

## G E D 281

### Chapter 281: Wait for Me —

However, the crown prince was already on horseback after that brief command. The next moment, he had dashed off!

Xuan Yi was quick to react. He hopped nimbly onto his own palm red horse to follow Jun Linyuan and urged the horse forward with a “hya!”

In an instant, both Jun Linyuan and Xuan Yi were out of sight as the others watched both guys disappear into the rain.

Yan Yan was stunned!

Was it something she said? Why did the crown prince leave all of a sudden? All she said was that she didn’t want Feng Wu to pester her cousin.

Was that what the crown prince was worried about as well? Did he leave in a hurry to help her cousin?

Yan Yan had smuggled herself here just to get closer to Jun Linyuan and take advantage of the opportunity. She was more than happy to spice things up a little... However, there was no point staying here when Jun Linyuan wasn’t around.

Yan Yan jumped onto a horse and dashed off as well. “Cousin — Your Royal Highness — Wait for me —”

Both Feng Yiran and Feng Liu were baffled in the tent. They exchanged looks of bewilderment.

What should they do now?

They might never be able to get this close to Jun Linyuan again! It had taken them some painstaking effort to remain in Jun Linyuan’s vicinity, and it would be such a shame to let this opportunity go to waste!

“Liu, do you think you can make it?” Feng Yiran asked.

“Yes! Brother... We have to set out now...”

Feng Wu’s whipping had given Feng Liu cuts and bruises all over her body. The wounds were infected and she had a high fever, which made her delirious. However, she had still been able to put together a plan: if she couldn’t get the crown prince’s attention under normal circumstances, she would try to arouse his pity with her fragile health...

Meanwhile, in Feng Wu’s camp.

A forest riddled with magical beasts wouldn’t be very quiet at night.

During her shift, Feng Wu spotted a pack of Flame Cheetahs!

As the name suggested, this type of cheetah was born with a fire attribute and its sole ability was to spit fire. Plus, they often did it as a group.

Feng Wu had some repellent with her. Rising to her feet, she drew a safe circle around their tent with it. After that, she walked out of the circle and stared coldly at the cheetahs!

There were a hundred of them in total!

Their eyes were fluorescent green in the dark and as they looked back at Feng Wu, they opened their mouths, baring their sharp fangs!

Feng Wu smiled a little.

The timing was perfect.

Feng Wu had been advancing so fast in her cultivation level that she didn't have any time to practice her combat skills accordingly.

As a result, although she was a Level 8 Spiritual Master already, her foundation was shaky and she didn't have the corresponding physical strength. Hence —

She was in dire need of an arduous battle to temper her body!

Feng Wu had been keeping the fact she had resumed her cultivation from most people, making it very difficult for her to fight the opponents she needed. Luckily, they were in a forest of magical beasts now, and luckily, these one hundred Flame Cheetahs had just landed on her doorstep.

“Well, I guess I'll practice my Flaming Sword with you!” Feng Wu raised Flaming Sword in her right hand and pointed it at the cheetahs.

Last time, Feng Wu was able to make it to the tenth stance of her swordplay — Piercing Stars!

Today, Feng Wu decided to finish all twelve stances!

“Eleventh stance — Stars Rising Out of the Sea!”

*Plop, plop —*

Leaping into the air, Feng Wu kicked off of a tree trunk with her toes. Then, she used the momentum to swoop down like a great hawk spreading its wings!

## **Chapter 282: Stars in Heaven**

Flames burst out from the tip of her Flaming Sword!

And the flames leapt toward the sky!

Under the moonlight, the sword looked resplendent!

Sparks flew in all directions and all the Flame Cheetahs spat fire at Feng Wu!

Instantly, flames sprang up, as if half of the sky was burning!

That was what had caught Feng Xun's attention earlier.

Feng Wu smiled. "Bring it on!"

As the cheetahs stood on their hind legs to leap at Feng Wu, Feng Wu had already crouched down!

Standing up, the cheetahs' great stature put them at twice Feng Wu's height!

Hence, when Feng Wu bent forward and flitted past them, they couldn't even touch her sleeves!

Resourceful as always, Feng Wu stabbed at the cheetahs' legs and abdomens as she made her way through the pack.

Infuriated, the cheetahs went after Feng Wu.

