfortunately...

The younger generation of the Wang family became more discerning and increasingly arrogant.

Many ladies from prominent families arrived full of hope but returned with dejected spirits.

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Time passed quickly.

Before they knew it, it was the day of the Wang family's Double Celestial Banquet.

This day, early in the morning, the area near Dingpu Ferry Terminal was packed with spectators from small and medium-sized prominent families.

Because there were too many spectators, the terminal which had very limited space was already full, and even the Water Dragon Array on both sides of the terminal was packed.

The crowd was bustling, and there was hardly a place to stand.

Wu Bangzuo, who was a little late, got stuck outside the terminal within the crowd, extremely annoyed. He regretted chatting with the Old Ancestor earlier.

Just as he was regretting, a message came from the terminal: "Brother Wu, over here~ over here~ I saved you a spot, come over quickly!"

He looked in the direction of the sound, and instantly spotted his close friend from Yingxiu, a direct descendant of the Lu Family, who goes by the name Lu Wenhong. Around him, two or three bodyguards left a small space which was just enough for one person.

Wu Bangzuo, overjoyed, lifted his body into the air, took several steps in the void, and gently landed in that space.

Those in Realm Cultivator stage could only glide in mid-air, but they could not stop their movement in mid-air like Wu Bangzuo did. Only Profound Martial cultivators above the Spiritual Platform could do this.

The surrounding Profound Martial cultivators immediately cast respectful gazes at Wu Bangzuo. Those who were nearby even moved away voluntarily, trying to make more space for him.

Wu Bangzuo nodded to them in gratitude and then turned to Lu Wenhong, saying, "Brother Lu, you have great foresight. Thanks to you I could be here today. It would have been a pity if I missed such a memorable occasion."

"Hey~ we're brothers. There's no need to say these things," Lu Wenhong said indifferently, waving his hand.

Lu Wenhong, being a Little Sky Pride carefully cultivated by the Lu Clan, was the nephew of the Celestial being of the Lu Family, Lu Xiaoxiao.

Ever since a few years ago, when the Grand Elders of the Lu Clan and Wang Clan, Lu Zhengxiong and Wang Liuling, passed away, the marriage bonds between the direct lines of the two families weakened. However, marriage ties between their direct lines still existed.

Luckily, the current Celestial Being of the Lu Clan, Lu Xiaoxiao, was the cousin of the Family Head of the Wang Family, Wang Shouzhe. Furthermore, the Lu Clan had a stake in the Keep Achieving Commercial Firm, helping keep the bonds between the two families strong.

Lu Wenhong was only sixty years old and had reached Level Four of the Spirit Platform Realm. His cultivation speed was quite considerable among Little Sky Prides. Given this speed, he is expected to reach the Heavenly Human Realm before he turns one hundred and fifty.

This was the reason why the Lu Clan, which had abundant resources, maintained his cultivation. If this was fifty years ago, even with Little Sky Pride talents, he probably would have been sent to the Academic Palace, as the family would not have been able to support his cultivation.

Comparatively, Wu Bangzuo, despite also being a Little Sky Pride, lagged behind Lu Wenhong in cultivation speed.

Wu Bangzuo, who was already sixty-five years old, had only reached the peak of Level Three of the Spiritual Platform Realm, and it would probably take him another half a year to reach Level Four.

Unfortunately, the Yingxiu Wu Clan lacked sufficient resources and could not afford to support his full-speed cultivation.

This was only because his elder sister, Wu Lingyun, got married into the Wang family. Because of this relationship, the influence of the Wu Clan in Yingxiu increased over the years, resulting in their finances also improving. Otherwise, he likely would not have been able to maintain even this level of cultivation speed.

Fortunately, his brother-in-law, Wang Zongyao, was a Wang family Sky Pride. Despite only being sixty-nine years old, he was already a moderately well-known Artifact Refiner and had reached Level Eight of the Spiritual Platform Realm; he had a bright future ahead. The best days for the Yingxiu Wu Clan were yet to come.

This common link - being in-laws to the Wang family, both being Little Sky Prides and residents of Yingxiu, brought Lu Wenhong and Wu Bangzuo together as friends.

Today was the joyous occasion of the Wang Family officially being promoted to a Grade Six Prominent Family, so the two naturally agreed to watch the excitement together.

As they were talking, the crowd suddenly scattered in two directions. The people from the Wang family finally arrived.

Chapter 102 - The Prosperity of the Wang Family! Overlord of a County

The one who arrived was the eldest son of Wang Zong'an, the young clan leader of the Changning Wang Clan, Wang Shizhao.

