Emperor 2431

Chapter 2431: Sun Lengying's Retirement

"And?" Li Qiye smiled at the anxious man.

"Your Majesty, the world will change after Elder Sun's departure. No one else can control the soldiers and military in the dynasty. The first to disobey you will be Silver Secret, then Central Legion and the rest. Without these seven legions, the officials won't be the only ones who won't follow your orders. The lineages such as the five great powers will begin to covet your authority and land. They might even start a campaign against you while no one will answer your call. It was a mistake, Your Majesty." Jiadi was disappointed at the youth.

"So what? They can do whatever they want. As long as the sky is still up there, the land is still there for enjoyment and squandering. I might as well be the one to do it."

Jiadi sighed again. Lengying's retirement has decided everything. The only thing he could hope for right now was for Li Qiye to mature and stopped acting on a whim.

"Your Majesty, yes, the sky isn't falling down but your kingdom is in trouble. Your life is in danger as well." Jiadi sincerely said.

"That just means the game is over when the kingdom is gone, but as for my life? I'm still waiting for someone capable of taking it." Li Qiye smiled.

Jiadi lamented in his mind. At this point, he began to question Lucidity's choice in picking Li Qiye. Nevertheless, he maintained his conviction and loyalty towards Lucidity.

No secret could remain unheard. Though there was no public announcement of Sun Lengying's retirement, those actively caring still found out.

"Sun Lengying is retiring?!" Shock was the first reaction.

"Why would the new king allow it?" Many didn't believe it.

Everyone knew that the king relied on Lengying for stability and couldn't suppress the other factions alone.

"Maybe the new king wishes to crush any potential opposition. After all, Lengying is still part of the old regime and with his presence, the king can't have total autonomy." Someone else mused.

"Without Lengying, this new king can't handle the seven legions and stabilize the unrest. I don't even think he can stay on the throne or keep his life, let alone having full reign." A sect master sneered.

Ultimately, Lucidity King was unique. Only someone like him could maintain control of Nine Secrets after killing all of his opposition.

"Well, this new king is quite foolish then." A royal lord found letting Lengying retire as an irrational choice.

"We shouldn't be surprised, did you see that ridiculous coronation?" An ancestor laughed.

Asking for beauties from the five great powers as tributes? Such a king would be able to do anything else.

"The chance is here, the tallest buildings will fall to the incoming storm." Another ancestor had a cold flash in his eyes.

A different atmosphere invaded the camps of the seven legions after hearing of Lengying's departure. They had different plans; some wanted to know what Lengying was going to do because of his influence.

However, they found that he had disappeared completely after leaving the palace. It seemed that he wished to be left alone.

On the second day of this news, Silver Secret Legion began to march away from the imperial city.

"Silver Secret is leaving." Others naturally took note of this.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye was relaxing in his garden, enjoying the breeze and the services of his palace maids.

"Your Majesty! Something unfavorable has happened!" Jiadi rushed in.

"Jiadi, what's the hurry? Look at how beautiful it is today." Li Qiye smiled as a maid served him some fruit.

"No, the sky is about to fall." Jiadi got closer with a serious expression.

"Oh? Do tell." Li Qiye said without actually paying much attention.

"Silver Legion wishes to withdraw without your orders." Jiadi said.

"Where to?" Li Qiye remained unmoved.

"I don't know, but given the circumstances, Your Majesty, you need to get them to stay here. As long as they're around, you still have a chance to control the situation." Jiadi hurriedly explained.

"Is that so? But we can't force people to stay when they want to leave." Li Qiye smiled.

"Your Majesty, you need to personally go to the camp and persuade the generals. I have good ties with them and maybe we can convince them otherwise." Jiadi said seriously.

"What's the chance of them staying just because of you and me?" Li Qiye replied.

"Thirty percent." Jiadi pondered before answering: "Your Majesty, we need to at least try."

"Let them go. Certain things can't be helped, such as the rain ruining a beautiful day or mothers needing to remarry again." Li Qiye waved his hand. [1]

"But, but... Your Majesty..." Jiadi didn't give up.

"Jiadi, I know what you're trying to say. Don't worry, no big deal if the kingdom falls." Li Qiye said.

Jiadi felt helpless following such a ridiculous master. Talking was useless now; he couldn't change anything.

In the end, Silver Secret left the imperial city. No generals even bothered to report to the new king; they didn't even send messengers. This was an unauthorized mobilization, treating the king with utter contempt.

"No one can control a monster like Silver Secret now that Sun Lengying is gone." Someone said sentimentally after seeing this.

"Where will they go?" People wondered because it could take over any area in the system, given its might.

They could easily influence the tides of the future, so even the five great powers were watching every movement from them.

After leaving the city, the entire legion also disappeared from sight. It seemed that this retreat was premeditated, not just a hurried decision.

"What? Silver Legion is gone?! How can a massive legion disappear just like that?!" An ancestor found this astonishing.

But this was indeed the case. An army of one million soldiers vanished without leaving a single trace. No one knew where it was heading to.

After this was confirmed, an ancestor murmured: "They must have planned this a while ago, perhaps they knew about this king before the coronation, so they started thinking about a retreat path. The only reason why they assisted with the ceremony was to honor and carry out a promise with the late king."

Some finally realized that from the very beginning, the insiders didn't have a good opinion of the new king.

After all, Lengying and Silver Secret were confidents of Lucidity. They knew about the crown prince before anyone else.

"What about us?" The main fighting force of War Saint, the Central Legion, began to wonder.

The Imperial Guard of the capital and the four cardinal legions became impatient. These six legions, unlike Silver Secret, had fixed assignments. They couldn't just up and disappear like Silver Secret.

Moreover, they had their own territories and didn't need to retreat. Right now, the question was whether to support this young king or to start planning in the shadows.

Ultimately, it became clear as day that War Saint Dynasty was unstable. No Sun Lengying, no Silver Secret, the new king was useless. If the six legions were to stop following orders, Nine Secrets will have a new master soon enough.

Chapter 2432: Swapped Consort

War Saint Dynasty remained peaceful. The six legions and various powers didn't take action after the departure of Silver Secret.

However, this was only the calm before the storm. Everyone could sense unrest in the air; people were growing impatient in the shadows.

Just imagine, Lucidity King had gathered an unprecedented authority in Nine Secrets after ruling for three generations. War Saint Dynasty had accumulated an incredible amount of treasures and vast lands. The rest of the world naturally coveted this, especially when the new king was so useless.

This king right now was completely oblivious and uncaring of current events. On the other hand, Jiadi worked hard with his intelligent network, keeping up to date about the movements of the various sects and the six legions.

He was still absolutely loyal to Li Qiye, not wanting War Saint Dynasty to crumble in this manner.

Unfortunately, he had his limits despite being a powerful Eternal. After all, there were plenty of Eternals in such a powerful system.

He was still one level below Sun Lengying in terms of actual power and prestige. Lengying had followed Lucidity for three generations and had many great conquests during that period. Thus, he possessed an intimidating reputation.

He could threaten the five supreme ancestors, but not Jiadi. Not to mention these beings, he couldn't influence the generals of Silver Secret.

In fact, Jiadi had tried his best to convince the generals of Silver Secret. Alas, they didn't give him any face and still decided to leave. On the other hand, Lengying just needed to say one word and they would stay.

Li Qiye didn't feel the same anxiety as Jiadi, still as nonchalant as ever.

"Your Majesty, the Bingchi has brought the Consort here." Jiadi changed the topic.

He referred to her as Consort instead of Queen because the role was yet to be determined since there were five of them.

"Their golden daughter? Quite fast then, take her here to see me." Li Qiye said with a smile.

