

Modern Day 1551

Chapter 1551 Separation

Hearing Jun Shiling's words, Xia Wanyuan's gaze was a little unnatural. "What you're saying, I..."

She wanted to say that she did not believe him, but Jun Shiling's sudden appearance, the emotions in his eyes, and his understanding of her...

Xia Wanyuan knew very well that this level of understanding was something that even her younger siblings, who had grown up with her, had not reached.

However, she still felt that it was such a fantasy. For some reason, I am involved with the man in front of me?? Xia Wanyuan looked up at Jun Shiling and met his deep gaze. Xia Wanyuan frowned slightly. "You..."

Jun Shiling knew the hesitation in Xia Wanyuan's heart. He smiled at her. "You don't have to worry. I'm here only to remind you to be careful of Jiang Qing. As for our matters, I've never forced you."

Being seen through by Jun Shiling, Xia Wanyuan's eyes flickered unnaturally. "Thank you."

"So, where are you going next?"

Xia Wanyuan thought for a moment and finally decided. "Stay."

Jun Shiling raised an eyebrow in surprise, but in just an instant, he knew what Xia Wanyuan was thinking.

Actually, before telling Xia Wanyuan these things, Jun Shiling had also thought that Xia Wanyuan would choose to go against Jiang Qing.

However, considering that Xia Wanyuan was still young, her temperament should be relatively young compared to the regent queen who had experienced all sorts of storms.

However, he was wrong. Xia Wanyuan would always be Xia Wanyuan.

There was always a sharpness hidden in her bones. She would never take a step back and always have the courage to move forward with everything.

Jun Shiling nodded. "Okay."

Xia Wanyuan was a little surprised by Jun Shiling's reaction. A smile appeared in her eyes. "Thank you. I have something to ask of you."

"Is it about your younger siblings?"

"Mm." Xia Wanyuan nodded. "Three days later, I agreed with the others to set off from here to Beiguan and meet my father's old subordinates there."

Jun Shiling knew the general Xia Wanyuan was talking about. He had heard from Xia Wanyuan that he was the most loyal general in the previous dynasty. After Xia Wanyuan found him, she had successfully gathered her most primitive strength. From Beiguan, Xia Wanyuan began her undefeated journey for six years.

“What do you need me to do?” What Jun Shiling wanted to do the most at this moment was to stop Xia Wanyuan and not let her leave and stay by her side forever.

However, he knew very well that be it in ancient or modern times, being under someone could not protect anyone.

If Xia Wanyuan wanted to do what she had to do, he had to do his best to help her.

From Xia Wei’s experience, it could be seen that the final outcome of this action of reversing time and space was disappearance.

He still did not know when he would disappear from time and space, but before that, he had to help Xia Wanyuan remove all the obstacles.

“I have a master who lives in Zhongnan Mountain. There’s a natural barrier there, and it’s hidden in the mountains.” Xia Wanyuan took off a jade pendant from her waist and handed it to Jun Shiling. “Please bring Xia Wei and the rest to Zhongnan Mountain.”

Xia Wei and the rest were still young and had followed her everywhere. It would have been fine if they had lived an ordinary life, but she could see that her future days would definitely be filled with swords and spears. She could not take the risk of keeping them by her side.

“Okay.” Jun Shiling looked at Xia Wanyuan deeply. “I’ll come back and look for you after I send them over.”

Looking straight into Jun Shiling’s deep eyes, Xia Wanyuan’s heart skipped a beat. She nodded gently. “Okay.”

Jun Shiling stared at Xia Wanyuan for a while before finally lowering his head and gently touching her forehead, then quickly retreating.

Xia Wanyuan was not on guard against Jun Shiling at all and let him succeed.

She widened her eyes at Jun Shiling and met the smile in his eyes. Xia Wanyuan’s face was dyed red by the clouds in the sky.

Chapter 1552 Separated for Three Years

“You... you...” When she had once followed her father to argue with the scholars in the royal court, Xia Wanyuan had never stuttered. However, at this moment, she could not say a word for a long time.

In the end, Xia Wanyuan said angrily, “Lecher.”

“Didn’t I tell you just now?” Jun Shiling’s eyes were smiling. “In a thousand years, you’ll be my wife.”

Xia Wanyuan’s face heated up as she tried to defend herself. “But now...”

“Since you’re destined to be my wife in the future, can’t I exercise my power in advance?” Jun Shiling’s eyes were smiling as he looked at Xia Wanyuan with obvious teasing.