He was dressed to the nines today, wearing a jade crown on his head and donning an ice-silk robe, showing off his princely demeanor and presenting himself as a genuine aristocrat.

Walking beside him was a beautifully dressed woman, his wife, Qian Yurou, the legitimate daughter of the Purple Abode Qian Family.

Qian Yurou is the current family head of the Qian Family in the Purple Abode and the eldest granddaughter of Qian Xuehan.

When the Qian Family first became a part of the Keep Achieving Commercial Firm, Qian Xuehan wanted to form a marriage alliance with the Wang family. However, the eldest son of Wang Shouzhe, Wang Zong'an, was already engaged, and Wang Shouzhe's daughter had such high potential that he probably didn't want to marry her off.

So, he negotiated with Wang Shouzhe and requested in advance to reserve the eldest son of Wang Zong'an.

As a result, poor Wang Shizhao had his fate arranged before he was even born.

Luckily, as the legitimate daughter of the Purple Abode prominent family, Qian Yurou is not only extremely attractive but also has a great temperament. Her talent is not bad, and her character is gentle and generous. The two of them knew each other since childhood, and in the end, both were quite happy. Now they even have two children.

Behind Mr. and Mrs. Wang Shizhao, there are also a crowd of Wang Clan members and family generals, creating a grand scene.

When changing the plaque of a prominent family, the custom is to "welcome three times and invite three times".

The first welcoming takes place at the ferry crossing, usually carried out by the young ones from the main lineage of the family. The second welcoming is carried out at the Three Mile Pavilion outside the main residence of the family, again by the young ones from the main lineage. The third welcoming is at the family's entrance, where the Clan Leader personally welcomes them.

This is the standard process for changing a prominent family's plaque to show the importance the family places on this event.

Initially, the Changning Wang Clan was small in number. When they were promoted to the 7th-rank Aristocratic Family, the elder among the young mainline members Wang Liyao and Wang Zong'an were only teenagers. In addition, there were only two generations represented by Wang Shouzhe, so they managed to scrape up a commendable "two welcomes and two invitations".

Although Wei Wenxun had no objections to this, it was genuinely a bit awkward.

Now, with more and more Wang Clan members, the "three welcomes and three invitations" ritual can finally be performed entirely.

As soon as Lu Wenhong and Wu Bangzuo saw Wang Shizhao, they immediately rushed over to greet him.

Although Wang Shizhao is only in his forties and is a generation younger than them, he is a Heavenly Chosen Talent and has already reached the Fifth Level of the Spiritual Platform Realm, so his cultivation base is much higher. Thus, they were very respectful towards him.

Wang Shizhao also, according to the customs of the prominent families, greeted the two politely and calmly showed his manners, which resembled Wang Shouzhe's past demeanor to a great extent.

While they were talking, suddenly there was a commotion near the ferry crossing.

"They're coming! They're coming!"

"The Governor's boat has arrived!"

Everyone looked towards the noise, only to see an official boat with the logo of the Prefecture Mansion heading their way on the Peace River. Amid the attention of everyone, it slowly neared the shore.

In the midst of the crowd's gaze, a crisp sound of a bronze gong suddenly rang out.

Immediately following, a loud call from the ship was matched: "Wei Wenxun, the vice-commander of the Governor's Mansion of Longzuo County, is escorting the 'Grade Six Prominent Family plaque' to the Changning Wang Clan on the orders of the Governor. All unrelated persons should avoid."

After three consecutive calls, the official boat had completely stopped.

A group of soldiers wearing the standard armor of the Prefecture Mansion walked off the ship in a single file, followed by four "Unrelated Persons Retire" signs.

These were the ceremonial insignias of the Governor's Mansion, nominally bestowed by the Emperor of the Great Qian Land and granted to the local Governors, representing the permission to exercise the power of the Son of Heaven.

Behind the four "Retreat" signs, there was a huge plaque covered with a red cloth, carried by four strong men.

This was the "Rank Six Aristocratic Family plaque" for the Changning Wang Clan.

Next up was Wei Wenxun, who had now been promoted to the position of Vice Commander of the Prefectural Governor's Mansion in Longzuo County.

This array was a rare sight in Longzuo County.

The only event comparable to this in the past thirty years was the completion ceremony of the Green Luo Guard City two decades ago, presided over personally by the Governor, Taishi Ankang.

Seeing the situation, Wang Shizhao promptly led the members of the Wang Clan to greet them, and took the initiative to pay his respects to Wei Wenxun according to the etiquette, expressing his gratitude to the Prefectural Governor's Mansion and the Emperor of the Great Qian Land. This was the "first greeting".

