

The Growth 222

Chapter 222 - 6: Father and Son (3/3)

After dinner, in a certain archery hall near the residential community.

This is a small archery hall that has been open for more than ten years, and it is also the only archery hall in this city.

"How long has it been since we last came here?"

After greeting the receptionist, Li Jian Country led Li Hao into the archery hall.

"Well, it's been about a year."

Since Li Hao chose to board at school, he hadn't come with Li Jian Country to shoot arrows at the archery hall for a long time.

Without Li Hao's company, Li Jian Country seemed to gradually give up this sport he loved so much when he was young.

"Yes! Another year has passed!"

"In just the blink of an eye, you're almost eighteen."

Taking down the hunting bow he had left at the archery hall, Li Jian Country sighed with emotion.

"Following the old rules, how about we compete in two rounds of shooting?"

Li Hao gently nodded and also took down a hunting bow and said.

"Then, as per the old rules, whoever wins can make a request."

Upon hearing this, Li Jian Country laughed heartily.

"Haha!"

"If you win again this time, you can't make a request like 'remind me to celebrate mom's birthday' again!"

In the past, every time Li Hao won, his requests were basically for Jiang Xin and Li Yun.

Either to make Jiang Xin happy or to buy something for Li Yun.

"But... I don't really have anything I want."

Glancing at Li Jian Country warming up, Li Hao said softly.

"That's not allowed, this time the request must be related to you!"

After saying this, Li Jian Country took a deep breath, then straightened his back, drew the bow and shot an arrow decisively.

Thud!

In an instant, the arrow hit the bullseye.

"Haha! It seems your dad is still in his prime!"

Proudly lowering the longbow in his hand, Li Jian Country looked at Li Hao with pride.

Even though it's a field less than twenty meters.

Still, hitting the bullseye with one arrow is enough to show that Li Jian Country's archery skills are top-notch at the amateur level.

"Hoo!"

Also exhaling a deep breath, Li Hao adjusted his stance and then suddenly drew the bow and shot an arrow.

Thud!

Another clear sound of an arrow hitting the target, Li Hao's arrow also landed on the target.

Unfortunately, Li Hao did not hit the bullseye; instead, it landed one ring worse than Li Jian Country's.

"..."

Looking at the arrow on the target, the previously laughing Li Jian Country suddenly fell silent.

"Son, your dad isn't old yet, you don't need to hold back."

After a brief silence, Li Jian Country's voice seemed to become suppressed and heavy.

"Dad!"

Looking at Li Jian Country, somewhat at a loss.

Li Hao opened his mouth but in the end couldn't bring himself to explain anything.

Because with that last arrow, Li Hao indeed held back.

Or rather, with Li Hao's current ability, even the most top-tier professional athletes might not be stronger than him.

"No need to say more, that last arrow doesn't count."

"Start the match again, let me see if you've regressed during this time!"

Without waiting for Li Hao to refute, Li Jian Country once again lined up an arrow and shot it, hitting the bullseye.

Facing such a strong-willed father, Li Hao could only get serious, following his pace and constantly drawing and shooting arrows.

This was when the huge difference between Li Hao and ordinary people was apparent.

The thirty-pound hunting bow in Li Hao's hands did not burden him at all.

If it wasn't for Li Hao's mastery over his own power reaching a divine level, he might have snapped the bow string when drawing it.

On the other hand, Li Jian Country, similarly robust, was already slightly panting after shooting one round of arrows.

In fact, it wasn't just the gap in strength, but in terms of shooting accuracy, Li Hao was gradually taking the lead.

The first round of shooting was fine, and the accuracy disparity between Li Hao and Li Jian Country was minimal, with their scores being almost the same.

But with the continuous depletion of stamina, Li Jian Country's shooting speed and accuracy began rapidly declining.

Especially after the second round began, feeling the pressure, Li Jian Country could no longer maintain his initial accuracy, and the arrows gradually deviated from the center.

"I lost!"

There was no need to continue comparing, Li Jian Country simply put down his bow and arrow.

Yet, looking at Li Hao, whose breathing remained stable, the voluntarily conceding Li Jian Country seemed a bit regretful.

Li Hao had been outstanding since childhood, always the model example of the "prodigy" others referred to.

In most families, parents often are the role models for their children, guiding them to gradually familiarize themselves with this world.

But in their family, this role seemed reversed.

Because Li Hao liked it, because Li Hao was curious, his father would find ways to learn and approach new things.

Thanks to Li Jian Country's ever-ardent thirst for knowledge.

This allowed him not to be left too far behind by Li Hao, maintaining the same interests and hobbies as him.

However, by now, Li Jian Country clearly felt his powerlessness.

When the day comes that he can no longer keep pace with Li Hao, how would the latter fare?

Overly outstanding people, mavericks, and those out of place with the world, essentially have no difference.

Li Jian Country didn't want to see Li Hao isolated by others; he didn't want his child to ultimately become an outsider opposed to the world.

Thud!

It seemed Li Jian Country's inner thoughts had been heard.

Li Hao, who was breathing steadily, suddenly froze, and that final arrow unexpectedly missed the target.

But even with the last arrow missing, Li Hao's score was still above Li Jian Country's, securing the victory in the competition.

"..."

Silently putting down his bow and arrow, Li Hao and Li Jian Country seemed to sink into an odd silence.

After a long while, it was Li Jian Country who broke the silence.

"Sigh, you've had your own ideas since you were young."

"I was thinking if I won this time, I'd have you study at a university abroad."

"But now, maybe we're just worrying too much."

"Son, your mother and I trust your judgment!"

"No matter what choice you make, we'll always be there to support you."

Li Jian Country tried to reach out and pat Li Hao's shoulder, only to find Li Hao was now a head taller.

"Children do grow up after all!"

With such inexplicable emotion, just as Li Jian Country was about to continue speaking, Li Hao interrupted him.

"Dad, I want to apply to the Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology in Luojing."

Upon hearing this, Li Jian Country was stunned.

"I've already thought it through, I want to study the ancient events that once happened on this land."