

Canon 141

Chapter 141: A Mirror

Achoo— Zhou Shu sneezed and rubbed his sore nose.

...

He looked at the empty official road in front of him, a bit confused.

With his walking speed, he should have been able to see You Prefecture long ago.

But now, within his field of vision, he couldn't see any cities at all. Not to mention cities, he couldn't even see a single person.

There is indeed a problem.

Zhou Shu stopped in his tracks. He placed the Great Destroyer Sword in front of him, placed his hands on the hilt, and closed his eyes.

Within his consciousness, five towering mountains rose from the ground. One was slightly solid, while the other four were illusory.

His sea of consciousness was completely still, and his divine sense was like water. It completely enveloped Zhou Shu's entire body, and it did its best to spread outward.

Divine sense was an ability Zhou Shu had obtained after cultivating the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form.

This kind of ability derived from the condensation of spiritual strength to a certain extent allowed him to know everything around him like the back of his hand.

Under the envelopment of his divine sense, nothing could escape him!

A three-dimensional image appeared in Zhou Shu's mind. Everything around him seemed to be clearly reflected by the radar.

Suddenly, Zhou Shu 'saw' a black fog surrounding his body.

An incomparably cold feeling entered Zhou Shu's divine sense.

He quivered and suddenly opened his eyes.

In front of him was the empty official road. There was no one here, nor was there any black fog.

Zhou Shu raised his head and glanced at the sky. The sun hung high in the sky, its warm rays shining on his body.

But the cold feeling that he had just felt was like a nail attached to his bones, and it continued to wrap around his consciousness.

Zhou Shu knew that this wasn't an illusion.

This You Prefecture was truly strange!

Everyone's disappearance might be related to this black fog.

What is this black fog? Why can I see it only with my divine sense and not with the naked eye?

Zhou Shu activated the Golden Bell Shield Technique as his body emitted a weak golden light.

The cold feeling in his consciousness lessened slightly, but it still existed.

Even the Golden Bell Shield, known to be the best defense in the world, couldn't withstand the invasion of the black fog.

First, it was because Zhou Shu's Golden Bell Shield Technique had yet to reach perfection, where it was impervious to water, fire, and poison. Second, it was because this black fog was indeed very strange!

The chill in his consciousness continued to intensify. Even with the Golden Bell Shield, if this continued, Zhou Shu felt that his consciousness would be frozen by this cold sensation sooner or later.

Consciousness was not a physical entity. Zhou Shu didn't know what would happen after it was frozen, but it was definitely not something good.

He had to find Yin Wuyou and Sun Gongping as soon as possible!

Zhou Shu didn't waste any more time. With a stomp of his foot, a tremendous force erupted, and he charged forward.

Rumble!

A thunderous sound reverberated through the air. Zhou Shu held his heavy sword in his hand as he strode down the main road.

With every step he took, a cloud of dust would rise from the ground, leaving clear footprints on the hard ground.

Zhou Shu crossed several meters with every step he took. He walked as if he was flying.

He had already walked like this for two hours. With his speed, he had traveled more than a hundred miles in two hours.

But the scene in front of him didn't change much.

The straight road seemed endless.

On both sides of the road were continuous mountain ranges, lush and green.

You Prefecture was surrounded by mountains on all sides. It was almost like he was in a valley, but it was impossible not to see You Prefecture even after walking for more than a hundred miles.

Walking in circles?

Zhou Shu finally stopped. Although he had the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique and Golden Bell Shield Technique, and even if he ran for another day, he wouldn't get tired, from the looks of it, he wouldn't be able to escape even if he ran like this.

He felt that he was walking in circles. He thought that he had walked for a long distance, but in reality, he hadn't moved at all.

This way, even if he ran until he died of exhaustion, he might not be able to escape.

Did Yin Wuyou and the You and Bing prefecture armies disappear like this?

Zhou Shu frowned. He tried the sound transmission stone that Yang Hong had left for him, but it had indeed lost its effect.

Is this man-made, or is there another reason? If it's man-made, then who did it? Great Wei?

Zhou Shu shook his head and denied himself. If Great Wei had such methods, they wouldn't have needed to play such tricks. They could have just attacked Great Xia.

If even a grandmaster like Yin Wuyou could be trapped, Great Wei would be able to wipe out Great Xia if they mastered this technique!

Was there a need to deliberately lose the You and Bing prefectures to the Great Xia?

Perhaps I should think of it this way. Something happened in the You and Bing prefectures, causing this place to become like this. Great Wei must have discovered something, so they want to throw the problem to Great Xia.

If they directly returned the You and Bing prefectures to Great Xia, even a fool would know that there is a problem. Thus, they deliberately proposed a bet with the prefectures as the wager.

In order to lose more naturally, they even really developed an extremely powerful standard weapon. In order to ensure that they wouldn't win, they even sent Shen Yue to the Forging Division to scout for information. The challenge might have been to figure out the standard weapons in Great Xia. It wasn't to win but to make it appear that they didn't lose deliberately...

If that's the case, Great Wei must not have been able to solve the problem with the You and Bing prefectures!

Zhou Shu came to a conclusion.

If it could be resolved, Great Wei wouldn't give up on the two prefectures so easily.

The current situation could only mean that Great Wei hadn't been able to resolve the problem. Furthermore, they were worried that the situation in the You and Bing prefectures would spread. Thus, they would rather cut off their flesh than keep them in their hands.

How can Great Wei be sure that if they hand over the two prefectures to Great Xia, the changes here won't affect them?

This was something that Zhou Shu couldn't understand.

Since he couldn't figure it out, he decided not to think too much about it. Right now, the most important thing for him was to think of a way to resolve the predicament.

"Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords!"

The Great Destroyer Sword in Zhou Shu's hand soared into the sky. A violent sword qi wreaked havoc, and rumbling sounds resounded.

A moment later, everything around Zhou Shu was pulverized.

Zhou Shu carried the Great Destroyer Sword on his back and frowned.

He had unleashed his most powerful attack just now, but it was useless!

The cold feeling in his consciousness was still there!

The Great Destroyer Sword's attack was completely ineffective.

Zhou Shu frowned. *I can't see it with the naked eye, but I can see it with my divine sense. Can my divine sense attack it?*

When he thought of this, Zhou Shu sat down cross-legged without hesitation.

He calmed his mind and focused, visualizing the Five Mountains' True Form in his consciousness.

Five towering mountains crashed into his consciousness.

Central Mount Song, Eastern Mount Tai, Western Mount Hua, Southern Mount Heng, and Northern Mount Heng!

The five mountains were all illusory and unreal. Only a part of Mount Song seemed to be slightly solid.

When Zhou Shu reached perfection in the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form, the five mountains in his sea of consciousness would completely solidify.

At that time, his spirit would become one and possess inconceivable power.

But now, he was still far from achieving perfection.

Even so, after visualizing the five peaks, Zhou Shu's aura changed.

His entire body carried a mountainous and imposing aura. His divine sense transformed into five peaks and attacked the black fog that had appeared in his consciousness.

Boom!

A soundless shockwave surged through Zhou Shu's sea of consciousness.

The black fog that could only be seen with divine sense didn't dissipate after being trashed by the Five Mountains' True Form. Instead, it condensed.

The black fog condensed into a pair of eyes that floated in midair, staring at Zhou Shu.

Rousing gods and devils!

Seeing that his divine sense attack was effective, Zhou Shu relaxed a little. He was afraid that he wouldn't be able to do anything to the black fog. Since he could attack it, it meant that it wasn't impossible to deal with.

Five Mountains' True Form, smash!

Zhou Shu shouted in his heart. His spiritual sense condensed into the Five Mountains' True Form and smashed toward the black eye in the sky.

Boom!

The mountain peaks were incomparably majestic. In comparison, the pair of eyes was extremely tiny.

The two collided in a very uncoordinated manner, creating a storm in Zhou Shu's consciousness.

"Hmph!" Zhou Shu let out a muffled groan as blood seeped out of his seven orifices.

Within his divine sense, the black pair of eyes had already shattered, turning into black fog and disappearing.

Zhou Shu had been using his divine sense to keep an eye on the black fog the entire time. He keenly discovered that as most of the black fog disappeared, a sliver of it flew in a certain direction.

Trying to escape?

Zhou Shu let out a low growl. He ignored the feeling of dizziness as he leaped into the air and chased after the wisp of black fog.

Along the way, Zhou Shu's divine sense discovered that there was black fog everywhere. He could only use his divine sense to transform into the Five Mountains' True Form and charge his way through, creating a path.

At this moment, he didn't even bother to look at the road. He only stared fixedly at the direction in which the black fog had dissipated. He opened up a path in the mountains and built a bridge when he encountered water.

The farther he walked, the thicker the black fog became. Zhou Shu felt that it was becoming more and more difficult. He had already used up most of his divine sense.

The attack of the Five Mountains' True Form consumed a lot of energy.

However, he couldn't stop. Once he stopped attacking, the black fog would frantically invade his consciousness, causing his thoughts to freeze until he completely lost consciousness.

Zhou Shu gritted his teeth and continued to charge forward.

Finally, he felt his vision lighten. It was as if he had broken through a barrier. In his consciousness, the black fog completely disappeared.

In its place was a feeling of light.

Zhou Shu subconsciously opened his eyes.

The surroundings were full of white mist. Nothing could be seen a few steps ahead.

Not far away from him was a mirror!

The mirror had a radius of one foot and a simple and unadorned design. Black fog continuously enshrouded the surface of the mirror and flowed into the air while baring its fangs and brandishing its claws.

Zhou Shu frowned. *The black fog came from this mirror?*

Where is this place?

Zhou Shu tightened his grip on the Great Destroyer Sword and instantly raised his guard. The Golden Bell Shield Technique activated automatically, and his body emitted a faint golden light that illuminated his surroundings.

Zhou Shu took one step at a time as he cautiously approached the mirror.

He was prepared. If anything happened, he would immediately act.

The Great Destroyer Sword and the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique were not to be trifled with!

He approached the mirror step by step. Nothing unexpected happened.

The black fog from the mirror didn't attack him either. Instead, it dissipated into the air.

When he got closer, Zhou Shu saw that he could actually see what was inside the mirror!

What he saw was not his own shadow, but a city!

That's right. A city!

The city was full of people!

The people were like walking corpses, walking stiffly on the streets.

This is... You Prefecture City?

Zhou Shu was shocked. *This mirror has taken You Prefecture City?*

What the hell is this?

Even a heaven-grade weapon doesn't have this ability.

No, maybe it wasn't You Prefecture City that was taken in, but that it had taken control of the people in You Prefecture City!

Zhou Shu didn't know if it was because of the mirror, but he could see the people in the mirror with his naked eyes. Each one of them was wrapped in thick black fog.

Those who enter You Prefecture City have their consciousness invaded by the black fog and become mindless puppets?

Zhou Shu's entire body went cold. If he hadn't cultivated the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form, then it was very likely that he would have become a walking corpse in this mirror.

Zhou Shu raised the Great Destroyer Sword horizontally, and sword light flashed everywhere. He shouted loudly, "Who's here? Show yourself!"

The surroundings were deathly silent. There was no reaction from the mirror either.

Zhou Shu frowned. He waited for a long time, but there was still no response.

"There's no one here?" Zhou Shu frowned. "Then, I'll break this mirror and see what else you can do!"

With a shout, the Great Destroyer Sword transformed into a beam of light and struck the mirror heavily.

Buzz—

Zhou Shu only felt a strong force, and his arms went numb. The Great Destroyer Sword flew out of his hands, and his entire body was forced back by the force.

Zhou Shu took a few steps back before stabilizing himself. He stared at the mirror in shock.

His sword could even sever the arm of a first-rank Martial Dao expert!

But now, the sword was knocked out of his hands by a mirror?

Where did this damn mirror come from?!

The mirror didn't move at all. It continued to float in the air, as if Zhou Shu hadn't attacked it.

Zhou Shu's heart stirred when he saw that the mirror continued to produce black fog.

The black fog could only be attacked by divine sense. Is this mirror the same?

Zhou Shu took a deep breath and picked up the Great Destroyer Sword.

Although his sword technique was ineffective, he felt more at ease holding the sword.

Returning to the mirror, Zhou Shu closed his eyes and began to visualize the Five Mountains' True Form.

After an unknown period of time, Zhou Shu suddenly opened his eyes. The five mountains seemed to fly out from his pupils. The five mountains towered into the clouds majestically and smashed heavily into the mirror with a bang.

Boom!

Zhou Shu felt the ground shake violently, as if there was a huge earthquake.. For a moment, the earth and the mountains shook.

Chapter 142: Divine Artifact, Killing a First-rank

Translator: Atlas Studios | Editor: Atlas Studios

Zhou Shu felt a stabbing pain in his head. Lines of blood streamed down from his eyes and ears.

The five mountains formed from his divine sense were sent flying back into Zhou Shu's mind by the massive rebound.

Meanwhile, the mirror was still floating steadily in the air.

Zhou Shu opened his eyes. He endured the splitting headache and looked in the

mirror.

For some reason, he felt that this mirror was somewhat similar to the Heavenly Mirror that Shi Songtao had given him.

This thought disappeared in a flash.

Zhou Shu looked at the mirror and began to have a headache.

Now, there didn't seem to be any danger here. The mirror hadn't attacked him, and there didn't seem to be any enemies here.

But this mirror wouldn't move no matter what. Even if he hit it, it wouldn't budge. What could he do to save the people in You Prefecture City?

What the hell is this stupid mirror! Zhou Shu cursed.

Originally, after defeating Great Wei's Imperial Preceptor Xiao Shunzhi, Zhou Shu thought that he was already one of the top existences in this world.

He had a feeling that there was nothing in this world he couldn't deal with, nothing he couldn't solve, nowhere he couldn't go!

In the end..

He was hit in the head the moment he came.

A seemingly ordinary mirror was enough to render him helpless.

No, this damn mirror wasn't ordinary at all.

Zhou Shu came in front of the mirror again.

He tentatively reached for the mirror.

When his palm was a few inches from the mirror, a surge of power sent his hand flying

The force wasn't too great, and it was impossible for it to injure Zhou Shu, but it was extremely firm. Zhou Shu could clearly feel it. Keep your dirty hands away. Don't touch me!

His face darkened. A stupid mirror has emotions

Within the mirror, all of You Prefecture City was visible.

Zhou Shu saw the You Prefecture Army that had entered You Prefecture City.

Thousands of You Prefecture Army soldiers were standing at the gates of the city. They hadn't even entered the city, yet they had already turned into terracotta soldiers.

Many of these You Prefecture Army soldiers had unsheathed their weapons, and their blades were stained with blood.

Evidently, a battle had taken place when they first arrived.

Then they were invaded by the black fog emitted by this broken mirror and lost consciousness.

Having lost their consciousness, they were all stunned on the spot, and they became like the terracotta soldiers.

Zhou Shu frowned.

It should have been several days since the You Prefecture Army was trapped. In their current state, it was impossible for them to eat or drink.

If they didn't eat for a few days, they might be able to endure it. If they didn't drink water for a few days..

Zhou Shu was a bit worried. Could these soldiers have all died?

And the citizens of You Prefecture City, are they dead or alive?

Zhou Shu felt a sense of urgency in his heart. Although Yin Wuyou had the cultivation of a grandmaster, she would at most be able to last a bit longer than ordinary people. If she didn't eat or drink, she would die sooner or later.

Zhou Shu continued to search in the mirror, trying to find Yin Wuyou and Sun Gongping.

This mirror was like a satellite scanner, enveloping the entire You Prefecture City within it, displaying everything in detail.

But Zhou Shu was unable to control the zoom. He could only widen his eyes and use his vision to the limit to identify the sesame-sized figures.

It was like searching for a needle in a haystack.

But Zhou Shu still did it.

He opened his eyes wide. After searching for god knows how long, he finally saw a familiar figure in the southeast corner of the city.

"Grand Minister " Zhou Shu muttered as his pupils suddenly contracted.

He widened his eyes and tried hard to see the scene in the mirror.

Subconsciously, his consciousness surged out and entered the mirror.

This time, he had no intention of attacking. He only wanted to see what was happening within the mirror.

His divine sense was not hindered at all as it entered the mirror.

Zhou Shu felt the scene in the mirror rapidly draw closer. The city, houses, and people were all within his line of sight, rapidly expanding

He finally saw Yin Wuyou's appearance clearly!

At this moment, Yin Wuyou's face was pale, almost devoid of blood. She sat with her back against a wall, her eyes tightly shut. If not for the faint rise and fall of her chest, Zhou Shu would have thought she was dead.

Zhou Shu was somewhat anxious and was about to call out to her when he was suddenly attracted by something else.

