

The Useless Consort Suddenly Makes A Comeback

#Chapter 31: Take Good Care of Your Fiancée - Read The Useless Consort Suddenly Makes A Comeback Chapter 31: Take Good Care of Your Fiancée

Chapter 31: Take Good Care of Your Fiancée

"Beloved Official Bai, what do you think the Crown Prince is trying to do? He clearly likes that young lady, and yet he's still acting all high and mighty. He even needs me to urge him to leave." Seeing that he had finally left, Rong Feng complained to Senior Grand Secretary Bai with a helpless expression.

"Ahem! It is probably because he's embarrassed."

"I don't think so. It's just that he's accustomed to being difficult. He's most likely thinking that the young lady will come chasing after him," Rong Feng assessed instead. The more he spoke, the more frequently he nodded his head in surety.

Rong Mo, who had excellent hearing, had a dark expression on his face. It was so dark that when he saw Ye Qianli, it did not turn 'white' again. Ye Qianli—who had originally wanted to settle her scores with him—suddenly became timid.

"Rong Mo! You came at the right time. Teacher has something to do and has to leave Vermilion Bird City first. As her senior, remember to bring Qianli with you to report to school after a month." Because his back was facing Rong Mo, Feng Lihuan only sensed that the latter was here. He did not notice that Rong Mo was in a bad mood so he happily entrusted a task to him.

"Ahem, that... No need, no need! Teacher, give me a map. I can go by myself." However, Ye Qianli felt guilty and thought that it would be better for her to walk by herself so as to avoid giving herself away.

"I'll take you," Rong Mo said though.

"No need, no need. There's really no need. Besides, I still want to go to the border to see my grandfather and then report to the academy," Ye Qianli rejected.

"You don't have the time unless you don't enter the school," Rong Mo said as he glanced at her.

"Uh..." Of course, Ye Qianli knew that there was not enough time. However, she was just making up an excuse. It meant that she did not want to report with him. Did he not understand?

"Then, you go together. You can still take care of each other along the way." Feng Lihuan made the final decision without knowing the inside story.

Hearing this, Ye Qianli could only brace herself to say directly, "Teacher, actually, I don't want to follow him on the entire journey."

Feng Lihuan: "... This was something that he had never expected. He had thought that this new student of his had a good relationship with Rong Mo, but it seemed like that was not the case now.

"Then, Teacher Feng can bring her along himself." Contrary to expectations, Rong Mo's expression was calm, but after he finished speaking, he turned around and left without stopping.

"This..." Feng Lihuan wanted to stop him. After all, he really had something on after this!

"Teacher, I can do it myself!" However, Ye Qianli had her own plans and hurriedly stopped him. She did not want to cause trouble for herself.

"Forget it, I'll return to fetch you when the time comes." Feng Lihuan didn't think that this precious female student in front of him could go to the Gifted Academy by herself.

It wasn't that he looked down on her abilities, but that the location of the Gift Academy was rather special. It was just that he couldn't explain it clearly with just a few words.

Ye Qianli was unable to dissuade Feng Lihuan so, in the end, she could only follow the latter's wishes. She made an agreement that, no matter what she wanted to do, she would return to Vermilion Bird City after a month and then head to the Gifted Academy together.

...

The itinerary was set, but Ye Qianli did not know where she was going in the following month. There was not enough time to go to the north, and she had no idea where else to go.

"Sigh..." Walking alone on the big empty streets of the city, Ye Qianli felt an inexplicable sort of sadness. Suddenly, she missed that cheap grandfather of hers even more—who treated her rather well in her memories.

Although he was not her biological grandfather—in terms of relationships, he was probably the only person she knew in this unfamiliar world.

At the same time, she somewhat missed her friends from that lifetime. Although she was an orphan, she had been traveling all over the country to practice medicine for many years so she still had many friends.

"Alice will probably cry bitterly for three days and three nights because of my departure. Lin Fangfang will probably be heartless and finish all the dumplings in my fridge. I don't know if Jon is safe in the Iraqi war zone..." The more Ye Qianli thought about it, the more she missed those familiar faces.

This was probably because she wanted to share her joy today with someone, but she couldn't find anyone to share it with. This feeling was inexplicably a little bleak.

"What are you doing?" The words from the magic box entered Ye Qianli's mind at this moment.

Ye Qianli was stunned for a moment before she snorted with bared teeth. Then, she laughed out loud. Hearing that, the magic box couldn't help but say again, *"You aren't really a fool, are you?"*

"Hahaha..." Ye Qianli was not angry this time though. She was thinking that this strange magic box was actually her friend! She was not alone.

"Magic box, do you think I was cool today?"

"It's all right."

"Magic box, did I fight well?"

"It's all right."

"Magic box, it's not excessive for me to treat my parents like this, right?"

"Of course! You're just straightforward with your words and didn't do anything." Instead, the magic box felt that Ye Qianli had already treated her parents well enough. She didn't even kill that brainless mother of hers with a slap. It could be considered that she had pretty strong patience.

However, the person was her mother after all. As her daughter, she couldn't really kill her mother so she was already letting her off too easily... If it were someone else or a deranged daughter, they would probably die a few times.

"I quite miss my grandfather. If he were here, I would probably have a home." Ye Qianli communicated with the magic box in her mind. She subconsciously stopped in her tracks and looked towards the north.

North...

In the distant north, there was a grandpa who might give her a home. What was he doing now? She wondered if he was still the same after so many years apart.

She didn't have a home in her previous life, and as of now, she didn't have one in this life either. Would she have one in the future? *Grandpa*.

"!"

Ye Qianli was reminiscing about that formidable old man when her pupils shrank as she saw a white arrow shoot in from outside the city.

Woo—! Woo—!

It had an ear-piercing and unpleasant sound! When people heard it, they only felt that it was particularly sharp and annoying. Moreover, at this moment, it was like a muffled thunder that suddenly exploded in the sky above Vermilion Bird City. It shocked the entire city into tremors, and at the same time...!

Swish!

Swish! Swish!

The white arrow that Ye Qianli had seen earlier had clearly gathered countless little companions and was currently descending on the entire Vermilion Bird City as they covered the entire sky!

The speed was fast, the momentum was fierce—in the blink of an eye, they had fallen! In the area where they had fallen, the buildings had collapsed into ashes, and huge holes had appeared in the road. What was even more terrifying was...

"Ji-ji...!"

Countless small white unidentified objects were exploding in all directions following the fall of the arrows. One of them had already scuttled in front of Ye Qianli.

Xu!

Ye Qianli instinctively lit a fire. That thing disappeared in response to the fire, and the smell of burnt flesh immediately spread in the air.

"Ji!"

The few unidentified objects that were about to charge towards Ye Qianli as well froze one after another when they saw this. Then, as if they had a mind of their own, they were frightened into fleeing in all directions.

Xu!

However, Ye Qianli did not let them escape. She quickly scattered a string of flames and burned all of these things to death at the same time. However, she did not burn them to ashes like before and only 'roasted' them.

"It really looks like a rat." Ye Qianli squatted down and looked at that small, well-cooked corpse. In addition, she took out a dagger and quickly dissected one of the corpses.

At the same time, more and more arrows were being shot in, and more and more white 'mice' were brought in. Ye Qianli grabbed a few live ones to dissect again.

"Enemy attack! Enemy attack—"

Rumble!

Da! Da-da—

At this time, the Vermilion Bird City had also entered the most pressing combat state. The sound of countless troops being deployed rose and fell. Among them, there was a series of especially urgent sounds of horses galloping rapidly towards Ye Qianli's position.

Swish!

At the same time, a huge white arrow also fell rapidly from the top of Ye Qianli's head, heading straight for her!

Chapter 32: Suffered Defeat in the Northern Region?

"Li'er!"

Ye Fengtian, who was galloping over on his horse, was scared out of his wits when he saw this scene. His entire person had already stepped on the horse and flew towards Ye Qianli like a great Garuda spreading its wings. Ye Fengtian's domineering aura—of a Mystic King—also rushed out at the sound of that huge hurtling arrow, attempting to disperse it.

Xu!

However, before his power could approach, the raging flames that shot out from Ye Qianli's whole body had already incinerated that huge, white arrow. The sizzling sound of the arrow being burned caused Ye Fengtian, who had already made his move, to become slightly stunned.

Bang!

By the time Ye Fengtian's Mystic King Strength Wave accurately struck the burning arrow, it only scattered a few sparks as the arrow had already been burned to ashes.

"..." Ye Fengtian was stunned for a while before he had to admit that his daughter no longer needed him when he finally thought of protecting her.

However, no matter what, it was good that his daughter was fine. Ye Fengtian suppressed the complicated feelings in his heart, regained his thoughts, and looked at his daughter. "It's not safe in the city now. Follow me back... to the Sacred Palace first."

"Is this an invasion launched by the Black Tortoise Dynasty in the north? What happened in the north?" Ye Qianli asked instead. From those white mice's bodies, she had already analyzed that they were a species that grew in a land of extreme cold all year round.

Coupled with the fact that she was no stranger to these arrows, she recognized that these were the Black Tortoise Arctic Arrows of the Black Tortoise Dynasty in the north! In that case, were the attackers from the Black Tortoise Dynasty's army?

However, was it a regular army or a private secret army? If it was a regular army, it meant that her grandfather—whom she was missing just now—had lost the war in the Northern Region! Otherwise, how could the regular army of the Black Tortoise Dynasty go through him and reach Vermilion Bird City?!