However, although they were great in number, they were too big to move as nimbly. Keeping her head down at the level of their legs, Feng Wu would stab them before switching spots right away. The cheetahs would never catch her like this!

The Flame Cheetahs attacked the whole time, but all the flames they spat out only hit other cheetahs in the pack, which nearly caused a cannibalistic fight.

*" Roarr — "*

Pissed, they kept chasing after Feng Wu.

But Feng Wu was too light-footed for them to catch. She was swift, crafty and unpredictable. After running around for a while, fifty cheetahs fell to the ground, bleeding from their injuries.

The other fifty cheetahs glared at Feng Wu with bloodshot eyes and they charged at her all at once!

*Roarr!*

"About time!" Feng Wu was excited.

For she had already mastered that eleventh stance during the past few minutes or so.

Stars Rising Out of the Sea was complete, and she only had one stance left to master: Stars in Heaven!

"Stars in Heaven!" Flaming Sword flew out of Feng Wu's hand and spun quickly in mid-air.

Cheetahs in the blade's path dropped dead like harvested wheat. Blood splashed everywhere.

Before they knew it, this place had turned into a living hell for them!

Stars in Heaven was a fierce stance that was perfect for destroying magical beasts in large numbers!

In that brief moment, the spinning sword took the lives of ten Flame Cheetahs!

The cheetahs kept spitting fire, but Stars in Heaven didn't fear any flames!

The last forty Flame Cheetahs already looked shaken, but they stood their ground and decided to fight to the end!

Feng Wu smiled. Great! She could get more practice!

"Stars in Heaven! Go!"

Flaming Sword flew out of Feng Wu's hand once more!

*Whoosh —*

It spun in mid-air!

*Pop, pop —*

The sword spun over the cheetahs' heads again and killed another ten like a reaper!

The remaining thirty cheetahs were covered in bloody cuts as well...

"Stars in Heaven! Go!"

Feng Wu used that lethal stance again!

*" Roarrr — "*

The last thirty cheetahs were utterly shaken and they looked terrified!

They forgot all about their dead companions and turned to flee!

However, Flaming Sword wouldn't let that happen!

As if it had a will of its own, the sword chased after the cheetahs and went on spinning!

Until it killed all one hundred Flame Cheetahs!

After that, it flew back to Feng Wu with a crisp and proud clang —

Feng Wu examined Flaming Sword and was pleasantly surprised.

### **Chapter 283: She Won't Talk to Me!**

This sword was divine! Together with the sword stances, it was like giving a tiger wings.

Thanks to Flaming Sword and the stances, Feng Wu finally had some combat skills she could count on, which would make her life back in the imperial capital a little safer.

Feng Wu was going to take care of the dead bodies when the sword flew out again and circled in the air over the dead cheetahs.

The sword went over every single one of them, and by the time it came back to Feng Wu, the dead bodies had all turned to ash, which was then blown away by the wind...

Without leaving a trace...

Feng Wu was speechless.

Only then did she realize that Flaming Sword had absorbed all the fire energy in the cheetahs, and without which, the bodies disintegrated... That was incredible!

Feng Wu's mouth fell open as she stared at the scarlet red sword in astonishment.

Her beautiful master had given the sword to Feng Wu and she had no idea where it came from. She never gave it much thought before, but now, she had a feeling.

This Flaming Sword was much more than it appeared!

If only her beautiful master could wake up now. She had so many questions to ask.

Feng Wu's mind wandered at the thought of her beautiful master, and she recalled the terms of her agreement with Little Phoenix.

When she reached the Spiritual Grandmaster stage, Little Phoenix would tell her how to wake up her master —

Feng Wu had thought that it would be ages before she became a Spiritual Grandmaster, but after her quick advancement in the last few days, she was much more hopeful.

Would she get there before she knew it?

After quickly cleaning herself in the river, she changed into some clean clothes and headed back toward the campsite.

She then began to cultivate and lost track of time...

Feng Xun's voice rang out. "Little Feng Wu! Little Feng Wu! Are you alright? Where are you?!"

He ran as fast as a streak of lightning and shouted at the top of his lungs.

Seeing the light at the campsite, he sped up.

Feng Wu opened her eyes.

A storm had risen when she wasn't looking. Rain poured down from the thick clouds above, splashing muddy water everywhere.

The rain also washed away what was left of the cheetahs' ashes. Good. Feng Wu inwardly nodded in satisfaction.

