

My System 751

Chapter 751: Refugees Overflow, Great Zhou in Turmoil _2

Afterward, it seemed as though they realized that there were other strong characters around, similarly observing Cheng Guang, and they couldn't help but discuss aloud.

"Just now, that person should be the Princely Heir of Duke Zhen's Mansion, right?"

"That must be the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, otherwise, how could he have entered Duke Zhen's Mansion?"

"The Town-Nation Duke's Heir I just saw... doesn't seem like he's at an ordinary Cultivation Realm, but instead, he gives me the feeling of a Sky-Man..."

As this strong character spoke, his tone was slightly hesitant, as if he was not quite confident.

After this strong character had spoken, the other strong characters who heard him also nodded in agreement, sharing the same sentiment.

...

"This old man also has this feeling. When I was observing the Town-Nation Duke's Heir just now, I always felt that he had already discovered my presence, but simply didn't bother with me."

"Me too, could it be that this Princely Heir really is a Sky-Man?"

The group of strong characters discussed up to this point, then fell silent.

After a moment, one of the strong characters chuckled and jokingly said, "A Sky-Man? That's utterly impossible."

“Look at how young that Town-Nation Duke’s Heir is. If at such an age, he has already cultivated to the level of a Sky-Man, then where would there be any logic in this world?”

This strong character’s words slightly eased the awkward atmosphere hanging in the air.

After all.

If Cheng Guang had reached the level of a Sky-Man at his age of barely twenty,

then compared to Cheng Guang, the rest of their lives might as well have been lived in vain.

The group of strong characters laughed, then fell silent for a while.

Then they each left and dispersed.

Even though they all didn’t believe that Cheng Guang had already cultivated to the level of a Sky-Man, they all had a feeling that he was.

This feeling came without any basis and seemed very inexplicable.

It was also because of this feeling that their hearts were inexplicably tinged with a few strands of melancholy.

However, they soon cast aside the matter of Cheng Guang.

For them, there were more important matters to attend to.

...

Cheng Guang was unaware that he had inadvertently cast a shadow over the hearts of a group of strong characters.

Even if he had known, Cheng Guang would not have cared.

These ordinary Sky-Men, in Cheng Guang's eyes, could be considered inconsequential.

Not to mention himself.

These Sky-Men probably couldn't even defeat Dongfang Chiguo Tianwang.

And who was Dongfang Chiguo Tianwang?

In Cheng Guang's presence, like a fawning dog.

The disparity was just too great.

After Cheng Guang landed in Duke Zhen's Mansion, he entered the familiar Million Specie Garden.

Some time had passed since Cheng Guang left Million Specie Garden.

But the scenery of Million Specie Garden remained the same, and it was not in disarray or neglected because Cheng Guang had left.

It seems Cheng Zhihai and Wu Yuemei had taken care to instruct the servants to clean Million Specie Garden after Cheng Guang had left.

Cheng Guang stowed the Flying Boat away.

Qing Luan, carrying large and small bags of luggage, disembarked from the Flying Boat and immediately started to tidy them up.

As Ning Qianxue stepped off the Flying Boat and was about to say something to Cheng Guang, she suddenly heard a voice coming from outside the gates of Million Specie Garden.

The man was not yet in sight, but his voice had already reached their ears.

“Guanger, you’ve finally returned.”

The deep and powerful voice entered Cheng Guang’s ears.

This deep and powerful voice contained a rich joy that could not be hidden.

Cheng Guang followed Ning Qianxue’s gaze and looked in the direction she was watching.

He saw a middle-aged man, clad in blue robes and with a somewhat stern face, walking along the shady path outside Million Specie Garden, coming from around the corner.

This man was none other than Cheng Zhihai.

After entering Duke Zhen’s Mansion, Cheng Guang did not hide his presence.

Many servants were aware that their Princely Heir had returned.

Therefore, it was not strange that Cheng Zhihai was informed.

Cheng Guang, upon seeing Cheng Zhihai, merely raised his eyebrows slightly and showed no surprise in his eyes, but a hint of a smile instead.

“Yes, Father, I have returned.”

As Cheng Zhihai approached Cheng Guang, he patted Cheng Guang on the shoulder with a mixture of exasperation and laughter, “You little rascal, why did you suddenly run off to the Taihao Sword Sect again?”

“And you’ve gone for so many days this time?”

Cheng Guang scratched his head, “I thought I had already told Father, hadn’t I?”

Cheng Zhihai looked puzzled, “Did you?”

It was unclear whether Cheng Zhihai was feigning confusion or really didn’t remember.

Cheng Guang smiled wryly and didn’t pry further, simply saying, “Father, did you miss me?”

Cheng Guang teased.

Hearing this, Cheng Zhihai’s face couldn’t help but redden, then after a cough, he spoke slowly.

“I did not miss you.”

After saying this, Cheng Zhihai looked like he didn’t want to embarrass himself and quickly explained.

“But it’s not like I didn’t miss you at all.”

“Mainly...”

“It was your mother who missed you.”

After finishing, Cheng Zhihai turned his gaze aside as if he didn't want to show his embarrassment to Cheng Guang.

Then, a while passed.

Cheng Zhihai never heard a response from Cheng Guang and couldn't help but turn his head, glancing at him.

Chapter 752: Refugees Overflow, Great Zhou in Turmoil _3

Cheng Guang remained by the side, his handsome face revealing a faint smile.

Smiling without speaking.

His gaze meaningfully fell upon Cheng Zhihai.

Under such a gaze from Cheng Guang, Cheng Zhihai's face reddened slightly once more, and after coughing, just as he was about to say something to Cheng Guang, his eyes caught sight of Ning Qianxue.

Upon seeing Ning Qianxue's appearance.

...

Cheng Zhihai instinctively paused.

A few strands of unfamiliarity appeared in his eyes.

"This is..."

“Qianxue?”

Cheng Zhihai looked toward Ning Qianxue, tentatively opening his mouth to inquire.

The current Ning Qianxue seemed exceptionally unfamiliar to Cheng Zhihai.

Even though he already knew that the girl before him was Ning Qianxue, Cheng Zhihai still appeared somewhat disbelieving.

Seeing Cheng Zhihai in such a state, Cheng Guang could also understand.

Primarily because after Ning Qianxue’s awakening of her past life memories, her appearance and temperament had changed somewhat.

Her appearance was still acceptable.

Ning Qianxue was already very beautiful originally.

It was mainly her temperament.

Ning Qianxue’s original temperament was that of a silly, sweet girl.

Now, her temperament was completely different from the silly, sweet one.

With just one glance, one could feel the cool and ethereal temperament of a fairy radiating from Ning Qianxue.

It was as if Ning Qianxue was not a person from this world, but rather a noble fairy who had accidentally descended to the mortal realm from the ninth heaven.

Under Cheng Zhihai's watchful gaze, Ning Qianxue's red lips were slightly pursed, her mouth revealing a trace of a graceful smile, and then she gently nodded her head.

"It's me, Father."

As Ning Qianxue's voice fell.

Even though Ning Qianxue had acknowledged her identity.

Cheng Zhihai still couldn't help but widen his lips, staring incredulously for a moment, before slowly bringing his jaw together.

He managed to close his mouth, which had opened wide from shock.

"Uh, Qianxue, you've had quite a change in temperament lately; I almost didn't recognize you."

Cheng Zhihai commented, as Ning Qianxue's state left him a bit confused, temporarily causing him to forget the reason he had come to find Cheng Guang.

After a moment, he recalled.

Cheng Zhihai moved his gaze away from Ning Qianxue and onto Cheng Guang.

"Right, Guanger."

