

Teacher 1221

Chapter 1221: Xia Taikang's Secret

Li Ziqi had never thought of drawing the battle because she wanted to win. So, she had long since considered what she should do in the case of a draw.

(If you used any other method, I might find it more troublesome to resolve them. But by using the art of spiritual control against me? Don't you know that my teacher knows the four great divine spiritual control languages?)

On the surface, Li Ziqi looked like she was listening to Xia Taikang's words and was very angry. However, in her heart, she was chanting Freedom Proof.

When the Qi Emperor stood up, Li Ziqi tossed a halo with her right hand toward the guardian kirin.

The speed of the halo was too quick and just when the notion of dodging appeared in Xia Taikang's mind, the kirin was struck.

Boom!

A beam of light shot out from the kirin's body, straight up the sky. It was so bright that no one could look directly at it.

"Oh no!"

Xia Taikang's heart thumped because his mental connection with the kirin was severed. This caused him to panic and he instinctively wanted to kill the person who caused this.

"Kill her!"

Xia Taikang roared. However, the kirin didn't obey him. It suddenly shook violently and tossed Xia Taikang from its back.

Hu~

Xia Taikang fell to the ground.

Ah?

The audience was shocked. What's going on?

Zeng!

Grand Tutor Su stood up with an agitated expression. "It's a divine language of spiritual control!"

Bang!

Xia Taikang landed on the stage and everyone thought that the battle had ended with Li Ziqi being the victor. But at this moment, Xia Taikang was like a cannonball shot out by a tank. With a rumble, he jumped into the air, aiming for Li Ziqi.

Boom!

The floor beneath Xia Taikang's feet was now cracked by the recoil impact. Countless shattered stones flew everywhere.

"Go to hell!"

Xia Taikang roared in rage and swung her sword at the little sunny egg.

Woosh~ Woosh~ Woosh~

Several tens of wind blades shot out, blasting into Xia Taikang's body. However, they weren't able to injure him.

"What?"

Li Xiu was badly shocked. Why did the Xia Crown Prince's combat strength suddenly increase so much?

"Mn?"

Han Cangshui frowned. After that, he revealed a smile of watching someone in misfortune. Not only did Xia Taikang's combat strength increase, but his cultivation realm also increased.

This time around, Li Ziqi was dead for sure.

"Grand Tutor Su, quickly act to rescue her!"

The Qi Emperor shouted. He could see Xia Taikang's killing intent.

There was no need for Grand Tutor Su to act because Sun Mo had moved and appeared before Li Ziqi. He waved his wooden blade and directly received Xia Taikang's attack.

Boom!

A formidable impact blasted Sun Mo and Li Ziqi away.

Hua~

The entire scene was in a commotion.

"Xia Taikang is so powerful?"

Xianyu Wei was shocked. Her teacher was at the Longevity Realm and was an existence that was no. 1 among his peers. Yet, this Xia Taikang actually blew her teacher away with a single slash?

Xia Taikang rushed over and unleashed a barrage of deadly attacks, wanting to kill Li Ziqi.

This was because the art of spiritual control was very mysterious, so one usually had to kill the spellcaster if they wanted to undo what had happened.

Sun Mo blocked all the attacks.

"Great Teacher Sun, publicly interfering in the war discussion. You are insulting the Five Empires!"

Xia Taikang roared in rage.

“Is acting to stop someone from cheating wrong?”

Sun Mo coldly snorted. “If you fought fairly, I could close an eye. But you actually want to kill Ziqi? Do you treat me as non-existent?”

“What do the words of Great Teacher Sun mean?”

The audience whispered.

“Grand Tutor Su, quickly stop them!”

The Qi Emperor urged.

At this moment, some great teachers and cultivators with vast experiences also realized something wrong. Xia Taikang was too powerful.

“Your Highness Taikang, please stay your hand or I won’t be polite anymore!”

Grand Tutor Su warned as he waved his hand.

Circle Confinement!

Swish~

A translucent circular sphere materialized near Xia Taikang. The sides surrounded him while closing in before hurtling to the ground.

Rumble!

However, Xia Taikang actually broke through the sphere. This caused Grand Tutor Su to have a look of dread on his face.

“Xia Taikang, what are you doing?”

The Qi Emperor was angry now.

Xia Taikang had a secret treasure that granted him flight. However, to maintain fairness, he didn’t use it before. But now in order to kill Li Ziqi, he chose to use it.

One could say that if it wasn’t for Sun Mo’s reaction being fast enough, the little sunny egg would have died.

“This fellow dissolved my contract with the kirin. Tell me, should I kill her or not?”

Xia Taikang howled.

“Huh?” The Qi Emperor blinked. “You are saying that the guardian divine beast of your esteemed country is no longer bound by a contract?”

“Naturally, you idiot!”

Xia Taikang shot back in anger.

“Impudent!”

The guards berated. (Even if you are the Xia Crown Prince, you are too rude.)

The Qi Emperor waved his hands. He felt like smiling but felt a little too embarrassed to show such an expression.

The Xia Emperor had lost its guardian divine beast?

This was simply great news that was worth him organizing a banquet and drink for ten days.

That kirin had protected the Xia Empire for over ten thousand years. Once, when the Xia Empire was facing annihilation, it alone forced millions of soldiers of their enemies back and guarded the Xia Empire, allowing the Xia Empire to rise to this point today. If not, the Xia Empire would have long since fallen.

Naturally, the Xia Empire could be proud of their own powerful army. But every time a deadly crisis happened, it was the kirin who bailed them out.

Every time the Qi Emperor mentioned the kirin, he felt extremely envious and covetous. And now, the Xia Empire had lost it...

(Wait a minute, can I catch that kirin?)

The Qi Emperor immediately stared at the divine beast in the air whose feet were standing on flames. After that, he turned and looked at Grand Tutor Su.

Grand Tutor Su also wanted an ancient ferocious beast as a battle pet, but he knew that the probability of success wasn't high.

"Kirin, re-establish a new contract with me!"

Xia Taikang persuaded.

The kirin ignored him. It was looking at Li Ziqi.

"Li Ziqi." Xia Taikang roared, "Look at what you have done. You destroyed a ten-thousand-year foundation of my Xia Empire!"

Everyone saw Xia Taikang's gaze, it was like he wanted to eat Li Ziqi up. They could understand his rage. After all, the Xia Empire had just lost its guardian divine beast.

"Firstly, this is a fight. My actions aren't against the rules as we can use any methods!"

Li Ziqi rebutted mockingly. "Are you blaming me for the fact that you don't know any divine languages of spiritual control?"

"You..."

Xia Taikang was almost angered to death. If he knew beforehand that Li Ziqi knew a divine language that ranked at the absolute peak of spiritual control, he would rather lose the competition than summon the kirin.

"Grand Tutor Su, is the divine language of spiritual control very impressive?"

The queen asked in a small voice.

“It isn’t a problem of it being impressive or not. Rather, it’s very rare. Even for grandmaster spirit controllers, let alone reciting it, they wouldn’t even be able to understand it. This language can only be grasped intuitively and not actively conveyed in words.”

Grand Tutor Su explained.

“Also, the rate of failure using divine language is very high. I only succeeded this time around because that kirin no longer wants to be your battle pet.”

Li Ziqi added. She looked down on Xia Taikang. “Your Xia Clan let down the kirin and caused it to rebel. What has it got to do with me?”

“Some masters and their spiritual beasts shared a relationship akin to that of friends. Even without a spiritual contract, it would be willing to fight. As for others, they solely depended on the contract to forcibly enslave the spiritual beast. So once there’s a chance, the spiritual beast will surely rebel!”

As Grand Tutor Su was explaining, he also felt curious. Logically speaking, that kirin had been the guardian divine beast of the Xia Empire. Its relationship with the ancient Xia Emperor must either be that of brothers or a father and son. But from the look of things now, the kirin had borrowed the aid of Li Ziqi’s divine language of spiritual control to regain its freedom.

Xia Taikang still wanted to speak, but he was interrupted by a rough voice.

“Shut up, your words make me feel disgusted!”

It was the kirin who spoke in human speech.

Hua~

This drama was so intense. The divine guardian beast of Xia didn’t love the Xia Empire and even scolded the current crown prince.

Xia Taikang’s face immediately turned green. He clenched his fist tightly and tried his best to endure it and remain calm. “Return to the royal palace with me first, we can negotiate anything you want.”

“If I return with you, can I still ever leave?”

The kirin coldly smiled. “You should feel lucky. If it wasn’t for me feeling sentimental about Xia Jie’s past kindness, I would have eaten you up.”

“Who is Xia Jie?”

Lu Zhiruo’s curiosity was almost bursting out of her.

“An emperor among emperors in Great Xia’s history. He was an impressive and noble emperor!”

Qin Yaoguang explained.

“I’ve long since paid my debt to the Xia Clan. By not killing you, this is my last kindness toward Xia Jie. From now onward, we have nothing to do with each other!”

The kirin had felt very miserable. In order to repay Xia Jie for saving its life, it was willing to be bound by a contract and become his spiritual beast. Originally, the two of them had agreed that once Xia Jie died, the kirin would regain its freedom.

However, ultimately Xia Jie was reluctant to release the kirin due to his empire and children. Honestly speaking, they depended on the kirin to safely withstand a few empire-crushing crises.

After the kirin finished speaking, it no longer cared about Xia Taikang. Instead, it looked at Li Ziqi before turning its gaze to Sun Mo.

Sun Mo smiled but he was actually thinking whether he should cast Land Proof. If Land Proof was effective, wouldn't he have profited immensely?

"Thank you. For the sake of returning my freedom, I can do three tasks for you!"

After the kirin spoke, it transformed into a shooting star and shot toward the east.

"Wait..."

Xia Taikang roared but it was useless. Hence, he could only vent all his grievances and resentment onto the little sunny egg. "Li Ziqi, I'm going to start a war with the Great Tang. Either you die or I die!"

"You are too shameless, you cannot even afford to lose!"

Qin Yaoguang cursed, provoking the emotions of the surrounding audience. Hence, many people also started cursing. After all, Xia Taikang had truly lost his bearings.

"Hmph!"

Xia Taikang ignored everyone. He directly summoned his diplomatic group and prepared to leave. "Let's go!"

"Taikang, Taikang, wait!"

The Qi Emperor shouted, wanting to mediate this incident, but it was useless.

"Xia Taikang, why are you in such a hurry to leave?"

Sun Mo spoke.

"Sun Mo, so what even if you are the most dazzling rising star of the Nine Provinces? Today, even if the Saint Gate Sect Lord appears, there will only be one survivor between my empire and the Great Tang."

Xia Taikang was staking all in one throw.

The Sect Lord Su Taiqing must have left after obtaining the painting and had no spare time to watch the martial battle.

"Don't misunderstand, I have no plans to persuade you from changing your mind. I only want to say that before you leave, shouldn't you explain the matter of you cheating?"

Sun Mo asked with a smile.

He originally didn't plan to expose Xia Taikang's scheme, but this fellow actually wanted to start a war. This was bad because once war began, many would die.

So, he could only damage Xia Taikang's reputation first.

Xia Taikang's eyes narrowed as his face was clouded with sullenness and rage.

"What nonsense are you talking about? How can my elder brother, the crown prince, cheat?"

"Black Doggy Sun, don't assume that great teachers are impressive. Our Great Xia also has genius great teachers."

"Come out, I want to fight to the death with you."

The people from the Great Xia diplomatic group immediately cursed.

The people from the Great Tang diplomatic group also weren't willing to lose out and immediately cursed them back.

The Wind King was watching with interest and showed no signs of wanting to interfere.

Although its fight with the kirin earlier was ferocious, both of them didn't even unleash 1% of their full power.

"I was wondering why that kirin didn't want to unleash all its power. So this is the case!"

The Wind King sneered at that kirin. After that, it recalled that it was also trapped in the Wind King Divine Hall and had no idea when it could be free, thus it was depressed again.

However, one good thing was that it knew it could believe in Li Ziqi's character.

"Everyone, don't be in a hurry to scold people. Do you guys really understand this 'Xia Taikang'?"

Sun Mo spoke to the people from Great Xia, telling them to be patient.

"What do you mean?"

Everyone didn't understand.

Xia Taikang wasn't only the crown prince of the Great Xia, but he was also proclaimed to be a genius of the millennium, someone that could lead the Great Xia Empire to become the top empire in the Nine Provinces.

Although the Xia Emperor had yet to abdicate the throne, Xia Taikang was already controlling parts of the country with his status as the crown prince. Besides, it was said that after the Five Empires War Discussion ended and Xia Taikang obtained the first place, the Xia Emperor would officially abdicate the throne.

Bluntly speaking, Xia Taikang was someone who wanted face. He wanted to become the next Xia Emperor by borrowing the prestige of the champion of the Five Empires War Discussion.

"Why didn't the grand tutor of your country come?"

Sun Mo counter-asked.

The other countries had sent their grand tutors. After all, whether the crown prince's performance was outstanding or not concerned their prestige.

"Grand Tutor Xia's body isn't too good and is recuperating in our country. What's the problem?"

Someone answered.

"Oh, he's actually still alive? I thought he's already dead!" Sun Mo analyzed. "From the looks of things, he has a hand in this too!"

"Great Teacher Sun, what are you talking about exactly?"

The Qi Emperor was completely clueless.

"I just want to tell everyone that this Xia Crown Prince is fake. Someone is masquerading as him. His true body has died, and his body is only an empty shell now."

Sun Mo's words were like a cold current that came from the north and directly stunned everyone into silence.

"Your Majesty, did I hear wrongly? He actually said that this Xia Taikang is a fake one?"

The queen felt this was very ridiculous.

Although in this world there were indeed a few magical and mysterious secret arts or treasures that could seize one's soul and change one's face, that could only work if the target was someone ordinary. The various royal clans all had secret methods to identify one's identity and bloodline.

Besides, the grand tutors and great teachers employed by the royal clan would all be people with wide horizons and immense experiences. Even if someone planned to substitute a prince, their plots would surely be sniffed out.

It was basically impossible to use such schemes to seize the throne.

"Sun Mo, what nonsense are you speaking? How can this crown prince's reputation be besmirched by someone like you?"

Xia Taikang howled with a flushed face.

"Then, how do you explain your sudden surge in strength earlier?"

Sun Mo questioned.

"Can't I be a genius?"

Xia Taikang coldly snorted. "Besides, I'm the crown prince. All the cultivation resources I use are top-graded ones!"

"Hehe, you can ask Grand Tutor Su about this. Even if a genius eats heavenly ingredients daily, can he reach the Legendary Realm like you at the age of twenty-five?"

Sun Mo's Divine Sight was activated. He actually wasn't able to identify Xia Taikang's actual cultivation realm, but it was for sure not low. This was why he took action. He was able to depend on his various

peak-level cultivation arts to block Xia Taikang's attacks. If it was other Longevity Realm experts in his place, they would have been smashed to death.