Thinking up to this point, Ye Qianli directly asked again, "How is Grandfather?"

Ye Fengtian was shocked tremendously by the question but replied solemnly, "The current situation is unclear. There is no news from all the transmission points on the roads to the north. I'm afraid they have all been destroyed and controlled."

"However, we can confirm that the huge army that launched the attack outside the capital is the regular army of the Black Tortoise Dynasty. It's the Seventh Prince's special forces—the Black Armor Cavalry! Father... I'm going out of the city soon to direct the troops. Quickly go to the Sacred Palace to seek refuge."

"I'll go with you," Ye Qianli rejected him.

"No! It is very likely that you have become an important target of the enemy! Your grandfather will also send word to the Sacred Palace as soon as he has news. If you follow the Holy Emperor, you will be able to get the news as soon as possible." Ye Fengtian naturally did not agree.

Swish! Swish!

As they were speaking, a few giant arrows fell around the two of them yet again. With a 'boom', they smashed into a piece of debris and shattered the ruined walls. The screams of a few commoners could be heard at this moment, too.

At this moment, more and more arrows were being shot into the city, and countless streets and buildings were destroyed. If it wasn't for the fact that most people had gone to watch the Prodigy Convention today, the majority of the people would probably have died.

However, the Black Tortoise Dynasty's decision to attack today was a slap in the face!

"All right, I'll go to the Sacred Palace." Ye Qianli didn't object this time. Moreover, as soon as she finished speaking, she'd already flashed towards the direction of the Sacred Palace, and her speed was extremely swift! However, wherever she passed, as long as she encountered injured citizens, she would still stop to treat them and give them medicine.

"..." Ye Fengtian's attention was focused on her for a while, and a hint of moisture appeared in his eyes. He seemed to have recalled something, but he suppressed it in the blink of an eye. Then, he mounted his horse.

Da, da, da! At the same time, a military commander from the front flew over. "General! All of the capital's army has been assembled. Please return quickly, General."

"Let's go!" Ye Fengtian took the helmet from the commander and spurred his horse towards the north gate of the capital where the 30,000-strong army was already gathered.

...

On the other side, when Ye Qianli arrived at the Sacred Palace, she discovered that countless holes had been created by the giant arrows along the path, too. However, the Sacred Palace was still safe and sound. A squad of about a thousand golden-armored Sacred Palace soldiers was standing guard alertly at the Sacred Palace's entrance.

"Ye Qianli!"

While Ye Qianli was still observing the Sacred Palace, a voice called out her name from the direction of the Sacred Palace. She followed the voice and discovered that there was someone above the entrance of the Sacred Palace.

She focused her attention and looked closely with her right eye. She could clearly see that the person above was an old man with white hair and silver eyebrows. This person had been sitting beside Holy Emperor Rong Feng throughout the Prodigy Convention just now. He was the Grand Secretary of the dynasty, Lord Bai.

"Be careful! Behind you!"

However, at this moment, the magic box transmitted a message urgently.

"!" Ye Qianli immediately turned around. Her right eye, which was especially bright when she focused, clearly caught sight of a black arrow! It was shooting towards her like a ghost.

"Be careful!" At this moment, Grand Secretary Bai—who was guarding the entrance of the Sacred Palace—suddenly shouted. It was obvious that he had also discovered this arrow and was alarmed by its strangeness.

In the blink of an eye!

Just as Grand Secretary Bai burst out shouting, the black arrow silently appeared abruptly in front of Ye Qianli and suddenly accelerated as it neared her! Due to the extreme speed, the sharp tip of the arrow created friction that caused sparks to ignite in the air.

Not only that...!

Swoosh!

The tail of the black arrow even split open nine wings instantly, pushing the arrow even faster! The impact was even stronger, as if a violent hurricane was sweeping towards Ye Qianli.

"Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow!" When Grand Secretary Bai saw this, he instantly recognized the name of this arrow, and his face turned pale as a result. This was because this arrow was a Spirit Tool Tier arrow, and its offensive power was lethal even to a top-grade Mystic King like him.

Moreover, such a powerful arrow was clearly aimed at Ye Qianli. This was an assassination! A conspiracy to assassinate a talent cultivator. There was probably someone waiting for Ye Qianli in front of the Sacred Palace early on, waiting to release this arrow for her.

"Explode!"

However, in the face of this sudden arrow, Ye Qianli—who had been ready to fire after accumulating her power long before—released a brilliant blazing inferno the instant this arrow was only 10 feet from her.

Roar—

The constantly raging fire of the angry dragon suddenly erupted with her as the center. It violently clashed with that whirlwind-like strange black arrow, causing a shock wave that shook the earth.

"!"

At that moment, Grand Secretary Bai—who was staring intently at this scene—felt his heart rise to his throat. He was unable to leave the Sacred Palace to rescue Ye Qianli, and even if he could, he wouldn't be able to make it in time either! He could only hope that Ye Qianli would be able to avert the disaster on her own.

Rumble—

The terrifying shockwave lasted for quite a while before the visual shock of black and red slowly dissipated! In the center of this shockwave, Ye Qianli—who was wrapped in flames—gradually revealed her intact appearance under the worried gaze of Grand Secretary Bai.

"Good!"

At this moment, even Grand Secretary Bai couldn't help but lose his self-control—applauding her. In his heart, he couldn't help but praise her wildly. She was indeed worthy of being a Nine Mystical Extraordinary Fire talent cultivator. She had just awakened her talent but already possessed the combat strength of a top Mystic King.

"Ye Qianli, quickly retreat into the Sacred Palace!" However, Grand Secretary Bai—who had finished cheering—also knew that Ye Qianli was currently in great danger. Thus, he loudly urged her to retreat while ordering the Sacred Palace guards to prepare to offer assistance.

Ye Qianli nodded upon hearing this and quickly rushed towards the entrance of the Sacred Palace. She did not forget to keep her guard up high as she observed her surroundings. She also knew that the arrow just now was aimed at her, and the person who shot that arrow was not dead yet. Therefore, anything could happen next.

"Li'er—"

Just as Ye Qianli was about to step into the range of the guards' assistance, a sharp voice cried out shrilly. All of a sudden, she turned around and saw Su Qin.

However, Su Qin was currently being held hostage...

Chapter 33: Prowess of the Magic Box!

There was not only Su Qin, but also Cheng Meihua and a group of sorry-looking noble ladies. There were a few useless playboys among them. In total, there were about twenty plus of them.

The people who detained them were seven eighth- and ninth-grade Mystic Soldiers who did not have high cultivation. However, that person—dressed in black clothing and carrying a bow, appearing with them and standing to one side by himself—was clearly not an ordinary cultivator.

Ye Qianli's eyes were all focused on this person. From the giant black bow on his back, that previous ghostly black arrow was most likely released by him.

"Ye Qianli, ignore them. Retreat." At the same time, Grand Secretary Bai—who had also seen the situation clearly—shouted loudly instead. After all, to him, this choice was very simple. The hostages were a bunch of trash! Ye Qianli, however, would definitely be the pillar of the dynasty in the future. Who was more important? Even a fool would understand.

"If you take another step back, she'll die at once." However, right after Grand Secretary Bai finished speaking, that person with the bow pointed at Su Qin while that ninth-rank Mystic Soldier—who was restraining Su Qin by himself—cooperated and kicked Su Qin onto her knees towards Ye Qianli.

Plop!

Su Qin, who was suddenly kneeling on the ground, had a face full of humiliation. However, those eyes that were looking at Ye Qianli were exceptionally bright. "Li'er, they said that as long as you willingly become a hostage, they will release all of us."

"That's right. Ye Qianli, promise them! You have to save us." These people who were already scared out of their wits shamelessly said to Ye Qianli too.

"Ye Qianli, retreat! This is an order. These people deserve to die. You don't have to pay attention to them. The reason why they fell into the enemy's hands was all because they didn't listen to orders and fled in the chaos." Grand Secretary Bai was afraid that Ye Qianli would act foolishly so he hurriedly explained aloud.

Because in Ye Qianli's current standing position, she could take a step back and enter the protective circle of the Sacred Palace. Therefore, she held the deciding factor. As long as she wanted to retreat, no one could do anything to her.

However, if she did not retreat, Grand Secretary Bai would not be able to pull her away either, unless he left his current position. However, this position he was in was very

important. If he moved even a little—without the authority to, it might cause serious consequences. He could not take the risk.

As for those imperial guards, it was useless even if they made a move. They were no match for that person with the bow at all. If they attacked stubbornly, they would only die in vain.

"Ye Qianli, you..." Su Qin panicked when she heard Grand Secretary Bai's words. However, Cheng Meihua—who was by the side—suddenly intercepted and said, "Li'er, it's not that your mother didn't listen to commands. She wanted to go and find you. So Li'er, you can ignore us, but you can't ignore your mother."

However, as soon as Cheng Meihua said that, she didn't believe these words herself, let alone Ye Qianli. Hence, the latter didn't respond at all. However, she didn't immediately retreat to a safe zone either.

"I'll give you three breaths of time to make a decision. Take your mother's place, or bear witness to her death." At the same time, the person with the bow announced indifferently.

Ye Qianli looked at him with a calm expression. No one knew what she was thinking, including the extremely anxious Grand Secretary Bai! This was because she didn't look like she wanted to save anyone, but she didn't look like she wanted to retreat either.

"One."

"Two."