At her age, when had Xia Wanyuan ever been treated like this? Now, she was both embarrassed and angry. "You said it was because we changed time and space. How do you know that it will still be the same in this era? Maybe we..."

Xia Wanyuan was halfway through her sentence when she suddenly stopped.

For some reason, Xia Wanyuan could not say the words "maybe we can't be together at all".

Jun Shiling's eyes lit up slightly. "What about us?? Continue."

Xia Wanyuan pursed her lips. "It's nothing. Since you're leaving, leave early. I'll call Xia Wei and the rest now. You should prepare yourself too."

With that, Xia Wanyuan was about to leave when Jun Shiling pulled her back.

The next second, Xia Wanyuan fell into a warm embrace.

Jun Shiling hugged Xia Wanyuan and rested his chin on her head. He smiled gently. "I know what you wanted to say just now and seem to understand why you couldn't say that sentence."

The royal family valued etiquette the most. Xia Wanyuan had never been so intimate with any man, not even with Xia Wei.

Beside her was Jun Shiling's aura. Xia Wanyuan's ears turned red. She subconsciously struggled. "Let go of me."

Jun Shiling chuckled. "According to our laws, you're still underage. I won't do anything to you. I'll just hug you for a while."

Just for a while. It seemed like it had been a long time since I had hugged Xia Wanyuan like this.

It was unknown if it was because of Jun Shiling's emotional tone or the gentle aura emanating from him, but Xia Wanyuan did not reject him and stayed quietly in Jun Shiling's arms.

The sunlight leaked through the leaves, casting specks of shadows on the two of them. The breeze gently fluttered their sleeves, and it was harmonious and quiet.

After some time, Xia Wanyuan's face was so red that it could not be seen anymore. She finally could not help but pull Jun Shiling's sleeve. "Is that enough?"

Jun Shiling smiled and took a step back. His hands were still on Xia Wanyuan's shoulders. "Look at me."

Xia Wanyuan looked up slightly, almost melting from the warmth in Jun Shiling's eyes.

"Wait for me to come back and look for you."

"Okay." Xia Wanyuan nodded. There were traces of heat spreading in her heart. Under Jun Shiling's deep gaze, Xia Wanyuan could clearly feel her heart racing.

"Then I'll go look for Xia Wei."

"Mm."

...-

Ever since he came here, Xia Wei had become his younger siblings' teacher. Now, he was teaching his younger siblings to read.

"Xiao Yu, you didn't write the word correctly." Xia Wei frowned and looked at his younger brother's words. He knocked his younger brother's head with the book.

Xiao Yu was about to retort when she saw Jun Shiling standing at the door. He pointed at Jun Shiling. "Brother, is he here to look for you?"

Xia Wei understood Xia Wanyuan's thoughts the most, so he was very awkward with Jun Shiling at this moment.

On the one hand, he knew that Jun Shiling was a good person and was here to help them.

On the other hand, he was brooding over Xia Wanyuan's differential treatment of Jun Shiling.

Hmph, she's such a good sister. No man is worthy of her.

"Come out for a while." Jun Shiling waved at Xia Wei.

As Xia Wei said, "What are you doing here? You're so annoying." He put down his book and walked out.

After calling Xia Wei out, Jun Shiling went straight to the point and told him what had happened. "Leave with me now."

Xia Wei did not know why he was following Jun Shiling, but he knew very well that danger must have come. His sister wanted to protect him.

"I won't leave." Xia Wei was still young, but there was already the look of an emperor between his eyebrows. "I want to stay and accompany Sister. You can take Xiao Qiao and Xiao Yu away. I'll be wherever Sister is."

Although Xia Wei did not obey him, Jun Shiling was very relieved.

Xia Wei was still the same Xia Wei. He could travel through layers of time and space for Xia Wanyuan or disregard his life for her.

"Then, I'll leave your sister to you." Jun Shiling nodded. "Take good care of her. Don't tell anyone that I appeared."

"Okay."

It was already noon. The autumn sun hung high in the sky without any heat. On the path outside the city, Jun Shiling was driving a carriage with two young children in it.

After Xia Wanyuan bade farewell to her younger siblings, she pulled down the curtain and looked at Jun Shiling. "Be careful."

Jun Shiling smiled. "Okay, wait for me."

