

## 571 THE POWER OF THE BLOODLINE

In fact, when Lu Shu was resisting the families, he already had control of the black market. Li Yixiao was no more than the door guard.

Thus, his style of speaking when he was managing the black market made it easy for the secret practitioners to recognize him...

Although the secret practitioners often received harsh words, they respected Lu Shu from the bottom of their heart. There were not many people who could make the six big families, whom they did not dare to even face, suffer heavy defeat. Moreover, he was so young!

The weak student laughed. "My uncle said that he would allow me to train. After I have the strength of a Class F, he would allow me to follow him overseas to transport goods. He said, why go to school when you can train instead."

This was the dividing line between students with good grades and students with poor grades. Those with good grades would talk about tertiary education, while those with poor grades would sign on to the military, go to a third-rate university or get a diploma.

At this point, it seemed as if he would follow a secret practitioner to become a secret practitioner. Another path had opened for them.

Lu Shu felt that this path was not a good path to embark on. But the students in front of him knew little about the realm of cultivation. Thus, they thought that this path was more prominent and of high repute. Furthermore, he did not agree with the secret practitioners' point of view. Why go to school when you can train instead? The expert Practitioners would make you thoroughly understand the importance of knowledge

while you underwent training.

"After school today, my uncle will bring me to the Route 301 black market for a look. I've heard that many ordinary people also go there often. Apparently selling training resources earns a lot of money," said the weak student.

He was always talking about his uncle. It was like on a normal day after everyone had gotten drunk. They would start to boast and compare, my friend does so and so, my dad's friend does so and so...

The words "secret practitioner" and "awakening" had become trendy. Many former Daoyuan Class students began to regret the decision their parents had helped them to make. All of them said that it was very dangerous. But to the students who had never seen the Daoyuan Class, what was dangerous?

It seemed that training was now mainstream. The old times were gradually being replaced by the new. Times had changed. Mindsets from the past and new things clashed with each other. In the end, a brand new era will definitely emerge.

Lu Shu was very calm. He knew that things like "my friend is very impressive" or "my dad's friend is very impressive" was all big talk. Why not boast about your own abilities?

After school, Lu Shu walked out of the campus. His life had returned to a monotonous routine, go to school, go home.

As he reached the gate, Lu Shu saw the weak student briskly walk towards a middle-aged man. "Uncle, you're here! Didn't you say that you would wait for me at home?"

The middle-aged man laughed. "Won't we save time this way? Come, I'll take you to the black market for a look. I'll also introduce you to a few uncles. Who knows, you may strike a deal with them in the future."

The surrounding students were all envious, especially those whose grades were poorer. They looked at how their comrade at the bottom of the class had opened up a new path. It was as if he was secretly a son of a rich entrepreneur who did not have to care about grades.

People once joked that during a reunion among the sons of rich entrepreneurs, they would sigh, "Those with good grades are lucky. Unlike me, whose grades were too poor to go to university. I could only take over my family business. My dad knew that I was very sad, so he sent me a Ferrari..."

But something unexpected happened. The middle-aged man saw Lu Shu's figure among the crowd and was dumbfounded. "The Venerable!"

The middle-aged man, who was high-spirited about bringing his nephew to the black market, suddenly smiled and jogged towards Lu Shu. "The Venerable, do you attend school here?"

Lu Shu turned and looked at him. "Go do what you have to do."

He remembered this man. Back then when he was buying back magical stones, the man had helped out and was praised by Li Yixiao. No wonder he said that he had relations with the Lord and the Venerable. It turns out he had made outstanding contributions.

"Okay." The middle-aged man left without another word. The Venerable evidently did

not want to talk to him. He should go away as fast as he could.

But as he brought the shocked weak student away, the surrounding students could not sit still. So the Venerable they had been talking about was Lu Shu?

Everyone had thought that Lu Shu would inevitably be out of line with the true experts as he did not have the chance to go to the Luo Shen Cultivation College. After all, everyone had said that the Luo Shen Cultivation College would definitely produce many elites. Those who did not make it would be allocated to the higher ranks of the security formation.

But it turns out that to the secret practitioners, Lu Shu was on the same level as Principal Li? Li Yixiao was a Heavenly King! Is there something wrong with the world?

In the past, everyone had thought that Lu Shu was only a Metahuman. If he was not able to awaken, then he could only go as far as Class C. Even if he could continue to advance, wasn't there someone in the Golden Foundation who said that after Class C, strength alone would put him at a great disadvantage against others.

How did Lu Shu become a sword expert?

Recently, those who were discontent with Lu Shu suddenly saw Lu Shu studying properly. He seemed like he was doing his best to get into an ordinary university. Although they did not say anything, they were slightly happy.

The world was like this. The complexity of humans was scarier than supernatural beings. Sometimes, people would form unpleasant intentions even without them realizing.

These intentions had been eliminated just by the secret practitioner calling Lu Shu "the Venerable". They had returned to reality and once again got to know the current Lu Shu. Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

Lu Shu calmly walked towards the district. The two worlds had been separated by the magical era. Since they were not in the same world, he did not need to care about their opinion of him either.

Lu Shu suddenly recalled that he still had one tool he did not know the function of. After he took a shower, he returned to his room. He retrieved the black pearl from the Seal of Lands and looked carefully at it. The circulating black fog within the pearl was the same as when he had first received it.

It seems like he could go in and out of the pearl as he wished. He did not know who was inside the pearl. Could they be an ancient figure like that of Hai Gongzi?

Thinking back, the voice was wide and distant, but it did not carry any animosity. Although Lu Shu resisted exploring the black pearl, the words he had heard continued to resound in his head.

Why did they say that he was of a familiar bloodline? What exactly was his bloodline?

### **572 SECOND EXPLORATION OF THE BLACK PEARL**

Lu Shu looked at the black pearl in his hand very carefully. After much hesitation, he decided to once again explore the pearl.

He had always felt that he was an ordinary orphan. His parents might not have been able to take care of him, or was naturally weak and had illnesses. That was why he

was left at the door of the orphanage.

But ever since the magical era, Lu Shu had always had one question. The origin of his training was that black pendant in his swaddling clothes back then.

Whether it was the flame in his heart, the white tree mark in the center of his palm, the celestial map, Corpsedog, Concealed Arrow, and even his system to collect distress points, it had happened all at the same time that night.

He did not know what exactly had happened. But he was sure of one thing. His circumstance was not as simple as he had thought in these 17 years of living.

This black pearl gave him not only the hope of boosting his power, but also the possibility of tracing back his past.

Perhaps by knowing the origin of his bloodline, it would allow him to understand his own background. Lu Shu was not sure, but this unknown answer made him succumb to the temptation of going back into the black pearl and clarifying his thoughts.

His magical instincts unsealed the black pearl. The next thing he knew, he was inside the thick fog.

The fog gently circulated around Lu Shu. Lu Shu looked around and realized that he was not in complete darkness. There seemed to be a faint but magnificent sliver light beyond the fog. But it was blocked by the thick black fog, causing the light to be dimmed.

The ground beneath his feet did not seem to be solid. Lu Shu squatted down and touched the ground, only to realize that it was soil.

Lu Shu's Sun mirror appeared. He had a bad feeling about this. When he felt the texture of the soil, he knew that something was wrong. After he had taken out his Sun mirror, he confirmed one thing, not only had his magical instincts entered the black pearl, his entire body was within the pearl as well!