After these procedures, the "second greeting" was performed outside the main residence at the "Three Mile Pavilion", led by Wang Zong'an and more clan members.

After this, the clan leader, Wang Shouzhe, personally led the "third invitation" at the entrance of the Wang residence, by the shore of Zhuwei Lake.

It is only after the "three greetings and three invitations" that the Wang Clan members put up the plaque on the archway.

As early as a month ago, the new plaque prepared under the direction of the Prefecture Mansion had already been completed.

The new plaque tower, more than four Chinese feet high, was entirely carved from greenish-white giant stones. The four towering pillars were engraved with delicate black bird and flying fish patterns, looking very magnificent.

The greenish-white stone, known as "Baiwen Stone," is an accessory mineral in spirit stone mines. It is solid and can isolate and block spiritual energy, which makes it superior formation material. With sufficient resources, prominent families with the ability can use it as their formation base and directly set up a large protective array for their residences.

Currently, the plaque, covered with a red cloth, was mounted high on the plaque tower, looking extraordinarily festive.

Following this, Wang Shouzhe personally invited the old ancestor, Longyan, to reveal the sign.

Generally, according to tradition, this step of revealing the sign is usually done by the Clan Leader. However, Wang Shouzhe, remembering the sacrifices the elderly Longyan had made for the family, insisted on inviting her to reveal the sign. Wang Longyan initially wanted to refuse but couldn't resist Wang Shouzhe's insistence, and finally agreed.

As the elderly Longyan lightly pulled, the big red cloth floated down gently. The Changning Wang Clan officially became a "Grade Six Prominent Family."

Speaking of which, the signboard was handwritten by Prefectural Governor Taishi Ankang of Longzuo County, which was a great honor for Wang Shouzhe.

This scene was recorded in the "Wang's Ancestral Inheritance Chronicles" by Wang Xiaohan, an elder of the Wang family. A restored illustration of the scene drawn from memory by future generations was also recorded in the Chronicles.

From that day onwards, the Wang family's reputation in the County City of Longzuo County saw a sudden surge.

Even several months later, the people of the Longzuo County City would occasionally mention this event in their casual conversations and express great interest.

It has to be said, the Changning Wang Clan truly achieved a great deal over these years. Whether it be the development of the Green Luo Guard, the establishment of the marine cultivation base, the full-scale deployment of the Flying Carriage System in the Qing An Prefecture and Longzuo County, or the gradual perfection of the series of industrial chains related to these issues.

Any of these achievements were quite remarkable.

However, ordinary people do not comprehend their profound implications.

They are busy with their daily lives, not understanding the significance of developing the Green Luo Guard or setting up a marine cultivation base. Many of them even don't know who the owner behind the Keep Achieving Commercial Firm is.

What they perceive most directly, and feel most acutely, is the grandeur when Changning Wang Clan was promoted to a Rank Six Prominent Family and the glorious presence of Prefectural Governor's handwritten inscription and Wei Wenxun, the Deputy Commander-in-chief's personal delivery.

It is from this point that the Changning Wang Clan entered the sight of many residents in the County City and made them truly aware of the energy that the four characters of "Changning Wang Clan" represent.

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A period later.

At Wang Shouzhe's study in the inner residence of Changning Wang Clan.

Wang Shouzhe was leisurely lying in his chair, drinking immortal tea and listening as the twin ponytail Artifact Spirit Lil Snow reported the current situation.

[Clan name]: Longzuo Changning Wang Clan

[Clan Level]: Rank Six

[Clan Reputation]: [Township reputation (100) Covering the sky with a single hand][County Reputation (100) Covering the sky with a single hand][Prefecture Reputation (88) Dominating one side][National Reputation (11) Obscurity]

[Clan Industries]: 139 (click for details)

[Clan Members]: [Within the clan (153)][Married out (24)](click for details)

[Clan Relatives]: 9 (click for details)

[Clan Generals]: [Adults (1863)][Underage (289)](click for details)

[Family Servants]: [Adults (4056)][Underage (627)](click for details)

...

"Lil Snow, view the clan details~project the clan tree." Wang Shouzhe contentedly tasted the tea. The clan had thrived so much that even he could hardly keep track of all clan members.

"Yes, master. Please check the end of the third essay and the colored egg chapter at the end. There's a projection of the latest genealogy of Longzuo Wang Clan~" Lil Snow replied adorably.

"Call me the Family Head ..." Wang Shouzhe glanced at her meaningfully. Few have picked fights over this title.

"Yes, master." Lil Snow chuckled sweetly.