His divine sense followed his gaze, and Zhou Shu saw two words written in blood on the ground beside Yin Wuyou's hand.

The first word was Zhou.

Only part of the second word was written.

Zhou Shu felt a sharp pain in his heart. Was she trying to write my name? At this point, she still wants to save me?

Zhou Shu felt as if someone had pinched his heart. It was so painful that he almost couldn't breathe.

"Who is it! Who injured you!"

Zhou Shu could clearly see that Yin Wuyou's clothes were dyed red with blood. If it was just the black fog from the mirror, she would not have vomited blood! She must have met some enemy!

Zhou Shu's eyes were red. He was unable to control his anger.

He quickly scanned his surroundings.

A few steps away, Sun Gongping was lying on his back with only the handle of his Spring Embroidered Saber in his hand.

His chest was caved in, the rise and fall barely noticeable.

Zhou Shu gritted his teeth. Damn it!

No matter who injured them, they must die!

Zhou Shu continued to search. Not long after, he finally discovered something!

“Xiao Shunzhi!” Zhou Shu spat out each syllable.

He didn’t expect that Xiao Shunzhi had fled to You Prefecture instead of returning to Great Wei!

In an instant, Zhou Shu understood the entire situation.

Xiao Shunzhi knew that there was something wrong with You Prefecture. He was worried that I would continue to pursue him, so he didn’t dare to flee to Great Wei. Instead, he fled to You Prefecture.

If I continued to chase after him, I would be attacked by the black fog the moment I entered You Prefecture. At that time, I would naturally not have the strength to continue chasing after him.

He stared at Xiao Shunzhi. Xiao Shunzhi was sitting cross-legged on the ground and had golden light flickering on his body. At some point, his large saber had returned to his hand.

He still had consciousness?

Zhou Shu could tell at a glance that Xiao Shunzhi had not completely lost consciousness!

He was still circulating his spiritual essence to resist the invasion of the black fog!

As expected of a first-rank martial artist!

The reason Zhou Shu had been able to cut off his arm previously was by exchanging injuries with him and catching him off guard.

In terms of true strength, Xiao Shunzhi was not inferior to him.

“Thief, so you injured them!” Zhou Shu said murderously.

From the looks of it, Xiao Shunzhi had injured Yin Wuyou and Sun Gongping.

But because of the invasion of the black fog, he didn’t attack them further.

Zhou Shu rejoiced. Fortunately, there was the black fog. Otherwise, Yin Wuyou and Sun Gongping would probably not have survived.

However, their current situation wasn’t good either. He had to rescue them as soon as possible!

If they can enter You Prefecture City, why can’t I? Could it be that after a few days, the mirror’s control over You Prefecture City has increased?

Zhou Shu frowned and guessed.

A mirror!

Whether it was physical attacks or divine sense attacks, they could do nothing to this mirror.

Zhou Shu’s current methods were completely useless against it.

No, I have another idea! Zhou Shu suddenly thought. “Legendary Armament Canon!”

The Legendary Armament Canon was not a weapon, nor did it possess any offensive means.

But it was Zhou shu's greatest trump card!

Even though he had no idea where the mirror came from, it could be classified as a weapon.

Since it was a weapon, could it be recorded in the Legendary Armament Canon?

If he could find its forging method, would he be able to find its flaws and destroy it?

Zhou Shu was a Forging Master. He didn't believe that a weapon would be flawless!

However, the Legendary Armament Canon didn't have the ability to identify weapons in the past, so he didn't know if it would work!

As Zhou Shu thought this, he silently called out to the Legendary Armament Canon.

The Legendary Armament Canon appeared in the air with his thoughts and suddenly shone brightly.

At the same time, the mirror before him started to shine brightly. It was as if it had received some sort of shock

A dense black aura spread out before it suddenly jumped.

That's right. It jumped like a rabbit and disappeared into thin air as if it had jumped into another dimension.

The Legendary Armament Canon rustled as it flipped to a blank page. The words appeared on it.

"Divine artifact, Mirror of Retribution."

It was as if it had been obstructed by something. This time, the words didn't continue to appear. Instead, the words that had already appeared disappeared at a visible speed.

The page became blank once again. Then the Legendary Armament Canon closed and disappeared.

Zhou Shu was somewhat stunned. What's going on?

Was the mirror scared of?

Was it scared off by the Legendary Armament Canon?

This is definitely a pleasant surprise.

The mirror is called the Mirror of Retribution?

Divine artifact?

Are divine artifacts above heaven-grade weapons?

Many thoughts flashed through Zhou Shu's mind. Just now, the Legendary Armament Canon seemed to want to display the information about the Mirror of Retribution. However, it seemed that it lacked strength, so it wasn't able to display it.

"Wait, Xiao Shunzhi!"

Zhou Shu returned to his senses. Now was not the time to think about divine artifacts. The Mirror of Retribution had run away, so You Prefecture City should return to normal!

This time, he absolutely couldn't let Xiao Shunzhi escape again!

Zhou Shu raised his head and discovered that he had unknowingly arrived at a

tower in You Prefecture City. It seemed that the Mirror of Retribution had affected the You and Bing prefectures.

Without thinking, he identified the direction and ran in the direction he saw Xiao Shunzhi in the mirror.

You Prefecture City, inside a residence

Xiao Shunzhi suddenly opened his eyes, somewhat surprised.

It's gone! The feeling of being invaded has actually disappeared!

He didn't know what had happened. But the next moment, his gaze fell onto his empty right sleeve, and his expression instantly became slightly gloomy.

Damn it!

He had dominated the world for so many years, but he had failed miserably in his time!

If I don't take revenge, I, Xiao Shunzhi, am not a man!

Luckily, my Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber was brought over by that little constable. Hmph! Zhou Shu, just you wait!

Xiao Shunzhi snorted coldly.

"Wait? I don't want to wait anymore! Xiao Shunzhi, prepare to die!" A loud shout suddenly rang out as a dazzling sword light filled Xiao Shunzhi's vision.

Xiao Shunzhi's pupils suddenly contracted. He was greatly shocked.

He jumped up and used the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber with his left hand. He poured the little spiritual essence left he had into the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber.

Rumble!

Loud explosions resounded non-stop, houses collapsed, and smoke and dust surged.

Zhou Shu and Xiao Shunzhi reappeared.

Xiao Shunzhi was in a sorry state as he spat out a mouthful of blood.

In order to resist the invasion of the black fog, he had already used up most of his spiritual essence.

Although Zhou Shu had also expended some of his energy, his Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique gave him physical strength. This sword strike was weaker than at his peak state, but it was still powerful.

In comparison, Xiao Shunzhi was injured again.

"Bastard, die!"

When he thought of Yin Wuyou, whose fate was unknown, Zhou Shu was enraged. His aura rose by 30% as he unleashed the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique, slashing toward Xiao Shunzhi.

Xiao Shunzhi was shocked and angry. In his peak state, he had even had an arm chopped off by this person.

Now, he only had his left arm left, and his spiritual essence had been depleted by more than half. How could he be his match?

Xiao Shunzhi shifted his gaze, looking for an opportunity to escape.

But how could Zhou Shu give him another chance?

"You dare to be distracted while fighting me? You are truly courting death!"

Zhou Shu snorted coldly.

The sword light expanded, and the sword qi of the Great Destroyer Sword was activated. With a whoosh, the sword qi had already left numerous wounds on Xiao Shunzhi's body, causing blood to splatter everywhere.

The Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had revealed its killing power within five steps.

Xiao Shun was furious. "Zhou Shu, are you really going to fight to the death?"

"Fight to the death? Zhou Shu snorted coldly. "You're not worthy!"

The sword qi from the Great Destroyer Sword exploded, and Zhou Shu's body glowed with a golden light. It was as if he had turned into a golden statue as he charged toward Xiao Shunzhi.

Xiao Shunzhi's voice came to an abrupt halt when the Great Destroyer Sword slashed down.

His head was already high in the air as a stream of blood gushed out like a fountain.

An expert of his generation fell to Zhou Shu's sword just like that.

"Pu—" Zhou Shu spat out a mouthful of blood. He grimaced as he pulled out the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber from his body.

Just a little more, and the tip of the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber would have pierced through his body.

Even the eleventh level of the Golden Bell Shield Technique couldn't withstand a desperate attack from a first-rank martial artist.

Fortunately, he was faster this time!

"Pui!"

Zhou Shu spat out a mouthful of blood. Old thief, how dare you hurt my people? Do you think you can still live!?

Great Destroyer, you must be proud. Now, you will be able to stay at the top of the Yellow-grade Armament Manual for a long time.

[The Great Destroyer Sword you forged effectively completed a kill. The Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique has reached perfection!]

Strands of profound sword intent surged into Zhou Shu's mind. In an instant, it was as if he had practiced the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique for countless years. He knew all of the changes and concepts like the back of his hand.

He was slightly stunned. It reached perfection all at once?

He didn't expect that the reward he received last would be the fastest to reach the perfection stage.

The Dragon Elephant Prajna "Technique from before had yet to reach perfection.

The reward for killing a first-rank martial artist is so generous

The strength of the enemy would indeed affect the benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon. But he didn't expect that killing a first-rank martial artist would allow the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique to reach perfection.

“Oh right, the grand minister!

Zhou Shu suddenly reacted and slapped his head. He couldn't care less about sensing the changes in his cultivation of the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique. He activated his movement technique and ran toward Yin Wuyou, even forgetting to bring the Blood 'Thirsty Rampant Saber with him. If the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber could speak, it would probably be crying right now. It had already happened twice, and it had been abandoned twice. I am a heaven-grade weapon, heaven grade!

Chapter 143: Rescue

The mirror vanished, along with the invisible black fog shrouding the two prefigures.

But the influence of the black fog didn't disappear immediately.

Along the way, Zhou Shu saw countless people lying on the ground. These people had yet to wake up, and it was uncertain whether they would wake up in the future.

Zhou Shu only hoped that when the mirror affected their consciousness, it also affected their bodies.

Otherwise, with the effects of the Mirror of Retribution disappearing, after a few days without food and water, their bodies wouldn't be able to take it.

But he couldn't be bothered with this right now. He was not the Guanyin Bodhisattva who saved the suffering

To put it bluntly, what did the life and death of these people have to do with him?

If he wanted to save anyone, he had to save those related to him first.

Zhou Shu dashed like lightning and arrived beside Yin Wuyou in no time.

Yin Wuyou was quietly leaning there, looking incredibly weak.

Zhou Shu's heart ached, and he cursed Xiao Shunzhi again.

He walked to Yin Wuyou's side, carefully helped her up, and reached out to feel under her nose.

Her breathing was extremely weak, and it was even intermittent.

Although she was a third-rank martial artist, Xiao Shunzhi was a first-rank martial artist. Even though he was injured, Yin Wuyou was not his match.

The fact that she was still alive was because Xiao Shunzhi couldn't be bothered. Looking at Yin Wuyou's state, Zhou Shu felt helpless.

In his previous life, he was just an ordinary corporate slave. At most, he could perform artificial respiration, but he knew nothing about other first aid methods.

In his life, he had never learned how to heal people.

Right now, he didn't dare to move Yin Wuyou's body. If her internal organs were injured, moving her would cause massive bleeding.

What should I do? Zhou Shu was a little anxious. If he returned to the capital to get reinforcements now, it would be too late.

But if he didn't call for help, would he watch helplessly as Yin Wuyou died from her injuries?

Right, the Breakthrough Pill Zhou Shu suddenly remembered that he still had such a pill with him.

There should have been a battle when the You Prefecture Army and Bing Prefecture Army entered both prefectures. At the time, the Legendary Amament Canon had given him some benefits.

Back then, he had received quite a few Breakthrough Pills.

The Breakthrough Pill was not a healing pill, but it could defy all conditions and directly allow martial artists below the first rank to break through a rank. The advancement of a martial artist was a kind of transformation to the body, and it could even be understood as an evolution.

This process was not just about increasing one's spiritual essence. One's body would also improve accordingly.

If Yin Wuyou's Martial Dao cultivation could increase by a rank, then the changes brought by the increase in cultivation might be able to heal her injuries.

Even if it couldn't, the vitality of a second-rank martial artist was definitely stronger than a third-rank martial artist's.

Without much hesitation, Zhou Shu directly took out a Breakthrough Pill and placed it in Yin Wuyou's mouth.

The Breakthrough Pill melted the moment it entered her mouth. Yin Wuyou groaned lightly, and some color appeared on her face.

The spiritual essence within her body fluctuated slightly. Shortly after, the vital qi of heaven and earth in the air started to condense and then poured into Yin Wuyou's body.

A pained expression appeared on Yin Wuyou's face.

Zhou Shu felt his heart ache. He tightened his grip on her shoulders. "Don't be afraid. You'll be fine soon."

The vital qi of heaven and earth was constantly being drawn over. More than half of You Prefecture seemed to have become a vacuum of heaven and earth vital q

If someone looked down from above, they would definitely be able to see a tornado-like vortex.

The amount of heaven and earth vital qi required to break through from the third rank of the Martial Dao to the second rank was immense. Such an enormous amount of heaven and earth vital qi was attracted by the effect of the Breakthrough Pill and poured into Yin Wuyou's body, surging into her meridians and body.

Even though the Breakthrough Pill had no side effects, the process of breaking through was unavoidable. Under the impact of the heaven and earth vital qi, Yin Wuyou constantly vomited blood.

Zhou Shu's heart was in turmoil. He didn't know if he had made the right choice.

With Yin Wuyou's current physical condition, breaking through might not be the best right now.

Her body might not be able to withstand the impact of the breakthrough, or she might die before she could break through.

Zhou Shu was anxious, but he had no other choice.

"God, all deities, Amitabha, Hallelujah, please bless her," Zhou Shu kept mumbling.

An unknown amount of time passed. To Zhou Shu, it felt like a century had passed.

Yin Wuyou finally stopped vomiting blood. Her aura gradually calmed down, and her body also gradually returned to normal.

Zhou Shu finally relaxed.

From the looks of it, Yin Wuyou must have passed through the most difficult moment and successfully broke through!

Even if she can't recover from her injuries, the life force of a second-rank martial artist should be able to save her life.

Zhou Shu tore off a corner of his clothes and carefully wiped the blood off Yin Wuyou's face. Then he put her down carefully before looking at Sun Gongping. Divine Constable Sun, it's not that I'm disloyal, but I really have no other choice. Whether you can survive or not depends on your luck.

Zhou Shu came to Sun Gongping's side. Sun Gongping's aura was even weaker than Yin Wuyou's.

His injuries might not be as serious as Yin Wuyou's, but his cultivation was far inferior to Yin Wuyou's, so his vitality was naturally much weaker.

The reason he was still alive was that he had consumed a large number of natural treasures since he was a child, so his foundation was extremely solid.

Zhou Shu didn't delay. He took out another Breakthrough Pill and stuffed it into Sun Gongping's mouth.

Sun Gongping was a seventh-rank martial artist. Now that he had taken a Breakthrough Pill, he would advance to a sixth-rank martial artist and be considered a middle-grade master.

Actually, it was a bit of a waste to take the Breakthrough Pill at his cultivation level.

Not just him, it was also a waste for Yin Wuyou to take it at her level.

The Breakthrough Pill was able to defy all conditions and directly allow martial artists below the first rank to break through a rank.

In other words, if one took the Breakthrough Pill when they were a second-rank martial artist, they could directly become a first-rank martial artist!

At that time, consuming the Breakthrough Pill would be the most worthwhile.

After all, breaking through from a second-rank martial artist to a first-rank martial artist was ten times or even a hundred times more difficult than breaking through from a ninth-rank martial artist to a second-rank martial artist combined.

Those who could cultivate to the second rank of the Martial Dao were elites among elites. Even so, only one in ten thousand could break through to the first rank from the second rank.

A Breakthrough Pill could allow many second-rank martial artists to directly cross this difficult step.

If others knew that Zhou Shu had used a pill just like that, they would definitely call it a waste.

Zhou Shu naturally knew when it was most worthwhile to take the Breakthrough Pill, but he didn't care at all.

Let alone the fact that he had plenty of Breakthrough Pills, even if he only had two in his hands, he wouldn't hesitate at all at this time.

To him, Yin Wuyou's and Sun Gongping's lives were more important than anything else.

Sun Gongping's breakthrough didn't cause as much commotion. After all, he had only broken through from the seventh rank to the sixth rank.

He only spat out a few mouthfuls of blood before breaking through.

Throughout the entire process, he didn't wake up either.

After he broke through, Zhou Shu checked his breathing. Although it didn't become much stronger, it didn't become weaker either.