There was a world within the black pearl!

"You are here." The distant voice within the black pearl echoed in the desolate land. Lu Shu guessed that this world was not very large. If it were, there would not have been an echo.

Lu Shu did his best to calm down. "Who are you?"

While Lu Shu was speaking, he used the Sun mirror to illuminate his surroundings. In an unknown environment, Lu Shu was uneasy.

The voice said, "Who I am is not important. On the contrary, I am quite curious. Why have you appeared here?"

Lu Shu thought about it and said, "I received a black pearl by chance. I used my magical instincts to get here. Who on earth are you?"

The voice was still for a moment. "What is... the black pearl?"

But there was another thing that he had to know. "Last time you mentioned 'a familiar bloodline'. Are you talking about my bloodline?"

The voice was still for a moment. "It just felt familiar. But it was a long time ago. I

can no longer distinguish what exactly the bloodline is."

Lu Shu was very disappointed. He did not expect that the answer he got would not be able to solve the doubt he had. He also had no way of confirming whether the voice really did not know, or did not want to say what it knew.

"Who on earth are you," Lu Shu asked loudly. "In what era did you live in?"

The black fog was still for a moment, as if the voice had never spoken. Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

Lu Shu was puzzled. Could you not answer such a simple question? Do I have find out myself...

Lu Shu did not even know where the voice came from. He thought about it and said, "Do you want to know how to get out of here?"

This sentence was based on Lu Shu's judgment of the situation. He suspected that the voice had been trapped in this black pearl by someone.

Suddenly, the voice sounded with emotions that Lu Shu could feel, "Yes, I want to know."

Lu Shu nodded his head. "I want to know too."

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

Ming Yueye?

Lu Shu had calmed down at this point. At first, the voice had made Lu Shu guess that it was some sort of spirit. But the moment he earned distress points, Lu Shu felt that the situation was not as scary as he had initially thought. At least the voice came from a person who could provide him with distress points, right?

Lu Shu felt that from the start till now, the voice had painstakingly curated the atmosphere to make it seem like it was a strong and supernatural presence. But this facade collapsed the moment distress points were produced...

Lu Shu was even more certain that the voice was from someone who was trapped here. This made him slightly disappointed. Was the black pearl used to trap people within it? This did not make sense. How could the person not even know what they were trapped within?

"Are you still around?" Lu Shu shouted, but there was no response.

Ha ha, pretending to be mysterious here? Lu Shu decided to uncover the actual situation. Ka! The Sun mirror in Lu Shu's hand gave off a very bright light. Before Lu Shu could react, the person said, "What is this? Turn it off, turn it off!"

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

Crash! There was the sound of shackles. Lu Shu saw the rays from the Sun mirror passing through the fog and illuminating a face. Ming Yueye's four limbs had been shackled to a stone wall. He could only move within a five meter radius of the wall. He sat cross-legged on the soil, using his arm to shield his eyes...

The shackles were not made of an ordinary material. Lu Shu saw dark red lines

scattered across the shackles.

Lu Shu stood a safe distance away and sized up the person in front of him. He was of small build and was topless. His linen pants were worn out, most likely because of age.

His face was very thin. He was a very simple person, but Lu Shu was highly wary of him. This was not because his appearance was very fierce, but because Lu Shu could not sense any waves of energy from him.

But for someone who had been trapped in such a mysterious place and had lived for an unknown period of time, how could he emit no waves of energy?

"Who are you?" Lu Shu asked calmly.

### **573 THE OBSCURE BLACK FOG**

Honestly speaking, Lu Shu was very disappointed right now. He was anticipating an invisible strand of will or a powerful creature, not a prisoner.

In the games, players often opened a treasure to find an old man who could help them with training techniques and expertise, or even the access to another training venue. But all hope was lost now.

It turned out to be just a man like that. Although Lu Shu had not fully trusted the man's claim about his bloodline, he was still annoyed about the anti-climactic discovery.

The man was even better at destroying his own image than Lu Shu!

But there was still a tinge of hope that remained in Lu Shu's heart, for the man would not have possibly lied about the force of his bloodline during their first encounter had he not noticed anything unusual.

At this moment, Lu Shu realized there was something wrong about the thick black fog, because there was a burning sensation on his skin. He looked back at the man sitting crossed-legs in front of him and noticed that there was a green glow around him in defense against the fog.

Immediately Lu Shu summoned his divine water to surround his entire body. The burning feeling disappeared at once.

However, the golden snake suddenly ducked its head out of the water and drew a deep breath with its mouth wide open. Like a whale inhaling the sea water, the thick black fog gushed into the snake's mouth incessantly.

In the next instant, the golden snake turned black at a visible rate.

Not only the snake, the divine water had turned inky-black as well.

That was totally unexpected. Yet, despite the color change, Lu Shu was unharmed under the protection of the water. Within a few seconds, the fog in the black pearl was completely siphoned into the water, whose corrosive power had also more than doubled in the process.

If Nogiwa Hakushun were in front of him now, he probably would not have dared to jump into the water directly during his desperate counterattack.

The man looked rather surprised. "What is it? How can it benefit from this obscure

black fog?! Who on Earth are you?"

Ming Yueye's protective glow vanished. He could finally take a break after prolonged torment by the black fog.

"That's not important. Tell me who you are first." Lu Shu did not give in.

"Move away your light first!" Ming Yueye yelled.

Lu Shu complied. The man sat up straight and diverted the topic again. "Where on Earth are you from? I've never seen clothes like yours."

Lu Shu was wearing a jacket and a pair of jeans. Wasn't that the normal outfit nowadays? From the man's question, he realized that they probably did not belong to the same era, for the man had not even seen modern clothes. Instead of giving an explanation, Lu Shu continued asking, "Who are you? Tell me. If you don't, I'm going to shine you with the light."

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +999!"

Lu Shu said coldly, "I am the East Lord of Heaven Hai Gongzi's follower, Kasyapa the Venerable..."

"Bullshit. The East Lord of Heaven is Yu Fuyao. Who the hell is that Hai Gongzi? He's not worthy of being the East Lord of Heaven! Besides, none of the Lords' followers is called the Venerable!" Ming Yueye was pissed.

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +999!"

Lu Shu did not mind him getting angry though, he was simply shocked by the seeming honesty in his attitude!

At first, Lu Shu distrusted him for his unconvincing stories. You could have claimed to be Ying Zheng, Xu Fu, Taishang Laojun [4. Also called "The Grand Supreme Elderly Lord", the Taoist Ancestor] or Monkey King. He could not even be bothered to follow the folklore!

But now, Lu Shu sensed that something was up. Based on his expressions, it seemed that all those "North Lord of Heaven" and "South Lord of Heaven" were real!

Was he joking? Could it be that this Ming Yueye was from another world, just like the Puppet Master?

Back then, didn't he decide to keep the black pearl precisely because of its similarity to the mask? Did it mean that Ming Yueye belonged to the same world as the Puppet Master, and that they were both descendants of the so-called Ancient Yi family?

"Do you know the Puppet Master?" Lu Shu asked calmly.

"What the hell is Puppet Master?" Ming Yueye was stunned. "I've never heard of it."

