

GED 711

Chapter 711: Kneel!

“You!” Master Chu stared at Feng Wu so hard that his eyes almost popped out. “Tell me Lady Northern Feng was joking.”

Feng Wu only smiled.

Instead of answering the question, she went up to the empress dowager and stuck a handful of silver needles in the old lady’s head.

“Her Majesty is in grave danger. Master Chu, are you sure this is the right time to interrogate me?”

Master Chu was speechless.

He wanted to retort, but was rendered speechless by Feng Wu’s consummate acupuncture skills.

Facts spoke louder than words.

As soon as he saw Feng Wu in action, Master Chu realized that the girl was an exceptional medical practitioner.

Feng Wu looked around at the crowd, then shook her head at Emperor Wu. “There are too many people here.”

Master Chu stared at Feng Wu. “Are you going to treat Her Majesty now?!”

Feng Wu looked back at him in bewilderment. “Her Majesty is in critical condition. She could die without immediate treatment. I have to start as soon as possible.”

“Can you promise you’ll cure Her Majesty?” Emperor Wu fixed his intimidating gaze on Feng Wu, which sent a chill down her spine.

Feng Wu looked back at Emperor Wu and said in a much more polite tone, “Your Majesty, Her Majesty the empress dowager is very ill and no doctor can say that they’re 100% sure they can cure a patient. I’m no exception.”

She then quickly drafted a letter of commitment. “Your Majesty, I’ll start treating Her Majesty after you sign this.”

Emperor Wu took a look at the piece of paper and his face turned livid. “Nonsense!”

Spiritual essence swept across the room like a gust of wind!

Everyone dropped to their knees!

Feng Wu felt an unfathomable force pressing down on her shoulders.

Rumble —

Every part of Feng Wu cried out in pain and her knees almost turned numb.

Such was the formidable power of the ruler of the Junwu Empire!

Everyone else had prostrated on the floor and Feng Wu was the only one standing.

Emperor Wu was indeed worthy of his fame. One couldn't begin to imagine the horror of being his target.

Even their souls quivered.

Compared with Emperor Wu, Feng Wu was as fragile as a newborn.

She was soaked in cold sweat. Blue veins popped on her skin and blood began to ooze out of her pores.

She was being crushed!

She couldn't stop her slender legs from shaking!

When facing absolute strength, willpower and endurance were nothing but jokes.

Thump —

Feng Wu's legs gave out and she dropped to her knees with a thump!

She wasn't submitting to a ruler, but to his unquestionable strength!

"Are you insisting on the signature?" asked Emperor Wu in a majestic, impassive voice. His gaze felt like icy blades on her skin.

Emperor Wu was a dutiful son. He had never forgotten the days when he and his mother depended on each other for survival in a forgotten corner of the imperial palace. His mother had gone through many tribulations to make him emperor.

Hence, he valued his mother more than anyone else.

That was why here in Cining Palace, Emperor Wu and the empress dowager could interact like any ordinary mother and son without the ritualistic formalities.

Now that the empress dowager's life was in danger, Emperor Wu was as worried as he was furious.

"Your Majesty..."

Master Chu wanted to interject, but Emperor Wu only stared at him with cold eyes and stressed each word. "If anything happens to Her Majesty, Chu Feiran, what do you think will happen to your head?"

Master Chu broke into a cold sweat.

Chapter 712: Surrender

Master Chu knew that he was partially responsible for what had happened.

He was in charge of the empress dowager's routine physical examination, but because of his attempts to advance to the Supreme Level, he had left the job to his subordinates, which was why something like this had happened.

Emperor Wu stared at Feng Wu with a bone-chilling look in his eyes!

Cold sweat covered Feng Wu's forehead. It was an instinctive reaction and there was nothing she could do about it.

However —

Although her heart was pounding and she was panting like a cow with clattering teeth, Feng Wu still lowered her head and said, "Your Majesty, I'll need your signature."

Emperor Wu was furious!

He pointed a finger at Feng Wu. "Do you really think I won't kill you?!"

All the land under heaven belonged to the emperor and all within the land were the emperor's servants. He was the ultimate boss!

Feng Wu only prostrated on the floor without another word.

