G E D 521

Chapter 521: Preposterous!

After he got into Imperial College, he had become even more popular.

However, Feng Wu had just turned him down outright.

But Rong Shixin believed that Feng Wu was only playing hard-to-get.

Girls like her were so much fun to court, weren't they?

Feng Wu frowned at the hubbub. She took Chaoge's hand, then turned to leave.

"Xiao Wu —"

Rong Shixin ran after her.

Feng Wu cast a stern look at him!

"Erk..." Rong Shixin felt as if he had been stabbed in the heart. He got the creeps and he stumbled back involuntarily.

That was strange...

Hadn't Feng Wu lost all her cultivation ability? Why was she so scary?

"Feng Wu! What are you doing here in Imperial College? Are you here to hit on guys?!"

Feng Sang's voice rang out behind them.

Guan Jing chuckled. "Is she here to tour the school? She won't be able to enroll anyway, so why not use the open day to enjoy the view?"

Many of the girls snickered at those words.

They looked at Feng Wu in such a condescending manner.

So what if she had once been a genius? She was completely useless now. She wasn't even qualified to take the exam, let alone become a student of Imperial College.

"If I recall correctly, our school is recruiting new students in a few days, right?"

"That's right. You have to be a Level 9 Spiritual Master at least to take the exam. Too bad that some people don't even meet that. All they can do is lure guys in with that pretty face."

"Hahaha — now I know why Feng Wu is here."

"Why is that?"

"Because — since she can't get into Imperial College herself, she has to depend on that pretty face. She's going to find a rich husband here, isn't she?" "Hahahaha —" Many girls laughed upon hearing those words.

Feng Wu was so beautiful that the guys couldn't help but take her side. As a result, many girls turned Feng Wu into their imaginary enemy.

"Rong Shixin, you're just one of the potential moneybags she's digging into, hahaha —"

"Rong Shixin, wake up. She's casting her net all over the place."

"Rong Shixin... are you seriously going to take a useless girl back home? That's just humiliating!"

Rong Shixin's face turned livid!

Exasperated, Chaoge rested her hands on her waist as tears welled up in her eyes. "Shut up! Xiao Wu can't get into Imperial College? Says who? We're here today to register!"

Wow —

A hush fell over the crowd at those words...

Everyone gave Chaoge strange looks.

Feng Sang rubbed her ears. "What did you say?"

Sticking out her chest, Chaoge said righteously, "I said Xiao Wu is here to register for Imperial College's entrance exam! And she's not the only one! I'm going to take the exam as well!"

"Pfft —"

"Hahahaha —"

"Oh god, that's hilarious. My tummy aches, help —"

"Hahahaha, I'm cracking up here. That has to be the funniest thing I've ever heard -"

Many girls laughed until their stomachs ached.

Oh god...

A useless girl without so much as a streak of spiritual essence was going to take the exam?

As for that silly girl Chaoge, she was a Level 7 at best. How dare she talk about taking the exam as well? That was preposterous!

Rong Shixin also looked at Chaoge strangely. "You..."

Chapter 522: There's One Possibility

Chaoge was furious!

What was wrong with these people? She and Feng Wu were here just to register for the entrance exam! Xiao Wu was so smart and brilliant that she could surpass them without breaking a sweat! Where did their sense of superiority come from? And what made them think that they could laugh at Xiao Wu like this?!

That pissed Chaoge off. She made up her mind that she would become an excellent cultivator; one day, she would be strong enough to sneer at all those people who used to laugh at Xiao Wu!

"Hahaha — just look at that butterball. She's cross. She looks so funny with her cheeks puffed up."

"Hahaha, are you seeing this? The butterball wants to kill us with her eyes."

"Oh my, I think the butterball wants to fight us to death."

By "butterball," they were obviously referring to Chaoge.

All those "butterballs" infuriated Chaoge!

No teenage girl would want such a nickname, especially one that used to be so pretty.

Tears welled up in her eyes, and her back looked both stubborn and sad.