Lu Shu took his words with a grain of salt. He could not fully trust somebody who refused to even tell him his real name. If not for the man's distress points, Lu Shu might have been fooled.

Lu Shu looked up under the illumination of the Sun mirror, hoping to examine the environment there. Ming Yueye was confused. "What's that mirror in your hand? How can it shine through the thick fog in this Chaos Abyss?"

"I have no obligation to speak to you since you've never even heard of Hai Gongzi."

Ming Yueye was speechless.

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

Lu Shu continued with his inspection, but he realized there was nothing within his sight above him, as if there was no ceiling.

"Don't waste your energy," Ming Yueye said with a sneer, "This Abyss is more than thousands of miles in depth. It's unrealistic if you are hoping to see anything up there..."

Then, Ming Yueye's jaws almost dropped in shock as he saw Lu Shu climbing up the stone wall. "Are you nuts? What are you doing?"

"I'm climbing up to take a look, of course," Lu Shu replied, as if it was common sense.

"Don't do that! Both of us will be in trouble if you touch the Chaos Holy Fire!"

Curiosity kills the cat, thought Ming Yueye.

Lu Shu paused. Was it really dangerous up there?

But he complied with Ming Yueye's advice and jumped back down to the ground. "Do you have any treasure for me? Or a letter? For example some secret training techniques?"

Ming Yueye took a long moment to recover from his confusion. "Look at me. What do you think I have with me?"

"I lost a set of training techniques here and I'm going to search your body to see whether you have it. If it's not with you, I don't mind your reciting it for me..." The Sun mirror was flickering in Lu Shu's hand...

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

Negotiation please, not extortion!

### **574 ESCAPE THE RIGID FRAMEWORK**

At the moment, every trace of the thick black fog in the abyss had been absorbed by the snake, which Lu Shu reckoned should have a change of name. Certainly, "the golden snake" was inappropriate now, but "the black snake" did not sound fancy either. Its name should not be solely dependent on its color. Otherwise, it would seem Lu Shu was a bad name chooser.

How about the chaos snake? Lu Shu felt it sounded nice.

Now, sitting with his legs crossed, Ming Yueye stared at Lu Shu's Sun mirror which was now pointing elsewhere. He wondered how this young man had entered, though he would admit he was not being honest either.

Suddenly Ming Yueye said, "I have a training technique that should be suitable for you. Years ago, the East Lord of Heaven Yu Fuyao gained his fame through that. Come here and I will tell you."

Lu Shu was happy. "It's fine. I can hear you from here. I'm listening."

Lu Shu was not stupid, he refused to enter the man's range of activity based on an

estimation of the length of his chains. Who knew what he was up to? Lu Shu predicted that the stranger was at least as strong as the Puppet Master.

Ming Yueye shook his head. "It's impossible for me to tell you if you are so far away."

"Okay." Lu Shu gave a nod of acknowledgment. "How long have you been here?"

Ming Yueye was surprised at the sudden change of topic. After recalling, he answered, "You can't tell how many days have passed in a dark place like this."

"Do you have any food cravings?" asked Lu Shu, "I can do an exchange with you. I give you food, and you tell me what I want to know."

Ming Yueye reckoned it was a fine deal. He had been struggling with preserving his life against the thick black fog with his Spirit Qi, but all living creatures needed food to survive.

Besides, one would inevitably miss the taste of food after having starved for too long. Ming Yueye agreed. "I will answer three questions if you can cook me a glazed flaming chicken."

Lu Shu's face was expressionless, but he was mumbling in his heart, what the heck is a glazed flaming chicken? At the moment, he was somehow convinced that this man was an alien, but it remained to be seen whether he and the Puppet Master were from the same world.

Yet, it would be easier to deal with a starving man. Immediately Lu Shu exited from the black pearl and came back with two roasted chickens that he bought from the best

store in Luo City. Ming Yueye was confused as he realized it was not a glazed flaming chicken. "Where did you get that food?" Find authorized novels in Webnovel , faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

Regardless, he was very much attracted to the enticing smell. Not afraid of potential poisoning due to his enhanced immune system from cultivation, Ming Yueye accepted the food.

"Okay." Lu Shu placed the roasted chickens at somewhere just out of Ming Yueye's reach. Then, he disappeared from the black pearl.

Ming Yueye was utterly shocked.

That was definitely unexpected! What happened to trust? He had actually prepared a perfect story to answer any questions Lu Shu might have!

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666..."

On the outside, Lu Shu paid special attention to whether he could receive distress points from across the black pearl. The truth was, he could. Disappointment crossed Lu Shu's face as he recognized that the man was not planning to be honest with him at all.

Besides, would he really follow the man's training techniques even if he was willing to offer? Absolutely not. What if his vital passages were corrupted?

Hence, Lu Shu would rather view the man as just another stable source of distress points so as to relieve his own distress...

But he was certain about one thing. Ming Yueye's background was complicated. Otherwise, he would certainly have used his power against Lu Shu after being tricked so many times. Or, could his power have been restricted too?

Perturbed, Lu Shu sat on the rooftop, gazing into the distance as he swallowed abyss fruits on behalf of Lu Xiaoyu. He used to sit there together with her, but now he was alone.

Among the two treasures that he had obtained recently, one was Cheng Ying sword with an unreliable sword spirit, and the other was a black pearl with an equally unreliable prisoner trapped in the abyss. No matter what, all his encounters were somehow unreliable...

After midnight, Lu Shu got up again to practice his sword. As he swung his sword, his mind was engrossed in how to continue pissing off Nie Ting. At this very moment, Hai Gongzi emerged from the Cheng Ying sword again. He commented in an overbearing tone, "Although I have to admit that you do have some skills in sword, they are far from enough. Do understand that there is so much to learn about swordplay, and a single swing can be performed in countless ways. Now, you are like a clumsy woodcutter who chops woods with only his arms and hands, not his brains. You are still a far cry from the ideal state where you can command your sword with ease."

The sarcasm in his words had forcefully reduced Lu Shu's swordplay skills to nothing.

Lu Shu was annoyed. He was pretty satisfied with his current abilities. "Fine. Show me how you do it then."

"Stupid," Hai Gongzi jeered. In the next instant a long sword materialized in his hand.

It was of the color of a glacier, with an eerie tinge of blue in its whiteness.

Then, he flipped his wrist and thrust his sword towards a chair in front of him. The sword seemed as weightless as a feather, but at the very instant when the blade was about to come into contact with the chair, Hai Gongzi's wrist trembled slightly, transferring all his strength to the tip of the sword. In that second, the blade was too fast to be seen.

Now, Lu Shu's mind was fully occupied with the instantaneous trajectory of the blade, which was simply mesmerizing. Li Xianyi's 13-letter mnemonic rhyme on the knack of swordplay moves, including smash, pick and thrust, were nothing but the foundation. He did not have enough time to teach Lu Shu more advanced techniques.

As a result, Lu Shu's sword skills for close combat were still somewhat inflexible, despite his impressive physical control.

Understandable, though, because it was unrealistic for someone with less than one year of training experience to outperform those who had spent decades on swordplay. Hence, his current goal was to escape the rigid framework of the 13-letter rhyme and practice the sword with his brains. However...

