

## Awaken Chapter 76 -

Five minutes past dawn.

Xu Qingnian sped along the official road.

Now that he had been promoted to the ninth rank, coupled with his Great Sun Sacred Body, Xu Qingnian was physically able to keep his strength up almost all the time.

He was so fast that it would have taken him two days to get back to South Yufu.

But now, with Xu Qingnian's speed, it would only take him three or four hours to reach South Yufu.

The difference between these two was too great.

At least the money for the horses had been saved.

It was also while Xu Qingnian was speeding along that the voice of the Dan God rang out.

"You've condensed the Great Sun Saint Body?"

The Dan God's voice was somewhat surprised as it inquired about Xu Qingnian.

"En, senior, is there any problem?"

Xu Qingnian asked.

"There's no problem, it's just that the herbs you need to find are different."

"The Great Sun Saint Physique is an extraordinary physique, you are now of the ninth grade, if you are of the eighth grade you will need to gather all four herbs."

The Dan God replied.

"Which four?"

Xu Qingnian was straightforward.

"Thousand year old Purple Jade Coral, Golden Yang Jade Grass, three thousand year old Spirit Tree Root Heart, and a jar of Seventh Grade Beast King Heart Blood."

The Dan God named the four medicinal herbs.

After hearing the recipe, Xu Qingnian was somewhat dumbfounded.

Thousand-year purple jade coral, he didn't know what it was.

Golden Yang Jade Grass, he didn't know what it was either.

Spirit Tree Root Heart he knew even less about what it was.

But the Seventh Grade Beast King's Heart Blood, Xu Qingnian knew what it was.

A seventh-grade demonic beast, and a beast king at that, a jar of heart blood? A beast king's heart blood was almost one jar, right?

What was the concept of a seventh grade demonic beast?

If a seventh-grade martial artist was strong, then a seventh-grade demonic beast was inherently several times stronger than a human, not to mention a beast king?

Although this kind of thing was called a seventh grade, its value was actually no weaker than a sixth grade, right?

"Want ten copies?"

Xu Qingnian frowned slightly and said.

"There's no need for this, the Realm Breaking Pill doesn't need ten portions, five is fine, and if you can't find similar herbs, just count the rest as sixth grade."

The Dan God replied calmly.

But those words were not calm in Xu Qingnian's heart.

By the sixth grade?

Xu Qingnian did not know how expensive the sixth grade herbs were, but they were certainly not cheap.

Something that could bring down a titled Martial Emperor was truly worthy of its name.

Xu Qingnian didn't speak anymore.

This price was too harsh, and to be honest getting all these herbs was not as easy and convenient as using a foreign art to improve one's strength.

The difficulty of both, at least Xu Qingnian thought it was harder to collect the herbs.

Seeing that Xu Qingnian did not say anything, after a while, Dan Shen's voice rang out.

“Actually, you shouldn’t think it’s much, you should know that this Realm Breaking Pill doesn’t have any side effects, it directly breaks through the realm, and the later you get, the more terrifying it is.”

“Not to mention the others, it’s like cultivating a different art, the front feels fast, after you reach the fifth grade, one grade, one heaven, at that time you will find that without my help, no matter how many herbs you have, you won’t be able to rise one grade.”

The Dan God was very confident, but these words just slightly seemed like a bit of brainwashing.

Xu Qingnian didn’t reply to anything.

The reason was simple, after the fifth grade was a matter for the fifth grade, what was the point of thinking so long term about oneself now?

It was fine to take one step and look at three steps.

To take one step and see three hundred steps, was this still human?

“Senior, if someone cultivates a foreign art and reaches the first grade, can they solve the scourge of foreign arts?”

Xu Qingnian did not continue to discuss the matter of medicinal herbs, but asked about this matter.

“I don’t know, in the past and present, there are not many people who have cultivated the supernatural arts to the first grade, and when they reach the first grade, the level is completely different, they might have cultivated the supernatural arts and you wouldn’t be able to tell.”

Dan Shen’s reply made Xu Qingnian’s heart sink.

But he didn’t think much about it and continued to rush towards the South Yufu.

It was only after half an hour.

Xu Qingnian suddenly spoke.

“Senior, can you refine a poison? The colourless and tasteless kind.”

He suddenly opened his mouth.

This asked.

“A poison pill? What do you need such a thing for?”

“I know all the dan recipes in the world, and I naturally know about poisons, just .....

Dan Shen was somewhat curious, not knowing what Xu Qingnian wanted poison for.

“Er .... Nothing, if it is inconvenient for senior, forget it, it is the junior who has taken the liberty.”

Xu Qingnian thought about it, something like the Dan God’s Ancient Scripture knew all the dan recipes of heaven and earth, if he were to let it refine poison, it would indeed be a bit of a big deal, furthermore, things with spirits would generally not do such things, so Xu Qingnian felt he was being a bit presumptuous.

“It’s not inconvenient.”

“Refining poisons is not a problem.”

“But .....

“The herbs will have to be added.”

Dan Shen spoke out seriously.

Xu Qingnian: “.....”

Good man, I thought it was something, but I didn’t think it was just this?

At this moment, Xu Qingnian was curious as to why this Dan Shen Gu Jing wanted more medicinal herbs?

Although he couldn’t help for nothing, what did he need so many herbs for?

It would be fine to exchange them for an equal price, he would help him with his work and he would help him with his pills, this was justifiable.

“Does this guy need herbs to restore his vitality?”

Suddenly, Xu Qingnian thought of a possibility.

But yes or no, there was no need to consider anything for the time being, he couldn’t use it for the time being, he could put it aside, and when he had completely calmed down, he could study this Dan God Ancient Scripture.

And so it was.

An hour and a half later.

Outside South Yufu City.

Xu Qingnian had returned.

Having sped all the way, Xu Qingnian's body was stained with a lot of ash, and his clean white clothes had become somewhat untidy.

When he came to the entrance of the city, a familiar figure appeared.

"Old Brother Xu, oh no, now we're going to call him Xu Wangu, what's going on? What has happened? Did you encounter bandits and robbers?"

It was Yang Bao's voice.

He was guarding the city today.

He was bragging with his fellow officers, but he didn't expect to see Xu Qingnian with a casual glance.

When he met Xu Qingnian again, Yang Bao was extremely excited. Some time ago, Xu Qingnian had made a big splash in the South Yufu, and he had followed suit.

After all, he had personally escorted Xu Qingnian to the South Yu Mansion, so he knew each other, and many of his colleagues envied him.

But he never expected to meet Xu Qingnian here.

In an instant, the guards in the city heard the three words Xu Qingnian, and instantly their eyes were cast over, and a few of those who were resourceful, even gathered around, full of curiosity.

"It's alright, I ran too fast and got some dust on me, it's alright, it's alright, Old Brother Yang, why are you here guarding the city?"

Xu Qingnian gave a laugh and came in front of Yang Bao, looking very cordial.

"Don't don't don't, you are now Xu Wangu, I can't bear the title of old brother, I can't afford it."

When he heard Xu Qingnian call himself Older Brother, Yang Bao was extremely happy, but he also knew how to respect his superiors and inferiors.

Who was Xu Qingnian now?

He was just a constable, he couldn't afford to be called Xu Qingnian's elder brother.

“The first thing you need to do is to call me an old man.

Xu Qingnian didn't care, instead he casually put his shoulder on Yang Bao.

It was still rather simple between martial artists and martial artists, and it was more than a little unnatural to salute when you see someone.

“Fine, thanks to old brother's kindness, I'll cheekily oblige with this old brother.”

“But, old brother Xu, where have you been all this time? The whole Nan Yu Mansion is talking about you, I thought you were in the Mansion, but I didn't expect you to go out, huh?”

Yang Bao opened his mouth with a smile, he didn't have much on his mind, Xu Qingnian was so generous with his face, his heart was touched and admired ah.

This is a real scholar, a real talent, unlike those literati, who have their noses to the sky when they have some achievements, and when they have some status, they want everyone to pay compliments.

When compared to Xu Qingnian, it was a world apart.

Especially when the other guards around them saw how well Xu Qingnian was getting along with Yang Bao, their eyes turned green.

Green with acid.

This status of Xu Qingnian, who called Yang Bao brother and brother, was not worthy of envy?

To put it bluntly, as long as Xu Qingnian was willing to ask the Prefect to open up, Yang Pao would immediately be promoted, this was the benefit of connections.