It looked like he should be able to hold on for a while longer.

After all, the Breakthrough Pill was only a way to treat the symptoms and not the root of the problem.

Zhou Shu took out the sound transmission stone Yang Hong had left for him.

This was standard equipment for divine constables to communicate with other nearby divine constables.

Although the distance of contact was only a few dozen miles, it could sometimes have a great effect.

He injected a wisp of spiritual essence into the sound transmission stone and shouted at it, "Is anyone there? I am Zhou Shu from the Forging Division. Her Highness and the young marquis are by my side. The crisis in You Prefecture has been resolved. I need help!"

"This is the Divine Constable Bureau's silver-badge divine constable Zhao Mingran. I will come over at once!"

"This is the Divine Constable Bureau's bronze-badge divine constable Xu Rui. I will come over at once!"

A few voices came from the sound transmission stone. Zhou Shu let out a sigh of relief.

Two hours later, a carriage galloped out of You Prefecture, heading toward Chang'an.

Not long after the carriage left You Prefecture, a purple-robed figure descended from the sky and landed in front of the carriage.

Zhou Shu frowned and involuntarily gripped the hilt of the Great Destroyer Sword.

The next moment, the curtain of the carriage was lifted, revealing a somewhat

familiar handsome face.

Yin Changhao:

Zhou Shu let go of the sword hilt.

Yin Changhao didn't look at Zhou Shu but at Yin Wuyou lying in the carriage.

He frowned, and anger flashed across his face.

"Move aside!" He casually pushed Zhou Shu aside.

Zhou Shu's eyebrows twitched, but he didn't flare up when he saw Yin Changhao's actions.

Yin Changhao carefully carried Yin Wuyou horizontally, then the cloud beneath his feet rose as he flew out of the carriage.

Throughout the entire process, his movements were extremely light, lest he would startle Yin Wuyou.

Zhou Shu knew Yin Changhao's identity, so he wasn't worried that Yin Changhao would harm Yin Wuyou.

And right now, flying should be much faster than traveling via a carriage.

Yin Changhao turned around and said to Zhou Shu, "I leave first. Send Sun Gongping to the imperial hospital"

Then he transformed into a purple light and flew into the sky.

So what if you can fly?" Zhou Shu bitterly cursed as he let go of the worry in his heart.

There should be no lack of famous doctors in Great Xia. After returning to Chang'an, Yin Wuyou's injuries should be fine.

"Nephew, look at the difference. Someone is picking her up. What about you?"

Zhou Shu glanced at Sun Gongping, who was left in the carriage.

Sun Gongping's injuries were also very severe. The Breakthrough Pill had increased his cultivation level and temporarily saved his life, but it had not healed his injuries.

If he wasn't treated in time, his life would still be in danger.

"Thank God and me, your uncle."

He drove the carriage. He didn't know how to fly. Although he wasn't slow when running, Sun Gongping wouldn't be able to withstand such torture, so he could only rely on the carriage.

Chang'an

Yin Changhao landed directly in the palace.

As soon as he landed, he shouted, "Summon the imperial physicians"

Emperor Yuan Feng had already heard the commotion and flew over. When he saw Yin Wuyou in Yin Changhao's arms, anger flashed across his face.

"How is Wuyou?" Emperor Yuan Feng asked in a deep voice.

In his life, he had several sons but only one daughter. He had always treated her like a precious treasure and never let her suffer any grievances

He didn't expect her to be seriously injured when she only left the capital for such a short period of time.

Damn it!

No matter who injured her I will kill him! No matter the cost!

"I can't say for sure. Let's wait for the imperial physicians to see her first," Yin Changhao answered in a low voice.

Although Yin Wuyou had her own princess residence, she still had her own bedroom in the imperial palace of Great Xia.

Yin Changhao placed Yin Wuyou on her bed. At this time, the imperial physicians had already rushed into the palace.

A moment later, one of the imperial physicians arrived before Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao.

"Your Majesty." The imperial physician was about to bow.

"There's no need for formalities. Just say it directly," Emperor Yuan Feng said in a deep voice.

"Her Highness must have been injured by an expert. Her internal organs are all ruptured, and her life is hanging by a thread," the imperial physician hurriedly said.

"What?" Emperor Yuan Feng's body erupted with a powerful aura, his entire being becoming abnormally terrifying.

"Your Majesty, please calm down."

Although the imperial physician was also a ranked martial artist, under the powerful aura of a first-rank martial artist, he felt as if he couldn't breathe properly. He hurriedly said, "However, Her Highness must have consumed some elixir which raised her cultivation by a rank. Although the breakthrough of her cultivation worsened Her Highness' injuries, it also increased her vitality.."

The imperial physician explained a lot, but Emperor Yuan Feng didn't quite understand. "Just tell me directly what Wuyou's current condition is!"

The imperial physician bowed. "Her Highness is severely injured, but her life is not in danger. She is a second-rank martial artist and has a powerful recovery ability. Even if she doesn't receive treatment, after three to five months, her internal injuries will be completely healed."

"Then why is she still unconscious?" Emperor Yuan Feng frowned.

"Her Highness was severely injured after all, and her cultivation should have just broken through. It's strange. Judging from her injuries, she should have been injured a few days ago. Her Highness should have been unconscious at the time. I don't know why, but her cultivation seems to have broken through less than a day ago. Otherwise, with her second-rank Martial Dao cultivation, she should have woken up already"

The imperial physician had a thoughtful expression on his face. If Zhou Shu was present, he would definitely address him as Divine Physician.

Although the imperial physician didn't see it with his own eyes, his speculation was not far from the truth.

The imperial physician pondered. "There's another possibility. Someone gave Her Highness a medicinal pill."

Emperor Yuan and Yin Changhao looked at each other.

"Brother, does Wuyou have any medicinal pills that can increase cultivation?"

Yin Changhao asked solemnly.

Great Xia naturally had medicinal pills that could increase one's cultivation base. However, they were all medicines that would cause endless trouble in the future. For Yin Wuyou to consume this kind of medicinal pill while being heavily injured was practically suicide. How could she possibly break through? Emperor Yuan Feng shook his head. With Yin Wuyou's talent, as long as she went along with the flow, there was a high chance that she could advance to the first rank of the Martial Dao. Why would Emperor Yuan Feng give her a medicinal pill that would cause endless trouble in the future?

The two looked at each other and saw the meaning in each others eyes. "Who saved Wuyou?"

Yin Changhao pondered. "When I saw her, she was on her way back to the capital. The one escorting her should be that workshop superintendent. Oh, and the young son of the Marquis Weiyuan is also seriously injured."

"Zhou Shu?" Emperor Yuan said. "It seems that only he knows what happened."

Chapter 144: Great Destroyer Sword, I Dare to Give You It,

Do You Dare To Take It?

Translator: Atlas Studios | Editor: Atlas Studios

Although Zhou Shu complained that someone had picked up Yin Wuyou and

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not Sun Gongping, when he returned to Changan, he was the only one left in the carriage.

On the way from You Prefecture to Chang' an, people from the Marquis

Weiyuan residence received the news and took Sun Gongping away.

The carriage of the Marquis Weiyuan residence was much more luxurious and faster than his temporary carriage!

The two wounded were taken away. Zhou Shu was not in a hurry to return to the capital. He drove the carriage and took his time.

He also discovered that many people were secretly following him.

But he didn't sense any malicious intent. These people should be divine constables sent by the Divine Constable Bureau to protect him.

After all, something had just happened to him. If something happened again, the Divine Constable Bureau wouldn't be able to explain it.

"Lord

Just as Zhou Shu arrived at the city gate of Chang'an, a group of people stopped him.

"Eunuch Zhao? Zhou Shu was a little surprised. "Why are you here?"

He had met Eunuch Zhao a couple of times. Both times, Eunuch Zhao had read imperial edicts to him.

He had heard Sun Gongping say that Eunuch Zhao was the top eunuch in the palace and the emperor's trusted aide.

Such a powerful figure was standing at the city gate?

"I am specially waiting for you here." Eunuch Zhao chuckled. He looked at Zhou Shu slightly strangely. "Lord, His Majesty has summoned you. Please."

"Now? Zhou Shu looked at himself.

He was already prepared for Emperor Yuan Feng wanting to see him. After all, it would be strange if Emperor Yuan Feng didn't want to see him after everything that happened.

But he didn't expect Emperor Yuan Feng to be so anxious. He had not even entered the city, yet he had already summoned him.

"Eunuch Zhao, look at me now. It's not appropriate for me to meet His Majesty.

Why don't I go back and freshen up first? Zhou Shu said.

His clothes were in tatters now. Although he didn't really stink, he hadn't showered for a few days. He had also been through a series of battles, and his face was covered in dirt. It was really unsightly.

"It's fine: Eunuch Zhao smiled. "We can't keep His Majesty waiting

"Lord, please." Eunuch Zhao gestured again.

Seeing him like this, Zhou Shu no longer refused.

He followed Eunuch Zhao all the way to the palace

This was Zhou Shu's first time entering the palace. Along the way, he looked around curiously.

Not to mention, the imperial palace of Grand Xia wasn't inferior to the Forbidden City in his previous life. In fact, it was even more magnificent.

After all, high martial arts existed in this world. In some aspects, the history of this world couldn't compare to his previous world. But in some other aspects, this world was much grander.

Zhou Shu graded the imperial palace as he entered the imperial study.

"Zhou Shu greets Your Majesty." Zhou Shu cupped his hands and bowed.

There was no etiquette to kneel in this world. There was no need to kneel when meeting the emperor.

"No need for formalities." A magnetic voice rang out.

For some reason, Zhou Shu felt that this voice was somewhat cold. Is the emperor in a bad mood?

Zhou Shu thanked him and looked up.

A handsome middle-aged man was sitting not far away from him. He was looking at him expressionlessly.

Looking at his dragon robe, he should be the current emperor of Great Xia, Emperor Yuan Feng.

There was a chair beside him. Yin Changhao, whom he had seen before, was sitting there, examining him.

Zhou Shu was a little puzzled. Why are these two looking at me so critically?

Why are you looking at me like that? Are you trying to pick on me?

Then he heard Emperor Yuan Feng say, "Zhou Shu, let me ask you. Who abducted you? How did you escape?"

Zhou Shu had told Yang Hong and the others about this matter. He didn't believe that Emperor Yuan Feng hadn't received a report.

But Zhou Shu still said, "Your Majesty, I do not know who abducted me.

"That night, I was sleeping in my residence. When I woke up, I found myself in the wilderness.

"Then I was saved by a senior who called himself Nameless. From the beginning to the end, I did not know who the person who abducted me was."

Zhou Shu imitated the way people spoke to emperors in TV dramas in his reply.

Emperor Yuan Feng had already heard of this story. Zhou Shu's explanation was similar, and there weren't too many differences.

Of course, there was no information of any value.

"After you were rescued, you went to You Prefecture? Emperor Yuan Feng's expression darkened. He paused for a moment and then continued, "What did you see in You Prefecture? And where did you find the princess?"

It was a good thing that his daughter was saved, but the person who had saved her was this brat!

His daughter had always been concerned about this kid. She kept giving him all the good things. Now, he even saved her life.

Emperor Yuan Feng couldn't help snorting coldly.

When Zhou Shu heard Emperor Yuan Feng's cold snort, he was a bit puzzled.

But he still said, "I met Senior Nameless in You prefecture again.

"I saw Senior Nameless fight with someone."

A vivid panic appeared on Zhou Shu's face. "No, it might not be a human. I didn't see Senior Nameless's opponent. I only saw him attack"

Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao looked at each other.

The Senior Namelessr that Zhou Shu spoke of should be that nameless expert.

From the looks of it, the nameless expert might be stronger than they had imagined.

Was he the one who settled the matter in the two prefectures?

"Zhou Shu, did that Senior Nameless you spoke of use a heavy sword? Yin Changhao's gaze suddenly fell on Zhou Shu's back, and his pupils suddenly contracted. "The sword on your back is?"

"Oh." Zhou Shu seemed to come to a sudden realization. He pulled out the sword from his back and placed it in front of him. From the looks of it, the sword should be very heavy. It was a little difficult for him to hold it.

"This is the Great Destroyer Sword. Senior Nameless left it for me," Zhou Shu said.

It was also because his cultivation level on the surface was too low, or because Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao, two first-rank experts, were present. Therefore, when he entered the palace, he was not asked to remove the Great Destroyer Sword.

“Great Destroyer?” Emperor Yuan and Yin Changhao’s expressions changed at the same time.

A yellow-grade weapon shouldn’t have surprised them so much.

But the Great Destroyer Sword was no ordinary yellow -grade weapon.

The nameless expert had used it to chop off Great Wei’s Imperial Preceptor Xiao Shunzhi’s right arm!

This was a yellow -grade weapon that could cut apart a first-rank martial artist!

As expected, the Nameless who had saved Zhou Shu was the owner of the Great Destroyer Sword, the nameless expert recorded in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual!

Zhou Shu smiled when he saw the expressions of Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao.

This was the result he wanted.

The reason he brought the Great Destroyer Sword back openly was to tell a story.

As for whether others believed this story or not, it was fine as long as others thought he believed himself.

“Then. Nameless, who is it?” Yin Changhao asked.

“Senior Nameless is nameless.” Zhou Shu looked at Yin Changhao with an expression that said, Are you stupid? Didn’t I tell you that his name is Nameless?

Yin Changhao didn’t mind Zhou Shu’s offense. He said in a low voice, “I’m asking you, where is he from?”

That I don’t know. I only heard him say..” Zhou Shu clasped his hands behind

his back, turned around, and faced Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao. He said in a deep voice, "Having roamed the world for more than thirty years, I have killed all my foes and defeated all champions. Under Heaven no one can be my equal. Without any other choice, I could only retreat and live in seclusion in this deep valley, with only a Condor as my companion. Alas, all my life, I have sought a match but in vain. Unbearable loneliness is my destiny."

A lonely figure appeared in the minds of Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao.

No one could be his match in this world. Just how high was this Nameless's cultivation?

Why had they never heard of such an expert?

"Your Majesty, that was what Senior Nameless said back then." Zhou Shu had already turned around. Seeing their shocked expressions, he was secretly pleased with himself. How is it? Are you stunned?

"Can I take a look at this Great Destroyer Sword?" Yin Changhao suddenly said.

"Sure," Zhou Shu said, "Be careful. This sword is very heavy."

Yin Changhao sneered. Do you think I'm like you?

I am a first-rank expert!

He took two steps forward and reached out to take the Great Destroyer Sword from Zhou Shu's hand.

The sword body of the Great Destroyer Sword flashed as sword qi burst forth, emitting a hissing sound.

Good sword! Yin Changhao exclaimed. "As expected of the number one divine weapon in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual!"

It was not that he had never seen a good sword before. But even though this Great Destroyer Sword was only a yellow-grade weapon, he immediately fell in love with it.

It was no wonder that Nameless only used a yellow-grade weapon despite his high cultivation.

The Great Destroyer Sword was truly a treasure to behold.

“Zhou Shu, can you sell this sword to me? Yin Changhao asked.

If I dare to sell it, will you dare to buy it? Zhou Shu said seriously.

Yin Changhao’s expression darkened. Nameless had given this sword to Zhou Shu.

If he bought it, even if he bought it with money, it was hard to guarantee that he wouldn’t feel threatened or tempted.

If that Nameless comes looking for me

If he can cut off Xiao Shunzhi’s arm, then I am probably not his match either

“It’s just a yellow-grade weapon. I don’t fancy it. I’ll return it to you.” Yin

Changhao’s expression was calm as he casually threw the Great Destroyer to Zhou Shu.

Zhou Shu was given a fright. He hurriedly caught it, then staggered back a few steps before finally stabilizing himself.

Seeing Zhou Shu in such a sorry state, Emperor Yuan Feng felt as if he had drunk a cup of ice water on a rainy day. Kid, serves you right!

“Zhou Shu, why did Nameless leave his sword to you?” Emperor Yuan Feng asked.

“Senior Nameless said that after he turned a hundred years old, he would no longer be hampered by any weapon. Grass, trees, bamboo, and rocks can all be his swords. From then on, he will develop his skills further, such that gradually he will reach the realm of where no sword is better than a sword,” Zhou Shu said.

Emperor Yuan Feng’s and Yin Changhao’s expressions froze as they pondered.

No sword is better than a sword. This single sentence seemed to contain the profundities of the Sword Dao.

“Senior said that he no longer has any use for this sword, so he might as well leave it to me. He even taught me a set of sword techniques called the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords.”

The Great Destroyer Sword and the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had both been made known to others. In the future, even if he fought someone, he wouldn't have to worry about being exposed.