Hai Gongzi let out a cold laugh as Lu Shu was in deep thought. "How was it? Have you learned anything..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Lu Shu interrupted, his brows knitted tightly, "Who allowed you to split my chair? It's handed down from my ancestors. You have to pay for it."

Hai Gongzi was speechless.

"From Ao Hai's distress, +399!"

"Stupid!" Then Hai Gongzi returned to Cheng Ying sword, unwilling to waste any more time with Lu Shu.

Left alone, Lu Shu started recounting the feeling earlier. He made an attempt to break free from the rigid cage and let his sword skills manifest freely.

But what had gone unnoticed was that the rate of snow accumulation on his chi mountain had suddenly doubled from that instant!

## **SPARE ME, GREAT LORD!**

### **575 BY THE MOUNTAINS, BY THE SEA**

Did Lu Shu have to get into a dispute with Hai Gongzi? Not necessarily.

Who wanted to meet someone who judged them everyday? Who wanted to meet someone who kept commenting "ignorant"? No one would be able to take it!

This was not a laughing matter. Lu Shu genuinely felt Hai Gongzi's disdain towards him... this made Lu Shu very unhappy. Who was he comparing himself to?

In ten days, the New Year would arrive. Lu Shu was alone at home. He did not feel like purchasing goods for the New Year. He felt that the potatoes he had peeled would be enough to feed a family of three for half a year. He bought so many potatoes at the market that the vendors thought he was running a restaurant...

Every morning, while Lu Shu practiced his sword, Hai Gongzi could not help but pass judgment on his technique and criticize him. After that, Lu Shu would once again

force Hai Gongzi back into the sword. It was rare that they lived in some harmony now. At least it was not like in the past, when Lu Shu went crazy using his blood to inflict mutual harm.

During this period, Li Yixiao visited Lu Shu a few times. Li Yixiao found that Lu Shu was very steadfast. Who said that not going overseas would be bad for him!

Before dawn, Lu Shu had appeared in the courtyard even while the sky was dark. But unlike in the past, he did not put his full strength into his swings. His swings were very slow, as if it were the first time he had seen Lu Shu practice the sword.

His swing was like a snowflake gently drifting down. It was as if there was air resisting the sword, not letting it come down.

Although the swings were slow, Lu Shu was at full concentration. His eyes followed the movement of the blade. There was an indescribable, lingering charm about how the sword moved. Throughout this process, Lu Shu's muscles and celestial powers maintained high levels of energy. It was like a seemingly peaceful sea with raging waves underneath the surface.

The reason why his swings were slow was because he was analyzing the many variations in the process of the sword moving downwards. He was also feeling every little change in his body as the sword slowly moved down.

If a neighbor saw this scene, they would probably be surprised. What was Lu Shu doing?!

The Cheng Ying sword was transparent. So from an outsider's point of view, Lu Shu was crazy, swinging his arms while holding nothing...

But during an actual battle, the enemy would not even be able to see the sword, let alone determine how wide or how long the sword was. This would make people very fearful.

Hai Gongzi calmly said, "Your progress is fast, but you are too clumsy. Do you think that reducing your speed would allow for more time to think? The best attacks are the fastest. When will you be able to go faster?"

He understood what Hai Gongzi meant. His sword had to be fast.

But he had to have a training process. He was patiently waiting for quantitative change to become qualitative change.

Hai Gongzi laughed coldly. "Ignorant people always say, go slow, there is still tomorrow. But you don't even know whether you will be alive for that tomorrow."

Lu Shu was not angry. He laughed, "Can I ask you something? I have a feeling that you were an important figure even before you were born. How did you become a sword spirit within the Cheng Ying sword?"

Lu Shu had guessed that Hai Gongzi was different from the weapon spirits he had encountered in the past. First, his human form was very unique. Second, he had a complete mind of his own. It would not be an overstatement to say that he was a complete soul that resided within the Cheng Ying sword.

This made people slightly uncertain. If Hai Gongzi was so impressive, then how did he end up inside the Cheng Ying sword?

But Lu Shu felt that things were not as simple as he had thought, as he could sense the feelings Hai Gongzi had towards the Cheng Ying sword. He treated the sword like a close friend. If he had been forced inside the sword, how could he form such feelings?

Suddenly, something unexpected happened. Hai Gongzi coldly looked at Lu Shu. "From now on, tell me when you want to take a break. My patience has a limit. You may be the current owner of the Cheng Ying sword, but that doesn't mean that I can't take action against you!"

Lu Shu smacked his lips. He suddenly realized that Hai Gongzi was not slacking around while watching him practice his sword. Earlier, Lu Shu did not pay much attention. But now, Lu Shu realized that there was something different about the backyard...

What was different? Lu Shu recalled what had happened just now. It seemed as if Hai Gongzi was silently arranging the items in the backyard while watching Lu Shu train.

The items in the backyard had been arranged neatly. Even the handles of the bottle and the cup on the stone table were facing the same direction...

Wait a minute. Lu Shu looked at Hai Gongzi. "Do you have OCD?"

Hai Gongzi said with scorn, "That is what you humans call it. I am only seeking perfection in this world. How would someone like you understand?"

Oh... Lu Shu nodded his head. There were times when he also felt that in this world, mental illnesses came about because people labeled those who suffered from them as "patients". For some with OCD, they had to have an accurate routine. For example, they had to eat lunch at 12 noon sharp, or reach home at 8pm sharp, or arrange

their items neatly. Once, a railway worker with OCD was interviewed. He said that while repairing the tracks, he had to ensure that the tracks were not even one millimeter off. This was his pursuit of beauty.

To many of these people, they were unable to accept any angle other than the right angle. They could not accept items being haphazardly thrown around. Was this necessarily a disease? Not necessarily. Lu Shu felt that one could not say that because most people did not behave this way, these kinds of mental rules should be defined as a sort of illness. This was just like how many deep sea fish did not have the sense of sight. Could you say that they were disabled? No, right? Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

Lu Shu nodded his head, showing that he understood what Hai Gongzi had said. "Did you know?"

Lu Shu finished speaking and stored his sword before going inside. Hai Gongzi was dumbfounded. "Did I know what? What were you going to say? Hey, don't leave me hanging like that! Finish what you wanted to say!"

"From Ao Hai's distress, +999!"

Lu Shu had no intention to talk to him. He locked the toilet door and started to enjoy his bath. After he finished, he walked out of the toilet and saw Hai Gongzi fiercely staring at him. "Finish what you wanted to say!"

"From Ao Hai's distress, +999!"

Lu Shu thought about it and said, "Did you know? By the mountains, by the sea, there

was a group of..."

Lu Shu finished speaking and went to make breakfast.

"By the mountains, by the sea, there was a group of what? Say it properly!" Ao Hai was very angry. How lowly could Lu Shu get? Not finishing his sentence and leaving him hanging?

### **576 COME, LET'S HARM EACH OTHER**

By the mountains, by the sea, there was... This had become Hai Gongzi's biggest headache. If it were an ordinary person from normal times, they would start singing along. But Hai Gongzi had never heard of it before...

Lu Shu was rather terrible as well. Although he could bring Hai Gongzi out on his own initiative, for some reason he did not allow Hai Gongzi to go back into the sword. This was very awkward. Hai Gongzi probably knew this as well. Thus, everyday when Lu Shu practiced his sword, he would humiliate Lu Shu and make Lu Shu feel very uncomfortable.