"After you return this time, don't leave again."

Cheng Zhihai said to Cheng Guang with a stern face.

Hearing Cheng Zhihai's words, Cheng Guang's face showed confusion, "What's wrong?"

“Has something happened?”

Cheng Guang knew that Cheng Zhihai wouldn’t say such things for no reason; something must have happened.

Cheng Guang thought about the Primordial Spirits of the Sky-Men who had surveilled him upon his previous return.

Was it because of those Sky-Men?

Cheng Guang couldn’t help but think so.

Cheng Guang felt that Cheng Zhihai suddenly telling him not to leave was most likely related to the Sky-Men within the Capital city, but he did not say it outright.

He quietly waited for Cheng Zhihai’s explanation.

Cheng Zhihai sighed, “Recently, there’s been some chaos in the Great Zhou Capital; actually, there’s not a single place in the entire Great Zhou that isn’t in disorder.”

“The south has seen a great disaster, with refugees overflowing and countless people dying.”

“Then, many aristocratic families and the power of the Sects, seeing that the Great Zhou Emperor is already gone and a new ruler has not yet been established, have found the authority of local governments waning to various degrees.”

“Uprisings are appearing everywhere.”

“Even with the Bureau of the Lamp’s forces suppressing them, they simply cannot contain it all.”

Cheng Guang listened to Cheng Zhihai, his brow involuntarily furrowing.

“A great disaster?”

“Uprisings?”

“Is it because of these that the surroundings of the Capital city are also unrestful?”

Although Cheng Guang did not know what the great disaster Cheng Zhihai referred to was, he was aware that even a slight disturbance in this world could constitute a major disaster for ordinary people.

Even if two armies clashed or Cultivators fought against an enemy, once the common mortals were affected,

They would have no power to resist.

Cheng Zhihai first nodded, then shook his head, “These are just the beginning.”

“The main issue is that certain powers have now set their sights on the Capital city and the Great Zhou Imperial Family.”

“Moreover, around the Capital city, many forces from the Great Tang Chang’an City seem to want to coerce the Great Zhou Imperial Family into organizing strong fighters to attack the Great Tang Chang’an City, then take advantage of the situation to reap benefits.”

“If the Great Zhou Imperial Family agrees to their proposal, those forces won’t do anything to the imperial family.”

“But if the Imperial Family doesn’t agree, they won’t be so scrupulous.”

Chapter 753: Can the People of the Great Zhou Imperial Family Actually Endure This Much?

Cheng Zhihai's expression revealed a touch of sorrow as he spoke.

"The representatives of those powers are mostly Sky-Men, simply not something our Bureau of the Lamp, or rather, the current Great Zhou Dynasty, can cope with."

"Your grandfather could ease the current predicament, yet he has no way to extricate himself and return."

"Thus, there simply is no solution."

"The somewhat good news for now is that these factions, out of respect for your grandfather, haven't done anything to Duke Zhen's Mansion..."

As Cheng Zhihai said this, Cheng Guang keenly sensed something, his eyebrows slightly raised, before he asked aloud:

...

"Does that mean, in other words, that those factions have done something to the Great Zhou Imperial Family?"

Cheng Zhihai nodded faintly.

"The entire Great Zhou Imperial Palace is now under the joint control of the Sky-Men from those factions."

"All of the Great Zhou Imperial Family are trapped within the Imperial Palace."

"They are just waiting for them to compromise."

Cheng Guang then asked, "Is it still at a stalemate?"

Cheng Zhihai nodded, "Yes."

"Great Zhou's Imperial Family won't compromise, and neither will the many subjects of Great Zhou."

"I am now worried that the Sky-Men from those factions might lose patience at any moment and take action against the Great Zhou Imperial Family. Once they make their move, the heavens of Great Zhou will have changed."

"For now, Guanger, you better stay inside Duke Zhen's Mansion."

"Great Zhou may very well be in jeopardy."

Cheng Zhihai's voice was full of gravity as he said this.

Great Zhou held a different sentiment for Cheng Zhihai.

He and Wu Shang, the Emperor Zhou, also shared a brotherly bond.

However, this brotherly bond had, due to the relationship between Emperor and subject, become somewhat tainted.

But still, the underlying affection remained.

And there was the relationship with Wu Yuemei.

If possible,

Cheng Zhihai still didn't want to see the fall of Great Zhou.

Nor did he want to witness the Great Zhou Imperial Family suffer a tragic fate.

But,

at this moment, Cheng Zhihai felt utterly powerless, weaker than ever before.

After listening to Cheng Zhihai finish speaking, Cheng Guang's eyebrows furrowed again uncontrollably.

"What exactly is the background of these factions?"

"They've actually joined forces to threaten the Great Zhou Imperial Family?"

"And they have designs on Tang Chang'an City as well?"

Cheng Zhihai sighed, "These factions are Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect."

"Each of these factions has Sky-Men, which is why they dare to be so bold."

"Right now, Great Zhou simply has no Sky-Men at its disposal."

"For the moment, these factions are still showing some consideration because your grandfather is present. Otherwise, by now, the Great Zhou Imperial Family would have faced far worse odds."

Cheng Zhihai's face showed mixed emotions as he reached out and rubbed Cheng Guang's forehead.

"The world is becoming increasingly chaotic, and even I cannot see what the future will hold."

"Guanger, all that matters is that you are safe."

“In front of you, the power and wealth of Duke Zhen’s Mansion are unimportant.”

Having said this,

Cheng Zhihai gave Cheng Guang a final word of admonition,

and asked Cheng Guang to rest early before he left.

Cheng Guang watched Cheng Zhihai’s retreating figure, his eyes reflecting a complex mixture of emotions.

Cheng Guang could feel the genuine concern from Cheng Zhihai.

Even if this concern wasn’t truly for him, it still brought a certain warmth to Cheng Guang’s heart.

Cheng Guang suppressed the complicated feelings in his heart and looked towards the direction of the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect.

These four factions dared to make a move against Great Zhou,

and even harbored intentions against Tang Chang’an City.

Cheng Guang had already seized control of Tang Chang’an City, but due to the presence of the Great Tang Emperor, he hadn’t dared to make a direct appearance in control of Tang Chang’an City.

Now, however,

some minor sects within Great Zhou had the audacity to unite and coerce the Great Zhou Imperial Family, even going so far as to make a move against Tang Chang'an City.

Perhaps the sects of Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect also knew that,

with their own strength as Sky-Men alone,

they could not beat the Tang People who were previously stationed in Tang Chang'an City.

Just Zhou Qingxu alone could crush them all.

Having the Great Zhou Imperial Family take up arms now,

they might not be able to handle the host of powerful figures from Datang.

Not even Zhou Qingxu might manage that,

let alone the Great Tang Emperor.

So what then is the goal of the Sky-Men from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect?

Surely, they can't simply be intending for Great Zhou's people to rush to their deaths?

Thinking this, Cheng Guang's eyebrows couldn't help but furrow even more.

Some thoughts began to stir in his mind.

After pondering for a while, Cheng Guang decided not to just sit idly by and watch the situation change; he prepared to visit the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

As for the entirety of the Great Zhou Imperial Family, Cheng Guang was not concerned, did not care about them all.

Those whom Cheng Guang cared about

were only a few.

The one he cared about the most,

unequivocally, was Wu Ling.

Cheng Guang's gaze lingered in the direction of the Great Zhou Imperial Palace for a while.

At that time, the weather was clear, and the sky was cloudless.

Above the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, however, there seemed to be a perpetual shadow cast, barely discernible to the naked eye.

Clearly, the Sky-Men from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect had employed some sort of technique.