Through the curtain of rain, she saw a teenager dashing toward her like a shooting arrow.

Feng Xun couldn't tell if it was sweat or rainwater that covered his face. He then saw Feng Wu standing gracefully in a shelter built from branches, with a peaceful look on her face. His heart skipped a beat and he rushed to her side, wanting to pull her into his arms.

However, before he could do so, a slender yet strong hand grabbed him by his right shoulder and threw him in the other direction —

Feng Wu looked up and met Jun Linyuan's piercing black eyes!

She ignored the crown prince, who looked like a pissed off lion. Rushing into the rain, she helped Feng Xun up with both hands and asked attentively, "Feng Xun, are you alright? Are you hurt anywhere?"

To Feng Wu, Feng Xun might not be the most reliable guy in the world, but he did genuinely care about her. Hence, seeing him being tossed aside, her first reaction was to help him before she turned around to glare at Jun Linyuan, the culprit.

Seeing Feng Wu's soft, fair hands on Feng Xun's arms, anger flickered in Jun Linyuan's eyes!

However, Feng Xun had no idea of the fuse he had lit. He went on asking Feng Wu, "I saw a big fire in this direction just then and I thought something happened to you! Are you alright? Did anything happen?"

Feng Wu would be lying if she said that she wasn't touched by Feng Xun's genuine concern. She smiled at him. "I'm standing here in one piece, aren't I?"

### **Chapter 284: Sparks and Lightning**

Looking at Feng Wu from head to toe, Feng Xun nodded. "You seem unscathed. But you really didn't see a big fire?"

Since the rain had washed everything away, Feng Wu was able to give him an innocent and bewildered look. "What fire?"

"Nothing? Well, all the better." Feng Xun was relieved. He had been really worried.

Feng Wu smiled at Feng Xun. "Were you running so fast because you saw the fire and thought that we were in danger here?"

Feng Xun raised the chin. "What do you think?"

Feng Wu grinned. Her smile reminded one of a dazzling summer day and it brightened up her already stunning face. Her beauty was irresistible.

Jun Linyuan stood right beside them. Grabbing Feng Wu's fair hand, he stared at her. His face was livid.

And he was giving off the most imperious and intimidating air.

It was the prestige characteristic of someone who held a superior position.

Feng Wu stared back at Jun Linyuan and she saw the anger in his eyes, but there was something else there that she couldn't put her finger on. He just kept his gaze on her as if he was going to bore a hole into her face. But he gritted his teeth and wouldn't utter a word!

Feng Wu frowned. What was going on?

"I gave up my tent willingly and left in advance. Has that somehow displeased Your Royal Highness?"

Jun Linyuan's eyes spat flames of anger!

What had displeased him? Her giving up the tent and leaving early! What did she think?!

However, as the proudest teenager on the continent, Jun Linyuan could never bring himself to admit it.

Hence, all he could do was glare at her in the most aggressive manner!

Feng Wu couldn't stand it anymore.

After humiliating and provoking her, he had moved on to interrogating her now. Even Jun Linyuan couldn't bully someone like this!

Feng Wu threw off Jun Linyuan's hand angrily. "This is highly inappropriate. Your Royal Highness, you're way out of line!"

Jun Linyuan had used those words on Feng Wu before and she threw them right back at him.

The color of Jun Linyuan's face changed, and in the dark, his eyes looked even more piercing.

Poor Feng Xun. The quarreling pair was giving him a headache again.

What was wrong with these two? Why did they have to fight whenever they met?

Hence, Feng Xun rushed to their sides and tried to mitigate. "Gosh, what's wrong with the two of you? Why are you fighting all the time? Can't we just talk like normal people? You two —"

"Shut up!"

Feng Wu and Jun Linyuan shouted in unison. It was meant for Feng Xun, but they were still glaring at each other as they spoke. The air between them seemed to be charged with electricity and one could almost see the sparks and streaks of lightning crackling between them.

"..." Feng Xun realized that Feng Wu reminded him a lot of Jun Linyuan when she was angry. The air she gave off was equally intimidating.

Just then, the others arrived as well.

Yan Yan was right behind Xuan Yi.

Seeing how close Feng Wu and Jun Linyuan were standing to each other, Yan Yan was overwhelmed by jealousy. She yelled at Feng Wu, "You can forget your arrogance! His Royal Highness isn't here for you! Stop flattering yourself and wake up!"