Exasperated, Lady Northern Feng, who was kneeling next to Feng Wu, whispered to the latter through gritted teeth, "Xiao Wu, Xiao Wu, just do what you're supposed to do!"

Lady Northern Feng wanted to smack the girl on the head. *What are you even thinking, you silly kid? What protection do you think that letter of commitment will give you if you really fail to save Her Majesty? His Majesty can have your head all the same!*

Emperor Wu seemed like a nice guy when he was in a good mood, but when he got angry, he wouldn't hesitate to kill everyone in this room!

Feng Wu still said nothing.

Emperor Wu glared at Feng Wu.

This girl was as stubborn as Jun Linyuan!

Just then, the empress dowager began to convulse on the bed.

"Oh god!" Master Chu cried out. "Her Majesty is having another seizure! Quickly! Your Majesty, we'll lose Her Majesty if we don't treat her now!"

However, Feng Wu was already at the empress dowager's side before Emperor Wu could say a word.

Of course she had to be!

She was pushing the emperor's limit, with her own life at stake.

Only by finding out where the emperor's bottom line lay could she be confident enough in her work in the future.

What happened today had been a now-or-never opportunity for her.

Now that His Majesty was on the verge of exploding, she would really be asking for death if she didn't yield.

Emperor Wu was rendered speechless by Feng Wu's reaction.

She had been all determined and stubborn a moment ago, then she surrendered? Just like that?

"Your Majesty, we need to clear the room. The crowd might affect Her Majesty —"

"Yeah —" Emperor Wu replied in a tone that was completely strange to him, and he only realized what he said afterward.

However, Emperor Wu didn't need to give the order himself. The others were already hurrying toward the exit.

No one wanted to be part of such a dangerous operation.

They would all become collateral damage if anything happened to the empress dowager!

It was just that —

Empress Dugu cast a most malicious glance at Feng Wu before she left!

She simply didn't understand it. It had been so intense and ruthless just then. The emperor and the girl had confronted each other and neither side would back off. But Feng Wu...

Why had she rushed over to save Her Majesty so suddenly? And how had she dissolved the tension so easily?

What happened to forcing His Majesty to sign?

And what about not treating the patient without a signature?

Grow a spine!

Empress Dugu was still baffled when she left the room.

God knew how thrilled she had been when she saw Feng Wu the Bold challenge the emperor head on. But... why had Feng Wu given in so easily? Even His Majesty didn't know how to react.

Chapter 713: Cured?

Back inside.

Feng Wu had no idea how conflicted Empress Dugu was feeling. Right now, she was focused on treating the empress dowager.

All the other people cleared out of the room.

In the end, the only ones left were Feng Wu, Emperor Wu, and Master Chu.

"Your Majesty, Master Chu, you'll have to leave the room, too," Feng Wu said in a calm voice.

Emperor Wu stared at Feng Wu. "Kiddo, are you sure?"

“I’m only half as good when other people watch me work.” That was the only explanation Feng Wu gave.

In fact, she wanted to work alone because she couldn’t use her spiritual essence when other people were around. It was still a secret.

Emperor Wu darted a warning look at Feng Wu. “You know what will happen if you can’t cure Her Majesty!”

He then left the room with Master Chu.

Master Chu actually wanted to stay, for he wanted to see how Feng Wu did it. He was still completely at a loss.

But he couldn’t stay, for even Emperor Wu had left.

Darting a regretful look at Feng Wu, he walked out of the room, turning to look back repeatedly with every step.

Feng Wu was finally alone.

She took out a bottle of blood-thinner she had concocted before and fed it to the empress dowager.

After the aneurysm, the old lady’s intracranial pressure had soared and her vitals were dropping fast. Feng Wu had to use the blood-thinner, her ultimate weapon, right away.

Only then did Feng Wu reach out with her right index finger and make a small cut between the old lady’s eyebrows.

She slowly pulled her hand back.

A streak of dark red blood flew out of the old lady’s head with her movement.

Feng Wu directed the blood into an empty teapot.

The clot had dissolved, and flowed out of the cut as well.

Finally, with a wipe of Feng Wu’s fingers, the tiny cut on the old lady’s forehead healed completely without leaving a trace.

Outside —

Empress Dugu stared at Master Chu. “Master Chu, are you sure about this? Can that girl do it?”