Although Sky-Men are powerful, there is a limit to such power.

For now, they have merely intimidated the Great Zhou Imperial Family and left the warriors within the Great Zhou Capital powerless to act.

Not everyone within the Great Zhou Imperial Family is fearless in the face of death.

Chapter 754: These People from the Great Zhou Imperial Family, They Can Endure Like This?

Thus, such a stalemate had formed.

Otherwise, if the Great Zhou Imperial Family embraced a scorched-earth mentality,

these few Sky-Men would not be able to remain so peacefully within the Capital city.

Their ashes would have probably been scattered long ago.

“Qianxue, you and Qing Luan stay at home for a while, I’m going out to take a look,”

Cheng Guang said to Ning Qianxue beside him, and then took a step forward.

...

His body instantly vanished from the spot.

Ning Qianxue watched as Cheng Guang suddenly disappeared, her bright eyes dumbfounded for a moment and, looking rather silly, blinked several times before sighing.

“The Princely Heir really is naughty.”

“Just now, Dad said, ‘Don’t let you run about.’”

“Should I go and tattle?”

Ning Qianxue said with a slightly mischievous look in her eyes.

Of course,

Ning Qianxue was just saying this and actually had no way to tattle.

Cheng Zhihai forbidding Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, from running around everywhere during this time was entirely because Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, was still quite a tenderfoot in his eyes.

But the problem was...

Cheng Guang was not weak at all now.

In fact, it could be said he was very strong.

Ordinary Sky-Men were nothing in front of Cheng Guang.

Even those powerhouses from the Sects and Clans were nothing in front of him.

Just thinking about this made Ning Qianxue feel somewhat sorry for Cheng Zhihai.

Cheng Zhihai knew nothing.

He still thought Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, was still that tenderfoot.

Ning Qianxue's gaze retraced from where Cheng Guang had been standing and aimed towards the direction of the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

"The Princely Heir's sudden departure must be to the Great Zhou Imperial Palace."

"Is the Princely Heir trying to help Great Zhou solve the issue with these Sky-Men?"

Ning Qianxue muttered to herself, feeling a bit puzzled.

In her view, Cheng Guang really had no need to help Great Zhou resolve this crisis.

To Cheng Guang, whether Great Zhou fared well or not should be of no concern.

Ning Qianxue didn't quite understand, but she respected all of Cheng Guang's choices.

After watching the Great Zhou Imperial Palace for a while, she withdrew her gaze somewhat disinterestedly.

"Knowing earlier, I should've asked the Princely Heir to take me along to see."

Ning Qianxue felt a bit regretful.

In Ning Qianxue's past life memories, most were days accompanied by loneliness and solitude.

Hence, after awakening her past life memories,

her heart still longed for lively scenes.

The urge to watch the action was always stirring within her.

"Princely Wife..."

Qing Luan's gentle voice pulled Ning Qianxue back from her thoughts.

"Princely Wife, where is the Princely Heir?"

Qing Luan had just finished packing her luggage and came out of the room, only to see Ning Qianxue standing alone in the garden looking towards the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, was nowhere to be seen.

Hearing Qing Luan's question, Ning Qianxue's gaze returned from the far-off direction of the Great Zhou Imperial Palace towards Qing Luan, and she somewhat unhappily responded,

"Let's not bother about him."

"He sneaked off to have his own fun."

Qing Luan was stunned upon hearing this.

Sneaked off to have fun??

That sounded...

not quite right???

Why did it feel as if the Princely Heir had gone to places like Wanhua tower?

However, thinking about it again, that didn't seem right either.

Not to mention the Princely Heir already had Ning Qianxue, who had little interest in places like Wanhua tower.

Even if he was interested,

Ning Qianxue, as the Wife of Crown Prince, shouldn't show such a reaction and expression.

Listening to Ning Qianxue's words and observing her expressions, Qing Luan was somewhat puzzled.

She was starting not to understand it.

Ning Qianxue, pushing Qing Luan toward a nearby stone table, spoke,

"Come on, Qing Luan, don't think too much. If the Princely Heir doesn't include us in his activities, we won't keep dinner for him."

"Qing Luan, what would you like to eat today?"

"I'll cook it for you, and you can taste my craftsmanship?"

"The Princely Heir won't have this fortune today."

Ning Qianxue's lips parted slightly, and she chattered playfully.

Qing Luan didn't think much further and conversed with Ning Qianxue.

His mind, however, drifted towards Cheng Guang, whose whereabouts were unknown.

...

Cheng Guang did not know that after he had left, Ning Qianxue's emotional drama had become so rich.

If he had known,

Cheng Guang would have been both amused and bewildered.

After taking a step, within just a few breaths, Cheng Guang had already appeared near the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

As he approached the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, Cheng Guang could feel

a powerful Primordial Spirit covering the entire Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

This mighty force of the Primordial Spirit enveloped the entire Great Zhou Imperial Palace, completely isolating it from the outside world.

Since the territory of the Great Zhou Imperial Palace was vast, even though the entire palace was completely covered by this powerful Primordial Spirit, the strength was extremely weak.

It seemed that with just a slight push,

one could pierce through the thin veil of the Primordial Spirit covering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

There wasn't much protective power; the main strategy was essentially a bluff.

Such tactics

might have some effect on warriors below the level of Sky-Man or on ordinary Sky-Men.

But for Cheng Guang, they were utterly useless.

With a slight movement of his thoughts, his Primordial Spirit flowed out like rivers of golden light, completely submerging Cheng Guang's body.

He stepped forward again.

His body and Primordial Spirit touched the thin veil of the Primordial Spirit covering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, as if entering water.

Ripples arose on the surface of the Primordial Spirit veil.

Without any hesitation, Cheng Guang's body moved and directly entered the veil covering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

Cheng Guang entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

And within a breath after Cheng Guang had entered,

at the very spot where Cheng Guang had just appeared, a tall, gaunt elderly man dressed in a gray robe appeared.

In his wrinkled hands, he held a black walking stick made of an unknown wood.

Hovering mid-air,

he looked at the spot where Cheng Guang had just appeared,

his brows slightly furrowed.

"Who just entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace without notifying me?"

"Is it those unruly people from Heaven Mountain Palace again?"

The gray-robed elder muttered to himself, contemplating going to inquire with the people from Heaven Mountain Palace.

But then, he felt it troublesome.

Looking at the fluctuations on the thin veil covering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, he shook his head, “Judging from these ripples, the intruder seems not very strong.”

“Either their strength is very weak, or stronger than mine.”

“Either way, there’s no way to question them now.”

The gray-robed elder reached out and touched the thin veil of the Primordial Spirit covering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

The veil, which had just been rippling, quickly returned to calm.

The gray-robed elder then stayed in place for a while, sensing the surrounding atmosphere.

After sensing nothing,

he gently tapped his walking stick.

His body slowly faded, gradually disappearing on the spot.

Meanwhile,

Cheng Guang had already entered deep into the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

Familiar with the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, Cheng Guang did not idle upon entering but directly headed towards Wu Ling's place at the Crown Prince's Manor.

As he moved towards Wu Ling's Crown Prince's Manor,

Cheng Guang could also see

that within the Great Zhou Imperial Palace,

the previously ubiquitous palace guards were all gone.

In their place,

were disciples dressed in the garb of unnamed Sects.

The eunuchs and Palace Maids, however, remained as usual,

though in much smaller numbers.

Many eunuchs and Palace Maids, when passing these Sects' disciples, dared not even breathe loudly, simply hastening their steps to speed past.

Regardless of which Sect's disciples they were, they were not to be offended.

Such behavior was not much different from how they faced the royal family.