With that, Jun Shiling raised the whip rope and was about to leave when Xia Wanyuan took out a small sachet from somewhere and threw it into Jun Shiling's arms.

Jun Shiling reached out to catch it. At that moment, the horse had already walked forward. Jun Shiling pulled the reins and looked back. Xia Wanyuan was standing elegantly under the tree.

Neither of them would have thought that they would be separated for three years just like this.

Chapter 1553 News

Three years later,

“Princess, Jiang Qing has already intercepted our food team with the rebels. Our current food supply can’t last long.” The soldier rushed into the camp and reported the latest military information to Xia Wanyuan.

In the tent, Xia Wanyuan was discussing the next step with the generals.

Hearing this news, obvious panic appeared on the others’ faces. Everyone looked at Xia Wanyuan in unison.

Three years ago, after parting ways with Jun Shiling, Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei went to find the subordinates of the previous dynasty.

These subordinates had risked their lives with the late emperor back then. They naturally treated Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei as if they were their biological children and helped them.

After the previous dynasty fell, the previous forces were scattered everywhere because they no longer had a backbone that could gather them.

As for Xia Wanyuan, she was the princess of the previous dynasty, and Xia Wei was the legitimate crown prince. With the two of them holding down the fort, those scattered subordinates slowly gathered.

In the past three years, Xia Wanyuan’s forces had gradually grown. They had already occupied about two-thirds of the south of the Yellow River and looked north of the Yellow River occupied by Jiang Qing.

Three years ago, Jiang Qing had raided Long Guan but could not find Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei. At first, he had thought that Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei had returned to the present with the memories of their previous lives.

However, after fighting with Xia Wanyuan for the past few years, doubts gradually arose in Jiang Qing’s heart. Perhaps Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei did not remember what had happened in their previous lives. It was only because time had reversed that some things had deviated.

Although Xia Wanyuan did not have the memories of her previous life, she had not been able to gain much of the upper hand in her fight with Jiang Qing over the years.

Because Xia Wanyuan had learned from Jun Shiling that Jiang Qing had memories of his previous life, all these years, when Xia Wanyuan made any decisions, she would immediately overturn her previous train of thought and use another method.

As a result, even if Jiang Qing knew what Xia Wanyuan had done in his previous life, it would be difficult for him to completely control the entire situation.

However, although Jiang Qing could not control Xia Wanyuan, he could control the others in the world. Their way of doing things did not change much from his previous life.

Although Xia Wanyuan had already instructed the team to change the route of transporting food in advance, there were not many official roads in this era. No matter how much they changed, there were always some roads that could not be detoured.

Jiang Qing waited at these places and intercepted all the food.

“Don’t panic first.” Xia Wanyuan gestured for the generals to quieten down. “How many days can our food last?”

“Three days.” A general stood up. “Princess, the war with South County is tense. The battle definitely won’t end in three days. If there’s no food in three days, our team will completely return.”

Xia Wanyuan looked down at the map, then pointed at Qinghu Town beside South County. “If I remember correctly, because of poverty, the previous years were tax-free. General Zhang, go and investigate here first.”

Seeing where Xia Wanyuan was pointing, everyone had different expressions. “This is a poor town. I’m afraid...”

“Let’s take a look first. If it doesn’t work, we’ll think of a way.”

After Xia Wanyuan gave the order, the others could not say anything else. After the meeting ended, everyone left the tent and did their respective missions.

After everyone retreated, the curtain of the tent was pulled open and a tall figure walked in.

“Sister.”

The person who entered was Xia Wei. After three years, Xia Wei had completely shed his youthfulness and become Xia Wanyuan’s most trustworthy support.

“Mm.” Xia Wanyuan was reading a memorial. “Is there any news of Xiao Yu and the rest?”

“Sister, Xiao Yu and the rest are staying well in Zhongnan Mountain. What news can there be?? You probably want to ask if there’s any news of Jun Shiling, right??”

The brush in Xia Wanyuan’s hand paused slightly, and the tip of the brush rippled on the paper. “Then, is there any news of him??”

“No, Sister, do you think this person disappeared?? It’s been three years, and we’ve sent so many people to look for him, but there’s no news at all.”

Chapter 1554 King Ning An

Hearing Xia Wei’s words, Xia Wanyuan’s eyes narrowed. “Perhaps.”

After all, Jun Shiling had once told her that he came from the future, so he might have returned to his original world.