Master Chu smiled bitterly. “If she really was the one who treated Her Majesty before I arrived, then she’s definitely a much better doctor than I am.”

Master Chu had a big heart.

1As the head of the bureau of physicians, it was easy to assume he would be jealous of those with better medical skills. However, all Master Chu cared about were good skills, not who they belonged to.

And that was exactly why Emperor Wu liked him.

A cultivator's character was more important than their martial prowess.

Gripping her handkerchief, Empress Dugu stared at the closed door!

If... if the empress dowager died from Feng Wu's treatment... she would be able to get rid of that paranoid, biased old hag forever. And Feng Wu would die for it as well...

God, please hear my prayer.

Empress Dugu repeated it over and over again in her head.

"What are you doing?!" Lady Northern Feng glowered at Empress Dugu.

The question startled Empress Dugu, but she reacted quickly enough and glared back at Lady Northern Feng. "I'm praying for Her Majesty, of course! What do you think I'm doing?"

"I think you're cursing Her Majesty."

"You!"

Empress Dugu glared at Lady Northern Feng with bloodshot eyes.

"Your Majesty —" Tugging at Emperor Wu's robe, Empress Dugu wailed, "Lady Northern Feng is giving me such a hard time. Your Majesty, you have to do me justice."

Tears welled up in her pretty eyes and she cried like a blossoming pear tree in the spring rain.

The emperor would have found her adorable on any other day, but he was in no mood at the moment. Instead, he rebuked her. "Knock it off!"

Chapter 714: What's That Supposed to Mean?

Empress Dugu hated the empress dowager and Feng Wu even more.

Just then, there was a creaking sound.

The door opened.

"How did it go?" Lady Northern Feng was the first to ask.

Feng Wu gave her a little nod, then said, "It went well. I've cleared out the excessive blood in Her Majesty's head, but that's only temporary relief."

"What's that supposed to mean?" Emperor Wu turned his cold gaze on Feng Wu.

"It means I've only cured the symptoms, not the disease. If we don't find the cause and get rid of it, this can happen again; when that happens, she'll be beyond saving."

"Is it that serious?!" Emperor Wu's face turned livid and he glared at Master Chu.

Master Chu knelt down. "...Your Majesty, this is all my fault. I've been busy with my practice and..."

Emperor Wu ignored Master Chu, then turned back to Feng Wu. "What's your plan?"

Feng Wu said calmly, "The symptoms are in Her Majesty's head, but it started in her kidneys. Kidney deficiency results in a lack of nutrition in the liver. The liver then becomes overheated, producing phlegm that can't be released. That's why Her Majesty is in such critical condition.

"As the traditional saying goes in my profession, 'emergency treatment is temporary; execute a permanent cure in moderate conditions.' Now that the most life-threatening period is over, we can make a gradual approach toward a permanent cure. I think I'll start with the kidneys."

Emperor Wu went on staring at Feng Wu with a grim look on his face.

Picking up a pen, Feng Wu read out the prescription in an unhurried voice. "We'll start with Ease Powder to nourish the liver, dispel the evil energy, and reduce phlegm. After that, we'll move on to a medicine with spine date seed as its chief ingredient, which will further nourish the liver and calm the mind..."

Emperor Wu darted a look at Master Chu.

Master Chu nodded repeatedly. "Yes! That's perfect!"

Emperor Wu didn't know what to say.

He turned to Feng Wu. "When will Her Majesty wake up, then?"

"Feed the medicine to her every two hours and Her Majesty should wake up after three doses. It's just that she won't be able to regain mobility yet."

Emperor Wu nodded.

One couldn't help but doubt Feng Wu's medical skills because of how young she was. However, she had proven her unquestionable capability. All they could do now was wait six hours.

Emperor Wu had the servants fetch the medicine.

Every minute felt as long as an hour.

Finally, six hours passed.

But the empress dowager showed no sign of waking up.

Empress Dugu clenched her handkerchief, then stared at Feng Wu. "Miss Feng, didn't you say that Her Majesty would wake up in six hours? But she's still unconscious."

Feng Wu looked at the empress with a strange expression on her face.

All eyes were on Feng Wu now and Emperor Wu stared at her with his piercing gaze!