Cheng Guang frowned slightly at this sight.

Could the Great Zhou Imperial Family really endure such treatment?

Being bullied by Sect powers to their doorstep, and they dare not even breathe loudly??

Had they not thought about resisting?

If the Great Zhou Imperial Family decided to resist, how many of these Sect disciples would have been slain by now??

Cheng Guang found it hard to understand the scene before him.

...

Chapter 755: Wu Ling is Not in the Crown Prince East Palace?

Cheng Guang entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace without drawing the attention of the powerful figures from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, or Turtle Defense Sect.

Initially, Cheng Guang's cultivation level was not low.

Among the strong individuals from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect, even if there were Sky-Men among them, detecting Cheng Guang's presence was not easy.

At most, they could only infer someone had entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace through the dimensional fluctuations produced when Cheng Guang entered.

Even so,

It was unclear who had entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace.

...

Ordinary Sky-Men were completely unable to capture Cheng Guang's aura.

After entering the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, Cheng Guang soon arrived at the Crown Prince East Palace and began searching for Wu Ling.

Cheng Guang searched around in Wu Ling's Crown Prince East Palace but did not see Wu Ling.

Inside the Crown Prince East Palace, there were not only no traces of Wu Ling, but there were also no eunuchs and Palace Maids to be seen.

"Wu Ling isn't in the Crown Prince East Palace??"

"Where did she go?"

"Did she go out temporarily?"

Cheng Guang frowned in confusion, puzzled as he muttered to himself, and then couldn't help but shake his head, "Impossible. If Wu Ling had gone out temporarily, the eunuchs and the Palace Maids wouldn't have left either."

Cheng Guang remembered the low-headed, hurried eunuchs and Palace Maids he had seen on the road whose direction was not toward the Crown Prince East Palace, but rather toward Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace.

Speaking of Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace,

Since Cheng Guang had transferred, the first time he entered the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, he had visited Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace and met with Empress Dowager Li, and then he had never visited her Sleeping Palace again nor seen Empress Dowager Li often.

Previously, when he came to the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, he usually just visited Wu Ling's Crown Prince East Palace and then returned to Duke Zhen's Mansion.

"Could Wu Ling be in Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace right now?"

Such a thought arose in Cheng Guang's mind.

Cheng Guang immediately stood up and walked toward Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace.

In no time, Cheng Guang arrived at Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace.

Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace was livelier than Cheng Guang had imagined.

Around the Sleeping Palace, in the gardens and pavilions, it was crowded with people.

There were attendants, Palace Maids, eunuchs, and many disciples and elders from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect.

It was a stark contrast to the desolate, empty Crown Prince East Palace.

Cheng Guang strolled above Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace, surveying the crowd below, searching for Wu Ling.

He was also looking for Empress Dowager Li and others.

Inside Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace, there were no individuals except for a few elders of unknown sects sitting on chairs, discussing something.

The spot originally occupied by Empress Dowager Li was now taken by an elder in a black robe.

Where is Empress Dowager Li?

Is she not here?

Cheng Guang's brows furrowed slightly, and again he released his Primordial Spirit, examining the surroundings.

Cheng Guang had not wanted to release his Primordial Spirit initially to check because there was still a possibility of being detected by some cultivation adept.

Cheng Guang still preferred to proceed cautiously.

But now,

Unable to find anyone, Cheng Guang could no longer care about that.

Additionally, after scanning around, Cheng Guang had a rough understanding of the strengths of these sects' powerhouses.

Cheng Guang did not believe that just the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect here could do anything to him.

Even if his Primordial Spirit exploration was detected by the powerhouses from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect, they would not be a match for him alone.

Cheng Guang released his Primordial Spirit, which rippled and spread out to the surroundings.

As Cheng Guang released his Primordial Spirit, taking Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace as the center, he explored the surrounding area.

Inside Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace,

Several people sitting and discussing something all sensed something.

Their conversation paused abruptly.

Everyone vigilantly looked around.

However, the sensed aura disappeared quickly, leaving not a trace.

It seemed as though the aura they had detected was merely an illusion.

"What's going on? Did I feel someone around us?"

"Or another Sky-Man?"

"I don't know, I just felt it."

Inside Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace, the group of strong individuals looked at each other.

The elder in black robes sitting in the chief seat frowned slightly, then shook his head, "I also sensed it, but that aura appeared for a moment and then vanished quickly."

"Even I couldn't catch it."

"It's probably that person from Heaven Mountain Palace."

"Just now, the restriction I set around the Imperial Palace also fluctuated."

When the black-robed elder spoke, the brows of the seated strong individuals all furrowed slightly, and their expressions darkened.

“Heaven Mountain Palace.”

“These people clearly agreed that our sects would act together, pushing the Great Zhou Imperial Family to move against that suddenly appearing Chang’an City, and now look at how it turned out. We have been the only ones working, while the people from Heaven Mountain Palace haven’t shown up or exerted any effort. Now, they won’t even make an appearance.”

“If you ask me, we should just stop bothering with Heaven Mountain Palace. Even if the man from Heaven Mountain Palace is powerful, he couldn’t possibly stand against us.”

Chapter 756: Wu Ling is Not in the Crown Prince East Palace? _2

A group of powerful figures were in heated discussion.

In their words, there was a clear dissatisfaction with Heaven Mountain Palace.

The leader, a man in a black robe, shook his head, “It’s a fact that the people from Heaven Mountain Palace are a bit stronger than us, and although they sent fewer people, they still showed up.”

“Right now, the most important thing is for Great Zhou to send people to probe the secrets of Chang’an City, other matters can be set aside.”

“Moreover, the people from Heaven Mountain Palace not taking this matter to heart is actually a good thing. If there are any advantages within Chang’an City, we can also use this situation. Since Heaven Mountain Palace contributed the least effort, it could be used to secure the greatest benefits for us.”

The man in the black robe slowly stroked his beard, smiling as he spoke.

...

His words lightened the previously tense atmosphere in Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace instantly.

Many strong individuals wore knowing smiles on their faces.

"Exactly, exactly."

"So it is indeed good."

.....

Shortly after, Cheng Guang managed to find Wu Ling.

Inside a loft in Empress Dowager Li's Sleeping Palace.

In several scattered rooms, concubines, the Empress, Empress Dowager, Wu Ling, and quite a number of princes and princesses were imprisoned.

Cheng Guang briefly surveyed the area and concluded that most of the royal family and relatives were indeed detained here by people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect.

Cheng Guang saw that Wu Ling was staying together with Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang.

Wu Ling seemed alright.

She sat alone in a corner, meditating.

In contrast, the expressions of Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang were not so pleasant.

Their usually meticulous hairstyles were now somewhat disheveled, and their eyes were filled with an enduring fatigue and agony.

Both Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang, who normally held high and powerful positions, were now imprisoned in this loft within the Imperial Palace.

This would be a great disgrace for any ordinary person, let alone for the two of them.

Empress Dowager Li sat weak and tired, her gaze falling upon Wu Ling beside her.

Her eyes revealed a complex expression.

Empress Dowager Li's lips moved slightly, as if she wanted to say something, but she swallowed her words.

From initially taking Wu Ling for granted, her feelings had evolved to immense pity and guilt.

As the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect entered the Imperial Palace, none of the princes or ministers had been much use.

Seeing the Immortal figures appear and several immortals suppressing the place, most of the royal individuals had lost the will to resist.

In such a circumstance.

What about the ministers and guards then?

Empress Dowager Li had thought that they were left with no choice but to give in, but Wu Ling had instead stood out, protecting not just Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang, but also many of the ministers present.

