

## Won't Play 231

### Chapter 231: Flashy Ministers 1

After having the meal, Yin Jianghong stood up and said, "It's about time. You can find time to stroll around the remaining parts of the imperial palace. Now, it's time to get down to business."

"Business?"

After seeing Yin Jianghong's 'wretched' side in Yuxiu Palace, Jiang Beiran was a little uncertain about the business he was talking about.

After leaving the imperial garden and walking for a while, Jiang Beiran walked into the most magnificent palace he had ever seen.

"This is the place where you have to attend morning court every day from now on, the Mystic Listening Palace."

"What is this lousy name..." Jiang Beiran couldn't help but grumble in his heart when he heard this name.

1

"Let's go. The officials have been waiting for you in the palace for a long time."

Following Yin Jianghong's footsteps, Jiang Beiran arrived in front of the Mystic Listening Hall. The eunuch, who had been waiting there for a long time, immediately raised his voice when he saw Jiang Beiran. He used his somewhat sharp voice to shout, "The Emperor has arrived!"

As the first "The Emperor has arrived" sounded, the 100-meter-high stairs also sounded one after another, "The Emperor has arrived!"

Following that, they saw a group of people carrying palanquins walking towards Jiang Beiran.

At the same time, a eunuch whose legs were numb from kneeling forced himself to stand up and walked to Jiang Beiran's side, saying, "Your Majesty, please ascend the palanquin."

Jiang Beiran glanced at the eunuch, then at the palanquin. He waved his hand to drive them away, saying, "Why should I sit in a palanquin? It's only a short way. I can walk on my own. All of you may leave."

The eunuch seemed to have something to say after hearing this, but in the end, he still respectfully retreated to the side.

Seeing the emperor come up the stairs from the main door, the officials in the Mystic Listening Palace were obviously not used to it. This was because this path was usually taken by the officials, and the emperor had a different path.

However, even if they were not used to it, they still walked out of the listening palace and lined up neatly in three rows at the door. When Jiang Beiran was halfway up the stairs, a eunuch shouted, "Kneel!"

All the officials immediately knelt down in unison.

"Hail!"

"Long Live!"

"Hail!"

"Long Live!"

"Hail!"

"Long live the Emperor! Long live the Emperor!"

Jiang Beiran, who had heard the “long live” from afar, continued to walk up unhurriedly until he saw a group of officials kneeling in a row.

“Yo, the official uniforms are quite garish.”

He saw that there were red, green, blue, purple, yellow, and green official uniforms of various colors on the bodies of the officials.

1

Jiang Beiran praised the uniform in his heart.

Glancing at them, Jiang Beiran realized that although the official uniforms had a variety of color and was kind of messy, the arrangement was not messy. The purple, red, and yellow rows were clearly separated. It was obvious that they were divided according to rank.

“This Imperial Court is much better than I expected.” Jiang Beiran had thought that this unimportant Imperial Court would be very casual, but now it seemed that it was still rather self-reliant.

“As you were, follow me in.”

Stepping into the Mystic Listening Palace, Jiang Beiran raised his head to take a look.

“Whoa... Impressive.”

Jiang Beiran felt that the first few palaces were already quite luxurious, but they were far more inferior to the Mystic Listening Palace.

From the caisson to the floor tiles, and even the pillars of the Mystic Listening Palace were all made of gold.

Moreover, the palace didn't only have "common objects" like gold. The colorful paintings on the beams were also very beautiful. One had to know that Jiang Beiran was also a master-level in painting. If he was impressed by those paintings, then they were definitely good paintings.

"Not bad, this emperor position is quite interesting."

Stepping on the steps made of white marble, Jiang Beiran and Yin Jianghong walked to the highest point together. Just as Jiang Beiran was hesitating whether to sit on the more luxurious dragon throne in front of Yin Jianghong in front of so many people, Yin Jianghong said softly, "Sit down. From now on, you are the master here, and I am the guest. You don't have to care too much about my face."

"So considerate... It's making me a little nervous."

When the two of them were together, it was fine if Jiang Beiran was a little casual. But now, in front of the officials, if he sat down and Yin Jianghong stood by the side, it would make Yin Jianghong look like a bodyguard. No, a bodyguard was too much. He was more like a law protector.

In short, it looked like he was inferior to Jiang Beiran.

Yin Jianghong didn't even mind this. It could only be said that he was too magnanimous. If it was Guan Shi'an, he would definitely be a hundred times unwilling.

Just as Jiang Beiran was about to give in modestly, Yin Jianghong pressed him down on the dragon throne again.

All the officials in the hall clearly knew Yin Jianghong, and they also knew that he was one of the true leaders of Fengzhou. Seeing that he was actually standing beside Jiang Beiran like a law protector, all the officials were shocked.

"This new emperor is quite something. He can actually make that devil stand by the side obediently."

"Could it be that this new emperor has some unspeakable blood relationship with this devil?"

1

“This new emperor’s background is probably even stronger than we thought... it’s better to not cause trouble.’

...

Looking at the officials lowering their heads, Jiang Beiran, who had never been an emperor before, didn’t know what to say next.

“My subordinates, report if you have anything to say and retreat if you don’t. Is that how they usually say?” Jiang Beiran was thinking what he should say.

However, Jiang Beiran felt that Yin Jianghong probably didn’t just bring him here for a show. So after a strange silence, Jiang Beiran decided to do as he pleased.

“Raise your heads, let me see what you all look like.”

The officials didn’t hesitate and raised their heads to look at Jiang Beiran.

“Wow, there are quite a number of young faces.”

Jiang Beiran thought that those who could make it to the Imperial Court were all old men who had matured. He did not expect that there were also quite a number of young people.

Chapter 232: Flashy Ministers 2

Generally speaking, the situation of having several young officials in the Imperial Court was divided into two extreme scenarios.

Scenario one was that the Imperial Court was extremely corrupt and was crazily buying and selling officials. As long as one's family was rich, they could send their sons in to be a high-ranking official.

Scenario two was that the Imperial Court was extremely open-minded. Those who were capable could be promoted regardless of seniority or age. The experienced officials were also humble would never take advantage of their seniority.

"Since Deng Bo didn't do anything good, Old Fox Yin said that he was a talent. There should be some capable officials under him."

Just as Jiang Beiran recognized the unfamiliar faces under him, a eunuch at the side hesitated timidly whether he should go forward or not. He was not afraid of Jiang Beiran, but of the devil beside him.

However, after hesitating for a while, the eunuch finally gathered his courage and walked to Jiang Beiran's side. "Your Majesty... If Your Majesty have anything to say, let me pass it on to the officials. Be careful not to hurt the Your Majesty's voice."

1

Jiang Beiran glanced at him and waved his hand to drive him away. "There's no need to go through so much trouble. Leave."

"Yes." The eunuch bowed and immediately retreated to the side.

Before they understood the new emperor's temper, the eunuchs would never dare to say anything.

After recognizing almost all the faces, Jiang Beiran said, "My dear ministers, there's no need to be so reserved. Just do it as usual. Do you have anything to report?"

The ministers could not help but look at each other when they heard this. No one dared to be the first to "stand out".

So, they all lowered their heads again.

“You’re not saying anything? If you’re not saying anything, I’ll just call the roll. Yes, lower your head a little. I like the ones who kept lowering their heads.”

When he said this, a young official was so scared that he quickly raised his head.

1

“Very good. It’s you. Step forward.” Jiang Beiran pointed at the young official who raised his head and shouted.

“? ? ?”

The young official was full of doubts. Wasn’t he said that he liked the one who kept his head low? This emperor did not play by the rules...

However, the emperor had personally called for names. What else could he do? He could only stagger to the middle.

“Tsk... it seems like the worst-case scenario.” Jiang Beiran thought.

After Jiang Beiran said that, there were not many people who raised their heads. He could tell that they were a group of scheming old foxes. These few young people were extremely straightforward. One by one, they raised their heads, they really did not seem to be shrewd.

The young official walked to the middle and pondered for a moment. In the end, he cupped his hands and lowered his head. “Reporting to your Majesty, I... I have nothing to report.”

“Tsk.”

As the Imperial Court quieted down once again, Jiang Beiran suddenly realized that he could not even mimic the emperor he saw in the television dramas from his past life. This was because there was no emperor like him in his original era.