"Great Teacher Sun must be joking. If it was so easy to reach the Legendary Realm, everyone on the street would be one."

Grand Tutor Su self-mockingly laughed.

Speaking of resources, Grand Tutor Su also didn't lack any. But didn't he still have to climb up step by step?

"Sun Mo, stop talking with no proof. If you are capable, show some proof!"

Xia Taikang glared at Sun Mo like how he was looking at the killer of his father.

"Sure!"

Sun Mo shrugged. Just when everyone had their eyes wide open and wanted to see how Sun Mo would prove it, he suddenly attacked.

Swish~

A platinum glow shot toward Xia Taikang.

He wanted to dodge, but that beam of light was too fast.

Putong!

Xia Taikang's head was pressed onto the ground.

"What are you doing?"

Clang! Clang!

The people from the Great Xia diplomatic group all pulled out their weapons and stared at Sun Mo in rage.

"Your crown prince was dead a long time ago. He was refined into a living puppet by someone using a forbidden technique. After that, that person also used another technique to replace his soul with another soul."

Sun Mo explained.

"What I used was Freedom Proof. It can cause a rejection reaction between that soul and your crown prince's corpse!"

As expected, Xia Taikang's body started squirming. It looked like a monster out of a horror movie, it was very frightening.

"I, I'll kill you!"

Xia Taikang's voice turned bizarre.

The diplomatic group from the Great Xia were all stunned. For a time, they didn't know what they should do. After all, this matter was too major.

"Who knows if you used some methods to secretly ambush His Highness? You should stop first!"

The main commander of the diplomatic group recovered first and pleaded with the Qi Emperor. "Your Majesty, please help us protect Our Highness. At the same time, please summon your top-level puppeteers and spiritual controllers to inspect Our Highness."

"Beloved Subject Sun, this matter is too huge in terms of impact. It's best not to speak recklessly!"

The Qi Emperor felt a headache.

Xia Taikang was the Xia Empire's hope. If he died, things would be extremely troublesome. A war might truly be invoked.

"I'm not speaking recklessly. You can find anyone to come and inspect him. There are traces of a forbidden technique being used on this body."

Sun Mo was very calm.

At this moment, a human-shaped black shadow shot out of Xia Taikang's body.

"Sun Mo, you destroyed my life. I'm going to kill you!"

The black shadow was enraged, "Xia Zeyang, spread my command and start an all-out war against the Great Tang and the Central Province Academy!"

"Ah?"

Xia Zeyang was none other than the main commander of the Xia diplomatic group. He jumped in fright when he heard this voice. This voice seemed to be the voice of the Xia Emperor?

Just when Xia Zeyang was in a daze, Sun Mo lowered his head and instructed Li Ziqi with a few sentences. After that, the little sunny egg waved her hand and cast a divine language of spiritual control.

It was Land Proof.

Strictly speaking, humans could be considered land-based lifeforms and were within the range of this divine language.

It was a pity that the soul strength of this shadow was simply too strong. The divine language was ineffective.

"Teacher!"

The little sunny egg stuck out her tongue.

Just when Sun Mo wanted to act, the Wind King took matters into its own hands.

"Allow me!"

Swoosh~

A transparent wind arrow penetrated the black shadow. After that, numerous shackles erupted forth from it and entangled the shadow, binding it and forcing it to reduce to the size of a walnut.

“Hehe, not bad. I have a new toy again!”

The Wind King was very happy.

“Sun Mo, please leave that thing behind!”

Xia Zeyang spoke out. What if that black shadow truly belonged to the Xia Emperor?

Without waiting for Sun Mo to reply, the Wind King retaliated. Everyone couldn’t even see its attack clearly. They only saw that after Xia Zeyang finished speaking, his entire person was diced into countless pieces of flesh that splattered onto the ground.

“Ant, you actually dare to act so arrogantly before this king. You really don’t want your life anymore.”

The Wind King coldly snorted.

This scene caused many people to shiver.

“This king’, was Li Ziqi’s spiritual control beast a king?”

Grand Tutor Su guessed.

Chapter 1223: End of the War Discussion, Taking On a Personal Teacher at the Dinner Banquet!

The citizens of the Great Xia always had a sense of superiority. They felt that they were the most outstanding people of the Nine Provinces and that citizens of the other empires were low-grade trash.

Even if someone from their country committed a mistake, they thought that the emperors of the other empires had no qualifications to judge them.

Hence, when they saw Sun Mo bringing that black shadow away, the people of the diplomatic group immediately wanted to stop him. But as Xia Zeyang suddenly died, all of them fell silent due to fright.

A bloody stench assailed their nostrils and pieces of flesh and inner organs spilled everywhere. The scene was simply too brutal.

“Why are you not screaming anymore?”

The Wind King coldly laughed. “I won’t know who to kill next!”

“L...Li Ziqi...”

A prince originally wanted to say that if she did this, a war might start. In the end, before he could finish speaking, his entire person was smashed into mush.

Swish~

The others hurriedly retreated with pale expressions.

These invisible and formless wind blade attacks were simply too terrifying.

“Ziqi, don’t kill anymore!”

The Qi Emperor felt a headache.

“Your Majesty, don’t worry. I believe that the Xia Emperor is a brilliant man and knows how to resolve this matter.”

Sun Mo laughed.

“Your Majesty, we will take our leave first!”

The people from the Great Xia no longer dared to say any ruthless sentences. After bowing to the Qi Emperor, they hurriedly brought Xia Taikang’s corpse that was lying on the ground away, preparing to use the quickest time to return to their country.

“The Xia Empire is in huge trouble now!”

Everyone discussed.

The Xia Empire had lost their guardian divine beast, and the Xia Crown Prince was revealed to be someone who had died long ago. Regardless of what the end result was, the Xia Empire was destined to decline.

“Your Majesty, the Five Empires War Discussion has ended, and the Great Tang is undoubtedly the first, right?”

Sun Mo asked.

“That’s only natural!”

The Qi Emperor nodded.

Li Ziqi’s outstanding abilities were unquestionable. Sadly, she was a female.

“In that case, we will bid our farewell too!”

Sun Mo prepared to return.

“Ah? This Emperor has prepared a celebratory dinner banquet, don’t you guys want to participate?”

The Qi Emperor felt a headache. (If you leave, what about my daughter? I already planned to make you establish a flying regiment of soldiers for me, and I’ve even handpicked them myself.)

“It’s fine!” Sun Mo rejected with thanks. “Let’s leave!”

“Great Teacher Sun, please wait, please wait!”

The Qi Emperor chased over.

“Your Majesty, forget it. Since such a major thing happened, the Great Tang has to make preparations like how they should deal with the Xia Empire’s reaction!”

Grand Tutor Su persuaded.

“Ai, the literature and arts battle was so nice to watch, but why did the martial battle end up so chaotic?”

The Qi Emperor was depressed. “Oh right, what’s going on with that Xia Taikang exactly? Is this the action of some dark great teachers?”

“I have no idea!”

Grand Tutor Su shook his head, but he had a blurry answer in his heart.

If the Xia Emperor didn’t know about this matter, it meant that the mastermind had already secretly controlled the royal palace of the Great Xia. If the Xia Emperor knew about this, it was even more terrifying.

Once he had recalled all the performances displayed by Xia Taikang in the war discussion, Grand Tutor Su was more inclined to the second possibility.

“For the sake of living longer and achieving his ambitions, he actually sacrificed his own son by seizing his body. This Xia Emperor is truly ruthless!”

Grand Tutor Su cast a glance at the Qi Emperor.

In the past, he always felt that the Qi Emperor was muddle-headed and incapable. Other than eating good food, playing, and fooling around, he had no major ambitions and knew nothing else. Grand Tutor Su had once thought that his talents might be put to better use if he went to assist the ambitious Xia Emperor. But from the looks of things now, the Qi Emperor was much better than the Xia Emperor.

...

The Great Tang diplomatic group returned to their hotels and packed up, preparing to leave.

“Why are we in such a rush?”

Han Cangshui was unhappy now. Why did the entire diplomatic group have to cater to Li Xiu and Li Ziqi?

“You guys can leave first, I’m still planning to stay a few days here!”

“Great Teacher Han, please feel free to do whatever you want!”

Li Xiu wanted to rush back to Chang’an and tell her royal brother about everything that had happened here. Maybe, they even needed to prepare themselves for a war with Great Xia.

When Han Cangshui heard this, his countenance grew unsightly. (Can’t you persuade me a little? As expected, since Sun Mo is here, do you feel that I’m useless now?)

Li Xiu naturally couldn’t be bothered to care about Han Cangshui’s emotions. After she gave the command, she headed into Sun Mo’s room. In the end, she saw all his students there.

“Aunt!”

Li Ziqi stood up and greeted.

“Sun Mo, I know that you have a treasure that can travel 1,000 miles in a day. I hope you can bring me along, including Ziqi and Li Xuan. We should immediately go back to Chang’an!”

Li Xiu suggested.

“Don’t panic, the Xia Empire won’t be able to attack.”

Sun Mo consoled her.

“What do you mean?”

Li Xiu frowned. Matters between countries were never insignificant. Moreover, it was about the Xia Empire who was wildly ambitious and always wanted to expand their borders.

“Because the Xia Emperor has already died!”

Qin Yaoguang explained.

“What?” Li Xiu was astonished. “How do you know that?”

“More accurately, the Xia Emperor hasn’t died. He’s imprisoned by my eldest martial sister’s battle pet, the Wind King.”

Qin Yaoguang explained. “This is something our teacher told us just now.”

“You are saying that the black shadow is the Xia Emperor?”

Li Xiu was stunned. After that, dread appeared on her face. “Doesn’t that mean that the Xia Emperor seized the body of his son?”

“That’s right.” Sun Mo nodded.

“When did you discover this secret?”

Li Xiu continued to ask.

Now when she thought about it, Xia Taikang’s behavior had been truly strange in many aspects. For example, he would inadvertently exude the prestige of an emperor that was even greater than her own royal brother.

“During the chess battle, I only felt that something was wrong with him. So, I paid more attention to it. It was only until the guardian divine beast appeared did I finally verify my guesses.”

Honestly speaking, Sun Mo also didn’t expect that the Xia Emperor would do such a thing. It was too inhumane.

“...”

Li Xiu didn’t know what to say. After being silent for some time, she suddenly sighed in her heart. After all, if one had to face the Xia Emperor who aspired to be the hegemon of this world, they would surely be nervous.

Now, the hidden danger was resolved.

“The Xia Emperor’s soul is being imprisoned by the Wind King. This also means that the Xia Empire has no authority figure. And after those royal descendants regain their senses, the first thing they do will be to seize the throne.”

Sun Mo chortled.

Coming to look for him to get the black shadow back?

Stop joking. Since those princes were sensible enough to think for themselves, all of them wanted nothing more than for the emperor to die as soon as possible.

“Sun Mo, I understand this matter, but I still have to trouble you to send me and Ziqi back first!”

Li Xiu pleaded.

Sun Mo smiled and didn't answer.

“Ziqi, stay behind. The others are to get out.”

Li Xiu instructed.

Helian Beifang didn't move. His hand was placed on his blade hilt, and his eyes had a hint of wariness. However, Tantai Yutang pulled him along.

“Let's go!”

The sickly invalid could guess what Li Xiu wanted to say.

When everyone left, Li Xiu looked at her niece. “If we plan to let you inherit the throne, what do you want to do?”

Li Ziqi frowned. “I've no interest in the throne. I only want to follow Teacher to learn and complete my dream to build the largest library in the Nine Provinces.”

“In that case, do you want Li Xuan to lead the Great Tang into decline?”

Li Xiu asked.

Li Ziqi fell silent. Her own royal brother was mediocre, but his ambitions were higher than the heavens. She understood this very clearly.

“After you ascend to the throne, you will have boundless authority. Let alone building a library, even if you want to build one in every province, that wouldn't be a problem.”

Li Xiu tempted her.

“Teacher!”

Li Ziqi turned and looked at Sun Mo.

This scene caused a hint of discomfort to appear in Li Xiu's heart. This meant that her niece relied on Sun Mo extremely much. However, after she thought of how Sun Mo was the one who had granted her niece her current strength and glory, the eldest princess relaxed.

If she herself had such a good teacher, even if she had to make his bed and recommend herself to warm his bed, she would also do it.

“What would you feel if you lost a penny?”

Sun Mo smiled.

“I’ve never brought so little money out before!”

Li Ziqi bitterly smiled.

Pak!

Sun Mo rapped the little sunny egg’s head.

Li Ziqi stuck out her tongue. She understood her teacher’s meaning. “If I were an ordinary farmer, I would surely feel very depressed if I lost a penny. If I lost 10,000 taels, I probably would die from heartache.”

“Alright. I won’t give you any more examples. I just want you to know that regardless of a penny, or 10,000 taels, or the emperor’s position, everything is the same. Obtaining them after a long period of hard work actually isn’t the ultimate goal. Self-actualization is then the inherent and most high-level pursuit of everyone.”

Because of these words, Li Xiu started to seriously survey Sun Mo.

“Wealth, position, authority, etc. All of these are tools to help you actualize your dreams.”

Many people in the Nine Provinces were just living normally and wouldn’t think about things like their dreams. Everyone wanted to make money for the sake of leading a better life.

“Actually, when many people are young, they all have dreams. But slowly, their sharpness is tempered and ground down by reality because they discover that just trying to live better is already something extremely tiring!”

Sun Mo stared at the little sunny egg. “You said that you wanted to build a library. But actually in your heart, you are hoping that everyone could learn a skill of survival or two, so they could display their brilliance and actualize their dreams on the great stage known as life.

“If you become the emperor, you will be able to give everyone more ‘stages’ to perform, allowing them more chances to display their talents.

“Naturally, you can also choose not to be the emperor. I only hope that you won’t choose to ‘run away’ because of some reasons.”

What reasons?

For example, mutual slaughter between siblings, or the culture that thought having a female emperor wouldn’t conform to the rules, etc...

“Ziqi, with your talent, you shouldn’t just be the administrator of a library.”

Sun Mo looked at his eldest disciple and was filled with anticipation toward her. “You should let this world know about you, be it 1,000 or 10,000 years later, that you are the grandest and most noble of all emperors with no exceptions, in the history of this world.”

Boom!

Priceless Advice activated. This was Sun Mo's hope for Li Ziqi.

"Teacher!"

Li Ziqi was stunned. She didn't expect her teacher to have such a high recognition of her.

Li Xiu was similarly stunned. (The grandest with no exception? Aren't these words a little too imposing?)

"Eldest Princess, do you want to support Li Ziqi to become an emperor? By doing so, your name will also be branded into the world's history."

Sun Mo teased.

"Hehe!"

Li Xiu laughed dryly but her heart was moved. In fact, she even wanted to personally replace Li Yingqi so she could become a female emperor. But luckily, she was rational enough to suppress this crazy thought.

Speaking of which, guys that could think were truly handsome!