The look on Feng Wu's face became even stranger. She went up to the empress dowager and checked her pulse.

She then withdrew her hand and slowly rose to her feet.

"Feng Wu, did you make Her Majesty worse?! The empress dowager isn't waking up, is she?!" Empress Dugu cried out.

Emperor Wu looked like he was ready to kill someone!

Feng Wu still said nothing.

Empress Dugu was so sure that Feng Wu had failed to save the empress dowager!

A gloating look flickered in her eyes!

Feng Wu was so doomed! She was!

However, Empress Dugu was still laughing inwardly when —

Chapter 715: Astonishing!

Master Chu went up to check the empress dowager's pulse, and the look on his face changed abruptly.

Everyone looked at him in bewilderment.

"What..." Master Chu looked confused. "How can this be?"

The others were so intrigued!

What happened? Just tell them!

"Is it good news or bad news?" Lady Northern Feng was the most direct one.

Master Chu smacked his thigh. "Of course it's good news! It's the best news! Have none of you realized that Her Majesty has a little bit of spiritual essence in her now?"

"What —"

Everyone, the emperor included, was surprised.

They only noticed the change after Master Chu pointed it out.

"The empress dowager has spiritual essence now?"

"Her Majesty was once badly injured. Because of that, and with her old age, a lot of her energy channels were blocked. If spiritual essence can really start to flow in Her Majesty's body again, her health will improve greatly!" Master Chu couldn't control the excitement in his voice.

"And! What's more important is that —" Master Chu turned to Emperor Wu. "Your Majesty, do you still remember what I mentioned before? That Her Majesty's days are numbered."

Emperor Wu clearly didn't like the mention of that at all.

Master Chu went on in his agitated tone, "But, with spiritual essence flowing now, Her Majesty's energy channels are unclogged, which will prolong her life! This is great news!"

Emperor Wu was finally moved. "Are you sure?"

"Yes! Absolutely!" Master Chu turned to Feng Wu for confirmation. "Miss Feng, am I right?"

Feng Wu nodded. "Yes."

Emperor Wu was overjoyed!

Being emperor, he couldn't have asked for more "career wise". However, as a filial son, he would give anything in exchange for a few more years of his mother's life!

"Good. That's good." Emperor Wu took a deep breath. "Glad to hear it!"

Empress Dugu felt like she had blacked out.

She couldn't for the life of her figure out why everything seemed to act against her. Nothing she wanted ever worked out, and what was worse, everything had played into Feng Wu's hands.

It was as if Feng Wu was the beloved daughter of God himself!

"But... Her Majesty hasn't woken up yet... Are we sure everything's fine?" Since none of the emperor's concubines were here, Empress Dugu could only ask the question herself. She tried her best to make Feng Wu look suspicious.

It definitely wasn't Empress Dugu's lucky day. As soon as she asked that question, the fingers of the empress dowager, who still lay there with her eyes closed, moved slightly.

Lady Northern Feng cried out in excitement. "Her Majesty's fingers moved! I saw it!"

Then, as everyone watched, the most respected woman in the empire opened her eyes.

For a moment, they were all bemused.

The empress dowager's eyes had gone cloudy as she aged, and she had also developed cataracts. As a result, the old lady had been suffering from poor eyesight for a while.

However, when she opened her eyes now, they saw that her eyes were as clear and bright as those of a baby, as if they had been washed clean with some miracle water!

That was why everyone was so surprised.

"What..." Empress Dugu's face turned livid.

The empress dowager then sat up without anyone's help.

Everyone was speechless.

The empress dowager had had a ruptured blood vessel in her brain only six hours ago, but now, she could sit up on her own! That was so unbelievable!

Chapter 716: Who's This Kid? She's So Pretty

Rubbing her forehead, the empress dowager turned around to see all the astonished faces, which made her jump. "What are all these people doing here?"

"Mother —"

Emperor Wu went up to her and held her hands. "Mother, how do you feel? Any pain?"

The empress dowager considered for a moment. "Pain? No, I feel fine."

"Mother, do you remember what happened before you fainted?" Emperor Wu asked tentatively.

"Before I fainted..." Everything then came back to the empress dowager. She smacked herself on the forehead and cried out softly in pain.