Hai Gongzi could not find an answer. He felt that he could not let it end just like this. Tomorrow, he would harshly criticize Lu Shu. This way, he would be able to remove the hate he harbored.

The next day before dawn, Hai Gongzi arrived as planned. While Lu Shu was practicing, he heard Hai Gongzi lightly say, "Your progress is very fast, but you have probably only reached 10% of my strength. Your aptitude may be very good for a human, but the human race as a whole is a sorry bunch."

Lu Shu did not know whether to laugh or to cry. "I've heard."

Afterwards, he continued practicing. In the end, he did not receive any distress points from Hai Gongzi even after waiting for a long time...

"Hm?" Lu Shu was dumbfounded. "Hai Gongzi, did your OCD get cured overnight?"

Hai Gongzi did not care about him. He continued speaking, "Did you realize that your actions are too stiff! You are too clumsy, too clumsy!"

Um...

Lu Shu felt that something was not right. It didn't make sense. How did his OCD get cured overnight? That was not scientifically possible!

It couldn't be that Hai Gongzi was faking his OCD yesterday. His distress points were not fake either!

As Lu Shu was pondering, Hai Gongzi laughed loudly and returned to the Cheng Ying sword with a pleased expression on his face.

Lu Shu was suddenly dumbfounded. Did Hai Gongzi listen in on his plans? But that made no sense! Lu Shu was lost in thought. Hai Gongzi could humiliate him, but he could not humiliate Hai Gongzi. Lu Shu could not take this!

That night, Lu Xiaoyu sent a message to Lu Shu informing him of her safety. Lu Shu was somewhat curious. He did not know why Lu Xiaoyu had been earning much fewer distress points than before.

Beating around the bush did not give him any clues. On the other hand, Lu Xiaoyu was trying to figure out why Lu Shu had always asked what she was doing soon after

anything happened...

Of course, Lu Shu could not say anything. He could not let Lu Xiaoyu know that he was earning distress points through her.

In reality, Lu Xiaoyu was doing well in the training. From the start when she was at odds with her classmates, to now when she had established trust, Lu Xiaoyu had been accepted to this organization.

The boys in training were even somewhat annoyed. This batch of girls were just too full of vigor!

No one had thought that this group of girls would completely change from their former weak selves. Not only were they very strong, they also particularly liked using unusual tactics during actual combat...

Lu Xiaoyu had always rejected strangers. This was because she had naturally developed a sense of self protection growing up. But after she had sensed others' good intentions, she would slowly lower her defenses and not be as hostile as before.

When she first met Li Xianyi, she had verbally attacked him and made him feel very uncomfortable. But as time passed, she was no longer as rude to Li Xianyi.

This was somewhat similar to her current situation. Although the relationship between Lu Xiaoyu and her classmates was unlike that of her relationship with Li Xianyi, Lu Xiaoyu was certainly less offensive to others.

The girls had fewer complaints about Lu Xiaoyu. Recently, the actual combats had been stopped and were replaced by training on military strategies. This was why the

distress points that she had earned, even from the boys, had dropped by a significant amount.

Unknowingly, Lu Xiaoyu had indeed convinced the public... Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

She felt that the next time she saw Li Yixiao, she would get Li Yixiao to ask Nie Ting whether she could apply for the position of Heavenly King...

Lu Shu felt that this time, Lu Xiaoyu had enjoyed herself to the fullest. Lu Shu put down his phone and continued singing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

He sat cross-legged in his room. The tens of thousands of stars in the Milky Way appeared in the Luo City sky.

If one could see it, it was much more beautiful than the aurora lights.

Before dawn, Lu Shu once again drew the Cheng Ying sword from the Seal of Lands and headed to the backyard. Training was like a tall mountain. One had to put in their all before they could reach the peak and enjoy the scenery.

Ordinary people felt that Lu Shu was simply a lucky person who was able to undergo awakenings. But in reality, Lu Shu had never doubted that one day, he would eventually succeed, because his 17 years of living made him understand one thing. You had to work much harder than others if you wanted to live a luxurious lifestyle.

Li Xianyi had commented that when he was Lu Shu's age, he would still slack off. Li Yixiao had also been chased out by his master because he was too fond of playing

around. But from the beginning, Li Yixiao should have given up seeking a life of pleasure.

Lu Shu slowly practiced swing by swing. He was at full concentration.

Hai Gongzi emerged from the Cheng Ying sword and silently looked at Lu Shu. He was somewhat touched. Out of all those who had owned the Cheng Ying sword, Lu Shu was probably the most diligent and bold of them all.

But as he silently praised Lu Shu, Hai Gongzi closed off his thoughts and said coldly, "Indeed, you should practice your sword this early every day. Your diligence can make up for your clumsiness."

Hai Gongzi was silently criticizing that Lu Shu was far too clumsy. Lu Shu could not hear anything anyway. He did not have to be afraid of how Lu Shu would react.

Suddenly, Lu Shu retrieved a handful of green beans from the Seal of Lands and threw it on the ground. The green beans were randomly scattered across the ground in close proximity.

"Ah ah ah!" Hai Gongzi was going crazy. "Why do you have to do such a thing?!"

"From Ao Hai's distress, +999!"

As Hai Gongzi was speaking, he squatted on the ground and picked up the green beans. Hai Gongzi did not think that Lu Shu would prepare green beans in advance! He did not want to see these green beans, but he could not take it any more!

The atmosphere in the backyard became strange. Lu Shu was slowly practicing his

sword while bearing Hai Gongzi's long-winded taunts, while Hai Gongzi was squatting and picking up green beans as he continually attacked Lu Shu with his words...

Lu Shu silently laughed. Come, let's harm each other!

How much longer could Lu Shu bear being taunted by Hai Gongzi? If he did not defeat Hai Gongzi, he would have to bear his taunts everyday!

A day or two was fine, but if there was someone belittling him while he was practicing all 365 days of the year, Lu Shu felt that there had to be some rational solution to this problem!

### **577 THE OWNER OF THE CHENG YING SWORD**

"I have never seen an owner of the Cheng Ying sword who is as shameless as you," said Hai Gongzi as he picked up the green beans while gritting his teeth.

"Ha ha," Lu Shu said as he slowly practiced his sword. "You still haven't paid me back for my ancestral chair that you broke yesterday. I have never seen such a shameless Cheng Ying sword spirit!"

Their taunts had escalated in scale. When the sun rose, Lu Shu kept his sword. Hai Gongzi, who had finished picking up the green beans, returned to the Cheng Ying sword.

For some reason, the two of them had formed a secret agreement, their fight would cease when Lu Shu stopped his practice. It would continue again during the next day's practice.

The next day before dawn, Lu Shu sang Twinkle Twinkle Little Star until 3am to

conserve his strength. Afterwards, he drew the Cheng Ying sword from the Seal of Lands and headed to the backyard. He had a respectful expression on his face. It was as if he was rushing to a battle.

When he stepped into the backyard, Hai Gongzi had not come out of the Cheng Ying sword. Lu Shu threw a handful of green beans on the ground and quietly waited for Hai Gongzi's arrival...

"From Ao Hai's distress, +999!"