Feng Wu frowned at Yan Yan.

Why was everyone she disliked here? What was the point of leaving in advance?

Yan Yan ran up to Feng Wu and smirked. "His Royal Highness is here for my cousin! Cousin Feng dashed off because he was worried about you, and His Royal Highness only came here because he didn't want you to pester my cousin. Feng Wu, you're not worth any attention!"

### **Chapter 285: So Pissed!**

Straight-faced, Jun Linyuan cast a stern glance at Yan Yan, looking very displeased.

He didn't want her to pester Feng Xun? Hearing Yan Yan's words, Feng Wu felt blood rush into her cheeks.

Staring coldly at Jun Linyuan, she pointed at Yan Yan and stressed each word through gritted teeth. “Jun Linyuan, is she telling the truth?”

Jun Linyuan pursed his lips tightly.

He stared at Feng Wu with a grim look on his face without uttering a word.

Feng Wu had never felt this humiliated!

Everyone mistakenly assumed she was in love with Jun Linyuan, and now, they were slandering her about pestering Feng Xun! How highly did these people think of themselves?

It was an insult to the extreme!

Fury filled Feng Wu’s chest, so intense that she felt like she was on fire!

Pointing at Jun Linyuan with a shaking finger, she said, “You, take your minions and get lost! Right now! Go away!”

“Little Feng Wu —”

Feng Xun went up to her and tried to explain. However, he was intimidated by Feng Wu’s bloodshot eyes...

Taking a deep breath, Feng Wu pointed to the front. “Feng Xun, I don’t want to get angry with you. Please just go.”

Yan Yan glowered at Feng Wu. “Mind your language. My cousin is a young lord and even the head of your Feng clan doesn’t dare speak to him like that, let alone use those words with His Royal Highness. Feng Wu, who the hell do you think you are...”

However, before Yan Yan could go on —

*Smack!*

Feng Wu raised her right hand and slapped Yan Yan in her face. “That’s for talking too much!”

Poor Yan Yan. She flew back at the strike and smashed into an ancient tree a short distance away, breaking a few branches.

“Xiao Wu —” The beautiful lady was woken up by the noise and she stepped out of the tent to see Feng Wu hitting Yan Yan, which frightened the lady. Holding Feng Wu’s arm with her soft hands, she said, “Xiao Wu —”

Feng Wu only calmed down at her mother’s consoling touch.

Jun Linyuan glared at Feng Wu. He had come all the way here to help her out of kindness. Not only didn’t she thank him, she told him to go away!

Superior and proud as Jun Linyuan was, he had never been wronged like this before!

He clenched his fists and blue veins popped out.

Glaring at Feng Wu, Jun Linyuan looked like he was going to swallow her whole!



His intimidating aura swept across the entire campsite and the temperature seemed to drop below freezing.

“It’s so cold...” Feng Xun shuddered. Turning to the other side, he looked right into Jun Linyuan’s murderous eyes and his stomach lurched. “Boss Jun, you...”

Jun Linyuan gave Feng Wu one last angry look before turning to leave!

He soon realized that Feng Xun wasn’t following him and he glared at the latter. “Get your ass over here!”

Jun Linyuan seemed to be in such a foul mood that everyone quivered inwardly and didn’t dare make a sound.

Growing up with Jun Linyuan, Feng Xun knew that the guy was genuinely pissed. He knew better than to defy the crown prince in such a situation. Hence, he scurried off after Jun Linyuan, while enjoining Feng Wu over his shoulder, “You guys should get going as soon as the rain stops. If the Gale Ferry Service up ahead gets shut down by the flood, you’ll be stuck here for a month.”

Even at a moment like this, Feng Xun still cared about Feng Wu.

Poor Feng Liu. The bumpy ride on the back of a horse almost made her pass out. After finally arriving at the campsite, she was told that Jun Linyuan had just left!

Looking at Feng Liu’s ghastly pale face, Feng Yiran frowned. “Can you keep up?”

### **Chapter 286: Zuo Qingluan Has Leveled Up**

Debilitated, Feng Liu was too weak to even breathe properly, but she gritted her teeth and said nonetheless, “We, we must keep going —”

She darted a gloating look at Feng Wu as she said so.