What Wu Ling was protecting was not just the royal family or the court's ministers,

but Great Zhou itself.

Empress Dowager Li had never thought that Wu Ling, a girl who seldom caught her attention under normal circumstances, could possess such courage.

After the surprise,

came prolonged shame and affection.

Although Wu Ling didn't play a significant role later on,

the fact that Wu Ling had stood up had already brought much comfort to Empress Dowager Li.

"The Crown Prince chosen by the Emperor seems to have been the right choice,"

"At first, I felt that Wu Ling being this Crown Prince wasn't quite appropriate, but since the Emperor had decided, I didn't say anything more,"

"Now it appears, it was I who failed to recognize the real gem."

Empress Dowager Li sighed, then spoke again: "Now that Great Zhou has yet to establish a new ruler, if our Great Zhou can survive this crisis, I will definitely support Wu Ling to become the new ruler of our Great Zhou."

Upon hearing this, Empress Wang also nodded, overcome with shame.

Her son, Prince Wu Ming, had also been rendered useless at this time.

It wasn't that he was gone,

but that he had been crippled.

When the Immortals pressed down on the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, Wu Ming simply couldn't support it; he also lacked the courage to step forward and compete with the members from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect.

The weak display from Wu Ming, compared to Wu Ling's performance, made it clear who was superior.

Even Empress Wang, who greatly desired Wu Ming to become the Emperor of Great Zhou, found herself lacking the courage to speak up at this time.

Given Wu Ming's current behavior, even if Wu Ling couldn't become the Emperor of Great Zhou, the throne was unlikely to fall into Wu Ming's hands.

At this thought,

Empress Wang couldn't help but feel a surge of sorrow, her heart filled with discomfort, as her gaze inadvertently fell once more on Wu Ming in the cell opposite.

Wu Ming sat there, soullessly, with several wine jars overturned beside him.

The thick aroma of wine spread from the jars,

making the surrounding air seem somewhat intoxicated.

Empress Wang, observing Wu Ming's state, couldn't help but shake her head again.

“Empress Dowager, if I could, I would also endorse Wu Ling for the emperor,”

Empress Wang withdrew her gaze from Wu Ming and spoke, following the words of Empress Dowager Li.

In Empress Wang’s view, Great Zhou was already on its last legs.

Even if the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect did not harm the Great Zhou Imperial Family, a Great Zhou Imperial Family without any Immortals could not hold onto this world.

At this time, Duke Zhen Guo, Cheng Shiyuan, was also unreliable.

Let alone whether Duke Zhen Guo, Cheng Shiyuan, could rush back from the borders; even if he did manage to return, facing the situation currently in the Great Zhou Imperial Palace with the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect,

what could Duke Zhen Guo, Cheng Shiyuan, possibly do?

Everyone involved was an Immortal,

and Duke Zhen Guo, Cheng Shiyuan, being one Immortal, how could he possibly contend with so many Immortals?

In Empress Wang’s view, Great Zhou was already finished.

Under these circumstances,

it no longer mattered who became the Emperor of Great Zhou.

Following the words of Empress Dowager Li at this time and giving the throne to Wu Ling, what difference would that make?

After finishing speaking, Empress Wang sighed again.

Her heart sank deep into despair.

At this time,

Wu Ling, who was in meditation, had also heard the conversation between Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang.

Neither Empress Dowager Li nor Empress Wang had intended to hide their conversation from Wu Ling, nor did they plan to keep it secret from her.

Moreover...

It seemed they even intended for Wu Ling to overhear them.

To motivate Wu Ling.

Wu Ling wasn't sure whether Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang genuinely wanted her to become the Emperor of Great Zhou, or if it was just pretense, or perhaps just words of desperation in a hopeless situation.

Regardless,

Wu Ling didn't take the words of Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang to heart.

For Wu Ling, whether she took the throne or not, there wasn't much difference at this point.

Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang believed the Great Zhou Imperial Family was done for, and Great Zhou was finished.

What could she possibly do?

Unable to contend with the Immortals from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect,

the Great Zhou Imperial Family had no opportunity to turn things around.

Even though the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect dared not kill the members of the Great Zhou Imperial Family indiscriminately, confining all the royal family and relatives like they did now was still a particularly painful torment.

At this time, Wu Ling felt utterly powerless.

She only regretted that her own strength was not strong enough; if she could ascend to being an Immortal like the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, she wouldn't be in such a passive situation as she was now.

Just thinking of this made Wu Ling's thoughts turn to that incomparably handsome man, like an exiled immortal — the Town-Nation Duke's Heir.

In a daze,

Wu Ling seemed to see the Town-Nation Duke's Heir standing by her side, smiling at her.

Wu Ling stared blankly at the Town-Nation Duke's Heir in front of her, momentarily unable to react, her entire person dully focusing ahead.

She felt as if she had become somewhat foolish.

Chapter 757: Princely Heir, Why Don't You Believe Me?

Then, Wu Ling seemed to feel that she was experiencing an illusion, rubbing her eyes in disbelief before looking forward again.

The figure of the Town-Nation Duke's Heir in front of her did not vanish.

Instead, it became more solid, incredibly real.

"Princely... Princely Heir...!?"

Wu Ling murmured subconsciously to herself—a quiet voice only she could hear.

...

Before she could say anything else, Wu Ling covered her red lips with both hands, her bright eyes staring straight at Cheng Guang, tears welling up like silk threads.

"Hush..."

Cheng Guang raised a finger to his lips, stepped forward, and appeared in front of Wu Ling, gently touching her red lips.

Wu Ling stared blankly at Cheng Guang in front of her, feeling the real touch upon her lips.

Wu Ling, no matter how much she couldn't believe that the person in front of her was the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, had to accept it now.

After looking at Cheng Guang, Wu Ling suddenly remembered something and hurriedly glanced around, only to find that neither Empress Dowager Li nor Empress Wang showed any reaction to Cheng Guang's appearance.

This was not normal.

If the Town-Nation Duke's Heir appeared, despite their usual indifference, Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang would at least turn their heads to take a look.

But now, there was no reaction at all.

As if...

As if they couldn't see Cheng Guang at all.

"Princely Heir... what is this...?"

Wu Ling looked at Cheng Guang with confusion filling her heart.

Cheng Guang just watched the puzzled look on Wu Ling's face, guessed what she was thinking, and chuckled, shaking his head, then explained, "I am here in my Primordial Spirit form to see you."

"It's not my physical body, only you can see me."

Upon hearing Cheng Guang's words, Wu Ling's bright eyes widened even more in shock.

She examined Cheng Guang as he now appeared to her.

Wu Ling found that Cheng Guang, in his current state, showed no significant difference from how she had seen him on regular days.

Had Cheng Guang not informed Wu Ling that he was not present in his Primordial Spirit form, she would have been none the wiser.

She would have thought Cheng Guang was joking.

After all, whose Primordial Spirit could manifest so solidly, as real as a living person, and give such a genuine sensation.

Incredible!

Wu Ling gazed at Cheng Guang for a good while before finally reacting, "Princely Heir, has your cultivation broken through again?"

Cheng Guang shook his head, "Not yet. I've just broken through to Sky-Man; it's not that easy to make another breakthrough. It's just that my cultivation has improved a bit."

Wu Ling nodded slightly, "That makes sense."

After saying this, Wu Ling fell silent for a while.

She felt somewhat emo now.

She thought she was somewhat of a failure.

Compared with Cheng Guang, her own cultivation talent was nothing.

How could normal people break through to Sky-Man so quickly?

And the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, Cheng Guang, had not only suddenly made the breakthrough but had also managed to advance further in the Celestial Realm in such a short time.