The moment Hai Gongzi appeared, he saw the ground full of green beans. His chest intensely rose and fell, as if he would explode at any moment. Hai Gongzi did his best to ignore the green beans on the floor, but he could not take it anymore...

Lu Shu slowly walked to the center of the backyard. On his way, he even stepped on some of the green beans.

"From Ao Hai's distress, +999!"

Lu Shu smiled and started to practice. Ha ha, this treatment is used specifically to cure OCD! There was no use suppressing it!

But at that moment, Lu Shu suddenly felt huge waves of energy coming from Hai Gongzi. He was shocked and looked at Hai Gongzi. The purple lotus in between Hai Gongzi's eyebrows suddenly emitted a very bright ray of light. Ka! It was as if some sort of chains had been broken, just like opening a door.

The purple lotus quickly dimmed. Suddenly, a white five-taloned for visiting.

Ming Yueye hesitated for a long time before suddenly asking, "Who are you?"

Hai Gongzi replied in a dignified tone as he picked up the green beans, "My name is Hai Gongzi!"

Ming Yueye was dumbfounded. Didn't Lu Shu mention "Hai Gongzi, the East Lord of Heaven" previously? He even said something like, "You don't even know Hai Gongzi? Then we no longer have anything to talk about."

Of course, he did not think that this Hai Gongzi was the East Lord of Heaven. Evidently, Lu Shu did not tell him the truth.

But Ming Yueye could not understand one thing. What was so dignified about you, squatting on the ground and picking up green beans...

Ming Yueye thought about it and said, "Then... could I trouble you to pass me that plate of chicken?"

Ming Yueye was speechless.

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

### **578 ELDER COUSIN HAS COME TO PAY A VISI**

As the end of the year approached, Lu Shu had no intention of fetching Hai Gongzi from the Chaos Abyss. Hai Gongzi was suffering. It was not because he had been trapped in the Chaos Abyss, it did not affect him much. It was because he had no container to store the green beans! After all, he was just a soul.

At first, he had wanted to use his white robe to hold the green beans. But as he packed the green beans into the robe, he realized that he had underestimated Lu Shu. 50

kilograms of green beans were not heavy to him, but it was a significant volume. His clothes could not hold so many green beans!

It was as if Ming Yueye was watching a movie. In any case, he was trapped here. It was very interesting just having someone pick up green beans in front of him...

But Ming Yueye soon stopped smiling. He suddenly realised that Hai Gongzi occasionally looked at his pants. "My pants have holes in them. Even if you use them to store the green beans, the green beans will spill!"

Hai Gongzi nodded in agreement. "It is rare to see someone as downtrodden as you are."

"Can you phrase your words in a better way?" Ming Yueye was somewhat unhappy. He could only helplessly look at the rotting roast chicken, but could not eat in. And here Hai Gongzi was, humiliating him? He said calmly, "You're not much better off yourself. How did you get taken into custody here? Back then, it took a lot of effort for those people to lock me up here. How about you? Getting trapped here with just a few kilograms of green beans? You can't get out of here even if you wanted to."

Hai Gongzi glanced at Ming Yueye. "It's not a few kilograms. It's 50 kilograms."

"... is there a difference?"

"I like whole numbers."

"... can't a normal person come here?"

"From Ming Yueye's distress, +666!"

Lu Shu put on a mask and sunglasses to buy some New Year goods. He then took a stroll along the streets. The traffic was heavy. Red New Year goods were on full display on the streets of Luo City by the vendors.

It felt like the New Year when New Year goods were displayed along the streets. You would come across reports of people conveying greetings to the farmers, workers, and even those waiting for the train home. Occasionally, there were also reports of children throwing firecrackers into manhole covers...

When Lu Shu came across news like this, he would rejoice. When he was younger, he would also bring Lu Xiaoyu to throw firecrackers into the inspection shafts. There was once a very fierce child in the orphanage. Their teacher would give everyone five dollars each to buy firecrackers. In the end, that child would buy one big box and intentionally find inspection shafts. He enjoyed shoving firecrackers into the two holes in the manhole cover.

Immediately after, a repairman underground started cursing. "Which bloody child threw a firecracker down without seeing if anyone was underground?!"

As Lu Shu recalled his childhood memories, he came to a villa. He knocked on the door. A middle-aged lady with an apron opened the door. "You are...?"

"I am Liu Li's classmate," Lu Shu laughed. "Liu Li is probably at military training. I am here to pay a New Year visit and deliver some New Year goods."

The lady was shocked. She turned around and shouted. "Master, Liu Li's classmate is here! Come and say hello to him."

When Liu Jianguo came over and saw Lu Shu, he became uncomfortable. How could he not recognize Lu Shu? He did not think that Lu Shu would come to visit them!

"What are you here for?" Liu Jianguo said in astonishment. He definitely did not carry good intentions.

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But Lu Shu said very earnestly, "Hello, Uncle. I am Liu Xiu's comrade. Liu Xiu's sacrificial deed has affected me very strongly. I have told Liu Li that I would become his elder cousin. In the future, if you encounter any problems, please contact me. My number is 158..."

"From Liu Jianguo's distress, +199..."

Lu Shu's words made Liu Jianguo shocked. It was like Lu Shu had become a member of his family... but Liu Li had never talked about this.

That night, Liu Jianguo called Liu Li. During the military period, the students could

make and receive calls between 8pm and 9pm. The military camp was not completely shut off from the rest of civilization.

Liu Jianguo asked, "Son, are you tired from your training?" Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience, Please click [www.webnovel.com](http://www.webnovel.com) for visiting.

Liu Li said calmly, "Nope. It is very fulfilling. I feel that this military training has allowed me to become stronger and to correct my mindset."

"Ha ha, that's good." What Liu Jianguo wanted most was to see his son quickly grow up. It seems like the Heavenly Network's military training was not bad. He asked, "Lu Shu said that he had become your elder cousin. He had even come over to pay a New Year visit and deliver New Year goods. Do you know about this?"

Liu Li was speechless.

"From Liu Li's distress, +666!"

After Lu Shu settled this affair, he started to pack his belongings. He did not buy any New Year goods for his own house. He stuffed two sets of clothes in the Seal of Lands and headed out.

Liu Hai Lane Courtyard House, the Capital.

Shi Xuejin was in the kitchen frying beef meatballs. Nie Ting sat in the courtyard, looking through documents. In front of him was a plate of fried beef meatballs. They were very crispy and fragrant while hot.

"The students at the military training this time can't go home. Do you want to convey our greetings to them?" Shi Xuejin shouted from the kitchen.

Nie Ting coldly said, "What for? There's no need to do so. The warriors overseas have no way to even celebrate the New Year. No one wishes them Happy New Year. They are the ones whom we should convey our greetings to."

"That's different..." Shi Xuejin stopped talking...

The door of the courtyard was suddenly kicked open. The wind blew dust into the courtyard. Lu Shu appeared at the door, badly battered.

Lu Shu did not care about the astonished expression. He strut over to Nie Ting and sat in front of him. He took the plate of fried beef meatballs and started to eat with gusto.

"From Nie Ting's distress, +666!"

"From Shi Xuejin's distress, +666!"

"I want a bowl of millet gruel. My throat feels dry," Lu Shu beckoned to Shi Xuejin.

"... sure."

Nie Ting coldly looked at Lu Shu. "You really don't see yourself as an outsider, do you?"