"Ye Qianli, how dare you not save me?" Seeing that three breaths were about to pass, Su Qin could not help but glare at Ye Qianli with wide eyes. She did not believe that the latter would dare to not save her.

Even at this point, in Su Qin's eyes and heart, even if she had accused Ye Qianli of everything she did; it was all because Ye Qianli did not explain things to her clearly. It was only because she had a bad temper that she had brought trouble on herself.

Furthermore, she was her mother! The mother who had given birth to her, Ye Qianli, and raised her, Ye Qianli! Even if she had done something wrong, she was still a mother with contributions. If Ye Qianli did not save her, that would be considered disgraceful behavior! She would be crazy and heartless.

"Three." However, Su Qin had just finished her angry questioning when the person carrying the bow had already finished counting. That ninth-rank Mystic Soldier standing behind Su Qin had already raised the large machete in his hand high up.

"You are really worse than a beast!" Su Qin glared at Ye Qianli angrily. There was only disgust in her eyes! Wrath without any other emotions. She did not seem to be afraid of death either.

In fact, she really wasn't that fearful of death. As the mistress of the Northern Territory Prince's permanent residence where there were constant wars, Su Qin wasn't completely useless. In fact, she was even a person with military accomplishments.

The reason why she had been captured today was of course not because she wanted to look for Ye Qianli, but because she wanted to look for Su Lianhua. When she saw that the temporary medical building was being attacked heavily, she wholeheartedly wanted to save her dearest niece.

Therefore, at this moment, if Ye Qianli really did not save her, other than wrath and loathing deep within her heart for this unfeeling daughter; she really did not have much fear.

However...

Slash!

Just when Su Qin thought that she was going to die for sure, she heard a spurting sound beside her ear. She only felt a hot liquid spilling down the top of her head, but she did not feel any pain.

At this moment...!

What Su Qin did not know was that behind her—behind them captives, the seven Mystic Soldiers had all been beheaded evenly.

Hot blood was gushing out from the necks of these people. There was a charred smell diffusing in the air. Those seven people had already died.

As for Ye Qianli?

Under Grand Secretary Bai's shock, she had already come to stand beside that person with the bow and blocked his viable path to kill the hostages.

"The talent cultivator of the Nine Mystical Extraordinary Fire is indeed astounding." The person with the bow stared at the young girl in front of him. He was still amazed by that scene just now. He could clearly see that those were nine fire blades that flashed out in an instant and killed seven of his subordinates with precision.

Swift and mysterious! A perfect assassination! Even a professional assassin like him could not detect it beforehand. How did she do it?

After all, as long as she used the power of her innate talent, with her newly awakened state, she should have nowhere to hide in front of him—this professional assassin who was about to awaken his second innate talent.

"But your action is tantamount to rejecting the exchanging of hostages." As the person with the bow was speaking, he raised his hand holding onto an arrow that was exactly the same as the pitch-black arrow from before. However, as of this moment, this arrow had yet to display its tail feathers. After all, it hadn't been activated yet.

"Is that so?" Ye Qianli smiled. With a flip of her hand, she took out the magic box. The moment the latter appeared, the bowman's pupils shrank slightly. He thought that this was some formidable artifact, but in the end...

He discovered that this thing did not have a hint of spiritual aura at all. Its appearance was even cruder, and the lines on it were even more careless than a child's scribble.

However, what the bowman didn't know was that the reason Ye Qianli was able to utilize her Innate Talent Aura earlier and went unnoticed by him was that she actually relied on this ugly thing that was utterly inconspicuous in his opinion.

The magic box.

Since it came from the ancient battlefield where many gods had died, it was extremely mysterious and powerful! How could an ordinary person see through it? At the very least, even Rong Mo—who had 'brushed shoulders' with it before—had not noticed its uniqueness, much less this Black Tortoise Dynasty assassin.

"Magic box, change!"

Ye Qianli let out a clear shout, and the magic box instantly emitted a divine seven-colored light. In an instant!

Bang!

Chapter 34: Beautifully Executed!

The magic box turned into a flower...

A light-purple morning glory flower that was no different from an ordinary morning glory! It did not have any spiritual aura at all! Unreliable! Morning! Glory! Fraud!

"!" This made Ye Qianli, who was originally holding the magic box in a cool manner and preparing to unleash a powerful attack, feel as if she was struck by lightning.

Previously, it was fine even if the request fulfillment thing they had agreed on was a trap, but what about the promise of its capability to turn into a superweapon?

When she was all ready to fight, it actually turned into a flower with no offensive power at all? What the f*ck was the meaning of this? Was it trying to get her killed?

"I'm sorry, I made a mistake! Let's do it again." At this moment, the words from the magic box flashed into Ye Qianli's mind in a very embarrassed tone.

Of course, Ye Qianli wanted to do it again... Because other than choosing to believe in this unreliable magic box, there seemed to be no other way out. After all, she had already stood up!

However, the enemy assassin was not a fool either. Although he was also stunned by the rainbow divine light emitted from the magic box in her hand, he reacted rapidly and shot an arrow at her!

Swoosh!

Under the prompting of the other party's innate spiritual energy, the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow quickly erupted with a terrifying, tyrannical aura. It whistled like a heavy hammer, the wind scraping at Ye Qianli until she could barely breathe.

Boom—

At this moment, the spiritual energy vortex formed by the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow had already suppressed Ye Qianli all around. The terrifying cold air from the arrow even froze the surrounding air into ice shards, forming a circle of dense cold ice barrier!

Watching this scene caused Grand Secretary Bai's eyelids to twitch because he suddenly realized who this person was. This person was obviously the creator of the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow!

The number-one assassin of the Black Tortoise Dynasty in the northern kingdom—You Ming! He was a talent cultivator who had awakened the fourth-level innate talent—Netherworld Raging Flames! He was the number-one advisor under the Seventh Prince of the Black Tortoise Dynasty!

"D*mn it!"

This realization made Grand Secretary Bai understand that Ye Qianli was probably really doomed this time! It also made him pound the wall in grief. However—

"Magic box, change!"

At the instant that the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow—carrying an overwhelming strength—smashed into Ye Qianli, the latter let out a clear shout and once again released a divine rainbow light.

And this time...

Bang!

Under everyone's incredulous gazes, that former little purple morning glory in Ye Qianli's hand suddenly transformed into a gigantic crescent blade—covered with splendid fire patterns—that was about 10 feet long!

As soon as the polearm appeared, it carried the surging menacing aura of thousands of soldiers and horses galloping as it shot towards the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow that the assassin You Ming had let loose with innate power. For a moment...

Crack!

Before the bystanders could clearly see what was going on, everyone was stunned to hear the sound of the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow breaking! It was to the extent that the wielder of the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow didn't even have the time to react before the bow in his hand had already broken into countless small pieces and then fell to the ground with a clanging sound.

Boom—

The terrifying aftershocks of the menacing air of an army of thousands of men and horses were like a raging ocean that directly swept the assassin You Ming out by a street, and then it harshly smashed him like a worn-out cloth sack onto the potholed ground with a bang...

In just a single exchange, this number-one assassin of the Black Tortoise Dynasty, You Ming, had been defeated!

The most important thing was that he himself did not understand why he had lost. He had clearly obtained a comprehensive advantage just now and was about to capture the little girl who had awakened her innate talent. However, in the end...?

What rotten box was this that could turn into a little flower before suddenly changing into an unrivaled Spirit Tool and annihilating him straight away? What kind of Spirit Tool was this? Why hadn't he heard of it before?

"..." The assassin You Ming could not figure it out. Neither did he not have the time to think about it because Ye Qianli had already walked in front of him with her polearm.

"What exactly is that thing?" You Ming looked at the approaching young girl, but his gaze was fixed on that large blade. The fact that he was able to create the Nine-Tailed Nether Ice Arrow meant that he was also a weapon refinement master.

As an outstanding weapon refinement master, You Ming believed that he had a very deep understanding of all the top-notch weapons on this mainland. However, according to what he knew, the Vermilion Bird Dynasty definitely did not have such a strange weapon. Not only could it transform and confuse people, but it was also an offensive type of heavy weaponry that was definitely above a Level Three Spirit Tool!

F*ck, this was definitely a trickster weapon pretending to be weak...

Crack!

However, You Ming's question was answered by Ye Qianli with a knife handle smashing his mouth rotten. Just like that, a tiny medicinal pill was taken out from his bloody mouth by Ye Qianli.

Ye Qianli only used less than a breath's time to smash his mouth rotten and retrieve the medicine. You Ming didn't even have the time to feel pain when that small highly poisonous pellet buried in his gums was already taken out by Ye Qianli.

"Sure enough, all assassins like to hide poison at the root of their teeth, no matter the time period." Ye Qianli carefully put this small pellet into a small porcelain bottle that she carried around with her. Only then did she relax and mutter.

"..." At this moment, You Ming—whose mouth was full of blood—was stunned completely. Firstly, he had never thought that he would suffer such a crushing defeat. Secondly, he had never thought that the poison pill he had prepared to use to die at any time would be retrieved by the other party instead... Just because he wanted to understand his opponent's weapon.

Although this poison pill had always been hidden in the root of his teeth, he had never thought of activating it... After all, not only was he a talent cultivator, but he was also a weapon refinement master. He knew that a person like him would not be easily killed even if he fell into the enemy's hands, and the Seventh Prince would definitely try to save him! It was just a precaution.

In the end...