“They're all talking about me? What's being discussed about me? Has the government exams been unveiled?”

Xu Qingnian was a bit curious, people should be discussing themselves, after all, the best article, but it's been six or seven days since then, why are they still discussing themselves?

There is no topic?

The first thing you need to do is to create some conversation.

“It’s not because the imperial court issued an imperial decree saying that you, what with your essay’s intention, are a superb essay, so that all literati in the world have to learn from you and so on.”

“As a result, a group of scholars came from Tianming House, aggressively, wanting to discuss something with you.”

“I don’t understand exactly what it is, anyway, these people are not good guys, the Tianming House has been pressing our South Yu House, and now it’s good that we’re pressing back.”

“They’re probably not convinced and want to get you in trouble.”

“But old brother, other than that, we have a group of people in the government office who all support you, if that group of readers can’t say no to you and play rough and dirty, you just say hello.”

“Guaranteed to make them never want to come back to South Yufu for the rest of their lives.”

Yang Bao briefly elaborated, but he didn’t understand it very well and could only make a general statement.

The last few words even made it clear that if the people of Tianming House dared to really find trouble with Xu Qingnian, they would definitely not let these guys off either.

Xu Qingnian was somewhat moved.

But more than that, he was still amazed.

An essay of intent?

When had he ever written an essay of intent?

“Alright, with this word from old brother, old brother, I’ll go into the city first, I’ll treat you to a drink later, and some days later the Prefect will invite me into the banquet.”

“Older brother will definitely put in a good word for you two older brothers, my brother Xu, I have to take care of them no matter what.”

Xu Qingnian did not say anything too direct, but the meaning was obvious.

As a matter of fact, once this was said, Yang Bao was so excited that he almost cried out.

“Older brother, I understand your feelings, anyway, in any case, in the future, if you need us two brothers somewhere, you can just say the word, we two brothers will definitely help you do it.”

“No matter how dirty or tiring the work is, my two brothers will not have a word of complaint.”

Yang Bao was touched.

He was really touched.

There was no other reason. What was his status?

To be honest, if Xu Qingnian saw himself, he would be happy to nod his head, and he would not even dare to think about calling him brother.

But what Xu Qingnian had done had completely convinced him.

“Let’s go, old brother.”

Xu Qingnian didn’t say much more and walked towards the city.

After Xu Qingnian left, the group of guards could not help but surround Yang Bao, one by one, to say happy celebrations.

With Xu Qingnian’s recommendation, it was impossible for the two brothers, Yang Bao and Yang Hu, to not go up.

But the crowd understood even more, Xu Qingnian is really a person of noble character, not forgetting his poor relatives when he is rich, noble.

Inside the Nan Yu Mansion.

Xu Qingnian was a bit ashamed.

But he did not go directly to the inn, but went to the Li residence.

He probably understood some of what Yang Bao said just now, but he could not understand what Yang Bao said clearly, leading to his own inability to understand what had happened at all.

Going straight back to the inn would not lead to any enquiries, so he might as well go straight to Li Xin.

The door of the Li mansion.



Although covered in dust, when Xu Qingnian arrived at the mansion gate, a moment later the guards at the entrance were instantly surprised.

“Xu Qingnian?”

“Isn’t this Xu Wangu?”

“Mr Xu, what brings you here? How did you get like this? Did that group of scholars from the Tianming Mansion do this?”

“Mr. Xu, have you been bullied? Brothers, hurry up and shout for someone, damn it, that gang of literati from Tianming Academy don’t speak of martial virtue and dare to bully our great genius.”

When they saw Xu Qingnian covered in dust, the guards’ first reaction was surprise, and their second reaction was that Xu Qingnian had been bullied.

After all, right now in the South Yufu, all of them were discussing the matter of the Tianming Academy.

This Tianming Academy did not come to Nan Yu Mansion in the morning, but at this time? We all know what the intention is.

Isn’t it just to step on Xu Qingnian’s to the top?

The first thing you need to do is to get a good idea of what you’re doing.

It was not easy for a great talent to emerge from the South Yu House.

Who could bear it if someone from the Tianming Academy came and smashed the court?

The group started to shout when Xu Qingnian didn’t show up and met with the students of Tianming Academy.

What Xu Qingnian is afraid of.

They also said that Xu Qingnian was afraid, or that he was able to write a great article, but did not dare to come out to meet with him.

Although such comments were suppressed by a Confucian scholar from the Tianming Academy and the group was reprimanded, the words had been spoken, you reprimanded them, and I was upset.

It was impossible to let it go like that.

Now that Xu Qingnian is dusty and covered in mud and dust, it is inevitable that people will think that Xu Qingnian has been beaten up.

So with the old hatred and the new, the guards were furious.

Although they were only officials, they knew the principle of “all glory goes with the territory, all loss goes with the territory”.

Xu Qingnian was now the face of the South Yufu, if Xu Qingnian was aggrieved, they would not do it.

“It’s alright, it’s alright, don’t misunderstand, I’m here to find Brother Li.”

Xu Qingnian was a little puzzled, why did he feel like he had been beaten up when he saw that he was a little hasty?

Was there a need for this?

“Looking for Sir Li? Mr Xu, you can go straight in, I’ll take you to the gongzi, he’s in the mansion.”

As soon as they heard that they were looking for Li Xin, the crowd was relieved, if this was really a beating by someone from the Tianming Academy, they would definitely not be convinced.

Xu Qingnian was willing to put up with it, they couldn’t even.

After Xu Qingnian had entered.

Outside the door, the crowd of guards couldn’t help but murmur.

“Why do I get the feeling that Mr. Xu just got beaten up?”

“You don’t say it yet, I feel the same way.”

“Yeah, it doesn’t make sense that Mr. Xu was so rushed and his clothes are covered in dust.”

“Stop guessing, I’ll go and ask around, if it’s really those guys who are up to no good, let’s play some hardball with them.”

“OK, then go and ask around and let us know if you have any news.”

“I’ll go with you, you four wait here.”

With that, the two left to go and ask around for some information, standing guard for something like that, it wasn't a big problem to leave for a while now and then, as long as not too many people left.

They were also official officers, and not servants of the Li House.

Inside the Li Mansion.

After passing through several courtyards, finally, Xu Qingnian saw Li Xin.

At this moment, under a tree, Li Xin was carrying a book and was carefully

“My lord, Mr. Xu is here.”

As a voice rang out, Li Xin couldn't help but turn back from his book and turned his gaze to look at it, revealing a delighted look when he realised that the visitor was Xu Qingnian.

“Brother Xu, what brings you here?”

Seeing Xu Qingnian, Li Xin was indeed a little excited, he had also gone to look for Xu Qingnian in the past few days, but found that Xu Qingnian was not in the inn.

After asking some of his friends, they did not know where Xu Qingnian had gone to. He was a little curious but did not keep looking, after all, Xu Qingnian also had his own affairs.

It was just that he did not expect Xu Qingnian to make a sudden visit.

“Brother Xu, what are you?”

“Are the people from the Tianming Academy looking for trouble with Brother Xu?”

Quickly stepping in front of Xu Qingnian, looking at the dusty body of Xu Qingnian, Li Xin was a little surprised and subconsciously thought that it was the students of the Tianming Academy who were looking for trouble.

“No.”

Xu Qingnian shook his head, before sitting on the stone bench and speaking.

“Many things are inconvenient to talk about.”

“I beg you, Xiandi, have someone prepare some dishes first, I'm a bit hungry.”

“Let's talk while we eat.”

Having run all the way from Ping'an County to South Yufu, he was indeed hungry, and martial artists themselves had to eat a lot to replenish their energy.

The Great Sun Saint Body needed to replenish food and nourish its essence even more.

"Small problem."

Li Xin immediately instructed the guard who had led the way in Fang to inform the catering house and prepare some delicacies for Xu Qingnian.

After the order was given.

Li Xin poured a cup of tea for Xu Qingnian, and then he was a little impatient to say.

"Brother Xu, where have you been these days?"

"The South Yufu is going crazy, but I haven't seen any sign of you."

Li Xin poured wine and asked so.

"I went out to run some errands."

"Was it the matter of the Tianming Academy?"

Xu Qingnian asked.

"En, nowadays, the Tianming Academy is explicitly coming to see you to talk about Confucianism, but what exactly is the purpose, we all understand."

"It's nothing more than seeing that Brother Xu is so talented that he has overpowered their Tianming School and is somewhat unconvinced."