Firstly, he was an emperor who had “descended” from the sky. He wasn’t like those emperors who had successfully rebelled. They all had their own people who had contributed to the founding of the country. They had to be both civil and military.

Secondly, he wasn’t the crown prince. One had to know that behind a successful crown prince, there would always be a team. Whether it was the people his father had sent to assist him or the people he recruited himself, as long as he ascended the throne, those officials who assisted him would be promoted to high-ranking officials at any moment and continue to help him solve his problems.

Thirdly, was there ever an emperor like him who “forced” to sit on the throne? There were, and there were many of them. But usually, this kind of emperor who was forced to sit on the throne had no real power at all. The real power was in the hands of the powerful officials.

Then, it was quite easy for him to be the emperor. Usually, he only needed to say “report accepted” and “renegotiation”, and the other powerful officials would help him.

Although Jiang Beiran was also pushed to the throne for no reason, the real power of the emperor was firmly in his hands. Not to mention the powerful officials, there were no slanderous officials at all.

“If the emperors of the past generations hear about the idle emperor who has absolute real power, they will probably go crazy with envy.”

“Reporting to Your Majesty, I have something to report.”

Just as Jiang Beiran was thinking of how to break the deadlock, an old official dressed in purple raised a jade hu and said.

This hu was also known as a hand board. It was a tool for the officials to meet the emperor. Its function was a little like the emcee’s hand card. They wrote the report on the hu so that they would not forget the script or startled when they were reporting.

Jiang Beiran saw that the old minister's eyeballs were rolling from time to time as he stared at the hu. He knew that there was something written on it, which meant that this person had come prepared.

Hence, Jiang Beiran happily said, "Please report."

Thus, the old minister walked to the middle and bowed, "Your Majesty, Dongzhou County has been suffering from drought for years. This year, the famine has reached an uncontrollable stage. Your Majesty, please make a decision to save the people of Dongzhou County from dire straits."

When the officials heard this, they were all shocked. They did not expect the minister to suddenly mention this. After all, this was the first day that the new emperor ascended the throne. Even if there was good news to report, he should not mention any bad news yet.

Jiang Beiran was also a little surprised. Although he had never been involved in matters of the Imperial Court, he had heard that these officials were all smart and had the ability to shift the blame.

This old minister was not afraid to announce such a "bad news" in the Imperial Court. It could mean that he was truly concerned for the country or he was using this matter to impeach some people.

After thinking for a moment, Jiang Beiran asked, "Do you have any ideas, minister?"

The minister continued to bow and announce, "Your Majesty, I am willing to take full responsibility for this matter and draft a plan to Your Majesty. If Your Majesty agrees, I will definitely do my best to resolve the urgent situation in Dongzhou County."

"Okay, go ahead."

Although Jiang Beiran didn't even know the name of this minister, he was already very curious about what this minister wanted to do.

"Thank you, Your Majesty!"

After bowing deeply to Jiang Beiran, the old minister retreated to the side.

Seeing that the minister had succeeded, the other officials were also a little restless. However, at this time, Jiang Beiran stood up and said, "Then today's court meeting will end here. I have already remembered many people. Withdraw from the court."

1

After saying this, Jiang Beiran walked to the side of the eunuch who had wanted to pass on a message for him.

That eunuch was still quite smart. He immediately understood what Jiang Beiran meant and brought Jiang Beiran out of the Mystic Listening Palace through another path.

Yin Jianghong silently followed Jiang Beiran and left. From the beginning to the end, he did not say a single word.

As Jiang Beiran left, the officials in the court fell into a daze again. They were all a little stunned by this new emperor.

However, they did not criticize him in the main hall. Instead, they waited until they had withdrawn from the Mystic Listening Palace before they started discussing among themselves.

"Did those cultivators send a boor to be the emperor? This person doesn't pay attention to etiquette at all."

"Shh, lower your voice. That Devil... Cult Master Yin is still here. I think that the new emperor really doesn't understand the affairs of the Imperial Court at all. That's good too. Both of us can have an easy time."

"What do you think Minister Shi's move today means?"

“Minister Shi is not someone we can figure out. It’s better to hurry back to the residence. It’s just a matter of going through the situation. There’s no need to be so serious.”

“Sigh... if the late emperor was still here, our Sheng Kingdom...”

“Shh! Do you want to die? Go, go, go.”

...

While the officials were discussing Jiang Beiran, Jiang Beiran had already walked out of the Mystic Listening Palace and walked side by side with Yin Jianghong on the main road.

“Why did you leave so suddenly?” Yin Jianghong asked.

“It’s not that I wanted to leave so suddenly. I don’t even know their names, let alone their rank. Today, I just want to get to know them. Cult Master Yin, do you really want me to act like a wise monarch so you can watch my performance?”

Yin Jianghong laughed after hearing it and said, “Hahaha, not bad. You dare to quibble with me.”

Jiang Beiran didn’t know whether it was true or false, but from Yin Jianghong’s reaction, he was still very happy with the closeness he showed to him.

As for why Jiang Beiran did this, the reason was very simple. From the moment he entered the palace, Yin Jianghong had repeatedly shown him kindness. It didn’t matter if he told Jiang Beiran his life story or if he didn’t put on any airs in Yuxiu Palace, it was also good to bring him around.

These were all acts of goodwill.

If Jiang Beiran didn’t show any signs of closeness to him, then it would be a little too unappreciative.

Laughing happily, Yin Jianghong said, "By doing this, those ministers probably think that I've brought a disciple who doesn't know anything to the Imperial Court."

After hearing this, Jiang Beiran smiled and replied, "They aren't wrong. Right now... I really don't know anything."

#### Chapter 233: This Child Is Quite Pitiful 1

While chatting and laughing with Yin Jianghong, Jiang Beiran discovered that they had already returned to the bedchamber. He had just changed his emperor's robe here.

Amidst the officials and palace maids calling out "Your Majesty," Jiang Beiran arrived in front of a large hall that was 110 feet tall.

The decoration of this palace was comparable to the Mystic Listening Palace that Jiang Beiran had just praised. The outer beams and lintel were all colored paintings of ancient auspicious beasts. Looking inside, the dragon throne had a golden-painted coiling dragon caisson on top of it. The six gold pillars of the coiling dragon, which were close to the dragon throne, reached the top of the hall. They were connected to each other from top to bottom and left to right. The golden light was brilliant and extremely luxurious.

There was a pedestal in the hall, and the pedestal was seven steps. The gold-lacquered wooden throne with dragon patterns sat on the seven-step pedestal. The back of the throne was leaning against the dragon-lacquered screen.

Just as Jiang Beiran was looking around, he heard Yin Jianghong cough.

"Where are you?"

Jiang Beiran was stunned. He didn't know who Yin Jianghong was calling.

However, after Yin Jianghong shouted, the hall was silent. No one answered him.

Seeing that no one answered, Yin Jianghong looked sullen. He took a deep breath and raised his voice, "Where are you?"

"I'm here... I'm here. Father, don't be angry. It's not good to be angry."

Behind the dragon throne, Mu Yao, who was wearing a light pink dress, ran out and apologized repeatedly in fear and shock.

It had been half a year since they last met. Although Mu Yao's height did not change much, her figure was becoming more and more exquisite. Her small waist was restrained by the cloud band, which made her appear even smaller. There was a seven treasures coral hairpin in her hair, which made her face look like a hibiscus flower. Her pair of big, fluttering eyes were even more lively and bright.

Her black hair was combed into a luxurious bun. It was gorgeous and graceful. The pearl the size of a pinky finger was sparkling like snow, and the stars twinkled in her hair,

It could be said that she had transformed from a female hero of the martial arts world into a graceful and elegant little girl.

However, from the awkward expression on her face when she grabbed the hem of her skirt, it could be seen that she was really not used to it.

"Sh\*t, why is she here!?" Jiang Beiran suddenly felt an indescribable pain in his crotch because he had a good guess where Mu Yao was here.

"Have you forgotten the rules I taught you a few days ago? How should you put your hands!" Yin Jianghong said sternly.

When Mu Yao heard this, she immediately released her hand that was grabbing the hem of her dress and stood up straight like a palace maid. Her palms were facing downwards, and her left hand was placed on top of her right hand in front of her chest.