Feng Wu's hand landed on her shoulder. Chaoge turned around with red-rimmed eyes.

"Silly girl." Feng Wu rubbed her head. "You'll soon be as fit as you were. I promise."

Chaoge beamed at Feng Wu with tears in her eyes.

Wiping away her tears, Chaogo looked up at Feng Wu, whom she trusted, and nodded with a smile. "Yes!"

However, Rong Shixin was looking at Feng Wu in a sympathetic way.

"Are you really going to register for the exam?"

"Yes." Feng Wu nodded.

Rong Shixin didn't know what to say.

Guan Jing snickered all of a sudden. "What? Correct me if I'm wrong, but hasn't registration closed already?"

"That's right! It closed at noon, didn't it?"

"It's already the afternoon now, hahaha —"

Many gave Feng Wu funny looks.

Some even sneered. "If you're really going to find an excuse, at least find a plausible one. How are you going to register when the deadline has already passed?"

"Well, maybe she really is here to do that. Don't be so harsh."

Guan Jing said, "She really is here to do that? Don't make me laugh. One is a Level 7 at most, and the other has no cultivation ability whatsoever. You're telling me that they're here to register for the exam?"

"Pfft —"

Guan Jing went on, "There's one possibility, though."

"What's that?"

Guan Jing said, "I heard that the school has a special rule. If a person can get recommendation letters from three members of the board of education, they can be treated as an exceptional case and be registered."

"Hahahaha —"

Many onlookers laughed until they were in tears.

"Those two? Get letters from the bigshots? And three of them? You've got to be kidding me!"

No way. No one was going to believe that.

Chaoge trembled with fury. "You snobs! Two of the big guys already gave us letters, and we'll get the third one!"

However, the others only guffawed.

Feng Wu shook her head and tugged at Chaoge. "Let's go."

There was nothing more to say to these people.

Feng Wu then led Chaoge toward the president's office.

Many were looking forward to making fun of her.

"Look, hahaha, Feng Wu is going to the president's office."

Guan Jing said, "Well, after what she said, she can't just leave, right? The least she can do is make a show of it. Where else can she go if not the president's office?"

"Hahahaha —"

Chapter 523: The President of Imperial College

The principal's office.

Every day, Mr Lu would recline on a chaise lounge for some rest after he was done with his cultivation.

A young servant gingerly entered the room and whispered something in Mr Lu's ear.

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu were here together? Weren't those two fighting all the time? He wondered what the fight was about this time.

Rubbing his forehead, Mr Lu smiled wryly. It seemed that he wasn't going to get that rest this evening after all.

"Please show them in." Mr Lu gave a wave of his hand.

Before long, Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu walked in together.

"Old Lu, there you are. Good." Grand Secretary Fang greeted the president with those words.

Priest Wu looked delighted as well. "Hahaha, Old Lu. Here, sit with me and let's talk."

"Huh?"

Mr Lu found this very unusual.

Weren't these two at each other's throats all the time? Especially the proud Grand Secretary Fang, who looked down on Priest Wu for not being professionally trained.

Whereas Priest Wu had a short temper and despised those that thought highly of themselves.

Hence, these two people would start a cock fight whenever they ran into each other, which was such a pain in the neck... However, they didn't seem to be fighting at all today.

Mr Lu looked at the two of them in bewilderment.

Priest Wu pulled Mr Lu near, then sat the latter down at the table. "There, Old Lu. Take a seat first."

That gave Mr Lu the creeps.

On the other side, Grand Secretary Fang laid a piece of paper in front of him and rubbed an ink stick on an inkstone himself.

Mr Lu was astonished!

Was this an illusion?

Grand Secretary Fang was such a proud figure that his most common posture was his hands crossed behind his back and his chin raised.

Even Mr Lu himself wasn't treated much differently from everyone else.

But now —

The old man had laid out a piece of paper for him?

And he was even preparing the ink?

What was more -

Grand Secretary Fang even dipped the writing brush in the ink, then handed it to Mr Lu.

Mr Lu didn't know how to react. "What on earth is going on here?"

