

Primitive 291

Chapter 291

The dark clouds above were dissipating, indicating a tendency for the weather to clear up. There wouldn't be any more rain. Why hasn't the Divine Child allowed them to leave yet?

The Eldest Senior Brother and the others looked at each other, puzzled.

While they were looking at Han Cheng, Han Cheng was looking at the sky.

The sky had initially become overcast from the northwest. Although the dark clouds overhead had thinned out, the northwest remained heavily clouded.

This indicated that something might be happening over there.

Northwest, the upper reaches of this river, is characterized by many mountains, where rainwater gathers swiftly. At this time, continuing the journey by boat, there's a high likelihood of colliding with the rushing water.

Whether the boat flips or not is uncertain; it's better to avoid such potential dangers if possible.

As the saying goes, a wise man doesn't stand under a dangerous wall. Han Cheng, not exactly a wise man, still tries his best to avoid such situations.

Delaying a bit of time is acceptable if it means ensuring safety.

Han Cheng shared his thoughts with Eldest Senior Brother and others, but they remained skeptical.

Han Cheng couldn't be certain that flooding would occur, but it never hurts to be cautious.

A few faint rays of sunlight pierced through the clouds, illuminating the earth below.

The Eldest Senior Brother and the others looked at the unchanged river water and then at the sky...

However, after this delay, attempting to continue the journey by boat and return before nightfall was now impossible. They had to endure the longing for a home and find firewood and other necessities to stay overnight here.

The rain stopped, so Han Cheng naturally had no reason to continue hugging Milk Tea Sister.

Holding onto someone like this, feeling their warmth, was both comfortable and uncomfortable...

The members of the Green Sparrow Tribe, including the shaman and others, watched the darkening sky and the pouring rain with furrowed brows.

Through the rain curtain, some with good eyesight could vaguely see the rising river...

Next to a Shi Tou, a clay tablet had grids drawn on it, some of which were marked with slashes. Three grids were still empty.

The rain continued for a while before stopping.

Looking towards the small river from the house, they saw that what was once a gentle stream now roared like it had transformed, its muddy waters rushing violently.

Those who used to eagerly await the return of the divine child and the leader today had no hope of their return at this time.

They only hoped they wouldn't rush back to the tribe. It was impossible to return before the flood subsided; they could only find a safe place for now.

That night, few in the Green Sparrow Tribe could sleep peacefully.

Shi Tou, who often stared at the clay tablet after the shaman performed solemn sacrificial dances, prayed devoutly alongside the shaman by the totem pole for the divine child and others.

On both sides of the totem pole, two wooden plaques resembling couplets appeared at some point.

On the left, it was written 'Great God of the Green Sparrow,' and on the right, 'As urgent as the command'...

The muddy river roared down, interspersed with undulating trees, like an untamed dragon.

The Eldest Senior Brother and the others looked at the river, mouths agape, shocked yet feeling waves of relief and fear.

Facing beasts and enemies, they could use weapons to fight, but against such a flood, they didn't have many options.

Fortunately, the divine child gave instructions in advance; otherwise, this time would have been dangerous!

Han Cheng also watched the water, his thoughts different from those of the Eldest Senior Brother and the others.

He wondered if burning some sacrificial texts and throwing some buns into the river would calm its waters.

He didn't know whether the river would calm down or not, but he could provoke Zhuge Liang and summon the east wind to flip him over.

From the beginning, the tinder for starting a fire and hand-operated drills were hidden close by, so Han Cheng and the others were able to start a fire.

The aroma of cooking meat mixed with pine resin spread here.

Several people took turns keeping watch at night, while the rest wrapped themselves in animal hides and slept on the stone slabs dried by the fire.

Milk Tea Sister naturally slept with Han Cheng. Even though sleeping like this might be uncomfortable in certain aspects, Han Cheng was still happy to do so.

Finally, encountering a primitive woman who was barely pleasing to the eye, even though she was still a child, Han Cheng was very happy, and without much hesitation, he chose to become intimate between man and beast.

Of course, his intimacy with her wasn't complete.

How long he could persist before completely evolving into a beast was uncertain.

When they woke up the next morning, the weather was completely clear, and the river, after venting all night, had calmed down.

What was once demonic in the past could immediately become divine; this phrase was not only applicable to humans but also to rivers.

After breakfast, following Han Cheng's lead, they eagerly headed towards the riverbank, properly placed the boat, and loaded everything onto it.

Then, to the strange melody of Han Cheng's "Let's row with double oars," they paddled upstream.

After a while of rowing, the singing from a certain divine child's mouth had turned into "Little sister, you at the bow~"...

The Eldest Senior Brother, Shang, and the others listened quietly, no one speaking.

The strange tones the divine child was spouting at this moment were unheard of by them before. Initially, they found it fresh and strange, but after a while, they found it more pleasant than the usual simple speech.

Milk Tea Sister sat at the boat's bow, looking at Han Cheng with stars in her eyes.

The longing for and pursuit of beautiful things is a characteristic of all species. No race prefers hardship over comfort or ugliness over beauty.

As individuals of this era, surpassing all species in intelligence, the Eldest Senior Brother and the others also yearned for things other than basic needs.

Although it was impossible to compare them with the necessities of life, it didn't stop them from appreciating them at times.

Milk Tea Sister was particularly fascinated by sounds. In the past, when she was in their tribe, whenever she had the chance, she loved shouting towards the mountains and deep valleys, listening to the echoes.

Now, hearing the off-key songs sung by Han Cheng, she felt as if something had suddenly opened up in her heart.

It turned out that besides shouting towards the mountains, she could also use her own voice like this...

During this time, the tall and majestic image that Han Cheng had established in her heart was elevated even higher.

Of course, these alone weren't enough to make her eyes sparkle.

What truly made her eyes sparkle were the lyrics sung by Han Cheng.

She couldn't understand most of the lyrics but understood the word "sister."

Because there was a "sister" in her name.

Such pleasant words, the divine child was saying them to herself...

After Han Cheng sang for a while, much of the excitement about returning to the tribe had been vented out.

As the song stopped, he turned around and saw Milk Tea Sister leaning against the bow of the boat. He thought the song was quite fitting. Apart from his own occasional off-key notes and the lack of a duet partner at the bow, everything else was fine.

Thinking like this, he noticed Milk Tea Sister looking at him, seemingly intoxicated. Han Cheng smiled slightly, but after a while, his gaze became strange again.

Because he suddenly remembered a scene—several years later, he would stand by the bed, head hung low, with a troubled expression.

Milk Tea Sister would sit on the bed, looking at him with a deeply resentful expression, and sing, "Little sister sits by the bed. Why is big brother sweating so profusely..."

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The song rang out again, with Milk Tea Sister still at the bow.

This was because the Eldest Senior Brother and the others hadn't had enough, and the Milk Tea Sister also expressed her desire to learn from Han Cheng.

As Han Cheng talked about these things, scenes of his wild imagination lingered in his mind. Now that he understood Milk Tea Sister's intentions, he couldn't help but twitch his face involuntarily.

Coughing twice, he said he would teach her the song "Let's row with double oars," which was suitable for young and old children to sing. However, Milk Tea Sister still didn't want to learn; she insisted on "Little sister sits at the bow."

Han Cheng sniffed and had no choice but to start teaching.

He prayed that the scene he had imagined wouldn't happen...

It's unclear whether Milk Tea Sister had a talent for singing or simply a strong interest, but she learned much faster than learning Mandarin.