Lady Northern Feng stopped her in a hurry. "Your Majesty, you just narrowly escaped death. Please don't do that to your head."

The lady had almost had a heart attack when she heard that the empress dowager had an aneurysm.

Before the empress dowager could process Lady Northern Feng's words, she grabbed the latter by the arm. "Yaya! That Feng Wu is too young to be a good doctor! She must have tricked you! I've been thinking. You can give her something nice, but don't have her as your goddaughter!"

For a moment, the others all looked at the empress dowager strangely.

Lady Northern Feng wanted to say something, but words failed her.

The empress dowager patted Lady Northern Feng on the head with a stern look on her face. "Are you listening to me? That girl is tricking you! She's not becoming your goddaughter!"

Emperor Wu didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "Mother..."

The empress dowager glared at Emperor Wu. "You, too! I know you dote on your sister, but you have to listen to me on this!"

The willful empress dowager was acting exactly like a child now. Lady Northern Feng shook her head helplessly.

At the thought of the grave danger the old lady had been in and how lively she was now, Lady Northern Feng felt that she couldn't thank Feng Wu enough. Turning around, she took Feng Wu's hands. "Kid, thank you so much."

"What —"

Only then did the empress dowager notice Feng Wu and her eyes lit up.

At her age, the empress dowager adored good-looking teenagers like all grandmothers did. Her face lit up when she saw Feng Wu. "What a nice-looking girl. She's as eye-catching as that girl of the Zuo family, if you ask me."

By "the girl of the Zuo family," she meant Zuo Qingluan.

Lady Northern Feng had no idea of the enmity between Feng Wu and Zuo Qingluan. She said with a smile, "Your Majesty, you're spot on. This girl is even prettier than the Zuo girl."

"That's right." The empress dowager was delighted to see a pretty girl. She patted the seat next to her and said, "Kiddo, come sit with me."

Feng Wu was at a loss over what to say.

However, she still did as told and sat down next to the empress dowager.

“What’s your name? How old are you? Which family are you from?” At her age and with her status, the empress dowager had seen her fair share of good-looking people, not to mention that the imperial palace was filled with beautiful women.

However, this girl was different. She still had yet to reach her potential, but she was already a beauty. What was more, there was something non-aggressive about her look, making those around her feel very comfortable and relaxed.

With a smile, Feng Wu said calmly, “Your Majesty, my name is Feng Wu.”

“Feng Wu?” The empress dowager didn’t recognize that name at first. But when she saw Lady Northern Feng, who was trying to fight back her grin...

“Feng Wu!” The empress dowager cried out and glared at the girl. “You’re Feng Wu? The girl who tried to trick Yaya? You little liar! How dare you!”

Feng Wu was confused. “Yaya?”

Chapter 717: Pouting

Lady Northern Feng pointed at herself and Feng Wu took the hint right away.

“Your Majesty, that was a misunderstanding.” Lady Northern Feng sat down next to the empress dowager, held the old lady’s hand, and explained to her, “You were in grave danger just then... you could have died!”

The empress dowager frowned and glanced at Emperor Wu, who nodded at her.

“Was it that bad...”

“Yes, it was very serious. Everything happened so suddenly and Master Chu wasn’t around. Xiao Wu was the one who saved you,” Lady Northern Feng explained. “Your Majesty, Xiao Wu is a wonderful doctor. Even Master Chu agrees with that. Right, Master Chu?”

The empress dowager turned to Master Chu, looking a little confused.

Master Chu smiled bitterly, but Lady Northern Feng was telling the truth. He had said it himself earlier.

He could only nod. “Miss Feng Wu is unparalleled in her medical skills. I admit my defeat and I admire her from the bottom of my heart.”

The empress dowager was dumbfounded. She glanced at Feng Wu in suspicion. “That girl?”

Lady Northern Feng nodded. “Your Majesty, it really was her. She practically saved you from death. We wouldn’t be sitting here talking if it wasn’t for her. Xiao Wu is as great a doctor as she’s claimed to be.”

The empress dowager looked at Emperor Wu again.

Emperor Wu nodded affirmatively.

The stubborn empress dowager still wouldn't be convinced. She didn't want to believe it!