Li Xiu suddenly grew angry when she thought of her unambitious husband.

"How good would it be if Sun Mo was born a few years earlier!"

Li Xiu sighed.

She had long since stopped judging people by their looks.

(Alright, Sun Mo was indeed handsome. I actually lust for him too at times.) Upon thinking of this, she suddenly felt that it was a pity.

An Xinhui had truly benefited.

"But my royal brother..."

Li Ziqi was still in conflict.

"Sigh, if Li Xuan is the slightest bit capable, I also wouldn't have chosen to say this!"

Sun Mo sighed. "Also, there's another matter I have to tell you guys."

Sun Mo continued speaking in a low voice and his words caused the two of them to turn pale. Their faces were then filled with anger as they wanted to do something immediately.

"This is not the time to do anything yet!"

Sun Mo advised.

If it wasn't Li Xiu clearly stating that she wanted to support the little sunny egg to take the throne, Sun Mo wouldn't reveal this secret.

"Alright, I can lend the eight-gate cloud to you and allow you and Ziqi to return to Chang'an first. I still have to wait for that mastermind behind the scenes to come and take back the Xia Emperor's soul!"

Sun Mo knew that Li Xiu was in a hurry to go back because the Xia Empire would surely descend into chaos. She could use this heaven-sent opportunity to pull some strings and get someone who was inclined to ally with the Great Tang to become the next emperor at the very least.

Before everyone finished packing their luggage, the Qi Emperor and his queen arrived and they were waiting at the hotel's door.

"Great Teacher Sun, Princess Xiu. No matter what, you guys have to attend the celebratory dinner banquet tonight!"

The Qi Emperor persuaded.

According to the rules, after the Five Empires War Discussion, everyone would have a three-day break before they attended the celebratory banquet. In the end, in order to accommodate Sun Mo and Li Ziqi, the Qi Emperor actually shifted the date of the banquet forward.

"Great Teacher Sun, even if you guys want to leave, a day's delay counts for nothing. At the very most, this emperor will give you guys a few thousand-li horses!"

The queen also felt very regretful. She hadn't had any in-depth reaction with Sun Mo yet, and he was already going to leave.

"Alright then!"

Li Xiu compromised. The Qi Emperor was already speaking so nicely. If she still wanted to leave, she would surely offend him.

Time passed quickly and it was soon night time.

When the moon was at its peak, the entire Qi Palace was already brightly lit with lamps and there was also melodious music in the atmosphere.

When the guest seats were filled, the Qi Emperor entered the great hall with his left hand holding Li Ziqi and his right hand holding Sun Mo as he chatted with them. And as for the queen?

She still had to walk behind the three of them.

"Great Teacher Sun, come, sit together with this Emperor!"

The Qi Emperor invited.

Si~

This honor caused the guests to inhale a breath of cold air as they felt incomparably envious. If Sun Mo chose to live here in the future, his status would surely be below one man but above tens of thousands.

Sun Mo wanted to reject it, but under the urgings of the emperor and the queen, he eventually chose to comply.

This scene caused everyone on the scene to feel so sour as though their mouths were stuffed with lemons.

"This Emperor wants to take this opportunity to announce something!"

The Qi Emperor retracted his smile and his expression turned solemn. "From today onward, all of this emperor's descendants will be handed over to Sun Mo for teaching. Great Teacher Sun, please teach them well and help them to nurture their talents!"

When Grand Tutor Su heard these words, he was started. After that, he felt a little unhappy. However, he soon relaxed after recalling Sun Mo's achievements.

In the future, Sun Mo would absolutely become a person of absolute authority in the great teacher world. If he were the Qi Emperor, he would also take the initiative to hug Sun Mo's thigh.

And after the Qi Emperor finished speaking, the princes and princesses, other than Jiang Yuzhen, went toward Sun Mo and kowtowed to him.

"The Qi Emperor has truly thrown all his prestige away!"

Han Cangshui spoke in disdain, but when he saw these royalty kowtowing, he felt so much envy and hatred in his heart.

"I have to remind Ziqi to treat Sun Mo better!"

Li Xiu suddenly felt a sense of danger. Her gaze drifted toward Jiang Yuzhen. She didn't seem to want to take Sun Mo on as a personal teacher, and it shouldn't be because she looked down on Sun Mo. Could it be that...

"Your Majesty..."

Sun Mo bitterly smiled. He didn't want to accept disciples so casually.

"Great Teacher Sun, all great teachers talk about distinctionless education. I know that their aptitudes are ordinary, but they will definitely not do anything that humiliates or insults your teaching!"

The Qi Emperor guaranteed. "If there are any, beat them to death if you need to!"

Xiang Zhao had still been hesitating, but after seeing this scene, he directly stood up and walked quickly toward Sun Mo.

Chapter 1224: Imperial Preceptor of the Nine Countries

During the dinner banquet, the sounds of zither were harmonious and melodious. There was also the fragrance from the alcohol and dishes.

Xiang Zhao stopped before Sun Mo and knelt with a thud, prostrating himself.

"Esteemed teacher, please pardon this student Xiang Zhao for being so bold. Please accept me as your disciple."

This was the Chu Crown Prince taking on a master. No matter where the location was, it would be a major event. However, the guests didn't feel anything strange when they saw this.

There was no solution. Sun Mo's fame was too great. If there were no crown princes wanting to take him on as a personal teacher, it would be strange then.

The main and secondary commander of the Great Chu's diplomatic group had long since discussed and approved it. Hence, they didn't stop him.

"I also want to take him on as my personal teacher!"

"Don't court humiliation for yourself. Look at how many personal students Teacher Sun has, when would it ever be your turn?"

"Speaking of which, do you think royal brother will succeed?"

The princes and princesses of Chu whispered to each other as envious looks could be seen on their faces.

As the students ate, they discussed whether their teacher would accept these people. When Xiang Zhao came out, they were no longer as calm.

After all, this was the only son of the Chu Emperor. In the future, he would definitely inherit the throne.

"If Teacher accepts Xiang Zhao, he will become Great Chu's imperial preceptor a few years from now."

Tantai Yutang sighed ruefully. He didn't expect that the teacher he had taken on randomly out of pique would actually obtain such a glorious title for himself within a few short years.

"He can't not accept it as it would offend many people!"

Helian Beifang felt a little worried. His teacher was too inflexible sometimes. When he accepted disciples, he usually based it on his own fondness for them and their aptitude. But as for Xiang Zhao, regardless of his talent or performance, he clearly didn't enter the eyes of their teacher.

"Doesn't he already have a grand tutor?"

Xianyu Wei didn't understand. The grand tutor of Chu should be Xiang Zhao's personal teacher.

"Fool, there are too many rules in this world. Rules are only used to restrict the ordinary people."

Qin Yaoguang rolled her eyes. "That's the Chu Crown Prince, so he naturally has special benefits!"

"That's right, to these people with esteemed statuses, they don't simply want to learn things when they take on a personal teacher. It holds the same meaning as an allied marriage."

The sickly invalid explained, "Which great teacher doesn't want students all around the world so their teachings and fame could spread throughout the Nine Provinces? However, for this matter, other than a vast amount of wealth, great influence is also needed."

If a great teacher from the Tang Empire wanted to head to the Chu Empire to start a school and teach students there, even if they weren't deliberately targeted, going through all the processes would surely waste a lot of money and time. But once they became an imperial preceptor, things would be so much simpler.

Without needing the great teacher to speak, even the emperor would compromise. Besides, the money spent to achieve the great teacher's dreams would be from the taxpayers. The great teacher wouldn't need to pay a single cent out of their own pocket.

“In that case, why didn’t Secondary Saint Zhou accept our eldest martial sister?”

Xianyu Wei was puzzled.

“Because Secondary Saint Zhou is an imperial tutor of four countries and has long since become a secondary saint. His students and learning colleges spanned the world. He basically doesn’t lack a learning college in the Great Tang Empire.”

Qin Yaoguang sighed. “And honestly speaking, our eldest martial sister truly was too weak.”

“Huh? Weak? Bluntly speaking, it’s Secondary Saint Zhou who feels that our eldest martial sister is useless. If she was the crown prince of Great Tang, do you think Secondary Saint Zhou would reject her?”

Tantai Yutang felt disdain. “There’s also another point. This Secondary Saint is used to posturing. He wanted to show everyone that he didn’t even want to accept a princess the Great Tang Emperor doted on the most so as to emphasize how valuable a disciple slot under his name was. After he did that, wouldn’t those who had entered his tutelage feel a sense of superiority because this was a status even the princess of an empire couldn’t obtain!?”

“Ah?”

Xianyu Wei was an innocent girl. She was stunned when she heard all these filthy black-hearted methods.

“Back then after Ziqi was rejected, she was psychologically impacted and directly ran to Jinling to hide. Actually, if she proposed to take Secondary Saint Zhou as her personal teacher again, he would have accepted.”

Li Xiu exposed.

Why was the eldest princess so sure?

Because given Secondary Saint Zhou’s status, if it wasn’t for Sun Mo’s sudden emergence, there would basically be no one in the great teacher world who dared to accept her niece. In the end, there would be no solution but for her to return to Secondary Saint Zhou.

“By doing so, people would say that Ziqi is very determined and sincere in wanting to learn. There would also be people saying that Secondary Saint Zhou is moved by Ziqi’s will and sincerity. This would be a win-win situation.”

Li Xiu was too familiar with such politics.

“So if that’s the case, will our teacher accept Xiang Zhao?”

Xianyu Wei surveyed the Chu Crown Prince. If her future junior brother became the Chu Emperor in a few years, wouldn’t that be too impressive?

Wrong, she should say that her teacher was too impressive.

“For certain!”

Tantai Yutang knew that their teacher treated Li Ziqi extremely well. Even if he wasn't thinking for his own sake, he would be thinking for Li Ziqi's sake.

Once Li Ziqi and Xiang Zhao became siblings of the same sect, honestly speaking, she would have a chance to seize the Great Tang's throne.

Honestly speaking, Sun Mo thought like this too.

The world of adults had no right or wrong. There were only benefits.

Accepting Xiang Zhao would provide him with immense benefits. Naturally, Sun Mo would also do his utmost to guide him.

"Xiang Zhao, I know that your aptitude is ordinary and you are also not keen on learning. But after becoming my student, you can no longer laze around."

Sun Mo spoke.

Xiang Zhao's expression was somewhat embarrassed. He bitterly smiled. "Teacher, can you leave some face for me?"

"Then think of how the officials would evaluate you in the future! They won't give you face and will describe you as a foolish emperor!"

Sun Mo's tone turned strict.

"You've said it. My aptitude is mediocre, so what's the point if I work hard?"

Xiang Zhao didn't understand.

"What is success? Is it to surpass others? No. From my point of view, it is to surpass oneself!"

Sun Mo looked at Xiang Zhao. "From my point of view, you originally only have 50% accomplishments. But after working hard, you may reach 70% or even 80%. That is success!"

Xiang Zhao started.

His grand tutor said before that his talent was ordinary. His hard work of one year was at most a few days worth of cultivation to geniuses. Hence, he decided to give up and lead a relaxed life. But who would be willing to be mediocre forever?

Even if he was born to be an emperor and his starting point was very high, Xiang Zhao also had dreams of becoming a hegemon whose name could last through the ages.

"You don't have to care what others say. Just do it!"

Sun Mo encouraged. "The merits and demerits of someone are only evaluated after their death. Xiang Zhao, some might be living, but they are already dead. The only difference is that they are not buried in coffins yet."

Bzz!

Resplendent golden light illuminated the area. Priceless Advice had activated.

Xiang Zhao was dumbstruck as Sun Mo's words echoed in his mind. He had a sense of enlightenment and it was like a seed named 'dreams'. It had been planted and was currently germinating.

The entire place fell silent. The young people pondered over Sun Mo's words and felt excitement surging in their blood. They wanted nothing more than to work as hard as they could.

All the high officials surveyed Sun Mo with respect on their faces.

As expected of Great Teacher Sun, his golden sentences could guide anyone.

"If you can accept my strict training, you can acknowledge me as your personal teacher!"

Sun Mo placed his left hand behind his back and looked at Xiang Zhao.

He wore an ordinary great teacher robe today. Other than his school insignia, there were no other decorations. However, he looked like a saint despite his ordinary clothing.

"Esteemed Teacher, this student Xiang Zhao is willing to follow you all my life and listen to your teachings."

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Xiang Zhao kowtowed very forcefully.

The Qi Emperor had an awkward look on his face. Sun Mo's earlier words were simply smacking his face.

(Sigh, it isn't easy to be a foolish emperor!)

"Stand up!"

Sun Mo laughed. "I'm not free recently. Come to Jinling to look for me three months later. I'll then use the Ancient Dragon Capturing Hands and medicine to wash your marrow and cleanse your body. I'll also impart a saint-tier fist art to you to enhance your aptitude!"

"I don't dare to guarantee the Legendary Realm. But at the very least, I'll do my best to help you step into the Longevity Realm and enjoy 100 to 200 years more in terms of lifespan."

Hua~

Upon hearing Sun Mo's promise, those people over 40 years old felt their eyes turning red as they stared at Sun Mo like how a hungry wolf would stare at its prey.

After all, no one would feel that their lifespans were too long.

"Great Teacher Sun, what about me?"

The Qi Emperor anxiously asked.

"Your Majesty, if you follow the health nurturing plan I specially design for you. I can guarantee that you will be able to live for 50 years more."

If it wasn't for the fact he wanted to rope in an ally for Li Ziqi, Sun Mo actually didn't want to bother with someone like the Qi Emperor.

“5...50 years?”

The Qi Emperor panted. He wanted nothing more than for Sun Mo to write the health nurturing plan out now.

Wei Wu`an sank into conflict. Actually, he also wanted to take Sun Mo on as his personal teacher, but Xiang Zhao had acted first. Moreover, Sun Mo had given out a meeting gift. If he headed over now, would it seem that he was too scheming and wanted benefits?

Just when Wei Wu`an was hesitating, the princes from the other empires no longer had so many considerations. Many of them rushed out and knelt before Sun Mo.

“Teacher Sun, please accept me as your disciple!”

Their voices mingled together and there were more than 100 of them.

“Crown prince, what are you still waiting for?”

The main envoy of the Wei Empire was speechless. (If you are slower by a step, all the soup will be gone!)

Wei Wu`an drew a deep breath. He stood up and left his seat, hurriedly walking toward Sun Mo before kneeling down.

“Ze, Sun Mo’s prestige is unmatched!”

Li Xiu sighed in admiration.

The Five Empires War Discussion had been ongoing for so long, but never had there been a scene of so many royalty kneeling to take someone on as their personal teacher.

There was no need to doubt. After the dinner banquet tonight, Sun Mo’s name would surely spread throughout the world.

Han Cangshui’s countenance was extremely unsightly. He then left in a rage.

If he still didn’t leave, should he stay here to be embarrassed?