"Let's her have some time to get ready." Jiadi smiled wryly after seeing Li Qiye's eagerness.

"Mmm." Li Qiye agreed carefreely.

The girl from the Bingchi washed her face and prepared before being led by palace maids to see the new king.

The sounds of maid uniforms and clanking adornments came about. A girl walked out among a group of maids. She dressed in a red gown embroidered with a golden phoenix, looking exquisitely noble.

She was naturally nervous, knowing that this new king would sleep with her tonight. As an innocent girl, she was going to marry someone she had never met before, not knowing anything about him.

She only took a quick glance at the man sitting on the throne before lowering her head and prostrating once she got close enough: "Greetings, Your Majesty."

"Raise your head." Li Qiye told her.

She was surprised to hear his voice, seemingly a bit familiar as if she had heard it before.

She slowly raised her head and saw a faint smile from the king. This made her almost jump up with her mouth wide open.

"Stand up." Li Qiye smiled and gestured.

Meanwhile, Jiadi standing behind him suddenly became serious with a flash in his eyes.

The girl didn't know what to do so she looked quite awkward, not knowing where to put her hands.

"Young miss, fate always brings people back together." Li Qiye smirked.

"I..." The girl didn't know what to say. Not even in her dream would she expect for the infamous Chaos Hellion to be the new king.

This girl was obviously Bingchi Yingjian from the forge. It was quite interesting that she was chosen by the Bingchi to be the saintess for the marriage. Of course, this wasn't her choice.

"So you're the Bingchi's representative?" Li Qiye rubbed his chin and smiled.

Her heart turned cold. The only reason she agreed was so that her branch could return to the Bingchi Clan once more.

"I'm, I'm a descendant of Weaponbreak True Emperor, so I can still represent the orthodox branch of the Bingchi." She bit her lip and quietly said.

She was confused because of his current status and their brief meeting in the past.

"No defects that I can see." Li Qiye smiled: "The bloodline of a True Emperor is prestigious indeed. Moreover, Weaponbreak was an exceptional one among them. So yes, his branch can be considered the orthodox one."

She heaved a sigh of relief after hearing this.

Li Qiye said: "Jiadi. Who should have been the Bingchi Consort, in theory?"

"Your Majesty, it should be Bingchi Hanyu, a descendant of Bingchi Juezun, according to His Late Majesty's wish." Jiadi said with a grave tone.

"How interesting." Li Qiye was amused: "Looks like this clan wishes to trick us."

When Juezun made an agreement with Lucidity about marrying their noblest bloodline to the throne, it should have been their princess - Hanyu.

However, because of the deterioration of the dynasty, the Bingchi changed their mind because they had a negative opinion on the new king and the future of the dynasty. Thus, they found a princess in exile, Yingjian, in order to replace Hanyu.

This was still a reasonable choice. After all, Yingjian's bloodline was also prestigious. In fact, if one only took their bloodline into consideration, Yingjian's was even better than Hanyu's. Furthermore, she has also been bestowed the title of princess in the clan, so sending her here to be the consort couldn't truly be considered disobeying the late king's order.

"This has nothing to do with the Bingchi, I, I want to be here." Yingjian became anxious and quietly said, not daring to look at Li Qiye while speaking.

"Ever since the defeat of Bingchi Kuangfang, your branch has been removed from the Bingchi, so how can it still represent them?" Jiadi's eyes turned cold.

When an Eternal became serious like this, Yingjian became intimidated and trembled with fear.

"Jiadi, you're scaring the young miss." Li Qiye smiled and waved his sleeve towards Jiadi: "Go rest, it must have been a long journey."

She was completely surprised. The Chaos Hellion was rumored to be lecherous, loving sex as much as his own life and had no regards for laws. This didn't seem to be the case right now.

She hesitated for a bit, mouth slightly open - wanting to speak. In the end, she chose to kneel and leave.

Li Qiye then said: "How interesting, Jiadi, send my order to the Central Legion, tell them to march and attack the Bingchi."

"Your Majesty!" Jiadi was caught off guard. Was this a joke?

"What, is there a problem?" Li Qiye smiled.

"Your Majesty, that, that's not doable." Jiadi hurriedly explained: "This deceitful swap from them is a crime punishable by death. I know that you're furious, Your Majesty, but this isn't possible. The situation is too delicate right now, we can't mobilize the Central Legion."

An imperial marriage was a great matter. Using a fake princess to deceive a king? Any king would be furious after this.

"No, you're mistaken, I'm not angry at all, especially about something this trivial. However, this is a good chance. I've been wanting to be criticized as a warmongering madman. The Bingchi is giving me this opportunity since my plan is to march across the realm, putting those like the Bingchi and Waterfront Pavilion in their place. I don't need to come up with a reason now after this deceit, it is time to mobilize and take them down."

Chapter 2433: How To Have Fun

Jiadi was slack-jawed and wide-eyed for the first time. He thought Li Qiye only wished to be a debaucherous emperor, not expecting him to dare and attack the great powers.

He felt that the guy was insane. Even Lucidity never did something like this. He had swept through Nine Secrets before and had thoughts about destroying the five great powers, but these thoughts never came into fruition.

"Your Majesty, we mustn't." Jiadi hastily elaborated: "The Bingchi is famous for their military prowess, I'm afraid the Central Legion can't match them in a direct contest."

"Oh? The Central Legion isn't enough? Send the North, South, West, and East Legion too then."

"What?!" Jiadi was bewildered. Moving the Central Legion alone was enough to cause a stir, but all five legions? It would cause widespread panic and chaos. The dynasty might even fall overnight because of this decision. Only Lucidity would dare to go all out like this.

"Your Majesty, please reconsider. Once all five are sent to the battlefield, turmoil will pervade our dynasty and the enemies will take advantage of this. It'll put us in a precarious situation." Jiadi tried his best.

"It's fine. Just let the dynasty crumble in that case. Go order the five legions now, tell the Bingchi that if they wish to survive, hand that girl named Bingchi Hanyu over along with a dowry of one hundred, nay, one thousand beauties. They must be gorgeous and well-endowed."

"Your Majesty, if you want girls, just say the word and I can send people to pick for you. There are countless beauties in Nine Secrets and you can select them later. Whoever you want, big butt, large breasts... No need to mobilize against the Bingchi." Jiadi advised.

"Jiadi, wrong again." Li Qiye smiled and shook his head: "If I just want women, then I don't need to do something like this. I, Li Qiye, just need to beckon and numerous saintesses will come running. Plus, even though I might be considered an incapable king right now, I'm still a king. Getting women is not a problem, however many I would like, but those women are only there for a little bit of fun."

"Your Majesty..." The Eternal stood there looking silly.

"That's not enough. If I am King, then I should be able to play and have fun with anything. Women or the world itself. Mobilize and attack whoever annoys me with my massive army! We'll see who wants to play back!" Li Qiye said.

"Your Majesty, you still haven't gotten a firm grasp on the kingdom. If the legions were to lose, it'll be over for the dynasty." Jiadi convinced.

"Like I have said before, Jiadi, I didn't toil to create this kingdom so I don't care." Li Qiye answered.

Which other kings would want their kingdom to crumble? Only Li Qiye could be so nonchalant about a potential demise. He's treating his authority right now in Nine Secret as a game.

"Your Majesty, the flames of war will incinerate the sky; the people will lament and wail; so many innocent victims and combatants will fall as a result, please think about your citizens and their happiness." Jiadi tried again.

"Think about the citizens and their happiness? Jiadi, tell me what you think about Lucidity King?" Li Qiye answered with a question.

Jiadi was surprised, not sure why Li Qiye would bring Lucidity up.

"The late king is wise and mighty." Jiadi replied without embellishing. Lucidity was indeed worthy of this description.