Seeing how obstinate the empress dowager was, Lady Northern Feng smiled bitterly. "Your Majesty, saving you wasn't the only thing Xiao Wu did. She also cleared up your clogged energy channels. You can check for yourself. Spiritual essence has begun to gather inside you again. Am I right?"

What?!

The empress dowager examined her own body, and there was indeed a trace of spiritual essence in her dantian...

"Yes!" The empress dowager was exhilarated and she tugged at Lady Northern Feng. "Yaya, I have spiritual essence! I have it!"

"Right?" The lady smiled and began to cajole the empress dowager. "Xiao Wu is really amazing. Don't you think so?"

Recalling all the things she had been saying about Feng Wu in front of her, the empress dowager was embarrassed.

She said proudly, "Even if that's the case... she's a commoner of the Junwu Empire, which makes her my subject. Isn't it her duty to help me? What other option did she have?"

Lady Northern Feng didn't like the sound of that at all.

What did she mean by "having no other options"? All Feng Wu had to do was twist her wrist the wrong way and the old lady would be silenced forever.

Of course, Lady Northern Feng knew better than to speak her mind. She only frowned.

"If you ask me, Miss Feng Wu only saved Her Majesty to save herself. Because if anything happened to Her Majesty, Feng Wu would be the first to get blamed. After all, Her Majesty fell ill because of her!" Empress Dugu jumped out right on time.

The empress dowager nodded repeatedly. "The empress is right. I got sick because I was angry with her. If anything, I should settle accounts with her first. How dare she try to take credit for fulfilling her duty? Hmph!"

Blue veins popped on Lady Northern Feng's forehead.

That was so unreasonable of the old lady!

Feng Wu only smiled. "Your Majesty was right. I only did what I did out of self-preservation. Now that both of us are fine, I think we have the ideal outcome."

After that, Feng Wu turned to leave.

Lady Northern Feng stopped Feng Wu right away. "Xiao Wu, you can't leave just like that!"

She turned to the empress dowager in exasperation. "Your Majesty, only your symptoms have been treated. With Xiao Wu gone, no one will be able to work out a permanent cure for you. We'll be so worried."

The empress dowager pouted at Lady Northern Feng's words.

Chapter 718: Where Is He Taking Her?

After that, Lady Northern Feng began to browbeat the old lady. "Your Majesty, Master Chu won't be able to treat you."

The empress dowager stared at Master Chu in turn.

Master Chu gave her a wry smile. "Miss Feng Wu is indeed a better doctor than I am. There's no doubt of it."

The empress dowager was speechless.

The old lady had never felt this defeated in her life. She looked up and threw a dirty look at Feng Wu!

Feng Wu rubbed her nose.

What on earth did she do? It seemed that the capricious empress dowager had made up her mind to dislike her.

However, everything happened for a reason, and the empress dowager's bias was no exception.

It was just that Feng Wu hadn't found out what that reason was.

While Lady Northern Feng stayed behind to placate the empress dowager, Emperor Wu glanced at Feng Wu, then walked out of the room.

He stood outside Cining Palace, facing away from the door. Dressed in his thick cape, the emperor looked authoritative and majestic from behind.

"Your Majesty..."

Feng Wu bowed in reverence.

The Emperor Wu now was a different person from the son in Cining Palace a moment ago.

When he was around the empress dowager, Emperor Wu acted like any normal son.

As expected, Emperor Wu turned his head and stared at Feng Wu with his piercing black eyes. His voice was as cold as frost. "You did well."

He acknowledged her work.

However, Feng Wu felt a chill run down her spine and cold sweat covered her back.

Emperor Wu marched off after that.

Feng Wu was still dazed when Master Bai went up to her and reminded her in a low voice, "Miss Wu, what are you doing standing here?"

"...Right."

Feng Wu had no idea where Emperor Wu was going and what he had in mind, but she had no choice but to follow.

And here was what the others witnessed in the imperial palace that day.

The tall, strong Emperor Wu strode quickly along the corridors.

The tiny, pretty Feng Wu followed him in a hurry.

Before long, Feng Wu arrived outside a prison.

A prison?

What were they doing here?

However, Emperor Wu seemed to be in a foul mood at the moment. His eyes were brooding and he gave off an intimidating air. Feng Wu didn't dare to ask and had to keep her silence.