"He even invited the old dean of the Tianming Academy, a great man, a sixth-grade Confucian."

Li Xin replied.

"Sixth-ranked Zhengruan? It shouldn't be so much to reach this realm, right?"

Xu Qingnian was a little puzzled, the sixth rank of Confucianism, there was no need to be like this, according to reason.

"Brother Xu don't worry, this gentleman will certainly not actively seek trouble with you, my father made a special visit, but he wanted to come and ask Brother Xu about the article."

Li Xin replied.

“The article?”

“What did the imperial decree say? Is there a sample?”

Speaking of articles Xu Qingnian remembered, he was clearly on the An Guo policy, how come it had suddenly become a chapter of the establishment again?

“There is, brother Xu wait a moment.”

Li Xin immediately got up, and then took out a piece of rice paper from the room.

It was laid out on the stone table.

This was a topography of the holy decree, and generally speaking when the holy decree came down, all the prefectures and provinces needed to topograph it and post it on the city walls to announce it to the world.

The content was very simple.

It was only after reading it that Xu Qingnian’s brow furrowed.

## **Awaken Chapter 77 -**

The emperor’s decree was simple.

He said that the essays he had written were essays of intent.

He told everyone to learn a little from him, but as it was about intention, the Great Wei Dynasty did not need intention at the moment, so he suppressed it for a while, but did not deny his talent.

Is this not telling a lie with your eyes open?

Did the emperor read his own article?

It was clearly an article on building development and advocating prosperity, so why did it become a stand-up article?

“It is impossible for the emperor not to read my essay, if he did not read the best essay, this emperor would have achieved his head.”

“Since he read my article, he should know my purpose, but change it to a stand-up article, is it to ..... protect me?”

Soon, Xu Qingnian thought of the reason.

Other than that, Xu Qingnian could not think of a second reason, that is unless the emperor was really blind.

But that was not possible.

“Has the dynastic rivalry reached this level? Even the emperor has to be careful?”

Xu Qingnian pondered over it carefully.

It was obvious that the emperor was not a fool, so the purpose of announcing this decree was to protect himself.

The court was fighting fiercely, this was the first time Xu Qingnian had intuitively felt it, otherwise, with his own peace policy, if it were a normal dynasty, the emperor would have taken out all sorts of bragging rights and then started to make a big deal out of it.

Not to do so is not to disapprove of yourself, but rather to approve of yourself, but because of the situation, want to protect yourself first and wait for the time to be ripe before making your move.

In a flash, Xu Qingnian understood the causes and consequences.

He was a smart man, and so was the Great Wei Emperor, even going so far as to use a stand-up article to attract hatred and use external conflicts to resolve internal conflicts.

Obviously according to the empress's ideas, his own future route had already been mapped out.

Enter the capital, become an official, then start discussing how to get the money bank, immediately after sneaking off to get the money bank, and when it is ready, just start doing it, at that time even if the court full of civil servants do not agree.

The emperor has a veto power.

The reason why you don't do it now is because you are afraid that people will start to trip you up during the preliminary preparation stage.

You can't have a veto at this time, but what about later?

You can't keep playing the bumper, right?

In fact, it all boils down to one thing: the imperial power is not strong enough.

If it was solid enough, look at Zhu Taizu, if you don't agree with him, you have to kill him, and if you oppose him, you have to be extremely happy, otherwise you have to kill him too.

"Seven northern expeditions, women claiming the throne, this is the consequence ah."

Xu Qingnian understood something in general, he understood the emperor of the dynasty, but understanding is understanding, displeasure is still displeasure.

The standpoint article.

This is simply to roast oneself on the fire.

Since ancient times, the most heated debate among writers has been about intention.

The intention.

A gentleman sets his mind.

People have believed in the words of a sage, made them their ultimate ideal, worked hard for decades, and then suddenly you come up with a new idea.

But if you overturn that idea, what will people think?

It would be like telling a man in a previous life that there is no light in this world.

Beliefs collapse.

So the battle of ideas is too big in literary circles.

No, it's not too big, it's a devastating argument.

So if one wants to defuse this trouble, one has to honour the will of the sage Zhu.

Five generations of saints.

The first generation of saints, who established the Will of the Cthulhu, in the Age of Supreme Darkness

The second generation of saints, establishing the will of Confucianism, the teacher of all ages.

The third generation of saints, establishing the meaning of ritual and music, the gentleman's ritual and music.

The fourth sage, who established the meaning of ruler and subject, the ruler before and the father after.

The fifth sage established the meaning of the gentleman, to preserve the principles of heaven and destroy the desires of men, to overcome selfish desires.

In fact, there is nothing wrong with any of these five saints.

Otherwise they could not have become saints.

Their ideas were good, but they could not be added to by later generations.

They all thought that they had understood the meaning of the saints, and then imposed their own ideas on them, turning them into the meaning of the saints.

In the end, it was the sage who took the blame.

It is like storing up heavenly truths and extinguishing human desires.

It means that desires are infinite, and that we, as gentlemen and Confucian scholars, should restrain our desires.

What became of it?

You must not have desires; it is not good to have desires.

It can even be used to attack each other; you ate an extra egg today, you don't respect the sages, you don't deserve to be a man of letters.

This kind of thing is not unheard of.

Don't be disconcerted yet, because it is okay to have to over-interpret the words of a saint, after all, it is not like you can resurrect a saint.

You can't explain it clearly either, people have to mess with your words.

So Xu Qingnian is not too fond of Zhu Sheng's intentions, he respects Zhu Sheng, a human saint, who naturally has an unparalleled aura, perhaps with flaws, but how many people can become saints in ancient and modern times?

Xu Qingnian prefers a different intention.

Wang Yangming, Wang Shouren's unity of knowledge and action.

This is the idea that Xu Qingnian approves of, both are essentially the same.



Overcoming selfish desires.

But it is much better than Zhu Sheng's intention, which, whether or not it has been added to by later generations, still does not change this strict intention, which is somewhat contrary to human reason.

Wang Shouren's knowledge and action, on the other hand, is very free, and there is no need to disguise oneself and release the nature that belongs to oneself.

It is just that Xu Qingnian does not dare to say these things.

There was no other reason.

Given his current situation, if he dared to proclaim such a standpoint, all Confucian scholars in the world would be looking for him.

Ninety percent of the literati would see themselves as enemies.

It would be better for him to wait until he had grown up, when he was in control of the court and had the prestige and virtue to promote this idea.

The effect may still be the same, but at least no one will come looking for trouble.

Xu Qingnian looked at the decree and pondered.

It was at this moment that the delicacies arrived.

A plate of steaming dishes was placed on the stone table. Xu Qingnian came back to his senses and did not say anything, lifting his chopsticks and eating.

There was no point in just eating the dishes, so he asked his servants to bring a bucket of rice and prepare a few catties of meat.

As he ate, Xu Qingnian thought about what was to come.

First, there was the matter of the establishment of the will, which was not mentioned in a single word.

It didn't matter what the purpose of the Tianming Academy was, it was fine to make friends, but if they wanted to set themselves up, that wouldn't do.

If you don't mention the intention, you can let them say whatever they want.

Even when they enter the capital later, they will not say anything.

After making up his mind about this.

Xu Qingnian ate his meal even better.

The only thing that scared Li Xin at the side was that he had eaten a whole lot.

Xu Qingnian had eaten half a bucket of rice, plus three or four catties of meat, and four or five plates of dishes, this amount of rice had caught up with him for seven or eight days.

“Brother Xu, I really didn’t expect that you could eat so much.”

Li Xin smacked his lips.

“That’s how it is for people who practice martial arts.”

“By the way, Xiandi, if you don’t mind these few days, you plan to stay here for a few days, if it’s a disturbance forget it.”

Xu Qingnian smiled, while offering to stay here for a few days.

After all, with the arrival of the people from the Tianming Academy, everyone’s eyes in the South Yu Mansion had fallen on him, so instead of going out and attracting trouble, it would be better to rest in Li Xin’s home for a few days.

“That’s a big word from brother Xu, it’s an honour for my brother to have you come and stay at my humble abode, I will now have the upper room prepared.”

Li Xin was thrilled, Xu Qingnian was naturally happy to stay at his house, and he could brag about it later when he met his friends, “I am very close to Xu Dacai, and I stayed at my house in South Yu Province.

How dignified would that be?

Soon, after Xu Qingnian had her meal, Li Xin had an upper room prepared for her and arranged for four maids to follow her and wait on her.