"He took you in as his disciple?" Yin Changhao said solemnly.

"No." Zhou Shu shook his head. "Senior Nameless said that my talent is too good, so he can't teach me. He's taking me in as a disciple on behalf of his master, and he wants me to call him senior brother. But I think he's already more than a hundred years old. He's a little too old to be my senior brother Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao almost vomited blood.

Do you think your senior brother is a little too old?

If you're not willing, let me be his disciple!

How could you despise such an expert?

Speaking of which, what is your aptitude?

Emperor Yuan Feng and Yin Changhao stared at Zhou Shu, as if they wanted to completely break him apart.

Zhou Shu shrunk back. "That's what he said

Emperor Yuan Feng's expression was a bit serious. He knew that Zhou Shu had talent in the Martial Dao. Back then, Meng Bai had helped Zhou Shu ask for a chance to comprehend in the Saber Cave. At the time, Zhou Shu had yet to come into contact with the Martial Dao, but he had comprehended saber intent on his first try.

But later on, because his forging ability was too eye-catching, Emperor Yuan Feng chose to ignore his Martial Dao talent.

Now it seemed that his Martial Dao talent was even better than he had imagined.

An expert who could cut off Xiao Shunzhi's arm should at least have a cultivation of the first rank. He might have even surpassed the first rank!

Such an expert actually said that he couldn't teach Zhou Shu and even wanted to accept him as a disciple on behalf of his master. How heaven-defying was

Zhou Shu's Martial Dao talent?

Emperor Yuan Feng looked at Yin Changhao.

Yin Changhao shook his head. There was no way to measure one's Martial Dao talent. At most, one could make a rough judgment based on the reactions of the body. However, it could also be highly inaccurate.

Unless one cultivated the normal way, there was no way to judge a person's talent.

Or could Nameless have a solution?

But this didn't seem to matter.

The current situation was that Nameless had saved Zhou Shu and had even accepted him as a disciple on behalf of his master. Not only had he given his own sword to Zhou Shu, but he had also taught Zhou Shu a sword technique. This was actually a good thing. After all, Zhou Shu was one of them, right?

Furthermore, Nameless had solved the problem of the You and Bing prefectures. From this point, it seemed he was also the saber expert who lived in seclusion in the capital. He should have good intentions toward Great Xia.

"Alright, I understand the situation now. You've suffered for these past few days. Go back and have a good rest. You don't have to worry about the Forging Division for now. I will give you a few days off." Emperor Yuanfeng waved his hand.

Initially, he had wanted to ask Zhou Shu about the Eight-Sided Han Sword and other standard weapons. But he was not in the mood to do so now. Zhou Shu had become the junior brother of a peerless expert. As for his reward, he had to consider it carefully.

He helped Great Xia win back the two prefectures, and his senior brother also resolved the crisis in the two prefectures. Such a peerless expert probably won't accept Great Xia's conferment. If this benefit falls on his junior brother, it can be considered Great Xia's goodwill

Also, now that he has presented the Eight-Sided Han Sword to me, how will I

reward him?

Could I possibly really give my daughter to him?

Bah, I'm not doing that!

Emperor Yuan Feng looked at Zhou Shu with hostility.

As Emperor Yuan Feng was thinking, he heard Zhou Shu ask, "By the way, Your Majesty, how are the injuries of the grand minister?

Rascal, you still dare to think about my daughter?

"Don't ask what you shouldn't ask! This isn't something you should be asking about. Know your place and leave!" Emperor Yuan Feng shouted angrily and stood up. Zhou Shu hadn't left yet, but he had already left..

Chapter 145: The Dilemma of the Armament Canon,

Marquiss

Translator: Atlas Studios | Editor: Atlas Studios

Looking at Emperor Yuan Feng's back, Zhou Shu was a bit puzzled.

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Don't they say that Emperor Yuan Feng is a good-natured and benevolent old man?

Why does he seem a little unpredictable?

Cough cough-Yin Changhao pretended to cough and only spoke when he saw Zhou Shu looking at him. "Zhou Shu, did you save Wuyou?

"No." Zhou Shu shook his head. "It was my senior brother-I mean, Senior Nameless."

Oh." Yin Changhao nodded. His brother had lost his mind and forgot to ask about important matters.

"Let me ask you. Did you see who injured Wuyou? Yin Changhao asked.

Yin Wuyou was the little princess of the imperial family. How could they let the person who injured her off so easily?

Did they really think that he, Yin Changhao, wouldn't kill them?

Zhou Shu thought for a moment before saying, "I heard from my senior

brother that it was Great Wei's Imperial Preceptor Xiao Shunzhi."

When he killed Xiao Shunzhi, there shouldn't have been any outsiders present.

But the Heavenly Mountain Villa's methods were unfathomable. He didn't know if they would be able to find out.

The news of Xiao Shunzhi's death would become public sooner or later, so there was no need to hide it.

In any case, there was the nameless expert to take the blame.

"Xiao Shunzhi? Yin Changhao's eyes widened, and murderous intent burst from his body.

"Xiao Shunzhi was already killed by my senior brother," Zhou Shu said without blinking

It didn't feel awkward for him to say this. The novels he had read in his previous life actually came to use.

"Xiao Shunzhi is dead? Yin Changhao's mouth felt dry.

Xiao Shunzhi's cultivation level was almost on par with his. The two of them had fought many times, but neither side won.

Now that an old opponent had died just like that, Yin Changhao didn't feel the slightest bit of joy. He only felt his entire body turn cold.

If Nameless could kill Xiao Shunzhi, then he could kill him.

Ever since he advanced to the first rank, Yin Changhao had not felt this way for many years.

He suddenly felt his safety wasn't guaranteed even though he was a first-rank martial artist.

"Brother Zhou." Yin Changhao finally said after a while. He wasn't the emperor, so why would he care about face?

"Um, did your senior brother give Wuyou a medicinal pill? Then."

Zhou Shu glanced at Yin Changhao. He had experienced Yin Changhao's shamelessness before. Half his share of the Heaven Refining Stone had even been taken away.

Seeing his expression, Zhou Shu knew what he was thinking

He didn't expect him not to care about his status and address him as a brother.

"Yes," Zhou Shu said. "My senior brother gave her a Breakthrough Pill. But this Breakthrough Pill is only useful for martial artists below the first rank Your Highness, you don't need to think about it. It's useless for you.

"Besides, I don't have any on me." Zhou Shu spread out his hands.

Only useful for those below the first rank?" Yin Changhao said in disappointment. "Brother Zhou, what is your senior brother's level now?

Yin Changhao was getting more and more comfortable calling him Brother Zhou.

According to ancient legends, there was another world above the first rank of the Martial Dao, but no one had ever broken through the first rank.

How could Yin Changhao not be curious about an expert who was suspected to be above the first rank?

"Your Highness, don't you think you've asked the wrong person?" Zhou Shu said helplessly. "Look at me. My spiritual essence cultivation is only at the eighth rank. Do you think I know what realm my senior brother is at? Even if he told me, I wouldn't understand."

"Alright then," Yin Changhao said. "I want to visit your senior brother. Could you help me contact him?"

"Sorry, I can't contact him either," Zhou Shu refused. "My senior brother is a mysterious figure that rarely appears. Unless he comes looking for me, I won't be able to find him."

Then, tell me when he comes to find you.."

"No problem." You can wait slowly then. He will only appear once in a blue moon.

"Brother Zhou, if you have time later, why don't you let me see your Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique?

Zhou Shu: ".."

Zhou Shu returned to the baron's mansion from the imperial palace.

Mi Zhifu immediately came to beg for forgiveness. His young master had asked him to take good care of Zhou Shu. But in the end, Zhou Shu was kidnapped. It frightened him terribly.

After Zhou Shu comforted him for a long time, Mi Zhifu left the mansion nervously.

Before he left, Mi Zhifu wanted to arrange a group of guards for the baron's residence. But before Zhou Shu could reject him, he was rejected by the Divine Constable Bureau's Commander Ma Fengzhang.

The Divine Constable Bureau had specially dispatched a few divine constables and a dozen constables to guard the baron's mansion.

This was not a treatment that ordinary county barons could enjoy.

Of course, this was also because Ma Fengzhang was afraid.

If Zhou Shu disappeared again, he would lose his position as the commander of the Divine Constable Bureau.

Even though Zhou Shu had returned, this matter was not yet resolved.

Who abducted him? How did the other party do it? Why was the death warrior from the great general's residence?

For now, there was no conclusion.

Before this matter was concluded, Ma Fengzhang absolutely couldn't let anything happen to Zhou Shu again.

Zhou Shu didn't take these matters to heart.

If they were willing to protect him, then let them protect him. This was even better. He could save himself some trouble.

He took a comfortable shower and slept.

He slept from day to night, then from night to day. Zhou Shu opened his eyes and didn't get up.

In the air in front of him, a book that only he could see was rustling only after killing Xiao Shunzhi did Zhou Shu finally have the mood to look

through the Legendary Armament Canon.

When he killed Xiao Shunzhi earlier, he had received feedback from the Legendary Amament Canon that his cultivation of the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique had directly reached perfection.

This was the first time he had encountered such a situation after he obtained the Legendary Armament Canon.

Currently, he had received the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique, Heavenly Saber Art, Golden Bell Shield Technique, Visualization of the Five Mountains True Form, Breakthrough Pills, and the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique from the Legendary Armament Canon.

In addition, there was also the reward brought by the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber-the forging formulas for standard weapons.

The Heavenly Saber Art was almost limitless. He couldn't even see the perfection stage yet.

The Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique had already reached the twelfth level and was not too far away from the thirteenth level.

The Golden Bell Shield Technique had also reached the eleventh level and was only a step away from the twelfth level and reaching perfection.

The Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form was similar to the Heavenly Saber Art, and he couldn't see its perfection stage yet.

On the other hand, the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique that appeared the latest had reached perfection after he killed a first-rank martial artist.

Zhou Shu had always been curious. If the Legendary Amament Canon ran out of rewards, what would happen?

Great Destroyer Sword Zhou Shu recited in his heart.

The Legendary Armament Canon flipped to the page of the Great Destroyer Sword.

Soon, the page of the Great Destroyer Sword appeared before him.

The content of this page didn't change much.

At the top was the Great Destroyer Sword's name.

In the middle was the image of the Great Destroyer Sword.

Farther down was the kill record.

Upgrade (8/100))

Although the feedback from killing a first-rank martial artist was huge, it was only one kill.

The upgrade of the Great Destroyer Sword still required ninety-two kills.

This made Zhou Shua little depressed.

This was the biggest difference between a ranked weapon and a standard weapon. By completing kills, upgrades could be unlocked, and rewards would be given.

Furthermore, as long as he forged 100 of the stated standard weapon, he would be able to unlock the next weapon. But the reward for the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber was also the secret forging formula for standard weapons, so he didn't need to forge 100 of them.

However, the slots for the 100 weapons were still there. Only the 100 weapons that he personally forged could bring him benefits.

How exactly was he supposed to unlock the next weapon for ranked weapons?

Zhou Shu frowned slightly. The Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords

Technique had already reached perfection. If the Great Destroyer Sword completed a kill again, would the Legendary Armament Canon not give him any benefits?

If that was the case, it would be depressing

However, it was not shown on the Legendary Armament Canon currently.

From the looks of it, he could only wait for the Great Destroyer Sword to complete another kill before he could see the changes.

What a headache. Do I have to carry the Great Destroyer Sword out to kill people?

Zhou Shu rubbed his forehead.

He didn't have much interest in killing people. Now that the Great Destroyer Sword had become public, it was no longer appropriate to hand it over to Sun Gongping.

It was easy to explain to Sun Gongping. He could just tell him that he hadn't been able to forge a ranked weapon.

But with the Great Destroyer Sword in his hands, the biggest problem was that if he wanted to upgrade it, he would have to kill enemies himself.

As a Forging Master, he couldn't possibly carry the sword everywhere to kill enemies.

I can only slowly think of a way. I have to keep the Great Destroyer Sword with me, and there are no other ranked weapons on the Legendary Armament Canon. It seems like I can only remain as a Forging Apprentice..

Zhou Shu let out a long sigh.

Just as he was thinking about it, a shout came from the front. "Lord, an imperial edict has arrived."

**

When Zhou Shu arrived at the front hall, he saw Eunuch Zhao again.

Eunuch Zhao was a good person. Every time he came, he would bring him benefits.

He smiled and greeted Eunuch Zhao, "Eunuch Zhao, good morning. Have you eaten

Eunuch Zhao was stunned by his greeting. This baron is really strange.

"Thank you for your concern, Lord. I have eaten."

"Eunuch Zhao, what instructions does His Majesty have?" Zhou Shu asked.

He had forgotten to ask yesterday whether Yang Hong had given those secret forging formulas to Emperor Yuan Feng.

Right now, he was temporarily unable to forge any ranked weapons. Thus, he could only continue to forge standard weapons. He had to make good use of the

secret forging formulas.

It's a good thing" Eunuch Zhao smiled. "Baron Zhou, no, I should call you Marquis Zhou henceforth."

Eunuch Zhao sighed with emotion. The imperial edict that sealed Zhou Shu as a county baron had been personally delivered by him.

How long has it been?

A month?

At most a month!

And then he was made a marquis?

He's probably the only person promoted to a marquis so quickly in Great Xia.

Of all the marquises in the history of Great Xia, which one of them hadn't fought on the battlefield for decades before winning the title of marquis?

Even during the founding of the country, there was no such rapid promotion.

However, his achievements left others speechless.

He had recovered two prefectures for Great Xia. Not many people in the thousand years of history of Great Xia could compare to him. In the current dynasty, only Great General Meng could compare to him in terms of military achievements.

Is this a genius

Comparisons were odious,

Eunuch Zhao began to read the imperial decree. "Zhou Shu, accept the decree.

Zhou Shu forged the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber and made a great contribution to the country. He will be bestowed the title of the You Marquis!"

Marquis You? Zhou Shu was a little dissatisfied. This title doesn't sound good.

How domineering would it be to be conferred the title of Champion Baron?

"Eunuch Zhao, His Majesty bestowed me with the title of the You Marquis.

Could it be that he wants to send me to You Prefecture?"

Zhou Shu knew very well that You Prefecture was currently in a state of desolation. After what had happened, it was still uncertain how many people

there were.

What would he do in You Prefecture?

“No. Marquis, you are thinking too much.” Eunuch Zhao smiled and shook his head. “Our Great Xia’s titles are all empty titles. Don’t mind it. Your fief is You Prefecture, but you don’t have to go there. You Prefecture has the You Prefecture governor to take care of it.”

To put it bluntly, Zhou Shu, the You Marquis, could get benefits without having to work.

This isn’t bad. Zhou Shu didn’t think about how much tax You Prefecture could receive in its current state.

Eunuch Zhao continued, “Marquis, His Majesty has said that your residence has high standards to begin with. This time, he will not award you with another mansion. I’ll get someone to change the plaque later.

Zhou shu pouted, but he didn’t mind.

His current residence was not small. There were many places he had yet to visit.

In the past, he might have wanted to stay away from his boSs. But now, his attitude has changed..

“Eunuch Zhao, tell me. What rank is the You Marquis?

Zhou Shu didn’t know much about the official system of Great Xia. In his memories, in the ancient times of his previous life, the different dynasties had different ranks.

“Marquis, in our Great Xia, is the second rank,” Eunuch Zhao explained. “King, duke, marquis, count, viscount, followed by baron. King transcends the ranks, while duke is the first rank, and marquis is the second rank..”

Second rank?

When he was baron, he was a fifth-rank official. And now he was promoted to a second-rank official?

A second-ranked official, if placed in his previous life, was he already at the

level where he would be given a state funeral.

Thinking about it this way, Zhou Shu didn't mind the strange-sounding title of the You Marquis. Emperor Yuan Feng was quite good.

From now on, I'm also a top figure

If only I could officially become a Forging Master..

Although he had now become a marquis and could lead an easy life for the rest of his life, Zhou Shu hadn't forgotten his roots. Forging was his foundation. Even though he became a marquis, he wouldn't leave the Forging Division.

"Marquis, your current status is no longer suitable to be a workshop superintendent. His Majesty wishes to give you another task." Eunuch Zhao suddenly said.

"Change jobs? No!" Zhou Shu said firmly. "I only know how to forge. What else can I do after leaving the Forging Division? His Majesty wouldn't want me to go into battle, right? I don't want to go. My senior brother won't agree either"

Eunuch Zhao's face darkened. Your senior brother? The one who killed Great Wei's imperial preceptor

He was a trusted aide of Emperor Yuan Feng, so he naturally knew of this news.