"How about your foot?"

Mu Yao first looked at Jiang Beiran before she felt a little humiliated and raised her left foot to take half a step back. At the same time, she kept her shoulders level and her upper body upright.

Yin Jianghong then nodded in satisfaction, she looked at Jiang Beiran and said, "Beiran, this girl is really too mischievous. Among the young disciples that I know, you are the shrewdest one. Therefore, I want her to learn more by your side. Consider it as me owing you a favor."

1

"F\*ck!" Jiang Beiran cursed in his heart.

Yin Jianghong had already said so much. How could Jiang Beiran refuse? Yin Jianghong was simply forcing her in.

Moreover, letting her learn more from him was nonsense. They had made him, a righteous sect disciple, to be an emperor. Naturally, the demonic cult had to send some of their own people in the imperial palace, but why did Yin Jianghong send a silly girl?

Meanwhile, Mu Yao kept sending him messages from the corner of her eyes, "Don't look! if you keep looking, I'll kill you!".

In order to prevent a silly girl from staying in the palace and acting like a demon, Jiang Beiran thought for a moment and said to Yin Jianghong.

"Cult Master Yin, I thought that Miss Mu didn't like Hong to dress up and be only like armor. It would be a pity to let her enter the palace. I remember that Brother Jiuri is proficient in poetry. At the Gathering of young Heroes, I could tell that he had great ambitions from his poetry. Why don't we let him enter the palace? I'll give him a rank one high official to govern the Sheng Kingdom together. What do you think?"

Hearing this, Mu Yao clapped her hands in her heart. A sense of confidant arose in her heart, and she immediately felt that Jiang Beiran had delicate features.

After hearing this, Yin Jianghong looked at Jiang Beiran with a strange expression. He felt that this conversation had happened before, but after thinking about it for a while, he felt relieved.

Last time, Yin Jianghong wanted to match Jiang Beiran and Mu Yao a match, so he specifically asked Jiang Beiran and Mu Yao to investigate the Yellow Gang. However, he didn't expect Jiang Beiran to find the leads in just three days, he even impatiently pushed Mu Yao back.

It was obvious that the two of them didn't get along well on the way.

Yin Jianghong could only sigh. After all, as Mu Yao's father, he knew her character very well. Whenever she met righteous sect disciples, she would definitely not give them a good look.

However, Yin Jianghong firmly believed that as long as one spent more time to cultivate love, it would always blossom and bear fruit.

1

Last time, it was because the time was too short. This time, he directly threw Mu Yao into the palace and let her get along with Jiang Beiran day and night. Yin Jianghong believed that Jiang Beiran would definitely discover the loveliness in his daughter.

Therefore, Yin Jianghong shook his head after hearing it and said, "Let's not talk about Jiuri' wish first. Do you think Guan Shi'an will agree to this? It's not just the emperor who can't be a cultivator."

"Sigh..."

Seeing that his last hope was gone, Jiang Beiran could only nod and say, "In that case, I'll follow Cult Master Yin's arrangement."

Seeing that Jiang Beiran was defeated so quickly, Mu Yao hurriedly shouted, "Father, Yao'er will not cause trouble again. Don't you abandon me, Father!"

“Don’t give me that! Do you think I’ll believe you! You’re doing ridiculous things all day long! If I don’t temper you this time, I’m afraid you’ll poke a hole in the sky next time! Stand properly!”

“Well...”

#### Chapter 234: This Child Is Quite Pitiful 2

Mu Yao regained her standing posture, and her face was full of grievance.

“Sigh... and you’re a useless daughter who can’t even refuse her own father. Why are you so embarrassing!”

However, the reason why Yin Jianghong would speak so harshly this time was probably related to the incident where Mu Yao was caught last time. After that silly girl was rescued by Yin Jianghong, she had been scolded quite a lot.

Knowing that the ending couldn’t be changed, Jiang Beiran first looked at Mu Yao, then at Yin Jianghong, “I wonder what Cult Master Yin wants me to do with Miss Mu?”

Yin Jianghong casually waved his hand, “Just make her a female official. The main purpose is to let her learn more from you.”

The grievance on Mu Yao’s face became more obvious after hearing it, but she didn’t dare to object and could only bite her lower lip.

“Female official...”

Female officials were also called palace lady. It sounded nice, but they were just high-level palace maids. They were usually responsible for managing the ordinary palace maids and training the young palace maids who had just entered the palace. Of course, taking care of the members of the royal family was definitely her main job.

“Too bad...”

“My Father, the demonic cult master, sent me to the palace to be a palace maid. It doesn’t seem normal no matter how I think about it.” Jiang Beiran had thought of a book title for Mu Yao’s distressing situation.

1

While Jiang Beiran was thinking about how to arrange this little female official, Yin Jianghong suddenly patted his shoulder and said, “Come, come out with me.”

Jiang Beiran nodded and followed Yin Jianghong out.

After the two of them left, Mu Yao squatted down, feeling wronged.

“Why is Father so cruel this time...”

Coming to the garden outside, Yin Jianghong looked at Jiang Beiran and said, “Beiran, I know that Mu Yao is extremely mischievous in your eyes, but if you spend more time to understand her, you will realize that this is not her true appearance.”

“F\*ck... is he trying to force his mind on me?”

Yin Jianghong naturally could not hear Jiang Beiran’s grumbling in his heart and continued to talk, “Mu Yao had a rough time. When she was young, there was a plague in her village and people died every day. However, because the local county magistrate didn’t report it, no one came to save them.”

Jiang Beiran had seen many villages that were plagued by the plague. In this era where hygiene and medical conditions were lacking, the number of people who died from the plague every year was almost the same as those who starved to death.

“Because Mu Yao’s physique was naturally good, when her entire family was infected with the plague, she was the only one who was not infected. Hence, she shouldered the burden of taking care of her family. However, the plague was not something that she could cure as a child.”

1

“One day, her two-year-old brother died. She buried him with her own hands. The next day, her mother died, and she buried him with her own hands. When the members of my cult found her, she was the only one left in her family of eight.”

“When she was first brought into the cult, she didn’t say a word for a few days and didn’t cry. However, she fought for every job. Everyone in the sect felt sorry for her, including me. Therefore, I took her in as my adopted daughter.”

“Mu Yao was very talented and soon became one of the best disciples of her age. At the same time, she learned more and more things. She believed that her family didn’t get a doctor until the day they died because the imperial court had done nothing. The imperial court had done nothing because the righteous disciples were all hypocrites.”

“From then on, whenever she saw righteous sect disciples like you, she would despise all of you. But in fact, she was really a good child and the people in the cult liked her very much.”

1

Jiang Beiran didn’t think that Yin Jianghong lied to him.

Because back then, Kong Qianqian also told him that Mu Yao was usually very good to her. It was only because Kong Qianqian clung to him that she often made Mu Yao angry.

He let out a long sigh, Yin Jianghong looked at Jiang Beiran and said seriously, “The reason why I gave her to you is because her hatred towards the righteous sect is too excessive. Moreover, she often does some impulsive things. Even... forget it, forget it. There are some things that I can’t teach her. But as a righteous sect disciple, you definitely can. Mu Yao is my very important family member, so I’ll leave her to you.”

“Where did you get this confidence in me...?”

However, facing Yin Jianghong’s words, Jiang Beiran naturally answered seriously, “I will do my best.”

At this moment, Yin Jianghong was not the cult master, nor was he the emperor.

This was the entrustment of an old father, and as a junior, he accepted this entrustment.

“Thank you.” Yin Jianghong smiled and nodded.

Returning to the hall, Mu Yao, who was squatting on the ground and drawing circles, quickly stood up and adjusted her posture.

Yin Jianghong first glared at her, then said to Jiang Beiran, “In that case, I’ll entrust Mu Yao to you. You must teach her well. If she doesn’t obey, you can ask Xie Eagle to send a letter to me. I’ll definitely come right away.”

“I understand.” Jiang Beiran nodded.

“Then you can think about the rest of the matter yourself. I still have a lot of things to deal with, so I’ll leave first.”

“Father!” Hearing that Yin Jianghong was going to leave, Mu Yao couldn’t help but shout.