While the Eldest Senior Brother and others already familiar with Mandarin were hitting sky-high off-key notes, Milk Tea Sister could basically sing it perfectly.

Especially in the parts originally sung by a female voice, she surpassed Han Cheng, who was just a half-hearted teacher.

They say the Yangtze River's waves drive the waves behind it, but must the previous wave crash on the beach so soon?

Looking at Milk Tea Sister singing earnestly, Han Cheng silently lamented.

Just as he was thinking this, Milk Tea Sister stopped and began using a few simple phrases she had learned to gesture, asking Han Cheng about the meaning of those pleasant words.

Han Cheng chuckled. He shouldn't have impulsively started singing. Now, a pile of troubles had come his way.

Explaining these things to a girl was somewhat embarrassing.

Sometimes, it's strange; doing something feels natural, but saying it can become awkward.

Seeing Milk Tea Sister's eager expression for knowledge, Han Cheng gritted his teeth and thought he had touched and looked, even cuddled for sleep. What was there to be afraid of?

With a thick face, he slowly explained the meaning of the lyrics to her in a way that Milk Tea Sister could understand.

After a while, Milk Tea Sister, who now understood the meaning, looked at Han Cheng with even more sparkling eyes.

Primitive people are straightforward. Although Milk Tea Sister was frightened like a startled deer before, she gradually recovered after a long period of contact.

After standing there and seeing Han Cheng's eyes sparkle momentarily, she walked towards Han Cheng and then...

And then, she hugged Han Cheng tightly.

The shameless Han Cheng, holding Milk Tea Sister with a pleased expression, seemed even more charming after being struck by lightning. Now, someone was embracing him.

However, Milk Tea Sister's next move left Han Cheng dumbfounded.

After being hugged by Han Cheng for a while, the little girl Han Cheng had already identified as a child bride, struggled slightly to break free from Han Cheng's embrace, then lowered her head to start untying her belt.

Watching Milk Tea Sister's actions, Han Cheng was puzzled. Was she in urgent need?

Just as he was about to call the Eldest Senior Brother in front to steer the boat to the shore, the girl's trousers slipped down to her ankles with a "swish."

Han Cheng was dumbfounded.

What was this? Couldn't hold it and needed to solve it on the boat directly?

In his daze, Milk Tea Sister's hands had reached his waist, ready to untie his belt.

Han Cheng subconsciously covered his waistband and took two steps back in shock.

This thin-looking child bride, why was she so strong?

Comparing her to himself, it was like a gnat challenging a giant!

Thinking in shock while pressing his waistband, he realized what was happening.

Han Cheng quickly stepped forward with a wry smile to help the child bride put her clothes back on.

He gently patted her on the buttocks as a reprimand.

Besides himself, there were many others on the boat in front. Such fiery enthusiasm deserved commendation, but behavior without regard to occasion warranted punishment.

Han Cheng had already marked Milk Tea Sister in his heart and naturally couldn't let others take advantage of her.

Of course, Han Cheng was happy to see the spouses of the Eldest Senior Brother and others inadvertently reveal themselves.

The child bride, holding up her trousers, was puzzled. Didn't the Divine Child tell her those pleasant words? Why did she act like this? The Divine Child didn't press her down like before; instead, he helped her put on her clothes and even smacked her...

The young girl was puzzled by the contradictory behavior of the Divine Child.

After experiencing the situation and the kind laughter from the Eldest Senior Brother and others, Han Cheng smiled and explained the reason to the bewildered Milk Tea Sister.

Today, this matter must be explained clearly. Being enthusiastic and proactive was a good habit and shouldn't be suppressed by his actions...

After explaining these things laboriously, Milk Tea Sister nodded as if she understood.

Changing some habits at this time and understanding some principles beyond this era couldn't be achieved overnight. Cultivating and educating Milk Tea Sister was a long-term commitment, as she hadn't grown up yet. There was plenty of time.

So Han Cheng wasn't in a hurry.

After roughly explaining these matters, he, as usual, talked to Milk Tea Sister about some tribal matters...

After learning from Han Cheng that they were about to reach the tribe, Milk Tea Sister became as eagerly anticipative as everyone else.

She wanted to see what kind of house could comfortably accommodate people, whether the heated brick bed was really warm, and what it felt like to be a woman with five children.

Everything she had heard on the boat these days, things she had never encountered before, stirred her heart at this moment.

Of course, what she was most looking forward to was the countless delicacies she had learned from the deity.

Han Cheng looked at the increasingly familiar banks and then at Milk Tea Sister, who was eagerly waiting on the same boat as himself, feeling content.

This trip was very worthwhile. Not only did they bring back bamboo, hemp, and bupleurum for the tribe, but he also picked up a child bride...

It seemed that he couldn't just stay at home. Even when nothing was going on, he should go out more.

"Woohoo..."

A series of surprised cries suddenly interrupted Han Cheng's thoughts.

Looking toward the joyful sound, he saw a wolf not far from the bank, wagging its tail happily and jumping around in a low grass bush.

Beside it were several fluffy wolf cubs, who seemed to have grown quite a bit and wagged their tails slowly.

Amidst the joyous wolf's jumping and howling, the closed gates of the Green Sparrow Tribe also boiled with excitement.

"Hey~!"

Seeing the flatboat floating on the river, the Second Senior Brother raised his voice loudly, and the others followed suit.

The voices were light and joyful...

"Hey~!"

The Eldest Senior Brother and others on the boat also shouted.

The aged shaman, whose legs were unusually agile at this moment, refused any assistance and quickly descended from the wooden ladder.

After arranging for some people to guard the walls in his busy schedule, he led the others out of the gate and hurried towards the riverbank.

As if injected with chicken blood, the people on the boat increased the rowing speed.

The two groups of people met by the small river, and the joy of reunion and returning home filled the entire riverbank...

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People who reunite after a long separation always have endless things to say when they gather.

Even before arriving at the riverbank, people who hadn't seen each other for a long time began to talk to each other. Joy filled everyone's hearts, reflecting on every face.

The children, in particular, chatter incessantly, as cheerful as a flock of sparrows.

After a command, even before Han Cheng, the Eldest Senior Brother, and the others speak, the children and the people who stayed behind have already unloaded everything from the boat. They are running towards the tribe, carrying them one by one.

Especially after hearing Han Cheng say that they will use something they have never seen before to make delicious food later, these people become even more excited.

They treat bamboo shoots more affectionately than anything else.

Milk Tea Sister pulls on Han Cheng's sleeve, hiding behind him, timidly observing the people of this tribe in front of her.

Not only did all nineteen people who went out return, but they also brought back an additional person, and Shaman smiled until his eyes became slits.

This child is not much shorter than the Divine Child and can already do a lot of work. In a few years, the tribe will have another adult. Shaman is naturally very happy.

Being thin and weak is not a big problem. After living in their tribe for a while and eating three meals daily, they will soon become strong.

Even though she may not compare to Xing, there is no problem comparing them to Xiaomei and Xiaoli.

Han Cheng didn't know what Shaman was thinking. If he did, he would shake his head vigorously.

It's not easy to find someone relatively satisfactory. If you continue to cultivate them in this direction, wouldn't it be asking for trouble?

With someone like this added to the team, it's impossible not to attract everyone's attention.

Facing Shaman and others' inquiries, Han Cheng briefly explained the situation.

Of course, when treating Milk Tea Sister's illness, some more private matters on the boat and some of his more animalistic thoughts were naturally skipped.

As Han Cheng spoke, Eldest Senior Brother and the others occasionally added a word.

After the speech, many people from the Green Sparrow tribe looked at Han Cheng with even more respect.