A dark, long passageway led them to a cell.

Feng Wu expected to see a dark, damp, and humid place with a foul air.

To her surprise, the cell was in quite acceptable condition: it was dry, tidy, and didn't have any particular smell.

The prisoners on this level were all important criminals of the imperial court.

Conflicted looks appeared on many faces when the prisoners saw the emperor, and they dropped to their knees, one after another.

As Emperor Wu walked in, everyone on the way, prisoners and guards alike, knelt and prostrated, awed by the emperor's majestic presence.

Feng Wu thought to herself: well, that was what it was like to be an emperor. He was so superior that he could have anyone decapitated with a glance.

One sentence and he could have an entire clan wiped off the face of the earth.

Feng Wu took a deep breath and forced herself to focus.

She knew what her problem was.

Because she was essentially a modern woman, she didn't have the adequate reverence toward the emperor ingrained in her.

But the fact was that she was living in a world with an autocratic monarchy now, and here, martial prowess was valued above all else.

She had only just restarted her cultivation and she was much weaker than the average government official, not to mention the emperor himself. Who was she to feel unintimidated by the emperor?

Once Feng Wu figured that out, she was much more relieved.

When she looked up, she saw that the door to a cell a few steps away had opened.

And Emperor Wu had sat down in a chair.

Chapter 719: Talk About a Stunning Beauty

Tucking his hands in the thick cape, Emperor Wu sat there with a nonchalant and distant look on his face. It was as if the others were nothing but ants to him.

A man was taken out of one of the cells.

It was a refined middle-aged man with a square face and a broad forehead.

Upon seeing Emperor Wu, something flickered in the middle-aged man's indifferent eyes.

"Your Majesty, you've finally spared some time for me." The middle-aged man stared at Emperor Wu and spoke in a tone that was neither too humble nor too pushy. He even sounded a little egoistic.

For he was confident that what he had done wouldn't get him killed. Moreover, the Zuo family would be pulling every string they had to get him out.

Hence, Emperor Wu wouldn't let him die, and it was even possible that the man would get away with a slap on the wrist.

"Feng Wu, speak," Emperor Wu smiled a little and said in an indifferent tone.

Speak? Did he mean it?

Staring at Mr Zuo, Feng Wu recalled how the Zuo family had tried to kill her five years ago!

In the end, it was Zuo Qingluan who had deprived Feng Wu of all her cultivation ability.

And Mr Zuo was one of the culprits back then!

The Zuo family!

And Mr Zuo!

Feng Wu raised her voice all of a sudden. "Mr Zuo, it's been a while."

Mr Zuo was bewildered. "Miss, you are..."

"Mr Zuo, do you not know who I am? Otherwise, why are you locked up here?" Feng Wu smiled.

"You're... Feng Wu?!" Mr Zuo finally recognized her face.

The girl had changed greatly from five years ago, and she only remotely looked like the little girl she had been.

She was stunning now!

The moment he saw Feng Wu's face, Mr Zuo felt deeply threatened.

Zuo Qingluan had always considered herself the top socialite of the imperial capital in appearance, talent, and cultivation.

However, as soon as Mr Zuo saw Feng Wu, he was astonished by how beautiful she was.

Talk about bringing down cities and conquering the world with one's beauty alone. The girl had yet to reach her full potential, and when that happened...

Mr Zuo couldn't imagine how Zuo Qingluan would react when she saw Feng Wu's face.

"I'm Feng Wu, the one whose exam paper was switched out by Mr Zuo. I almost didn't make it to the next round. Thanks to His Majesty, our most sagacious emperor, my exam paper was retrieved." Feng Wu smiled at Mr Zuo.

Mr Zuo fidgeted. The girl might as well have slapped him in public. Such a blatant accusation could embarrass an experienced politician like himself.

He looked up and stared at Feng Wu with a grim look on his face.

The girl was so level-headed. Mr Zuo had been observing Feng Wu the whole time and comparing her with Zuo Qingluan.

Before Feng Wu showed up, Mr Zuo had always believed that Zuo Qingluan was doubtlessly the most eminent young lady of note in the imperial capital.

But his faith was shaken after meeting Feng Wu...