(It’s all Li Xuan’s fault. He can’t even get a little face for me. Speaking of which, why didn’t I identify Li Ziqi as a genius back then?)

“You guys, get up first!”

Sun Mo frowned. These young people had impure motives for taking him on as a teacher.

“If Teacher doesn’t accept me, I won’t get up!”

“I’m willing to serve by Teacher’s side forever!”

“I don’t wish for Teacher to give me anything. As long as I can follow you and learn from you, that would be the greatest kindness you can grant me.”

These princes and princesses spoke beautifully and masterfully.

Sadly, Sun Mo activated Divine Sight and swept his gaze through. There wasn't even a single genius with above-average talent among them.

"It isn't so easy to become my students!"

Sun Mo rejected. If he accepted over 100 students in one go, it would only lower the statuses of his personal students.

"Teacher, we are willing to accept your test!"

Wei Wu'an spoke sincerely, but he felt regret in his heart. If he had acted earlier, he wouldn't have been implicated by all the trash.

"You guys continue kneeling first then!"

Sun Mo looked at the Qi Emperor. "You can start the banquet, don't make everyone wait for too long!"

Upon hearing this, among those kneeling, more than half subconsciously revealed unhappy expressions. In their own countries, they were royalty with esteemed statuses. No one had dared to treat them like this before.

Even the grand tutors of their respective empires wouldn't make them kneel.

Chapter 1225: Sun Mo's Test!

The royal descendants who were qualified to come and spectate the Five Empires War Discussions naturally had quite a high status in their respective countries. Besides, their positions were won through strength or schemes. Hence, they were among the more outstanding ones.

Those unhappy princes and princesses immediately retracted their expressions and obediently knelt here. If it wasn't for Sun Mo's observation skills being astute enough, he wouldn't have been able to spot anything.

The banquet began, beautiful dancers went up to perform, and delicacies after delicacies were also served up with fragrance permeating the atmosphere, whetting everyone's appetite.

Half an hour later, a prince could no longer take it. But in such a setting, he also felt embarrassed to stand up and leave.

An hour later, a princess didn't want to endure anymore. Her mind spun quickly, and she feigned discomfort with her body, fainting onto the ground.

"Quick, someone come and save her!"

The Qi Emperor instinctively called out. But after that, he hurriedly stopped his guards from rushing over. He looked at Sun Mo. "Great Teacher Sun, what's your opinion?"

"Those who don't want to take me on as a personal teacher can just leave!"

Sun Mo's gaze swept past these people.

No one moved. When they thought of the benefits they could obtain from entering Sun Mo's tutelage, these royal descendants decided to bear with it a little more.

(If this could be exchanged for a skyward spirit rune, it would be worth it even if I kneel for a day!)

Someone encouraged themselves.

Sun Mo didn't mind. "There's no need to move the fainted one away. Just let her continue lying there."

The Qi Emperor was the host. If something happened to these people, his prestige would be affected. But since Sun Mo had spoken, he also felt embarrassed to reject.

Four hours later, the banquet finally ended.

"Your Majesty, I'll take my leave first!"

Sun Mo rose. After clasping his hands toward the Qi Emperor and his queen, he directly left.

"Ah? What does he mean?"

"What should we do?"

"Teacher Sun, please wait!"

Those princes that were still kneeling felt that they were being ignored. Their tones and words involuntarily contained a hint of anger.

Bluntly speaking, they were still young and couldn't control their emotions well. They also weren't able to suffer any setbacks.

"I'm not satisfied with all of your performances, so I won't accept any of you!"

After Sun Mo finished speaking, a light flashed and he stepped onto the air before vanishing into the distance.

"My heavens, it's Meteoric Rise!"

All the great teachers were shocked.

This great teacher halo was extremely rare. If one didn't have extraordinary imagination, it was impossible for them to comprehend it.

"Is he playing us?"

Some princes stood up. They rubbed their knees and their voices were filled with a hint of anger, sullenness, and reproach.

Some didn't agree or complain, but they had similar looks of dissatisfaction on their faces.

Naturally, some were suspicious whether Sun Mo was probing them. But as time continued flowing and the banquet had completely concluded, Sun Mo still didn't show himself, which caused the hearts of these kneeling people to fall into the valley.

"What's Great Teacher Sun trying to do?"

The queen was speechless. If Sun Mo accepted these royal descendants, it would be an immense boost to his influence. Why didn't he want them?

"Don't use such low thoughts to suspect Beloved Subject Sun. He is someone standing far above the common crowd, a noble gentleman, someone that's destined to become a Saint."

The Qi Emperor stared at these princes. "Beloved Subject Sun didn't accept you guys because all of your aptitudes are not high enough. Don't grumble, just accept reality."

"Why did he accept Xiang Zhao then?"

Wei Wu'an felt very wronged. He had truly wasted four hours of his time, kneeling for nothing.

The Qi Emperor didn't explain, but an imposing voice actually rang out in Wei Wu'an's ears.

"Are you teaching me how to do things?"

As the voice rang out, Sun Mo's figure suddenly materialized here.

Right now, Sun Mo's spirit qi was in abundance. He could use the Starflash Pearl to teleport any time he wanted to.

Swish~

Wei Wu'an's face instantly lost all color.

"S...student doesn't dare!"

Wei Wu'an lowered his head. He thought about it and knelt again.

"I did so earlier to test all of your temperaments. Sadly, only a few have passed!"

Sun Mo sighed. "I hope that you guys want to take me on as a teacher because you really want to learn from me, to become a better version of yourself instead of coveting spirit runes, cultivation arts, or social connections."

The countenances of everyone became unsightly.

The princes that weren't in the line of succession actually harbored some hope in their hearts. They wanted to rely on Sun Mo to gain the qualifications to seize the throne.

"Just disperse!"

Sun Mo waved his hands and walked toward Li Ziqi.

"Teacher, I'm truly sincere in wanting to learn from you!"

A skinny and weak-looking prince knelt. "In order to prove my sincerity, I'm willing to give up my identity and become a commoner!"

Hua~

This sentence moved many people.

Hence, Sun Mo turned and glanced over.

The data showed that he was a prince of the Jin Country, the son of a concubine that wasn't doted upon by the emperor, but her mother hadn't been banished to the cold palace.

"Have you thought about this clearly?"

Sun Mo asked again.

"Mn!"

The prince nodded.

"Kowtow and proceed with taking me on as your personal teacher then!"

Sun Mo wouldn't make this prince give up his identity, but he wouldn't reveal this now.

Among the crowd, six princes also stepped out and knelt.

"Teacher, we are also willing to give up our current statuses!"

"Good!"

Sun Mo laughed. He remembered the performances of these princes. With his Divine Sight, he could judge that they truly wanted to follow him to learn things.

The banquet ended. Sun Mo left under the escorts of his students.

In the span of a single night, Sun Mo had seven more students. However, these seven were different from Li Ziqi and the rest because they had more than one personal teacher.

Sun Mo would teach them skills and hone their characters. However, he wouldn't give everything to them and treat them like his own children.

Truthfully speaking, as Sun Mo's fame increased, these students that he accepted due to benefits would only increase in number.

When Sun Mo left Western Jin, Wei Wu'an came back to find him again with expensive gifts, seeking to take him on as a personal teacher.

This time around, Sun Mo didn't reject him.

After that, Wei Wu'an escorted Sun Mo all the way until 30 miles away from Western Jing. However, his countenance was a little dark.

"Your Highness, I know that after yesterday night's test, you no longer want to take Sun Mo on as your personal teacher. But have you thought of what would happen if Sun Mo didn't accept you? Have you considered how impactful that would be to your prestige and reputation?"

The main commander spoke.

Sun Mo got famous due to his God Hands, and he had also taught Li Ziqi. In that case, everyone would surely feel that the students he rejected would be true trash instead of Sun Mo's judgment being off.

The future emperor of Wei being rejected by Sun Mo? What would the current Wei Emperor think?

If that was the case, in addition to him not becoming the champion of the Five Empires War Discussion, the Wei Emperor might even abolish Wei Wu`an`s crown prince position under a fit of rage.

...

“Teacher, the princes and princesses of nine countries wanted to take you on as their teacher. If all of them became emperors, you would be the imperial preceptor of nine countries.”

Xianyu Wei felt some anticipation.

“Hehe, it`s best not to care about such an empty reputation!”

Sun Mo didn`t mind it. But why didn`t the mastermind appear yet?

“No matter what, you will definitely be the Great Chu`s imperial preceptor!”

Qin Yaoguang laughed.

...

On a mountain, two mysterious black-robed men stared at the departing Great Tang diplomatic group.

“Teacher, it`s time to act!”

Lu Feng advised.. They had to seize the Xia Emperor`s soul back no matter what, or their decades of effort and arrangement in the Great Xia would be destroyed completely.

Chapter 1226: Lucky Goddess Opening Chests, Treasures Everywhere!

The black-robed man didn`t speak.

He was none other than the Xia Emperor`s teacher. He had used a secret technique to relocate the Xia Emperor`s soul and seize the body of the Xia Crown Prince.

He was also one of the conquerors of the Black-White Game.

“Teacher!”

Lu Feng`s tone turned heavy.

“Let`s leave!”

The black-robed man turned and left.

“Ah?”

Lu Feng was stunned. His teacher wanted to spare Sun Mo, but why?

Given his teacher`s strength, he could completely suppress them.

“Do you think Su Taiqing came here just to obtain Li Ziqi`s painting? No, he is warning me not to act against Sun Mo and Li Ziqi.”

The black-robed man explained.

Su Taiqing didn't care about the Xia Emperor or the Xia Empire, but he cared about the two of them. This was especially so for Sun Mo. "Su Taiqing treats Sun Mo as his successor."

"Why?"

Lu Feng started. After that, jealousy appeared on his face.

Saint Gate's Sect Lord. This was the peak of the great teacher world, who didn't want this position?

"It's best not to antagonize Sun Mo in the meantime!"

The black-robed man warned.

He had been in the shadows making arrangements in the Great Xia for a decade. So, it was fine even if the Xia Emperor died. He could just erect another Xia Emperor.

"Roger!"

Lu Feng silently sighed. It seemed like his teacher still had feelings for Sun Mo.

Then Lu Feng thought about it carefully. If his own child was trash, he also wouldn't give a damn about him. But if his child was the number one in the world, it was tough even if he didn't want to be happy.

This was because Sun Mo was his teacher's seed!

...

Sun Mo was extremely astonished. Even after he had entered the region of Great Tang and Chang'an could be seen in the distance, the mastermind hadn't approached him yet.

Why did the other party give up?

It couldn't be because he was handsome and the other party felt reluctant to kill him, right?

"It seems like something I don't know must have happened!"

Sun Mo went through the possible reasons in his mind and no longer cared about it. He started to plan for his life in the next two years.

As for the school, they had to continuously recruit good teachers and do their best to have a great student supply, with students of better aptitudes. After that, they had to try and enter the 'A'-grade.

As for himself as an individual, he had to become a 6-stars great teacher. Also, his current cultivation base was somewhat low and didn't match up to his rank.

Ding!

"Congratulations on becoming a 5-stars great teacher. Reward: 2x mysterious treasure chest!"

Ding!

"Congratulations. Li Ziqi obtained first place in the Five Empires War Discussion and gained glory for you. Reward: 3x mysterious treasure chests."

Ding!

“Congratulations on completing an achievement. You are now famous through the Nine Provinces and everyone in the world knows your name. Reward: 2x mysterious treasure chests!”

The long-absent system’s congratulation finally rang out, thrice.

Sun Mo had planned to open some chests as he anticipated that it would be a boring journey. But Li Yingqi, who received the news from the diplomatic group, actually showed up personally 20 miles away from the city to welcome them.

“Beloved Teacher Sun, you have truly broadened my horizons!”

Li Yingqi didn’t wait for Sun Mo to bow and already pulled on Sun Mo’s arm as he laughed loudly. “Sigh, This Emperor is truly regretful to be unable to watch the war discussion personally!”

“Your Majesty, you are praising me too much!”

Sun Mo was humble.

“Do you want to become This Emperor’s State Teacher*?”

Li Yingqi invited.

State teachers of China was a title given by the emperors to some individuals of high learning. In movies of the modern era, state teachers were always depicted as baddies.

However, state teachers of the Nine Provinces were different. This meant that the person was the teacher of the entire empire. If one wanted to become a state teacher, their star-ranks not only had to be extremely high, but they also had to have great contributions to the empire.

Han Cangshui really wanted to obtain the title ‘State Teacher’ but sadly, he wasn’t able to get his wish because he had no contributions.

“Royal Brother, how can you ask in such a manner?”

Li Xiu rolled her eyes at Li Yingqi. (You should directly send out a royal commandment to announce it.)

“Beloved Subject Sun has the demeanor of a Saint, how would I dare to make assumptions on his behalf? I naturally have to consider his opinion!”

Li Yingqi explained. The more he looked at Sun Mo, the fonder he felt.

Naturally, what made Li Yingqi the happiest was that Sun Mo had exposed the crafty plot of his formidable enemy, the Xia Emperor and even killed him.

Both the Great Tang and Great Xia were two super empires and had competed with each other in many things. However, Li Yingqi was always the loser, and the commoners publicly felt that he was inferior to the Xia Emperor. Now that the Xia Emperor was finished, Li Yingqi was so happy upon receiving the news that he had almost granted amnesty to all the prisoners.

After that, Sun Mo stayed in the royal palace. His students followed him as well, benefitting from his glory.

...

“Royal Sister, how do you think This Emperor should reward Sun Mo?”

Li Yingqi felt quite a headache.

Mainly it was because the Qi Emperor had directly given Sun Mo a city. If his rewards were too lowly, wouldn't that make it seem that he was stingy?

But Li Yingqi was truly reluctant to give up a city.

“Royal Brother, do you think Sun Mo will care for a city? Do you think he will care for titles like ‘state teacher’, ‘imperial preceptor’, or ‘grand tutor’?”

Li Xiu sighed. Her elder brother had a weakness and that was that he wasn't magnanimous enough.

“Isn't that something all great teachers want in their dreams?”

Li Yingqi frowned.

“Sun Mo is currently 25 years old. Given his talent, he can definitely be a secondary saint. If he puts in more effort, it's also possible for him to become a saint. Do you feel that he cannot become the Saint Gate's Sect Lord?”

Li Xiu counter-asked.

Li Yingqi sank into silence.

“Many major characters want to get close to Sun Mo, but they are still stuck in the queue.”

Li Xiu mentally mused. (If it wasn't for Li Ziqi, you probably wouldn't even have the chance to speak with Sun Mo. Look at the Qi Emperor, he could place the prestige of an emperor down and was willing to simp for Sun Mo and go to the extent of wanting to marry his daughter to him for the sake of forging a closer relationship.)

“Alright, I'll give him a city!”

Li Yingqi decided.

“You should give him five!”

Li Xiu responded in a heavy tone.

“What?” Li Yingqi jumped up. “Have you gone crazy? Although our Great Tang Empire is strong, we don't have any excess land!”