To be able to save people whom other tribes wanted to burn alive, how could they not be impressed?

Knowing about Milk Tea Sister's encounters with Xing, Xiaomei, and Xiaoli, who are older girls, they came over to talk to her actively and friendly.

They indicated that this would be her tribe in the future, and Milk Tea Sister could live with them.

Faced with the enthusiasm of Xing, Xiaomei, Xiaoli, and others, Milk Tea Sister felt a bit awkward, looking at Han Cheng for help.

Han Cheng rubbed Milk Tea Sister's head, encouraging her to play with Xing and the others.

Children of similar ages can always play together quickly.

Several girls gathered together, chirping and chatting. Although their languages may not fully align, they still played happily.

Xing, Xiaomei, Xiaoli, and others took Milk Tea Sister to see the wind chimes.

After this long period, several girls have reached the point where each person has a pottery wind chime.

They hang in a row under the eaves, looking very beautiful.

Milk Tea Sister puffed up her cheeks and blew forcefully on the wind chime. With a slight sway, the wind chime made a crisp, pleasant sound.

Milk Tea Sister looked at the wind chime and the clean girls, such as Xing, Xiaomei, and Xiaoli, feeling both envious and a bit inferior.

Because it seems like they have a lot of fun and precious things while she has nothing.

"This, beautiful!"

Xing, Xiaomei, Xiaoli, and the others looked at Milk Tea Sister's two braids and exclaimed sincerely.

Milk Tea Sister's heart trembled slightly, suddenly feeling less ashamed and inferior.

She also has things that they don't have.

She touched her braids and turned to look at the Divine Child.

In the chirping voices, the girls quickly bonded.

Xing and the others taught Milk Tea Sister how to make a beautiful wind chime, while Milk Tea Sister taught them how to braid their hair, and the atmosphere was harmonious.

In this conversation, Milk Tea Sister discovered these beautiful wind chimes from the Divine Child's hands.

She again looked at the Divine Child, who didn't seem much older than herself, with even more reverence in her eyes.

She had heard the term 'Divine Child' many times from conversations with Xing and others.

It seemed that everything admirable and desirable in this tribe came from the hands of the Divine Child.

"All discovered by the Divine Child. What about you? What have you discovered..."

Milk Tea Sister tried to convey her thoughts to Xing and the others.

After understanding Milk Tea Sister's meaning, several people felt somewhat depressed.

Yeah, all these things were discovered by the Divine Child. What had they discovered?

"I discovered that silkworms want to grow up and molt..."

Xing's eyes lit up as she spoke.

Prompted by her, Xiaomei and Xiaoli remembered things, chattering, "I discovered that pottery pieces of different sizes make different sounds when they collide..."

"Adding crushed pottery pieces into the clay makes the clay less likely to crack when fired, which was discovered by Hei Wa..."

After Milk Tea Sister's inquiry and some contemplation, they realized that they had discovered many things, too.

Many of the things they said, Milk Tea Sister didn't understand, but she could still grasp that they were saying things they had discovered.

They had discovered so much. What about herself? What had she discovered?

"I discovered how to braid my hair better."

She thought to herself.

Shaman was even more excited than when Divine Child returned. He was leaning over the jar of Chaihu, gently touching its leaves, and highly affectionate.

Han Cheng called him several times, but he refused to leave.

The terrifying disaster known as the devil's curse, passed down by the ancestors of the shaman, had left a deep impression on him, and there were also legends about the symptoms that occurred in the people in the cursed land.

There were many similarities between Milk Tea Sister's symptoms and those mentioned.

If Milk Tea Sister could be cured by this thing called Chaihu, did that mean that the people of their tribe could also be cured when encountering similar devil's curse incidents in the future?

Han Cheng also felt that Chaihu was significant, so he planted them first and dealt with other matters later.

Chaihu is more suitable for growing by the riverbank, but the rain gradually increased at this time, and planting them by the riverbank would easily wash them away.

After some thought, Han Cheng opened up a sunny area in the courtyard near the wall, brought some soil from the riverbank, and then transplanted the Chaihu from the jar there.

At the same time, he also transplanted a few wild hemp plants.

Worried that they wouldn't survive, after planting and watering them, Han Cheng had some branches with leaves brought over and placed them next to them to provide shade.

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After planting the wild hemp and Chaihu, Han Cheng instructed people to continue digging the soil.

However, this time, the digging wasn't near the wall but in front of his residential window, about three to four meters away.

After the pit was dug, two more pots of soil were brought over.

The temporary plants inside were carefully removed and transplanted into the newly dug pit.

Several sections of bamboo roots (from which bamboo shoots grow) were cut when they were digging bamboo shoots in the bamboo forest.

These bamboo roots still had some small, undeveloped bamboo shoots attached, with two small poles in the middle.

At that time, the Eldest Senior Brother and others planned to discard these, but Han Cheng saw them and brought them back.

He wanted to see if they could survive.

He originally wanted to grow better plants, but the unexpected appearance of these treasures disrupted his plan, so he had to make do with these for now.

He would dig up some better ones later when the time came.

After finishing these tasks and raising his head, Han Cheng noticed two women with injuries appearing not far away.

Han Cheng was surprised, his first reaction being that the tribe had been attacked and their people were injured.

But he quickly realized something was wrong.

Because since they returned, they hadn't heard anything similar from Shaman and the others.

Moreover, judging from the reactions of the tribe members and what they had seen, the tribe didn't seem to have been attacked.

Then what was the matter with these two injured women?

Han Cheng pondered this as he walked towards them.

Approaching, he realized that these two women were not from their tribe!

It seemed that something had happened to the tribe!

Han Cheng momentarily stared at the two frightened-looking injured women before turning to find Shaman and ask about the situation.

Shaman and the others hadn't immediately told Han Cheng about the attack from the Bone Tribe because they had their reasons.

Firstly, no one from their tribe was injured, and secondly, Han Cheng and the others had just returned, and everyone was in a joyful mood, so they unintentionally overlooked this matter.

Now that Han Cheng noticed something amiss and asked about it, Shaman and the others explained the situation.

"Damn it!"

The most significant reaction came from Shang; because of his previous experiences, he harbored a deep hatred for those who attacked the tribe.

If it weren't for the large number of people left in the tribe and their reliance on things like walls, bows, and arrows, the consequences would be...

Imagine the scene of returning to the tribe after this boat trip, with familiar people dead and injured everywhere. He shuddered all over, and his eyes were turning red.

He angrily shouted, grabbed his spear, and was about to kill the two captives, but was stopped by the Eldest Senior Brother.

"Divine Child, what should we do?"

The Eldest Senior Brother asked Han Cheng, and the others looked to him.

When this matter was mentioned, few weren't angry. Anyone who was attacked at their doorstep couldn't swallow this anger.

"Fight! Take down the Bone Tribe!"

Han Cheng, who hadn't spoken much before, spoke up decisively.

This decision energized the vast majority of people, and without needing any encouragement, their fighting spirit soared.

However, not everyone agreed with this approach.

For example, after hearing Han Cheng's decision, Shaman became worried.

He felt that they shouldn't attack the Bone Tribe.

With his age, experiences, and wisdom inherited from the previous shaman, he knew that there were no survivors in conflicts involving past tribal blood feuds.

The recent record of zero deaths in battles fought by their tribe in the past two years was all thanks to the reliance on the protective walls.

To attack the Bone Tribe, they would have to leave the safety of the walls, thus losing their most significant advantage.