"Your Majesty doesn't mean-" Eunuch Zhao said.

"What does His Majesty mean?"

Eunuch Zhao felt resentful. I can't possibly say that His Majesty wants you to stay away from Her Highness

I can't say that. Right now, His Majesty only wants to discuss with Marquis Zhou. After all, if he's really transferred out of the Forging Division, it will be a loss to Great Xia.

Since the marquis isn't willing, then His Majesty will likely put this matter aside

"His Majesty only wants to seek your opinion. After all, a workshop superintendent of the Forging Division isn't worthy of your status."

"Even gold can't buy my will. I like being a workshop superintendent."

Eunuch Zhao:”.

Chapter 146: Another Eight-Sided Han Sword, Is It Enough?

Translator: Atlas Studios **Editor:**

Atlas Studios

...

Within the imperial study of the imperial palace of the Great Xia.

“Imperial Brother, do you really believe that the nameless expert accepted a disciple on behalf of his master and became Zhou Shu’s senior brother?” Yin Changhao asked Emperor Yuan Feng.

“Does it matter?” Emperor Yuan Feng said.

Yin Changhao frowned slightly.

Emperor Yuan Feng shook his head. “What Zhou Shu said isn’t important. What is important is that the Great Destroyer Sword is indeed in his hands.

“Moreover, the Great Destroyer Sword did cut off Xiao Shunzhi’s arm.

“No matter how Zhou Shu obtained the Great Destroyer Sword, what he said is the truth. Even if it isn’t, we still want it to be.

“The nameless expert who was able to defeat Xiao Shunzhi is the senior brother of my Great Xia’s You Marquis. Do you understand?”

Yin Changhao frowned. He couldn’t understand all this nonsense and couldn’t be bothered to think about it. He only cared about who Nameless was and whether his cultivation had advanced beyond the first rank!

“Alright, go do what you need to do. I have something to discuss with the ministers. I don’t think you are interested in listening,” Emperor Yuanfeng said.

Yin Changhao pursed his lips. It was another group of people scheming. Who wanted to listen to them?

Not long after Yin Changhao left, Emperor Yuan Feng’s imperial study was full of people.

These people were all important officials of Great Xia. At the very least, they were ministers. Other than them, there were also a few Grand Craftsmen.

A Grand Craftsman stepped forward and cupped his hands. “Your Majesty, I think it’s inappropriate.”

“Since Zhou Shu has already been conferred the title of marquis, it’s no longer appropriate for him to be a workshop superintendent. Not to mention our Great Xia, even in this world, how can there be a second-rank workshop superintendent?”

“What do you suggest then?” Emperor Yuan Feng’s expression didn’t change. “His talent is forging. If we let him leave the Forging Division, wouldn’t it be a waste of his talent?”

“Your Majesty, please forgive me for being blunt,” the Grand Craftsman said in a deep voice. “Marquis Zhou specializes in forging standard sabers. I believe that the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber is already the peak of standard sabers. Even Marquis Zhou can’t surpass it...”

Before the Grand Craftsman finished his sentence, everyone understood what he meant.

‘The Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber was already the pinnacle of standard sabers. Zhou Shu was only good at forging standard sabers. In other words, developing the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber was already the peak of his life.

If that was the case, did it matter if he wasn’t in the Forging Division?

As for becoming a Forging Master, that was another problem.

Zhou Shu’s current status was already above that of most Grand Craftsmen. Under these circumstances, how could he lower himself to acknowledge a Grand Craftsman as his master?

If he didn’t have any forging inheritance, how could he advance to become a Forging Master?

In some ways, his path to becoming a Forging Master was broken, unless the imperial family was willing to give him a legacy.

These people still didn’t know that the imperial family’s Emperor Xuan Jade Book had already been given to Zhou Shu. A forging inheritance wasn’t a problem.

In fact, when the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber was ranked first in the Standard Armament Manual, Yin Wuyou had already helped him obtain the inheritance. But something had happened before she could give it to him.

“Even though there aren’t second-rank superintendents in ordinary workshops, there are still second-rank Grand Craftsmen in the first thirty-six workshops of the Forging Division.” Emperor Yuan Feng shook his head.

“Your Majesty, Marquis Zhou is only a Forging Apprentice. If he enters the first thirty-six workshops, he would only be able to assist the Forging Masters. This is even more against the rules.” The Grand Craftsmen spoke at the same time.

What a joke. The first 36 workshops were all private property of the various Grand Craftsmen. If Zhou Shu was allowed to enter, who would be superior?

Which Grand Craftsmen could handle a second-rank marquis?

“Since it’s not appropriate for him to go to the first thirty-six workshops, I’ll grant his workshop a name and let him start on a new path,” Emperor Yuan Feng said calmly.

“This—’ A Grand Craftsman hesitated for a moment. “Your Majesty, Marquis Zhou is still not a Forging Master...”

“So what? Which one of you can forge the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber?” Emperor Yuan Feng said.

‘The Grand Craftsman opened his mouth. Every profession had its own specialties. Although he was a Grand Craftsman, he was unable to develop a weapon like the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber. Ranked weapons were very different from standard weapons.

“Your Majesty, a Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber can’t support a named workshop,” another Grand Craftsman said.

“If one Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber isn’t enough, what about this?” Emperor Yuan Feng said calmly. He signaled Eunuch Zhao to pass the drawings in front of him to the Grand Craftsmen.

‘The drawings passed to the hands of a few Grand Craftsmen. With just a glance, their expressions changed. “Your Majesty, this is—”

“This is the standard longsword that Zhou Shu has just developed. It’s called the Eight-Sided Han Sword. Its power is not inferior to the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber’s!

“You said he’s only good at forging sabers. Now what?

“If a Great Xia Dragon Sparrow can’t hold up a named workshop, then what about this Eight-Sided Han Sword?”

Seeing the stunned faces of the officials, Emperor Yuan Feng felt a burst of joy. This Zhou brat isn’t completely useless after all.

Achoo—Zhou Shu rubbed his nose and looked at the Great Destroyer Sword in front of him. He was somewhat worried.

He felt like he had been caught in his own trap.

Was the Great Destroyer Sword about to be destroyed in his hands?

If it remained in his hands, when would it have the chance to complete any kills?

Without completing kills, how could it upgrade?

‘Without completing kills, when would he be able to unlock the next weapon?

If he had known earlier, he would have just thrown away the Great Destroyer Sword. After all, it was already famous. If things went wrong, it might cause others to fight to the death for it. If that happened, how many kills could it complete?

However, he could only think about it now.

Forget it. I should continue forging standard weapons.

Zhou Shu shook his head and sighed. After the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber killed enemies, the Legendary Armament Canon rewarded a few standard weapons. All things aside, this Eight-Sided Han Sword is a good item.

Zhou Shu didn’t know what to do about the lack of ranked weapons. It was not a bad idea to forge standard weapons, and the benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon didn’t seem to have anything to do with standard weapons and ranked weapons. The Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique and the Golden Bell Shield Technique weren’t any weaker than the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords Technique.

This Eight-Sided Han Sword might even be able to give back a peerless divine technique.

As Zhou Shu was thinking, the steward suddenly came to report. “Marquis, there’s a lady outside requesting an audience.”

As soon as the news of him being conferred the title of marquis spread, Mi Zhifu immediately sent dozens of servants over. This time, they were delivered together with the title deed. In other words, these people would completely become people of the marquis's residence in the future. Zhou Shu couldn't decline, so he could only accept it temporarily. It wouldn't be too late to talk about this after Mi Ziwen returned victorious.

"Lady?" Zhou Shu thought for a moment. Ever since he had come to this world, he had spent most of his time in the Forging Division's workshops. The only time he had gone on a long journey, he had not come into contact with many people.

He didn't seem to know any lady.

"Who is it?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

"I don't know." The steward shook his head. "The lady didn't say who she was. She only said that she was an old acquaintance of yours and had something important to see you about. Furthermore, she can only tell you in person."

"Where is she now?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

"She's waiting in the front hall," the steward said.

Zhou Shu nodded. "Take good care of her first. I'll come after changing my clothes."

The short clothes he was wearing were suitable for forging but obviously not suitable for meeting guests.

The steward answered and went to receive the guest.

Zhou Shu changed his clothes and went to the front hall.

The moment he entered, he saw a familiar young woman sitting here gracefully.

The woman was wearing a red dress that made her skin look like snow. Her long hair hung down naturally, and her side profile was almost flawless.

Zhou Shu felt that this face was somewhat familiar, but he couldn't recall where he had seen it before.

"Miss," Zhou Shu said.

When the woman heard the voice, she suddenly turned her head. Seeing Zhou Shu, she stood up and faced Zhou Shu. "Greetings, Marquis. Hongxiu greets you."

"So it's Miss Hongxiu!" Zhou Shu finally remembered who this woman was.

The star of the Education Bureau's Lichun Courtyard, Miss Hongxiu, who had once testified for him.

A memory flashed through Zhou Shu's mind.

Yang Hong had once told him that Hongxiu's surname was Liang. Her grandfather, Liang Delong, was once a Forging Master. Later on, he was wanted by the Imperial Court because he had participated in a case of treason.

Afterward, Liang Delong was killed by Zhu Chuanfeng. Zhu Chuanfeng relied on the benefits he obtained from him to counterattack and even killed Liang Delong's son while he was down.

Zhu Chuanfeng was the one who had caused Hongxiu to end up in the Education Bureau.

'When he thought of this, Zhou Shu looked at Hongxiu with pity.

Hongxiu noticed Zhou Shu's gaze. She had seen too many men's gazes in the Education Bureau. But for some reason, the pity in Zhou Shu's eyes made her heart ache.

So he's just pitying me.

That's right. He's now a marquis. I'm nobody.

Hongxiu pursed her lips tightly. A sense of stubbornness rose in her heart. I, Liang Hongxiu, will not humiliate myself!

"Miss Hongxiu, why are you looking for me?" Zhou Shu asked.

He had no intention of looking down on Hongxiu, but he pitied her plight. If not for Zhu Chuanfeng, she would have been a girl from an ordinary family

"I am here to bid farewell to you, Marquis," Hongxiu said, her expression not revealing any fluctuations in her heart.

"Farewell?" Zhou Shu didn't understand.

"Perhaps I was overthinking, but I thought that since you gave me a poem back then, I should have come to tell you, Marquis," Hongxiu said. "I have already redeemed myself. I am now free."

"That's a good thing. Congratulations, Miss Hongxiu." Zhou Shu clapped his hands and laughed.

'When Hongxiu saw Zhou Shu's expression, her heart ached for no reason.

"Thank you, Marquis." She bit her lip.

Zhou Shu noticed Hongxiu's expression and said, "Miss Hongxiu, you want to bid farewell to me? Are you planning to return to your hometown?"

Hongxiu shook her head. "Hongxiu no longer has a home."

She paused for a moment. Seeing Zhou Shu's listening expression, she endured the bitterness in her heart and continued, "I heard that the eldest daughter of the Lu family of Qingzhou has been conferred the title of commander of the Demon Executing Army. She is currently recruiting subordinates and only accepts women. Although I am not talented, I learned some sword techniques, so I plan to give it a try."

Zhou Shu looked at Hongxiu in surprise. The eldest daughter of the Lu family? He vaguely felt that the name was somewhat familiar.

"Miss Hongxiu, you want to join the Demon Executing Army?" Zhou Shu said. According to what he knew, anyone who joined the Demon Executing Army had to be a ranked martial artist.

"That depends on whether I can do it or not," Hongxiu said, "If I can cultivate and enter the ranks under Miss Lu, I can join the Demon Executing Army. If I can't, I might return. When the time comes, I might

even have to come back to ask you, Marquis, for help.”

“No problem. If that happens, I’ll introduce you to a job.” Zhou Shu said with a smile.

It seems like Miss Lu wants to groom a group of subordinates herself?

Hongxiu was previously in the Education Bureau. The source of her news is definitely more reliable than mine. Since she said so, it must be true.

Zhou Shu also remembered who Miss Lu was. She should be the number one Martial Dao genius of Great Xia, Lu Wenshuang.

But now, he had to change her title.

The grand minister was now the number one genius martial artist. Lu Wenshuang was only a third-rank martial artist.

“Marquis, you have given me a poem. I don’t have anything, so I don’t think this will interest you.”

Hongxiu suddenly said. “Before leaving, I have something to give to you. I hope you won’t decline.”

Hongxiu took out a tightly wrapped cloth from her bosom.

“This is?” Zhou Shu wanted to decline. Back then, he had only recited a poem. He really didn’t expect Hongxiu to remember it still.

“Miss Hongxiu, you don’t have to be so polite. You are about to go on a long journey, so it’s better for you to keep these by your side. As the saying goes, one should practice thrift at home but be amply provided while traveling. I don’t lack money either...”

“This is not a valuable item.” Hongxiu shook her head. “My ancestor was once a Forging Master. He was as unique as you, Marquis.”

Hongxiu’s expression was somewhat proud. “Back then, my ancestor was only one step away from becoming a Grand Craftsman. The Liang family’s forging skills were also renowned in the world.”

As she spoke, her expression dimmed. “It’s a pity that I’m the only one left in the Liang family. I don’t know anything about forging. Rather than letting the family techniques disappear from the world, it’s better to give them to someone who will find them useful. I think my grandfather wouldn’t blame me.”

“Marquis, this is my family’s forging techniques. The reason I’m giving it to you today is firstly to repay you for giving me the poem, and secondly, I don’t want my family’s forging techniques to be buried.”

“No!” Zhou Shu shook his head. “This is too valuable. I can’t accept it.”

Zhou Shu was no longer an ignorant person. He knew very well how precious these forging techniques were.

“Marquis, do you look down on me?” Hongxiu’s expression turned cold. “Do you find my things filthy?”

“Miss Hongxiu, you...” Zhou Shu smiled bitterly. “Why would I look down on you? It’s too precious...”

“Marquis, I have no other friends.” Hongxiu had a pleading look in her eyes. “I might not return after this trip to Qingzhou. These forging techniques are my biggest and only concern. On account that I once

served you for a night, can you help me?”

Zhou Shu sighed. I didn't do anything that night.

This isn't me helping you either. You're the one giving me a great gift.

“Miss Hongxiu, don't cry. I'll accept it, alright?” When Zhou Shu saw that Hongxiu was about to cry, he smiled bitterly. “However, since we are friends, I'll give you a gift. Take it as my farewell gift.. If you treat me as a friend, don't reject me!”

Chapter 147: Enlightenment, Creating a Ranked Weapon

Translator: Atlas Studios **Editor:**

Atlas Studios

Hongxiu, who had already recovered her original name, Liang Hongxiu, stood outside Chang'an's city gate and turned back to look at the place she had lived in for more than ten years. It was a place she hated and loved.

The next moment, she gripped the three-foot sword in her hand tightly.

...

The sword seemed to give her endless strength, and her eyes were full of determination. She would definitely succeed in this trip to Qingzhou! If she didn't succeed, then she would die trying!

“Giddy up!”

Liang Hongxiu spurred her horse and left Chang'an with a valiant back view before disappearing on the main road in the direction of Qingzhou.

In the marquis's residence in the capital, a red figure flashed across Zhou Shu's mind as he sighed emotionally.

He hoped that the Eight-Sided Han Sword he forged would be able to help her. He also hoped that everything would go smoothly in Qingzhou for the girl with a bitter life.

If not for the fact that the Great Destroyer Sword was not suitable for women, he had even thought of giving it to Liang Hongxiu.

If she really joined the Demon Executing Army, wouldn't she have many opportunities to kill enemies?

It was a pity that the Great Destroyer Sword was a heavy sword unsuitable for women.

From the start, Zhou Shu had never thought of keeping Liang Hongxiu by his side.

Women also had the right to pursue their dreams.

If she could really become Lu Wenshuang's disciple and become a member of the Demon Executing Army, it would be a great thing.

What right did Zhou Shu have to stop her future?

The Liang family's forging techniques—

Zhou Shu looked at the scroll neatly wrapped in silk and sighed. When he had first heard Yang Hong speak of it, he had sighed with emotion. Good forging techniques had been destroyed by Zhu Chuanfeng.

He hadn't expected that the Liang family's forging techniques actually still had an inheritance. Furthermore, it actually ended up in his hands.

Although it isn't of much use to me, I will still owe her a favor. If there's a chance in the future, I will gift you a ranked weapon. But the premise is that you're able to join the Demon Executing Army.

He reached out and untied the silk. Although he relied mainly on the Legendary Armament Canon for forging, he wouldn't let go of the opportunity to learn more about forging techniques.