He was so flustered.

Priest Wu said, "We ran into a girl recently and she has an amazing gift for formations. But cultivationwise... she's a little bit behind... and she wants to become a student of Imperial College."

Mr Lu gave him a wry smile. "Let her apply for the formation department, then." He didn't understand what was bothering these two.

Priest Wu and Grand Secretary Fang both gave Mr Lu woeful looks.

"What?" Those expressions made Mr Lu rather jumpy.

Priest Wu said with a long face, "We wouldn't have come here if she could apply for the formation department."

Grand Secretary Fang sighed. "To be honest, what more can we teach her there?"

Priest Wu sighed along with him. "The girl is as good as either of us in formations. How are we supposed to teach her when she gets in?"

Mr Lu's eyes lit up. They had found such a promising student? He was instantly intrigued.

For Priest Wu and Grand Secretary Fang had never recommended anyone before. This time, however, they couldn't stop praising this girl and were doing things that were so out of character for them.

Mr Lu was so curious.

"And?"

"The girl wants to get into the martial arts department." Both Priest Wu and Grand Secretary Fang gave Mr Lu woeful looks.

"Take the exam, then."

Mr Lu shrugged. "What's wrong with that? If she passes the exam, she can get in."

Priest Wu and Grand Secretary Fang exchanged looks and Priest Wu said in the end, "The girl wanted to, but -"

"But what?"

"But she's not as strong in all the subjects. Her cultivation level... is a little..."

Chapter 524: I Need to See Her

"Not as strong? You mean that she hasn't reached Level 9 yet?"

"Yes —"

"That shouldn't be a problem." Mr Lu waved his hand matter-of-factly. "Real talent is hard to come by. Don't we have an exemption rule here in Imperial College? As long as three members of the education board -"

He stopped abruptly and looked from Grand Secretary Fang to Priest Wu.

And those two nodded back at him.

Mr Lu said, "That's why you've been fawning on me the whole time. You're here for that letter."

Priest Wu chuckled. "Brother Lu, Boss Lu, it's like you said. She has real talent and that's so hard to come by."

"You also said she's not as strong in all subjects." Mr Lu was disgruntled. "Exactly how weak is she in the other subjects that you two have to go this far?"

Mr Lu couldn't understand. Both old men were valuable assets of the empire. One was usually arrogant and the other irascible, and both were equally stubborn. It was amazing to see them work as a team to ingratiate themselves with Mr Lu.

"Well —" Both old men were embarrassed to bring up the subject and looked at one another.

Mr Lu rubbed his chin. "If her performance is so lopsided and her formation skills so amazing, it has to be her cultivation level that's not as advanced... How bad? Level 9?"

Both old men shook their heads.

"Level 8?"

They shook their heads again.

"Level 7?"

Still shaking.

"Level 6?" The look on Mr Lu's face began to change.

Both old men remained silent.

"Don't tell me that she's only a Level 5!" Mr Lu jumped to his feet.

That wasn't lopsided, but was completely...

"No..." Priest Wu said gingerly after glancing at Mr Lu.

Mr Lu asked, "So what level is she?"

He had lost all hope after hearing that she wasn't even a Level 5.

"She has none..." Grand Secretary Fang scratched his head awkwardly.

"Pfft —"

Mr Lu burst into laughter. "Hahaha, you two are really... Have you come all this way just to tell me a joke? None? That makes her an ordinary non-cultivator. You —"

Seeing the looks on Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu's faces, Mr Lu stopped short. "You... you're telling the truth?"

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu smiled at him in embarrassment.

Mr Lu made a last-ditch attempt. "If her spiritual essence hasn't been activated..."

Priest Wu smiled bitterly. "To be more precise, the girl... lost all her cultivation ability. She has no spiritual essence at all."

Mr Lu was speechless.

To have lost her cultivation ability was worse than to have unactivated spiritual essence.

He sat back down, leaned back in his chair, and became very quiet.