This contingency plan was no longer feasible in the future since the poison pill was already taken out?!

However, how did this little girl know that there was a poison pill buried in the root of his teeth? Moreover, how did she manage to smash his mouth without damaging the poison pill the slightest bit and extract it perfectly?

"?"

One question after another caused fear to gradually appear in You Ming's eyes—who was dumbstruck—because his encounter today was truly too strange! Moreover, the person who had created all of this strangeness was this young girl before him—Ye Qianli.

Who exactly was she?

She definitely wasn't an ordinary noble lady from the dynasty, and her power did not seem like that of a novice talent cultivator who had just awakened her innate talent! No, no, no, what exactly was going on?

You Ming didn't understand! Neither did Grand Secretary Bai.

However, when Grand Secretary Bai saw Ye Qianli dragging the ashen-faced You Ming into the Sacred Palace unhurriedly and walking to the space before him, he came to a deep realization...

This young girl from the Ye Clan! This granddaughter that the Northern Territory King was most fond of was extraordinary, far beyond his imagination. She was probably just like His Highness, the Crown Prince, an existence that even he could not see through.

"Lord Grand Secretary, do you recognize this captive?" Ye Qianli, who had just returned from a great victory, did not know that the white-haired, silver-browed old man before her had already categorized her as a freak like Rong Mo. She even pointed at the despondent You Ming and asked.

As for Su Qin and the others who were still standing outside the Sacred Palace blankly, they hadn't received a single glance from her since the beginning. It was as if her objective in making a move was only to capture this assassin archer alive... and not truly to save people.

Was saving someone just a side benefit? Or perhaps it was just to confuse the enemy.

Chapter 35: Stepmother or Biological Mother?

"I recognize him. He is..." When Grand Secretary Bai saw that Ye Qianli really did not recognize this person, he explained You Ming's identity very carefully.

Moreover, his tone had also changed from the tone of an elder—when he first called Ye Qianli's name—to that of someone of the same generation, who was close and even slightly respectful to her.

That's right. Ye Qianli, who was able to capture You Ming alive in one move, made it impossible for Grand Secretary Bai—the authoritative official of the dynasty—to not take her seriously! It was impossible for him to not respect her from the bottom of his heart.

"Since his identity is so important, it seems like we can get a lot of information out of him." Ye Qianli's eyes lit up after hearing Grand Secretary Bai's explanation.

"You Ming is very loyal to the Seventh Prince of the Black Tortoise Royalty. He is also very stubborn. I'm afraid we won't be able to get anything out of him." Grand Secretary Bai was afraid that Ye Qianli would hold too much hope so he could not help but dampen her enthusiasm.

However, Ye Qianli smiled nonchalantly and said, "Please arrange a quiet place for me, Lord Grand Secretary. I'll ask some questions first."

"All right, I'll get the guards to lead the way for you." Seeing that Ye Qianli obviously did not believe him, Grand Secretary Bai did not say anything else. He only reminded her, "However, don't kill him. He is still quite valuable. Even if you can't get anything out of him, he will still be useful."

"No problem." Ye Qianli nodded in agreement. She could tell that Grand Secretary Bai did not actually believe that she could get any valuable information from this assassin. It was just that the assassin was caught by her so he felt embarrassed about rejecting her request.

However, Ye Qianli did not explain anyway. When she was dragging the person down the palace gate, she ran into Su Qin and the others face-to-face. When the latter saw her, they were clearly stunned.

Ye Qianli, on the other hand, shifted her gaze away without any emotions in her eyes. She turned around and caught up with the guard who was walking in the front. She did not greet Su Qin, but just as she passed by, Su Qin's slightly harsh and cold voice rang out: "You, stop right there!"

Even though Ye Qianli ignored her completely, Su Qin still turned around and tried to grab Ye Qianli. "I told you to stop. Are you deaf?"

"..." However, Ye Qianli continued walking forward as if she had not heard anything. It was just that she had only taken a few steps when Su Qin rushed up to block her path.

At this moment, Su Qin was in an extremely sorry state. Her entire head was covered in blood and dirt, and she did not have the slightest bit of the image of an upper-class lady from the dynasty. Her pair of eyes was, as usual, filled with viciousness the moment she saw Ye Qianli. Hence, it caused her image to crumble further.

Such a Su Qin, no matter how one looked at her, was a vicious woman! A shrew that spewed verbal curses in the streets.

Even though her facial features were beautiful and one could even tell that she had been more beautiful than Su Lianhua when she was young, it could not make her features look attractive or beautiful any longer.

"Let me ask you—since you had awakened your talent, why did you hide it from me and your father? Are you happy letting the entire dynasty see your parents make a fool of themselves? Are you happy?"

"Also, since you are a talent cultivator of the Nine Mystical Extraordinary Fire, why did you hurt your younger cousin so maliciously? Is it not enough that she has been bullied by you since she was young, that you still want to ruin her whole life like this? How can your heart be this callous?" Su Qin's eyes were filled with condemnation as she stared at Ye Qianli.

However, when Ye Qianli heard this, the corners of her lips curled up into a faint smile. "With regards to the first part, that's right... I'm very happy. As for the second part, destroying her life is too easy. Actually, I want to kill her."

"You..." When Su Qin heard these 'b*stardly' words from Ye Qianli, her eyes turned red with anger. More so, her hands were clenched into fists as if she was about to attack.

"Lastly, I'll have to trouble you to make way for me, Aunt. Otherwise, I'll have to use violence against you," Ye Qianli reminded lightly.

"You dare!" It seemed as though this was the only phrase that Su Qin had left to say. However, just as her voice fell, a black light suddenly swept out from Ye Qianli's sleeve and directly struck Su Qin's face with a 'pa' sound! It sent her flying several feet away.

Such a critical hit!

Not only did it knock Su Qin out, but it also stunned Grand Secretary Bai who was watching this scene from above. However, he was not stunned because Ye Qianli threatened to hit her mother. Instead, it was because he realized that it was a black box that had hit Su Qin.

What was even stranger was that he could feel an aura of ire from this box! It was a very spiritual aura of anger. Moreover, this ordinary-looking box was the venerable item that had transformed into the crescent blade just now.

*"D*mn it! This mother of yours is a stepmother, right? Otherwise, she must be a retard! How did you get such a mother? If she's your biological mother, this poorly-functioning brain problem of yours should have been inherited from her."* At the same time, the magic box that had hit Su Qin was extremely angry and kept expressing its anger to Ye Qianli.

Ye Qianli: "...". She just wanted to say that... It's fine to scold someone, but could it not defame her along the way? However, she really didn't understand why Su Qin didn't like her so much either.

In fact, the Ye Qianli of the past had indeed checked before. Unfortunately, she was really Su Qin's biological daughter...

Besides Su Lianhua's instigation, the biggest reason why Su Qin hated this biological daughter of hers so much was probably because Su Qin had a difficult labor when she gave birth to Ye Qianli. Aside from that, it was consequently said that she could not give birth anymore.

"Even if she can't have another child because of this, she shouldn't hate her biological daughter this much. After all, that daughter might be her only child." Ye Qianli glanced at Su Qin, who had been knocked out, but felt that she still could not understand.

However, all this had nothing to do with her anymore. She no longer cared whether Su Qin liked her or not. All she wanted to know now was how that grandfather in her memory was faring.

"Report—"

However, before Ye Qianli could drag the captive You Ming away and interrogate him, an urgent report came from outside the Sacred Palace. "Report! Urgent report from the Northern Region—"

"Open the palace gate!" Grand Secretary Bai immediately shouted.

"Report, urgent report from the Northern Region..." An urgent report came from outside the Sacred Palace. The messenger quickly rushed into the palace as the palace gates opened. Then, he quickly galloped towards the center of the palace.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

At the same time, an earth-shattering boom erupted from the northern city gates as a vast expanse of dazzling and piercing black light swept through the Vermilion Bird city like a black mist.

At the same time...!

"Your Majesty, the Northern Region is urgently reporting that the Northern Territory King has been defeated and captured while the entire Northern Region has lost! The Black Tortoise Dynasty's million-strong army, with the Seventh Prince's 50,000 Black Armor troops as the vanguard, has marched straight into our Vermilion Bird Dynasty!" The messenger, who had rushed into the Central Palace with the urgent report at hand, fell to the ground with a 'bang' after saying that.

This messenger, whose entire body was covered in blood, used his last breath to complete his final mission. After he finished speaking, he died on the spot, looking extremely tragic...

"Hua—" However, the court was in an uproar because of his report!

On the other hand, Ye Qianli—who was in a hurry to make an urgent report—was stunned at the entrance of the central palace because of this. Defeated? Captured? Her grandfather had been defeated and captured?

Impossible! She didn't believe it.

"How could this be? The Northern Territory King has guarded the frontier of the northern region for decades and has never been defeated!" At the same time, many officials who heard the urgent report could not believe that this was true either.

"Your Majesty, please mobilize your troops. With my Eastern Sea Lion army, we will kill every single one of the Black Tortoise dogs." The Eastern Sea King immediately requested to take revenge as his body exuded a stern killing aura.

"Your subject agrees. I am willing to bring the Western Wilderness' armored warriors to the north!" The Western Wilderness King immediately requested.

"I agree...!" Countless military officials agreed one after another and expressed their willingness to lead the troops into battle in the north. However, the three urgent reports immediately became an extreme emergency.