Xu Qingnian was also casual and asked the maids to prepare the bathing water, intending to wash up first.

Although he was a martial artist now, he still had to pay attention to his personal hygiene.

Half an hour later.

Xu Qingnian took a hot bath comfortably, and Li Xin was considerate enough to have someone buy a set of clothes for himself, the fabric was of the finest silk, a set of such clothes would cost at least five taels of silver.

It was really the benefit of fame.

You can eat and drink for free and still have a set of clothes for free. The ancients were kind-hearted.

After changing into his clothes and robes.

Xu Qingnian had nothing important to do next, just to quietly read some books.

But at that moment, Li Xin came in a bit of a hurry, with a look of tears and laughter.

“Brother Xu, something big has happened.”

Li Xin opened his mouth, causing Xu Qingnian to be somewhat puzzled.

It was only half an hour before and after.

How could something big have happened?

What else has happened? Can't you just say it?

“What's going on?”

Xu Qingnian was a little curious.

“There was a fight, our South Yufu gang of officials fought over you and the students of Tianming Academy.”

Li Xin really didn't know how to speak.

“A fight?”

“How did the official officers get into a fight with the students?”

“Also, how is it for me?”

The more Xu Qingnian heard, the more confused he became, he didn't ask the Nan Yu official to fight, there's no need to dump this pot on me too, right?

You're being a bit unreasonable.

“Brother Xu, when you came here earlier, you were dusty and covered in mud.”

“Now it's being rumoured outside that the students from the Tianming Academy, seeing how arrogant you were, found you and beat you up in a fit of anger.”

“The people up and down South Yufu are all spreading the rumours, one more than the other angry, saying that South Yufu has so easily produced a great talent that they were targeted by the people of Tianming Academy and bullied South Yufu into incompetence.”

“Those constables could not hold down their tempers at once, especially two of them, who had some connections with you, shouted over a large part of the constables of the whole South Yufu.”

“When they saw the students of Tianming Academy, they beat them up very fiercely.”

“But I heard from the news that the students of Tianming Academy also had backbone, not only did they not go to explain when they were beaten, they were screaming that you were behind it, not considered a gentleman, a villain.”

“As a result, he was beaten up even more.”

Li Xin really didn't know what to say.

The whole thing was a complete oops, mainly because Xu Qingnian's prestige was too high.

After all, it was reasonable to say that the matter was none of one's business, and if the literati were beaten up, if they didn't report it to the officials, these officials wouldn't take action.

But Xu Qingnian's prestige was so high that he was blown up as the world's top genius, plus he had been suppressed by the Tianming House all these years.

The government has been suppressed by the Tianming House over the years, but when Xu Qingnian is found to have been beaten up, the South Yufu will explode.

The news was heard from the common people to the scholars and scholars, and they all exploded.

The rumors were so terrifying, plus the fact that Xu Qingnian was indeed winded all the way, completely different from her usual image, naturally led people to think that she had been beaten up.

As a result, the fuse was lit and the officials were the first to bear the brunt. The two brothers Yang Bao and Yang Hu were the first to bring their men there, followed by the students of the South Yu Province, who now regard Xu Qingnian as their idol in life.

Then came the people of the city. They already resented the students of Tianming Academy, but now you dare to bully the scholars of Nan Yu?

Do you really think that the people of Nan Yu are sick cats?

So the matter was instantly raised, and it got particularly big.

Plus this group of Tianming Academy students were one and all defiant, they were indeed defiant to Xu Qingnian, although they had been reprimanded by Wan An Guo, but defiant is defiant.

As a result, they were beaten up even worse.

“This .....

Xu Qingnian was silent.

Is it just a dirty shirt? How can this cause trouble?

These Tianming Academy students were so hated?

Xu Qingnian really didn't expect that he had been brainstormed into being beaten up after he had soiled his clothes because he was in a hurry.

This led to the Tianming Academy students being chased and beaten.

This was a little outrageous.

“So what's the best thing to do now?”

Xu Qingnian frowned, beating up a student was not a trivial matter, it was a lawsuit if it was not done properly, the two brothers Yang Bao and Yang Hu were a bit too reckless, right?

“My father has already sent soldiers over to suppress it, so in theory it should be fine.”

“I've asked Wang Ru to explain, but some people are going to be out of luck.”

“Beating up a scholar, that's no joke, gotta go to jail, no matter what the reason.”

“Brother Xu, the two people leading this, could you know them?”

Li Xin asked.

“It's called Yang Bao and Yang Hu, right? If it is them, I do know them and have a good relationship.”

“Brother Li, what do you think about this, I will write a letter now, and you can help me send it to the old dean of the Tianming Academy.”

“In this matter, my brother cannot step in, otherwise it will become more and more troublesome.”

Xu Qingnian spoke.

He definitely could not step in on such matters himself.

Although Yang Bao and Yang Hu were reckless, they started out to help themselves, and this Xu Qingnian knew, and the people of South Yufu were also towards themselves.

Although this was a misunderstanding, if he stepped in and apologised to the people of Tianming Academy, he was afraid that it would only lead to resentment.

The students of Tianming Academy were no good either, they had come over to find themselves for no reason, and in the end they wanted to step on their own to get to the top, so they deserved the beating they received.

But the old dean of the Tianming Academy is different, a real authentic Confucian, so Xu Qingnian letter of apology is no problem.

You can't show up, it's not good to chill everyone's heart, it's even worse to keep the situation frozen, in case you provoke the two houses to tear their faces off, that's a sin.

“Good, I'll go do it immediately.”

Li Xin agreed in one breath.

Xu Qingnian did not say anything and immediately entered the room, unfolding a piece of letter paper while Li Xin studied the ink at the side.

After the ink came out, Xu Qingnian moved his pen directly.

The general meaning was.

He explained the matter clearly and hoped that the other party would understand, forgive the people's hearts and also forgive these officials, he was reading sage books during this period of time and did not want to appear, not unwilling to meet, wait for the new building in South Yu to be built in a few days, he would apologize in person.

After writing the letter, Xu Qingnian put it in an envelope and asked Li Xin to help him deliver it.

At the same time, he asked Li Xin to tell the governor that he should not punish the officials as much as possible.

Li Xin nodded his head, took the letter and left, looking hot and bothered.

And then, as he watched Li Xin leave, Xu Qingnian was a little helpless.

No matter how he thought about it, he could never have imagined that he would provoke such a thing.

It seemed that in the future, one had to pay attention to one's image, so as not to be misunderstood.

And so it was.

It was until midnight.

Xu Qingnian waited quietly in the courtyard.

He didn't have the heart to read a book after such an incident, and if he wanted to find someone to go out and inquire about the news, he was afraid that other rumours would spread, so he could only wait in silence.

Finally, at two minutes past midnight.

Li Xin came back.

"Brother Xu."

"Brother Xu."

Li Xin jogged all the way, a little out of breath.

"There's no rush, have a sip of water first."

Xu Qingnian poured a cup of tea for Li Xin.

"No need."

"The matter is resolved, but the trouble is not resolved, twelve students from Tianming Academy were injured, two of them were more seriously injured, but fortunately no one was killed."

"Twenty people were arrested, twelve constables, five readers and three ordinary people."

"The ones arrested are all starters, I guess there will be a lawsuit, injuring a scholar is not a small matter."

Li Xin frowned a little and said.

“Your father couldn’t bail them out?”

Xu Qingnian was curious.

“I can’t bail him out, it’s not a matter of bailing out, I can only mediate, my father is also in a difficult position, there is a sixth-grade Confucian, he wouldn’t dare to bend the law if he wanted to.”

Li Xin directly shook his head, and then continued to speak.

“The Great Wei law, unjustified injury, three years of detention, the reader’s crime added to the first degree, at least ten years.”

“If they bite the bullet, ten years in prison will not escape.”

These words made Xu Qingnian’s brow furrow even tighter.

“Have you given the letter to Wan Rushi?”

Xu Qingnian inquired.

“I gave it, but it seems that Wan Rushi is also a bit angry.”

“Just took the letter and didn’t say a word.”

Li Xin’s answer made Xu Qingnian feel even more troubled.

To cause a wrongdoing for no reason, this was the downside of fame.

At that moment, Xu Qingnian did not speak anymore, but walked back and forth within the courtyard for a few steps, thinking of a solution.

Eventually, Xu Qingnian took a deep breath and looked at Li Xin and said.

“Go.”