Moreover, the Bone Tribe was one of the more powerful tribes in the vicinity.

Although they had suffered significant losses in the previous encounter, many adults had returned unharmed.

Shaman was confident their tribe could defeat the Bone Tribe, but achieving victory without casualties was impossible.

As he grew older, he desired peaceful development and didn't want to see anyone in the tribe die, regardless of the circumstances.

He expressed his concerns to Han Cheng, who pondered for a while and acknowledged Shaman's worries but insisted on proceeding with the attack.

While Han Cheng's decision seemed impulsive, it was not made hastily.

Apart from the fact that the tribe had been attacked, there were other considerations.

After nearly a year and a half of integration, the Pig Tribe had been fully assimilated into the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Expanding the population further was now possible, and there were no internal security concerns.

Additionally, introducing various new activities besides hunting and gathering had strained their manpower.

After several months of training, the Green Sparrow Tribe made some progress in warfare and acquired strength.

The Bone Tribe wasn't significantly more significant than the Green Sparrow Tribe regarding the number of adults.

Recently, they had lost eleven people during a confrontation under the Green Sparrow Tribe's walls, with many returning injured.

From Shaman's account, Han Cheng deduced that the recent defense of the Green Sparrow Tribe had significantly impacted the Bone Tribe, instilling fear in them.

This gap would widen further, adding to the Green Sparrow Tribe's advantage.

Furthermore, Han Cheng felt that their previous salt policy was flawed.

Over the past year, the Green Sparrow Tribe had portrayed themselves to neighboring tribes as generous, friendly, and prosperous, aiming for a bloodless integration through friendliness.

However, Han Cheng realized that their rise to power might not be without bloodshed.

Their constant friendliness had been perceived as weakness, making a show of overwhelming force now effective in cowing other tribes into submission.

This iron-fisted approach would serve as a strong support for their gradual infiltration policy.

It would significantly reduce complications when it was time to close the net.

With these six considerations, the Bone Tribe would have no choice but to yield when faced with the Green Sparrow Tribe's might.

Han Cheng explained these considerations to his followers, ensuring they understood the rationale behind their actions and the tribe's advantages.

This approach ensured his subordinates knew why they were fighting and were genuinely motivated to strive for the goal.

Han Cheng wasn't prepared to relax on the ideological front; he understood the importance of political education.

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The Shaman was persuaded and expressed agreement with the decision to attack the Bone Tribe. However, after agreeing, he repeatedly reminded everyone not to be careless.

Such reminders were good, as they could prevent the people of the Sparrow Tribe from becoming blindly arrogant and encourage them to handle the matter cautiously.

Shang couldn't wait any longer. Immediately after the decision to send troops to the Bone Tribe was made, he wanted to set out with his men but was stopped by Han Cheng.

Warfare was always a serious matter. Although the scale of the upcoming war against the Bone Tribe that Han Cheng was preparing for didn't compare to some large-scale battles of future times, it still involved the lives and deaths of many people in the tribe, so it had to be taken seriously.

Before the troops moved, supplies were prepared first. There was a certain distance between the Green Sparrow Tribe and the Bone Tribe, so food for the journey had to be prepared. Additionally, most of the tribe's fighting force had just experienced nearly twenty-four days of long-distance travel, so they needed rest and recuperation.

Therefore, the attack on the Bone Tribe was set for five days later. These five days would be used to prepare food, restock weapons, and allow the people to rest and recover their spirits before launching a major operation.

After this decision, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe began preparations. Han Cheng also pondered their possible situations and the corresponding strategies.

After these matters were settled, it was already getting dark.

Because of this incident, the joy of Han Cheng and the others returning was greatly diminished.

Many people were also thinking about the idea of Han Cheng personally cooking dinner.

They wanted to taste the food cooked by Han Cheng and were very interested in the exotic food brought back from faraway places by Han Cheng and the others.

However, they also knew the priorities and understood that thinking about eating at a time like this was inappropriate. So, when they saw Han Cheng lost in thought, no one reminded him, "Hurry up and stop daydreaming. Everyone's waiting for you to cook."

Although they thought this way, disappointment was inevitable.

When it came to eating, it was the most important thing. This was Han Cheng's life motto.

So, seeing that it was getting late, he rolled up his sleeves and headed towards the cave where he cooked.

The people of the Green Sparrow Tribe no longer hoped Han Cheng would personally cook dinner tonight. However, when they unexpectedly saw Han Cheng heading towards the cooking place, their hearts were filled with joy after the initial surprise.

The bamboo shoots were peeled and sliced with a bone knife. The bone knife was thinner and sharper than a stone knife, making it more convenient for cutting vegetables.

After blanching, the bamboo shoots were set aside for later use. Some were used to make bamboo shoots and meat slice soup, while the rest were stir-fried with meat slices.

The people nearly swallowed their tongues when the delicious food came out of the pot.

Milk Tea Sister had no resistance to food. Her small mouth kept moving, and as soon as a chopstick of food entered her mouth, it disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Han Cheng could only helplessly smile and remind her to eat slowly occasionally. The girl puffed out her cheeks and nodded vigorously, her braids swaying as she mumbled incomprehensible words, but her eating speed did not slow down at all.

A meal significantly reduced the tension among the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe due to the upcoming attack on the Bone Tribe.

After eating, they chatted for a while before Han Cheng let them rest.

They specifically emphasized the need for rest, forbidding activities like weapon maintenance.

Xing, Xiaomei, and Xiaoli asked Milk Tea Sister to sleep with them.

After spending most of the day together, they had developed quite a bond.

However, how could they allow such a thing to happen when they had already decided to become beasts?

His wife, of course, should sleep with him on the same heated bed.

Moreover, these beastly fellows never knew how to avoid others. Letting Milk Tea Sister stay in that room, under the influence, would inevitably lead her astray sooner or later.

Then, in the wide-eyed stares of Xing, Xiaomei, and Xiaoli, a shameless Divine Child, without blushing or panting, held Milk Tea Sister's hand and returned to his room.

Following alongside were Fu Jiang and the five little blessings, running back and forth.

The people who followed along with Eldest Senior Brother made some suggestive gestures and whispers to those in the tribe who didn't understand what was happening.

A strong gossip vibe suddenly enveloped the entire Sparrow Tribe.

It could be foreseen that this would be the hottest topic in the Sparrow Tribe tonight.

Han Cheng's earlier instructions for them to rest well seemed to be in vain.

Han Cheng didn't care about any of this. He pretended nothing had happened, holding Milk Tea Sister's hand as she burped from eating and led her back to his room.

After arriving in the room, he prepared a hot water basin and soaked Milk Tea Sister's feet with her.

Because she hadn't worn shoes much before, Milk Tea Sister's feet weren't as glossy as Han Cheng's.

After drying her feet, it was time to sleep.

Han Cheng shamelessly stripped Milk Tea Sister naked, and himself too, and then crawled under the fur blanket, using it as a blanket.

There were no formalities, just a straightforward mess with a very primitive style.

Under the blanket, Han Cheng held the warm Milk Tea Sister and felt very comfortable.

Next...

Hehehe.

Nothing else happened. He fell asleep straightforwardly. Maybe he wanted to do something.

Of course, it wasn't just falling asleep directly, but after some mental struggles.

He was a normal person; otherwise, he wouldn't always think about finding a wife.

Faced with such a situation, it was naturally unbearable.

It's just that considering that they were still growing up and Milk Tea Sister's chest hadn't developed much. He had to endure it.