"Report—! General Ye was shot down from his horse—"

Chapter 36: Divine Beast Black Tortoise

"Report—! Urgent report from the North Gate—"

"Reporting! The Black Armor Army has already attacked the city walls of the North Gate!"

The three consecutive emergency reports pierced through the hearts of everyone in court! No one had expected that the northern city gate, which was where Ye Fengtian led the troops to defend, would actually fail to hold out in less than half an hour!

Dong!

Dong, dong!

However, what shocked the entire court even more was that, at this very moment, muffled explosions that shook the earth continuously kept erupting within the entire

Vermilion Bird City and was even centered on the northern part of the city. The continuous quakes caused the entire Sacred Palace to shake slightly.

Yet, this was not the end!

"Report!"

"Your Majesty, not only is the Black Tortoise Dynasty's army attacking, but the God of the Black Tortoise Dynasty—the Black Tortoise Divine Beast—is taking part in this attack personally!" Grand Secretary Bai, who was supposed to be guarding the entrance of the palace, had already rushed into the central palace in a panic and reported in shock.

The God of the Black Tortoise Dynasty! The divine beast Black Tortoise...

"How is this possible!?" At this moment, Holy Emperor Rong Feng, who had been sitting calmly on the throne, could no longer sit still. He stood up.

Dong!

Dong! Dong...!

However, replying Rong Feng was a muffled explosion that came from the north of the city, as well as a cold and sinister aura. It made him realize that all of this might be true.

However, how was this possible? In the Four Divisions Continent, every dynasty had its own guardian deity, and since ancient times, the guardian deity had never left their own territory!

"Your Majesty, please seek refuge in the temple as soon as possible. I'm afraid that the Sacred Palace won't be able to hold on for long." Although he was unwilling to say such disheartening words, Grand Secretary Bai had to admit that the Sacred Palace was absolutely unable to stop that colossal monster.

"No, where's the crown prince?" Rong Feng asked instead of leaving.

"That's right! Where's His Highness, the Crown Prince?" When the court officials heard this, their expressions went blank one by one, and their hearts—that were on the verge of falling into disorder—were stabilized.

Everyone in the Vermilion Bird Dynasty knew that Crown Prince Rong Mo was the divine son acknowledged by the Vermilion Bird God. He was bestowed with the power of the Vermilion Bird God and was the mandated Master Deity.

If the Black Tortoise Dynasty's guardian—the Black Tortoise—really broke through their territory to come here, then the only person who could stop the Black Tortoise was definitely their crown prince—Rong Mo!

However...

Where was His Royal Highness?

"Ye Qianli, where's the crown prince?" Rong Feng suddenly looked at Ye Qianli, who was still stunned by the news of the Northern Region. After all, he had asked Rong Mo to chase after Ye Qianli just now.

"?" Asked so abruptly, Ye Qianli was stunned. How would she know where that beautiful crown prince had gone to? However, why was everyone in the court looking at her? Was she supposed to know something?

Bang!

However, it was also at this moment—before Ye Qianli could process what was going on—that the entire Sacred Palace suddenly shook violently! Innumerable decorations fell abruptly from the rooftop and smashed into the ground around her.

Crack!

The countless red main pillars in the hall cracked at the same time. What was even more terrifying was that a bellow—that could shake the heaven and earth—sounded above the Sacred Palace like an accompaniment.

Roar—!

The divine might of this roar was boundless, and as soon as it was released, Ye Qianli—who was standing at the entrance of the hall—raised her eyes. In fact, she could clearly see a terrifying dark mist tightly wrapping around the entire Sacred Palace like dark clouds that was sweeping over from all directions.

It was dark...

The entire Sacred Palace immediately became dark and gloomy. If not for a layer of fiery light barrier enveloping the Sacred Palace firmly and blocking the invasion of the darkness stubbornly, the entire Sacred Palace would probably have fallen already.

Moreover, this fiery light barrier was clearly the Sacred Palace's final defense! Once it was broken, there would be nowhere to hide in the Sacred Palace, and everyone within the palace would be exposed to the darkness, too.

"It's here." Grand Secretary Bai looked at this sheet of darkness, but he knew that it was the massive creature that had crossed over from the north of the city. That thing...

He'd seen it earlier. It was tall and robust like a mountain, and completely jet black! Moreover, there was even an enormous and ferocious snake coiled on the top. As the snake flicked its tongue, layer after layer of dense mist would gush out and invade the area! There was no stronghold that it could not overcome. It was unstoppable.

Therefore, he immediately activated the last defense of the Sacred Palace and rushed straight to the main hall to report this matter. This was because he knew that if there was anything in the Vermilion Bird City that could still withstand this colossal monster, it would definitely be the Vermilion Bird Temple!

Moreover, there was a secret passage within the Sacred Palace that could lead them directly to the Vermilion Bird Temple. That being said, he looked towards Rong Feng once again and earnestly requested, "Your Majesty, please lead the lords, the princes, and princesses to the temple with haste. The Sacred Palace really cannot hold on any longer."

"Your subject agrees!" At this moment, the Eastern Sea King was the first to agree. The shrewd him could naturally tell that the Sacred Palace was about to collapse as well. If their Holy Emperor died here, then the Vermilion Bird Dynasty would be more or less finished... Even if it had not completely fallen.

How could a dynasty that had been attacked by an enemy kingdom and had their monarch killed like this gather the hearts of the people again? Or raise the morale of the military? It definitely could not. Hence, the Holy Emperor had to leave and survive.

"We agree!" All the major officials in the royal court understood this logic so they practically voiced their agreement in unison. Even though it was indeed detrimental to their sacred prestige to be beaten up and run away, since things had already reached this point, they could only do so.

Even though Rong Feng's face was as dark as water, he could only nod his head in response to the court officials' earnest requests. "Grand Secretary Bai will cover the rear while the Western Wilderness King will assist. The Eastern Sea King will follow me to flank the sides of the court officials, the sons and daughters of the aristocrats and the common people of the city as we retreat quickly."

"As Your Majesty commands!" The three pillars of the imperial court accepted their duties. However, Grand Secretary Bai did not forget to add, "Your Majesty, the prisoner in Ye Qianli's hands is the first advisor of the Seventh Prince of Black Tortoise Dynasty—You Ming. Please take a look."

This report of his caused Rong Feng—who had an ugly expression—to become stunned instantly. "That talent cultivator and weapon refinement master?"

"That's right. This person was captured by Ye Qianli's hand. Her combat strength is not weaker than mine. As expected of a daughter from a family of generals." Grand Secretary Bai did not have time to say anything else. He could only express his intentions clearly. He hoped that Rong Feng would take good care of Ye Qianli; not only because she was an absolute talent, but also because this young girl might be able to provide the most crucial assistance when necessary.

Boom! Boom!

However, just as Grand Secretary Bai finished speaking the last sentence, the Sacred Palace began to shake violently once more. This time, ripples clearly appeared on the fiery light barrier surrounding the Sacred Palace. It was likely that it would be broken soon.

"Your Majesty, quickly go! This old official will take his leave." Grand Secretary Bai did not have the time to say anything else. After kneeling on the ground and bowing once, he quickly ran out of the main hall with the Western Wilderness King. The two of them wanted to stabilize this final defense and buy time for Rong Feng and the rest to leave.

Seeing this, Rong Feng didn't delay any further. On one hand, he quickly ordered his generals to lead the princes and the commoners to the secret passage separately. On the other hand, under the protection of the Eastern Sea King, he himself led the important ministers to that secret passage.

As for Ye Qianli, because of Grand Secretary Bai's special 'instructions', she was naturally brought along by Rong Feng as well. During this time, the latter did not forget to ask her about the whereabouts of the crown prince again.

"I really don't know where the crown prince went." Ye Qianli could only tell the truth after being questioned. In her heart, she was also very puzzled as to why this beautiful crown prince hadn't appeared up till now. Could it be that he was so angered by her that he ran away? That couldn't be...

Chapter 37: He's Here!

However, compared to the whereabouts of the beautiful crown prince, Ye Qianli was more concerned about the situation in the Northern Region. Therefore, she cast her gaze towards You Ming once more, who was detained by her side.

Right now, she couldn't personally go to the Northern Region to check out the situation, and as the first advisor of the Seventh Prince of the Black Tortoise Dynasty, this You Ming was undoubtedly the best way to investigate the truth.

Unfortunately, they were currently fleeing from trouble. Even though she was burning with anxiety, she was temporarily unable to ask anything. She could only wait until they arrived at the temple before finding a place to interrogate him at.

"Your Majesty, we have arrived at the destination you pointed out." At the same time, the Eastern Sea King—who was leading the way—spoke up. As the only one who knew where the secret passage was, Rong Feng naturally walked forward, preparing to open it.

However, Rong Feng had only taken a few steps forward when Ye Qianli, who had been surveying the surroundings attentively with her right eye, realized that there seemed to be wisps of black fog faintly appearing from a patch of flowering grove not far ahead of them.

As for Rong Feng, he was walking towards this flowering grove. Just as he was about to step into the forest, the Eastern Sea King—who was following beside him along with several important generals of the imperial court—was also about to enter.

This made Ye Qianli, who sensed that something was wrong, immediately open her mouth to warn him, "Your Majesty, wait a moment."

Boom! Boom! Boom! However, the entire Sacred Palace underwent an explosion of attacks at the same time, producing a deafening sound! The sound of countless palace halls collapsing happened to extinguish Ye Qianli's warning.