He sat up all of a sudden, stared at the other two, and said in a solemn tone, "You do realize that spiritual essence is fundamental to formations? Without it, the girl won't be able to get too far in the study of formations..."

Priest Wu and Grand Secretary Fang exchanged looks and both smiled bitterly.

"Old Lu, how much further do you want her formation skills to go?"

"At her current level, the things she has shown us are already as advanced as what we can do."

And these two old men were top formation masters in all of the empire.

Mr Lu rubbed his chin. "It's not that I don't believe you... but at least, I need to see her first."

Chapter 525: Mr Principal

"I'm sure you'll like her!" Priest Wu said cheerfully.

Mr Lu snorted. Not necessarily.

Just as Grand Secretary Fang was about to send for Feng Wu -

Footsteps came from outside.

The young servant entered the room and said in a low voice, "Miss Feng Wu is here..."

Mr Lu threw a dirty look at Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu. "I see you came prepared."

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu rubbed their chins.

They had told Xiao Wu to stay behind, but she had still come. However, the timing was perfect.

Feng Wu walked in with Chaoge.

Mr Lu stared at Feng Wu with eyes as cold and deep as a dark abyss.

It was rather terrifying.

Chaoge shuddered and hid behind Feng Wu.

However, Feng Wu had kept her composure since entering the room. She was graceful, undisturbed, and completely unaffected by Mr Lu's aura.

Mr Lu looked confused. Why did this girl look familiar?

"And you are?"

"Mr Lu, my name is Feng Wu," Feng Wu replied.

Chaoge shuddered, then followed suit. "I'm Duan Chaoge."

This man was the head of Imperial College, whose superiority was second only to the emperor. Even Chaoge's grandfather couldn't get an audience with this man... Chaoge was so excited!

Mr Lu was rather surprised. Wasn't the girl afraid of him at all?

Priest Wu said in a hurry, "She's the one. She's as advanced in her formation skills as one can be, but her cultivation level is not as satisfying."

Mr Lu darted a look at Priest Wu.

Not as satisfying? She couldn't cultivate at all!

Mr Lu frowned.

Grand Secretary Fang said, "Once Xiao Wu is admitted into Imperial College, she can always go to the formation department if the martial arts department won't have her..."

Mr Lu waved Grand Secretary Fang off and kept his gaze on Feng Wu. "Feng Wu, where have I heard that name before?

"That's it! You're THE Feng Wu!" Mr Lu looked shocked!

How could he not know that name?!

Feng Wu used to be a prodigy second only to Jun Linyuan, and was a figure that had amazed everyone.

She had only been eight back then, but Mr Lu had already wished to take her in as a student of Imperial College so that he could teach her himself and prevent her from going astray or bringing harm to herself.

He never thought that the next time they met would be five years later.

"Yes, I'm that Feng Wu." Feng Wu smiled.

When Mr Lu looked at Feng Wu again, he felt very sorry for her.

That amazing girl had become a good-for-nothing.

It pained him to think about it.

Mr Lu shook his head and heaved a long sigh.

"Kiddo, you have no cultivation ability, which means that the martial arts department isn't the right place for you," Mr Lu said sincerely. "You should choose the formation department. You'll do wonderfully there."

Even Mr Lu had to admire Feng Wu's capability.

When a door shut, God opened a window for her, and she was as much a genius as before.

Mr Lu felt so sorry for the girl...

The empire had lost more than just a great, potential warrior.

Mr Lu couldn't bring himself to see Feng Wu this way. He gave a wave of his hand. "Please leave."

He wouldn't let Feng Wu enroll in the martial arts department.

For one, it would pain him so much to see the once genius girl become an ordinary person.

For another, Feng Wu wouldn't be able to take it when she saw all her peers make progress when she couldn't.

Chapter 526: Hahahaha —

For those two reasons, Mr Lu turned Feng Wu down before she had a chance to speak.

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu were shocked!

How could that be?

"Mr Lu..."

"Mr Lu..."

Both old men cried out in unison.

Would Mr Lu ignore their request outright?