After all, the Legendary Armament Canon was only the forging methods of a certain divine artifact. He still had to learn the systematic theory of forging himself.

Zhou Shu rolled open the Liang family's secret forging techniques. The secret manual was written in small, elegant characters, and there were many detailed drawings.

When Zhou Shu saw this, he knew that Liang Hongxiu had transcribed it.

'This wasn't strange. In a place like the Education Bureau, how could she possibly keep the secret forging techniques of her ancestors?

This was probably what she had memorized in her mind, and she had just written a copy.

She had really put in effort.

Zhou Shu's heart felt a bit complicated. Miss Hongxiu, I will definitely not let down the Liang family's secret forging techniques. If there is a chance in the future, I will find a suitable successor for them so that the Liang family's forging techniques can be passed down from generation to generation! Rustle!

Zhou Shu began to read page by page.

'The current Zhou Shu was no longer the same person who didn't know anything and only relied on the Legendary Armament Canon's secret weapon forging formulas.

He now had a deep understanding of forging weapons.

He had read through all the information regarding forging that Yin Wuyou had found for him before.

'Thus, Zhou Shu didn't have any difficulty understanding the Liang family's techniques.

Soon, he was immersed in it.

One day, two days.

Zhou Shu stayed in his room and didn't leave. The steward wasn't surprised.

He now had a rough understanding of Zhou Shu's habits. When the marquis was in the forging room or the study, he must not disturb him.

All he had to do was deliver the three meals to the door on time.

Zhou Shu stayed in the study for a few days before entering the forging room without a word. The forging room in the marquis's residence had been specially modified by Zhou Shu.

'When he was creating the Great Destroyer Sword, he had accidentally destroyed the forging furnace and True Fire.

But there was already a new furnace and True Fire fire seed inside the forging room.

'The Mi family had sent them over. They said it was to congratulate Zhou Shu on becoming a marquis.

Zhou Shu naturally had no objections to this. After all, he really couldn't bear to buy them himself.

These things were priced in gold.

In other words, the Mi family was wealthy. Not only did they send over a forging furnace and True Fire seed, but they also sent over a batch of forging materials. Some were commonly used, while others were rare.

In short, the Mi family was rich!

Before Zhou Shu had any status, the Mi family had already treated him as the second master. Now that he was a marquis, how could the Mi family neglect him?

'With the Mi family's congratulatory gift, Zhou Shu didn't need to worry about the lack of forging materials.

He entered the forging room and began to practice the secret forging techniques he had just learned.

To Zhou Shu, this was the first time he had relied on his own strength to forge a weapon.

Previously, when he forged weapons, the Legendary Armament Canon had directly inserted the forging formulas into his mind.

But this time, there was no mysterious power that allowed him to directly master the forging of a weapon.

The Liang family's forging techniques were a system that encompassed everything from how to forge weapons to the formation of weapons to the positioning of stars.

To a Forging Master, these were just the basics. After mastering them, it was like mastering mathematical formulas. One could begin solving the problems.

Generally speaking, when a Forging Master forged a weapon, they first had to design the weapon's outer appearance before designing its internal star paths. This process was the process of using formulas to solve problems.

'What was the most suitable shape, what kind of star paths could unleash its power, how to coordinate the materials needed for forging, and so on were all things that a Forging Master needed to consider. They were also part of the theory behind forging techniques.

As for the actual forging process, how to process the different materials and how to forge the weapons according to the design without making any mistakes, including the final positioning of the stars, each

family's forging techniques had their own secrets.
Especially the positioning of the stars, this was the true secret!

'Three years to fix stars, ten years to position.

It implied that one would need three years to learn how to use the Heaven Refining Stone to fix stars and ten years of cultivation to accurately position the stars within the weapon.

This was referring to the foundation of the legacy.

Without a legacy, people would never be able to figure out a way to locate stars.

Zhou Shu was different from ordinary Forging Masters.

To ordinary Forging Masters, the most difficult step was to locate the internal positions of a weapon. After all, the weapons forged from different materials were different. How to fix star paths within the meridians of the weapons and accurately locate the positions of the stars depended on one's intuition. After all, they were unable to see the internal structures of the weapons.

But Zhou Shu was different!

He cultivated the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form and had already condensed his divine sense.

And he was able to see directly inside weapons with his divine sense!

Therefore, he didn't even need to locate anything. He just needed to look at it!

For him, the most difficult step in forging ranked weapons was actually the easiest step.

His studies mainly focused on the nature of the various materials used for forging, the outcome of different combinations, the design of the positions of the stars, and so on.

Zhou Shu continued to experiment with the Liang family's secret forging techniques.

The Liang family's forging techniques didn't have any secret forging formulas. But as long as one grasped the theory, they would be able to design their own weapon.

At the level of a Forging Master, the forging formulas were not the most important. The most important thing was the forging techniques.

As he learned, Zhou Shu suddenly realized something.

He seemed to understand why the Legendary Armament Canon didn't unlock new forging formulas like the previous standard weapons.

For standard weapons, forging formulas were more important. As for ranked weapons, as long as one mastered the art of forging, they could easily design forging formulas.

Forging formulas were not important. The most important thing was to be able to create weapons.

This was the biggest difference between ranked weapons and standard ones.

The body made of Xuan steel and red essence sand can only withstand two star paths at most. Any more, and the weapon will collapse.

Zhou Shu eagerly absorbed the knowledge of forging, and his understanding of the art of forging increased.

Combined with his experience in forging the Great Destroyer Sword, the door to forging finally opened.

I finally understand. The Legendary Armament Canon has already shown me the secret to forging ranked weapons using the Great Destroyer Sword's forging formula. It's just that I was too stupid in the past and didn't understand it!

Zhou Shu patted his forehead, feeling enlightened.

'The reason the Legendary Armament Canon didn't unlock the next weapon was that there was no other ranked weapon!

'As long as he mastered the true art of forging, he would be able to develop the secret forging formulas for ranked weapons!

As the saying goes, one will understand everything by understanding the underlying principles. As long as he could upgrade the Great Destroyer Sword to heaven grade, there wouldn't be any secrets for forging weapons ranging from yellow grade to heaven grade.

This was because it already covered all the information regarding the positioning of the stars. Zhou Shu only had to figure it out!

In the past, he had never thought of learning the art of forging himself, so he had never understood this point.

Now that he was researching the Liang family's secret forging techniques, he immediately felt as if he could see the clear sky through the clouds.

For a ranked weapon, its appearance is the least important thing. I can totally forge a ranked weapon with the appearance of the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber or one with the appearance of an Autumn Anatidae Plume Saber. The only difference is that I can use suitable materials to forge the weapon to match the star paths!

Two ranked weapons that appeared identical on the surface could have a world of difference on the inside. Naturally, their might would also be completely different.

Other Forging Masters can't see the meridians inside the weapons, so they have to constantly test what star paths the weapons can withstand. The requirement for talent is too high.

For me, there's no such problem. I can see the internal meridians of the weapons, and I can see how to fix the star paths within them. There's no problem at all for me.

I've been complaining about how the Legendary Armament Canon didn't unlock the next ranked weapon, but I didn't know that it had already revealed all its secrets to me.

With the power of the Dragon Elephant Prajna Technique, the protection of the Golden Bell Barrier Technique, the attack techniques of the Heavenly Saber Art and the Astounding Heavenly Eighteen Swords, the divine sense from the Visualization of the Five Mountains' True Form, and the experience of forging the Great Destroyer Sword, if I still can't forge other ranked weapons, then I'll really be useless!

His gaze landed on the forging materials in the forging room.

Then, let me forge my own ranked weapon!

His eyes were frighteningly bright as he picked out one material after another and threw them into the furnace.

With an excited expression, he activated the True Fire and began smelting.

'Time passed. Zhou Shu seemed to have forgotten about time as he focused on forging.

The steward looked at the untouched food and felt a little worried. It had been a few days, and the marquis hadn't eaten or drank anything. Every time he came to deliver food, the last meal would still be here, untouched.

He was hesitating. If the marquis doesn't come out, should I barge in and take a look?

But the forging room is a restricted area of the marquis's residence, and there seems to be some activity inside. The marquis should be fine, right?

TI wait two more days. If the marquis still doesn't come out, I'll barge in and take a look!

'The steward walked away anxiously.

Inside the forging room, Zhou Shu's expression became increasingly excited. Within the True Fire, a weapon was already beginning to take shape.

Zhou Shu took out the prototype weapon from the forging furnace and began to hammer it.

This process had already been repeated several times.

'The weapon was becoming more and more perfect.

Finally, one night, Zhou Shu looked at the weapon in his hand and revealed a satisfied smile.

It's time to position the stars. I've already used up the Heaven Refining Stone that Sun Gongping gave me the last time. Fortunately, the Mi family gave me a few pieces this time. Otherwise, it would have been a headache.

'The Mi family had a Heaven Refining Stone mine to begin with. Since they had given him forging materials, Heaven Refining Stones were naturally included. Although it wasn't much, it was several times more than what Sun Gongping had given.

'These few Heaven Refining Stones were more than enough to forge a yellow-grade weapon.

Although Zhou Shu had understood the path of forging ranked weapons, with his current level, he could only forge yellow-grade weapons. After all, the experience he had gained from the Great Destroyer Sword was only sufficient for him to forge yellow-grade weapons.

"Star fixing!"

Zhou Shu gripped the Heaven Refining Stone and closed his eyes. His divine sense flowed like water, completely covering the weapon in his hand.

In Zhou Shu's consciousness, the faint outline of a human body appeared.

The star paths of ranked weapons imitated the meridians of the human body. Zhou Shu could clearly see the internal structure of the weapon with his divine sense, and what was reflected in his consciousness

directly transformed into the outline of the human body.

In this way, he only needed to fix the stars according to the positions of the meridians and acupuncture points in the human body.

Let's start with the Taiyin Lung Meridian!

Zhou Shu's consciousness was like a brush. In reality, the Heavenly Refining Stone was controlled by his spiritual essence, and it landed on the newly forged weapon.

His movements didn't stop. One by one, bright spots on his weapon successfully lit up and finally connected into a shining meridian.

If other Forging Masters could see this scene, they would definitely be so shocked that their teeth would fall out.

'When Forging Masters lit stars, they were extremely cautious. After repeated speculations, they would take half a day to fix a single star.

How could anyone be like Zhou Shu and directly fix an entire star path casually without stopping?

Again! Zhou Shu's confidence increased greatly. It is indeed possible!

He continued to work. After some time, he finally fixed the last star position in the design.

This was the only way. If there was another star path, the weapon wouldn't be able to withstand it.

It's done! Zhou Shu's heart was full of joy.

suddenly, the Legendary Armament Canon automatically appeared in front of his eyes. The pages moved without any wind and flipped to a blank page. It was as if a brush was moving, and the contents of the page quickly appeared.

Chapter 148: Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword

Translator: Atlas Studios **Editor:**Atlas Studios

Zhou Shu looked at the contents of the Legendary Armament Canon and felt slightly excited.

Just as he had expected, he had to develop his own ranked weapons!

...

This time, the contents of the Legendary Armament Canon were slightly different from before.

The title was blank, and below it was a picture of a weapon. Farther down, it was exactly the same as the Great Destroyer Sword.

(Upgrade: 0/100]

The Legendary Armament Canon can also upgrade the ranked weapons I create?

Zhou Shu was pleasantly surprised. Although he might be able to upgrade his weapon through his own research, since the Legendary Armament Canon gave him benefits, he wouldn't refuse.

There's no name. Do I name it myself?

Zhou Shu rubbed his chin thoughtfully. This sword of mine was forged in the shape of the Longquan Sword that was common in my previous life. The Longquan Sword has another name
The Seven Star Dragon Abyss!

Let's call it this!

With a thought, a few large words automatically appeared on the title of the Legendary Armament Canon page.

[Yellow Grade, Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword]!

In an instant, information flooded into Zhou Shu's mind. He seemed to see the entire process of a person forging the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword.

This forging process was somewhat similar to his, but there were some adjustments.

'These adjusted areas were even more perfect and concise than Zhou Shu's forging process.

Legendary Armament Canon has optimized the forging process of the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword!

Zhou Shu immediately understood what was going on.

He felt that the Legendary Armament Canon was like a dutiful teacher. He had done his homework, and it had even given him a review. After reviewing it, it even told him that this was the correct way to solve this question.

After he absorbed the information from the Legendary Armament Canon, his understanding of the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword became even more thorough.

At the same time, he felt that his forging skill had improved slightly.

I wonder if the Legendary Armament Canon will give me benefits if the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword successfully completes kills?

Since the Legendary Armament Canon already has a page for the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, the rest should be similar to other weapons.

Practice is the only way to test the truth. Zhou Shu felt a little proud. I'm indeed a forging genius!

Since this method is effective, I can even transform the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber and the others into ranked weapons.

However, even if he modified them, they would only look the same. In reality, they couldn't be considered the same weapon.

They would be like identical twins with different characters.

I'm not in a rush for these things. Let's test the power of this Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword first!

Zhou Shu looked at his surroundings. This time, he didn't try it in the forging room. If he destroyed the forging furnace again, he wouldn't have the money to buy a new one.

When he arrived at the courtyard, he flicked his wrist and wielded the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword in his hand as he injected a strand of spiritual essence into the sword.

His spiritual essence circulated along the star paths inside the sword, and suddenly, sword qi erupted.

Sizzle—

Zhou Shu raised the sword, and sword qi visible to the naked eye thrust into the rockery in the middle of the courtyard.

Boom!

The sword qi pierced a bowl-sized hole through the rockery.

“Assassins!” A loud cry rang out, and with the sound of rushing wind, a few figures rushed in.

These people were the experts sent by the Mi family and Divine Constable Bureau.

They were all under orders to protect Zhou Shu. After several incidents, all parties had become as easily startled as birds. Zhou Shu was now their main target of protection.

‘As soon as there was any sign of trouble, they immediately rushed over.

“Sorry, it’s a misunderstanding. I was just testing my weapon,” Zhou Shu said apologetically.

“Marquis!” The steward also stumbled in. Only when he saw that Zhou Shu was unharmed did he heave a sigh of relief.

“You’re finally out, Marquis.”

If Zhou Shu still didn’t come out, he would really have to return to the Mi residence to seek help.

“I’m fine.” Zhou Shu waved his hand.

‘The Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword was not as powerful as the Great Destroyer Sword, but it was still not bad.

‘The Great Destroyer Swords overall destructive power was strong. But if the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword was combined with a sword technique, it could unleash a decent amount of power.

I wonder how it will rank in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual. I guess I’ll know tomorrow.

Sun Gongping should be satisfied with the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, right?

Since Zhou Shu had the Great Destroyer Sword, he naturally wouldn’t keep the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword for himself.

He didn’t know whether Sun Gongping would be satisfied or not, but he was quite satisfied with it himself.

After all, this was the first ranked weapon he had forged on his own.

“Steward, is there any news from the Marquis Weiyuan residence? Is the young marquis awake?” Zhou Shu asked.

After returning to the capital, he couldn’t see Yin Wuyou, but he did visit Sun Gongping once.

Sun Gongping’s situation wasn’t too good, but Marquis Weiyuan’s family was no ordinary family either. They had invited countless imperial physicians.

‘There was no problem in saving Sun Gongping’s life, but even the imperial physicians couldn’t tell when he would wake up.

Zhou Shu had previously asked the steward to inquire about the situation. He had been in seclusion for the past few days, so he didn’t know the details.

“Young Marquis Weiyuan hasn’t woken up yet. However, the people in the Marquis Weiyuan residence have said that his condition has improved. You don’t have to worry, Marquis,” the steward said.

“Two days ago, Miss Haitang from the princess’s residence came once. She told me that the princess has already woken up...”

“She’s awake?” Zhou Shu said in surprise.

Previously, he wanted to visit Yin Wuyou. But unfortunately, the emperor didn’t allow it, and he didn’t want to sneak into the imperial palace at night.

After thinking that nothing would happen to Yin Wuyou in the palace anyway, he temporarily put his worries aside.

“Is the princess in the princess’s residence or the palace?” Zhou Shu asked.

The steward felt a little awkward. How would I know that?

The steward thought about it and said, “There hasn’t been any activity in the princess’s residence next door. I think the princess hasn’t returned yet.”

Zhou Shu raised an eyebrow. If he wanted to see Yin Wuyou in the palace, it would be troublesome.

It was unknown what the old emperor was thinking. He was guarding against him like a thief. He reckoned that even if he went to seek an audience now, the old emperor would still send him back.

“Where’s Haitang?” Zhou Shu asked.

If he couldn’t see Yin Wuyou, he could ask Haitang. He was really worried about Yin Wuyou’s health.