When this was said, Li Xin was somewhat curious.

“Go to what place?”

“To find someone from the Tianming Academy, I will personally go over to apologise and see if we can reconcile.”

Xu Qingnian said.



“Brother Xu, they are angry now, going over there now would only be unpleasant.”

“Besides, this matter is not very much to do with you, my father’s intention is to calm their anger first, detain the group for a period of time, and then settle the matter slowly when it has passed.”

Li Xin stopped Xu Qingnian.

People are angry now, going over there is just looking for scolding, and you didn’t cause the matter, there is no need to do so.

However Xu Qingnian shook her head, glanced at the moon, and then looked at Li Xin again and said.

“This matter started because of me, if I don’t care about it, I am a gentleman in vain.”

“If Xiandi feels that it is a bit troublesome, let my brother go alone.”

Xu Qingnian meant what he said, not wanting Li Xin to continue to get involved, lest he be held in contempt.

“Brother, since you have a sincere heart, I will accompany you.”

“It’s just a big deal to be scolded, let’s go.”

Li Xin was not afraid of this, but mainly because he felt that Xu Qingnian was of noble status, so if he went over and took the initiative to apologise, would he not be degrading his status?

But after hearing Xu Qingnian’s words, he somehow felt that Xu Qingnian was worthy of being a gentleman.

He was worthy of deep friendship.

With that, the two of them left the Li residence and headed outside.

## **Awaken Chapter 78 -**

It is night.

Outside the door of a mansion in North Street.

A burst of voices rang out, filled with anger.

“Master, we are simply wronged, we were beaten up by Xu Qingnian calling for someone for no reason, this is simply a great shame.”

“Yes, this Xu Qingnian doesn’t dare to trouble us openly, but plays dirty tricks behind our backs, he is simply not a son of man.”

“I think this man is just narrow-minded.”

“If we hadn’t written to him, there’s no guarantee that Xu Qingnian wouldn’t be even bolder next time.”

Inside the mansion, the cries of the students rang out, some angrily fighting for their cause, others crying out, with gauze wrapped around their heads.

This group of students from the Tianming School would never have thought in their deaths that they would one day be beaten up.

And so viciously too.

But what they were most angry about was not the beating they received, but the loss of face.

Who were they?

They were scholars.

They were the proud sons of the heavens and drew countless admiring glances when they walked down the road, and they had never been the only ones to accuse others, but this had never happened before.

The Great Wei Dynasty, in particular, respected scholars.

If they had merit they were still not allowed to be tortured.

But the beating he received today was even worse than the torture.

“That’s enough!”

The noise rose and fell on each other, and Wan An Guo’s voice rang out, calming the scene for an instant.

He looked at the crowd, but instead of showing anger, he said extremely calmly.

“You guys should stop talking nonsense.”

“Xu Qingnian has entered the eighth rank of Confucianism, so he is obviously not such a person with an unscrupulous heart, and furthermore he has no grudge against Tianming Academy, and even if he did, he would not be able to instruct the officials to use violence against the scholars.”

“What kind of gentleman can you be if you hate each other out of cynicism and put these wrongs on Xu Qingnian?”

Wan Anguo said so, reprimanding the crowd.

His heart was brighter than a mirror, so how could he not know what this group of literati were thinking about, it was just that they wanted to use this opportunity to get themselves sued, it didn't matter if the shadow affected Xu Qingnian's first place in the provincial examination.

It doesn't matter if it affects Xu Qingnian's first place in the government exam.

After all, Xu Qingnian was too good, overpowering all the students in Tianming Academy and generating jealousy.

But he would not do that, it was not the way of a gentleman.

Moreover, he did not believe Xu Qingnian was such a person, a Confucian student who could write a superb essay, or a stand-up essay, would never do such a thing.

“Fu Zi, but no matter what, it is a fact that we were beaten up for no reason, even if we take a step back and say that it was not Xu Qingnian who directed us.”

“But it also has something to do with Xu Qingnian.”

Some people were unconvinced and couldn't help but mutter.

Indeed, whether or not it was Xu Qingnian who directed them, they didn't dare to be completely sure, but it was always a fact that they were beaten up, right?

“All right.”

“The matter has already been discussed with the old man by the Prefect, and the laws of Great Wei do not allow for provocation.”

“It will be dealt with as it should be dealt with, and justice will be done to you.”

On this point, Wan An Guo was biased towards his student, after all, his student did get beaten up.

And there was another point.

In the Great Wei, the status of a scholar is very high, and an official beating a scholar is a serious crime, and even a light sentence of ten years in prison or a heavy sentence of exile for a thousand miles is required.

Wan Anguo believed that this matter had nothing to do with Xu Qingnian.

It was precisely because he believed it that he became even more furious.

If Xu Qingnian's shadow was really behind this, he would not be so angry, after all, by using such a tactic, he could see that Xu Qingnian did not have much future.

But without Xu Qingnian's shadow, this was a violation of the laws of the Great Wei.

To put it in a small way, disrespecting the law.

To put it in a bigger way, it is disrespecting the saints.

There are three, six and nine classes of people, and for the literati, all are inferior but reading is superior.

This is also the meaning of Zhu Sheng, the meaning of every scholar.

A mere official martial artist, who disregards etiquette and injures a scholar, is a serious crime, a great crime in heaven.

Therefore, this matter was definitely dealt with by Wan An Guo in a strict manner, and there was no room for any human kindness.

After all, this was challenging the will of the saints and insulting the scholars.

And it was because of this that he was angry.

However, just at that moment, a voice rang out.

"Master, Xu Qingnian, Li Xin, requests an audience outside."

As the voice rang out, the mansion was instantly silenced.

"Xu Qingnian is here?"

"What is he doing here? Is he here to see us laugh?"

"He's not going to plead for those people, is he? Master, if Xu Qingnian is here to plead for mercy, you must not agree to it, we are not convinced!"

"Alright, you guys just cut the crap and let Fu Zi choose."

They murmured, and a few of those with gauze wrapped around their bodies spoke up even more, still angry.

“Ask him what his visit is about.”

Wan An Guo was somewhat curious and told him to ask what Xu Qingnian had come here for.

Was it to express his apologies, or to say that he was pleading for mercy?

If it was an apology, there was no harm in meeting him.

But if it was a plea for mercy, then there was no need to talk about it.

Even if it was Xu Qingnian, it was still out of the question.

At that moment, the person who informed him left.

After a few moments, he came back quickly.

“Master, Xu Qingnian said that he had come to express his apologies, and at the same time wanted to step in to resolve the matter, saying that he was willing to negotiate peacefully.”

The other party spoke, stating Xu Qingnian’s intention for coming.

“He really has the face?”

“He has the face to settle the matter? How much face does he have, Xu Qingnian?”

“If he, Xu Qingnian, had met with us before, we could have given him some face, but he didn’t even see us, and now that something has happened, he’s coming to reconcile, what a joke.”

“I won’t reconcile.”

“I won’t reconcile either.”

The crowd was unanimous, they would never reconcile, they were already angry with Xu Qingnian.

The Tianming Academy had come to see Xu Qingnian, but after waiting for four or five days, they had not seen him.

They themselves lacked a reason to trouble Xu Qingnian.

Now that they had a reason, it was impossible for them to stop there.

If they didn’t suppress Xu Qingnian’s anger, they really wouldn’t be convinced.

“Silence.”

Wan An Guo spoke again, calming the scene.

He knew that these students of his were carrying a personal vendetta, which was wrong from a gentleman’s point of view, and if there hadn’t been this incident, he would certainly have reprimanded his students.

But when something like this happened, both as their old dean and as a sixth-ranked proper Confucian.

In terms of emotion, he would naturally not take Xu Qingnian’s side.

For reason, insulting a scholar was tantamount to disrespecting a saint, so naturally he could not help Xu Qingnian.

Therefore, Wan An Guo spoke up.

“Let him go back and tell him that this matter has nothing to do with him.”

“Don’t get involved.”

Wan Anguo opened his mouth and said so.

“Yes, Fu Zi.”

The latter left at that moment.

It was only another moment before the man who had informed them came back again.

“Master, Xu Qingnian said he wanted to see you and apologise in person.”

He said so, conveying Xu Qingnian’s meaning.

“Say I’m asleep.”

Wan Anguo shook his head, the more Xu Qingnian was so unrelenting, the more he understood that Xu Qingnian was trying to plead for those people.

After a while, the sound of communication rang out again.