After a long journey, returning home at this time, lying on his heated bed, Han Cheng thought for a while with Milk Tea Sister in his arms, unable to resist the heavy drowsiness, and fell asleep.

Milk Tea Sister, however, couldn't sleep. With her wide-open eyes in the dark, she moved something that kept poking her under the quilt and then recalled all the dazzling things she had seen today.

It felt like a dream.

How could all these things made by people?

She felt that all of this existed and was later discovered by this tribe.

Because there were so many things inside that she felt couldn't possibly have been done by humans.

Such as the towering walls like mountain cliffs and the large, comfortable houses bigger than caves.

Late at night, this primitive girl who came to the new tribe, her mind full of novelty and shock, finally couldn't resist the drowsiness. After moving the poking thing under her quilt, she completely lost consciousness.

Chapter 296: Setting out for battle

In the next few days, under Han Cheng's leadership, the focus of work for the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe shifted entirely to preparing for the capture of the Bone Tribe.

Han Cheng continuously pondered their possible situations and the corresponding strategies. Occasionally, he would consult with the Eldest Senior Brother and Shaman and call the others together to make arrangements.

Some of the Green Sparrow Tribe members were busy repairing weapons, and those who frequently participated in training sometimes conducted attack drills as per the requests of the Shaman.

Time passed by in this atmosphere, second by second, until the five days had passed in the blink of an eye.

The eastern horizon began to glow with the dawn, gradually dispelling the darkness. After a night of deep sleep, everyone's spirits were replenished, and they were now fully awake.

The atmosphere in the Green Sparrow Tribe was different from before. There was an indistinct air of solemnity in the tranquil and quiet ambiance.

The fortress's gates were open, and thirty people stood in four rows in front of the gate, each under the leadership of their respective captains. They were the warriors of the Green Sparrow Tribe who were about to set out for battle.

Standing in front of the formation was Han Cheng, the one in charge of the armed forces. There was a half-filled basin of warm water on a makeshift table made of stones and wood.

A wild chicken with fluttering wings had its neck slit with a stone knife, and its blood dripped into the water, blossoming like peach blossoms.

After a stir with a long-handled ladle, bowls of warm water tinged with a faint red hue were handed to each person preparing for battle.

"Safety first. I will prepare a feast to celebrate your return," Han Cheng said, not particularly inspiring but practical, before raising the bowl of water mixed with blood and drinking it down.

With no wine available, they had to make do with this.

The warriors preparing for the expedition also raised their bowls, imitating the Shaman's actions and drinking down the contents. However, they drank too carefully, without a drop spilling down their chins, lacking the heroic spirit.

"Snap!"

Han Cheng slammed his bowl down after finishing, and the others, subconsciously following his lead, also smashed their bowls onto the ground. Many regretted their actions afterward, trying to salvage their bowls, only to find them shattered beyond repair.

What was supposed to be a solemn and stirring ceremony was somewhat botched at its climax.

Han Cheng felt like laughing but managed to suppress it forcefully.

"Go!"

After waiting for a moment, he raised his arm and shouted.

The warriors preparing for the expedition were infected by this unprecedented ceremony. They felt their blood boiling, devoid of fear except for their somewhat regrettable bowl-smashing.

After Han Cheng's shout, the people of the Green Sparrow Tribe turned away and headed toward the direction of the Bone Tribe, armed with weapons and provisions.

Han Cheng, Shaman, and others who stayed behind watched them leave until they disappeared from sight. Only then did they pack up their things and return to the tribe, firmly closing the gate behind them.

From today onwards, until the return of the Eldest Senior Brother and the others, the gates of the Green Sparrow Tribe would not easily open, and no one would be allowed to leave without reason.

With thirty people going out, the fighting strength of the Green Sparrow Tribe was greatly diminished. Compared to when Han Cheng and the others left, they were even weaker, so they had to be on high alert.

Han Cheng stood on the wall, gazing at the direction in which the Eldest Senior Brother and the others had departed for a long time.

Although he knew that this trip was almost a sure victory, with the Bone Tribe basically unable to escape, he couldn't help but worry.

He didn't know how many of these expeditionary warriors would be injured or might not return.

In this attack on the Bone Tribe, Han Cheng originally intended to lead the team himself. However, the Shaman and the Eldest Senior Brother disagreed, saying Han Cheng was too young and unsuitable for such a task.

Upon careful consideration, Han Cheng realized there was some truth to their words. His presence might indeed be distracting, so he decided to stay behind.

As time passed, Han Cheng began to feel his decision was wrong. Waiting in the tribe without knowing anything was genuinely agonizing.

If only they had a cell phone, or even a telegraph, to get information about the situation ahead. Of course, this was wishful thinking; they couldn't produce such things even if they tried.

A more practical idea would be to make simple wired telephones using two small pottery bowls with holes at the bottom, strung together with a rope.

When Milk Tea Sister covered her right ear with a small bowl and widened her eyes with a look of surprise and disbelief, she heard Han Cheng's singing from the ship's bow.

The Divine child sang the song, but at this moment, he was inside the house with the door closed, and the small bowl and rope were threaded out of the window.

Milk Tea Sister tentatively removed the pottery bowl from her ear, and she could faintly hear the Shaman's indistinct singing from inside the house. Placing the pottery bowl back over her ear, the song became clear again.

This miraculous device quickly caused a sensation in the Green Sparrow Tribe. Not only did the children love playing with it, but even the adults wanted to experience the magic of this device themselves.

Watching the children happily playing with the telephone bowls on the wall, Han Cheng couldn't help but smile.

With everything that needed to be done already completed, all that was left was to leave it to fate and endure the long wait. Finding other activities to pass the time and ease the tension during the long wait was also a good idea.

The women's hairstyles in the Green Sparrow Tribe had significantly changed.

The catalyst for this transformation was the appearance of two braids on Milk Tea Sister's head.

When Han Cheng first arrived, everyone in the Green Sparrow Tribe had messy hair. However, after his intervention, they all sported uniform ponytails, albeit somewhat messy ones.

At first, everyone liked the new ponytails, but after some time, they started having other ideas, especially the women.

The appearance of Milk Tea Sister with two braids inspired them.

Without Han Cheng's knowledge, braids began to trend throughout the entire Green Sparrow Tribe.

When Han Cheng discovered this, he was both shocked and amused. It was understandable if Star, Little Beauty, Little Lily, and the other young girls wore braids, but why were Chen, Xi, and the other boys joining the fun?

Han Cheng couldn't help but feel overwhelmed by the sight.

Without much thought, Han Cheng, feeling shocked and irritated, immediately instructed these individuals to untie their braids. He felt like he would go crazy if this continued.

Seeing these guys dragging their feet, unwilling to untie their braids, Han Cheng wanted to kick them with his foot.

Unable to stand the resentful looks from these guys any longer, Han Cheng immediately made some regulations regarding their hairstyles.

Girls would wear two braids until they reached adulthood, then switch to a single braid. Boys would keep their hair short and tie a small braid on their heads, resembling seventh-grade sesame officials.

Adult men would tie up their hair using a tree branch as a hairpin for fixation, exuding a bit of ancient charm.

Han Cheng was the only exception, still sporting a ponytail.

These new hairstyles immediately delighted everyone, and they abandoned their attachment to braids. Han Cheng was relieved to be rescued from the overwhelming visual impact.

This was also good in another way; with fixed hairstyles, it was easy to distinguish between men and women of all ages. Unlike before, when one wasn't familiar, telling men and women apart required getting up close to look at chest sizes.