“are you looking for me?” Suddenly, a slim figure flipped over from behind a tall wall.

Zhou Shu’s face darkened. “Why did you climb over the wall instead of coming through the door?”

Haitang had once been his maid for a period of time. Although this maid didn’t know how to do anything, he was familiar with her, so he wasn’t very polite when speaking to her.

“If I use the door, I will have to make a big detour.

“Marquis, were you looking for me?” Haitang blinked and asked.

“Tell me first. What are you doing here?” Zhou Shu said. It doesn’t seem like she came after hearing my voice. She probably just happened to hear me.

“Marquis, Her Highness wishes to see you,” Haitang said.

“She’s back?” Zhou Shu said.

“No, that’s why I’m here,” Haitang said. “I’m here to bring you over, Marquis. Without someone to bring you, you won’t be able to enter the palace.”

Although marquis was already a high second-rank official, even a first-rank official could not enter the inner palace, let alone a second rank one.

Moreover, the princess's palace was where the female imperial family members resided.

Zhou Shu originally wanted to ask Haitang about Yin Wuyou's situation, but since he could see her now, there was no need to ask.

"Let's go," Zhou Shu urged.

Haitang sized up Zhou Shu. "You're going just like that?"

Zhou Shu had gone into seclusion to forge his weapon. It had been many days since he had washed up, and he truly didn't look very decent.

Zhou Shu also realized this. "Wait for me!"

He quickly rushed back to his residence and washed himself with cold water before changing into a clean set of clothes. Only then did he look for Haitang again.

"Let's go!"

With Haitang leading him, Zhou Shu entered the palace unimpeded.

A thief in the family was difficult to detect.

After all, Emperor Yuan Feng couldn't keep an eye on Zhou Shu all day, and he couldn't openly declare that Zhou Shu was forbidden from entering the palace.

Emperor Yuan Feng, who was busy handling government affairs, didn't even know that Haitang had brought Zhou Shu into the palace with the princess's token.

"Grand Minister!"

When Zhou Shu saw Yin Wuyou, who was as weak as a delicate flower, and recalled the words she had written with her blood that day, a chord was touched in his heart.

Yin Wuyou was already able to sit up. She sat weakly on the couch, her beautiful face without any makeup still breathtakingly beautiful.

Yin Wuyou looked at Zhou Shu's unshaven and gaunt face, and her heart warmed.

I've been injured for the past few days, and he hasn't been eating or drinking. He's already so thin

"I'm fine now. I'll fully recover in a few days," Yin Wuyou said gently. You don't have to worry. I'm almost recovered.

"That's great." Zhou Shu sighed in relief. "Grand Minister, if anything happened to you, I would regret it for the rest of my life."

If it weren't for him, Yin Wuyou wouldn't have left the capital. He didn't have to pretend to be held hostage, but he almost harmed Yin Wuyou.

Yin Wuyou's pretty face instantly turned red. She was clearly thinking in the wrong direction again.

"You don't have to regret anything now. I'm fine." Yin Wuyou's voice was as soft as a mosquito.

"Grand Minister, what did you say?" Even with Zhou Shu's sharp ears, he didn't hear what she said.

"Nothing," Yin Wuyou hurriedly said. "Um, I called you here to give you something."

Yin Wuyou called Haitang over, and Haitang took a small bag from her back. She had just taken it from the princess's residence.

"I was planning to give it to you before. But something happened, and I ended up only giving it to you today."

Yin Wuyou gathered her long hair hanging down from her forehead. "If you want to become a Forging Master, you have to try forging ranked weapons.

"According to the rules of the Forging Division, you aren't a Forging Master yet, so I can't give you the treatment of a Forging Master. However, you've made great contributions in the past, and I managed to obtain some things from His Majesty."

She took the small bag, took out a small wooden box, and handed it to Zhou Shu.

"What is this?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

He subconsciously took it and opened it.

"Heaven Refining Stone?" Zhou Shu exclaimed.

Yin Wuyou's eyes flashed with a trace of complacency. "That's right. It's a Heaven Refining Stone. When forging a ranked weapon, Heaven Refining Stone is required. You can use this Heaven Refining Stone to practice. With your talent, even if you don't have a teacher to guide you, you might still be able to forge a ranked weapon.

"When I'm feeling better, I'll go to the imperial library to help you find some notes on the experiences of Forging Masters..."

Zhou Shu looked at the Heaven Refining Stone. He didn't take Yin Wuyou's words to heart.

Zhou Shu found the fist-sized Heaven Refining Stone in the box increasingly familiar.

Isn't this the Heaven Refining Stone I got from Xiao Shunzhi and had Yin Changhao buy from me?

After going around, it came back?

He looked at the Heaven Refining Stone and then at Yin Wuyou.

Yin Wuyou was a little embarrassed by his gaze and thought there was something on her face. If Zhou Shu wasn't here, she would have asked Haitang to bring her a mirror to see.

"Why are you looking at me like that?" Yin Wuyou said embarrassedly and even wrapped a blanket around her chest.

"Grand Minister, this Heaven Refining Stone is very precious, right?" Zhou Shu probed. "I heard that Heaven Refining Stones are incomparably precious. A few grams is worth thousands of taels of gold. Isn't so much Heaven Refining Stone worth tens of thousands of taels of gold?"

“Something like that,” Yin Wuyou said, “But this is what you deserve. You helped Great Xia recover the two prefectures, so this is nothing. If they didn’t give it to me, I would...”

Yin Wuyou harrumphed cutely.

Zhou Shu more or less understood. This Heaven Refining Stone might really have been obtained from Yin Changhao.

He felt like laughing when he thought about how Yin Changhao might behave.

That old fellow still wanted to take advantage of me. How is it? It’s your turn to suffer a loss.

“Don’t worry and use it. It doesn’t matter if you don’t succeed. After you use up all the Heaven Refining Stone, I’ll think of a way for you. Try a few more times, and you’ll definitely become a Forging Master,” Yin Wuyou said generously. The princess had confidence in her words.

“Well...” Zhou Shu hesitated for a moment before saying, “Grand Minister, I’m already a Forging Master. There’s no need for me to waste the Heaven Refining Stone to figure it out.

“Why don’t you take this back?”

Although he was a little tempted, he couldn’t take advantage of a girl.

“You’re already a Forging Master?” Yin Wuyou frowned.

“Grand Minister, if you don’t believe me, look at this.”

Zhou Shu was still carrying the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword that he had just forged. He had originally planned on sending it to the Marquis Weiyuan residence, but now was the perfect time to prove it.

“This Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword is an authentic yellow-grade weapon that I just forged.” Zhou Shu handed the sword to Yin Wuyou.

Yin Wuyou reached out to receive it. She was also an expert, and the moment she held the sword, she could tell that it was indeed a yellow-grade weapon! “This sword...”

“This sword is already taken. Grand Minister, you can’t take it!” Zhou Shu recalled Yin Wuyou’s dark history. Several times, the first copy of the standard weapons he forged had been taken away by Yin Wuyou and never returned.

“I forged this Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword for Sun Gongping. He paid for it!” Zhou Shu hurriedly explained.

“I see.” Yin Wuyou was a little disappointed and reluctantly returned the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword to Zhou Shu.

“Take the Heaven Refining Stone. Even if you’ve become a Forging Master and don’t need to use the Heaven Refining Stone to figure out how to become one, you’ll still need the Heaven Refining Stone to forge a ranked weapon.”

Seeing Yin Wuyou’s disappointed expression, Zhou Shu spoke up.. “Grand Minister, do you want a ranked weapon?”

Chapter 149: How Generous

Yin Wuyou sat on the couch with her legs crossed and a blanket wrapped around her body.

She rested her chin on her knees, unable to suppress her smile. "Haitang, did you hear that? He said he's going to forge a ranked weapon specially for me."

Haitang rolled her eyes. Your Highness, do you lack ranked weapons?

...

What you're using now is an earth-grade weapon. His Majesty is already helping you customize a heaven-grade weapon!

Zhou... Marquis Zhou can only forge yellow-grade weapons now. Is this worthy of your status?

Seeing no reaction from Haitang, Yin Wuyou firmly shook her head. "You don't understand!

"Haitang, help me freshen up! I'm going to see my father! He's a Forging Master now. He must have what other Forging Masters have!"

In the imperial study, Emperor Yuan Feng suddenly sneezed and then shivered.

He suddenly had a bad feeling in his heart, and his entire body felt cold.

Before Emperor Yuan Feng discovered him, Zhou Shu secretly left the imperial palace.

That's not right. I didn't steal or rob. Why should I be afraid of him?

Just because he's the emperor?

I'm not afraid of the emperor!

I didn't steal this Heaven Refining Stone from the palace!

Zhou Shu straightened his back. For some reason, he felt a little guilty.

Although Yin Changhao took away the Heaven Refining Stone back then, he gave me money, and it wasn't a small sum

Now, it's back.

I've done the country a great service. It's my duty to take this piece of Heaven Refining Stone.

He put away the Heaven Refining Stone. With this Heaven Refining Stone, he didn't need to worry about anything else.

After forging the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, he had already used up most of the Heaven Refining Stone that the Mi family had given him. He had also wasted a lot of it in between. After all, this was his first time forging his own weapon, and he had taken a wrong turn in the middle.

Although the Mi family had a Heaven Refining Stone mine, his surname wasn't Mi after all. So it wasn't appropriate for him to ask for more.

As for buying, Zhou Shu didn't have that much spare money.

After becoming a marquis, he didn't see any other benefits for the time being. But his expenditure was visibly increasing.

The increase in the number of servants in the mansion and the sudden increase in social interactions were all expensive.

Putting everything else aside, just for the sake of forging this Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword, the cost of the various materials consumed already exceeded 1,000 taels of gold!

Forging a yellow-grade weapon didn't cost that much.

After all, the market price of a yellow-grade weapon was only so-so. Ordinary yellow-grade weapons could even be bought for a hundred taels of gold.

But it was Zhou Shu's first time forging, so he had wasted a lot of materials. He could ignore the other materials, but even a little bit of Heaven Refining Stone was worth a lot!

That fellow Sun Gongping lives paycheck to paycheck. His pockets are cleaner than his face. But even if he didn't live from paycheck to paycheck, it would take him at least a hundred years to save one thousand taels of gold if he only relied on his salary, Zhou Shu thought.

After leaving the palace, he didn't return to his residence but instead went to the Marquis Weiyuan residence.

Yin Wuyou had woken up, and he didn't know if Sun Gongping was awake or not.

Regardless of whether he was awake or not, Zhou Shu planned to give him the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword first.

No matter what, Sun Gongping got injured in order to save him. The Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword was what he had promised Sun Gongping he would forge for him.

Marquis Weiyuan was a middle-aged man who looked to be in his forties or fifties. He had a warm smile on his face and didn't look like a fierce general who had once dominated the battlefield.

After seeing Zhou Shu, he was very friendly and didn't blame Zhou Shu for Sun Gongping's injury.

"This little injury of my son's has worried you, Marquis."

Marquis Weiyuan exchanged greetings, filled with emotions. This young man before him was a few years younger than his own child, but he was already on the same level as him.

This person was really incomparable to others.

"Marquis Zhou, you and Ziwen are sworn brothers. He is my wife's brother, which makes you her brother too. You are not an outsider..." Marquis Weiyuan said.

Zhou Shu awkwardly cupped his hands at the beautiful lady who looked to be in her early thirties.

"Greetings, Madam."

He really couldn't call her sister.

Calling her sister really felt like he was taking advantage of her.

Marquis Weiyuan's wife, who was also Mi Ziwen's older sister, didn't mind Zhou Shu's form of address.

"We're all family. There's no need for formalities." She smiled. "Gongping has been naughty since he was a kid. As his uncle, you have to teach him more. If he can be like you, then the two of us won't have to worry so much."

Zhou Shu wasn't used to this kind of conversation, so he responded awkwardly.

"Marquis, Madam, I've come to see how Sun Gongping's injuries are and also to deliver his sword." Zhou Shu returned to the topic at hand. If he continued to chat with them, it might continue until tomorrow.

"His injuries have already stabilized. He should be able to wake up after recuperating for some time. This is a blessing in disguise. His cultivation level has directly reached the sixth rank. I thought that he would need another year or so to reach this level," Marquis Weiyuan said. He had high hopes for Sun Gongping. Otherwise, he wouldn't have suppressed Sun Gongping for so many years. He wanted Sun Gongping to solidify his foundation.

Now that it was time to reap the rewards, it was naturally better for his cultivation to grow faster.

"Give him a sword? Brother, what are you—" Marquis Weiyuan's wife looked at the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword in Zhou Shu's hand.

"It's like this. Previously, Gongping asked me to customize a ranked weapon for him. I've been forging it. Later, there was an accident. Madam, you know about it too. That's why I only managed to forge this sword today," Zhou Shu explained.

"although Gongping hasn't woken up yet, I thought that it would be better to deliver this sword first. When he wakes up and sees the sword, he might be happier."

"Where did this kid get the money to buy a sword?" Marquis Weiyuan mumbled.

Marquis Weiyuan's wife glared at him. Don't you understand?

This is my family's brother taking care of his nephew!

Marquis Weiyuan's wife smiled as she took the sword from Zhou Shu's hands. "It must have been hard on you, Brother. Gongping didn't pay you, right? I am sorry to make you spend so much money. We won't be polite and will accept it. But don't worry, I won't let you suffer!"

Marquis Weiyuan's wife held Zhou Shu's hand and patted it.

Zhou Shu subconsciously glanced at Marquis Weiyuan. Marquis Weiyuan's expression was unchanging, as still as Mount Tai.

He retracted his hand without batting an eyelid. Although you look really outgoing, this is really not appropriate.

Marquis Weiyuan's wife didn't care about Zhou Shu's actions and continued, "Brother, you were previously conferred the title of marquis. I was taking care of Gongping, so I didn't have time to send you a congratulatory gift.

"How about this? I have a few shops in East Town. I'll give them to you."

Zhou Shu was shocked. You said that you wouldn't let me suffer. Is this what you mean?

She is indeed the eldest daughter of the Mi family. She is too generous.

East Town was Chang'an's business district. The few shops there were probably worth thousands of taels of gold.

He seemed to have made a killing this time.

He looked at Marquis Weiyuan's wife and questioned himself in his heart. Is hard work still important?

'When Zhou Shu arrived at the Marquis Weiyuan residence, he had brought a Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword with him.

'When he left the Marquis Weiyuan residence, the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword was gone. In his arms was a stack of deeds, the pocket money that Marquis Weiyuan's wife had given him, and banknotes worth three thousand taels of silver.

Is this how rich people behave? Calling half the shops on a street a few shops?

Zhou Shu felt numb.

Moreover, when Mi Ziwen first met him, he had given him pocket money and even a house. This was his family's upbringing.

'Was this the style of the Mi family?

It felt great to have such a brother!

Zhou Shu didn't care about the appearance. What he cared about was the feeling of being valued

No wonder people say that Forging Masters are rich. I've just forged a ranked weapon, and now I've become a bourgeoisie. Won't those veteran Forging Masters be extremely rich? Zhou Shu thought while on the way back to his residence.

Actually, other Forging Masters didn't earn as much as him.

For other Forging Masters, it would take at least a few months to forge a ranked weapon. It might even take several years.

Even if a weapon could earn several hundred taels of gold, taking into account the number of months to forge the ranked weapon, it was actually not much.

Of course, compared to ordinary people, it was still a lot.

For Forging Masters, selling a ranked weapon could feed them for three years.

For someone like Zhou Shu to be able to forge a ranked weapon in half a month was not unprecedented, but it was not far off.

Actually, even Zhou Shu himself would have to spend quite a bit of time to forge a high-quality ranked weapon.

I can also be a wealthy man in the future? Should I go see the half street that belongs to me?

Suddenly, Zhou Shu felt his vision go dark. A person was standing in front of him, blocking the sunlight.

Before Zhou Shu could react, two figures appeared out of nowhere, blocking Zhou Shu from behind.

The two of them were wearing divine constable uniforms, so Zhou Shu knew that they were divine constables secretly protecting him.

"Divine constables, don't be nervous. I'm not an assassin!" The person who suddenly appeared in front of Zhou Shu raised his hands, indicating that he had no ill intentions.

The two divine constables didn't relax. They were still holding onto their Spring Embroidered Sabers tightly.

"Who are you!" they shouted.

"Great General Meng sent me." The man smiled bitterly.

"Great General Meng? Do you have any evidence?" The two divine constables stared at the man with burning eyes.

"Yes!" the man said. "I have a letter personally written by Great General Meng."

Then he slowly reached into his clothes, as if he was afraid that if he moved too quickly, the divine constables would attack him.