“Listen to Emperor’s words obediently, do you understand?” Yin Jianghong looked at her and spoke.

“I... I understand.” Mu Yao nodded.

“Well, then I’m relieved. When the matter is over, I will come to see you.”

After saying that, Yin Jianghong turned around and left.

“Father...” Mu Yao murmured and her body relaxed.

“Sigh, who told you to relax? Keep a good posture. You’re a female official. You have to set an example for the other palace maids.”

“You!” Mu Yao pointed at Jiang Beiran, but when she recalled the experience of resisting Jiang Beiran and the words of her big father, she finally kept a good posture.

She nodded her head in satisfaction, Jiang Beiran walked to her side and said, “I am a reasonable person. If you perform well, I will tell Cult Master Yin the truth. Perhaps you will be able to return to your demonic cult as a chivalrous woman as soon as possible. Do you understand?”

“Humph! I don’t want to listen to you!” Mu Yao turned her head to the side after saying that.

“Stand properly!”

Although Mu Yao was very reluctant, she still straightened her head.

“Very good. As long as you keep it up, you’ll be able to go back very soon.” After saying that, she walked towards the bookshelf at the side.

Mu Yao glanced at Jiang Beiran from the corner of her eyes and comforted herself in her heart, “I’ll endure so that I can go back as soon as possible, I’m not listening to him!”

Looking at the bookshelf that was dozens of meters high, Jiang Beiran looked at the eunuch who had been standing a few meters away from him and asked, “What’s your name?”

The eunuch immediately knelt down and answered, “My humble name is Gu Jinzhong.”

“Jinzhong?” Jiang Beiran laughed. “What’s your position?”

“I’m the internal official supervising the department’s rites...”

“In charge of what?”

Gu Jinzhong first swallowed nervously after hearing this, then he answered, “I’m mainly in charge of purchasing the items used by Emperor.”

Jiang Beiran took a book from the bookshelf and asked, “What about the books? Are they yours too?”

Gu Jinzhong quickly kowtowed and said, “All the books in the hall are Your Majesty’s.”

Jiang Beiran laughed and said, “That’s smooth. Okay, I will ask you another way. Did you purchase all these books?”

“Your Majesty, I did,” Gu Jinzhong replied.

“Okay, make a list later. I want to know the names of all the books and the general contents. I’ll give you one day to complete it.”

Gu Jinzhong trembled after hearing it. With so many books, it would be difficult for him to make an outline in one day.

However, Gu Jinzhong still immediately kowtowed and said, “Yes, Your Majesty.”

“Okay, go.”

After hearing that, Gu Qing Zhong immediately ran out. This was a race against time.

On the other hand, Jiang Beiran was flipping through the book that he took out casually.

“There are at least a few thousand books here. How could that person organize the outline in a day? You’re forcing him.” At this moment, Mu Yao suddenly spoke while still standing straight.

Jiang Beiran smiled after hearing this. He closed the book and walked to Mu Yao’s side. “Are you teaching me how to do things?”

Looking at Jiang Beiran’s brilliant smile, Mu Yao felt a chill in her heart. She panted nervously and said, “I...”

Seeing that Mu Yao didn’t say anything else, Jiang Beiran stopped smiling and said, “If you dare to offend your superior in the future, I will teach you a good lesson. If you think I can’t do it, you can try.”

Although Mu Yao instinctively wanted to refute, she remembered that her father had gone out with Jiang Beiran alone, so she ultimately shut her mouth.

Chapter 235: People 1

Yuxiu Palace.

Lin Miaoyi stood by the lotus pond and looked up at the starry sky. The expression on her face was sometimes nervous, sometimes flustered, and sometimes expectant. It was very complicated.

“Dong, dong! Dong, dong!”

“The sea is calm, and the river is clear! Tonight is a peaceful night!”

Hearing the shouts of the watchmen in the palace, a woman in a red palace dress behind Lin Miaoyi said, “Sister, it’s almost midnight. Do you think Emperor will summon us today?”

Lin Miaoyi lowered her head and elegantly turned around to look at the woman. "How can we guess Emperor's thoughts?"

She looked around and saw that there were no patrolling eunuchs passing by. The woman dressed in palace clothes moved closer to Lin Miaoyi's ear and whispered, "I saw Emperor's expression when he saw you today. I guess His Majesty will definitely summon you to serve His Majesty in bed."

Lin Miaoyi shook her head. "Don't spout nonsense. Be careful not to be heard by others. You can't criticize Emperor."

"Yes." The lady in the maiden dress responded, but she quickly said worriedly, "Sister, if Emperor doesn't like us... What will happen to us?"

Lin Miaoyi shook her head and replied, "Don't think so much. Just wait patiently."

Lin Miaoyi could not help but sigh in her heart after she finished speaking. She recalled the way Emperor looked at her in the afternoon. There was admiration in his eyes, but there was no desire. It was as if he was admiring a beautiful piece of jade.

If it was any other time, Lin Miaoyi would have liked this kind of gaze. She liked this feeling, but now she did not have the right to hope for such feelings. If Emperor did not like them, they would end up horribly.

While feeling apprehensive, Lin Miaoyi once again looked at the bright starry sky, wanting the beautiful night to suppress the uneasiness in her heart.

On the other side, in the Serenity Hall, Jiang Beiran was sitting on the dragon throne and flipping through a book called "Book of Xin Ci".

Jiang Beiran liked to read books when he had nothing to do. However, what he usually read were books like formations, medical scriptures, and literature. He did not have much interest in history or governance. Of course, he could not find any related books.

1

However, most of the books in Serenity Hall were history and governance books, that he usually did not read accounted for the majority. At first, he was a little disinterested, but after flipping through a few books, he found the content was quite interesting and was drawn to it.

For example, the “Book of Xin Ci” in his hand was written by a prime minister called Xin Ci. However, he was not the prime minister of Sheng Kingdom, but a dynasty way before Sheng Kingdom.

In this book, he wrote a large number of his theories on “Controlling the People.” Some of them amazed Jiang Beiran, while others made him despise them.

For example, in the “Weak People” article, there was a method of controlling the people called “using the weak to defeat the strong, using evil to control the good.”.

In simple terms, if a king used the strong to defeat the weak, then the remaining people in the country would be the strong. However, if the weak were used to defeat the strong, then the strong would be destroyed.

1

Xin Ci’s suggestion was to use the weak people to attack the strong people. If they used the strong people to attack the weak people, the remaining strong people would be hard to deal with, and it would make the Imperial Court weaker.

Hence, it was better to use the weak people to kill the strong people. The remaining people would be the midgets, and the Imperial Court would naturally be able to deal with them easily.

Killing the elites, keeping the stupid people, and eliminating the weak. This was indeed convenient for the ruler to manage the country, but the country would become a pool of stagnant water.

1

If the “Weak People” article only focused on “using the weak to defeat the strong” , Jiang Beiran would still think that this was a choice made by the ruler. However, the “using evil to rule the good” article was extremely disgusting.

The article described that if the good people were used to rule the evil people, the country would definitely fall into chaos. If the evil people were used to rule the good people, the country would definitely prosper.

The reason was very simple. Let the bullies who represented the evil people rule the country. If they could train the people to be able to tolerate such bullies, they would naturally be able to tolerate the rule of the imperial power.

2

Thus, the hooligans were the first line of defense for the imperial power.

“D\*mn it, this Xin Ci definitely has no b\*tthole...”

Holding his breath, Jiang Beiran read the “Book of Xin Ci” to the end. After all, only by knowing oneself and the enemy could one survive a hundred battles. If one wanted to change a country, one had to first understand how this country had become like this.

“Hu...”

Putting down the book, a sentence suddenly popped up in Jiang Beiran’s mind.

Flipping through the book, the era name was not stated. On every crooked page were the words “benevolence, righteous, justice, morality”. After reading carefully half the book for a night, Jiang Beiran could not fall asleep. He also found out that this book was all about suppressing and exploiting people.

The knowledge of ruling people was really filled with darkness and oppression, making Jiang Beiran feel a little nauseous.

Putting down the book, Jiang Beiran rubbed the bridge of his nose. He had a conflicting feeling of being the successor for a moment.

“Jiang... No, your... Your Majesty.”