“Husband, he said he is willing to wait until tomorrow.”

This answer surprised Wan An Guo a little.

The crowd didn’t know what to say either.

Wan Anguo pondered, and after a while continued.

“Tell him that this matter is not as simple as hurting someone, but that a scholar has been insulted, so don’t get involved or it will affect his career.”

His attitude was firm.

But the words were also words of caution.

It was a big no-no for a warrior to beat a scholar.

The Great Wei Dynasty revered only Confucianism, and no one was allowed to be sentenced if they had merit.

This is the status of a scholar, but when he is beaten up by a group of officials and constables, a commoner, how can this be?

It is true that, in the smallest sense, it could be a misunderstanding, an apology, some silver, and some kind words, and then it would be over.

But in the grand scheme of things, this is an insult to the scholars and a disrespect to the sages.

To all literati in the world, it is a mortal sin.

You dare to hit me today.

Will you dare to kill me tomorrow?

Misunderstanding is not a reason.

Xu Qingnian is now famous all over the world, especially when the imperial decree is announced and it is known that he, Xu Qingnian, has written an essay of intention.

Others might be able to plead for mercy.

But Xu Qingnian could not ask for mercy, and if he did, he would get into a lot of trouble.

Xu Qingnian might not be able to see through this, but he could.

So it was for Xu Qingnian’s own good that he dissuaded him from getting involved.

“Yes.”

The latter went to inform again.

But he soon came back again.

And still came back with a bitter smile on his face.

“Master, Xu Qingnian said that he wanted to see you, saying that there were some things that would be better said face to face.”

“If you don’t see him, he will stay outside and not leave.”

With this statement, it was a vote on Xu Qingnian’s attitude.

However, Wan An Guo still shook his head.

“You tell him that the results of the House Examination will be out in two days, and the Prefect has already invited me to the banquet, so I will see you then, and if he is still unrelenting outside the door, I will leave tomorrow.”

Wan An Guo was also very resolute.

Not to see is to not see.

For the good of him, Xu Qingnian.

It was also for the good of his own group of students to take out some bad vibes.

One couldn’t really not help one of their own, could one?

At this moment.

Outside the mansion.

Xu Qingnian and Li Xin both waited quietly.

As the door of the mansion opened again and the other party conveyed Wan Anguo’s intention, Xu Qingnian let out a long sigh.

He could see that Wan Anguo was very determined.

If he still stayed here, the other party would indeed leave, and once he did, he would not be able to salvage it.

“Thank you for passing on the message for me, brother.”

“I also hope that elder brother will say a word for Mister Xu.”



“In this case, it was indeed a misunderstanding, I, Xu, am truly sorry, I hope that the brothers of the Tianming Academy, do not be angry.”

Xu Qingnian said, and then turned to leave.

Li Xin followed behind, silent.

To be here pleading in such a low voice, but not even seeing his face, was enough to show the other party's attitude.

It seemed like things were really going to get ugly.

“Brother Li, can we go to the main prison to take a look at them?”

On the street, Xu Qingnian asked Li Xin.

“Naturally, I can.”

Li Xin nodded his head before continuing.

“However, Brother Xu, you can actually go back first and make a trip to my father and ask him, there might be a way out as well.”

Li Xin said so.

“En, go back later, go and see them first, I need to ask something.”

Xu Qingnian nodded his head.

But he still wanted to go and see Yang Bao and Yang Hu first.

“Good. Brother Xu come with me.”

Li Xin didn't say anything and led the way ahead.

## **Awaken Chapter 79 -**

South Yufu's main prison.

It's not that the South Yu Palace is poor.

Rather, it was natural that it was impossible to deal with the prisoners, the worse the environment, the better, so that it was suffering, otherwise the wrongdoer would run in to enjoy the blessings?

“Li Gongzi, Xu Dacai, the people are detained here.”

“Originally, the people arrested were all our own people, so we would have taken care of them more or less, but the Lord Prefect gave an order not to bend the law for personal gain, so they were all locked up inside.”

The leading constable walked towards the front of the cell, while informing the reason why they were being held inside.

“Lord Prefect is right, don’t bend the law for personal gain.”

Xu Qingnian understood Li Guangxin’s meaning, now the people of Tianming Academy were angry, people were impounded inside, if they were well fed and entertained, and all kinds of back doors were opened, it would be even more troublesome.

So now it was better to do things in a businesslike manner than anything else.

Soon, Xu Qingnian and Li Xin arrived deep inside the main prison.

An inexplicable smell appeared, it was impossible to say what it was, in short it was extremely bad.

“Elder brother Xu, what brings you here?”

The sound of iron chains rang out, clanking, and deep inside the large prison, many people moved.

“It’s really Xu Qingnian.”

“Xu Da Cai, what brings you here?”

“Xu Da Cai, this is the main prison, a scholar like you, you can’t come here, it affects your qi.”

“Yes, yes, Xu Dacai, don’t tarnish your body.”

Many people opened their mouths, and the dozens of people to the left and right of the cell, after seeing Xu Qingnian coming, did not shout for Xu Qingnian to save them from getting out, but instead felt that Xu Qingnian, as a scholar, was a bit unlucky to come to the prison.

It is indeed simple to say that they are simple, but it is also true that they are helpless.

At that moment, Yang Bao and Yang Hu stood up and spoke towards Xu Qingnian.

“Elder brother Xu, it’s true that we didn’t ask questions clearly and made this mess, but you don’t have to worry, we’ll admit what punishment we need to do, it won’t cause you any trouble.”

“En, en, the big deal is that we’ll just be boarded up and put in jail for half a year, Old Brother Xu, we all agreed just now that we definitely won’t make things difficult for you.”

The two brothers, Yang Bao and Yang Hu, spoke up, very righteous, intending to carry the matter themselves.

Before Xu Qingnian could say anything, Li Xin couldn’t help but speak up.

“It would have been better if you had only received a board, this matter has gone too far, I really don’t know what to say about you guys, you dare to beat up even the readers, and now they are making a scene.”

“If they are not dealt with properly, they will be imprisoned for ten years or sent to a thousand miles, do you still think it is an ordinary nuisance?”

Li Xin couldn’t hold back a bit.

This was the loss of being uneducated, usually not reading the law at all, and not even knowing what crime they had committed.

Sure enough, as soon as Li Xin said these words, there was a clamour in the cell.

“Ten years in prison? Sent to a thousand miles? How can this be?”

“Isn’t it just a little move? How about I let them beat me up to take the edge off?”

“Didn’t you say six months at most? Ten years? What should my parents do then?”

The crowd opened their mouths, they indeed hadn’t expected to get into such big trouble.

But it made sense, each of these officials probably couldn’t even read or write and had never come into contact with such cases, so they didn’t know it would be so serious.

Of course it did happen occasionally, when a few scholars got drunk and beaten up with others, but in the end it was just a matter of paying some silver and then it was all over.

Who knew that a light case would result in ten years’ imprisonment and a heavy case would result in being sent away for a thousand miles?

“Be quiet.”

“What a wimp, it’s only ten years in jail, right? What’s there to say if you’re sent to jail?”

“That group of scholars, poking our backbone of South Yufu, although we are punished, but at least we have not disgraced South Yufu.”

Yang Bao roared.

Despite the words, it could be seen that he was still in a heavy mood.

“It’s alright.”

It was also at this moment that Xu Qingnian’s voice rang out.

After glancing at the crowd, Xu Qingnian took a deep breath, which was a little unpleasant halfway through, and immediately stopped inhaling.

“Two old brothers, this matter started because of me, you guys stood up for me, my humble brother is here to accept my gratitude.”

“You all should not be alarmed, this matter will be taken care of by Mister Xu to the end, but please also remember one thing.”

“Don’t try to be brave, you have to bow down when you have to, under the laws of the Great Wei, it is a serious crime to beat and injure one of its scholars.”

Xu Qingnian spoke up, he was indeed a little depressed about this matter, depressed to the point that he had caused wrongdoing for no reason.

But depressed as he was, he would definitely help.

There was no other reason, because this group of people were standing up for themselves, and if they didn’t help, it would be inhumane.

But Xu Qingnian’s purpose in coming over on purpose was also very simple.

He said he would not think it was a trivial matter, so that he would not have to go back and adjust himself, but these people would not be convinced and would still be shouting.

When Xu Qingnian said this, most of the people nodded their heads in thanks.

Instead, Yang Bao spoke up and said.