Chapter 297: The assured leader of the Bone Tribe

In the season when rapeseed flowers were blooming but some were withering, Eldest Senior Brother led the tribe's people towards the Bone Tribe.

The road was more manageable to traverse than when he used to attend the festivities at the Bone Tribe.

Over the past year, the people of the Bone Tribe had been coming to the Green Sparrow Tribe more often, creating paths with their footsteps and bone knives.

Though just a makeshift trail, it was still more convenient than cutting a new path.

As dusk fell, the Eldest Senior Brother led the people to a spacious area, where they made a fire using dry branches collected along the way and cooked some warm food.

According to Han Cheng's calculations, the Green Sparrow Tribe was in a temperate zone, slightly north of the mid-latitude.

In such regions, though there were vast primitive forests, not every place was densely wooded. Finding areas with only grass or low shrubs wasn't too tricky.

Thankfully, being in a temperate zone meant the vegetation grew in distinct seasons throughout the year, preventing rampant overgrowth.

Moreover, the distinct seasons also helped to suppress the growth and reproduction of various bacteria and pathogens.

In comparison, despite the hardships brought by harsh winters, they also helped to control the spread of diseases.

The flickering flames of the bonfire dispersed the darkness, casting its light far into the distance.

Most people had already fallen asleep, leaving only five on watch to keep the fire burning.

In the distance, wild beasts caught the scent of prey but hesitated upon seeing the firelight before retreating.

The night passed uneventfully, and the following day, after breakfast, they left the place and continued towards the Bone Tribe.

The sun was a generous entity, casting its warm rays impartially. It enveloped the Green Sparrow Tribe with its towering walls and the Bone Tribe living in caves in its morning light.

After finishing his meal, the leader of the Bone Tribe set down his bowl and shook his head a few times.

This was due to the aftermath of being hit by a slingstone thrown by Second Brother at the Green Sparrow Tribe, which had left him with a wound on his head.

The wound on his forehead had long stopped bleeding, forming a thick scab, with the surrounding area appearing slightly swollen.

As he shook his head, he looked at the caves, now missing many people, feeling somewhat distressed.

Among those who returned with him, one person had died yesterday.

By the time of death, the person's body had begun to decompose, with half of it already rotten, crawling with maggots.

He regretted his rash decision to attack the tribe, feeling most intensely regretful in the initial two or three days.

As time passed, the intensity of his regret gradually diminished, replaced by another emotion that grew stronger with each passing day: hatred.

He hated that the people of the wealthy tribe had been so ruthless, leading their tribe to its current plight.

Although he had contemplated seizing their resources, he had never acted on it. How could they be so ruthless?

While he thought this, he dared not act against that tribe again.

Initially, besides regret, there was another strong emotion pervading him and the hearts of many in the Bone Tribe: fear.

They feared that the wealthy and formidable tribe would pursue and attack them. Thus, after returning with heavy losses, the leader of the Bone Tribe had contemplated relocation more than once.

However, in recent days, this idea has gradually been suppressed.

Relocating was not easy for the tribe.

First, there needs to be a suitable place to live, and second, suitable hunting grounds should be nearby.

These two requirements alone make people have to consider things carefully.

Moreover, with the significant loss of adult members in their tribe, relocating and starting a similar life in a new place would be extremely difficult. There might even be more deaths.

Amidst these hesitations, the leader of the Bone Tribe did not proceed with the migration.

In the first few days, like everyone else in the tribe, he lived in constant fear, with many people left to guard the caves daily, fearing an attack from the Green Sparrow Tribe.

Several days passed, but the people from the Green Sparrow Tribe never came. The worries of the Bone Tribe gradually subsided.

By now, the leader of the Bone Tribe was convinced that the Green Sparrow Tribe would not attack them again.

During this time, he had figured out many things.

The main reason their tribe suffered such heavy losses was not the unfamiliar weapons used by the other tribe but rather the tall, detestable walls.

Without those walls, that tribe wasn't that formidable.

Otherwise, why wouldn't they come to attack their tribe?

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Contemplating these matters, he saw that everyone in the tribe had finished eating, so he called everyone to follow him for hunting.

All the strong ones went, making twenty-one people, including himself.

The remaining sixteen people were either injured, elderly, weak, or heavily pregnant. These were all adults.

There were fourteen underage individuals capable of working. Their task was to harvest edible wild vegetables and roots near the tribe and to spear fish in the river.

After arranging these tasks, the leader of the Bone Tribe set out with the hunting party.

As instructed by the leader of the Bone Tribe, the remaining people dispersed around the tribe to attend to various tasks. Three elderly, weak individuals stayed in the caves to tend to the fire, along with some crawling babies.

As time passed and the sun moved from directly overhead to the west, people harvesting wild vegetables around the tribe started returning to the caves.

Near the riverbank, a few individuals who had been spearfishing laid out several fish on the grass, the result of their morning's work.

Looking at these few fish, some who had been to the Green Sparrow Tribe couldn't help but imagine the abundance of fish they had seen there.

They couldn't fathom how they managed to catch so many fish.

It would be wonderful if their tribe had so many fish, too.

It would be great if they could live in that tribe.

With such thoughts in mind, they shook their heads, realizing it was impossible. Regardless of whether their tribe conflicted with them, the leader wouldn't take them there.

Taking a short rest, they cast aside these thoughts and focused on the fish in the river with their makeshift fishing spears.

Unaware of it, they didn't notice a group of people quietly approaching their tribe.

Chapter 298: The main goal — to abduct people.

About a mile away from the Bone Tribe's cave, there was a small earthen mound covered with trees and grass nearly as tall as a person.

The Eldest Senior Brother and his companions were now hiding here.

Unlike the Sparrow Tribe, which had few good hiding places within a radius of two to three miles, there was no shortage of hiding spots around the Bone Tribe.

The Eldest Senior Brother crouched at the front, quietly surveying the area. From the scene around the Bone Tribe, he could tell that most of their people had gone out hunting.

After all, there weren't many tribes like theirs that didn't have to worry about food all day long.

Having assessed the situation, he began to quietly arrange things.

The mood of the Bone Tribe's leader was quite good. Since suffering a heavy loss in the attack on the Sparrow Tribe, he had never been as happy as he was today.

The rest of the Bone Tribe's people were also unusually excited, and the gloom of the past period had vanished completely.

On their shoulders, they carried several pieces of game, enough to last them for three days.

Having had good luck today and caught enough game early on, they were heading back while it was still light out.

That's how hunting went; you ate based on your luck. If you were lucky, you came back early; if not, you had to wait until almost dark.

With hearts full of joy, the leader and the others from the tribe walked back with heavy yet brisk steps.

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The woman by the river who had been spearing fish saw the leader and his group returning with plenty of game and cried out in surprise.

Her cry startled many people, and more Bone Tribe women and underage individuals who noticed the situation also shouted for joy as they ran to meet the leader and the others.

For a while, the area was filled with joy.

The surprised cry of the woman by the river not only alerted the rest of the Bone Tribe but also alarmed the Eldest Senior Brother and the others from the Sparrow Tribe, who had just finished arranging things and were preparing to attack the Bone Tribe.

With most of the Bone Tribe's adults out hunting, this was the weakest moment, and it would be easy to control the elderly and weak.

This situation was undoubtedly favorable for the Eldest Senior Brother and his group. However, things turned out to be so unfortunate.

Before they could take action, the Bone Tribe's hunters had already returned.

This sudden event caught the Eldest Senior Brother and his group off guard.

Fortunately, they hadn't rushed out yet. They hadn't been exposed, so they took advantage of the situation to stay hidden and wait for the Eldest Senior Brother to decide.