A moment later, he took out a letter from his bosom and handed it to the two divine constables.

"This letter was written by the great general to the You Marquis. I was going to deliver the letter, but I saw the You Marquis here. I wanted to come over and greet him. It's a misunderstanding. It's really a misunderstanding." The man smiled bitterly.

"Brothers, don't be nervous." Zhou Shu smiled and patted the shoulders of the two divine constables. "Since he was sent by Great General Meng, it's fine."

"Marquis, that's not necessarily true. The death soldier that tried to assassinate you was from the great general's residence. This matter has yet to be investigated clearly." A divine constable snorted.

Zhou Shu was slightly stunned. He really didn't know about this. No one would tell him about the case.

The messenger from the general's residence had a flash of shame and anger on his face, but he still said in a low voice, "The great general already knows about that matter. The great general has already sent a petition asking for forgiveness!"

"I'm here to give the You Marquis an explanation!" the man said with a serious expression. "The great general said that he brought such danger to the You Marquis because of his incompetence. The great general has already requested punishment from the Imperial Court. For compensation, as long as you agree, Marquis, the great general wishes to take you as his last disciple."

The two divine constables were stunned. Great General Meng wants to take the You Marquis as his disciple?

Although they had some doubts about the great general, the great general was still the great general, the undisputed God of War of Great Xia!

Although the You Marquis was a marquis, if he could become the last disciple of the great general, it would be infinitely beneficial to him.

'The great general was Great Xia's God of War. If he became his disciple, he would become a true member of the military. Furthermore, the great general's connections were not something ordinary people could compare to.

"What can the great general teach me?" Zhou Shu asked curiously.

"In the art of war and the Martial Dao, the great general's attainments can be said to be top-notch." the man from the general's residence said proudly.

"That's it?" Zhou Shu shook his head. "Then forget about it. It's useless for me to learn the art of war. As for the Martial Dao, I already have an inheritance."

The three of them were stunned.

Rejected?

He rejected it?

Could he not know how beneficial it was for him to become Great General Meng's final disciple?

Great General Meng had no children. To put it bluntly, everything he had would be passed down to his disciples.

Although the You Marquis was a marquis, he didn't have any real power. If he could become a disciple of the great general, it would only be a matter of time before he entered the military.

"Are you sure, Marquis?" the man from the general's residence asked.

"Of course. The great general didn't say I had to agree, did he?" Zhou Shu said.

"That's true." The man from the general's residence shook his head. "Marquis, since you have spoken thus, this humble servant will truthfully report this matter to the great general."

He cupped his hands and left without leaving the letter behind.

The letter was for accepting him as a disciple. Since Zhou Shu had rejected it, there was no need to keep the letter.

Zhou Shu shrugged. He didn't care. He had no interest in becoming a disciple. So what if he's a great general? I'm not going to join the army to fight. 'm just a Forging Master.

"It's been hard on you two," he said. "This is just a little something. Please have some tea, my brothers."

Zhou Shu took out a banknote from his clothes and stuffed it into the hands of the two divine constables. Then he continued walking forward.

The two divine constables subconsciously looked at the banknote in their hands. Their eyes lit up. Five hundred taels!

How generous!

Five hundred taels was almost as much as their yearly salary.

Originally, protecting the You Marquis was a difficult task. But now it seemed that it wasn't that difficult

Just as Zhou Shu was rejecting the person from the great general's residence, in the imperial study, Emperor Yuan Feng clutched his chest.

His chest was tight, and his breath was short.. Is this how you spend the family's fortune that I have worked so hard to save? Who did you learn this from? My daughter shouldn't be like this!

Chapter 150: Seven Star Dragon Abyss is on the List, Huaxia Pavilion Debuts

In the You Marquis residence, Zhou Shu leisurely woke up.

He held the Heavenly Mirror in his hand and injected a strand of spiritual essence into it.

...

'The Heavenly Mirror that Shi Songtao had given him was really good. Although it was not as rich and colorful as the mobile phones in his previous life, it was still a good pastime to look at the armament manuals in his free time.

A light screen projected in the air.

With a thought, Zhou Shu flipped to the Yellow-grade Armament Manual.

Ranked first was still the Great Destroyer Sword.

No one would be able to change its ranking for the time being.

The Ranked Armament Manual was based on the weapons ' battle results. The Great Destroyer Sword had severed the arm of a first-rank martial artist.

How could other yellow-grade weapons achieve this?

Zhou Shu was also a little puzzled. He had clearly used the Great Destroyer Sword to kill Xiao Shunzhi, so why didn't the Yellow-grade Armament Manual show it?

It wasn't that it hadn't been updated yet. He noticed the changes in the rankings of the weapons in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual.

It could only be said that Heavenly Mountain Villa was not omniscient. They didn't know that he had killed Xiao Shunzhi.

This matter was actually a bit strange. Even if no one was present when he killed Xiao Shunzhi, Xiao Shunzhi's corpse would definitely be discovered afterward.

But for some reason, Great Xia and Great Wei didn't announce this matter.

Later on, Zhou Shu recalled the Blood Thirsty Rampant Saber. He didn't know who had picked up this saber and whether it had fallen into the hands of the Divine Constable Bureau.

'These matters were not the main point. Zhou Shu's gaze moved downward. In fifth place, he saw the name of the Songtao Sword.

Shi Songtao was quite capable.

It had to be known that the Yellow-grade Armament Manual contained all the weapons forged by all the Forging Masters in the world. As a newcomer, it was already very difficult for Shi Songtao to rank fifth with the Songtao Sword.

The Great Destroyer Sword?

How could the Songtao Sword compare to it?

Zhou Shu continued to read. Only when he reached eleventh place did he see the name of the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword.

The Songtao Sword is ranked fifth, while the Seven Star Dragon Abyss is ranked eleventh? Zhou Shu was slightly unhappy.

He felt that the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword was very well made, but it only ranked eleventh. He was somewhat dissatisfied.

But then again, the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword didn't have any achievements yet. It seemed like it wasn't bad to rank eleventh in the Yellow-grade Armament Manual.

Any random weapon given in the Legendary Armament Canon would rank first. I spent half a day researching and only managed to forge a weapon ranked eleventh. The difference is still huge.

I'll try forging another one later. I don't believe I can't enter the top ten!

This was how rankings were. It made people very motivated.

Tagreed to forge a sword for Yin Wuyou on impulse. What sword should I forge for her?

Zhou Shu wanted to slap himself.

Why did I have to ask her if she wanted a sword?

Aren't I just making more work for myself?

Who is Yin Wuyou?

She is the princess of Great Xia, the grand minister of the Forging Division!

If she isn't satisfied with the ranked weapon I forge for her, wouldn't that ruin my reputation?

He had been the strongest Forging Apprentice. Now that he had become a Forging Master, he couldn't ruin his reputation. Every weapon had to be presentable.

TI first forge two Eight-Sided Han Swords to warm myself up and find inspiration.

On the Legendary Armament Canon, there were still a few standard weapons that were still not maxed.

Ever since he created the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber, he no longer needed to fill up the slots to unlock new standard weapons.

But if he wanted the benefits from the Legendary Armament Canon, these standard weapons had to be maxed out.

Fortunately, for Zhou Shu, forging standard weapons was effortless. He could easily forge a couple to warm up.

Just as Zhou Shu finished forging an Eight-Sided Han Sword and was beginning to feel inspired, the steward suddenly whispered from outside, "Marquis, Her Highness has come..." Zhou Shu had no choice but to stop what he was doing. He felt a little out of place. He was in the midst of forging when she interrupted him. It felt like

Zhou Shu gloomily stopped what he was doing. He wiped his face, put on his jacket, and walked forward.

Yin Wuyou's injuries had yet to fully recover, and she still felt weak.

She was sitting on a chair when she saw Zhou Shu walk in, and her eyes turned into crescent moons.

"Grand Minister, why did you come here instead of recuperating?" Zhou Shu asked. "You're not here to collect debts, are you? It's not that easy to forge a ranked weapon. You have to be mentally prepared. It might take me a year or so to forge it."

"It's fine. I'm not in a hurry. I'll wait for you." Yin Wuyou smiled. "I came to tell you something else."

"What is it? You haven't even recovered from your injuries, yet you've already begun to handle the matters of the Forging Division? Does His Majesty have a conscience? Why is he exploiting people like this!"

"Yes, he doesn't have a conscience." Yin Wuyou wrinkled her nose, a mischievous glint flashing through her eyes.

Achoo—

In the palace, Emperor Yuan Feng sneezed. He rubbed his nose unhappily. Logically speaking, he was a first-rank martial artist, so it shouldn't have been possible for him to catch a cold. Why did he keep feeling the wind recently? Was there a leak in the imperial study?

In the You Marquis's residence, Yin Wuyou continued, "Didn't you say before that you wanted the oth Workshop to have its own name?"

"His Majesty has already agreed.

"Originally, when you forged the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber and developed the Eight-Sided Han Sword that was not weaker than the Great Xia Dragon Sparrow Saber, His Majesty already agreed to let the oth Workshop have its own name.

"Therefore, this is not your reward for becoming a Forging Master."

In fact, the emperor had already allowed the oth Workshop to have its own name, but Zhou Shu had yet to be officially informed.

According to Emperor Yuan Feng's thoughts, since Zhou Shu had advanced to Forging Master, there would be fewer disputes if he announced this now.

But after Yin Wuyou found out, this wouldn't do.

This was a separate matter. Since the matter of changing the name of the oth Workshop had been approved long ago, it couldn't be considered a reward for Zhou Shu's advancement.

He had to give him some other rewards!

"According to the rules of our Forging Division, apart from the salary, Forging Masters will get three grams of Heaven Refining Stone every month..." Yin Wuyou said.

"Three grams?" Zhou Shu could not help asking. "So little?"

Three grams of Heaven Refining Stone wasn't even enough to forge a yellow-grade weapon!

One tael was equivalent to 30 grams. In other words, a Forging Master had to save up for a year to buy three grams of Heaven Refining Stone?

"It's considered quite a lot." Yin Wuyou explained solemnly. Although the Forging Division's purchase of Heaven Refining Stone would be slightly lower than the market price, thirty grams of Heaven Refining Stone would still cost at least a few hundred taels of gold.

Three grams of Heaven Refining Stone could be sold for dozens of taels of gold on the black market.

Of course, the Forging Division purchased Heaven Refining Stones at a much lower price.

But even with this being the case, three grams of Heaven Refining Stone still cost a lot.

It had to be known that this was only an additional benefit for Forging Masters. Their salary wasn't small either.

"Alright." Zhou Shu felt that he had been led astray by the Mi siblings.

They were extremely generous, and even he was influenced by them. Last time, he had given the divine constables from the Divine Constable Bureau five hundred taels for tea. But Zhou Shu's heart ached afterward.

He was not as rich as the Mi siblings. He still had to save money to marry a wife.

"Grand Minister, please continue," Zhou Shu said.

"High-level Forging Masters can obtain about nine grams of Heaven Refining Stone a month. As for Grand Craftsmen, they can obtain thirty grams a month," Yin Wuyou continued. "Although you're just an ordinary Forging Master, you're not ordinary."

Yin Wuyou spoke a very roundabout sentence. Ordinary Forging Masters enjoyed the treatment of seventh-rank officials. If they had an official position, it would be another story. High-level Forging Masters enjoyed the treatment of fifth-rank officials, while Grand Craftsmen enjoyed the treatment of third-rank officials.

What about Zhou Shu?

From the perspective of Forging Masters, he had only forged a yellow-grade weapon and was considered an ordinary Forging Master. In theory, he should enjoy the treatment of a seventh-rank official.

But at the same time, he was also the You Marquis, a second-rank official.

Even a Grand Craftsman was only treated as a third-rank official. How could a second-rank marquis like him be treated as an ordinary Forging Master?

"In the past, there has never been such a precedent in the Forging Division, so there was no way to follow the precedent. I argued with His Majesty, and he promised me that you would be able to obtain thirty grams of Heaven Refining Stone every month.

"know you've suffered, but it's okay. I'll make it up to you," Yin Wuyou said gently.

Suffered?

No way!

A Grand Craftsman only got thirty grams a month. He was given the same treatment as a Grand Craftsman. What was there to be dissatisfied about?

Zhou Shu was content.

Thirty grams of Heaven Refining Stone, if used sparingly, could almost be used to forge an ordinary yellow-grade weapon.

'When Yin Wuyou saw that Zhou Shu didn't say anything, she thought he was unhappy. After all, he was a second-rank marquis, yet she was only giving him the same treatment as a third-rank Grand Craftsman.

"Heaven Refining Stone is a strategic material. The Imperial Court strictly controls it. Even the Forging Division doesn't have much of it," Yin Wuyou explained.

"But His Majesty promised to compensate you in other areas.

"Last time, I told you that our Great Xia's founding ancestor was also a forger."

Yin Wuyou continued, "Back then, he collected quite a number of secret forging techniques and stored them in the imperial library. But the imperial family doesn't have any forgers now, and those secret techniques are also hidden. His Majesty promised me to let you see those secret techniques."

"Really?" Zhou Shu's eyes lit up.

Previously, the information Yin Wuyou had brought over from the imperial library was mainly about the introduction of forging knowledge and the experiences of Forging Masters. It didn't involve any specific weapon forging techniques.

If he could learn more forging techniques, his forging level would definitely increase.

Zhou Shu now knew that even if he had the Legendary Armament Canon, he still had to cultivate his own forging skills and broaden his horizons. Only then would his path be wider and more stable.

"Of course," Yin Wuyou said. "And—"

"There's more?" Zhou Shu was surprised. Is the emperor so generous?

I didn't do anything. I just advanced to Forging Master, and the Seven Star Dragon Abyss Sword I forged was exchanged for half a street of shops. Why am I given such a generous reward?

When other Forging Masters advance, I've never heard of them receiving so many rewards.

Is it because I'm a genius?

"Hmm." Yin Wuyou nodded heavily. "Since the oth Workshop already has its own name, it's a little inappropriate for it to squeeze in with the other workshops."

Although the first 36 workshops of the Forging Division were also called workshops, in reality, they could no longer be considered workshops.

In fact, the first 36 workshops were similar to the research institutes in his previous life. They were not all in the capital but were scattered all over Great Xia.

'What they did were all high-end jobs. Although they took on forging tasks as well, these were usually taken care of by their apprentices to practice.

'The oth Workshop now had the right to its own name, so it was obviously not appropriate for it to be together with ordinary workshops anymore.

One had to know that other named workshops were built in beautiful places with beautiful scenery.

"I'm getting a piece of land from His Majesty for the oth Workshop. By the way, what do you plan to name it?" Yin Wuyou asked.

"Huaxia Pavilion..." Zhou Shu muttered in a daze. Getting a piece of land?

He had just gotten half a street of shops, and he was going to get a piece of land?

"Yes, Huaxia Pavilion! I asked His Majesty for a piece of land for the Huaxia Pavilion to use. Don't worry. All the construction costs will be undertaken by the Imperial Court. You just have to follow your heart and build the workshop."

"Grand Minister, may I ask if that piece of land is bigger than the current oth Workshop? If it's about the same size as the oth Workshop, then there's no need to trouble yourself. The oth Workshop is pretty good now," Zhou Shu said.

Back then, he had spent a lot of time and effort constructing the oth Workshop. He didn't expect that he would move in less than a year.

According to his original design, the construction of the oth Workshop had yet to be completed.

"Is it big?" Yin Wuyou widened her beautiful eyes. "There's no way to compare."

She waved her hand, and Haitang, who had come with her, understood. She took out a map and spread it on the table.

"I've brought the map. You have to understand the terrain before you can decide how to build the Huaxia Pavilion. There will be people from the Ministry of Works coming over to help you draw the blueprint. In short, you can build whatever you want. You don't have to worry about money. The Imperial Court will take care of everything."

Yin Wuyou waved her hand, and her slender fingers landed on a spot on the map.

"This place is a little far from the capital. It's thirty miles away, but it's still quite peaceful. The Country Protector Army's camp is not too far away. There's no problem with its safety," Yin Wuyou said as she circled the map.

"Is this the Huaxia Pavilion's territory?" Zhou Shu's breathing quickened.

"Yeah, if you think you don't have enough space, you can use this site. It belongs to me." Yin Wuyou casually drew another circle, bigger than the previous one.

Zhou Shu didn't hear what she said at all. Zhou Shu didn't care why there was still a place for her beside the Huaxia Pavilion. Now, he only saw the place that belonged to the Huaxia Pavilion.

Indeed, there was no way to compare the current oth Workshop.

It wasn't just huge.. It was a mountain!