“Elder brother Xu, this will not affect you, right? If it affects you, you don’t have to help, we are all ordinary people, to put it bluntly, even if we are really sent to a thousand miles, we can’t harm you.”

Yang Bao was still very righteous, just a little too righteous.

“It has no effect on me, just be sure to remember what I said, when the time comes and they are willing to understand, you must learn to shut up, shut up even if you are not convinced, or say something nice.”

“One has to bow down under the roof, understand?”

Xu Qingnian stressed again.

There was no shame in this, at least save it and talk about it.

“Fine! We’ll listen to you.”

Yang Bao and Yang Hu nodded, Xu Qingnian had said this much, if he was still stubborn, then he was not having a brain problem.

“Alright, you all have suffered for a few days, so I’ll take my leave.”

Receiving a response, Xu Qingnian sighed slightly in relief and left the prison.

Li Xin followed after him, remaining silent.

After leaving the dungeon, Li Xin could not help but speak up at that moment.

“Brother Xu, this matter, I don’t think it will pass so easily.”

“In fact, there is no need for this running around, after all, this is the South Yu Province, sending a thousand miles is not so much, it is only imprisonment for ten years.”

“But it says ten years of imprisonment, I think I can be released in three to five years, and no one will remember this matter at that time.”

Li Xin followed behind Xu Qingnian and said so.

“What does Brother Li mean?”

Xu Qingnian did not answer, but asked.

“Brother Xu, let me say it directly.”

“This matter, don’t interfere, I can feel that the reason why Fu Zi Wan doesn’t see us is because this matter has become a mess.”

“It’s not good for the scholars, this is no longer an ordinary nuisance brawl, this involves the essence of the literati.”

Li Xin put it straight.

But what Li Xin could think of, Xu Qingnian could also think of.

Things were indeed troublesome.

But it was not that it could not be undone.

“Brother Li, I, Xu Qingnian, am in the world and I talk about the word human kindness, rules are dead, people are alive, this matter is indeed wrong of them, but they are also doing it for me, Xu.”

“If I disregarded them, then I, Xu, would be a gentleman in vain.”

“It’s like one day when Brother Li encounters something like this, someone Xu will also help Brother Li, this is my way of being a gentleman.”

Xu Qingnian did not say the words out loud, but that was what he meant.

If he were not a traveller, just an ordinary scholar, perhaps he would have approved of Li Xin’s words.

But the problem was that he had his own three views.

That was why he had chosen to help Yang Bao and the two of them.

“Brother Xu is benevolent.”

Li Xin had nothing more to say, Xu Qingnian was so benevolent, he indeed had nothing more to say but admiration.

With that, the two of them arrived at the Li residence.

Just after stepping into the mansion, the butler who had been waiting could not help but immediately speak out.

“Young master, Duke Xu, the master has an invitation.”

The butler’s voice rang out, and the two looked at each other, but without saying much, they walked directly towards the hall.

In the hall of the Li Mansion.

Li Guangxin stood with his hands folded, waiting for something inside the hall.

And hearing Xu Qingnian’s footsteps, he couldn’t help but turn back at that moment.

“My student Xu Qingnian, character Shouren, has met the governor.”

Meeting Li Guangxin for the first time, Xu Qingnian performed the salute of an elder and said his name as a sign of respect.

“Hahaha, nephew Shouren, don’t be so serious, you and Li Xin are close friends, just call me uncle, sit first first.”

In response to Xu Qingnian’s respect, Li Guangxin appeared much more amiable.

He let Xu Qingnian take his seat first, while glancing at his son, and said somewhat unpleasantly.

“Guests are here, don’t you even know to pour a cup of tea?”

The voice rang out and Li Xin froze a little.

But froze, Li Xin still immediately poured tea for Xu Qingnian.

“Nephew Shouren, do you want something to eat? I’ll have the caterer make it for you.”

Li Guangxin was extraordinarily kind to Xu Qingnian, such a great talent, he naturally wanted to be close.

“Uncle Li is polite, I have eaten before.”

Xu Qingnian had no appetite for food, and after politely declining, he did not intend to beat around the bush.

“Uncle Li, my nephew would like to ask, can the matter today be kindly resolved?”

Xu Qingnian got straight to the point and asked Li Guangxin directly.

As the Prefect of South Yu, Li Guangxin’s political means were definitely more than adequate and he had seen more things than himself, so he definitely had to ask carefully.

Just the mention of this.

Li Guangxin’s face changed.

After hesitating for a moment, he slowly spoke.

“Nephew Shouren, it’s not anything else, it’s best for you to stay out of this matter and not get involved.”

“Things are troublesome.”

Li Guangxin spoke out, as Li Xin did, but there were two differences between him saying this and Li Xin saying this.

Li Xin was just suggesting types, hoping that Xu Qingnian would not get involved.

However, Li Guangxin opening his mouth like this meant that this matter was really more troublesome than one might think.

“Uncle Li, how troublesome is it? Is it hard to really imprison for ten years?”

Xu Qingnian inquired.

Li Guangxin shook his head and sighed.

“If imprisonment for ten years is actually all good, all these people will only be sent a thousand miles away to hard labour for life.”

“And those involved in this matter will also have to be investigated one by one in a few days, none of them will be able to escape.”

Li Guangxin’s reply caused Xu Qingnian and Li Xin to change their expressions.

Hard labour for life?

Not a single participant could escape.

Things were ten times more serious than one imagined.

“Uncle Li, why is this?”

Xu Qingnian was a little confused.

## **Awaken Chapter 80 -**

It was not that Xu Qingnian did not understand what was happening.

Rather, this matter was indeed not as big as one would think.

This group of martial arts officials had beaten up the students of Tianming Academy for their own injustice.

On the small side, it was a misunderstanding, would it be alright if one apologised personally? If they were not satisfied, they could be punished with a caning and some silver, which would not be enough to find someone to borrow.



In the grand scheme of things, this is a class confrontation. Since ancient times, students have been noble, and it is indeed unjustifiable for a military official to beat a student.

But as a matter of fact, this incident was not organised and premeditated and targeted, it was a complete misunderstanding.

You can punish severely, but not so absolutely, as if killing by mistake and killing with intent are two entirely different concepts.

But nowadays, the attitude and meaning of the Prefect had made Xu Qingnian a little confused.

Hearing Xu Qingnian's doubts, Li Guangxin did not cover up and spoke directly.

"Nephew Shouren, it seems that you still haven't seen through this matter to come."

"This is no longer a simple nuisance brawl, nor is it the so-called humiliation of a literati, but a matter of establishment of will."

Li Guangxin spoke up, stating the elements of this matter.

The intention?

Xu Qingnian frowned, why did it come back to the intention?

Seeing Xu Qingnian's confusion, Li Guangxin continued to speak.

"Forget it, Uncle Li won't beat around the bush."

"This matter, if it was just one Wan Anguo, with Mr. Wan behind it, actually Uncle Li would be able to suppress it."

"But unfortunately, a great scholar has come to our South Yufu, and this person is a relative of a student of the Tianming Academy."

"Do you understand now how serious the matter is?"

Li Guangxin did not hide it anymore and told the secret.

Sure enough, once this was said, Xu Qingnian and Li Xin's faces couldn't help but change.

No wonder being the prefect, he said such words, it turned out that there was a great Confucian above him, otherwise, as a local parent official, his authority was naturally great, and it was reasonable to slightly suppress it.

“Father, a great Confucian is personally visiting the South Yufu, just because of such matters?”

Li Xin couldn't help but ask, this was a bit unreasonable, a great Confucian was the top of the literati in the world, the fifth rank was a great Confucian, the fourth rank was a great Confucian of heaven and earth, and at the higher level it touched the saint realm.

So basically, the Great Confucian has reached the top, and there is only one Great Confucian of Heaven and Earth in the whole of Wei, unlike the martial arts practitioners who generally have a first-rate existence in the world.

Therefore, the status of a great Confucian was too high.

But what Li Xin didn't understand was that a great Confucian was so up in arms over a matter like this?

That would be a bit unreasonable, right?

“Naturally not.”

“This great scholar, for sure, would not make a big fuss over a matter like this.”

“What he is actually after is Shouren's nephew, you.”

Li Guangxin opened his mouth, and when he said this, it puzzled the two even more.

“For me?”

Xu Qingnian looked at Li Guangxin.

“En, this great Confucian, named Yan Lei, is one of the first deans of the White Deer School, and has come here for the purpose of the Rising Ideas article.”