"A wise and mighty king, you think he'll make a mistake because of senility?" Li Qiye smiled.

"I don't know." Jiadi shook his head. It was virtually impossible for an Eternal to become senile.

"A wise and mighty king, not senile, mind you, suddenly pass down his throne to a bastard like me instead of Sun Lengying or other talents in War Saint Dynasty? Tell me, Jiadi, what is he thinking?" Li Qiye smiled.

Jiadi couldn't respond. Lucidity's wisdom was unquestionable, completely proven after three generations. However, his choice of Li Qiye was inexplicable. The only logical explanation entailed that Li Qiye was an illegitimate child.

"Many people believe that I'm his illegitimate child, but even then, passing the throne down to someone useless and ridiculous as myself? Is he that irresponsible?" Li Qiye went on with a grin: "This kingdom is built upon his blood and sweat, yet he gave it to me just like that? Do you think he cared about the citizens and happiness when he made the choice? Of course not!"

"If he didn't give a damn about his own kingdom, then why should I, a king by chance, toil and protect this kingdom for him? Why should I care about his citizens? I don't give a shit about the whole thing. That's why I'm going to have fun and do whatever I want right now."

Jiadi pondered, not knowing what to say. Lucidity's choice might be the most unfathomable question in the world right now.

As a guard, he had followed Lucidity for a long time. He himself was confused because Li Qiye was far from being a good candidate.

"And, Jiadi, let's say that I want to be a good king, prudence and capable of administration, do you think my legacy will ever surpass Lucidity, a king of three generations? Will my pages in the history books be thicker than his?"

Jiadi gently shook his head and sincerely answered: "Impossible."

Under the reign of Lucidity, War Sainty Dynasty has reached its golden age and Nine Secrets has become one of the strongest systems in Imperial.

Regardless of Li Qiye's effort in the future, he would ever be able to surpass Lucidity. The future generations would only think of him as an inheritor, benefited from the great kingdom left behind by Lucidity.

Under Lucidity's blinding glory, any achievements from Li Qiye would seem so trivial.

"So, what if War Saint Dynasty is on the verge of collapse?" Li Qiye smiled: "And I create a new dynasty, sweeping through the world, destroying the five great powers, forcing everyone to prostrate before me, how does that compare to Lucidity's achievements?"

"Well..." Jiadi became frozen.

A founding king that managed to destroy the five great powers and take over? Such an achievement would indeed be above Lucidity's.

"Your Majesty..." Jiadi immediately realized what Li Qiye wanted to do. It was to break then rebuild. He actually wished for War Saint Dynasty's demise.

"I'm just casually speaking. This break and rebuild thing is just for fun. When I'm in a good mood, this land will be eternal; I will rebuild when necessary. When the opposite is true, all will turn to ashes and I will leave it as ruins. This is not my choice. Lucidity King was the one who made the decision, got it?" Li Qiye said.

Jiadi had no response.

"Alright, go send my orders for the five legions to immediately mobilize for the Bingchi. If they don't hand over Bingchi Hanyu and 100,000 beauties, War Saint Dynasty will eradicate them!" Li Qiye nonchalantly waved his sleeve.

"I shall obey." Jiadi couldn't do anything else but to follow the order.

He sighed as he was leaving. In the past, he felt that the imperious Lucidity's conduct was out of the norms, borderline being crazy. But now, Li Qiye was actually insane! His choices were madness.

He still didn't know why Lucidity chose Li Qiye, but he found a point of familiarity between the two-they were both madmen!

He lacked the power to change anything since he didn't wish to go against Lucidity's will. That would be considered betrayal, violating the mission given to him.

Li Qiye lazily lay down and smiled after Jiadi was gone: "It's time to have fun. We'll see who is a chess piece and who is the player."

Chapter 2434: Offense On The Bingchi

"Mobilize against the Bingchi Clan?" The generals from the five legions were stunned after receiving Jiadi's order.

It was simply illogical; something that Lucidity King didn't even attempt. This new king has yet to sit stably on his throne but already wanted to go against one of the five great powers? They thought he was insane.

"My Lord, this must be wrong?" The commander from the Central Legion asked.

"Yes, My Lord, are we going to our death over some women? It's ridiculous!" The commander of the Eastern Legion grumbled.

Jiadi sighed and placed the military seal on the table: "An imperial order is not to be questioned. My Lords, follow His Majesty's order, mobilize now."

The five commanders glanced at each other after hearing this.

"I await your triumphant return." Jiadi gave his blessing before leaving.

"So ludicrous!" The Southern Commander shouted and slammed the military seal: "Does he not know what kind of existence the Bingchi Clan is? Without Silver Secret in command, we might not necessarily win this war! This useless ruler is mad!"

"Watch your words." The Western Commander said seriously: "What else can we do but obey orders?"

This was an official order; were they going to refuse?

The five of them scowled before grabbing the military seal and left.

"Rumble!" Loud explosions resounded in Nine Secrets as massive armies cleaned up their camps and began to mobilize.

The five legions were the pillars of War Saint Dynasty so they were closely watched by others. Moreover, this caused quite a great commotion. It was impossible not attracting attention.

"What are they doing?" People were confused at this rare and potentially earth-shattering event.

"The flame of war is about to reach the sky." Everyone was frightened despite not knowing who their target was.

Sects and kingdoms were scared out of their mind; its inhabitants were nervous about any loud sounds. This was understandable because only a few powers could actually resist the combined might of the five legions.

"Rumble!" The earth quaked while the banners blotted out the sun. Their march spanned for a million miles - threatening territories everywhere. [1]

Not a single disciple dared to leave their sect as the army was marching by.

It was a lightning-fast blitz heading straight for the Bingchi Clan!

"The Bingchi!" Everyone instantly realized what was going on after seeing the direction of the five legions.

"Damn, the new king wants to take the initiative against the five great powers? The Bingchi will be the first?" Even the ancestors from various sects were frightened.

This new king didn't have a firm grasp on his kingdom yet he wanted to fight already? This was simply insane. The Bingchi was mighty and unfathomable. Picking this clan to be the first target was unwise.

"Clang! Clang! Clang!" The clan was under alert with warning gongs before the army even got there. All ten million miles of the clan became vigilant. They began to mobilize their own troops towards the border.

Dust flew everywhere as the cavalries marched thunderously; their banners blotted out the sky.

They naturally didn't dare to underestimate the five legions and gathered all of their forces. Every disciple was ready to fight in just one night. One could see the bright reflection of weapons everywhere.

"Commanders, why are your legions heading for our borders?" The clan master spoke from afar.

"Bingchi Clan Master, don't play the fool now." The Central Commander roared: "Your clan treacherously sent a fake princess to the palace. This is unforgivable. His Majesty orders you to hand over Bingchi Hanyu on top of ten thousand beauties or face destruction!"

The Bingchi Clan Master's expression became unsightly. The listeners also became confused.

They have heard about the marriage alliances after the coronation. The five great powers would send their golden daughters to the palace to serve the king. Who would have thought that the Bingchi would send a fake one?

"How ridiculous. Starting a great war over a woman?" One sect master was stunned: "Does he want to lose all of his prestige? This is pushing War Saint Dynasty over the edge. This king is excessively deprayed."

"After hearing this demand, I would say that no other king in history is as lascivious as him." An ancestor smiled wryly.

A few big shots saw this and shook their head: "Well, the Bingchi is brave as well. The late king has only passed away recently yet they dared to disobey his wishes already, showing utter contempt for the new king as well, no wonder why he is furious."

"Two tigers fighting will leave one wounded." Some were gloating over this event and wanted to watch, biding for the right moment to take advantage of the situation.