Now, with just his Primordial Spirit, he could fool her.

Wu Ling thought that maybe after some time, with her level of cultivation, she would soon not even be able to see Cheng Guang's back.

Wu Ling watched Cheng Guang with complex emotions for a good while before suddenly remembering something and quickly asked, "Princely Heir, how did you come here?"

Cheng Guang spread his hands and said with a carefree smile, "I just walked over here."

"This place is dangerous. Even if the Princely Heir has cultivated to Sky-Man, it's not necessarily safe."

Wu Ling's face was tense, her voice serious as she said, "Princely Heir, you should leave now, while they haven't discovered you. Get away from here quickly."

"Otherwise, once those Sect Sky-Men discover you, Princely Heir, you won't be able to leave."

As Wu Ling spoke, she couldn't help but stand up, ready to push Cheng Guang away from this place.

However.

The moment Wu Ling's hand touched Cheng Guang, it passed through him as if through air, directly through his body.

Wu Ling wasn't surprised by this.

After all, she knew that the Town-Nation Duke's Heir in front of her was the Primordial Spirit.

If Cheng Guang didn't want her to be able to touch him, she would never be able to touch him.

Wu Ling looked helplessly at Cheng Guang, "Princely Heir, please believe me. Leave quickly, otherwise..."

Cheng Guang shook his head, "I don't need to leave."

Wu Ling had not finished speaking when she heard Cheng Guang say this. Surprised, she almost bit her tongue.

"How..."

"How come you don't need to leave?"

Wu Ling was a bit angry; even though she was usually not easily angered, hearing Cheng Guang say such young-ox-unafraid-of-the-tiger words made her unable to restrain herself.

"Princely Heir, why don't you believe me?"

"Your current cultivation has reached Sky-Man, which is quite remarkable already. But when you came to the Imperial Palace, you must have noticed that there are many Sky-Men here."

"The Sky-Men from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect are all inside the Imperial Palace."

"If they discover you, Princely Heir, I fear you will be imprisoned here as well, to blackmail the Duke of the State."

Wu Ling's beautiful eyes showed deep concern as she gazed at Cheng Guang, "Princely Heir, please go now. If not for yourself, then for the well-being of the Duke of the State."

Cheng Guang, faced with Wu Ling's worry, did not feel much tension; instead, his face still wore a faint smile, and he even found the mood to tease Wu Ling.

Chapter 758: Princely Heir, Why Don't You Believe Me? _2

"Is it also for your sake?"

Cheng Guang had said this.

Wu Ling was directly startled for a moment.

After regaining her composure, Wu Ling's face flushed red, and then she retorted, "For my what, Princely Heir? Don't talk nonsense, I'm just genuinely worried about you."

Cheng Guang understood Wu Ling's feelings.

Wu Ling was never good at acting.

...

Cheng Guang wasn't some emotionless man, and after such a long time together, how could he not understand Wu Ling's affection?

It was just a casual mention now.

Cheng Guang himself hadn't felt there was anything, but Wu Ling seemed a bit unable to hold herself back first.

Cheng Guang looked at the rosy blush on Wu Ling's radiant face, the smile on his face deepening considerably.

Cheng Guang found that his little distraction had indeed lessened the pressure of cultivation and the anxiety about the situation at hand for Wu Ling.

Cheng Guang was quite happy about this.

Cheng Guang reached out and simply tousled Wu Ling's hair, then offhandedly said,

"Cultivating shouldn't be rushed, just take it slowly."

"Besides, you don't need to worry about me, the Sky-Man here doesn't pose any threat to me."

Cheng Guang's words had come out.

Wu Ling was immediately dumbfounded.

"Not a threat?"

Wu Ling blankly repeated Cheng Guang's words, and then seemed to think that either she was crazy, or Cheng Guang was.

The Sky-Men from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect were all formidable Sky-Men!!

And there were more than four of them!

Even when the Great Zhou Emperor was alive, he never dared to say 'not a threat.'

Where did Cheng Guang get such confidence?

Wu Ling didn't understand!!

At this time, Cheng Guang didn't explain much to Wu Ling.

Firstly, Wu Ling simply didn't know how strong he had become.

Secondly, Cheng Guang's own rapid increase in strength felt almost dreamlike to himself; he was still adapting and couldn't convince Wu Ling to believe in him yet.

Cheng Guang simply smiled, "Shall I take you out first?"

Wu Ling hadn't snapped out of her shock yet, merely heard Cheng Guang's words and subconsciously nodded.

After nodding, Wu Ling just wanted to ask how Cheng Guang planned to take her out when

Cheng Guang's figure suddenly vanished.

Wu Ling still wanted to locate Cheng Guang, turning her head left and right, but couldn't find any trace of him.

"Princely Heir?"

Wu Ling abruptly stood up.

Her gaze scanned the surroundings.

At this time,

Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang also turned their gazes toward Wu Ling.

“Wu Ling, what’s wrong?”

Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang inquired, and the other few consorts in the room also turned their gazes toward Wu Ling.

Full of confusion.

Why did Wu Ling, His Highness the Crown Prince, suddenly sit up from the bed and call out for the Princely Heir?

Wu Ling noticed the gazes around her, her expression slightly stiffened, and she slowly sat back down, shaking her head, “It’s nothing, nothing.”

Wu Ling finished speaking, then began to doubt her own sanity.

The whole sequence of events, the entire experience, felt like a dream.

Could it be that she was actually dreaming?

The Princely Heir had never appeared.

Wu Ling couldn’t help but suspect this.

While Wu Ling was doubting her sanity,

Empress Dowager Li also sighed, “Wu Ling, I know your feelings, but Guanger, at this time for our imperial family...”

Empress Dowager Li spoke, but in the end, she could not continue and just shook her head with a sigh.

Previously, while Wu Shang was still present,

Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, couldn't possibly have any marital alliance with the Royal Family.

With Cheng Zhihai marrying the princess from our Royal Family,

that was the fate destined for Cheng Guang.

Should Cheng Guang later marry someone from the Royal Family,

the children born would have to endure the pain of being stripped of the Imperial Bloodline.

Such a price couldn't be solved by simply talking about love.

But...

Speaking of which,

now that the Great Zhou Imperial Family was in such a state, if Great Zhou truly couldn't hold on, perhaps there was no need to strip the Princely Heir's descendants of the Imperial Bloodline.

Wu Ling and Cheng Guang, maybe they really could make it.

Empress Dowager Li felt extremely complex thinking this.

Just as she was about to say something to Wu Ling,

suddenly, a booming sound erupted overhead.

BOOM!!!!

The roaring sound was immense, echoing all around.

The pavilion was trembling, swaying from side to side.

Little bits of dust and wood shavings kept falling from above.

It gave the impression that the pavilion could collapse at any moment.

“What’s happening?”

“Why is the pavilion suddenly shaking?”

“Is it the people from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect? Do they intend to destroy the pavilion and bury us alive here?”

The royal family and relatives looked up in fear, eyeing the noise above.

None of them knew what was happening.

Other than feeling uneasy and waiting to accept their fate, it seemed they could do nothing.

Among them, even Empress Dowager Li, who usually remained unflustered, now looked slightly worried, her face growing paler.

Yet, she did not move.

She clutched the cane in her hand, her gaze steadfastly fixed above.

“Don’t be afraid! We of the Great Zhou Imperial family will die standing!”

“There’s nothing to fear!”

Empress Dowager Li called out.

The previously noisy pavilion fell silent instantly.

Though the hearts of the royal family and relatives were still filled with terror, at least on the surface, they no longer looked so distraught.

Everyone’s hearts were in their throats.