Because of this, Rong Feng and the others did not hear Ye Qianli's voice at all. They had already stepped into the flowering grove hastily, and Rong Feng himself had already activated his innate talent's power, causing his body to radiate a red light that soared into the sky.

Screech—

Immediately, a giant bird in the shape of a sparrow emerged from the red light and sank into the flowering woodland like a flying roc falling into the sea. In an instant... The floor of the entire flowering woodland began to slowly glow with a cluster of rays.

Buzz!

Buzz, buzz...!

Strands of mysterious energy were constantly rising from the ground at this moment, urging that cluster of fiery lights to rise from the ground and blaze towards the sky! They slowly gathered to form a giant Vermilion Bird Gate.

This door was obviously the entrance of the secret passageway that led to the Vermilion Bird Temple. It was slowly opening, but what surged out of the door were wisps of black fog?!

"This..." Looking at such a scene made Rong Feng, who was opening the secret passage, turn pale. He could tell! The secret passage... was probably destroyed, or perhaps the Vermilion Bird Temple had already been invaded?!

Bang!

At the same time, the Vermilion Bird Gate suddenly opened completely. The berserk black fog rushed down from mid-air like a flood discharge. The first to bear the brunt of the attack would be Rong Feng!

"Your Majesty!" The Eastern Sea King, who was closest to Rong Feng, had a drastic change in expression. Even though he was old, his body was still strong, and he stood in front of Rong Feng without any hesitation.

Not only that...!

"Sea Scepter—" The Eastern Sea King had already called forth his primary battle weapon. Under the urging of his mystic energy, a giant wolf instantly erupted from his shiny trident like a tidal wave, devouring and entangling with that black mist that was pouring out wildly.

It seemed that the strength of the East Sea King was enough to withstand this sudden turn of events. However, before everyone's hearts could level out a little, they heard a hissing sound!

Roar—!

A terrifying roar filled with impressive divine might came from behind the Vermilion Bird Gate. It sounded so close! The divine might was so powerful that it almost instantly shattered the waves that the Eastern Sea King had created.

Closely following that—

Bang!

Everyone at the scene watched in horror as a giant beastly foot stepped through the Vermilion Bird Gate. Everyone recognized it as the Black Tortoise's foot! It was so real...

The Black Tortoise Dynasty's guardian beast, the Black Tortoise, had really crossed over its domain! Moreover, at this moment, it directly descended in front of them, stepping onto the secret passage leading from the Vermilion Bird Sacred Palace to the Vermilion Bird Temple.

What did this mean?

Many people were unwilling to think about it, but even if they did not want to think about it, this group of officials from the Vermilion Bird Dynasty all understood that this meant that the Vermilion Bird Temple had probably already been destroyed.

Otherwise...

How could this secret passage that led straight to the temple, which was also protected by the Vermilion Bird's divine power, be so easily broken? Also... If the Vermilion Bird Temple wasn't in trouble, why didn't any of the consecrators of the dynasty within the temple come out?

The Vermilion Bird Dynasty had reached its most critical moment. These consecrators of the dynasty should have gone to battle, but they did not come out... This could only mean that something had happened to them.

This knowledge made all the court ministers' hearts collapse...

Bang!

At this time, the Black Tortoise's second foot had already stepped into the Vermilion Bird Gate. This caused the Eastern Sea King, who was originally struggling to hold on, to spew out a mouthful of blood on the spot.

"Your Majesty, leave quickly..."

The Eastern Sea King, who had been severely injured, could no longer hold on and was forced to kneel on the ground. Beads of sweat formed on his aged forehead. The veins on his arms, which were holding the trident high up in the air, looked incomparably hideous. Those sturdy lumps of muscles on his arms looked like they were going to burst. Anyone could tell that he was about to give out soon.

But...

Where could they go?

The Sacred Palace had already been surrounded, and the Vermilion Bird City had already fallen into enemy hands. They were unable to proceed towards the Vermilion Bird Temple, and even if he could go there, the Vermilion Bird Temple was probably already in trouble. Then, where could he go?

Rong Feng didn't know. He only knew that since there was no way to retreat, then he would fight!

"Everyone, heed my command. Fight to the death! Even if the divine beast Black Tortoise is at the forefront, fight to the death!" Rong Feng unsheathed the sword on his

body after speaking. It was a three-foot-long sword that exuded an ancient aura and had divine vermilion bird runes engraved on it.

As soon as this sword appeared, it naturally emanated an extraordinary, unyielding, and imposing aura. Strands of Vermilion Bird flames were like the flames of the stars, and at this moment, it brought the last trace of light to everyone present.

"Fight to the death!"

At this moment, whether it was the civil officials or the military officials, all of them slowly dispelled the fear on their faces. They either took out their weapons or activated their mystic energy and stood upright.

That's right... Since there was no way to escape, why should they still flee? They could only fight to the death.

"Ye Qianli." But before the battle to their deaths, Rong Feng called out Ye Qianli's name once more, causing the solemn Ye Qianli to be involuntarily stunned.

"As the Emperor, I order you to bring the National Seal and escape! In the future, hand it over to the Crown Prince." Rong Feng handed over a fire-colored square box that obviously contained the Vermilion Bird Dynasty's National Seal to Ye Qianli and also gave her the most prudent imperial command.

Even though he did not know where Crown Prince Rong Mo was, Rong Feng firmly believed that his son was still alive and definitely would not die in this disaster.

"Your Majesty..." Ye Qianli looked at the fire-colored square box in front of her and only felt immense pressure. There would be a problem for her to escape herself, so why did he let her carry such a thing?

"Little girl from the Ye family, I hope to hear the news of you and His Highness the Crown Prince avenging our blood feud in the Underworld in the future." The Eastern Sea King, who was struggling to hold on, looked up at Ye Qianli and said with a carefree look in his eyes.

"Miss Ye, please avenge our blood feud!" The rest of the civil officials and generals spoke one after another. They had already revealed their courage of facing death with equanimity. This caused Ye Qianli to have no choice but to reach out and take this heavy box! It was a box of national fate that carried the deepest hopes of the entire Vermilion Bird Dynasty.

However, just as Ye Qianli's hand grasped onto this heavy box...

Screech—! An arrogant and tyrannical cry rang out from the Vermilion Bird! It was as if the sound of nature had burst out between heaven and earth all of a sudden.

Chapter 38: God-like Beautiful Crown Prince!

As soon as this sound appeared, it was like a spring breeze blowing through everyone's hearts. It made everyone feel the hope of life and that hope had truly come! Because...

He was here.

Crown Prince Rong Mo was here!

Screech—!

At that moment, Ye Qianli—who was looking up at the source of the sound—saw that the beautiful crown prince, whom everyone kept thinking about and who bore an extraordinary hope of divinity, had already returned to the north as if he were a god! He arrived on the Vermilion Bird.

Roar—!

However, the Black Tortoise, which had been stepping out of the Vermilion Bird Gate originally, suddenly reappeared at this moment! It leaped out of the Vermilion Bird Gate and vaulted towards the Vermilion Bird in the sky.

The moment the heavy armor and the ferocious serpent body of the Black Tortoise rushed towards the Vermilion Bird, they erupted with an unparalleled violent aura, crushing the entire sky with 'chi-chi' sounds.

Bang!

The Black Tortoise's sudden attack shattered the entire Vermilion Bird Gate and its forest of flowers into pieces! Rong Feng, the Eastern Sea King, and the others were all seriously injured as they flew off from the force of the explosion.

The divine beast, Black Tortoise, was so powerful! It had only moved forward quickly, but the shockwaves from its attack were enough to crush the entire area. This made Rong Feng and the others' hearts—whose bodies had been severely injured—jump to their throats.

"Be careful!"

"Your Highness!"

At this moment, no one cared how serious their injuries were. Everyone's attention was drawn to the sky!

Boom!

However, everyone was shocked to see that the Black Tortoise, which was as large as a black mountain and as sinister as an evil spirit, had already struck the Vermilion Bird—that was originally flying in the air—squarely in the middle.

Its flight was cut off...

"..."

Countless Vermilion Bird flames were scattered and lit up the entire sky. However, everyone's hearts sank and darkened... So... Even if Crown Prince Rong Mo came, even he would not be able to defeat this beast?

So, the guardian of their Vermilion Bird Dynasty—the divine beast Vermilion Bird—was actually so weak as to be unable to withstand a single blow?

"How could this be..." Many ministers stared at the sky in disbelief. Even the Eastern Sea King was stunned. That was because it was simply too weak.

Even though the divine beast Black Tortoise was very powerful, was the guardian of their Vermilion Bird Dynasty—Vermilion Bird—so weak?

Moreover, their crown prince was a divine son recognized by the Vermilion Bird God. By right, the Vermilion Bird God summoned by the crown prince should be incomparably powerful!

In the end...

Before everyone could recover from their shock, those scattered Vermilion Bird flames in the sky suddenly condensed! They suddenly wrapped around the divine beast Black Tortoise at a speed that no one managed to see clearly.

Immediately after—!

"Destroy."

The beautiful crown prince suddenly issued an indifferent voice of judgment, and then... Everyone watched blankly as that ball of fire that had enveloped the divine beast, Black Tortoise, exploded with a bang.

Afterward...

There was no afterward.

What divine beast Black Tortoise? How could it disappear just like that!?

"This..."

When the spectators on the ground saw this, they subconsciously blinked. Feeling that it still wasn't enough, they even rubbed their eyes. Then, they looked again with all their might!