"Rumble!" After arriving at the border, the five legions instantly erected their garrisons and formed formations, ready to attack the clan at a moment's notice.

At the same time, the Bingchi also sent all of their forces to their side of the border.

Two million-strong armies took up the entire field like an ocean of soldier. The glint of their weapons illuminated the area, filled with ruthlessness just like a tsunami drowning the earth. The area became quiet; the soldiers didn't dare to breathe loudly under this atmosphere.

On the contrary, Li Qiye didn't sense any of this bloodthirst. He was still nonchalant as ever; nothing else to do outside of cultivating all day. He didn't even care about the outcome of the great battle.

Zhang Jiadi suffered instead, worrying about the battle on top of the movements from the other great powers. He didn't have a second of free time.

"Your Majesty." Li Qiye had just finished his cultivating session and was resting on his chair. Suddenly, a worried voice came about. The maids couldn't stop this person from coming in - Bingchi Yingjian.

The girl in her precious dress kneeled and quietly said: "This has nothing to do with the Bingchi Clan, it is my fault. Please punish me instead."

The mobilization of the legions frightened her so she came to beg for forgiveness.

"Rise." He still lazily lay there and only gave her a quick glance.

"Your Majesty, please." The girl begged again but he ignored her, closing his eyes.

The attempt was a failure and she didn't know what to do. Eventually, she got up and stood to the side.

Li Qiye waved his hand, gesturing for the maids to leave.

"Give me a massage." He casually ordered.

Bingchi Yingjian didn't dare to refuse and started massaging his back in a stiff manner. Though she was a member of a fallen branch, she had never served a man before.

Nevertheless, she was aware of her situation in the palace and still listened to Li Qiye, albeit unwillingly. She tried her best, though this wasn't her area of expertise so she was quite clumsy. Moreover, she was overwhelmed with the fear that he would do something to her.

Of course, she thought it was inevitable and had accepted her face after agreeing to the marriage. This nervous feeling was understandable, common in all girls.

Li Qiye didn't mind her lack of skills and continued to rest.

Chapter 2435: Rebellion

Li Qiye seemed to be asleep the entire time and didn't do anything unbecoming towards Bingchi Yingjian. This made her heave a sigh of relief while finding the whole thing bizarre.

After marrying into the palace, she was already his. He could do whatever he wanted and she could do naught but obediently comply. However, he didn't harass her at all despite being the infamous Chaos Hellion - specializing in bullying innocent girls.

She couldn't quite explain her feelings right now. There was actually a tiny hint of disappointment.

"What did the Bingchi offer for you to come here?" Li Qiye smiled and asked.

She froze for a bit before quietly answering: "The ancestor agreed to give us back some properties so that our clan members can have a place to stay."

"Just place to leave, never able to earn any power in the clan." Li Qiye said.

She quietly answered, albeit with a heavy heart: "That's already good enough."

After Kuangfang's defeat, their branch would have been completely massacred if their ancestor wasn't Weaponbreak True Emperor.

Nevertheless, they were exiled with no place to go, resorting to living as wanderers. Thus, she had no choice but to agree to the clan's request so that her clan members could have permanent residents.

"Why does it matter whether the Bingchi survives or not?" Li Qiye smiled.

She pondered for a moment before answering: "It, it is still our clan, built from the effort of our ancestors, so please, Your Majesty, rescind your order."

"The world is just a chess match. You don't and can't understand. Just stay by my side and serve me well." Li Qiye said.

The girl kept her mouth shut and only lamented the situation. She was a nobody, pushed back and forth by the tides. Even her ancestor Kuangfang had lost back then, there was nothing she could do.

The atmosphere at the border of the Bingchi was tense to the extreme.

"Who will win?" One spectator wondered, able to sense the bloodthirst in the air.

"I'm not sure." An ancestor replied: "The Bingchi is strong but so are the five legions. Who knows who will come out on top if they both go all out? If Silver Secret Legion is here too, then the Bingchi would immediately concede right now. This is no longer the case, looks like this clan doesn't care much about War Saint Dynasty right now."

Everyone agreed. The Bingchi had to be subservient during Lucidity's reign, not daring to question a single command from him, let alone opposing War Saint Dynasty.

But now, Sun Lengying had retired and Silver Secret was gone. This made the clan more confident especially since the new king was useless in their eyes. That's why they did the swap instead of sending Bingchi Hanyu to the imperial city.

"Rumble!" During this stalemate, another legion marched closer from the distant, causing dust and smoke to go everywhere.

It looked like a tsunami causing the world to quake. Their murderous aura preceded their physical presence.

"The army of Myriad Formation Kingdom!" People saw the banners and became alarmed because of this sudden deployment at this crucial moment.

It was another great power, not weaker than the Bingchi at all. More importantly, they were versed in formations, allowing their armies to become unstoppable after forming the necessary arrays.

"Are they helping the king or the Bingchi Clan?" The spectators became nervous.

More warning gongs resounded. Both the five legions and the Bingchi didn't know the intent of this newcomer so they were on guard.

"Boom!" An imperial beam suddenly pierced the sky and turned into bright wisps of light, akin to the opening of a new world.

A young man walked out of this bright radiance. His step was soundless yet it reverberated in the spectators' heart. Such powerful steps were truly intimidating.

He wore a golden robe, not the ceremonial outfit of a king, but he had an aura just like one. His eyes were penetrating like a supreme grand dao - scaring people to the very soul.

"Eight Formation True Emperor! The king of Myriad Formation!" A few ancestors were shocked to see him.

People were amazed at his presence: "Such an incredible talent, so young yet is already a True Emperor. No wonder why people think so highly of him, that he could be the most promising candidate right now who could surpass Lucidity."

The spectating saintesses and princesses cried out his title, looking at him with adoration. They were completely enamored, filled with romantic thoughts.

He was the greatest genius in Nine Secrets in the contemporary and had opened his second palace. Though there were stronger Eternals and emperors than him, what he had was potential.

It far exceeded many others; that's why people thought he could actually surpass Lucidity in the future.

Despite being a True Emperor and the king of Myriad Formation, he didn't dare to address himself as one when Lucidity was around, only referring to himself as a subject instead.

This was understandable. Not to mention a two-palace emperor like him, even a four or five-palace emperor was nothing before Lucidity - a man strong enough to threaten the Mu and the Li Clan.

"The new king is incapable and lecherous - one who will only bring hardship and ruins to the world. Raping the innocent and harming the loyalists, a warmonger that will only herald death and destruction..." The emperor announced: "The responsible subjects of Nine Secrets have a responsibility to protect the system and stop this tyrant from causing further devastation!"

Everyone took a deep breath and glanced at each other. Eight Formation True Emperor clearly just declared a conquest against the new king and war against War Saint Dynasty!

"Rumble!" His army instantly got behind the five legions and formed a pincer formation with the Bingchi Clan.

"It's over for the five legions." A spectator murmured.

It was an even match against the Bingchi, let alone facing another foe just as strong. The legions' five commanders all wore a serious expression.

"Your Majesty, I bear bad news. Myriad Formation Kingdom had formed an alliance with the Bingchi and trapped our legions. I'm afraid we will be defeated..."

"Jiadi, why are you surprised?" Li Qiye shook his head and smiled: "The late king is gone, Silver Secret is gone, when are they going to destroy me if not now? Wait until after I consolidate my power? Obviously not."

"But, Your Majesty, the five legions can't take them. I fear for the worst..." Jiadi said seriously.

"No, the fun has only just begun. Just wait and see, a more fun and more thrilling play is about to happen. Can you be patient enough to make it to the end?"

"Well..." Jiadi had no response. After receiving this news, he naturally panicked unlike his king.