Among the crowd, Wu Ling seemed to sense something and her bright eyes flickered.

“It couldn’t be...”

“This commotion, it couldn’t be the Princely Heir...”

Wu Ling murmured to herself.

Her voice was soft.

Before her words could even settle,

Wu Ling heard a furious shout coming from outside the pavilion.

“Who is it???”

“Who dares to come here and disrupt our proceedings!?”

As the voice clamored,

It was followed by a light chuckle.

“Old Man, what does it matter who I am?”

After these brief words,

The rumbling above the pavilion not only did not stop but grew even more intense.

“You, you’re seeking death!!!”

The person who had shouted in anger seemed unable to hold back anymore and was about to take action.

At the same time as the shout, the thunderous noise atop the pavilion suddenly ceased.

Above their heads,

A large hole had been broken open.

Everyone could see the outside world through the hole in the roof.

Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang looked up immediately.

With just a glance,

They saw a graceful young man standing with his hands behind his back above the pavilion.

Under his feet were the shattered pieces of Different Treasures.

These seemed to be used to seal off the pavilion detaining the royal family and relatives.

And that graceful young man...

Both Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang were rendered silent at the sight of him,

Their eyes widening in disbelief.

Beside them, Wu Ling covered her mouth in shock, worry almost spilling from her eyes.

“The Princely Heir!?!?”

Wu Ling’s cry involuntarily burst from her throat.

As Wu Ling’s voice rang out,

An elder in a gray robe swinging a longsword charged at Cheng Guang.

The sword light flashed.

The world seemed to blanch.

The fierce sword aura flowed down like a river from the heavens, striking at Cheng Guang.

Merely watching the old man make a move caused all royal family members to involuntarily lower their heads.

Just looking at the sword light made everyone's eyes sting painfully.

They simply couldn't keep watching for long.

"It's over!"

"Why has the Princely Heir come here?"

"That's the Sky-Man from the Long Sword Sect! The Princely Heir won't be able to match him!! Why isn't he running? What is he doing??"

Inside the pavilion, a few powerful members of the royal family were still forcefully watching Cheng Guang and the elder in gray.

Cheng Guang, even faced with the grand sword aura river, did not show a hint of fear on his face.

Instead, he wore a faint smile.

Seeing Cheng Guang's demeanor stunned everyone!

Chapter 759: Who Are You, Exactly?

Under everyone's gaze.

Cheng Guang stood composed amidst the sword light of the grey-robed elder, his expression unchanged.

Just as the grey-robed elder's sword was about to meet Cheng Guang's body.

It suddenly stopped.

The grey-robed elder felt that no matter how he swung, his sword simply would not fall.

It became suspended a hair's breadth away from Cheng Guang.

...

This change made the grey-robed elder's eyes slightly widen in disbelief, unable to accept that his sword could not even descend.

"Who exactly are you?!"

The grey-robed elder did not hesitate for a moment, quickly retracting his move and taking several steps back from Cheng Guang, warily sizing him up with a look of caution and confusion in his aged eyes.

It was clear that the grey-robed elder could not understand how someone so young-looking could withstand his sword strike.

His sword hadn't even touched the opponent.

This was simply inconceivable!

After the grey-robed elder spoke.

Cheng Guang did not answer the grey-robed elder but instead turned his gaze to the building below, nodding slightly to the group of Royal Family and Relatives, Empress Dowager Li, Empress Wang, and Wu Ling, who all had their eyes fixed on him.

Cheng Guang had come with the intention of rescuing Wu Ling.

Empress Dowager Li, Empress Wang, and the Royal Family and Relatives were included incidentally.

He did not have a specific goal to rescue them all together.

At this moment, the grey-robed elder had not recognized Cheng Guang, but many of the Royal Family and Relatives had.

Seeing Cheng Guang remain unscathed under the sword strike of the grey-robed elder, they were stunned, their eyes wide and mouths agape.

Everyone stood rooted to the spot, at a loss for words, their gazes fixed on Cheng Guang.

“Princely Heir, was that a block against the Sky-Man’s strike from the Long Sword Sect?”

“That Sky-Man from the Long Sword Sect is none other than the Sect Master himself, known as Xue Yao, who claims his sword can match ten thousand foes!”

“Sect Master Xue is no ordinary figure. How can the Princely Heir block his sword? Did he use some Different Treasure?”

The Royal Family and Relatives were all abuzz with speculation.

Most of them were guessing what method Cheng Guang had used to withstand a strike from the Sect Master of the Long Sword Sect, Xue Yao.

None of them considered that Cheng Guang might be relying on his own strength to withstand the Sect Master Xue Yao's strike.

At this time.

Sect Master Xue Yao of the Long Sword Sect also recovered from his shock. With his Sky-Man abilities, his hearing was naturally exceptional, and he had overheard the discussions of the Royal Family and Relatives below.

Listening to the debate within the Great Zhou Imperial Family, Sect Master Xue Yao frowned.

It wasn't because he was puzzled or troubled by the thought that Cheng Guang might possess some Different Treasure capable of blocking his strike.

But rather...

Sect Master Xue Yao had not sensed any Different Treasures being activated on the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, Cheng Guang.

His most recent sword strike.

When it reached just beside Cheng Guang, it could not go any further.

It was as if someone was pinching the tip of his sword.

It was certainly not any protective Different Treasure enfolding the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, Cheng Guang.

As Sect Master Xue Yao thought about this, his gaze couldn't help but fall on Cheng Guang again. After glancing over Cheng Guang a few times, Xue Yao spoke:

“What is your current cultivation level?”

Xue Yao already felt that Cheng Guang’s cultivation level was extraordinary.

At the very least, it must be at the Ninth-order Martial Emperor Realm.

Or even...

The Heavenly Human Realm!

Otherwise, Xue Yao believed, the Town-Nation Duke’s Heir, Cheng Guang, simply could not stand so calmly and unflinchingly before him.

Hearing Xue Yao’s question, Cheng Guang then turned his eyes toward him. Looking at the Sect Master before him, Cheng Guang had little interest in speaking further.

After a brief scan of Xue Yao.

He looked off into the distance.

Seeing several Heavenly Human auras rising up from afar.

Clearly.

Within the Great Zhou Imperial Palace, other Sects’ Sky-Men were becoming quickly aware of the commotion here and were converging in this direction.

Sect Master Xue Yao, seeing Cheng Guang ignoring him completely, felt a surge of annoyance welling up inside.

Before he could say anything, or make a move,

The Sky-Men presences that had just risen nearby arrived in an instant.

“Xue Yao, what are you doing? You’ve been dealing with such a young person for so long?”

“Yeah, are you going easy on him?”

Several teasing remarks came from the surrounding figures.

Cheng Guang cast a simple glance around and noticed that there were three arrivals.

Two males and one female.

All of them were no longer young, with the youngest among them being over a hundred years old.

Obviously, these were the hidden Sky-Men of various Sects. Without these Sky-Men, their Sects would not dare to rashly enter the Great Zhou Imperial Palace and cause such chaos as they were now.

Listening to the words of the several Sky-Men around him, Xue Yao’s expression soured, and with a slight darkening of his visage, he said, “This young man’s cultivation is unusual. My sword did not kill him just now. Why don’t you all give it a try?”

At Xue Yao’s words.

The three newly arrived Sky-Men showed a hint of curiosity in their eyes.

They were well aware of Xue Yao’s strength.

They also knew that Xue Yao would not be holding back.

The task they were performing was, put nicely, an enormous act of rebellion; there was no chance they would go easy.