Mr Lu was very straightforward. "She isn't an ideal choice for the martial arts department, nor for Imperial College. Therefore, no."

Once Mr Lu put it that way, there was nothing more Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu could say.

They turned to Feng Wu and sighed. "Xiao Wu, it's out of our hands now. You..."

Feng Wu shook her head adamantly.

"Mr Fang, Mr Wu, may I have a minute alone with Mr Lu?"

Mr Lu smirked. "Feng Wu! I don't care what you're going to say. I said no, and no it is! Moreover, registration has closed, and at least for this year, you've lost your chance!"

He practically shouted those words.

He hoped that he could make Feng Wu see some sense that way.

However, what he didn't know was -

Because of the earlier incident, many were eager to know what was going on with Feng Wu, so much so that quite a few students were lingering outside the principal's office.

Among those students were Guan Jing and Rong Shixin.

Guan Jing grinned when she heard the principal's words!

She dashed off toward the Year 1 cultivation room.

"I've got news! Big news!"

Her voice reached the room before she did.

"What is it?"

"Guan Jing, didn't you follow Feng Wu out to see how defeated she would be when she left?"

"Has she gone already? Did she really get into the principal's office?"

Everyone was curious.

Feng Sang was in the crowd and she looked at Guan Jing with unblinking eyes.

Guan Jing went up to Feng Sang, and only when all eyes were on her did she say in a gloating voice, "I think everyone knows what Feng Wu did just then."

"Yes!"

"I followed Feng Wu out just then and saw her go all the way to the principal's office."

"Wow! She really went there? How?"

"Then what? Did she register?"

Guan Jing shushed the others with a hand gesture.

A hush fell over the crowd.

It turned out that Guan Jing was unable to hold back her laughter. She laughed and laughed until she trembled all over and tears streaked her cheeks.

Everyone was bewildered.

What on earth happened? Why was Guan Jing laughing so hard?

"Tell us!"

"That's right. Stop laughing!"

"Tell us now! You're killing me here!"

Guan Jing finally managed to stop laughing, and in a trembling voice, she said, "Feng Wu did indeed see Mr Lu, and Mr Lu talked to her."

"What?"

Everyone was jealous and excited!

Mr Lu was such a superior figure that one couldn't just see him as they pleased.

But Feng Wu had been granted an audience?

They would be lying if they didn't admit that they were jealous.

Guan Jing went on. "Feng Wu did indeed see Mr Lu. Why am I so certain? Because I heard Mr Lu talk to her.

"Mr Lu said, 'Feng Wu! I don't care what you're going to say. I said no, and no it is! Moreover, registration has closed, and at least for this year, you've lost your chance!"

Chapter 527: Old Man Ba's Letter

Everyone fell silent after Guan Jing said those words.

They burst into laughter right after that!

"Hahaha —"

"Hahahaha —"

"Hahahahaha —"

Many of them laughed so hard that they were in tears and trembled all over. Some even lay flat on their stomachs and thumped the ground with their fists.

"Hahahaha — Feng Wu so had that coming!"

"Mr Lu was so right. He said no, and no it is. That girl should just shut up."

"Registration has long closed. Did Feng Wu think that the school would bend the rules just for her?"

"She really thinks too highly of herself. Who the hell does she think she is?"

Many of the girls had a biased opinion of Feng Wu to begin with and weren't able to judge objectively. They couldn't be happier to hear about Feng Wu's predicament and used all the sarcastic and contemptuous words they could think of.

Meanwhile, in the principal's office.

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu exchanged looks after Mr Lu's announcement, and both saw resignation in each other's eyes.

After all, Mr Lu was the one who called the shots here in Imperial College.

Hence, they lost all hope.

"Xiao Wu —"

Priest Wu wanted to show Feng Wu out.

However, Feng Wu kept her gaze on Mr Lu the whole time and looked completely undisturbed.

The girl had the bearing of a great general... Mr Lu, who was always looking for new talent, felt even more sorry for Feng Wu now and couldn't bring himself to look at her.