"Where do I stay? Where I had recovered last time?" Lu Shu asked, "I'll tell you something. That Hai Gongzi can't fulfill his role for now. As for me, I'll spend the New Year with you two. I'll leave once the wounds on my face have healed."

Nie Ting was silent.

Nie Ting and Shi Xuejin had realized that Lu Shu intended to leech on them for food over the New Year!

Lu Shu had quickly finished eating the plate of beef meatballs. He used one of Nie Ting's documents to wipe his oily hands. "Where is my millet gruel? Why is it taking so long?"

"From Shi Xuejin's distress, +666!"

### **579 LUNAR NEW YEAR**

Two days before the Lunar New Year, Lu Shu came to Liuhai Lane in the Capital. Afterwards, he stayed there and did not leave...

Lu Shu felt that since Lu Xiaoyu was at military training, there was no way to celebrate the New Year. He had been tricked by Nie Ting as well. He could not enjoy his New Year, and he was not letting Nie Ting enjoy his either...

Yes, Lu Shu felt that he was badly battered because of Nie Ting. Nie Ting knew how Hai Gongzi was, yet all he told Lu Shu was to be patient. He did not say that Hai Gongzi was a five-taloned for visiting.

Lu Shu was unhappy as well. "Then it won't feel like it's the New Year."

Shi Xuejin felt that something was not right. He looked at his watch. "3am?! No one plays with firecrackers at 3am! People usually set them off at 12, midnight. Only you would play with them at 3am! What, does your family only stay up until 3am on New Year's Eve? Don't you wait until the sky lights up?"

"From Shi Xuejin's distress, +999!"

"No worries, I will stay up until morning. I have bought a lot of firecrackers," Lu Shu laughed.

Shi Xuejin thought about it. Something else was not right. "It's two days before the New Year! It's too early to play with firecrackers!"

If one set off firecrackers in the restricted areas during the New Year, they would be fined. But Lu Shu did not believe that anyone would dare to ask Nie Ting to pay a fine.

Shi Xuejin looked on helplessly as he saw Lu Shu take out a box of firecrackers from the Seal of Lands. Just now, he had been playing with firecrackers. Now, he had changed to fireworks...

Shi Xuejin looked at the label on the box of firecrackers... a hundred thousand firecrackers...

Shi Xuejin went back into the house and made a call. "Hello, police? Can you come over? There is someone playing with firecrackers... Yes, yes, yes! Hurry up and fine this person. The address is 17 Liuhai Lane. Yes, yes, yes, it's Heavenly King Nie's house. No worries, Heavenly King Nie will support you!"

The leader of the Heavenly Network was forced to make a police report!

Seeing this, Lu Shu kept his firecrackers. Shi Xuejin laughed loudly. "Little guy, are you still scared?"

He did not actually call the police. It would not be good if this blew up. Shi Xuejin only wanted to scare Lu Shu.

Before Shi Xuejin could even finish laughing, Lu Shu sat by the stone table and looked up. He opened his mouth and said, "Bang! Crackle!"

"Bang! Crackle!"

Shi Xuejin was speechless.

Were you a human firecracker?

Were you performing vocal mimicry? What were you doing?! Have you gone mad?

Shi Xuejin was an ordinary person. He could not take these consecutive sleepless nights!

"From Shi Xuejin's distress, +999!"

Nie Ting shook his head. "I'm afraid just an admission letter would not be able to solve the problem now..."

The night before the New Year, Shi Xuejin was prepared to call the police if Lu Shu played with firecrackers again. But Lu Shu was nowhere to be found.

"Where did Lu Shu go?" Shi Xuejin asked curiously.

"Babaoshan Cemetery," Nie Ting said calmly. "This is probably his main aim coming to the Capital."

Lu Shu stood before Liu Xiu's grave. He gently placed a bowl of Zha Jiang Mian in front of the grave. "My friend, you must be lonely spending the New Year here. I have brought a bowl of Zha Jiang Mian. Thank you for bravely stepping forward then. If it were not for you, I may have been the one in this grave, not you."

Lu Shu sat by the stairway and chattered on. "I have visited your younger cousins' family. After you were gone, I told your younger cousin that I would be his elder cousin from then on. But it doesn't seem like he is grateful..."

### **580 SPECIAL PERMISSION TO GO TO SCHOOL**

Lu Shu had two aims coming to the Capital. The first was to pay his respects to Liu Xiu and spend his first New Year after his death with him. The second was to annoy Nie Ting and Shi Xuejin.

When Shi Xuejin heard Nie Ting say that Lu Shu had gone to the Bebeoshen Cemetery, he could not help but be silent. He said to Nie Ting, "He has a good heart. Perhaps you have made a good decision. If Lu Shu became the person in charge of overseas affairs, we may be able to reduce the number of comrades sacrificed overseas."

"If it were someone heartless, they would probably only care about their own life or about completing their tasks. They would not care about the lives of others." Nie Ting nodded his head. "These kinds of people are only suitable to be assessors, not leaders."

Shi Xuejin looked at Nie Ting. "You are talking about Cao Qingci, right? Then why did you still prepare to pass down sword techniques to her?"

"She is not heartless. It's just that she will do anything to fulfill her mission, be it by fair means or foul. She is even willing to sacrifice herself, let alone the lives of

others," said Nie Ting calmly. "Thus, the job she is most suited to do is not overseas relations. She is suitable to be the sharpest sword in the Heavenly Network."

"Then how about the other geniuses?" Shi Xuejin curiously said, "This time, we have sacrificed two Class A aptitude geniuses. Until now, I still feel sorry for them. But others have changed very quickly. Some people had undergone an awakening when faced with life or death. Now, even the veteran experts in the Heavenly Network may be no match for them. This world is really unfair. These geniuses can quickly narrow the gap between them and those who have spent a lot of time training."

"We both know that there is no true equality in this world. If not, how is it possible that you don't even possess the natural endowments for training?" Nie Ting flipped the documents in his hands. "As for the two who were sacrificed, we had provided them with sufficient plans to protect themselves. But they did not listen when we allowed them to retreat and insisted on having their own way. Compared to these geniuses, I'd rather have Lu Shu."

"But if he is not willing to do so, what can you do?" Shi Xuejin shook his head. "Is there really no one else to choose from? I feel that after some time, Lu Shu may not be able to defeat some of these geniuses."

"Let the geniuses return to their own units. Before the military training ends, tell the ordinary students in the Deoyuen Class to not let their guard down. Tell them that in the wider world, there are people more talented than they are. Some become complacent after the training ends." Shi Xuejin said, "But don't give them too much pressure. Things are easily broken if they are put under too much pressure."

"Okay," Nie Ting nodded his head.

"Then what do we do about Lu Shu? Do we just leave him in the Luo City security formation?" Shi Xuejin smacked his lips in annoyance. "Or do we let him go to school and satisfy his desire? Well then, you intentionally stopped him from going to school. That's why we're in this situation now. I feel that he does not necessarily have to go to school, but since you did not let him go, he insists on going. And you have to make this decision before he can finally accept it."

Nie Ting's tone became cold. "Are you making me admit defeat? He doesn't need to go to school. He can be by himself overseas. Why does he have to go to school and waste time there?"