"It's really gone? That Black Tortoise is really gone? Was... Was it burned to death? My god, that's impossible. How could it be too weak to withstand a single blow?" The Eastern Sea King spat out a mouthful of blood exaggeratedly as he spoke in disbelief.

As shocked as everyone was that the Vermilion Bird could not withstand a single blow just now; now, they were just as shocked that Black Tortoise had collapsed at the first blow. They felt that this scene was not real.

Many were also subconsciously worried that the Black Tortoise most probably had not disappeared so it might launch a counterattack. They instinctively kept their guard up and stared at the sky.

However, no matter how they looked, they still didn't see anything. They only saw Crown Prince Rong Mo jump down from the sky and appear in front of Rong Feng, looking completely fine as well.

"That was a fake divine beast Black Tortoise?" Rong Feng was one of the quickest to react. When he saw that Rong Mo was indeed fine, he immediately thought of the crux of the issue.

"It's not considered a fake," Rong Mo replied and then explained, "The Black Tortoise Dynasty must have obtained some kind of secret technique that can borrow the power of the Black Tortoise Divine Beast from its shrine. In addition, there are spies in the Vermilion Bird Dynasty."

"What? Who?!" Rong Feng's expression immediately changed.

Rong Mo did not reply immediately. Instead, his gaze swept across the group of court officials to land on Ye Qianli's body for a while, causing the latter to feel baffled.

What kind of situation was this?

Ye Qianli's head was filled with questions, but everyone looked at Ye Qianli because of Rong Mo's gaze. All of them thought at the same time, could it be that the so-called spy was this lady from the Ye family?

"The spy betrayed the Northern Territory King's whereabouts. The Northern Territory King was besieged, and his life and death are unknown. It's true that the entire northern region has lost the battle. The Black Tortoise Dynasty's million-strong army is marching down south while the 50,000-strong Black Armor Army is attacking the city," Rong Mo said instead.

"The spy came from within the northern frontier? How many troops did the Black Tortoise Dynasty send?" Rong Feng's expression was very ugly when he heard this, but his eyes remained firm.

"The spy was yet to be found. The Black Tortoise Army that has entered my Vermilion Bird Territory only has 50,000 Black Armor soldiers. My private forces from the Eastern Palace will be able to capture them within two hours," Rong Mo replied succinctly.

"All right, thank you for your hard work." Rong Feng directly heaved a long sigh of relief when he heard this. He was truly relieved. He had been prepared to die, but who knew that things would turn around so quickly?

"Mhm, you can make your own arrangements in the Sacred Palace. I will take Ye Qianli and You Ming away." Rong Mo did not hold back at all and even wanted to take Ye Qianli and her captive to leave.

"Go on, do what you need to do. I will arrange the funeral arrangements in the palace and the city." Rong Feng did not feel offended at all. He waved his hand and let Rong Mo leave quickly.

The latter raised his eyes and looked at Ye Qianli. The meaning in his eyes was very clear—"follow me"!

"..." What could Ye Qianli say? Of course, she would go with him. Not for anything else but for her grandfather's matter. She had to follow him to get a thorough understanding.

Hence, when Rong Mo turned around this time, Ye Qianli followed him eagerly. "Your Highness, you went out of the city just now? You found out news about the northern region so quickly? Then, did my grandfather get captured or not?"

"I don't know," Rong Mo replied as he walked.

"You don't know?" Ye Qianli was a little dumbfounded.

"Mhm." Rong Mo's pace became faster and faster. After exiting the Sacred Palace, he directly leaped into the air, causing Ye Qianli to nearly become unable to catch up to him! However, even though she managed to catch up, she was still panting heavily.

"Your Highness, the Crown Prince, where are we going? Why don't you take this captive with you? I can't run anymore." Ye Qianli indicated that she still had someone with her! The energy depletion was huge.

"We're here." However, Rong Mo—who had already stopped—said. Under Ye Qianli's blank gaze, he jumped down and appeared in the center of a mess of debris.

Ye Qianli followed him down and looked around her surroundings once. Only then did she realize that they were outside the city, and it should be outside the northern city gate. This was because there were collapsed city walls nearby, and soldiers were everywhere—both the wounded and the dead...

"Father—"

Ye Qianli was surveying when she suddenly heard an extremely sorrowful wail! It came from somewhere not far ahead of her, and she recognized this voice. It was Ye Fengtian's voice.

However, Ye Fengtian's father was her grandfather...

Chapter 39: Demon Doctor's True Colors! Are You Afraid?

Whoosh!

In almost an instant, Ye Qianli had already thrown away the captive, You Ming, who was acting like a 'dead man' and ran to the source of that voice. Her eyes burned as she looked at Ye Fengtian who was kneeling towards the north and covered in blood.

Ye Qianli did not care about anything else. Even if Ye Fengtian's chest was still dripping blood, even if Ye Fengtian's face was pale and his breathing was slightly weak, she did not care. Her gaze was only attracted by the broken hand in Ye Fengtian's hand.

It was a large aged hand with a deathly gray color, and it was connected to a small section of the wrist. Every finger was already curled up lifelessly, but that thumb...

On the thumb was a dark green thumb ring with a Sky Wolf—raising its head to howl at the skies—engraved on it! The Sky Wolf was the clan totem of their Ye family in the Northern Territory.

This ring was the identity symbol of every generation's Northern Territory King...

"Father..."

Ye Fengtian was holding this broken hand and crying his eyes out. After all, he knew everything that Ye Qianli knew. Therefore, he was naturally very clear about what this broken hand meant.

"Where did it come from?" Ye Qianli stared at Ye Fengtian instead. Her voice was extremely calm, calm to the point that it caused the extremely sorrowful Ye Fengtian to become stunned.

"I asked you, where did it come from?" However, Ye Qianli stared at him and asked again.

"Little..." Ye Qianli's attitude made the deputy general beside Ye Fengtian couldn't help but want to criticize her. After all, Ye Fengtian did not look good at all right now. Moreover, he wasn't receiving proper treatment. As his daughter, Ye Qianli did not advise or ask after his injuries, and her attitude was still so rude.

However, Ye Fengtian stopped the deputy general from speaking up for his injustice and replied to Ye Qianli, "It was the Black Armor Army general who threw Xiao Zhengnan here."

"Where's Xiao Zhengnan?" Ye Qianli asked again.

"He already died in battle," Rong Mo replied this time.

Ye Qianli didn't say anything anymore, but she only remained silent for a while. Then, she suddenly stood up and dragged the captive You Ming over. She asked, "Do you know about this?"

"..." You Ming, who had been pretending to be a 'dead man', continued to pretend to be dead. He looked like he would not say anything.

Ye Qianli did not probe further either. She only pulled out the dagger that she had used to dissect the 'little white mice' just now... and then stabbed it into You Ming's abdomen!

"Hiss!" You Ming clearly gasped in pain, but his expression remained unchanged.

However, he was incapable of maintaining a normal expression very soon because Ye Qianli was cutting him open in a vertical direction from his abdominal cavity upwards right then! Fresh red blood spurted out.

"Kill me if you have the guts to!" You Ming's gaze was cold and bleak. Even though his voice was slightly unclear, it was incomparably icy. "I guarantee that, if you kill me, then your biological grandfather will surely die a more miserable death than me."

"I'm not going to kill you. I just want to have a good chat with you. If you don't want to talk, I'll make you talk willingly." When Ye Qianli said this, one of her hands had already reached into You Ming's abdominal cavity and grabbed onto his stomach with slight exertion. "Do you know where I am pinching?"

"What are you trying to do?" You Ming's pupils had already shrunk slightly at this moment. He stared at the young girl before him, and he had a feeling that things weren't going to be simple.

"As a talent cultivator, your life force is very strong. Even if you lose a lot of blood, you can still survive for about 15 minutes. In these 15 minutes, I will crush your stomach, then one of your kidneys, then your large intestine, then your small intestine, and then your elixir field."

"You might think that I am unable to destroy your elixir field with my strength. After all, your elixir field is protected by a layer of energy from Arctic Nether Ice. It is like a natural barrier that can always protect your elixir field," Ye Qianli said slowly as she squeezed hard with one hand!

Bang!

You Ming's stomach had undoubtedly been crushed. He was in intense pain! Since his internal organs had been severely damaged, this caused his body to arch into a bow instinctively.

It hurt...

However, other than the pain, what alarmed You Ming the most was that Ye Qianli had actually identified the protective barrier on his elixir field. Furthermore, it seemed like she even had a way to destroy it.

However, how was that possible?!

Even the crown prince of the Vermilion Bird Dynasty, this divine son with the talent of the Vermilion Bird, could not destroy the protective barrier on his elixir field.

Moreover, even if the power of the Vermilion Bird Crown Prince exceeded their expectations, with You Ming's status as a talented weapon refinement master and an important advisor of the Black Tortoise Dynasty, he should not be killed easily.

"Vermilion Bird Crown Prince, you..." You Ming endured the pain as he thought of these, and his gaze couldn't help but look towards Crown Prince Rong Mo.

"You are my captive!" However, Ye Qianli crushed one of his kidneys and used that as a declaration of her authority to execute him. She then said calmly, "Let me ask you. Was my grandfather really captured?"

"Really..." You Ming didn't feel that this was something that couldn't be said. It was just that he too understood that he was truly afraid at this moment. Otherwise, he would never have spoken.

Xu! However, as soon as You Ming said that, he felt his elixir field heat up. He could feel a raging fire enveloping his elixir field.