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu finally realized what kind of girl Feng Wu really was.

She was the most stubborn girl they had ever met.

When she set her mind on something, she wouldn't let her decision be affected by anyone.

Well...

The two old men shook their heads and left the room.

"Kiddo, even if you go down on your knees and plead with your tears, you won't be able to change my mind. This is my final verdict." Mr Lu gave a disclaimer first to exclude any possibilities.

Feng Wu smiled. "I'm not going to kneel, but I do have a letter for you."

Mr Lu frowned at Feng Wu.

Meanwhile, Feng Wu took a thick envelope out of her chest pocket and put it on the table.

That was way too thick for an ordinary letter.

The frown on Mr Lu's face grew bigger.

Judging by how certain the girl looked, could she have stuffed the envelope with money?

The look Mr Lu gave Feng Wu was even more stern now.

A person could be without cultivation ability, but he wouldn't stand for such despicable behavior!

At that thought, Mr Lu didn't even look at the envelope, but only stared at Feng Wu. "Take it back."

He really didn't like this girl now.

Feng Wu looked at Mr Lu in bewilderment.

According to Old Man Ba, he and Mr Lu had gone through hell together and were best buddies. But from the way Mr Lu reacted to the letter, he didn't seem to know Old Man Ba at all.

"You really don't want to have a look?"

"No!" Mr Lu refused her outright!

Feng Wu frowned. "But..."

"Not buts!" Mr Lu's face was livid. "Get out! Now!"

He had determined that Feng Wu was here to bribe him and he was furious.

That explained her behavior!

She had asked those two guys to leave first so that she could stay behind and bribe him!

Feng Wu, I'm so disappointed at what you've become!

"Get out! Get out of my sight!" Mr Lu said sternly.

Feng Wu sighed and said in a sorry tone, "So much for being Old Man Ba's best buddy. He told me that when you two were in Inferno City, he shielded you from a sword with his own body and he barely survived that wound..."

"Old Man Ba?" Mr Lu asked.

Chapter 528: Jun Linyuan! Come Out!

Old Man Ba?

Mr Lu shot up from his chair and grabbed Feng Wu by her wrist. "Old Man Ba? Which Old Man Ba?"

Feng Wu looked at him innocently. "You haven't heard of Old Man Ba? But the guy said that he was pretty well-known in the imperial capital. Was he just bragging, then?"

"You mean Ba Yi?" Mr Lu cried out in surprise.

"I have no idea. Old Man Ba never told us his real name; he was only Master Ba, Doctor Ba, or Miracle Ba to us..."

Mr Lu was exasperated and reached out with a hand. "Give me that letter!"

Feng Wu glanced at him unhurriedly. *I thought you didn't want to read it no matter what*.

Mr Lu couldn't wait any longer and snatched the letter from Feng Wu.

He saw the words on the envelope.

"For Lu the Third's eyes only."

Yes! That was the man's handwriting!

Mr Lu tore the envelope open in a hurry.

In it was a thick stack of papers — not the money he had assumed it was.

It took Mr Lu as long as 15 minutes to finish reading the long letter.

Afterwards, Mr Lu sat dazed in his chair and was lost in thought.

Chaoge stared at Mr Lu in bewilderment, then poked Feng Wu with a finger.

"Xiao Wu... What's going on with Mr Lu?"

He looked so sad.

Stirred by Chaoge's voice, Mr Lu looked at Feng Wu and felt as if he had woken up in another world.

"Little Feng Wu, did you say that you were going to apply for the martial arts department?"

"Yes." Feng Wu nodded.

Mr Lu narrowed his eyes and looked conflicted.

"You do realize that insisting on getting into the martial arts department isn't going to do you any good?" Mr Lu said earnestly.

Feng Wu smiled and said proudly, "I know what I'm doing."

Mr Lu nodded. Despite her young age, she gave Mr Lu the feeling that he was talking to an adult. What was more, she was more level-headed than a lot of adults he knew.

The majority of that long letter talked about how amazing Feng Wu was.