“The Qi Emperor wants to marry Jiang Yuzhen to Sun Mo. If they get together, their child will definitely become the next Qi Emperor!”

Li Xiu divulged.

“If that's the case, we shouldn't be giving Sun Mo so many things!”

Li Yingqi rejected.

Li Xiu had originally wanted to discuss with Li Yingqi about Li Ziqi's probability of ascending the throne. However, after seeing Li Yingqi's attitude, she suddenly had no more mood.

What was called a pig-like teammate?

This was it!

(A trump card is beside your hand yet you don't want to grab it. No wonder the Great Tang has declined in your hands.)

"Royal brother, I'll take my leave!"

Li Xiu exited the palace and went to look for Sun Mo directly. She also sent a message to Zheng Qingfang. He told him to rush to Chang'an with all haste he could muster.

...

Sun Mo meditated for two hours and practiced some of his martial techniques. After that, he saw that the time to have breakfast was approaching, hence he decided to call Lu Zhiruo over as he started to open his treasure chests!

"Open three first!"

Very soon, three skill books appeared before Sun Mo, floating in front of his eyes.

Ding!

"Congratulations on obtaining the [Upgraded version: Myriad Equipment Manual]. This book has records of some weaponsmithing techniques that have been lost in time or are extremely rare."

Ding!

"Congratulations on obtaining the [Beginner's Encyclopedia of Weaponsmithing]. Proficiency-level: Elementary!"

Ding!

"Congratulations on obtaining the [Magical Gu-Bugs Encyclopedia: 100 types]."

Hu~

Sun Mo whistled and happily rubbed Lu Zhiruo's head. As expected of his lucky mascot, her aura of luck was extremely strong.

These three skill books were extremely practical. This was especially so for the weaponsmithing one. After Sun Mo learned it, he would be able to give lectures on this subject.

"Continue!"

Sun Mo urged. He wanted to open as many as he could before the luck ran out.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

A crisp sound rang out continuously.

“Congratulations on obtaining the fourth part of the Undying Mystic Art!”

“Congratulations, you obtained a great teacher halo: Book in Hand!”

“Congratulations on obtaining a saint-tier prescription: Hundred Flowers Thousand Bones!”

“Congratulations on obtaining the sixth part of the Undying Mystic Art!”

Sun Mo’s spirit stirred as his eyes grew bright. All of these were good stuff.

“I feel myself growing stronger again!”

Sun Mo immediately learned the skill book containing the great teacher halo.

This halo was a punishment-type halo. After using it, you would cause students to generate the impulse of wanting to improve.

It wasn’t that some students didn’t want to learn. Rather, they were too lazy and had no motivation. Hence, this Book in Hand was the best treatment method.

The Undying Mystic Art was a peak-grade saint-tier cultivation art that was split into nine parts. Today, he finally obtained all the parts.

This cultivation art had a total of 18 levels and upon reaching perfected mastery, one could live forever and even become an immortal.

Many people couldn’t achieve this cultivation realm, but it was fine. As long as trained in the Undying Mystic Art, there would be an effect of revival via fetus breath.

It meant that after one was heavily injured, they could enter a hibernation state of fetal breathing. The length depended on the extent of the injury and one’s constitution. The hibernation time might be long or short, a few days or even several years. But regardless, once they were awakened, their injuries would be fully healed.

“This cultivation art is good!”

Sun Mo decided to impart this to his students tonight. It could be considered an additional life-saving method. As for himself?

He wouldn’t train in any cultivation arts his entire life. He could simply spam time emblems, wasn’t that good?!

For this trip to Western Jing, Sun Mo had accumulated over a million favorable impression points. He didn’t know what to buy.

Finally, Sun Mo experienced what it felt like to be a wealthy tycoon.

Beautiful!

“You can go rest!”

Sun Mo instructed Lu Zhiruo. After that, he admired the prescription he had just obtained and after learning of its effect, he was completely shocked.

Extracting the essence of a hundred flowers and the bone marrow of a thousand ferocious beasts. One had to use Trisaint Water and Trisaint Fire and refine them for a total of 72 days before they could obtain a Hundred Flowers Thousand Bones Pill.

After consuming this pill, one's bone aptitude would be greatly enhanced.

"Isn't this the savior of trash?"

Sun Mo felt that there was hope for Li Ziqi now. But after seeing the concoction process, he felt a headache. Even the summary was so complicated, so the difficulty of the concocting process would surely be even greater.

In any case, he wouldn't be able to do it.

"Luckily, I'm smart enough to have formed a good relationship with Mei Yazhi.

Since there was a friend to ask for help, why would he not do so?

(Speaking of which, I can be considered successful in my career now. Should I start considering matters of my own happiness? I should pay a visit to the 'flower streets' of Chang'an!)

Sun Mo was preparing to head to the training division. He heard that the women there were all families of officials who had committed crimes and their standards were very high.

"Little Silver!"

Sun Mo sat on the eight-gate cloud and left the area.

...

In the wee hours of the morning, Sun Mo returned to the palace. When he pushed the door to his residence open, he saw Li Xiu sitting before a table and reading a book.

"Mn?"

Sun Mo retreated and glanced at the surroundings. "Did I enter the wrong place?"

"You didn't!"

Li Xiu placed the book down and rapidly swept her gaze over to Sun Mo. (Did he go out to enjoy himself?) She subconsciously sniffed the air and discovered that other than a faint alcoholic smell, there was no smell of rouge.

Sun Mo didn't enter. After all, the eldest princess was someone with a husband. If they stayed in a room together during the night, it would surely be detrimental to her reputation.

"Come in first!"

Li Xiu saw Sun Mo not moving. Hence, she pulled him into the house and closed the door.

After a period of chatting, Sun Mo's expression turned heavy.

Li Xiu was planning a coup d'état.

“I’m afraid of being executed!”

Sun Mo activated Divine Sight to observe Li Xiu. After confirming that she wasn’t probing him, he heaved a sigh of relief.

“That won’t happen. I’m 70% confident!”

Li Xiu consoled him.

Sun Mo fell silent.

“To Ziqi, this is an absolute opportunity!”

Li Xiu also told Sun Mo about how Li Yingqi was unwilling to reward him heavily.

“Eldest Princess, don’t treat me like a fool. You are the one who wants to seize control, right?”

Sun Mo’s gaze turned sharp.

Li Ziqi was so young. Even if she ascended successfully, she wouldn’t be able to convince everyone. Besides, she wouldn’t be a match for those scheming old subjects.

At that time, a person she could trust would definitely be needed to subdue the other high officials. For this position, the only candidate was Li Xiu.

Li Xiu originally wanted to deny it but after seeing Sun Mo’s clear gaze, she gave up.

“That’s right!” Li Xiu bluntly spoke, “I was moved by the words you spoke during that day at the Victory Public Square. In the past, I only wanted to assist my royal brother to help him build a great empire. However, he disappoints me too much.”

Sun Mo could hear Li Xiu’s honesty and gradually understood that she was a strong career woman who was extremely ambitious. Her dream was to build a glorious Tang Empire.

She still thought of her relationship with the Emperor, hence, she wanted Li Ziqi to take the throne. If not, she would have openly rebelled.

“Sun Mo, only I can help you actualize those dreams of yours!”

Li Xiu persuaded.

(I was just cooking chicken soup for everyone to drink. Why did you have to believe that?)

Sun Mo felt a headache. This was rebellion and not treating someone for a meal. The guilty party would have to be beheaded.

“My dreams have always been here, you are the one who ignited them!”

As Li Xiu spoke, she suddenly stretched out her hand and pressed down on Sun Mo’s chest. “You are the one that allowed me to feel motivated in life.”

Sun Mo smiled awkwardly.

To people like Li Xiu who didn't lack money and authority, life was a simple game. However, she simply had to have an ambitious heart and was unwilling to take the easy way out. Since that was the case, she could only increase the difficulty of the game herself.

"Do you want to hear the voice of my dreams?"

Li Xiu lifted Sun Mo's hand and placed it on her chest.

"Eh!"

Sun Mo jumped in fright and hurriedly tried to struggle free, but he didn't succeed.

"Sun Mo, why weren't you born 20 years earlier?"

Li Xiu sighed and slowly stroked Sun Mo's face.

Sun Mo was somewhat at a loss of what to do.

The eldest princess's lips leaned closer and closer, stopping an inch away from Sun Mo. The meaning was clear. As long as Sun Mo wanted, he would be able to sleep with her.

Honestly speaking, Li Xiu was pretty good-looking and had an outstanding aura. Her figure was voluptuous and the most important thing was that she had a high status, a princess that wielded immense authority and power...

Speaking of which, those princesses in the Great Tang of his world also loved to fool around. The Taiping Princess and Gaoyang Princess were two well-known sl*ts!

Pak!

Sun Mo pushed Li Xiu away.

"Don't act like this, you are Ziqi's aunt!" Sun Mo inhaled deeply. "I'll help you!"

Li Xiu smiled and bowed slightly. "Many thanks, Imperial Preceptor Sun!"

This was a good man with principles. He would only reek of alcohol and not the smell of lady perfume. This indicated that he didn't visit brothels to fool around. A man like this was extremely rare in the Nine Provinces.

What a pity!

Chapter 1227: Wind and Clouds of Chang'an

Li Yingqi organized a very extravagant dinner banquet for the Great Tang diplomatic group. But because Li Xuan's performance was lackluster and Han Cangshui didn't take up any responsibility as the main commander, Li Yingqi publicly proclaimed his unhappiness during the banquet and harshly berated Li Xuan.

(All of you are trash that cost me the tax money of a city. If you guys work harder, I won't have to give Sun Mo so much.)

Li Yingqi told Li Xuan to meditate in seclusion for a year. At the same time, he also praised Li Ziqi and Sun Mo and granted them a vast amount of wealth and also official positions.

However, what made people the most envious was that Li Yingqi bestowed the position of Jinling's city lord to Sun Mo. In the future, as long as he didn't rebel or commit any great crimes, he would be granted full amnesty. At the same time, he was eligible to obtain one-tenth of the taxes Jinling paid annually.

This was Jinling. Leaving aside the Great Tang, even in the entire Nine Provinces, it was considered a top-level city. It was rich, fashionable, and luxurious!

Being its city lord was a dream many people would have.

However, these high officials could sense a strange scent from this.

In the past, the owner of Jinling had been Prince Li Zixing. The taxes he kept would basically enter his own treasury. The empire had only received a pittance.

Li Yingqi had arranged Li Xiu's feudal land to be Jinling because he wanted her to contend against Prince Li Zixing. Later on, the eldest princess had won and the amount of tax the empire received from Jinling also increased. However, Li Yingqi always felt that she had embezzled a portion of the tax.

Li Xiu was very talented and didn't lose out to males. If she devoted herself to politics, she could definitely become a premier. Li Yingqi couldn't rest at ease knowing that Li Xiu was based in an important place like Jinling.

Now that Li Xiu and Sun Mo were so close, in addition to their relationship with Li Ziqi, Li Yingqi was honestly somewhat nervous.

This power was enough to control his reign and threaten his position.

Li Yingqi was afraid of being forced to abdicate. This was why he thought of this idea of giving Jinling to Sun Mo.

By doing so, he could make it seem that he was more generous than the Qi Emperor and could also set Li Xiu and Sun Mo against each other.

"Sun Mo and Li Xiu will definitely fall out with each other to seize the power and authority of Jinling. Haha, I'm truly a genius!"

(A genius great teacher? A talented eldest princess? Sorry, you guys are both my chess pieces!)

After sending Sun Mo away, Li Yingqi started to enjoy his life of debauchery again.

"The enemy I hated the most has died, so I'm feeling as lonely as the snow now!"

Li Yingqi drank a mouthful of delicious wine and admired the song and dance.

These dancers were all chosen from unwedded girls below 16 from the entire empire. They were as mesmerizing as lotuses that hadn't bloomed yet.

Compared to the Qi Emperor who loved older females, Li Yingqi loved young girls. He had read an ancient book before. If one slept with a young girl daily, it would grant that person boundless energy.

In the past, some officials had kept advising him repeatedly not to. But after Li Yingqi had put six people to death via beating, no one dared to say anything anymore.

“Haha, you girls have danced well. But it would be nicer if all of you remove your skirts!”

Li Yingqi finished his cup of wine in a single gulp and stood up, walking toward the stage. “Allow This Emperor to take off your clothes for all of you!”

The girls immediately feigned panic as though they were frightened rabbits as they dodged Li Yingqi.

The musicians were used to this scene. This was something that would always happen.

Li Yingqi chased after the girls like dancing butterflies in the air. He groped one and kissed another. But suddenly, he stumbled and fell onto the ground. His body started convulsing.

“Your Majesty!”

All the dancers and officials knelt immediately as their faces turned pale from fright. They then saw white froth bubbling from the emperor’s mouth and urine was flowing out, staining his dragon robes.

The news of the emperor suffering a stroke swiftly circulated through the entire royal palace. After that, this news got locked down and discussion about this was forbidden.

Li Yingqi’s parents had passed away long ago, so he was the highest authority in this palace. But now that he suffered a stroke, everyone had to listen to the person with the next highest authority, and it was none other than Li Xiu.

The current queen wasn’t Li Xuan’s blood mother and wasn’t good in palace schemes. She was very into Buddhism, so she didn’t have much power.

When Li Xuan who was grounded in the crown prince palace heard this news, he firstly felt surprised and then dread. He didn’t dare to wait a single moment and directly rushed to the emperor palace.

Li Xuan asked the imperial doctors in detail about Li Yingqi’s condition. After that, he knelt for a few minutes before the bed before he got called out by Han Cangshui.

“Xuan`er, what do you plan to do?”

Han Cangshui asked as his gaze paid attention to the surroundings.

“I’ll do my filial duty and pray for my royal father!”

Li Xuan’s answer was average and naturally caused Han Cangshui to feel even more disappointed.

“Fool!”

Han Cangshui grew angry. “Are you still a royal prince? Have you not learned how to be an emperor before? The throne only has space for one person!”

“Ah?”

Li Xuan felt his heart trembling as he listened.

“Whether his majesty could wake up or not, or if he would have sequelae after waking up, they are both aspects that are worthy of consideration. Moreover, even if he woke up fine, what about it?”

Han Cangshui looked at Li Xuan. “A country cannot survive a day without an emperor. Can’t you step up and take the role?”

“...”

Putong! Putong!

Li Xuan’s heartbeat was very fast, and sweat appeared on his forehead. He wanted the throne but after considering it for a few minutes, he still chose to shake his head.

What if he failed?

“Trash!”

Han Cangshui couldn’t bear to listen anymore. “You might be benevolent and don’t want to usurp the throne. But what about your younger sister? Don’t forget that your performance in the Five Empires War Discussion was extremely terrible, while Li Ziqi was shining with radiance. In addition to Li Xiu’s support, do you think you still can ascend and become the emperor?”