"The new king is indeed debaucherous and cruel with wanton regard for the citizens..." Just when people thought that the five legions were going to lose, the Central Commander started his speech: "Nine Secrets System belong to everyone. As a soldier, I will not allow for this tyrant to harm the system. Such a ruler should be opposed by all, everyone needs to answer this call!"

His speech echoed across Nine Secrets, making its way across the various sects and kingdoms.

"The five legions have changed sides!" This shocking news took Nine Secrets like a storm in just one day.

"The five legions have rebelled and joined the effort to take down the new king." People weren't prepared for this unexpected development.

Chapter 2436: Enemies Everywhere

The revolt of the five legions frightened the system in full. All eyes turned towards Skywrap Mountain and the imperial city of War Saint.

"It is over for the dynasty." This thought came up in everyone's mind.

A few ancestors shook their head and became sentimental: "The new king is done for. Lucidity King reigned for three generations, turning War Saint into this great behemoth but this guy managed to bring it to ruins so quickly."

A somber and reflective mood loomed over the land. War Saint's current state of prosperity was due to Lucidity's arduous efforts over the years. But now, only several days have passed and the dynasty was already shaking, on the verge of toppling at any moment.

"The five legions have defected." Jiadi immediately reported to Li Qiye upon finding out. His expression was quite ugly, knowing that this was beyond salvaging.

If Li Qiye didn't order the march, then they might have been able to get through these tough times while relying on Lucidity's vestige of might. This was no longer the case.

"It's to be expected, it won't just be the five legions either." Li Qiye smiled and said.

"Your Majesty, what should we do? Do you have a good plan?" Jiadi had no countermeasures to speak of, feeling that the new king had no chance to control the situation.

"Plan? No need for that. What will come will come." Li Qiye smiled: "But if you need something to do, my Jiadi, then start packing up, it's time to go."

"You wish to retreat?" Jiadi put it nicely.

"No need for such euphemism, it's called running." Li Qiye smiled: "No one will die to protect us against the rebellion. Just pack up and let whoever in the palace wants to run, run."

"Where do you wish to go, Your Majesty?" Jiadi paused for a moment and didn't blame Li Qiye. His responsibility right now was to protect the guy.

"No, not me. I'm talking about you and your family. Go find a safe place to hide." Li Qiye chuckled.

"Your Majesty?" Jiadi became surprised.

"I'll be cool here, it'll be fun watching the rebels storm into the palace. As for what I'll do to them, that depends on my mood. If I'm in a good mood, I'll play with them, If not, I'll just leave since it's not my kingdom anyway. They can have it."

"Your Majesty, I'm afraid the rebels will want your life when they're here." Jiadi was startled.

"I would like to see that, but unfortunately, I can't find anyone who can kill me. That's the most vexing issue." Li Qiye said.

"No, my responsibility is to protect you, so if you're not leaving, I'm not leaving too. I have been entrusted by His Late Majesty to protect your safety, if anything were to hap-..."

"First, I'm the king now, so if I tell you to leave, leave. Second, nothing will happen, what you imagine will never happen." Li Qiye interrupted him and said: "Just go pack up and tell others to leave or it'll be too late once the army gets here. Don't stop any of them.

Jiadi didn't know what Li Qiye wanted to do. He bowed before leaving to carry out the order.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye closed his eyes to enjoy the massage from Bingchi Yingjian.

"You should go too." After a while, Li Qiye said: "The rebels are about to be here. Leave the imperial city and seek asylum."

She froze for a bit before regaining her wits and kneeled down with her head lowered: "I have been married into the royal clan, so I will be yours in life and death, there will be no escaping..." [1]

"Mine in life and death? Haha." Li Qiye said: "This is only a game of the higher-ups, and your marriage is but a sham, an empty showing. But if you actually have such thoughts, then I bestow freedom upon you and write you an imperial permission for traveling."

"Your Majesty!" She turned pale.

"Go." Li Qiye casually waved his hand: "Pick a few treasures from the treasury, considered it as bestowments, a type of fate."

"I..." She was speechless. Though she was taken to the palace by the Bingchi, she was willing to do so and had accepted her fate. But now, as the dynasty was heading towards collapse, she didn't wish to leave. This thought had never crossed her mind before.

"It's not too late to run." Li Qiye continued: "It will be too late once the siege starts. Don't think just because you're from the Bingchi Clan that they will spare you. In fact, maybe you'll be the first victim."

"Your Majesty... when the army gets in, you'll be in trouble." She looked up at him and said.

Though she wasn't a master or anything, she was still trained by her clan members since youth and could tell that Li Qiye was very weak.

"I have my ways, and it's not like you can protect me. Even an Eternal like Jiadi can't stop an army, let alone you." Li Qiye smiled.

Yingjian found this to be the truth. Not to mention the great armies, Eight Formation True Emperor and Bingchi Juezun would be there as well. Jiadi alone couldn't amount to anything.

"Take care, Your Majesty." In the end, Yingjian prostrated before him before leaving, overwhelmed with emotions.

After she was gone, he was still amused: "It will get very exciting at Nine Secrets with the collapse of War Saint." Having said that, his smile turned into a grin.

"Rumble!" Continuous detonations resounded as the armies drew near. The five legions that went to conquer the Bingchi have headed back to the capital.

The armies of the Bingchi and Myriad Formation traveled at the same time, heading for Skywrap. They looked like a flood of steel as far as the eye can see.

Taking the vanguard was Eight Formation True Emperor - one step was one world, crushing everything beneath.

"The king is incapable, immoral, and ruthless, I, Tian Zhiyuan, shall take arms against him for the sake of the world..." His voice echoed across Nine Systems.

Zhiyuan was his real name. He led these armies, wanting to overthrow War Saint Dynasty. The guy was brimming with ambition.

He wished to obtain a moral high ground so that his coronation would be legitimate. After all, regardless of how ridiculous the new king was, War Saint was still in charge of Nine Systems - the orthodox branch.

It was impudent of Myriad Formation to march towards the imperial city. The True Emperor didn't dare to talk about killing the king, using the excuse of helping the citizens to shield his real intent. After all, he was a subject under Lucidity so this was considered a rebellion. He needed a perfect excuse to legitimize this conquest.

The armies number in the tens of millions suffocated the spectators.

Because of this, even before they got there, the imperial city closed its heavenly gates and bolstered the walls, seemingly sealing off the world. No one could take half a step forward.

With loud detonations, beams of light rushed from the palace into the sky. Large barriers descended around the palace, acting like steel walls. The place became an impregnable fortress.

The imperial city's defenses have been activated, showing that War Saint Dynasty still had aces up its sleeve.

Chapter 2437: Crisis

Spectators all around Nine Secrets quietly watched the erecting defensive lines around the imperial city.

Some began watching Waterfront Pavilion, Calm Lotus Monastery, and Godstep Sect. They wanted to know what these three great powers would do.

The other two have clearly formed an alliance, turning into an even greater beast. That's why people were curious about the other three. Would they side with the Bingchi Clan and attack War Saint or continue to serve the king in times of danger?

Unfortunately, these three great powers showed no signs of mobilization, only wanting to spectate.

"It's over for the dynasty if no allies are coming." An ancestor murmured after seeing a lack of reinforcement from other sects within the system.

"What a shame, this wouldn't be happening if Lucidity and Silver Secret were still around." Another became emotional.

After all, to a certain extent, War Saint Dynasty was the reason why Nine Secrets System eventually became one of the three top dogs in Imperial.

Its destruction would result in chaos and war. At that point, not only would it lose its status as one of the top three, the Li and Mu might even take advantage of this and destroy them. The long-standing system would turn to ashes.

Because of this, the visionary ancestors became worried. The destruction of Nine Secrets meant the destruction of their sects. How can a bird lay eggs without a nest?