The crown prince really didn’t like Feng Wu at all, otherwise he would never leave her here deep inside a forest.

Up ahead.

Jun Linyuan took the lead and rode very fast!

Cold rainwater slapped against his face and body, and it was bone-chillingly cold. However, when he recalled Feng Wu’s smile for Feng Xun and the fact that she had ignored him completely without so much as darting a look in his direction —

Even the cold rain couldn’t extinguish the flames of fury in Jun Linyuan’s chest!

Poor Feng Xun. He had no idea that he was the source of Jun Linyuan’s tantrum, and right now, he was nagging Xuan Yi for an explanation. “Boss Jun is so mad. Did someone piss him off?”

Rubbing his nose, Xuan Yi gave Feng Xun a meaningful look.

Feng Xun didn't take the hint and looked back at Xuan Yi in confusion.

Yan Yan caught up with them at that moment and she tugged at Feng Xun's sleeve. "Cousin, it was all your fault!"

"What did I do?" Feng Xun asked in frustration.

Yan Yan said, "You know perfectly well how repulsive His Royal Highness finds Feng Wu, but you still decided to befriend her. Of course His Royal Highness is pissed! Whose side are you on, exactly?"

"Really..." Feng Xun tilted his head. Was Boss Jun that unforgiving?

"But little Feng Wu and her family are really weak. It's by sheer luck that nothing has happened to them so far. Who knows when they will run into magical beasts? If they do —"

By now, they were almost 50 km away from Feng Wu's campsite, and he wouldn't be able to keep an eye on her if they went any further.

Jun Linyuan nimbly dismounted.

Feng Xun ran up to him right away and said ingratiatingly, "Boss Jun, the rain is too heavy for us to keep going. How about we build a treehouse here and take shelter in it?"

He had expected to be turned down, but the crown prince only glanced at him and nodded.

"I'll go chop up some wood and start working on the treehouse! Hahaha — Little Feng Wu and her family can stay overnight in it when they get here tomorrow!" After that, Feng Xun was about to get on with the task.

However, Jun Linyuan frowned a little and stopped Feng Xun. "You've been stuck at the top level of the Spiritual Grandmaster stage for quite some time."

Feng Xun's heart sank.

"Xuan Yi has had a breakthrough," said Jun Linyuan casually.

"Ahhh —" That successfully set Feng Xun off. He ran up to Xuan Yi and grabbed him by his collar. "When did this happen? When?!"

Jun Linyuan's gaze was as sharp as a cold blade. "From this moment on, you're going to forget about everything else and put all your effort into your cultivation."

"But Boss Jun —" Feng Xun protested.

"Zuo Qingluan broke through as well." Jun Linyuan made another casual comment.

"Ahhh —" Feng Xun couldn't think about anything else now except for Zuo Qingluan's advancement to the Spiritual Elder stage. He said in frustration, "Seriously? Zuo Qingluan? She made it?!"

Jun Linyuan snickered. "She doesn't waste her talent the way you do."

"Whatever! I'm going to cultivate now! Nothing can stop me from cultivating!" Feng Xun sat down with his legs crossed and switched to his cultivation mode right away.

Zuo Qingluan's breakthrough had motivated him greatly.

However, before he entered the state of meditation, Feng Xun reminded Jun Linyuan, "Boss Jun, could you maybe... keep the news of Zuo Qingluan's breakthrough from little Feng Wu? She'll be so upset if she hears about it."

That pretty yet stubborn face appeared in Jun Linyuan's head —

### **Chapter 287: What's Boss Jun's Problem?**

Jun Linyuan looked bewildered and he snorted. "Why do you care?"

Feng Xun clenched his fists. "I have to. Zuo Qingluan is sure to give little Feng Wu a hard time, and I must get better. That way, I'll be able to protect little Feng Wu!"

After that, Feng Xun started his cultivation right away, leaving the crown prince standing there looking stunned.

Protect Feng Wu? Jun Linyuan looked pensively at Feng Xun. If that girl just gave in and begged for his help, no one would ever be able to give her a hard time at all!

Xuan Yi wasn't doing a very good job with the treehouse, for Feng had always taken care of tasks like this.

Jun Linyuan's face darkened a little when he saw the completed treehouse.

Xuan Yi's heart sank.

As expected, Jun Linyuan frowned a little and said, "Too small."