Mr Zuo's first reaction was to check Feng Wu's cultivation ability!

Detecting no spiritual essence, Mr Zuo sighed with relief.

That settled Mr Zuo's mind right away and he no longer saw Feng Wu as a threat. "Your Majesty, I've been treated unjustly!"

Emperor Wu had kept his eye on Mr Zuo the whole time. Upon hearing those words, a chilly, unfathomable look flickered in the emperor's eyes.

"Go on," Emperor Wu said casually.

Darting a look at Feng Wu, Mr Zuo said in a solemn tone, "The incident with the exam paper only happened because that teacher tried to play up to me. I myself found his conduct unnecessary the whole time."

"Really?" Emperor Wu said indifferently.

Mr Zuo sounded very calm. "Your Majesty, all crimes have motives. I had no reason to steal Feng Wu's paper."

Chapter 720: Dead?

Emperor Wu remained unperturbed. "Go on."

"Your Majesty, the only connection between Feng Wu and my family is..." Mr Zuo wanted to mention the crown prince, but the marriage contract between Zuo Qingluan and Jun Linyuan was still uncertain.

Mr Zuo didn't want to offend the emperor, so he changed the subject. "The only connection is that Feng Wu used to have the True Phoenix Blood as Zuo Qingluan does now."

Emperor Wu nodded.

"But then, Feng Wu lost her ability somehow and became crippled, whereas Zuo Qingluan has risen above all her peers. Right now, she's already a Spiritual Elder!

"Your Majesty, as a leading figure of the Zuo clan, why would I need to do anything to a crippled girl like Failure Wu? She's too unimportant for me to handle personally. She's not worth it."

Mr Zuo darted a contemptuous glance at Feng Wu.

Back then, Zuo Qingluan had insisted on crippling Feng Wu at the price of exposing herself, and the Zuo clan hadn't thought much of it, for neither Feng Wu nor the Feng clan was well-connected enough to do anything about it; they had no one to turn to after what happened to Feng Wu.

Mr Zuo snorted inwardly. The emperor was a pragmatic person, and a crippled girl like Feng Wu wasn't worth going through any trouble for.

Feng Wu knew that as well, which was why the truth had remained hidden.

She could only keep the humiliation to herself.

Emperor Wu darted an indifferent glance at Feng Wu.

"What do you think?"

He was being very ambiguous.

And Feng Wu wasn't happy about his attitude at all.

The sight of Mr Zuo reminded her of how they had destroyed her. She wouldn't be holding so many grudges if it wasn't for her beautiful master, who had fallen into a coma since then because of her.

Even if her beautiful master had a chance to wake up, who was going to make up for the five years she had lost?

Feng Wu couldn't think of anything else. She only knew that she needed her revenge.

"Your Majesty —" Feng Wu stepped out and met Emperor Wu's gaze with her cold eyes. "I have told Grand Secretary Fang about everything that happened back then and I'm not going to argue with Mr Zuo today."

"Is that so?"

"Your Majesty, I saved Her Majesty the empress dowager."

"Yes, you did."

"I think that's a favor big enough to trade for Mr Zuo's life!"

Feng Wu charged at Mr Zuo like a cannonball before she finished her sentence!

It was quicker than anyone could react!

The next thing they knew, Feng Wu had stabbed a dagger into Mr Zuo's heart!

Being able to hold the position of the deputy principal of Imperial College proved how capable Mr Zuo was. He was among the most superior cultivators of the empire!

But when he was imprisoned, his cultivation ability had been temporarily disabled.

Because of that, he was completely defenseless when Feng Wu pushed the blade into his chest.

Mr Zuo stared at Feng Wu in disbelief, his eyes opened so wide that his eyeballs could fall out at any moment.

He looked at Feng Wu and the dagger in his chest in turn.

The entire blade was buried in his chest!

Up to the hilt.

Coldness spread out from his heart to all four limbs.

That hurt —

He was scared —

And the fear —

It all happened in the middle of the prison and all the prisoners in the surrounding cells witnessed what Feng Wu did!

She didn't even flinch! How resolute! It was astonishing!

What a girl!

"You — you —" Mr Zuo shuddered violently.

He had thought that the emperor was here today to release him.

After all, he was the head of Imperial College!