Chapter 760 - Who exactly are you? _2

It was precisely because they all knew this and understood Xue Yao's strength that when they heard from Xue Yao that Cheng Guang could actually block one of his strikes, curiosity and doubt were revealed in their eyes.

After sizing up Cheng Guang, they discovered they were unable to see through the aura and strength surrounding him.

"I can't see through it."

"Isn't this kid from the Imperial Palace or Heaven Mountain Palace? How did he get in here?"

"I don't know."

After a brief discussion, the three Sky-Men shook their heads.

"Let's stop guessing, no matter how strange this young man is, he's no match for us. Let's capture him and interrogate him thoroughly to clear up any doubts."

The three Sky-Men who had just arrived quickly reached a consensus and were about to stir their aura in preparation to strike at Cheng Guang.

Cheng Guang sensed the fluctuating aura of the three men and a flicker of interest passed through his eyes; he was neither nervous nor planning to hide.

He simply stared directly at the three newly arrived Sky-Men.

By Xue Yao's side, having attempted to strike Cheng Guang just a moment ago and still shaken by the fact that he couldn't see through Cheng Guang's capacity, he dared not act rashly against him.

But,

in such a moment,

even if Xue Yao was extremely cautious, he still didn't believe that Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, could cause any trouble under these circumstances.

Thus, Xue Yao and the other three Sky-Men charged at Cheng Guang together.

In just an instant, countless dazzling lights exploded in the sky above, filled with an immense oppressive force bearing down on Cheng Guang.

Despite facing the combined siege of four Sky-Men, Cheng Guang's expression remained unchanged, and he just muttered,

"Is this the number of people?"

Cheng Guang's eyes slightly lowered as he turned and, without looking back, swept his sleeve.

With a swing of his sleeve, his Primordial Spirit burst forth.

The released Primordial Spirit shone with a golden light, solidifying in the void like a long river rushing towards the four Sky-Men including Xue Yao.

From a distance, one could hear the sound of swords clashing coming from that river.

Upon closer inspection,

one could see that the river of golden light was actually formed by the convergence of thousands of Longswords.

Xue Yao, after just one glance, was terrified to the core, instantly preparing to turn around and flee.

"Damn! What in the world is this?!"

"This is definitely not the Martial Emperor Realm; this is Sky-Man! Stronger than any of us!"

After just one glimpse of Cheng Guang making his move, Xue Yao regretted not slapping himself earlier.

From the beginning, he knew Cheng Guang was no ordinary person and should have fled right away!

Now, upon seeing Cheng Guang's action, Xue Yao was unsure whether he could even escape.

The Long Sword Sect Master Xue Yao reacted like this, and the situation for the three Sky-Men who followed was even worse.

They hadn't anticipated Cheng Guang's strength, and upon seeing his move, they were instantly petrified on the spot.

They couldn't react at all.

By the time they came to their senses,

the golden river unleashed by Cheng Guang had already reached them and there was no escaping it!

"Damn!!"

"What kind of strength is this?!"

The faces of the three Sky-Men changed drastically, their expressions horrified, and they only had time to cry out before they were fully engulfed by the golden river.

Soon there was silence.

As for the Sect Master of the Long Sword Sect, Xue Yao, who had wanted to flee, he hadn't gotten far before the golden river caught up with him and swept him into its flow.

The Sky-Men from Heaven Mountain Palace, Long Sword Sect, Monkey Sect, and Turtle Defense Sect were instantly silenced.

All became quiet between heaven and earth.

Cheng Guang did not turn back, as real men never look back at explosions.

He slowly descended the stairs.

When he landed on the platform,

the river of golden light behind him burst with a pop, turning into thousands of golden lights, dissipating into the air.

Four unrecognizable bodies lifelessly fell from the high sky, dropping to the ground.

"Thud..."

The four mangled bodies hit the ground, kicking up a large cloud of dust all around.

The air itself fell silent.

In the entire loft, all the royal family and relatives who witnessed this, including Empress Dowager Li and Empress Wang as well as numerous princes and princesses, were stunned.

They stared blankly at the distant figures of Xue Yao and his group from the Long Sword Sect.

They dreamily looked towards Cheng Guang not far away.

They couldn't believe that the once powerful Sky-Man, Long Sword Sect Master Xue Yao and his group of four, had in the blink of an eye become such beings of uncertain life and death.

Nor could they believe that all this was caused by Cheng Guang.

It should be known,

Cheng Guang had struck only once!

Just one strike had been enough to beat the Sky-Man, who had pushed the entire Great Zhou Imperial Family to a dead end, into an unknown state of life or death.

What kind of power was this!?

Was this still the Town-Nation Duke's Heir they knew?

At that moment, no matter how strong-hearted a person was, they were frozen in place.

Their young minds were overwhelmed by an unbearable shock.

It took quite a while before the air, filled with gasps of astonishment, started to alleviate the silence.

Empress Dowager Li blinked her somewhat dry eyes a few times and looked at Cheng Guang.

"Guanger..."

"This..."

"How did you do this?"

A look of deep confusion and puzzlement was evident on the face of Empress Dowager Li, both regal and somewhat weary.

Empress Dowager Li couldn't understand.

In her mind, Cheng Guang, who had been unable to cultivate, how could he suddenly be able to crush several Sky-Men like squashing a few ants dead.

Cheng Guang smiled, "Grandmother, I just did it like this."

As he smiled, Cheng Guang slightly lifted his hand and then gently flicked it twice.

Seeing Cheng Guang act this way, Empress Dowager Li couldn't help but laugh and shake her head, not pursuing the question further.

She wasn't foolish; she knew that Cheng Guang didn't want to tell her.

If Cheng Guang had wanted to tell her, he wouldn't need her to keep asking.

"Alright, Grandmother won't ask anymore. You have your own secrets."

Empress Dowager Li breathed a sigh of relief, "But this time, thanks to you, Guanger, if you hadn't come, we really wouldn't have been able to handle these people."

As Empress Dowager Li said this, her expression turned very grim, "These sects, taking advantage of the absence of the Great Zhou Emperor, taking advantage of our imperial family not having a Sky-Man, dared to bully our Great Zhou royal family like this!"

Empress Dowager Li struck her dragon-headed cane hard on the ground.

Empress Dowager Li's mention of this upset Empress Wang and the numerous princes, princesses, and royal relatives, who were still in shock; their expressions weren't very pleasant.

Because the shock brought by Cheng Guang had also invisibly dissipated much of their initial feelings.

After all.

Although Cheng Guang had resolved the Threat of the Long Sword Sect Master Xue Yao and other Sky-Men, which was a happy affair,

But.

The disaster that befell the Great Zhou royal family was far more painful than it was joyful.

In this entire event, the reputation of the royal family was trampled, leaving not a shred of dignity.

Empress Wang gently supported Empress Dowager Li's back, trying to comfort her, "Empress Mother, don't be angry; now that we have Guanger here, we have hope."

As Empress Wang spoke, her gaze fell upon Cheng Guang.

Her eyes revealed astonishment and puzzlement, but mostly they were filled with emotion.

"Who would have thought that Guanger is now so capable; those Sky-Men, Guanger you managed to deal with them so easily..."

Empress Wang said this with a tone still tinged with disbelief.

After all, in her eyes, Cheng Guang was still unlikely to cultivate.

Even if he could cultivate, his skill and power would mostly be insignificant.

Even though there had been rumors from the battlefield that the strength of Cheng Guang, the Town-Nation Duke's Heir, was formidable, in Empress Wang's view, perhaps Cheng Guang had just borrowed the power of some Different Treasures.

It simply wasn't Cheng Guang's own cultivation strength.

But this time.

Empress Wang truly didn't understand, nor could she comprehend.

...