Too small? How could that be? He had used the exact measurements as Feng had. Jun Linyuan was the only one using it, so how big did he need it to be?

Exactly how much bigger? Xuan Yi wavered. He had never missed Feng as much as he did now.

However, Feng had escorted Feng Xiaoqi back to the imperial capital and they had no idea when he would be back —

Just as Xuan Yi was thinking about Feng, Feng came back.

Xuan Yi couldn't be any more pleased and he immediately handed the task to Feng.

With Feng taking over, the new treehouse was solid, clean, neat, and looked very refreshing with all the green leaves. However, Jun Linyuan took a glance and went on frowning. It was obvious that he was still displeased.

Xuan Yi and Feng exchanged looks of bewilderment.

"Still too small? So, bigger?" Xuan Yi asked.

Crossing his hands behind his back, Jun Linyuan gave off a self-important and unhurried air. However, one could tell with one look that he wasn't satisfied with the result. "Build another one."

What?

Xuan Yi was bemused. Boss Jun had never bothered to have a second treehouse built for the rest of them. What was going on here?

Even Feng couldn't help but give Jun Linyuan another look. Something was definitely amiss here.

Jun Linyuan walked away and disappeared into the forest.

Xuan Yi was bewildered. "Where is Boss Jun going?"

Before long, they heard the noise of magical beasts scattering.

Feng replied in his usual indifferent tone, "Expelling magical beasts, apparently."

Xuan Yi was even more confused. "Why bother chasing them at all? Boss Jun and you yourself are more than enough to keep all of us safe. Plus, since when does Boss Jun himself need to do such petty tasks? He could have told us to do it."

That was exactly what Feng was thinking as well. Hence, he also looked at the crown prince in bewilderment.

"Is it because we're not careful enough for him?" Rubbing his chin, Xuan Yi considered the possibility.

"Has anything happened in the past few days?" Even Feng, the least gossipy person of them all, couldn't help but ask.

"Well, if you put it that way, there was something. Boss Jun and little Feng Wu had a row."

"Really? Tell me about it." The taciturn Feng was actively seeking gossip, which proved how disturbed he was by the crown prince's behavior.

Xuan Yi told Feng everything, then looked at the latter expectantly.

Feng looked at that figure clad in black a short distance away. The teenager was born with the duty to rule over this continent. Was he going to be distracted now?

Feng decided that he would wait and see.

The night passed without incident.

The first ray of sunshine lit up the entire treehouse through the window curtained by green leaves.

Feng Xun opened his eyes, which flickered brightly in the sunlight. Just then —

### **Chapter 288: Wait, Where Did the Magical Beasts Go?**

Seeing Feng, Feng Xun beamed at the steward. "Hey, you're back!"

The teenager's cheerful smile seemed to brighten up everything right away.

Feng liked Feng Xun for his cheerfulness and he nodded at the latter. "Young Master Feng, come and have some breakfast. We'll be on our way soon."

However, Feng Xun dilly-dallied after breakfast and didn't want to leave.

"What are you waiting for?" Xuan Yi asked.

Feng Xun kept looking in the direction Feng Wu would come from and he looked bewildered. "Why isn't little Feng Wu here yet? Did something happen to them? Did some magical beasts eat them?"

Xuan Yi smacked his own forehead. "Dude, we're blazing the trail for them here and we've driven all the magical beasts away. There are no magical beasts left to eat them."

"You're right —" Feng Xun's face lit up and he rubbed his hands together. "By leading the way, not only can we leave treehouses behind for them to sleep in, we can also chase away all the dangerous beasts for them. Hahaha — I'm such a genius! That's exactly what we're gonna do!"

Xuan Yi nudged Feng Xun with his elbow, reminding the latter that Boss Jun was watching.

"Um..." Feng Xun rubbed his nose. Since Boss Jun disliked Feng Wu so much, the guy probably didn't like to hear him talk about her this way.

As expected, Feng Xun noticed that Jun Linyuan's handsome face had darkened a little.

*Sigh* ... Feng Xun moaned inwardly. Feng Wu was such a great girl, but why were those two so hostile toward one another? It really bothered him.

"Shall we set out now?" Feng asked Jun Linyuan after getting the horses ready.

The teenager who was going to rule the continent one day looked exceptionally pensive at the moment. He then darted an unhurried look at Feng Xun.