Just as Jiang Beiran closed his eyes to rest, Mu Yao suddenly spoke from the side.

“What is it?” Jiang Beiran asked with his eyes closed.

“Can you give me somethings to do? I don’t want to waste my time like this.”

Jiang Beiran could tell that Mu Yao’s personality had been smoothed out. Although there was some unwillingness in her tones and she didn’t want to call herself a maid, Jiang Beiran didn’t plan to force her. After all, even though her father gave him special privileges to train her, he didn’t want to push her too hard.

Therefore, Jiang Beiran opened his eyes and asked, “Did you go to a private school?”

“Of course I have.” Mu Yao replied.

Chapter 236: People 2

“Have you studied the Eight General Studies?”

The Eight General Studies was similar to the Four Books and Five Classics. They had a profound and far-reaching influence on ideology, academics, and culture. They were books that all students had to read.

However, Mu Yao was a cultivator. These cultivators were really just studying so that they knew how to read. It was for the sake of understanding those peerless martial arts and mysterious internal cultivation method. As for these classic literatures, they had no interest in them at all.

That was why Jiang Beiran asked this question.

“I’ve learned them. I’ve also read some classics, rites, and literature.”

“Oh?” Jiang Beiran was a little surprised when he heard it, and he saw Mu Yao in a new light.

So, he waved at Mu Yao and said, “Come here.”

At this moment, Jiang Beiran was wearing an imperial robe and sitting on the dragon throne, and this was his bedroom. With this wave of his hand, his words made Mu Yao instinctively want to raise her hand to protect her chest.

“No... No! Why should I be afraid of him! He’s only in the qi refining realm. If he dares to mess around, I’ll break his hand! Yes! I I’m not afraid of him!” After convincing herself in her heart, Mu Yao walked to Jiang Beiran.

Pushing the candlestick forward and illuminating Mu Yao’s face with the candlelight, Jiang Beiran asked, “Why did you learn this?”

“I can learn whatever I want.” Mu Yao replied.

“Oh, I see,” Jiang Beiran said as he moved the candlestick back, “Then you can go back and stand properly.”

“? ? ?”

Mu Yao was full of doubts. She instinctively reached out to pull the candlestick back, but she saw Jiang Beiran looking at her.

Realizing that Jiang Beiran was looking at herself, Mu Yao immediately stopped and even her body froze.

“How can he have such an imposing manner... he’s... He’s just like father.”

Mu Yao recalled Jiang Beiran's words "If you dare to offend your superior again, I'll teach you a good lesson." She immediately retracted her hand and stood up straight.

"I... I'm not afraid of him. Hmm! I'm not afraid of him!"

Taking a deep breath, Mu Yao looked at Jiang Beiran, who had rearranged the candlestick, and said, "Your... Your Majesty, did I say something wrong?"

Jiang Beiran picked up another book and answered, "I don't like to listen to nonsense."

"I, I understand. I will answer properly next time."

However, after Mu Yao finished speaking, she realized that Jiang Beiran had already opened the book and was reading it. He didn't have any intention of continuing to ask her.

This made Mu Yao extremely anxious. She had already stood by the side for half a day. She didn't want to waste her time like this.

1

But facing Jiang Beiran, she didn't dare to flare up at all.

"I'm not afraid of him, I'm afraid of father!"

Once again convincing herself in her heart, Mu Yao rubbed her hands hard and said, "Your... Your Majesty, what should I do? Give me another chance."

Only then did Jiang Beiran put down the book and look at Mu Yao and said, "When you beg someone, say please."

Rubbing her hands harder, Mu Yao used all her strength to say, "Please... Please give me another chance, Your Majesty. I will answer properly this time."

Jiang Beiran nodded in satisfaction and pushed the candlestick back to Mu Yao. "Speak."

"Father taught me... he said that being a person, even if you do hundreds of good deeds, you can't change the world. Only by truly understanding the truth of the world can you save the people from suffering."

Hearing this, Jiang Beiran realized that Yin Jianghong wasn't just fooling around by forcing this silly girl into the palace. At the same time, he also understood why Yin Jianghong told him about Mu Yao's background.

"You have ideals, so you want to display your knowledge after the demonic cult takes control of the Sheng Kingdom?"

"I, I didn't think..." Halfway through her words, Mu Yao changed her words again. "Yes, that's what I think."

"Very good, then your opportunity has come early. This palace is the best place for you to display your talents."

After hearing this, Mu Yao muttered, "Father only wants me to be a female official... what talents can I display..."

After hearing this, Jiang Beiran smiled and said, "Do you know the grand chancellor with hairpin?"

Seeing Mu Yao's confused expression, Jiang Beiran shouted to the eunuch beside him, "Prepare the brush and ink."

"Yes."

The eunuch was very agile. In an instant, he placed the four treasures of the study on the table and started to grind the ink.

Jiang Beiran sniffed and said, "I don't like to use oil ink when writing. Go and exchange it for pine ink."

The eunuch was so scared that he quickly knelt on the ground and kowtowed, "I don't know what Your Majesty likes. I deserve to die. I deserve to die."

1

Seeing the eunuch scared out of his wits, Jiang Beiran didn't know whether it was because he was acting very scary or because Deng Bo had left a deep psychological scar on them.

"Those who don't know aren't guilty. Just remember this. Get up."

"Thank you, Your Majesty! Thank you, Your Majesty! I'll go get the pine ink now."

After saying that, the eunuch kowtowed and retreated.

Mu Yao looked at the eunuch and thought that serving the emperor was really a scary thing.

But when she thought about herself, although she wasn't as humble as the eunuch, she was already pitiful enough when she met the righteous sect disciples.

"Father really punished me severely this time, but I did make a huge mistake. If father hadn't come to save me, I would have definitely ruined father's great undertaking, and I would be the blame forever."

However, when she thought about that incident, Mu Yao couldn't help but think of what his father said afterward.

“Someone else saved me, but father doesn’t know who that person is. But that’s impossible. Even father couldn’t find me at that time. Could there be someone more powerful than father in Fengzhou? Hmm... I still think father was lying to me, but why did he lie to me...”

While Mu Yao was thinking, the eunuch had already helped Jiang Beiran grind the ink again.

Rolling up his wide sleeves, Jiang Beiran dipped the brush in the ink and wrote four big words on the Xuan paper.

At the same time, Mu Yao, who had already come back to her senses, immediately looked at the paper.

“His calligraphy seems to be better than the last time...”

Looking at the word ‘hairpin’ on the Xuan paper, Mu Yao could not help but sigh in her heart. The last time they went to investigate the Yellow Gang, she had seen how good Jiang Beiran’s calligraphy was. Now that only half a year had passed, he had actually improved again.

Even the eunuch sucked up to Jiang Beiran, “Your Majesty, your calligraphy is really the best in the world. Those calligraphy masters and calligraphy maniacs were not comparable to Your Majesty at all.”

Jiang Beiran ignored him and wrote down the words ‘grand chancellor with hairpin’ in one go.

“This is the grand chancellor with hairpin that I mentioned just now. Can you understand what it means?” Jiang Beiran put the pen back on the pen rack and asked.

Mu Yao was stunned at first, then she nodded and said, “I can understand it. Where does this word come from?”

“In a book that you have never read before.”

“My knowledge is shallow. May I ask who this grand chancellor with hairpin describes?”

When she saw these words, Mu Yao felt a surge of warmth in her chest for no reason. It could be said that she liked these four words very much from the bottom of her heart.

“Shangguan Wan’er, her position is the female official that you disdain of.”

“Female official!?” Mu Yao exclaimed, “But I’ve never heard of her great name.”

“There are many things that you don’t know. This Shangguan Wan’er is not only the sole ruler of the imperial court, but she is also very outstanding in the literary world. If you perform well enough, I can bring you the book that records her legend.”

“I will do my best.”

Mu Yao blurted out. She really wanted to understand this strange woman.

“Yes, so don’t look down on female officials. There are many things that the male officials cannot do, but female officials can.”

After saying that, Jiang Beiran suddenly felt a little hungry, so he said to the eunuch next to him, “Do you have food?”

“Of course. Whatever Your Majesty wants to eat, I will immediately get the kitchen to make it.”

“Make some red bean soup, if...”