"The rebels are attacking!" Chaos engulfed both the imperial city and Skywrap. Numerous cultivators and citizens started fleeing from this troubled land.

The flames of war would certainly ravage this area; all could become victims to its heat. That's why people were smart enough to run before the armies got here.

Even the guards and maids in the imperial city were panicking. They started to run with the royal descendants. Of course, some took advantage of the situation and started stealing the treasures here. Many precious items and decorations were quickly taken away.

On the other hand, Li Qiye didn't give a damn, only acting as a spectator among the chaos. He didn't try to stop the ones fleeing or stealing, just quietly watching the whole thing.

"Your Majesty, it's not too late to go." War Saint Dynasty seemed to have given up so Jiadi still insisted on taking Li Qiye away before the armies got here.

Li Qiye smiled at the loyal man: "Jiadi, go, don't worry about me. I'll be waiting here to watch the fun. I'll leave if it's not interesting enough."

"But Your Majesty, the armies are coming. How can I face the resting Lucidity King if something were to happen to you?" Jiadi went on.

"Don't worry, we'll meet again, and you won't be seeing him any time soon either." Li Qiye patted his shoulder and consoled.

Despite the old man's relentless persuasion, Li Qiye remained calm and ordered him to leave.

In the end, Jiadi gave up and prostrated on the ground. He respectfully said: "Your Majesty, your useless servant will be leaving now. Please take care."

"Take care." Li Qiye nodded with a smile.

Jiadi stomped his foot out of frustration before leaving the imperial palace.

Li Qiye stayed in the garden while looking at the shiny barriers in the sky: "The kingdom is about to topple, who will lose their patience and jump out? Can't wait to see this and the real players behind the scene. It will be a beautiful reversal as well."

"Rumble!" Finally, the imperial city was surrounded by the great armies; not even a mosquito could get through.

"Clank! Clank!" The sounds of steel echoed with blinding flashes. The soldiers on the walls have unsheathed their weapons, eager to fight.

Despite the unrest in the imperial city, the Imperial Guard Legion maintained order, ready to protect the city.

This was the strongest legion at the capital, the final line of defense, the divine protectors.

"Clank!" The bottom of a spear loudly struck the ground, causing sparks to go flying.

A fully-armored youth stood on the wall, aggressive and brimming with fighting spirit.

Though his aura wasn't on the same level as Eight Formation True Emperor, he still looked like a divine spear. He stood there proudly, seemingly immovable.

"Tang Hexiang, will he fight to the death for War Saint Dynasty?" The spectating ancestors wondered.

He was the commander of the Imperial Guard, a genius of the dynasty. Since he came from the royal family, his bloodline was also precious. The guy was already an Ascender despite being so young; this allowed him to soar to the rank of commander.

He certainly wasn't the strongest general in this legion but due to his background and innate talents, some considered him to be a future successor. That's why he became the commander of one of the seven legions.

People actually thought Lucidity King would appoint him as crown prince. Hexiang was quite influential in the royal family with the support of many ancestors. No one expected for an unknown brat like Li Qiye to win the role.

They thought that this careless appointment from Lucidity was the biggest reason for War Saint's decline

"Ma Mingchun, what is the punishment for betraying the dynasty?!" Hexiang shouted at the Central Legion.

Mingchun was the commander of this legion. He was floating in the sky and replied: "General Tang, I am not betraying the dynasty. The new king is useless, bereft of a single ounce of integrity and morality. He will only cause harm to the people, we are simply doing this for their sake."

"General Ma is right." Eight Formation True Emperor appeared in the sky, exuding his aura just like a king: "Brother Tang, I know you are a loyal man, but you need to make a choice right now. Your new king is a rapist that will only cause harm. This land was built by the effort of our late king, I will not allow it to fall because of this tyrant. We do not wish to overthrow War Saint Dynasty, we simply want a wise king to rule it instead."

People held their breath after hearing this. They looked over at Tang Hexiang.

He had lost to Eight Formation True Emperor in the past, so the two were considered enemies. Would they fight each other today?

The crowd took this fight very seriously. The Imperial Guard was mighty. Plus, Skywrap City had a lot of aces. They were fighting on their home turf, having all the advantages.

If they wished to fight to the death, the coalition army would need to pay a great price for a successful siege.

That would only be benefiting the other three great powers who were watching on the sidelines.

Thus, Tang Hexiang's choice was very important right now; it could decide the political landscape for the upcoming years.

Would he fight to the death or switch his allegiance? The atmosphere became tense.

"General Tang, the new king just needs to abdicate and War Saint Dynasty will still exist. Our five legions still belong to the kingdom." The other commanders persuaded him.

"We only want his abdication and for the throne to be occupied by a wise ruler. This is not a rebellion."

Other generals added.

Chapter 2438: Fallen Imperial City

"Your Majesty, General Tang has defected, please escape!" Amidst the chaos, a fleeing old official saw that Li Qiye was still hanging around the palace and enjoying the paintings so he shouted.

Li Qiye noticed that the guy's pouch on his back was full of treasures but didn't say anything. He waved his hand and smiled: "Go, I know what I'm doing."

"Take care, Your Majesty." The official prostrated once before running for his life.

Though everyone said that this new king was perverted and lawless, the maids, servants, and officials in the palace didn't think so.

On the contrary, he was very generous - allowing people to escape with the precious treasures without interfering.

That's why many servants and officials stole items but no one tried to capture the king in order to earn a reward from the coalition army.

In their eyes, the king had treated them well enough. Capturing him for a reward would be ruthless and ungrateful - kicking a benefactor in the teeth.

This resulted in a very amusing scene. People ran for their lives while grabbing whatever treasures they could get their hands on. However, Li Qiye strode among the chaotic horde - nonchalant and relaxed as ever.

The strangest thing was that these looters would stop. Some even respectfully bowed to him and said, "Your Majesty", before moving on with the items.

Such a scene felt so natural and friendly, devoid of contention.

"Creak..." The heavy gate started opening. The Imperial Guard opened it after hearing Tang Hexiang's order, allowing the coalition armies to enter the city.

From this point on, Tang Hexiang, Eight Formation True Emperor, and the five commanders have reached an agreement to be on the same side.

A few people sighed. One sect master quietly said: "Looks like Tang Hexiang couldn't maintain his stance."

Among the legions, the Imperial Guard Legion was considered to be the dynasty's own. Their generals were mostly from War Saint or even the royal clan. On the contrary, the other legions consisted of members from the other clans and sects of Nine Secrets.

Hexiang himself was also from the royal family so he should have fought for War Saint Dynasty. In the end, he decided against it, choosing to overthrow the new king.

"Can he be blamed for this? It's really the immoral king's fault for invoking everyone's fury." Someone else spoke on his behalf.

A few ancestors only smiled, not actually trusting this rhetoric about the king's lack of characters.

As a king, being lecherous or taking girls? That's no big deal and was quite common. Not to mention three or five girls, an authoritative tyrant would have a harem of tens of thousands.

The king's only mistake was his inability to grasp military authority. If he had enough power, he wouldn't be considered a degenerate. Golden daughters like Bingchi Hanyu would find it an honor to be part of the harem.

During Lucidity's era, these great powers desired to marry their daughters into the harem. Unfortunately, Lucidity refused.

Today, the new king only wanted Bingchi Hanyu, not to mention that the Bingchi has agreed to this with the late king; an official marriage contract was written down as well. They reneged on the deal because the new one was incapable.

Calling him a debaucherous despot was only a justification for the rebellion.

These ancestors naturally understood that this is a world of the strong. Because the new king was weak, his foes could accuse him of anything.

"Please abdicate for a virtuous ruler." Tang Hexiang broke the silence as he approached the imperial palace with his legion.