She was smart, hardworking, talented, and so on... Mr Lu almost frowned. Wasn't that a bit too exaggerated?

"If that's the case ... well -"

Mr Lu was going to grant Feng Wu her wish.

Chaoge almost jumped to her feet in excitement when all of a sudden -

That young servant came in hastily and whispered something in Mr Lu's ear.

Mr Lu looked confused, but rose to his feet anyway.

He then turned to Feng Wu and Chaoge. "Xiao Wu, how about you take your friend inside and find a book to read?"

Feng Wu realized that he was receiving a distinguished guest.

"No problem."

As soon as Feng Wu and Chaoge went into the study, footsteps came from outside.

"Mr Lu —"

Feng Wu found that voice rather familiar. She had heard it somewhere before.

Mr Lu greeted the man with a nod. "General Chang, to what do I owe this pleasure?"

General Chang?

As in Chang San, who worked for Jun Linyuan?

Chang San smiled. "Mr Lu, you flatter me. I'm here to bring a message from His Royal Highness."

"Of course."

Chang San smiled. "His Royal Highness said that if a Miss Feng Wu comes here to ask for your help, please turn her down."

Mr Lu's pupils contracted and he stared at Chang San.

As the principal of Imperial College, Mr Lu was only below the emperor in status, and he was roughly on the same level as the crown prince...

Chapter 529: Miss Feng Is Here? What...

Jun Linyuan himself was a student of Imperial College, but he was giving commands to his principal now?

Mr Lu was a little displeased.

Chang San nodded. "That was His Royal Highness's instruction, word for word. His Royal Highness also said that he'll owe you one."

Jun Linyuan said that? Well, that was...

"What if I insist on doing as I please?" Mr Lu stroked his beard and said casually.

Chang San chuckled. "No one has ever said no to His Royal Highness." That was, apart from that fierce, untamed Miss Feng Wu, Chang San added in his head.

"So, if I don't do as told, His Royal Highness is going to cause me to lose my job?" Mr Lu took a deep breath and there was anger in his eyes.

Chang San smiled. "Mr Lu, you're overthinking it. That's all I have to say. Goodbye."

Feng Wu and Chaoge were right in the study and the room wasn't exactly soundproof. Hence, they heard everything Chang San and Mr Lu said.

Chaoge flared up!

As impulsive as she always was, she rushed out from behind the curtain and yelled at Chang San. "Who the hell are you?! What do you mean by turning Feng Wu away? Why can't we apply for Imperial College? Why do you care? How can you do such nasty deeds behind our back?! You people are despicable and nosy and evil!"

Chang San stared at Chaoge in disbelief.

The girl had just yelled at him?

And he wasn't the only one she had lashed out at. Even His Royal Highness had been insulted?

Someone in this world was actually bold enough to curse the crown prince?

Chang San was too astonished to react.

Chaoge, on the other hand, didn't realize how shocking her words were. She shoved Chang San hard and the latter stumbled backward.

Chang San looked at Chaoge in disbelief.

Resting her hands on her waist, Chaoge snapped, "Stop gawking! We heard everything you said! Every word of it! Hmph!"

Chang San looked behind Chaoge and spotted Feng Wu, who had an indecipherable look on her face.

Chang San was at a loss over what to say.

No, no, no... Miss Feng Wu was here? What...

The muscles in Chang San's cheeks twitched, his mouth fell open, and his mind went blank...

This fifth daughter of the Feng clan hadn't intimidated him at the beginning, for even Feng Yanfeng had to address him as "General Chang." However, after Feng's reminder the other day...

He would rather offend His Royal Highness than piss Miss Feng Wu off... She was untouchable!

Chang San put on a bitter face and didn't know what to do.

Feng Wu kept her gaze on him as she went up to him. She then smiled casually. "Your master said himself that if I came to Mr Lu for help, I should be turned away?"

Feng Wu's voice was as light as a feather and very calm. However, if one looked closely enough, they would recognize the look in her eyes as the momentary peace before a storm.

Chang San was flustered!