On the other hand, the Eldest Senior Brother watched the events unfolding outside while silently recalling the various tasks assigned by the Divine Child before their departure.

"Leader, I..."

Sha, the Third Senior Brother, quietly approached the Eldest Senior Brother and whispered.

He wanted to take the seven archers and shoot the Bone Tribe's people with arrows. The spears and stones thrown by the Bone Tribe were not as far-reaching as arrows. With the element of surprise, they could kill some of them.

Such an attack would surely panic the Bone Tribe's people, and then they could rush together and defeat them.

But the Eldest Senior Brother shook his head.

The shaman made the primary purpose of this battle clear before they left, and the Eldest Senior Brother remembered it very clearly.

Punishing the Bone Tribe comes second; the most important thing is to capture as many of their people as possible and bring them back to our tribe to increase our population and strengthen our power.

What the Third Senior Brother suggested is not a bad idea. Doing so would catch the Bone Tribe off guard.

But suppose they suddenly suffer such a blow. In that case, the Bone Tribe's people might scatter and flee, making it difficult to capture many people, especially adults.

In the time it takes to hesitate over this, the leader of the Bone Tribe has already carried the game and, along with the other jubilant members of the Bone Tribe, is steadily approaching the cave.

Once they return to the cave and have that layer of protection, defeating the Bone Tribe's people won't be as easy as it is now. There could even be significant casualties.

Sha and Shang both feel anxious, especially Shang, who harbors a deep hatred for the Bone Tribe that dared to attack them.

"Let them go back," the Eldest Senior Brother lowered his voice and said to the restless Shang and Sha.

"But..." Shang lowered his voice and expressed his concerns to the Eldest Senior Brother. This was also Sha's worry.

The Eldest Senior Brother, having found the corresponding solution from the various hypothetical situations and strategies that Han Cheng had previously instructed, appeared confident.

He whispered to Shang and the Eldest Senior Brother that he had a way, so they didn't need to worry.

At this point, the people of the Bone Tribe had already reached the mouth of the cave, walking inside without stopping.

These people immersed in joy did not perceive the lurking danger around them.

Seeing that the Bone Tribe's people were no longer visible outside, the Eldest Senior Brother instructed someone to drill fire using the fire drill they had brought, then quickly extinguished it after igniting the tinder.

At the same time, the others quickly collected dry grass, leaves, and branches nearby.

Once the preparations were nearly complete, they proceeded towards the Bone Tribe's cave.

The Eldest Senior Brother with the shield team led the way, carrying a bundle of fresh firewood under one arm.

Following closely behind was Shang, leading the spear team, flanked by archers and slingshot teams.

They advanced openly and boldly toward the Bone Tribe's cave without concealment.

Not far from the Bone Tribe's cave was a firewood pile they had prepared for everyday use.

The leader of the Bone Tribe had a sense of fire prevention and was unwilling to store large amounts of firewood inside the cave.

Due to the angle, the Eldest Senior Brother and his group had not seen this before. Still, now that they discovered it, the Eldest Senior Brother couldn't help but feel overjoyed.

He had just been wondering if they had brought too little firewood. Still, unexpectedly, the people of the Bone Tribe had already prepared some.

One of the Bone Tribe members, carrying a pottery jar, came out of the cave and, upon seeing the Eldest Senior Brother and his group less than half a mile away from the cave, was first stunned, then realized the situation and shouted to sound the alarm, swiftly retreating into the cave with the jar.

The Eldest Senior Brother's group also hastened their pace, approaching the Bone Tribe's cave with a relatively orderly formation.

The Bone Tribe, suddenly aware of this news, was thrown into chaos.

The leader of the Bone Tribe, upon arriving at the mouth of the cave and seeing that it was the tribe he believed would not come again and that they were also carrying many of the weapons that had caused them significant losses, felt panic spreading throughout his being.

Chapter 299: Smoke bomb

Not only was he in a panic, but the other Bone Tribe members were also in extreme panic.

Firstly, they had experienced the strength of the Green Sparrow Tribe not long ago. Secondly, they had just obtained a large amount of game, and everyone was joyful. Suddenly, being startled like this was undoubtedly a severe blow.

Adults searching for weapons, children wailing and running around in chaos.

At this moment, the sound of bowstrings outside the cave rang out, accompanied by feathered arrows and stones flying in through the cave entrance.

Some unlucky ones had already been hit.

Bone Tribe's leader shouted, pulling two people with him to quickly reach the cave entrance, picking up the nearby stone slabs, and, despite the feathered arrows flying in sporadically, began to block the entrance.

During this process, feathered arrows or stone projectiles occasionally struck the stone slabs, making clanging sounds.

The Green Sparrow Tribe's aggressive and sudden attack made it impossible to organize a counterattack.

Currently, all they could do was block the entrance of the cave.

As long as they could hold the cave entrance, those people wouldn't be able to do anything to them.

It had been proven that being a leader and leading the tribe to survive required some ability.

In the rush, the Bone Tribe leader shouted loudly while blocking the cave entrance, comforting the people.

Seeing that the cave entrance was blocked, preventing the alarming attack from coming in, and hearing the leader's loud shout, the Bone Tribe's people were no longer as panicked.

In the light of the fire from the cave, some people had already taken up weapons and were heading towards the cave entrance to help the leader, and others supported the stone slabs.

Amidst the busy scene in the Bone Tribe, the Eldest Senior Brother and his group had also arrived at the Bone Tribe's cave.

Looking at the cave entrance, already blocked by several stone slabs, Shang and Sha looked at each other, wondering what to do.

They all turned their eyes to the Eldest Senior Brother.

The Eldest Senior Brother, seeing this, was not anxious and appeared confident.

Instead of rushing to push the stone slabs as Sha suggested, he had someone light a fire in front of the Bone Tribe's cave under the cover of the shield and spear team.

The fire started quickly because they had already lit the tinder before coming here.

After the fire rose and wouldn't go out, he instructed someone to place the pile of firewood they had brought on the fire and pour the water from their water bottles on top.

Thick smoke billowed up immediately.

Seeing the smoke rising upwards, he thought momentarily. Then, he instructed three people to use their shields as fans to fan the thick smoke towards the Bone Tribe's cave entrance.

At the same time, he ordered the second brother of the slingshot team to lead one person to the place not far from the Bone Tribe's cave where they had stacked firewood and brought it here.

He also instructed several people to quickly go to the small river near the Bone Tribe and fetch water using a pottery jar for cooking soup and another small pottery jar for drinking water.

The Bone Tribe leader exerted all his strength to prop up the stone slabs blocking the cave entrance, with several others helping him.

Now, these stone slabs blocking the entrance were their hope for survival.

As long as they could hold up the stone slabs and prevent them from being pushed open, their tribe would be safe.

From the commotion outside, they knew that the people from that tribe had already arrived at the cave entrance.

What they were going to do next was push the stone slabs.

Thinking this way, the Bone Tribe leader shouted, giving orders to everyone.

All the people, including him, propping up the stone slabs, exerted all their strength.

However, after resisting for a while, the expected impact did not come.

The Bone Tribe leader was puzzled. What did the people of this tribe want to do?

Could it be that they wanted to wait until their tribe was starving and then open the cave entrance themselves?

The Bone Tribe leader chuckled at these thoughts, showing no fear whatsoever.

Today, they had just caught a lot of games and hadn't eaten any yet. Plus, they had plenty of newly harvested wild vegetables. They could survive for five or six days if they were frugal.

Could the food these guys brought last for five or six days?