People sighed and gasped at this sight. Just a few days ago, War Saint Dynasty was virtually untouchable. Today, its imperial palace has been surrounded by rebels.

Everyone knew that it was over for the king and War Saint Dynasty. He would die even after abdicating.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!" Eight Formation True Emperor and his men began sieging the palace.

Though there wasn't a single guard present, barriers were still forming over the palace, virtually unbreakable like walls of steel.

They have been blessed by numerous True Emperors and Eternals of the dynasty, including Lucidity. Eight Formation True Emperor and his peers were powerful, but breaking it down would still take some time.

Meanwhile, Li Qiye continued his leisurely stroll with a smile despite the explosions. He made it to the golden hall and slowly sat down on the throne. He closed his eyes, seemingly asleep - the only person left in this gigantic palace.

The entire place was shaking due to the constant barrages. After a while, he opened his eyes and smiled: "It's about time."

"Boom!" A deafening blast came about. The group of masters has successfully broken the barriers with their mighty attacks.

Everything crumbled; numerous palaces shattered. Debris and dust scattered everywhere.

"It's down!" The spectators became excited and shouted. So many eyes were intensely watching this scene.

"Still so patient when the kingdom is falling? Not bad, quite an interesting game. Very well, let's see if my chess piece is usable or not." Li Qiye smirked while sitting on the throne.

"Boom!" Eight Formation True Emperor unleashed a world-destroying palm strike.

The roof and walls of the golden hall collapsed, revealing Li Qiye before everyone.

"Your Majesty..." Some of the rebels quietly murmured; a few men even staggered backward after seeing him here. He didn't escape, contrary to their expectations.

Regardless of his lack of abilities and moral character, he was still appointed by Lucidity. In other words, he was the rightful ruler - the orthodox branch.

Anyone who wanted the throne right now would be considered a rebel, a usurper. The authority of the orthodox branch remained so some rebels have a guilty conscience as they stared as their king.

"The new king..." The spectating ancestors were surprised to find Li Qiye sticking around.

"Does he want to die with the kingdom?" Someone else wondered.

After all, he had plenty of chances to run prior to the siege. But now, he was the only one left in this palace, sitting there proudly.

Some felt respect after seeing this - a weak junior daring to face the great coalition armies. Not everyone possessed this courage.

"The only crime of his is being born in a royal family." A sect master gently sighed.

This new king has done nothing heinous compared to Lucidity's previous conquests. The kid was innocent sheep while Lucidity's hands were stained with blood.

Alas, he wouldn't be able to escape death today.

Eight Formation True Emperor's eyes flashed murderously after seeing Li Qiye on the throne.

He undoubtedly wished to be there instead. This new king was a piece of trash while he was a True Emperor. How could he not have the ambition to replace the guy? To take all the authority that comes with the throne?

"You're the little brat in charge of Eight Formation Kingdom?" Li Qiye glanced at the emperor.

The emperor's eyes became serious and bright like the stars: "I am Eight Formation True Emperor! The ruler of Myriad Formation Kingdom!"

Being called a little brat by this trash annoyed Eight Formation True Emperor in spite of his mental fortitude.

Chapter 2439: Broken Kingdom; Shattered Lands

Li Qiye sat there calmly and even conversed with Eight Formation True Emperor. This act made people glance at each other.

In the eyes of the masters, Li Qiye was only a spring chicken, a new cultivator. However, he remained calm against the great armies and a True Emperor. This courage was rare and commendable.

"That's a descendant of Lucidity King's for you, he's not shaming his lineage." An ancestor praised.

Even till now, many believed that he was an illegitimate son of Lucidity, hence why he was given the throne.

The emperor had flashes of bloodthirst in his eyes - a truly frightening spectacle due to his power level. Each strand resembled a divine sword, more than enough to make others tremble.

"Are you finished now?" The emperor uttered coldly.

Li Qiye waved his hand and casually said: "When is your kingdom bringing your princess over? I need a maid for bed warming and feet washing."

Everyone took a deep breath and glanced at each other.

"He's a madman." Many shared this thought.

There was no saving this guy. He was the only one left in the palace yet he still dared to talk in this manner. The guy was insane indeed or he wouldn't have ordered an attack on the Bingchi over one woman.

"Ignorant fool!" The emperor raised his hand and crushed the void with an explosive sound. He then lunged for Li Qiye.

"It's over." Everyone knew the outcome without looking.

The new king's cultivation was pitiful to the point of being negligible. Just one finger from the emperor could turn him to ashes, let alone a full attack.

A buzzing noise happened before any physical contact; very few could actually hear this faint sound - the rippling of space. Li Qiye suddenly disappeared from the throne.

"Boom!" The palm strike crushed the throne but Li Qiye was nowhere to be found.

"Where is he?!" The spectators were confused. The guy seemed to have vanished into thin air.

"Wait, is he crushed into a pulp or a mist of blood, evaporating into nothingness?" Some speculated.

"No, someone saved him." A powerful ancestor said with a serious expression.

"What?" The crowd was shocked. The one who saved him was simply too fast, beyond visual discernment.

Moreover, the guy did it before Eight Formation True Emperor. This being must be extremely powerful or the emperor would have stopped him.

"Who did it?" This question popped up in everyone's mind. Sun Lengying? Or someone else?

Thinking about Sun Lengying made people shudder. The shadows of his terror still remained above Nine Secrets.

True Formation was startled since someone capable of this task was obviously stronger than him - capable of moving freely in an untraceable manner.

The six commanders felt the same way and started to analyze the surroundings. Unfortunately, they didn't notice anything.

"Go, search everywhere!" The group ordered the armies to begin the search for Li Qiye.

People started pondering about the outcome. Though this was a successful siege of the imperial palace, the new king was still taken away by someone.

The coalition armies naturally didn't like this, especially Tang Hexiang's group. As long as the new king was still alive, they wouldn't be able to have a good night's sleep. He was a problem that needs to be dealt with.

It didn't matter who would take over the throne, but as long as Li Qiye was alive, his position would be questioned, just a usurper.

Moreover, Li Qiye could even become someone else's card. They might fight using his name and take over in the same manner.

"At the very least, it is over for War Saint, the end of their golden age." An ancestor said after seeing the mess at the palace.

He recalled when Lucidity used to order the world in an imperious manner. No one dared to disobey his royal decrees. But now, his authority was gone in the wind, just like him.

Even if War Saint Dynasty could continue, it would no longer be as strong as before.

"The fall of War Saint allows for the rise of others, this is only the beginning, not the end." Someone else sentimentally said.

Lucidity was unique. In the present, anyone dared to take his position would have trouble subduing the people.

The Bingchi and Myriad Formation Kingdom together weren't enough to force the other three great powers to submit. If Eight Formation True Emperor were to ascend, they would definitely refute his coronation. Their excuse would be that Li Qiye, the rightful king, was still around.

Thus, Eight Formation and the others knew that it was impossible to seize the throne until Li Qiye is dead. Not only would the other three powers not recognize the new ruler's legitimacy, but the other sects and clans might also resist as well.

Thus, Li Qiye's survival became quite a headache.

"Looks like war is inevitable in the future." One ancestor was pessimistic about the current developments.

Li Qiye had no intention of retaliating against the palm strike but someone else saved him in that split second.

When the light returned, the scene was completely different. What he saw was no longer the palace but rather, an open ocean of clouds.

He stood on top of a solitary peak as the clouds floated below his feet. His robes fluttered with the wind.

There was an old man standing next to him - his savior.

"Old geezer Wind? Why did you save me? I was waiting for a fun show." Li Qiye glanced at the old man and said.

He was one of the five supreme ancestors, the Wind God from Godstep Sect.