Feng Xun was befuddled, but he smacked himself on the forehead immediately!

Since Boss Jun didn't like Feng Wu, if he continued holding the team up to wait for Feng Wu, Boss Jun would be even more pissed.

At that thought, Feng Xun let out a melancholy sigh. "Well, let's go."

Jun Linyuan's gaze fell on Feng Xun's face like a sharp blade.

Feng Xun was confused. He had done everything that Boss Jun wanted, but the guy was still unhappy. What was he supposed to do?

"Your Royal Highness, shall we leave now?" There was a meaningful look on Feng's usually impassive face.

The future ruler of the empire clenched his fist and the look in his eyes was indecipherable. He said nothing before he hopped onto his horse and dashed off.

Feng Xun rubbed his chin. "... Am I imagining it, or is Boss Jun angry?"

Looking at the proud Jun Linyuan riding off and the confused look on Feng Xun's face in turn, Xuan Yi shook his head with a wry smile. It seemed that he had guessed right.

"I never thought..." Xuan Yi was amazed.

“You know what’s going on?!” Feng Xun stared at Xuan Yi with sparkling eyes.

Xuan Yi shrugged in a noncommittal manner.

“Tell me!” Feng Xun was intrigued.

“It can’t be explained.”

“Little Xuan, are you trying to get your ass kicked?”

“I think you’ll really become an idiot if I beat you one more time.”

“You!”

The poor sunshine boy wasn’t the sharpest tool in the box and was forever being laughed at by Xuan Yi.

Feng Wu and her family arrived sometime in the evening and the beautiful lady was elated to see the clean and neat treehouses.

What pleased her even more was —

### **Chapter 289: She Needs Combat!**

As they traveled on, someone seemed to have cleared the trail for them, leaving behind nice treehouses and game ready to eat.

However, Feng Wu wasn’t happy at all.

She needed her practice!

She needed real combat!

They were about to reach the imperial capital and she needed all the opportunities she could get to improve. Those people would eat her alive if she wasn’t tough enough.

Hence, while Feng Wu was ready to fight to death with all the magical beasts in the forest, she realized in disappointment that —

There were no magical beasts!

Feng Wu was shocked!

How could this be?

They were in an extended stretch of Frozen Forest, and magical beasts were supposed to run rampant in this part of the woods. Their journey was supposed to be plagued by crises.

But what really happened was —

Nothing actually happened!

Not even once!

If she couldn't run into any magical beasts around the treehouse, she would try somewhere deeper in the woods!

Feng Wu made up her mind. After instructing Uncle Qiu to protect her mother, she rushed into the woods to search for magical beasts!

However... she didn't even find a rabbit, let alone ferocious magical beasts.

The woods were void of any sound apart from the noise she made herself. It was unnaturally quiet.

How could this happen? Feng Wu couldn't for the life of her figure it out.

Where did all the magical beasts go? Where was she supposed to get her practice?! Feng Wu was almost in tears.

She would never expect that someone had chased away all the magical beasts beforehand... If she knew, she really would burst into tears.

Feng Wu's original plan was to reach the Spiritual Grandmaster stage before the end of their journey. However, without magical beasts... even with the help of the cub's spiritual energy, Feng Wu was only able to make it to Level 9 of the Spiritual Master stage.

She was so close to becoming a Spiritual Grandmaster, but the breakthrough didn't happen. And Feng Wu had no idea when it would happen.

Before they knew it, they were almost there.

"*Sigh* — " Seeing the walls of the imperial capital on their approach, Feng Wu signed in resignation.

The Junwu Empire, the imperial capital.

The city was the heart of the empire.

The entire imperial capital reminded one of a vast, boundless building that stood on the horizon like a gigantic beast from ancient times. It was grand, spectacular, and awe-inspiring.

The city gate was over 300 meters in height, and standing in the gateway, one looked as insignificant as an ant.

Feng Wu was no stranger to the imperial capital. After all, she had lived here for the first eight years of her life.

It had been five years since she last entered the city and Feng Wu was overwhelmed by mixed feelings.

However, she had yet to get over her emotional moment when a man and a woman showed up from inside.

"Feng Wu, I see you were close behind us!" She heard Feng Liu's voice from up ahead.

Looking up, Feng Wu saw Feng Yiran and Feng Liu standing there as well as Feng Liu's undisguised delight at Feng Wu's discomfiture.