Thinking like this, he felt pretty pleased with himself.

Just as he was thinking this, he saw smoke seeping through the stone slabs' cracks.

Their cave entrance was not regular, and the stone slabs blocking the entrance were the largest and flattest ones they could find.

So, it was impossible to completely seal the cave entrance when two irregular things came together.

Having many cracks was normal; being completely sealed was abnormal.

What were the people from this tribe trying to do?

They came over, didn't push the stone slabs, but lit a fire outside. Were they planning to burn themselves and the others to death?

He looked at the stone slabs, full of confusion.

With these stone slabs blocking it, how could the fire get in?

This kind of confusion was not only felt by the Bone Tribe leader but also by most of the Bone Tribe's people.

Their confusion didn't last long because...

Cough cough cough

Cough cough cough

A series of heartbreaking coughs came from the cave, accompanied by some children crying.

Fire couldn't get in with the stone slabs blocking it, but smoke could.

At first, Shang and others who had thought this method wasn't very effective lit up at this realization.

Shang, who had long wanted to fight someone, also wanted to use the shields to fan the wind.

But the Eldest Senior Brother rejected him; he had other things to do.

Eight members of the spear team each thrust their spears into the bigger gaps at the cave entrance and vigorously pushed and pulled.

The Bone Tribe leader, coughing madly and shedding tears, truly experienced the power of smoke.

He coughed while shouting, ordering people to block up these gaps quickly.

He hurriedly tore the fur from his body and stuffed it into the largest gap.

They couldn't see what was happening outside, with smoke pouring into these cracks. He just reached out his hand, and a spearhead stabbed through.

It pierced the Bone Tribe leader's arm.

The spearhead was made of bone and much sharper than stone.

He pushed outwards with force, and the spear pushed inwards. His arm collided with the spearhead, which pierced into his arm, causing him to scream in pain and quickly retract his arm.

With these spears constantly poking in like this, the Bone Tribe's people couldn't block the gaps at all.

Because the cave was filled with smoke at this time, and their vision was severely affected, several people were even injured by the spears.

The Bone Tribe leader and the Bone Tribe's people were all panicking.

They had thought hiding in the cave was safe, but now they realized it would have been better to fight their way out at the beginning rather than end up in this situation.

Somebody, coughing and intermittently speaking, shouted their thoughts to the Bone Tribe leader.

They wanted to rush out and fight desperately against the Green Sparrow Tribe's people.

However, the Bone Tribe leader immediately refused.

Chapter 300: Rich Harvest

The Bone Tribe leader's refusal had its reasons. At this moment, he recalled the partially burnt bones he had seen at the feast in the eastern tribe and the accounts from the Pig Tribe.

Their past aggression against that tribe had already sealed their fate. Leading people out now would likely result in being killed or burned alive by them.

Staying put might offer a slim chance of survival.

With these thoughts in mind, he made his decision.

Outside, the Eldest Senior Brother and others continued to fan the flames and create smoke while Shang and the others enthusiastically jabbed their spears into the crevices.

The sound of agonizing coughs inside the cave grew louder, forming a unified chorus. Few could endure the power of the smoke.

In the cave, heated arguments erupted amidst the coughs and quickly escalated into fights.

Even the authority of the Bone Tribe leader was ineffective in such a life-and-death situation. He was pushed and shoved aside amidst his desperate coughs and shouts.

In the chaos, the stone slabs blocking the entrance were moved aside. Those who couldn't bear the smoke rushed out, stepping on the embers and gasping for air as if they were drowning.

For them, breathing freely again was a miraculous relief. Even when subdued with shields and ropes, they felt no fear, only relief in breathing.

As more and more stumbled out, barely able to resist, they were swiftly subdued by the waiting tribesmen.

Even those who had lost all strength collapsed on the ground, allowing themselves to be tied up.

Everyone, including the Eldest Senior Brother, was deeply moved by the scene.

They marveled at the effectiveness of this method, finding it easier than fighting or hunting. It was like collecting rabbits caught in snares in the morning, effortless.

In no time, the open ground outside the Bone Tribe was littered with bodies.

Even the fleeing children were not spared and were bound.

Two spear teams watched over them while the rest guarded the entrance, waiting for more members of the Bone Tribe to fall into their trap.

Amidst the chaos, the Bone Tribe leader pushed around and trampled by those eager to escape, finally reached his limit.

Despite his earlier resolve to stay inside, he couldn't endure any longer. Amidst violent coughs, he stumbled out.

His survival instinct was stronger than most. Upon emerging, he didn't stop but staggered away, intent on fleeing the scene as quickly as possible.

By this time, most of the Bone Tribe members had emerged. The Eldest Senior Brother and others stood ready nearby, waiting for the remaining members to come out.

He couldn't possibly escape.

Just as he started running, a bone spear pierced his calf, followed swiftly by a shield crashing into him.

Before the fallen Bone Tribe leader could struggle, Second Senior Brother sat down heavily on him.

Under his weight, the Bone Tribe leader let out a pained cry and ceased struggling, brutally bound by Second Senior Brother.

After the tumult caused by the fleeing Bone Tribe members trampling over him, the flames at the cave entrance gradually died down.

Earlier, the Eldest Senior Brother and his group were busy capturing members of the Bone Tribe and didn't bother to add more fuel to the fire.

Now that most of the Bone Tribe members had been captured, they saw no need to add more fuel.

Shang wanted to enter the Bone Tribe's cave, but the Eldest Senior Brother, seeing the lingering smoke, refused, saying they should wait until it cleared.

Shang looked at the Bone Tribe members bound on the ground but didn't insist.

During this time, they couldn't afford to be idle. So, the Bone Tribe leader had a rough time. The second Senior Brother and others dragged him up and gave him a brutal beating, causing him to howl in pain.

Shang and a few others, encouraged by the beating, wanted to kill the Bone Tribe leader outright.

When faced with this situation, the previously stubborn Bone Tribe leader couldn't help but tremble in fear, uttering vague pleas for mercy.

The other Bone Tribe members watched in terror.

The Eldest Senior Brother didn't agree to the killing. He reminded them that the Divine Child had instructed not to kill captives, as they would be useful alive.

Shang and the others, initially discontented, fell silent upon hearing it was the Divine Child's order.

The Bone Tribe leader, now contorted in pain on the ground, trembled uncontrollably, partly from the pain and partly from fear.

After a while, when the cave smoke had mainly dissipated, the Eldest Senior Brother, accompanied by two shield bearers, cautiously approached.

They held their shields in front, walking carefully. Behind them were Shang and five others armed with spears.

The cave was a mess, with broken pottery and overturned vessels.

Several people lay motionless on the ground in the innermost part of the cave. The Eldest Senior Brother kicked them and checked their pulses. They were all dead.

In the cognition of most primitive people, the deepest part of the cave was usually the safest, but this time, it turned out to be the most dangerous.

Apart from the adults, some infants died in the chaos, not being carried out by their mothers.

After a brief inspection, the Eldest Senior Brother and the others felt uncomfortable, so they dragged out the recent prey of the Bone Tribe.

The Bone Tribe members, now somewhat recovered, watched in horror, fearing they would all be killed.

The Eldest Senior Brother counted the captives. This time, they had captured thirty-one adults, fourteen males and seventeen females. These mainly were strong individuals, as the elderly and weak had mostly died inside the cave.

There were nine juveniles capable of walking and eight infants being carried.

There were forty-eight captives in total, almost approaching the total population of the Green Sparrow Tribe before Han Cheng's arrival.