“T...that can’t be, right?”

Li Xuan gulped down a mouthful of saliva. “Even if I want to ascend to the throne, those high officials probably wouldn’t agree!”

“Are you stupid? Is your crown prince faction a fake one? Quickly get those high officials that support you to act. As for the neutral officials, you should immediately pay them a visit and hint that there would be benefits if they assist you.”

Han Cangshui was speechless.

“W...wouldn’t this act be a little too lowly and despicable?”

Li Xuan didn’t want to continue thinking in this vein. He felt that he was the crown prince and there was no need for him to lower his status.

Pak!

Han Cangshui couldn’t take it anymore and directly slapped Li Xuan.

“As long as you become the emperor in the future, all of them have to kneel before you. Whether they die or live will be decided by you. In addition, this is known as ‘respect for the wise’, do you understand?”

Han Cangshui roared in a low voice, “Go quickly. If something happens, I’ll tank it for you.”

Li Xuan gritted his teeth and decided to go all out.

He could also sense that his aunt and Ziqi had a very close relationship. If they allied to seize the throne, he would truly not be their match.

The crown prince faction got into action, and Li Xuan continuously paid visits to the various high officials.

Li Yingqi had suffered a stroke suddenly, but no one suspected it as something that was deliberately caused by someone. Firstly, the highly-skilled imperial physicians had done a check. Although Li Yingqi wasn't a muddle-headed emperor, he was very lustful and loved playing with women. After he had ascended to the throne, he would select a bevy of beauties from the commoners to join his harem every year.

Li Yingqi had many sons, but the vast majority of them were mediocre and even inferior to Li Xuan. Fortunately, Li Xuan had been the crown prince for over a decade, so he naturally had some foundations. After he went around paying visits, quite a lot of officials decided to support him.

Li Xuan felt that the current situation was becoming better, and he was getting closer and closer to the throne. His ego started to swell and sometimes in private, he even used the word 'This emperor' to refer to himself when speaking to others.

However, his advantage only lasted until Li Xiu and Li Ziqi returned to Chang'an. After that, his influence rapidly dwindled.

"Why would things be like this?"

Li Xuan panicked because when he went to look for some other high officials, they either pretended to be sick and refused to meet him, or they didn't give him any concrete promises.

This was a bad omen.

Because Li Ziqi was a princess, she had no qualifications to be the emperor. But now, there were high officials supporting her.

...

Han Cangshui went to the crown prince palace. When he arrived, he discovered that this fellow had been drinking and was already drunk.

"What are you doing?"

Han Cangshui was very angry. (At such crucial times, you actually want to get drunk?)

"My aunt persuaded me to think for the sake of the Great Tang and beseeched me to take the initiative to give up the throne."

Li Xuan sobbed. He respected Li Xiu very much but today, Li Xiu had hurt his heart.

"Have you agreed?"

Han Cangshui narrowed his eyes.

"Is it useful even if I disagree? Right now, my aunt has a very great influence and power in court!"

Li Xuan felt that he couldn't win.

“If you don’t even dare to fight for it, you have already lost!”

Han Cangshui encouraged him.

“Your Highness, Zheng Qingfang is requesting an audience.”

A court eunuch knocked on the door as he reported.

“Grandpa Zheng is here?”

Li Xuan had a look of joy on his face. “Teacher, I’m going to meet with Grandpa Zheng first. If he supports me, I won’t have to be afraid of my aunt!”

As a doyen that had served the imperial court for three generations, Zheng Qingfang still had great influence although he had retired.

Upon seeing Zheng Qingfang in the guest hall, Li Xuan hurriedly headed over and didn’t give him any chance to bow. “Grandpa Zheng, my royal father is heavily ill. Could you come back to court and take charge of the general situation? Without you, the Great Tang cannot make it!”

Li Xuan was still knowledgeable enough to say such pleasant words. He directly gave Zheng Qingfang a tall hat to wear first.

Zheng Qingfang didn’t let his mind fly around in joy after hearing the praises. He persisted in executing the bow. After that, he earnestly spoke, “Your Highness, for the sake of our empire’s future, please give the throne to Princess Ziqi!”

“What?”

Li Xuan was stunned. His heart instantly sank deep into an icy cellar. If even Zheng Qingfang supported Li Ziqi, how the hell would he be able to win?

“Grandpa Zheng, but why?”

Li Xuan was anxious now. “Are there any aspects of me that you are unhappy about? I can change!”

“...”

Zheng Qingfang bitterly smiled. If Li Ziqi wasn’t there as a comparison example, Li Xuan was actually passable.

Honestly speaking, Zheng Qingfang who favored boys over girls didn’t really want to support Li Ziqi’s ascension. After all, there had never been a female emperor in the history of Great Tang. But Li Ziqi was just too outstanding. Moreover, she also had Sun Mo as her personal teacher.

Before he came to meet with the crown prince, Li Xiu had met him and publicly expressed her desire to support Li Ziqi to take the throne.

What did this mean?

It meant that even if Li Xuan ascended to the throne, it would still be useless. Li Xiu could still launch a coup d’état. In addition to Sun Mo’s influence in the great teacher world, even if they couldn’t overthrow Li Xuan, they could still heavily ‘damage’ the Great Tang.

“Your Highness, why don’t you let Ziqi have a try first? If she cannot do it well, can you take over?”

Zheng Qingfang suggested.

“Can the emperor position have a trial session?”

Li Xuan ridiculed. Whoever was on the throne naturally wouldn’t be willing to give it up.

After a bit, the two of them ended their chat and departed with unhappiness.

When Han Cangshui saw the depressed look on Li Xuan’s face, he knew that nothing good must have come out of the meeting.

“Teacher, that old ghost Zheng Qingfang is also inclined to support Li Ziqi!”

Li Xuan felt very miserable. “Our probability of winning is too low.”

“You want to give up?” Han Cangshui questioned.

“What should I do?”

Li Xuan was very helpless. In Great Tang, the two people with the most influence, Li Xiu and Zheng Qingfang, were both standing on Li Ziqi’s side.

“We can only strike first to gain the upper hand!”

Han Cangshui also knew that they wouldn’t be able to win in a fair fight.. They could only kill them first.

Chapter 1228: I Could Tell That You Aren’t a Good Person!

“Ah?”

Li Xuan was somewhat panicked.

“Currently, Chang`an is your home ground. When Li Xiu’s soldiers come here, you are finished!”

Han Cangshui spurred him on. “Kill them tonight!”

“B...but that’s my aunt!”

Just as Li Xuan’s voice faded, Han Cangshui launched a slap on his face.

“Since ancient times up until now, which emperor wasn’t a ruthless individual?”

Han Cangshui hated iron for not being steel and gave a backhand slap to Li Xuan. “Besides, do you think that I won’t notice? Your words are an excuse. What you are afraid of is that you might not live up to the responsibility of being an emperor!”

Bluntly speaking, Li Xuan was a coward. He didn’t dare to do major things like this.

Li Xuan clutched his face and didn’t dare to rebut.

“Right now, the strongest troops in Chang`an are the Chang`an guards. As long as you control them, we will win for sure!”

Han Cangshui analyzed.

The Chang`an guards were stationed in the capital. Without the emperor’s order, the armies from other places were not permitted to enter, or they would be punished according to military law.

“Li Cheng has pledged his loyalty to me in the past. But if my aunt is here, things might change!”

Li Xuan was worried.

Li Cheng’s original name was Niu Cheng, but because of his outstanding achievements in battle, he was bestowed the right to use the nation’s surname. He was one of the highest officials in the military.

“What aunt? It’s Li Xiu!”

Han Cangshui scolded. “I’ll handle Li Cheng. But you have to be the one to surround Li Xiu and Li Ziqi!”

“Right!”

Li Xuan understood that if he wasn’t at the helm, no one would dare to kill the two princesses.

Han Cangshui left and Li Xuan first got his own soldiers to lay low to avoid alerting the enemies.

At this moment, Li Xiu would surely send people to monitor the crown prince palace. They would absolutely not think that the Chang`an guards would act, becoming a decisive force.

Late at night, in a residence.

“Teacher, why don’t you meet with my other martial siblings?”

Li Xuan felt somewhat worried. At this moment, it was naturally for the best if their combat strength was at its peak. If not, how could they deal with the experts around Li Xiu?

“They are all being monitored. If they appear suddenly, they will definitely draw Li Xiu’s attention.”

Han Cangshui explained.

Honestly speaking, this was a part of Han Cangshui’s preparations.

If their plan failed, he could say that this was done by Li Xuan alone, and he had tried persuading Li Xuan but failed. But once his disciples took part in the plan, he wouldn’t be able to clear his name no matter what.

“The time is no longer early. Let’s move out!”

Han Cangshui urged.

“General Li, I’ll have to leave this to you!”

Li Xuan clasped his fists. However, he discovered that Li Cheng was too wooden tonight. He couldn’t even be bothered to speak.

Bang! Bang!

A signal flare shot up the sky.

The Chang'an guards that were stationed in the city suddenly emerged from various places and galloped toward the eldest princess manor.

Roughly 20 minutes later, the fastest troops had arrived there and surrounded the gigantic manor. Very soon, more and more soldiers gathered here.

"Li Cheng, what are you doing? Are you planning to rebel?"

The manor gate swung open. Li Xiu walked out as she berated loudly.

But no one responded.

"We've confirmed her presence, why are you still in a daze? Quickly give the order!"

Han Cangshui felt somewhat unhappy when he saw Li Xuan still didn't give the order.

"Gurgle!"

Li Xuan was somewhat nervous. His palms were filled with sweat.

"Do you think you can still retreat now?" Han Cangshui roared in a low voice. "Give the order!"

"S...should we discuss this further?"

Li Xuan asked.

Pak!

Han Cangshui lifted his hands and launched a slap. "Trash, how can you be certain that there's no secret tunnel within? If you continue delaying, everyone inside might have fled."

Li Xuan sank into conflict. All of a sudden, his brain short-circuited and it seemed that he said something but he wasn't sure what. When he regained his senses, he discovered that the troops were already attacking. Countless fire arrows were fired toward the Eldest Princess Manor.

"Ah?"

Li Xuan clutched his head.

Under the suppression caused by the fire arrows, the soldiers charged in. If it wasn't that they had to personally witness Li Xiu's death, the most efficient way would be to set this entire place on fire.

Resistance was very weak, so weak to the extent that Han Cangshui felt a sense of unease.

"Reporting to the crown prince, only a few slaves are in the manor!"

A scout reported.

"I...it failed?"

Li Xuan's expression was like a waxed candle. He stared pleadingly at Han Cangshui.

Han Cangshui was greatly anxious. "Just give the order, what are you waiting for?"

(Truly worthless!)

Also, the Li Xiu that had appeared earlier should be a fake one. It should be another person whose facial features were changed by Sun Mo using cosmetic surgery.

The galloping sounds of the Chang'an's guards shattered the silence of the night as several thousand soldiers rushed straight for the royal palace.

The soldiers of the royal palace were as though they were facing their archenemies!

Seeing that the gates are tightly shut, Han Cangshui urged. "Quickly make them open the gate!"

"I...I'm the crown prince Li Xuan. Open the gate quickly!"

Li Xuan rode on his horse and moved in front of his troops

The soldiers didn't dare to delay and hurriedly opened the door.

Seeing the 'hole' that was lit up by torches, it was unknown why, but Han Cangshui began to feel some dread.

"Forget it, we have reached this step, so we have to give it a try!"

Han Cangshui didn't want to involve himself in danger, so he could only get the crown prince to act.

"Crown Prince, to the victor goes the spoils. Tonight is the night of your destiny, go and seize it!"

Li Xuan's expression changed. When he spoke again, his voice was now filled with confidence.

"Everyone, come with me!"

Rumble~

The sounds of horses galloping rang out as the troops charged in.

There was an inner city in the royal palace. At the second city gate, when Li Xuan got near, he discovered that no matter how he shouted, the soldiers stationed in the inner city refused to budge.

"As expected, we have fallen into a trap!"

Han Cangshui turned and discovered that the outer city gate had closed.

They were now like trapped turtles in a jar.

The soldiers panicked. This was a bad location. Once those soldiers on the city walls fired arrows, they would die for sure because there were no covers.

"Princess Li Xiu is publicly harming the Great Tang Crown Prince. She is rebelling!"

Li Xuan roared. "If you guys renounce the darkness and seek the light now, I can exempt you guys from death!"

The soldiers on the city walls didn't move.

"There's no need to shout anymore. They are all my men!"

Li Xiu was clad in deep-red leather armor and a blood-red cloak. She walked out along with Li Ziqi who was similarly armed.

“How is this possible?”

Li Xuan was stunned. Not long after Li Yingqi had suffered a stroke, Li Xuan had changed the people around Li Yingqi to his own trusted subordinates.

“Because I have a longer time to prepare compared to you. These people were merely acting when they pledged their support to you!”

Li Xiu coldly laughed. “Also, Han Cangshui, there’s no need to pretend anymore. I know it’s you!”

“I don’t know what you are talking about.”

Li Xuan coldly snorted. “I’m the Great Tang Crown Prince!”

“Ze, do you think that only you alone know about the forbidden puppetry technique that uses alchemy to create a puppet? Very coincidentally, although Great Teacher Sun doesn’t know them, he is a grandmaster puppeteer and ultimately has some understanding about such a forbidden technique.”

Li Xiu mocked.

“What? The crown prince is a puppet?”

“That’s impossible, right?”

“Speaking of which, I was wondering why the indecisive crown prince suddenly became so decisive. So, he was being controlled?”

The nearby guards were all whispering in discussion.

Some people were truly worried for Li Xuan, while others intentionally chose to agree with Li Xiu’s words whether there was proof or not as they wanted to ‘bleach’ themselves.

This situation was very clear—the crown prince would lose. Hence, they wanted to disassociate themselves from him.

“Great Teacher Han, you are using a gu-bug to control the prince and you intend to rebel. This is a major crime!”

Sun Mo appeared on the city walls and glanced down at the people below. He suddenly felt the same as Emperor Li Shimin of his world, when Li Shimin killed his siblings to secure the throne.

“Do you have any proof?”

Li Xuan roared.

“When we participated in the Five Empires War Discussion in Western Jing, I could already tell that you aren’t a good person. The eldest princess basically had no dreams of supporting Ziqi to take the throne. She did so because she wanted to force your hand so you would reveal some clues!”

Sun Mo explained.

Naturally, he said this, so their side would seem to be on the side of justice and righteousness. In reality, Li Xiu truly wanted to usurp the authority.

“To the winner goes the spoils, there’s nothing much that needs to be said. I admit defeat but you are not to implicate my teacher!”

Li Xuan howled.

“What should we do since this fellow refused to admit it?”

Li Ziqi asked in a low voice.

Chapter 1229: Female Emperor of the Great Tang!

“Don’t panic!”