"Hei Gongzi has been locked up in who-knows-where. There's no big deal about admitting defeat... haven't I said it before. This had happened precisely because you intentionally did not let him go to school. What he wants the most now, is a personal admission letter from you."

"Weren't you the one who insisted on giving the Cheng Ying sword to him?" Nie Ting's expression was dark.

"I can't bear the full responsibility either. Look at him. He came all the way to the Capital to spend the New Year with Liu Xiu. There's nothing wrong with giving him the Cheng Ying sword, right?" Shi Xuejin felt slightly awkward.

Nie Ting was also very aware of what Lu Shu was thinking. He thought about it and said, "Let's wait until he comes back in the day."

Nie Ting felt that Lu Shu had done this for the sake of Liu Xiu. Lu Shu's intentional trip here to pay his respects to Liu Xiu made Nie Ting very touched. But Nie Ting's conviction to send Lu Shu overseas had only been strengthened.

But it seemed like Lu Shu would not accept this offer now. Nie Ting had to think of another way.

The next day, Lu Shu still had not returned. No one knew where he had gone.

Nie Ting knew that Lu Shu had a mask. It was not difficult for him if he really wanted to disappear within the Capital. But Nie Ting had an unpleasant premonition. What if he caused another big problem within the Capital? Thus, Nie Ting set in the control room at Lingjing Lane. The surveillance screens showed every single nook and crevice of the Capital.

But after an entire day, there was nothing. Find authorized novels in Webnovel, faster updates, better experience,

What was happening? Nie Ting furrowed his eyebrows and returned to Liuhe Lane. He was still waiting to have a chat with Lu Shu. Nie Ting was thinking. Lu Shu had said that he could not bear the thousands upon thousands of "Liu Xiu's" lives overseas and thus was not willing to go overseas. Nie Ting could have a serious conversation with Lu Shu and convince him that going overseas would allow him to save even more "Liu Xiu's". Or he could say that if Lu Shu's abilities were strong enough, he could ensure that those "Liu Xiu's" lives would be safe.

This seemed to be a good point of entry.

But when Nie Ting had finally decided to have a good chat with Lu Shu, Lu Shu disappeared.

On the first day of the New Year, Nie Ting and Shi Xuejin did not have to visit their

relatives. They went back to their own rooms to rest. Before dawn, Nie Ting suddenly opened his eyes. He heard the sound of people moving things outside. It seemed as if someone had moved a chair to their door...

"Beng! Creckle!"

"Beng beng! Creckle creckle creckle!"

"From Nie Ting's distress, +999!"

"From Shi Xuejin's distress, +999!"

Shi Xuejin tucked in his clothes in annoyance and opened the door. He saw Lu Shu sitting at the door, making firecracker noises with his mouth. Shi Xuejin was dumbfounded. "You disappeared for a day, but you still remembered to come back at night to make this kind of noise?!"

Nie Ting, with a dark expression on his face, threw a piece of pepper at Lu Shu. The pepper gave Lu Shu special permission to go to school. Nie Ting said, "Take this. Hurry up and give this to Zhong Yuteng. Remember to treat Hei Gongzi well. According to legend, Hei Gongzi was not sealed in the Cheng Ying sword by someone else. Rather, he had sacrificed himself to save others. After his death, he forced his soul to stay behind and used the Cheng Ying sword to reer ghosts."

Lu Shu had two aims coming to the Capital. The first was to pay his respects to Liu Xiu and spend his first New Year after his death with him. The second was to annoy Nie Ting and Shi Xuejin.

When Shi Xuejin heard Nie Ting say that Lu Shu had gone to the Babaoshan

Cemetery, he could not help but be silent. He said to Nie Ting, "He has a good heart. Perhaps you have made a good decision. If Lu Shu became the person in charge of overseas affairs, we may be able to reduce the number of comrades sacrificed overseas."

"If it were someone heartless, they would probably only care about their own life or about completing their tasks. They would not care about the lives of others." Nie Ting nodded his head. "These kinds of people are only suitable to be assassins, not leaders."

Shi Xuejin looked at Nie Ting. "You are talking about Cao Qingci, right? Then why did you still prepare to pass down sword techniques to her?"

"She is not heartless. It's just that she will do anything to fulfill her mission, be it by fair means or foul. She is even willing to sacrifice herself, let alone the lives of others," said Nie Ting calmly. "Thus, the job she is most suited to do is not overseas relations. She is suitable to be the sharpest sword in the Heavenly Network."

"Then how about the other geniuses?" Shi Xuejin curiously said, "This time, we have sacrificed two Class A aptitude geniuses. Until now, I still feel sorry for them. But others have changed very quickly. Some people had undergone an awakening when faced with life or death. Now, even the veteran experts in the Heavenly Network may be no match for them. This world is really unfair. These geniuses can quickly narrow the gap between them and those who have spent a lot of time training."

"We both know that there is no true equality in this world. If not, how is it possible that you don't even possess the natural endowments for training?" Nie Ting flipped the documents in his hands. "As for the two who were sacrificed, we had provided them with sufficient plans to protect themselves. But they did not listen when we allowed

them to retreat and insisted on having their own way. Compared to these geniuses, I'd rather have Lu Shu."

"But if he is not willing to do so, what can you do?" Shi Xuejin shook his head. "Is there really no one else to choose from? I feel that after some time, Lu Shu may not be able to defeat some of these geniuses."

"Let the geniuses return to their own units. Before the military training ends, tell the ordinary students in the Daoyuan Class to not let their guard down. Tell them that in the wider world, there are people more talented than they are. Some become complacent after the training ends." Shi Xuejin said, "But don't give them too much pressure. Things are easily broken if they are put under too much pressure."

"Okay," Nie Ting nodded his head.

"Then what do we do about Lu Shu? Do we just leave him in the Luo City security formation?" Shi Xuejin smacked his lips in annoyance. "Or do we let him go to school and satisfy his desire? Back then, you intentionally stopped him from going to school. That's why we're in this situation now. I feel that he does not necessarily have to go to school, but since you did not let him go, he insists on going. And you have to make this decision before he can finally accept it."

Nie Ting's tone became cold. "Are you making me admit defeat? He doesn't need to go to school. He can be by himself overseas. Why does he have to go to school and waste time there?"

"Hai Gongzi has been locked up in who-knows-where. There's no big deal about admitting defeat... haven't I said it before. This had happened precisely because you intentionally did not let him go to school. What he wants the most now, is a personal

admission letter from you."

"Weren't you the one who insisted on giving the Cheng Ying sword to him?" Nie Ting's expression was dark.

"I can't bear the full responsibility either. Look at him. He came all the way to the Capital to spend the New Year with Liu Xiu. There's nothing wrong with giving him the Cheng Ying sword, right?" Shi Xuejin felt slightly awkward.

Nie Ting was also very aware of what Lu Shu was thinking. He thought about it and said, "Let's wait until he comes back in the day."

Nie Ting felt that Lu Shu had done this for the sake of Liu Xiu. Lu Shu's intentional trip here to pay his respects to Liu Xiu made Nie Ting very touched. But Nie Ting's conviction to send Lu Shu overseas had only been strengthened.

But it seemed like Lu Shu would not accept this offer now. Nie Ting had to think of another way.

The next day, Lu Shu still had not returned. No one knew where he had gone.

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