Li Guangxin stated the core reason.

“I understand.”

As Li Guangxin spoke, Xu Qingnian instantly became clear.

The White Deer Academy was one of the four great academies of the Great Wei, and was also a famous academy in the world, and the main reason why it was famous was because a sage had come out.

This sage was Zhu Sheng.

Naturally the students who entered the White Deer School all respected the will of Zhu Sheng as their own intention, and one of the great scholars had immense respect for Zhu Sheng.

Writing a superb essay of one's own, and one of one's own will, would naturally lead to suspicion in the world.

In particular, those who believed in Zhu Sheng's intention could not wait to find him, and it would be a great blessing for them if he continued Zhu Sheng's intention in this superb article.

On the one hand, they could be drawn in, and on the other hand, they could learn and thus gain an epiphany.

But if it is a new idea, they will stop it in time, as well as suppress it.

There were too many things involved in this.

So, at this moment Xu Qingnian understood.

"Uncle Li, that means that whether it's Fu Zi Wan of the Tian Ming School or this Yan Lei Yan Da Ru, they are all here to find me, just for the stance essay."

Xu Qingnian asked.

When this was said, Li Xin could not help but interject.

"Isn't this quite good? If they only came to you, Brother Xu, no matter what the Establishment Article actually is, just say that they are following Zhu Sheng's wishes, obeying their hearts and settling the matter, and then all will be happy, won't that be fine?"

Li Xin had a relatively simple idea.

Speak out this method.

But as soon as the words were spoken, both Xu Qingnian and Li Guangxin spoke out almost at the same moment.

"No way!"

"No way!"

Both of them spoke in unison, denying this method.

The reason was simple.

If they admitted that the essay they had written was a continuation of Zhu Sheng's intention, then it would be even more impossible to resolve the matter.

What is the meaning of Zhu Sheng?

There are three, six, and nine classes of people, and a scholar is the first class, while the rest are all inferior.

Under such an intention, a military official committing murder against a scholar is a serious crime and cannot be tolerated.

Therefore, if you say that you support the will of Zhu Sheng, then you cannot intercede for them; this is the will of the sages.

But if you say that you are not a continuation of the saint's will, then there is even more trouble.

But the only good thing is that you can step in to rescue these people.

But one will be caught inside a heavenly whirlpool, jump out, one is a saint, jump out not, then one can wait to die, of course it is fine to have a good mind, let the world's literati spit on you.

The world can be misunderstood.

At this moment, Xu Qingnian completely understood why Li Guangxin said, let himself not get involved.

The great scholar Yan Lei used this matter as an excuse to probe his own bottom.

This move was not a conspiracy, but an unresolved Yang plot.

At this moment, Xu Qingnian understood the seriousness of this matter.

He was silent, and Li Guangxin continued to speak.

"This matter, which is already a dead end, also involves more than just the issue of intention, it also involves the law of the land."

"In short, nephew Shouren, you really should not get involved in this matter."

"If Yang Bao and Yang Hu are sent a thousand miles away, I will find someone to take care of them, they will suffer a bit, but if they are lucky, they may be able to recover their lives."

The first time he said this, Li Guangxin patted Xu Qingnian's shoulder, as a kind of comfort.

But when he said this, Li Guangxin himself did not believe it.

This is the land of poverty and hardship, how many of those who do hard labour can end up well? If they did not do well, they would be punished.

As for the idea of finding someone to ask for connections, these connections were not solid either.

So, the punishment is just a chronic death.

"Thank you, Uncle Li, for your guidance."

Xu Qingnian returned, but he looked a little preoccupied, still thinking about the matter.

"Actually, there is not necessarily no chance of salvation, so wait for some days later, when the building banquet is held, I will personally plead with the other party, there might be a chance of salvation, and strive for ten years of imprisonment."

Li Guangxin gave a slight comfort.

He told Xu Qingnian to relax.

And Xu Qingnian nodded, and said nothing more.

The hour was getting late.

Xu Qingnian said goodbye, and Li Xin sent Xu Qingnian back to his room, before turning back.

Seeing his father again, Li Xin could not help but speak.

"Father, this matter, is there really no chance of saving it?"

"My child knows what brother Xu means, he is a righteous and benevolent man, he cannot possibly see death without saving it."

Li Xin asked.

Inside the main hall.

Li Guangxin shook his head, when Xu Qingnian was around, he did not dare to be too absolute in his words.

However, facing his own son, Li Guangxin spoke directly.

“This matter, which involves too much, is a taboo since ancient times for literati to set their intentions.”

“Xu Qingnian is indeed a great talent, but you must dissuade him in a good way, to the point, say a few good words and forget about it, it is also considered to be kind and righteous.”

“Otherwise, a big mistake will be made, and then he will be in real trouble; ninety percent of the world’s literati will be his enemies, and it will be even harder to go to the court.”

“Remember?”

Li Guangxin said, telling his son to make sure to discourage Xu Qingnian in these days and not to be reckless.

“My son understands, but ..... If brother Xu still insists, what should I do?”

Li Xin asked.

This sentence had another meaning.

The meaning was also simple: if Xu Qingnian had to insist and would rather offend the world’s literati, then would he still want to get so close to Xu Qingnian.

Would it affect his own father’s career?

“What do you mean?”

Li Guangxin instantly understood, he looked at his son and asked so.

“My son’s meaning is simple, Brother Xu is a righteous man with noble character, if Brother Xu offends the literati of the world, my son is also willing to accompany Brother Xu.”

“Such a benevolent and righteous man is worthy of deep friendship.”

“But I am afraid that it will affect my father’s career, in which case it would be unfilial, and I cannot choose at the moment.”

Li Xin spoke his mind.

He thought highly of Xu Qingnian, especially because Xu Qingnian was willing to help out for some official martial artists, which made him admire him immensely.

If he made friends with such a person, he would be a true friend, helping each other.

Hearing Li Xin's words, Li Guangxin pondered for a while.

Finally, he let out a long sigh and said.

"If that is really the case, then let your own heart be your wish."

"This person, Xu Qingnian, is indeed a rare great talent, both talented and with such character, I previously thought that his future achievement might be that of a great Confucian, now it seems that he is at least a great Confucian of heaven and earth."

"But it is still time to discourage, as much as possible, not to go any farther."

Li Guangxin didn't say anything more.

He supported Li Xin.

"Yes, thanks a lot father."

Li Xin made a salute and then left.

After Li Xin left, Li Guangxin let out a long sigh.

Looking at the moonlight outside the door, he did not know what he was thinking about.

And so it was.

Two days in a row.

The news that a great scholar had come to South Yufu came out, and for a while, the whole South Yufu was both shocked and surprised.

And then the South Yufu officials began to go from house to house to search.

No one who had been involved in the brawl two days ago escaped, no matter how old or young.

In the past two days, the people of Nan Yu were in a state of panic, but more than that, they were in a state of frustration.

After all, the foreign students, who came to South Yufu to provoke a fight, were arrested because of a misunderstanding, and three to four hundred people were arrested before and after.

There was no shortage of innocent people among them.

But the people did not fight with the officials, and the people could only wait for news, not daring to move, but the folk accumulated anger.

The good thing is that the people had heard that Xu Qingnian had personally gone to the prison and promised to save the people.

So although they were a little angry, they put all their hopes on Xu Qingnian.

And so it went on for another two days.

The South Yufu officials were still searching for them, and were a little more serious than the previous two days.

From the participants before, to those who witnessed it now, they were all arrested and taken in, as well as some of the people who had spread rumours, and a small number were released, because they were indeed innocent.

The whole South Yufu could be said to be on edge.

But for the students of the Tianming Academy, there was much rejoicing, and a few even clapped and laughed when they saw the officials arresting people.

It also led to some public discontent.

But no one dared to take action, even though they were angry.

Who would dare to take action against the students?

There was anger.

But they could only hold back.

And on this very day.

During the Wuchang period of the Great Wei Dynasty, the results of the first provincial examinations were also officially announced.

There was no doubt that the person who ranked first was Xu Qingnian.

Compared to the bustling atmosphere in the major prefectures of the Great Wei Dynasty.

The Southern Yu Province was a little cold.

Again, today is the day.



A banquet is being prepared at the South Yu Mansion, where all the local scholars and scholars, as well as officials from various prefectures and counties, are being treated to a banquet.

But many people know that.

Today's banquet, I am afraid, is going to cause some trouble.