Sun Mo patted Li Ziqi’s shoulder and stared at Li Xuan before speaking to Han Cangshui. “The pill you concocted is named Ten-Thousand-Year Soul Replacement Pill. Its concoction process is very complicated and dangerous. Not only does one require an extremely high mastery of alchemy, but they also need to master a grandmaster-level puppeteer technique.”

“Nonsense!”

Han Cangshui had a look of mockery on his face, but his heart was thumping wildly because what Sun Mo had said was correct.

This pill prescription was something Han Cangshui had found by chance when he had been adventuring in a bazaar at the Darkness Continent.

“The creator of this pill named it so because he wanted to indicate that as long as one consumed this pill, they would be able to shift their soul to another body and live for another ten thousand years!”

Sun Mo explained. “Although the creator of this pill was a grandmaster of alchemy and was surrounded by many lifespan-extension pills, his body had been corroded by pill toxin and he was no longer healthy. And the longer he lived, the worse his body became. This was why he decided to create a pill like this.”

The night wind was cold, and everyone was listening attentively.

“Do you know that this alchemy pill has a very great side effect? Otherwise, why didn’t the creator of this pill continue to live up until now?”

Sun Mo laughed and intentionally whetted Han Cangshui’s appetite.

“What side effect?”

A female voice rang out.

“Aunt Mei, I’m waiting for Han Cangshui to ask me the question!”

Sun Mo bitterly smiled.

“There’s no solution, I’m very curious too!”

Mei Yazhi walked out of the shadows.

“Mei Yazhi!” Li Xuan was shocked. “Why did you come?”

She was the most dazzling major character among the youngest generation in the alchemy world. She was only 30+ years old and was already at the near-ancestor level.

“Sun Mo is my friend!”

Mei Yazhi rolled her eyes and mentally mused that Sun Mo was very naughty at times. (I no longer have time to concoct alchemy pills, but I might soon have to raise kids for my daughter. Sigh, Ziyu didn't put in enough effort.)

She had been by Sun Mo's side for over a year but hadn't captured his heart yet. (How slow, can't you just use alchemy pills? You are from an alchemy clan!)

“This pill is too perfect to the extent where it can perfectly transfer a part of your soul into the body of the victim to control it!”

Sun Mo glanced at Li Xuan. “For example, right now, you can control Li Xuan's body at will and do whatever you want to do. Since you have the prescription, you should know that as time passed, the remnant soul you sent out would grow stronger and stronger. But sadly, this soul isn't the original soul of Li Xuan's body and when you encounter powerful professions that are capable of controlling souls, like spiritual controllers, witches, soul puppet artisans, etc, your soul would face the risk of being imprisoned.

“And because your soul is very powerful, after they imprison your remnant soul, they can use it to greatly affect your original self.”

Han Cangshui's expression grew extremely unsightly. Although he didn't know the art of spiritual control and witchcraft, he was a puppeteer. Hence, he could understand that the theoretical hypothesis brought forth by Sun Mo was true.

“You should know that I'm a spiritual controller that possesses four divine languages of spiritual control, right?”

Sun Mo smiled. “If it wasn't for the fact that I'm worried Li Xuan's soul would be injured, I would have acted!”

“I understand. All of these are your schemes, right?”

Han Cangshui finally saw through it.

Sun Mo shrugged and suddenly waved his hand.

Divine language of spiritual control: Land Proof, activated!

As an 8-stars great teacher, although Han Cangshui was still a level away from becoming a secondary saint, he was already considered a major character in the great teacher world where he could call the wind and summon the rain.

He naturally had numerous students and because Han Cangshui was an alchemist, he could make use of his alchemy pills to build a spider web-like network.

Any emperor would face huge trouble if they killed an 8-stars great teacher without a reasonable reason.

Han Cangshui's plot to seize the throne was too bizarre. Sun Mo had to wait for him to possess Li Xuan and mobilized a large number of troops first because Sun Mo could expose him.

Swish~

Li Xuan pulled his sword and slashed out with a roar of rage. He also jumped down from his war horse. However, the beam of light from Sun Mo was too quick, and it slammed into Li Xuan's body in the blink of an eye.

Boom!

A bright light flashed from Li Xuan's body. He coughed out a mouthful of blood as a human-shaped illusory shadow drifted out of him.

"It failed?"

Li Xiu frowned.

"Don't be anxious, I still have contingency plans!"

Sun Mo threw out a withered-looking little doll weaved from straw. His hands then swiftly formed hand seals and a while later, the straw person started to breathe.

This was the puppet soul absorption technique, and it was specially used to capture souls.

This time around, Sun Mo succeeded.

The soul that resisted the divine language of spiritual control earlier had been successfully captured.

"Alright, we have proof now. We can arrest Han Cangshui!"

Sun Mo heaved a sigh of relief.

The main situation was already set.

Even if Han Cangshui fled today, he would still fall into the net because he could no longer show his face in the Nine Provinces. However, he wouldn't be able to flee.

Since Sun Mo wanted to capture him, Sun Mo naturally had taken the necessary measures that could lock him down.

...

"Sun Mo, f*** you!"

Han Cangshui, who was still outside the city, tugged on his horse reins and turned to leave. He truly felt so much regret that he could die.

(How good would it be if ambitions didn't surge in my heart!)

(No, this can't be blamed on me. If it wasn't for Sun Mo, I would have succeeded. Just think about it, if it wasn't for Sun Mo saving Li Ziqi, a trash like her that was abandoned by a secondary saint wouldn't be qualified to contend with Li Xuan.)

After waiting 20 years for Li Yingqi to die, Han Cangshui could start his soul transfer plan and marry his daughter to Li Xuan. He could then be the imperial preceptor and might also be a secondary saint. After Li Xuan became the emperor, he would stealthily change the royal descendants of the Li Clan and replace them with the Han Clan.

And if he succeeded, his bloodline would become the new owner of the Great Tang!

"It's all Sun Mo's fault!"

Han Cangshui was so angry that he almost became crazy. All of a sudden, he tugged his horse reins and lifted his head to stare in the distance ahead.

An old man had teleported before him with a single step.

"Secondary Saint Shi?"

Han Cangshui inhaled a breath of cold air.

Damn, in order to capture him, Sun Mo had gone all out and invited a secondary saint.

"Han Cangshui, I didn't expect you to be someone like this!"

Shi Sheng felt very regretful. "If you want to be a great teacher, you should learn how to be a human first. Why do you grow less and less like a human the longer you live?"

"Is there something wrong with my actions?"

When Han Cangshui heard this, he was directly enraged. "I've always felt that the position of the emperor should belong to those who are capable. Li Yingqi, Li Xuan, and the Qi Emperor are useless fools. Just because of their bloodline, they can become emperors forever and enjoy the worship of millions of people? Based on what?!

"I always felt that the descendants of the Han Clan are in no way inferior to them!"

Shi Sheng shook his head. "It was their ancestors who accumulated good karma so they as the latter generations would benefit!"

"So, what's wrong with me doing the same thing now? I'm accumulating good karma so my descendants can be the emperor."

Han Cangshui mocked.

"Disgraceful!" Li Xiu berated. "Men, capture him!"

"Han Cangshui, think on behalf of your clan. Why don't you just surrender?"

Sun Mo rode on his war horse. Upon hearing this, he felt very rueful. If there was a chance to, who wouldn't want to become an emperor?

The royal clans could be considered the most prestigious clans in the world.

Back then, Han Cangshui was also cautious and conscientious and seriously taught Li Xuan. But after he finished concocting the Ten-Thousand-Year Soul Replacement Pill successfully, he started to have other thoughts in his mind.

Li Xiu and Sun Mo were both people whose thoughts were meticulous. Now that they had crafted this plan together, they naturally wouldn't give Han Cangshui any chance to overturn the situation.

"To the victor goes the spoils. I have no complaints. If you guys guarantee to spare my family, I can surrender!"

Han Cangshui could tell that he couldn't escape. Hence, he started to negotiate some conditions.

Harming the emperor and plotting to seize the throne. This was definitely a major crime in all countries where the offender's clan would be thoroughly exterminated. There would be no mercy.

"Impossible!"

Li Xiu didn't agree. From her point of view, Han Cangshui was like a trapped beast. At most, she would sacrifice some soldiers to deal with him. If she didn't kill his entire clan, how would she be able to show the prestige of the Great Tang's royalty?

The battle began.

Sun Mo also prepared to act, but he was stopped by Li Xiu.

"You are too valuable, don't risk it!"

Mei Yazhi didn't come alone this time around. She had brought many helpers with her. Hence, Han Cangshui was captured 16 minutes later.

On the second day, Li Xiu organized a meeting and all 6th-grade officials and above were in attendance.

Li Xiu announced that Han Cangshui had made use of alchemy pills to poison Li Yingqi and seize Li Xuan's soul, and his conspiracy was to become the emperor.

After hearing it, all the officials were shocked.

A country couldn't do for a day without an emperor. Because Li Yingqi suffered a stroke due to Han Cangshui's pills, there was almost no hope for him to recover fully. Moreover, Li Xuan had been crippled by eating the Ten-Thousand-Year Soul Replacement Pill for so many years; hence, Li Xiu and Zheng Qingfang had suggested for Li Ziqi to take the throne.

An eldest princess with authority and a doyen-level figure that had served the empire for three generations. Both of them were supporting Li Ziqi, so even if someone was unhappy with this arrangement, no one dared to voice out any objections.

For officials, their true capabilities could be lacking, but they couldn't choose the wrong camp to stand in.

Hence, those officials under Zheng Qingfang decided to voice their support for Li Ziqi in unison.

The time of throne ascension was set a month later.

...

"Eldest Martial Sister, what are you thinking of?"

Some forbidden places in the palace, for example the emperor's chamber, would not be off-limits to her now. No one would dare to block the papaya girl anymore.

"Nothing much!"

Li Ziqi squeezed out a smile.

Honestly speaking, she had no interest in becoming the emperor. She only wanted to follow and learn from her teacher.

And during these few days, she had been thinking of a matter.

Given the intellect of her teacher and her aunt, they must have seen through the fact that Han Cangshui had been planning something. But why didn't they do something in advance to stop him so her royal father and brother would be fine?

They didn't do it...so that left only one possibility. They intentionally allowed Han Cangshui to do this because they wanted to sweep aside all obstructions and help her ascend to the throne.

"No, I can't think of it this way. My aunt and teacher did this for my sake. I should be thankful to them instead."

Li Ziqi decided not to think of this matter anymore.

...

In the Qi Emperor Palace.

"Yuzhen, make your preparations and follow this emperor to Chang'an to congratulate Li Ziqi on her ascension!"

The Qi Emperor was coincidentally trying to think of a reason to meet Sun Mo and in the end, an excuse fell onto his lap. "Hurry up and select a troop of 100 powerful soldiers for me. No matter what, I have to build a flying soldier troop."

"Li Ziqi became the emperor?" Jiang Yuzhen was truly astonished. "What about her royal father and brothers?"

"Why are you caring about them so much? The matters of royalty are the same everywhere!"

The Qi Emperor didn't care if Li Ziqi had murdered her royal father and brother to seize the throne. After all, from ancient times until now, any tactics could be used for the fight for the throne.

“In any case, prepare quicker!”

The Qi Emperor instructed. “I estimate that there will be many diplomatic groups heading over to congratulate Li Ziqi!”

The Qi Emperor had guessed correctly. Firstly, it was because the Great Tang Empire was powerful enough to be ranked within the top five of the Nine Provinces. Now that the Xia Emperor had died, it caused the standing of the Great Tang to surge in the hearts of many. Hence, they naturally wished to build a better relationship with such a powerful empire.

Next, Li Ziqi’s personal teacher was Sun Mo. Everyone coveted his God Hands and his Skyward Spirit Rune. Usually, other countries would just send envoys over for such matters, but this time around, the crown princes took the initiative to head over.

After the Five Empires War Discussion, Sun Mo’s fame in the commoner’s world might be a little lacking, but among the royalty and the great teacher world, everyone knew his name.

Many people wanted to take him on as a personal teacher.

...

In the large mansion of the Jiang Clan.

Jiang Zhitong locked himself in his room and had not eaten for three days.

“What’s the matter? Have you not thought through things yet?”

Jiang Wei pushed the door open and entered.

“Father!” Jiang Zhitong was depressed. “Sun Mo is going to become an imperial preceptor!”

“So what?” Jiang Wei counter-asked.

“...”

Jiang Zhitong regretted things. (If I had known about this, I wouldn’t have offended him.)

“I’ve told you many times before. The prestige of great teacher clans is slowly established by the guidance we provide to juniors. I’ve always told you to treat everyone politely with respect, but you never wanted to listen and felt that our Jiang Clan must not suffer the slightest insult. Actually, the truth is that you’ve overestimated yourself.”

Jiang Wei sat down and persuaded earnestly.

“What should we do now?”

Jiang Zhitong felt a headache. Ever since Sun Mo had become a spirit runist ancestor, he couldn’t afford to offend him anymore. Let alone now that he had gained the title ‘Great Tang Imperial Preceptor’.

“Go and apologize!”

Jiang Wei sighed.

Jiang Zhitong hesitated for a few seconds before lowering his head. “Your child obeys!”

“Truthfully, the Zhou Clan feels even worse than you!”

Jiang Wei teased.

“Haha!”

The moment he thought of the Zhou Clan, Jiang Zhitong’s mood became better.

...

Indeed, after Li Ziqi became the Great Tang Emperor, Secondary Saint Zhou became the butt of shameful jokes in the great teacher world.

In a villa of the Zhou Clan.

Secondary Saint Zhou sat in a pavilion and stared at the swimming fishes in silence.

What a farce, he didn’t expect that as he grew older, he would actually make a wrong judgment.

“How did Li Ziqi rise?”

Secondary Saint Zhou couldn’t understand. What method did Sun Mo use to nurture her into such a talent?

“Grandpa, should we send a congratulatory gift?”

Zhou Kebin cautiously asked.

“...”

Secondary Saint Zhou also found it difficult to do so.

Who would have expected that a princess with trash aptitude could become the emperor?

Back then, if the Tang Emperor had brought Li Ziqi to him a second time, Secondary Saint Zhou would have accepted her. After all, no great teachers would accept someone he rejected before. But who would have thought that a Sun Mo would suddenly appear?

Zhou Kebin had never seen his grandfather being so frustrated ever since he was born. But then again, it made sense. For other clans, it was their descendants who spoiled the clan’s reputation, but his grandfather had become the butt of jokes in the great teacher world.

Luckily enough, his grandfather was a secondary saint. If it was some other great teachers in his place, they probably wouldn’t be able to be great teachers anymore.

“Get your master-uncle to send a congratulatory gift!”

Secondary Saint Zhou decided. “Congratulate Li Ziqi on becoming the Female Emperor of the Great Tang!”

Chapter 1230: Daily Life of An Imperial Preceptor

Li Ziqi’s ascension to the throne was very smooth.

The other countries that self-proclaimed to have some statuses in the Nine Provinces all sent diplomatic groups over to the Great Tang.

