## **Longevity 141**

Chapter 141: Why Is Empress Dowager Zhao Ji So Afraid of Me?
Guo Kai cursed, his face a mask of terror.
The Qin soldiers before them showed no restraint whatsoever, firing bolts madly and completely disregarding Concubine Zhao's presence.
This left Guo Kai both furious and terrified.
If Concubine Zhao died, even at the hands of the Qin Army, then this would be no great accomplishment, but a grave transgression. If the Empress Dowager died, especially if he was the cause, Qin would have a pretext to wage war on the Zhao state. Even if he escaped back to Zhao, he would be severely punished.
One could only imagine Guo Kai's panic. He scrambled in front of Concubine Zhao to shield her.
The surrounding Royal Guards of Zhao drew their swords to block the incoming bolts. A few even retaliated with their own crossbows, but their shots were ineffective against the armored trusted aides. A bolt could only injure one of Zhao Feng's men if it struck them in the head or another vital area unprotected by their armor.
As Guo Kai's boat drew closer and a collision seemed imminent

"Kill!" Zhao Feng roared, drawing his Longquan Sword.
He immediately leaped into the air, landing squarely on the deck of Guo Kai's boat.
The other trusted aides drew their swords as well, following Zhao Feng into the fray. For them, this was an opportunity to earn glory in battle, a chance that none of the fierce warriors wanted to miss.
"Our lord has bestowed Bone Tempering Powder upon us to temper our bodies, and now my strength has doubled."
"I feel the same. I feel like I could take on ten men by myself."
"Slay all these enemies! They're handing us military honors on a silver platter."
The trusted aides roared with excitement as they unleashed a frenzied assault on the Royal Guards of Zhao.
Despite their skill, the Royal Guards of Zhao stood no chance against Zhao Feng's armored trusted aides. They were quickly cut down, their bodies and blood spilling across the deck and into the river.
"Aren't the Royal Guards the strongest elite of Zhao? How can they be so brittle?"

Guo Kai panicked, watching as his men, who were nearly equal in number, were effortlessly overpowered by the Qin soldiers.
The commander of the Royal Guards of Zhao was equally bewildered. "How can the Royal Guards of Zhao, whose strength is unmatched in the world, be so pathetic?" he wondered, unable to comprehend the scene. The Qin soldiers were crushing his guards with overwhelming force.
Zhao Feng charged forward, his Longquan Sword swinging, harvesting the Royal Guards before him with ease.
"Killed a Royal Guard of Zhao. Acquired 5 Strength."
"Killed a Royal Guard of Zhao. Acquired 5 Speed."
"Killed a Royal Guard of Zhao. Acquired 5 Constitution."
"Killed a Royal Guard of Zhao. Acquired"
With every move Zhao Feng made, slaying these so-called elite Royal Guards was a simple task.
Soon, he reached the front of the boat's cabin.

Seeing Zhao Feng charge right up to him, Guo Kai's face was a mask of terror.
"Kill!" the commander of the Royal Guards growled, lunging at Zhao Feng with his sword.
But his speed seemed incredibly slow to Zhao Feng, who easily dodged and countered with a swift thrust of his sword.
SQUELCH!
The Longquan Sword ran straight through the heart of the Royal Guard commander.
"Don't come any closer."
"If you take one more step, I'll kill her."
Seeing his last line of defense fall, a terrified, pale-faced Guo Kai hastily grabbed Concubine Zhao, drew his sword, and pressed it to her neck.
"Then kill her," Zhao Feng retorted with an annoyed glance. "What's it to me?"

Threatening him with a woman? Zhao Feng wasn't worried in the slightest. He had never been one to give in to threats.
"I am Prime Minister Guo Kai, and this is the Empress Dowager of Qin!" Guo Kai hissed fiercely. "If you dare to make a move, you won't be leaving here in one piece!"
Hearing this, Zhao Feng's expression became strange, as did those of the trusted aides around him.
"My lord," one trusted aide asked, incredulous, "did we just stumble upon a great meritorious deed? The Empress Dowager of Qin was captured by these people?"
"We're approaching the Wei state. If these people escape into Wei, wouldn't our Empress Dowager fall into the hands of another nation?"
"This is a matter of utmost importance!"
"If we hadn't stopped them, they would have gotten away!"
The trusted aides were all buzzing with astonishment.

Everyone, including Zhao Feng, had assumed this group was just a band of spies sent to cause havoc in
Qin, but now it appeared to be anything but simple. This daring group had captured the Empress
Dowager of Qin, and if Zhao Feng and his men hadn't stopped them, they might have actually escaped.

Who would have thought we'd run into this? What luck. Guo Kai... the one they call the 'Qin War God.' He tricked and brought about the deaths of both of Zhao's Senior Generals. This man can't be killed. If he dies, it could jeopardize Qin's grand plan of unification and my own schemes for the future. As for this Concubine Zhao...

Zhao Feng's gaze swept over to Concubine Zhao, held hostage by Guo Kai.

I'm more curious about this famous historical figure than I am about the so-called 'Qin War God.' The legendary Concubine Zhao... she is indeed attractive. Despite her age, she still exudes a certain charm. Truly deserving of her reputation as a great beauty. To abandon her own son for Lao Ai, choosing to favor two bastards instead... How could she do such a thing? But right now... is she just frightened out of her wits, or is something else going on?

However, Zhao Feng didn't dwell on it. He raised his sword and began to walk slowly toward Guo Kai.

"What are you doing?!" Guo Kai shrieked, his face bloodless as he watched Zhao Feng's steady advance. "Don't come any closer! I'll kill her!"

"Go on, then," Zhao Feng said with a faint smile, continuing to inch closer. "I don't even know her. For all I know, you're lying."