Seeing how cheerful and refreshed these two were, Feng Wu knew that they had been back to the Feng Manor already.

The imperial capital was the territory of those people, so it was no wonder they made no secret of their arrogance.

Walking up to Feng Wu, Feng Liu stared at the latter coldly. "Feng Wu, you're finally back in the imperial capital after five years!"

Feng Wu gave her an indifferent glance.

"It's not too late to run away!" Leaning toward Feng Wu, Feng Liu whispered in her ear.

Feng Wu frowned a little, but her face remained impassive and undisturbed.

### **Chapter 290: How Can She Do Such a Thing?**

"Well, if you're going to stay, then get ready for my revenge! Feng Wu, you've just walked into your living hell —" Feng Wu only darted a look at Feng Liu, then went back into her own carriage.

She didn't act out? Feng Liu was disappointed.

Her plan was to make a scene right outside the city gate so that the entire imperial capital would hear about the return of Feng Wu the good-for-nothing. That way, Feng Wu would be ridiculed by everyone.

Feng Yiran went up to Feng Liu. "Xiao Liu, let's go back."

The beautiful lady was scared. She took Feng Wu's hand and looked nervously at the latter.

"I'm right here and nothing is going to happen to you." Feng Wu caressed her mother's fine, slim hands and her face looked a little grim in the sunlight.

Their carriage moved on, carrying them toward the manor of the Feng clan.

They could hear all the people talking on the street.

"Feng Wu is back?"

"Which Feng Wu?"

"Which one do you think? The genius Feng Wu that used to be as famous as Jun Linyuan!"

"Right, that good-for-nothing who lost her True Phoenix Blood. I thought she was long dead."

"She isn't, but they banished her to the border. I didn't think she would come back after five years."

"The cripple has some balls to come back now. Doesn't she realize that she will get nothing but ridicule and taunts here?"

—

Sitting in the carriage with her legs crossed and her eyes closed, Feng Wu was absorbed in her cultivation.



This was a world which valued martial prowess above anything else... Ever since losing her status as the little genius, she was surrounded by nothing but sneers and taunts. It had been Zuo Qingluan's doing all along, destroying Feng Wu's True Phoenix Blood, but the victim became the one who got the blame. Nice job, Zuo family.

"Do you remember? There was a girl back then that was equally as famous as Feng Wu."

"Of course we do. That's Zuo Qingyun, the eldest daughter of the Zuo family!"

"She's not Zuo Qingyun anymore! She goes by the name Zuo Qingluan now! Qingluan, as in the big blue bird, the real phoenix!"

"Do you know what Zuo Qingluan's cultivation stage is now, then?"

"What stage?"

"She's a Spiritual Elder already!"

"Holy shit! A Spiritual Elder? Seriously? She's not fifteen yet and she's already a Spiritual Elder? Imagine what she will be like in the days to come!"

"Poor Feng Wu. She's still useless in cultivation and the gap between her and Zuo Qingyun will only grow wider. One day, she will be so far behind that she won't be able to follow Zuo Qingyun with her eyes."

Up on the second floor of a restaurant by the street, a teenage boy and two teenage girls stood by the window. The teenager was looking casually out the window, but the two girls both had sneers on their faces.

"I would rather die out there than come back to the imperial capital if I were Feng Wu. The last thing I would want is to come back." Zuo Qingyu, the girl in a pink dress, gloated at Feng Wu's discomfiture.

"She's not going to die that easily. She still has to throw herself at the crown prince. You have no idea how shamefully cloying she was during the entire trip. Gosh, I'm blushing just to talk about it..." Yan Yan said diffidently.

"Throw herself at the crown prince?!"

Yan Yan's words shocked not only Zuo Qingyu, but the girls at the nearby tables as well.

"You have no idea. That Feng Wu is really... Not only wouldn't she leave His Royal Highness alone, she even tried to climb into bed with him in the middle of the night! My cousin saw it with his own eyes. You know who my cousin is, right?"

"You mean Young Lord Feng?"

"That's him! He's the crown prince's childhood friend, and he wouldn't lie about something like this." Yan Yan smirked.

"Oh my god!" Zuo Qingyu put a hand over her mouth and looked shocked. "How can Feng Wu... how can she do such a thing? She really has no shame at all!"