All the royalty of the various great empires coveted Sun Mo's God Hands and Skyward Spirit Runes. As for the royalty of some small countries, they wanted to take Sun Mo on as their teacher and use this chance to forge a connection with Li Ziqi so they could get some political and economic benefits.

So, the number of people who came to offer their congratulations were truly plentiful. It felt like the Great Tang was the most flourishing and prosperous of all countries.

However, Li Ziqi was unhappy. Because once she became the emperor, she had to take care of so many things every day, and she would have no time to follow beside Sun Mo to learn.

The only thing that was gratifying to her was that after Zheng Qingfang had been cured of his old illness, he was in high spirits and decided to take the Premier's position once again. In addition to Li Xiu's assistance, Li Ziqi didn't need to be too fatigued.

After the ceremony, Sun Mo temporarily resided in the royal palace. This was something Li Ziqi had requested.

Time simply passed like that.

In the meantime, Sun Mo participated in the art of spiritual control examination and obtained the grandmaster certification. As of now, the hard conditions of taking the 6-stars great teacher examinations—18 great teacher halos and grandmaster-level expertise in two subjects—had been met. He could participate in the 6-stars great teacher exam if he wanted to do so now.

...

Saint Gate's Headquarters.

"I just saw Sun Mo. He's really young!"

"What is he doing here? Is he planning to work in the Saint Gate? The Sect Lord will definitely not let such a talent go!"

"In any case, his future is boundlessly bright."

The staff of the Saint Gate whispered to each other. After a while, the news of Sun Mo coming to the Saint Gate had spread to everyone.

Sun Mo stayed for half an hour. After he wanted to leave, Su Taiqing personally escorted him to the door. This scene caused many people to be stunned.

One must know that even 8-stars great teachers might not have such preferential treatment.

"I've checked things. Sun Mo came here to take the participation certificate. He wants to participate in the 6-stars great teacher examination!"

A staff with some connections exposed this news.

"What? Didn't he just obtain his 5-stars title last year? He wants to take the 6-stars title so quickly?"

Everyone was stunned. For a high-level examination like this, let alone rising 1 star per year, it would also be considered very fast even if one took five years to advance.

“Geniuses can never be judged by normal logic. Ze, he’s 25 years old and has comprehended 18 great teacher halos. Isn’t this somewhat too impressive?”

“He is also the Great Tang’s Imperial Preceptor!”

Upon mentioning this, everyone was convinced.

Those who could obtain the title ‘imperial preceptors’ were extremely rare. They were usually old seniors with high prestige.

A young imperial preceptor like Sun Mo was truly the first in the history of the Nine Provinces.

The main point was that he didn’t benefit from this for nothing. He had nurtured a princess that a secondary saint rejected and turned her into an absolute genius.

During the Five Empires War Discussion, Li Ziqi had displayed her brilliance and proved her outstandingness.

This was all due to Sun Mo’s guidance.

“In the future, Great Teacher Sun will be qualified to contend for the Sect Lord’s position!”

When someone casually said this, everyone silently decided that the next time Sun Mo came here, they would have to find a chance to speak a few sentences with him and get him to become familiar with their faces at the very least.

...

In the Central Province Academy, the students were all very joyful. This was because Her Majesty Li Ziqi had announced that the Central Province Academy had become the national school of the Great Tang.

According to the rules, ‘B’ grade schools weren’t qualified, but who told Li Ziqi’s personal teacher to be none other than the vice headmaster of the Central Province Academy?

“When will Teacher Sun return? I miss his spirit runes lectures!”

“Stop dreaming, even if he returns, you won’t be able to get any seats.”

“That’s right, he is now a great ancestor-level spirit runist. Even great teachers from other schools who came here to consult him would flood the lecture room.”

The students discussed and were all hoping for Sun Mo to quickly return to school.

When Qi Shengjia entered the classroom, a group of people immediately stood up.

“Brother Qi, please sit here!”

“Brother Qi, my position has a better viewing angle.”

“Shengjia, let’s have lunch together. I’ve invited you three times, please don’t reject me again.”

Qi Shengjia felt a headache from all the noises. He was truly not proficient in handling such situations, but it also wasn't good to ignore these people. Hence, he could only squeeze a smile out.

Luckily, the starting bell rang out swiftly.

20 minutes later.

"Shengjia, do you understand now?"

The teacher asked with a smile, "If you have things you don't understand, feel free to question me, don't feel restrained!"

Qi Shengjia hurriedly bowed. "I understand. Many thanks for Teacher's concern."

The honest guy understood that he could get such preferential treatment because he was considered as Sun Mo's half-disciple.

Back then, he was truly too fortunate that Sun Mo guided him.

His life had become better.

"I will definitely work harder and not lose face for Teacher!"

Qi Shengjia was prepared to increase his training load by two-fold.

"I feel so terrible!"

Seeing his roommate being fawned upon by so many people, Zhou Xu felt so unbearable that he wanted to cry. "Back then, I also had the chance to enter Teacher Sun's tutelage. In the end, I missed the opportunity. Say, do you think I died in my past life from falling into a latrine? If not, why would I be so unlucky?"

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Wang Hao gritted his teeth and started to bang his head against the table as he convulsed intermittently. Right now, he couldn't bring himself to hear Sun Mo's name, or he would feel so bad that he had to mutilate himself.

Sun Mo was the Great Tang's imperial preceptor. This thigh was so thick that even if Wang Hao could hug a strand of hair from it, his entire family would benefit for three lifetimes!

...

In the modern era, Sun Mo was just a normal teacher with a slightly higher status. Although he would occasionally give lectures about the Three Principles of the People, Marxism, and Deng Theory, he couldn't make it when it came to actually putting them into practice. So, he didn't dare to suggest this recklessly to Li Ziqi.

After all, there was no right of speech if there was no inquiry. If he said something wrong, millions of commoners might have the wrong belief and end up suffering.

However, Sun Mo had another tactic.

He might not dare to make any changes to the political system, but he could always tinker with technology and use it to produce a better system.

After becoming a great teacher, Sun Mo's memory grew stronger and stronger. Those books he had read in the past could all be recalled easily. Even if he couldn't remember them, he could simply use Unrealized Dream.

Hence, Sun Mo improved the loom and invented the spinning jenny, allowing women who spun clothes to be capable of working alone, replacing twenty with the power of one person.

"Teacher, this machine might be simple, but it's definitely an era-changing invention!"

Li Ziqi looked at the machine as her eyes shone with excitement.

Li Xiu also sighed in admiration. But she had a question. "The appearance of this machine can replace human labor. But what should we do about those people who lost their jobs?"

"Eh!"

Li Ziqi started and looked at Sun Mo.

"Expand further and further!"

Sun Mo suggested.

"The quantity of silkworms is almost the same yearly. If it's a prosperous year with a higher amount of supply flooding the market, the price of silk will fall and vice versa. If we want to expand, we have to seize control of more fields belonging to other countries. In terms of earnings, this might not be profitable."

Li Xiu cast a glance at Sun Mo. "The more important thing is that the silk market is simply so big. Even if we break new grounds, I'm afraid the supply would overwhelm the demand."

Sun Mo fell silent.

"In this era, the roads are tough to traverse and there are many bandits. Those who can venture to far markets are all powerful merchant caravan groups. They won't be able to 'digest' so much silk."

Li Xiu sighed.

Bluntly speaking, it meant that even if production increased, it wouldn't be able to get delivered faraway. Moreover, merchant caravans depended on horses and mules. The efficiency was too low.

"Repair the roads. Right, we should build railways!"

Sun Mo could only grit his teeth to think of a solution. "We will be able to expand domestic demand then!"

Wait a minute, there were new problems. What about manufacturing steel? And how did one create a steam engine?

Sun Mo suddenly discovered that governing a country and wanting to allow the commoners to lead a better life couldn't be done with a single sentence. This was a very long-term process.

“Railway? Steam engine? What are those?”

Li Xiu’s eyes were filled with doubts.

“Let’s not think about them for now. The cotton we wear will all be produced by machines. It will definitely be cheaper than human labor and we can wage price wars!”

After Sun Mo finished speaking, he discovered Li Xiu was looking at him like how she would look at a fool.

“Sun Mo, human labor is dirt-cheap!”

Li Xiu laughed. Sun Mo didn’t know such matters too well. Paying money to workers? What a joke, they could simply get refugees from other places and promise to feed them if they were willing to work hard.

Pak!

Sun Mo patted his head. (How did I forget? There are slaves in this era. They aren’t considered humans but commodities instead. They aren’t even as valuable as mules owned by the landlords.)

Zhou the Exploiter was someone whose deeds went into the history books.

“In that case, let’s ignore human labor for one. We will still be able to produce things faster if we use machines. At that time, we can dump our goods at a low price and wage price wars. Then the cloth used by everyone in the Nine Provinces would be produced by our Great Tang.”

As Sun Mo spoke until here, he suddenly inhaled a breath of cold air.

“What’s wrong?”

Li Xiu blinked.

“Nothing!”

Sun Mo had thought about the adverse trade balance. If you earned silver from commoners every day, but they didn’t have a way to make silver, who would be willing to spend silver?

If others wanted to protect the silk trade of their countries, they could lighten tax as a light measure or even close off all trade routes to the country as a heavy measure. Ultimately, war would surely be triggered.

In history, many artefacts of China such as porcelain vases, silk, and tea leaves were imported to the Far West. But what did the Far West sell to China?

Opium!

After China banned opium, the warships and soldiers of the Far West slaughtered their way over.

“Forget it, I better go and teach agriculture science or how to improve seedlings to promote intensive farming!”

Sun Mo prepared to start from the basics so everyone could be freed from hunger.

“Sun Mo, you don’t have to be unduly humble. Some of your ideas are really filled with inspirational thoughts!”

Li Xiu consoled.

She really wanted to give birth to a child with Sun Mo. Their child would surely be very outstanding.

...

At night, Sun Mo recalled all the knowledge in his mind on how to make a country wealthier and stronger, while he taught his students during the day.

Xuanyuan Po, Ying Baiwu, Xianyu Wei, and Jiang Leng—these four students were more focused on cultivation and raising their strength.

As for Tantai Yutang, other than medical arts, he was also interested in the governance of commoners. So, Sun Mo also taught him some things about that.

After Qin Yaoguang heard a lesson on this, she felt that she had gained much harvest and decided to join in as well.

As for Helian Beifang, he was interested in cultivation and military matters. Hence, Sun Mo still had to teach him military lessons, explaining the terrain of the Nine Provinces, listing examples from ancient times in his previous world, as well as teaching him the Thirty-Six Stratagems and Art of War by Sun Tzu.

In order not to lose face, Sun Mo expended a lot of brain cells in writing up his lesson plans.

Although Lu Zhiruo might not be intelligent, she was willing to learn everything, including the medical arts.

Sun Mo wanted to persuade her that she might be biting off more than she could chew. But after seeing how much hard work the papaya girl was putting in, he couldn’t bear to say that.

At the very least, her willingness to put in the effort was worthy of praise.

When the ceremony was over, Jiang Yuzhen didn’t return to her country right away. She stayed behind. She had planned to pursue Sun Mo, but she actually followed the others and attended his classes instead.

This was especially so for his military lessons. The content caused her to be fully intoxicated and her fondness and worship for Sun Mo naturally increased. She contributed favorable impression points daily.

...

A month later, in the training hall.

“Today, I’ll impart the Undying Mystic Art to you guys!”

Sun Mo placed his hands behind his back and looked at his students.

“Teacher, is this also a peerless-grade saint-tier cultivation art?”

Qin Yaoguang was curious.

“Mn!”

Sun Mo nodded.

“Teacher, where did you obtain these top-level divine arts?”

Qin Yaoguang was as curious as a hundred cats.

“Secret!”

Sun Mo naturally wouldn't reveal the answer.

“Teacher, I'll bid farewell first.”

Jiang Yuzhen prepared to leave to avoid arousing suspicions that she wanted to eavesdrop.

“No need!”

Sun Mo smiled. “I will use Soul Imprint to brand the information directly into their minds.”

A punch for each of his personal students and fifteen minutes later, Sun Mo finished his impartation.

“During these few days, you guys should not do anything else. Just focus on training this cultivation art. If you have things you don't understand, hurry up and ask me. Six days later, I will leave the school and this time around, I've no idea how long I'll be away!”

Sun Mo instructed.

“Ah? Has the time for the 6-stars exam come?”

Lu Zhiruo counted and discovered that time had passed really swiftly.

The requirement for the exam this time around wasn't for the examinees to teach. Rather, they had to educate. The examinees had to go to the Great Prison of Desolation and make at least three prisoners mend their twisted ways.

This prison was located in a lone island on the Boundless Sea, the third level of the Darkness Continent. Great teachers who had committed crimes of huge impact were all imprisoned here, and they were all 5-stars and above.

Why weren't they put to death directly?

Because for great teachers of this rank, the knowledge they grasped was wealth. Even if the Saint Gate wanted to kill them, all their knowledge had to be interrogated out beforehand.

At Sun Mo's level, his teaching ability had been tempered countless times and there would surely be no problem in this aspect. But when it came to re-education, things were different. So, this examination was to see if these examinees were capable enough to make these prisoners turn over a new leaf.

Even saints who had the power of enlightening the masses and making people reflect upon themselves with every word had no way to make a great teacher forcibly turn over a new leaf. So, for Sun Mo and the others taking this exam, it was unknown how long they would need.

They might even stay on the island for ten years to no avail.

“Teacher, is someone targeting you directly?”

Qin Yaoguang’s lips twitched. “You are still so young and would surely lack some persuasiveness if they viewed you based on your age. The prisoners might not listen to you.”

“That’s right, this exam is a huge scam! Our teacher’s development will be delayed by several years.”

Helian Beifang was very angry.

“You guys can’t put it like that. Those prisoners are also people with true capabilities. Our teacher might be able to learn a thing or two from them. He would surely be able to profit.”

Lu Zhiruo interjected. Her understanding of this prison was considerably more than others.

“Ah? Teacher still has to learn from others?”

After Jiang Leng finished speaking, everyone laughed. Now, the number of people who could teach their teacher was so few. That person had to be a secondary saint at the very least.

“In any case when I’m not around, you guys must not stir up trouble. Listen to Ziqi in all things.”

Sun Mo warned them repeatedly.

The Great Prison of Desolation would usually forbid people from entering and leaving. So, it was considered an extremely mysterious place to great teachers.

The examinees first had to gather in Yehuo City before setting off together toward the pier leading to the Boundless Sea. They would then take a ship to the lone island.

If there were no guides, no one would be permitted to set foot on the island.

No one knew how long this journey would take. So, Sun Mo was preparing to head onto some decorated pleasure boats to relax first. But when the time came, he grew gutless once more.

A person visiting flowers alone was like someone eating a hotpot alone. There were no friends, and things were too embarrassing.

Hence, Sun Mo ultimately didn’t visit the pleasure boats.