"You're lying! My grandfather wasn't captured. Where is he?" Ye Qianli stared coldly at You Ming and said icily, "You only have one last chance to answer. If what you say isn't true, you can forget about keeping your elixir field."

"You..." You Ming wanted to defend himself.

"Cut the crap! Speak." However, Ye Qianli didn't give him a chance at all. Terrifying flames had already leaped out of her eyes, and what she was activating—without holding back at all—was the power of the Nine Heavens Mystical Fire! It was already slowly corroding the protective barrier on You Ming's elixir field.

The threat of being crippled was even more terrifying than the threat of death! It caused You Ming's face to grow more and more deathly pale. In the end... When he felt that burning intent about to invade his elixir field, he suddenly roared, "He's in the Arctic Ice Realm! He's been captured!"

As soon as these words were spoken, Ye Qianli withdrew her hand from You Ming's abdominal cavity and stuffed a crude healing pill into his mouth. After that, she took out a handkerchief and wiped away the blood on her hand.

"Cough..."

"Cough, cough..." His injuries were too severe! You Ming, who had lost too much blood, started to cough non-stop instead. Blood also flowed out abruptly from his mouth and nose.

"Someone, save him," Finally, Rong Mo's voice rang out at this moment. That was when the people from the nearby medical bureau recovered from their shock and rushed forward to save You Ming. However, this person's injuries... were a little too terrible.

If he wasn't a talent cultivator who carried the gift of spirit aura to protect his body, he definitely wouldn't be able to survive this...

However, the problem of whether he could be saved or not was clearly not something that Ye Qianli, this perpetrator, cared about. At this moment, she had already stood up and was about to leave. However, just as she was about to take a step forward, she was stopped by Rong Mo. "If you go to the Arctic Ice Realm, you will miss the chance to enter the Gifted Academy."

Hearing this, Ye Qianli's footsteps did not stop though. Yes! She wanted to enter the Gifted Academy; she wanted to see the number-one academy on this continent and to see other talent cultivators. However, she could still go next year, or she could go again in the future... But there was only one grandfather.

"The Gifted Academy only ever gives one enrollment token, whoever it is. If you miss it, you will never be able to enter the school again," Rong Mo added again. This also meant that if Ye Qianli missed this enrollment, she would never be able to enter the Gifted Academy in this lifetime.

Chapter 40: The Crown Prince's Plan! Be Obedient

But...

Although Ye Qianli's footsteps paused for a moment, she still walked towards the north. Just like when she left home previously, she had walked that resolutely.

"I have an idea." However, Rong Mo spoke again.

Ye Qianli: "...". She wanted to hit someone! Since he had a plan, why couldn't he just say it all at once? Was he teasing her?

"Come back." Alas, Rong Mo did not seem to have the slightest awareness that he had made someone feel angry. Instead, he even ordered her to come back. Ye Qianli, who was already very angry from listening, gritted her teeth secretly.

"Li'er, don't be stubborn. Quickly come back." Ye Fengtian, who had only just found his voice at this moment, saw that Ye Qianli had yet to turn around and walk back. He was afraid that she would make a mistake and hurriedly called out to her.

Ye Fengtian now knew that this daughter was very stubborn. If she really left, she would really leave without any room for negotiation.

However, he was still in a state of shock because he never knew that his daughter's methods could be so shrewd and ruthless! She was so ruthless that she could cut open a person's stomach and crush their internal organs as soon as she said so. Furthermore, her expression did not change at all, as though it was nothing out of the ordinary.

However, she clearly felt so much pity for the commoners in the city earlier on! Seeing that they were injured—even though she knew that she might be in danger, she still had to stop and save them.

Kind and vicious? Exactly which one was the real her? She was so contradictory that Ye Fengtian once again realized profoundly how much he did not understand his own daughter.

Moreover, during these years when he missed out on his daughter's growth and neglected her, what exactly did she experience? What was it that caused her to disregard life and death and use such bloody methods to interrogate a prisoner without batting an eyelid...?

As her father, how could he not know?

"What is it?" Ye Qianli did not know that what she had done just now had caused Ye Fengtian to sink into a state of self-blame once again. At this moment, she was trying her best to calm herself down to face Rong Mo.

"Go and report at the Gifted Academy first," Rong Mo said.

Ye Qianli clenched her fists and resisted the urge to hit him again. "But I want to leave earlier! I want to see my grandfather as soon as possible and save him."

"Stupid." Rong Mo only said one word to comment on Ye Qianli's plan of action.

Ye Qianli took a deep breath and told herself over and over again: *"I'm a goddess. I'm not angry. I'm a goddess. I'm not angry."* Then...

It was only then that Ye Qianli opened her mouth and requested calmly, "Tell me all of your ideas first."

"The Gifted Academy offers missions to students. The first A-rank mission next semester is to go to the Arctic Ice Realm. The only way to get there is through the Black Tortoise Dynasty's capital, Black Tortoise City," Rong Mo explained.

The moment Ye Qianli heard Rong Mo's words, she understood Rong Mo's meaning. If she were to head to the Black Tortoise Dynasty alone now, the variables and dangers would be too great. However, if she were to head there in the name of a student from the Gifted Academy, even if the Black Tortoise Dynasty knew who she was; they would definitely not dare to make a move on her openly.

However, this meant that she needed to be a month late before she could head to the Arctic Ice Realm. And within this one month, her grandfather's safety would also be uncertain.

Of course, with her grandfather's status in the Vermilion Bird Dynasty, even if he was captured; it would be impossible for him to be killed immediately. However, her grandfather was terribly bullheaded so she was afraid of any unforeseen situation... And he would definitely suffer a lot!

"During this time, can you use this person as a threat and ask them not to ill-treat my grandfather?" Ye Qianli pointed at the half-dead You Ming on the ground and asked. After all, it was said that this person was still quite valuable.

"They will agree to it, but whether they carry it out or not will depend on their mood. They can only guarantee that he will not die," Rong Mo replied.

Ye Qianli's eyelids twitched when she heard that, but she also knew that Rong Mo's answer wasn't wrong. Just like how she had almost tortured this captive to death just because she was in a bad mood.

"Li'er, you must go to the Gifted Academy. As for your grandfather's side, I'll immediately return to the northern region to investigate. Once there's news, I'll send a message to you." Ye Fengtian also understood Rong Mo's intention at this moment. He naturally did not wish for Ye Qianli to throw her life away either.

As a general who dealt with the Black Tortoise Dynasty all year round, Ye Fengtian naturally knew how dangerous the Black Tortoise royalty was. If it was possible, he did not even want Ye Qianli to participate in any A-grade mission.

However, Ye Fengtian also knew that even if he wanted to stop her, Ye Qianli would not listen to him. Therefore, he could only try his best to persuade Ye Qianli to go to the institute first and then let the Gifted Academy protect her as she headed to the Black Tortoise Dynasty.

Upon hearing this, Ye Qianli glanced at Ye Fengtian, but her gaze once again stopped on the broken hand in his hand. An obvious trace of sorrow flashed across her eyes. After a while, she finally nodded and reached out. "Give me the hand."

Ye Fengtian looked at his daughter's white hand—that had not been wiped clean of blood—and then looked at the aged palm that he was holding. His heart could not help but ache, and his eyes could not help but tear up.

In fact, Ye Fengtian did not dare to tell Ye Qianli that this ring was more important to her grandfather than his own life! Now that his hand was cut off and his thumb ring was lost, it might mean...

"..." Ye Fengtian suppressed the grief in his heart. After taking a deep breath, he handed the hand to Ye Qianli.

As soon as this gray hand fell into Ye Qianli's hands, it made her feel a sense of pressure that almost suffocated her. To her, the weight of this hand was far heavier than the imperial jade seal!

This weight caused a layer of mist to gradually form in Ye Qianli's originally clear eyes. She took a deep breath and placed the severed hand into a pocket near her chest. Then, she blinked again to dispel the mist in her eyes.

This kind of stubborn silence from her made Ye Fengtian find it difficult to breathe as he watched. That's right...

Actually, this daughter of his had always been so stubborn. Every time she was scolded by her mother or lectured by him, she would just stand there quietly without saying a word or defending herself.

In the past, he used to think that this child's personality was too gloomy and she was too different from other people's cheerful and innocent daughters. It made him feel that he could not get close to her at all.

However, he had never once thought about how his daughter's temperament was formed. It seemed... Since she was very, very young, he had never seen his daughter smile once.

Come to think of it, he really did not remember his daughter smiling before...

On the other hand, it was his niece Hua'er who would often smile sweetly and talk about many family matters in front of him. This only made him—who was constantly on the move outside—feel much more comfortable watching her whenever he was tired after returning home.

At that time, as he listened to his wife's complaints, he often felt that it would be great if Hua'er was his daughter, too... That was more like a cute daughter.

At the thought of this, Ye Fengtian only felt tightness in his chest. At this moment, the injuries that he had been suppressing hurt so much that he could not suppress them anymore.

"Cough—" Ye Fengtian coughed out a mouthful of blood suddenly, startling the deputy general beside him, whose expression changed completely. "General!"

"No... Cough, cough... I'm fine..." Ye Fengtian covered the open wound from a severed arrow, but blood flowed out from his palm. Anyone could see that his injuries had worsened.

"Lie down," Ye Qianli said with a frown upon seeing this. Her words made Ye Fengtian shudder from head to toe as he looked at her in disbelief.