He stared at Li Qiye with his old eyes, surprised that this brat didn't show any gratitude. Worst of all, the kid still acted like a king and didn't show any respect.

Remember, there were only five supreme ancestors in all of Nine Secrets. They were the strongest ancestor in their sects, virtually invincible as Eternals.

However, Li Qiye didn't give a damn and treated him like a subject just like Lucidity used to.

People called him Wind God because he was just like the wind - essentially omnipresent.

"Brat, be more respectful, you would be a dead man right now if it wasn't for me." He gave Li Qiye the side-eye.

Li Qiye sat down on the cliff and swung his legs back and forth before smiling: "As if. Someone else would save me if not you, having a puppet king is enough to control the world."

"You're not stupid, brat." Wind God was impressed and took another look at the youth. He thought the kid was only a useless, prodigal son.

"Even an idiot can see this." Li Qiye smiled: "I'm sure the other great powers were waiting too."

"Hmph. Unfortunately, I didn't save you for this reason. I saved you out of consideration for the late king!" Wind God snorted.

Unlike the other supreme ancestors, Wind God was quite close to Lucidity. The latter had guided him in the past. That's why he was the first to agree to the marriage agreement.

Because of this, he saved Li Qiye so that Lucidity's lineage would continue on.

Chapter 2440: Wind God

"Either way." Li Qiye sat by the edge of the cliff with his hands as support while swinging his feet, enjoying the clouds beneath.

Wind God glared at him, thinking that Lucidity was such a great and invincible man yet his child was anything but. This might be a stain in Lucidity's otherwise perfect life.

"What is your cultivation, and what merit laws are you learning?" He asked, still distant.

"The thirteenth level, and as for merit laws? Whichever ones, cultivation is too easy so no need to be picky." Li Qiye casually answered.

Wind God almost vomited blood at this shameless brag. This brat was clearly as weak as can be, not any different from newly-admitted cultivators.

"There is no such thing as the thirteenth level!" Wind God coldly responded.

"Oh, then the third level then, it's just that thirteenth level sounds much cooler and suit my style." Li Qiye shrugged.

Wind King glared angrily at him. If this guy was a disciple of Godstep, he would have stomped him right now.

Aggressive, arrogant, and ignorant - what a bastard of a brat.

"What? Want a taste of dou and zhe from War Saint Dynasty?" Li Qiye responded to the animosity. [1]

Wind God retorted with a sneer: "Dou and Zhe? You think someone like you can control them?"

Nine Secrets System has nine words: Lin, Bing, Dou, Zhe, Jie, Zhen, Lie, Qian, Xing. This was a supreme mantra, rumored to be created by Nine Secrets Ancestor or left behind by Bao Pu. [2]

The entire system was built on this mantra; they acted as the foundation.

However, no lineage was in possession of all nine. Just grasping one was amazing enough.

For example, War Saint Dynasty had Dou and Zhe, hence its name. [3]

Another one was Godstep Sect with the word Xing.

To a certain extent, having two words allowed War Saint Dynasty to be so powerful. The only other to have two words was Waterfront Pavilion; the rest of the great powers only had one.

Few in War Saint Dynasty could touch these two words since they were the very foundation of the kingdom. Even a tyrant like Lucidity couldn't just give these legacies to Li Qiye.

Because of this, Wind God didn't expect for someone as weak as him to have the words. In fact, he couldn't even look at them, let alone cultivating.

"That's fine." Li Qiye casually shrugged.

"Where were you staying before this?" The god asked.

In fact, he was very confused about Li Qiye. If he was Lucidity's illegitimate son, then who was his mother? Someone like Lucidity wouldn't have picked just any woman. It must have been an incredible woman with a great background.

Everyone knew that Lucidity only had a daughter - True Emperor Jiu Ning. [4]

Lucidity no longer had an heir after she was gone, no women around him either. Moreover, Li Qiye only looked a little more than twenty. This made people speculate about what he did twenty years ago.

"I fell from the sky." Li Qiye pointed upward: "Have you never heard about the heaven's favorite? I'm a person like that, so I naturally was hanging up there. Otherwise, why would I instantly become a king? The phrase - chosen by the heavens - was meant to describe me."

"Nonsense." Wind God wanted to give this guy a good kicking: "There's no such thing."

Li Qiye smiled: "I'm the perfect example. One day, I accidentally fell down and boom, there I was in the Silver Secret Legion's camp. Lucidity saw me and instantly knew that I was chosen by the heavens, capable enough to make War Saint prospers, so he instantly made me the crown prince and handed the kingdom over."

Wind God felt like slapping this nonsensical brat now. No one would believe this crap.

Little did he know that Li Qiye was indeed telling the truth outside of the chosen by heavens part. He didn't embellish anything else.

"Why aren't you making this land better then? It is lost thanks to you, looks like you're not really the chosen one by the heavens." Wind God mocked him.

"You just don't understand." Li Qiye leisurely said: "You are looking at it from a close-minded and ignorant perspective, this is only a layer of mist, only a loss in appearance."

Wind God was about to vomit some blood from anger. As one of the five supreme ancestors, he enjoyed a prestigious status in Nine Secrets.

People cowered before him, not daring to breathe loudly. Even other Eternals treated him with reverence.

However, this brat didn't give a damn and even called him closed-minded and ignorant! No one but Lucidity would dare to talk to him like this in Nine Secrets!

"Then enlighten me with your wisdom, Your Majesty." Wind God sarcastically responded.

"Alright, since you are so sincere, I'll give you some guidance." Li Qiye seemed impervious to sarcasm and acted like an imperious king.

Wind God smiled wryly at this sight, thinking that this brat doesn't have any self-awareness at all.

"Tell me, is Lucidity strong? Pretty much unbeatable?" Li Qiye asked with a smile.

Wind God didn't expect this question. He nodded and said: "The late king's fighting prowess is peerless, definitely number one in Nine Secrets, unbeatable in all of Imperial."

This was indeed the truth. Supreme ancestors like them still didn't dare to do anything in Lucidity's presence since he was considerably stronger.

"What about his achievements? Still unmatched in Nine Secrets?" Li Qiye continued.

Wind God pondered for a bit before giving an objective opinion: "In terms of achievements, I believe he is number one as well. From a historical standpoint, I think he's even with Emperor Zheng, or at least very, very close."

He chose his words carefully to have a fair evaluation of Lucidity.

Though the five great powers had thoughts about opposing Lucidity, they had to admit that he contributed greatly to Nine Secrets System's success, allowing it to be on the same level as the Mu and Li.

"Then what about if I become a virtuous king? Will that be enough to compare to Lucidity King?" Li Qiye asked.

"Impossible." Wind God said decisively.

Lucidity's achievements were comparable to Emperor Zheng - one of the most brilliant True Emperors. Taking another step to surpass Lucidity was harder than reaching the sky for future descendants.

"How about if the kingdom falls but I eventually rise and sweep through the world, creating a new dynasty worshipped by all. How will that compare to Lucidity?" Li Qiye smiled.

Wind God, despite his experiences, still became startled because this bold thought was simply insane.

Li Qiye continued before hearing an answer: "This kingdom is useless if it can't allow me to have a peerless contribution. It would be a waste of time for someone chosen by the heavens like me."

After a while, Wind God stared at him and said: "Have you gone mad?"

"You tell me." Li Qiye smiled.

In this particular juncture, Wind God found a similarity between Li Qiye and Lucidity, no in terms of appearance but rather their behavior. Both were as crazy as can be!

"You alone wants to start a new dynasty? I'm afraid that's daydreaming, unless you are stronger than the late king." Wind God responded.

"Nothing is impossible; it's all dependent on my whim." Li Qiye nonchalantly said.