“Bang!”

As soon as Jiang Beiran finished speaking, a crisp sound of something colliding suddenly came from the second floor, as if something was hit.

When the eunuch heard that, he shouted, “Protect the Emperor! Protect the Emperor!!!”

However, Jiang Beiran shouted, "Protect what Emperor? Go out and tell those guards not to come in."

"Yes! I deserve to die. I obey the order." Hearing Jiang Beiran's unhappy tone, the eunuch immediately scrambled out.

After all, the guards in the palace were just ordinary people. Even if the invaders came in, Mu Yao could kill them effortlessly. The imperial guards were basically useless.

Moreover, when a "Bang" was heard, Jiang Beiran used his mind power to sense it. After knowing what was going on, he did not know whether he should laugh or cry.

#### Chapter 237: The People in the Palace Know to Have Fun 1

"Stand down, all of you, stand down. His Majesty doesn't need your guards. All of you, stand down!"

Outside the door, Wang Shougui chased away the royal guards who had rushed over to protect Emperor. Although the royal guards didn't understand what this eunuch was up to, they still left one after another.

The atmosphere in Serenity Hall was somewhat silent. The two palace maids serving at the side didn't even dare to breathe loudly. They also didn't know what was going on the second floor.

Jiang Beiran first glanced at Mu Yao. Seeing her turn her head guiltily, he shouted to the second floor, "Come out."

But there was no movement on the second floor. This made Jiang Beiran think of Yin Jianghong's appearance when he came in looking for Mu Yao not long ago.

So Jiang Beiran also raised his tones and said, "Why? Do you need me to go up and invite you personally?"

"No, no, I'll come out myself!"

This time, a muffled sound came from the sealed space on the second floor.

Soon, with a creak, the suitcase on the second floor was opened. Kong Qianqian raised her hands above her head and stood up shakily.

“What monkey business! Hurry up and come down.” Jiang Beiran shouted sternly.

Kong Qianqian, who was frightened, replied with a “Yes” and quickly stepped out of the suitcase. However, the palace dress on her body seemed to be hooked by something. In a moment of desperation, Kong Qianqian pulled hard and was about to walk down the stairs.

But in the next second, she heard a hiss. Kong Qianqian knew that something was wrong. She knew that the hem of her dress had been torn.

In an instant, ‘I have to check my dress’, ‘I have to go downstairs quickly’, ‘Sir’s expression is so scary’, and other thoughts surged into Kong Qianqian’s head, which overwhelmed his peanut-sized brain.

1

In the midst of her panic, she stumbled and rolled down the stairs like a tire.

However, Kong Qianqian was still a cultivator. After she rolled down the stairs, she quickly stabilized her body and kneeled in front of Jiang Beiran in a strange posture. Her butt... was a little high.

“Mister... Oh no, all hail to Your Majesty.”

“All hail my a\*s...” Jiang Beiran cursed in his heart when he heard Kong Qianqian

Feeling that his forehead was full of black lines, Jiang Beiran let out a long sigh and said, “Can someone explain to me what’s going on?”

As soon as he said this, the palace maids waiting on both sides immediately kneeled down.

Meanwhile, Kong Qianqian quietly raised her face and looked at Mu Yao.

Mu Yao first patted her forehead, then looked carefully at Jiang Beiran and said, "Your Majesty, I secretly brought Qianqian here with me."

"Do you have any idea what this place is?"

Hearing Jiang Beiran's arrogant voice, Mu Yao was also a little flustered, she lowered her head and explained, "I didn't expect things to develop like this... I thought I was only here to have a trip, but father left me here."

After hearing this reasonable reason, Jiang Beiran didn't care how she secretly brought Kong Qianqian along and how she secretly hid her in this Serenity Palace.

He said directly, "Since that's the case, let's just drop the whole thing, but she has to go."

Mu Yao's heart tightened after hearing this. She was unfamiliar with this place. If Kong Qianqian was gone, then the only person she could communicate with would be Emperor, who she hated and feared.

Thus, Mu Yao made up her mind and bowed to Jiang Beiran. "Your Majesty... We can keep Qianqian in the palace too. She can become a palace maid."

After saying that, she kept signaling Kong Qianqian with her eyes.

Kong Qianqian was not stupid this time, she quickly raised her body and put her palms together to beg Jiang Beiran. "Your Majesty, please keep me. Please keep me as your servant. I can be a palace maid. If you want to drink tea, I will never let you drink plain water."

"You're quite cooperative..."

Seeing Kong Qianqian begging him with all her strength, Jiang Beiran felt that he could keep this girl. Firstly, he could have an evidence of Mu Yao's mischief behavior in his hands, which would make Mu Yao behave herself. Secondly, if he found a playmate for Mu Yao, she would not disturb him all the time.

It could be considered killing two birds with one stone.

After making a decision in his heart, Jiang Beiran looked at Mu Yao and said, "Kong Qianqian can stay, but if she causes trouble, you have to bear the responsibility."

Mu Yao didn't expect Jiang Beiran to agree so readily. She was surprised and thanked him profusely, "Thank you, Your Majesty. Don't worry, Your Majesty. I will definitely keep an eye on her."

Kong Qianqian also said profusely, "Thank you, Your Majesty. Thank you, Your Majesty. Your Majesty is so kind."

Jiang Beiran waved his hand and said to Mu Yao, "Take her down and change her clothes. Also, teach her the rules of the palace. Let her know what to say and what not to say."

"Yes." Mu Yao said and left the hall with Kong Qianqian.

Not long after, Mu Yao returned with Kong Qianqian, who had already changed into her palace maid uniform.

One had to admit that the saying 'dress make a lady' made a lot of sense. Kong Qianqian wore a pink palace gown and had a head of fine black hair. It made her look gentle and beautiful, giving her a different style. It made people want to pinch her baby-fat little face.

Unfortunately, this kind of beauty only lasted for a moment. When Kong Qianqian found that Jiang Beiran was sizing her up, she gave him a silly smile. Even the cute dimples could not save her silly look.

Seeing that Jiang Beiran had shifted his gaze back to the book, Mu Yao gave Kong Qianqian a look. Kong Qianqian immediately nodded and stood behind Jiang Beiran.

Mu Yao quietly walked in front of Jiang Beiran and said, "Your Majesty, how do I..." Halfway through her words, Mu Yao seemed to have thought of something and quickly changed her words, "May I ask how can I become the grand chancellor with hairpin that you mentioned?"

Chapter 238: The People in the Palace Know to Have Fun 2

"Read more books." Jiang Beiran answered without raising his head.

"Then... may I read the books here?"

"As you wish."

"Thank you, Your Majesty, for your kindness!"

After saying that, Mu Yao happily went to look for the books.

Glancing at Mu Yao who was excitedly looking for the books, Jiang Beiran could not help but admire this silly girl who genuinely wanted to do something to save the commoners.

"No matter what kind of person they are, they will always something good in them."

After sighing in his heart, Jiang Beiran shifted his gaze back to the book. Just as he was looking for where he was looking, a cold wind suddenly blew out the candle on the desk.

Jiang Beiran turned his head and saw Kong Qianqian holding a palm fan that was as tall as a person. She had her head lowered and was tired. It was obvious that she knew that she had done something wrong again.

If he could ridicule her, Jiang Beiran would definitely slap away the palm fan in Kong Qianqian's hand and shout, "Are you going to use that Banana Leaf Fan and send me to the Flaming Mountain?"

Although she could not see Jiang Beiran's expression clearly, Kong Qianqian could still feel that Jiang Beiran's gaze seemed to be able to dismember her.

At this moment, another palace maid beside Jiang Beiran hurriedly came over and lit the candle again. When the candlelight lit up again, the palace maid who saw Jiang Beiran's expression immediately knelt on the ground and kowtowed profusely, "Your Majesty, please spare my life! Your Majesty, please spare my life..."

Kong Qianqian saw this and immediately knelt on the ground and shouted, "Your Majesty, please spare my life. Your Majesty, please spare my life..."

"Stop kowtowing. Stand properly."

The two of them immediately stood up together when they heard this.

Jiang Beiran looked at Kong Qianqian who was still hugging her palm fan and asked, "What are you doing?"

"The weather is hot. I want to fan Your Majesty..."