He didn't know how to answer that question, so -

In a whoosh, Chang San jumped out the window and was soon out of sight.

Feng Wu was speechless.

So was Chaoge.

And Mr Lu.

Mr Lu turned to Feng Wu and said in a stern voice, "Xiao Wu, it's not that I won't help you, but you heard it yourself. His Royal Highness won't leave you alone."

Feng Wu gritted her teeth and flames seemed to shoot out of her eyes as she clenched her fists.

Mr Lu smiled bitterly. "Since His Royal Highness has decided to step in, even if I write that letter for you, His Royal Highness will find some other way to interfere. He can still make it impossible for you."

Chapter 530: Miss Wu Is Here!

Chaoge was exasperated. "But why? He's the crown prince, but you're the principal of Imperial College! How can he order you around? Didn't some former principal punish a crown prince once, and no harm came to him afterward?"

Mr Lu smiled bitterly. "That's right. I enjoy the same status as His Royal Highness, but times have changed. This is Jun Linyuan's time... Please listen to me. The two of you, especially Xiao Wu, should pack your things and leave the imperial capital..."

Kiddo, it's so obvious that the crown prince doesn't like you.

Feng Wu took a deep breath and looked at Mr Lu. "So, I can take the exam if Jun Linyuan says yes?"

"Of course," said Mr Lu. "Everything will be fine if you can persuade His Royal Highness."

But His Royal Highness dislikes you so much that he sent someone with that reminder... How are you going to change his mind? That's just not going to happen.

Mr Lu gave Feng Wu a sympathetic look, then heaved a sigh.

Feng Wu promptly left the office, so fast that she looked like a gust of wind.

She was furious!

Chaoge wanted to follow Feng Wu, but the latter stopped her. "Go to General Secretary Fang and start working on the written exam. After all, we only have seven days. Time is of the essence here."

Mr Lu didn't know what to say.

Grand Secretary Fang and Priest Wu, who had come back in, were also speechless.

Chaoge said with a long face, "Xiao Wu, we can't even register for the exam; what's the point preparing for it? It's a waste of our energy."

"Says who? I'm going to take the exam and no one is going to stop me!"

Feng Wu flared up!

He was the one who had given her the task and he was the one standing in her way now. Jun Linyuan, damn you!

In the crown prince's residence outside the royal palace.

Achoo!

The crown prince sneezed. He rubbed his nose — was someone talking about him?

"What time is it now?" The crown prince was reclining on a soft couch and casually feeding the fish in the pond.

"It's a quarter to seven," replied Feng immediately.

Rubbing his nose, Jun Linyuan looked up at the birds soaring in the blue sky and he gloated.

That girl wouldn't be able to run any faster after what he did to her. *Let's see how fast you'll run to me this time,* the crown prince thought proudly.

Just then —

"Whoosh —"

Chang San rushed in like a gust of wind and dropped to his knees in front of Jun Linyuan. With a long face, he said, "Your Royal Highness..."

Jun Linyuan frowned. "Yes?"

"Your Royal Highness, I'm guilty of a crime which even my death cannot atone for."

"Speak." Jun Linyuan was displeased by the interruption.

"Your Royal Highness, I delivered the message to Mr Lu of Imperial College as you instructed. But I didn't know that Miss Wu was in the study at the moment, and she heard everything. Your Royal Highness, I'm guilty!"

Chang San was almost frightened to death!

According to Feng, His Royal Highness was in love with Miss Wu, and Miss Wu wasn't to know about that message at all. But he... He was so dead...

Chang San felt a chilly sensation on his neck, as if he was going to lose his head at any moment.

However, the crown prince only looked down at him with his cold, brooding eyes. "What are you guilty of?"

"Huh?" Chang San was dumbfounded. Didn't His Royal Highness like Miss Wu?

Jun Linyuan smirked. "Don't tell me you think I like that stupid girl?"

"What?" Chang San was even more baffled. Didn't His Royal Highness like her?

Exasperated, Jun Linyuan smacked the table.