"I think you just want to play with this fan."

Kong Qianqian's expression twitched, as if she was being told the truth.

"Your Majesty is wise. Your Majesty is the smartest person in the world. Please spare me this time, Your Majesty. I won't do it again."

"Put the fan away. Don't move it again."

"Yes!" When Kong Qianqian heard that Emperor had forgiven her, she quickly inserted the fan back into its original position and stood still.

“Sigh, this is probably how Qianlong felt when he saw Xiaoyanzi...”

Sighing in his heart, Jiang Beiran continued to read.

“Dong! — Dong! Dong!”

After the gong sound, a eunuch came in with his head lowered and knelt in front of Jiang Beiran. “Your Majesty, it’s already midnight.”

Jiang Beiran, who was reading, frowned and asked, “So what if it’s midnight?”

The eunuch carefully raised his head and said, “Your Majesty, I’m here to ask if you want to ring the bell tonight.”

“Ring the Bell?” Jiang Beiran looked puzzled. “What do you mean?”

The eunuch immediately replied, “Your Majesty, please allow me to show it to you.”

“Yes.”

“Thank you, Your Majesty.”

After saying that, the eunuch ran to the side of a coiling dragon pillar and pressed down on a bead in the dragon’s mouth.

Then, with a rumble, Jiang Beiran noticed that the caisson above his head was slowly rotating. At the same time, hundreds of lines of different colors slowly descended.

Just as Jiang Beiran was wondering what these lines meant, the eunuch walked over and knelt in front of Jiang Beiran again. “Your Majesty, this bell rope leads to the back hall. Each rope is tied with a bell. The

names of the ladies are on the bell. Your Majesty could choose the lady and ring the bell, then the chosen lady will enter the hall to serve Your Majesty tonight.”

“What the f\*ck!? The people in the palace really know how to have fun! No, it’s that pervert emperor Deng Bo who came up with this idea.”

As the eunuch spoke, ropes kept falling down. It reminded Jiang Beiran of the time when he used to play at the amusement park. There was a string lottery game. The prizes were tied to one end while the other end was collected together. The player pulled one of the strings and then they could win the prizes that moved by the string.

However, Jiang Beiran did not like this game. This was because most of the time, the things he drew were not worth much. He never saw someone won the grand prizes.

But here, he had a 100% chance of winning, and they were all “grand prizes”.

Seeing Jiang Beiran look at the rope in surprise, the eunuch quickly stood up and introduced, “Your Majesty, this rope of different colors represents the ladies of different ages. The empress attached to this blue rope is age of hair sticker. The red rope is age of nutmeg, and the white rope is age of golden hairpin. This...”

“Enough!” Jiang Beiran waved his hand. The eunuch was so scared that he immediately knelt on the ground again, not knowing what he had said wrong.

“F\*ck... the age of the golden hairpin!? Isn’t that 12 years old? Animal!”

Although a 12-year-old girl in this era could indeed marry legally, Jiang Beiran could never accept it. He was deeply afraid that if the eunuch continued to report it, what if there were girls under 10 years old? He really didn’t want to hear it.

Mu Yao, who was beside him, also frowned. She didn’t have any opinion about age. After all, in her opinion, a ten-year-old girl could already get married. She frowned because the life of an emperor was too licentious. There were way too many ropes.

“I just ascended the throne. I still have a lot of things to do. Let’s not do this now. Leave.”

“Yes.” The eunuch quickly retreated.

Looking at the hundreds of ropes still hanging in front of him, Jiang Beiran looked at the palace maid beside him and said, “Take this thing.”

“Yes.” The palace maid nodded and quickly walked to another coiling dragon pillar to press on the bead. Only then did the rope slowly be taken back.

“What an impressive mechanism, but with an improper function.”

As the Serenity Hall returned to its original state, Jiang Beiran picked up the book again and began to read. Mu Yao, who was also reading at the side, kept glancing at him.

“No wonder father strongly recommended him to be the emperor. At least he knows that now is not the time for pleasure and knows what is more important.”

After secretly sizing up Jiang Beiran for a while, Mu Yao shifted her gaze back to the book.

When she was young, she had actually gone through many literature classics in the private school, but she rarely read them after she started cultivating. This was because she had an unyielding personality. Although she admired her big brother, she always wanted to surpass him. Therefore, she practiced hard every day. As a result, she slowly abandoned her study.

Now that she suddenly had time to read books, and they were all books that she had never read before, she actually enjoyed it. She even felt that she should not have completely abandoned her studies all these years.

Jiang Beiran was a little tired after reading until 3:00 am. He placed the book on the table and looked at the eunuch beside him, “I’m tired.”

The eunuch immediately understood what Jiang Beiran meant. He lowered his body and guided Jiang Beiran beside him, "I will take you to rest now."

Mu Yao also quickly put down the book and followed Jiang Beiran.

Although Jiang Beiran gave her permission to read, she did not forget that she was a female official now and serving the emperor was the first priority.

Of course, Mu Yao was aware of this because she was afraid that if Jiang Beiran did not say anything now, he would settle the score later. She did not want to stand there foolishly for another day.

Back in the bedroom, Jiang Beiran changed into a nightgown and sat on the bed under the service of two palace maids.

"All of you may leave. I don't like to have people around when I'm resting."

The two palace maids replied with a "Yes" and left together.

"Hu..."

After the first day of sitting on the throne came to an end, Jiang Beiran stretched his body and felt that he had a lot of things to do next.

"This long-lost fulfillment feels pretty good too."

When he had just entered Sect of Returning Hearts, Jiang Beiran's life was also very busy. After he slowly improved his various skill points, he wanted to try everything. He searched for materials and fought with order master in terms of wisdom and courage. Then, he managed to obtain a cultivation place in the back mountain for himself.

During that year, Jiang Beiran was very busy every day, and also very fulfilling.

Later, he took in a few underlings and asked them to run errand for him. Thus, he had much more free time. Since then, he would practice some interesting skills based on his interests or trigger some options every day. In short, he had been quite relaxed for a long time.

Now that he was the emperor, his life had undergone a huge change. Although it was not what he wanted, he did not hate it. He even looked forward to the days to come.

“After being idle for a while, it feels good to get energetic again.”

Chapter 239: Probing? 1

[ Option 1: Sleep. Reward for completion: Secret Technique of Fire (low-tier black-grade)]

[ Option 2: Strengthen the formations in the palace. Reward for completion: Random basic skill points + 1]

“Humph?”

Just as Jiang Beiran was about to lie down and sleep for the day, two options suddenly popped up in the system.

“There are actually unruly people who want to harm me?”

Jiang Beiran did not expect this. First of all, the black and white factions in Fengzhou had just been purged. Whether it was the rebels or the traitors, they should all loss their leaders and stayed low.

Who would be so desperate to come out and be the ‘vanguard’ at this time?

Moreover, he had just ascended the throne and had not yet warmed up on the dragon throne. Even if those hot-blooded people thought that killing an emperor would change the situation, they would still have to secretly observe him for a while to confirm if he was a dog emperor before making a move, right?

“Strange...”

Jiang Beiran sat up and took out the Suit of Blending in from his storage ring, after putting it on, he disappeared from the palace.

He quietly arrived at the top of the Mystic Listening Palace. This was the center of the entire imperial palace, and it was enough to overlook the entire palace.

‘Gui, Geng, Chou, Wu, You...’

“Hmm... the person who built this palace knows a lot about feng shui and formations. It’s a pity that he was too greedy and wanted to put everything in it. Instead, he set up an overwhelmed formation.’

The Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation was set up in the palace. Using the Lightning Pool Method, the corresponding talisman treasures and talismans were placed on the twenty-eight positions in the palace. Once someone with bad intentions attacked, their mind would be imprisoned, and they would fall into a daze.

As a temporary formation, the Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation was set up extremely well. One could completely see the profound knowledge of the person who set up this formation. However, in terms of a long-term defensive formation, it was full of flaws.

Because the sun, moon, and stars were constantly rotating, the formation pattern was different every two hours. There were 24 hours every day, and the cycle from the winter solstice to the winter solstice of next year was a cycle. It was a total of 360 days.

According to the formation pattern of two hours per formation, there were a total of 4,320 formation patterns in the whole year. and among these 4,320 formation patterns, there was another one that would repeat more than four times.

In terms of the nine square formations, the winter solstice, Jingzhe, Qingming, and the beginning of summer all belonged to the same formation pattern. They all needed to be arranged in a unique way.

And the formation patterns that were already so complicated were only the foundation.

In terms of the seasons, feng shui patterns and other changes required the addition of 60 combinations of the 10 heaven stems and 12 earth branches. Moreover, the formation also had the difference between the yin and yang saturation, which contributed to thousands of completely different formation patterns.

If setting up temporary formations could reveal a person's knowledge of formations, then setting up long-term grand formations could reveal a person's foundation in formations. The difference between the two could be said to be heaven and earth.

"Jingzhe 174, Spring 852, and Snow 471"

"Wow, this is a huge project."

Holding the compass, Jiang Beiran checked out all the constellation eyes that needed to be adjusted. Then, he began to adjust the grand formations.

[ Chosen quest completed. Reward: formations + 1 ]

"It's finally done."

Before the sun rose, Jiang Beiran had strengthened the entire Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation. At this moment, the formation was able to adapt to the changes in the weather and adjust itself automatically. It would be able to bring out the best effect at any time.

Sitting on a corner of the eaves of the Listening Mystic Hall, Jiang Beiran's right leg dangled in the air. Holding the compass in his left hand, he rotated it from time to time. Looking at the rising sun in the distance, he continued thinking about the problem that he had not figured out before.

Although this Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation in the palace could not display its best effect at all times, it was enough to deal with some great mystic practitioner.

Since the option was to strengthen the Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation, it meant that those who would come to the palace to find trouble with him were at least great mystic practitioner and above.

And even in a large sect like the Sect of Masked Moon, a superior mystic practitioner was a mainstay. Under normal circumstances, they would not carry out such suicidal mission.

Just like that day at the Gathering of Young Heroes, the imperial court and the traitors had prepared for ten years, but they had only gathered a few superior mystic practitioners to carry out the plan to sow discord.

After all, for a cultivator to be able to advance to a superior mystic practitioner, it meant that his talent in the path of cultivation had already surpassed most of the people. They valued their lives very much.

Using his hand to block out the gradually blinding sunlight, Jiang Beiran suddenly thought of a new idea.

He previously thought that although Yin Jianghong had verbally assured Jiang Beiran that no one would dare to touch him, there was still a high possibility that one or even a few experts were left behind to protect him in the palace.

When this idea flashed through his mind, Jiang Beiran despised Yin Jianghong in his heart. What an old fox.

It was simply blind confidence.

But now that he thought about it again, perhaps this trouble was sent by Yin Jianghong.

From the time he met Yin Jianghong to the last conversations they had, Jiang Beiran could feel that Yin Jianghong had always suspected that his strength was not as simple as qi refining realm. During this period, Yin Jianghong had tested him through conversation many times.

It was only because he had personally tested the mystic energy in his body that he had suspected whether he was overthinking things.

“Now that I’m the Emperor, that Old Fox Yin Jianghong obviously wants to cooperate with me more. So, before we cooperate, he wants to thoroughly understand my foundation...”

“Old people really like to be paranoid...”

Followed this train of thought, Jiang Beiran understood the meaning of the option.

Chapter 240: Probing? 2

The reason why Yin Jianghong had always suspected that Jiang Beiran was hiding his strength was because Jiang Beiran did not show off many skills. He knew that Jiang Beiran was smart. Moreover, a youth who could resolve the crisis in Fengzhou “unintentionally” had stayed in Sect of Returning Hearts for six years and had only developed superb Go skills?

Yin Jianghong did not believe it at all.

Nodding his head, Jiang Beiran rolled his eyes and thought, “After probing me a few times with conversation, are you planning to change the method now? Do you want to use force?”

The meaning of the option to let him strengthen the Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation was very simple. The purpose was to tell Yin Jianghong.

“You guessed it right. I am indeed hiding something. What I am hiding is the unparalleled formation-setting method in the world.”

Unlike playing Go, as long as the person who set up the formation had enough time, it was completely possible for him to kill the cultivator who was several levels stronger. It was very normal for him to hide this ability as a trump card when his combat strength was very weak.

Moreover, the learning and cultivation of formations were extremely difficult. There were many variables and patterns that needed to be learned. To be able to perfect a high-level formation like the Twenty-Eight Night Ghost Locking Formation in just six years was definitely a heaven-gifted talent.

“This should be enough to dispel Yin Jianghong’s doubts and make him feel that he has seen through my trump card.”

“I hope that the old guy can calm down a little after this.”

However, Jiang Beiran completely understood Yin Jianghong’s probing behavior. Just like how he took in his own underlings, he absolutely had to know everything. Only after passing through layers of screening and the system’s affirmation would he take in his errand boys.

It was the same for Yin Jianghong. He wanted to do something big with Jiang Beiran, so he definitely wanted to know everything about Jiang Beiran. It was human nature.

“But I should be the only one who know my own trump card. If one more person knows it, it might become an open card. An open card can’t catch the opponent off guard.”

Jiang Beiran felt that he had guessed it right, so he put away the compass and jumped down from the eaves. Then, he quietly returned to his bedroom.

After perfecting the formation for the whole night, Jiang Beiran did not feel sleepy. Instead, he was in high spirits. So, he decided not to take a nap. He took out a book of classics from his storage ring and began to study it.

It was not until 7 am that a eunuch came to the door and shouted, “Your Majesty, it’s time for breakfast.”

“Come in.” Jiang Beiran closed the book and shouted.

With a creak, the huge and heavy mahogany door was pushed open. Four palace maids followed the eunuch in, including Kong Qianqian.

“What are you waiting for? Hurry up and help Emperor change clothe.”

Seeing the four palace maids were all stunned, the eunuch hurriedly urged them with his sharp voice.

“Yes.” The four palace maids answered and came to Jiang Beiran’s side.

Wearing the emperor’s robe was a bit complicated, especially the part that tied the waist. If it was not tied properly, it would not affect the beauty. Once the emperor’s robe was spread outside, these palace maids would be sentenced to death.

Therefore, when he saw Kong Qianqian pick up the belt to study, Jiang Beiran snatched it away and said, “Go wait at the door. There’s no need for you here.”

Seeing that her teacher did not trust her, Kong Qianqian felt a little wronged, but she still obediently left.

Jiang Beiran passed the belt to a palace maid on the left and suddenly asked with interest, “What’s your name?”

The palace maid was stunned and then her heart started beating faster. Even her breathing became rapid.

“The Emperor asked for my name! The Emperor asked for my name!”

But in her excitement, the palace maid immediately bowed and replied, “Your Majesty, my humble name is Qing’er.”

“Not a bad name. How many years have you been in the palace?”

“Your Majesty, I have been here since I was six years old.”

‘Tui!’

At this moment, Jiang Beiran was certain that Deng Bo definitely had some disgusting fetishes.

While Jiang Beiran despised Deng Bo's fetishes, Qing'er's heart was already blooming with joy.

Ever since the new emperor entered the palace yesterday, she had been by his side. She realized that the new emperor did not recognize anyone, and she was the first to be asked her name among the palace maids.

"Is Emperor going to favor me? Am I going to be promoted to a concubine? No, I am Emperor's first woman in the palace. Could it be..."

Although Qing'er's mind was filled with all sorts of thoughts, her hands did not stop moving as she helped Jiang Beiran change out of his robe.

"Ah, Emperor's figure is so good. I really want to pounce into this strong chest."

The other two palace maids were jealous when they saw how excited Qing'er. They thought to themselves, "Am I not a hundred times better looking than her Qing'er? Emperor must not have noticed me."

Therefore, during the process of helping Jiang Beiran change into his imperial robe, the other two palace maids were extremely seductive. They kept fiddling with their exquisite figures. Unfortunately, Jiang Beiran was no longer in the mood to chat, he was thinking about what he should say when he went to court later.

Although the two palace maids were disappointed, they did not dare to show it in the slightest. They could only silently retreat to the sides.

Under the guidance of the eunuch, Jiang Beiran came to the Guanju Hall where he had his meal. He sat in front of a long table and soon, breakfast was served.

"Eight Treasures Mantou."