Three years ago, when Jun Shiling explained his background to Xia Wanyuan, he did not explain in detail. He was afraid that Xia Wanyuan would feel pressured, so he only said that he had married her in the modern world. Jun Shiling did not tell Xia Wanyuan about their children.

At this moment, Xia Wanyuan thought of the scene when Jun Shiling returned and could not help but wonder if Jun Shiling would marry someone else.

“Sister, what are you thinking?? Why are you so engrossed??” Seeing that Xia Wanyuan had been in a daze, Xia Wei reached out and waved in front of her. “How do you plan to deal with Jiang Qing? His attacks are getting fiercer and fiercer. Last month, he had already recovered Nancheng. From the looks of it, he’s preparing to outflank our territory.”

Xia Wanyuan put aside the other thoughts in her mind for the time being. She focused and began to think of a way to deal with Jiang Qing.

“Have you heard of the newly risen Yan Army??” Xia Wanyuan’s gaze wandered on the map and finally stopped on the easternmost piece of land.

In the past few years, heroes had competed and risen. Among them was a very mysterious King Ning An. He had made a fortune in the east and in just two years, he had turned a large area in the east into fertile land, allowing the people to live and work in peace.

At the same time, it was unknown what method he had used to make the army he controlled become one of the three great iron armies in the Central Plains in a short period of time. The Flame Army was one of the sharpest forces under him. They had never lost a battle.

Xia Wei had naturally heard of the reputation of this Yan Army. Puzzlement flashed across his eyes. “Sister, why are you suddenly talking about this?? Don’t tell me you’re looking for King Ning An to ally with him?? Didn’t we try before? It’s impossible for him to agree.”

As the latest dark horse, King Ning An naturally received the attention of the surrounding countries. Many people threw him an olive branch, but without exception, regardless of whether the other party was strong or weak, King Ning An rejected everyone’s alliance.

In fact, he had always shown himself in a mask and had never interacted with people from other countries. As a result, even though King Ning An’s reputation was spread throughout the world, no one knew what he looked like.

With such a powerful force entrenched in their east, Xia Wanyuan and Xia Wei had also sent people to King Ning An’s territory to submit a visit letter.

In fact, because this person had risen too quickly and acted too strangely, Xia Wanyuan had a very bold guess in her heart. Hence, Xia Wanyuan had personally gone to visit this person at Ning An Manor.

However, like everyone else, the visit letter was returned.

It was winter when Xia Wanyuan went. That year, it was snowing heavily in Ning An. Xia Wanyuan stood at the door for more than half an hour, but she was still rejected.

Hearing the news of rejection, Xia Wanyuan’s hopes were dashed. In the end, she did not say anything and left Ning An. Later on, she did not mention King Ning An again.

For some reason, Xia Wanyuan suddenly mentioned this person.

“Let’s try again.” Xia Wanyuan looked at Xia Wei. “Now, he’s our only hope of breaking out of the situation. As long as King Ning An is willing to ally with us, Jiang Qing’s plot to surround us will not succeed.”

Just like Xia Wanyuan, Jiang Qing had the same thoughts. At the same time, two invitations entered King Ning An’s manor.

Chapter 1555 Peach Flower

In King Ning An’s manor, two important documents were urgently sent over. However, just as the soldier arrived at the door, he was shocked by the strong cosmetic smell in the manor.

The soldier subconsciously looked at the butler beside him. “Butler, does King Ning An have time to read the memorial today?”

“Of course. What are you thinking? Don’t worry, these people will be chased out later.”

Just as the butler finished speaking, a large group of fat and thin beauties walked out of the residence crying. There were more than a hundred of them.

The soldiers were stunned. The butler shook his head helplessly. “This is the third wave of the month. Alright, King Ning An is free now. If you have anything to say, go in and say it.”

In just three years, King Ning An had become one of the three heroes of the Central Plains. Countless people wanted to cling to this new overlord.

However, King Ning An did not take over money and bribery, and power was not attractive to him. Hence, everyone set their sights on the beauty.

However, it was unknown if this King Ning An really did not love beauties or if in order to maintain a good image in front of the world, the beauties that everyone sent to his residence were all returned.

Everyone thought that he was picky and chose the most beautiful ones from all over to send over. Among so many people, he only chose one to stay.

However, one could be considered a breakthrough. Everyone thought that they had grasped King Ning An’s preferences and sent beauties here more frequently. However, their luck was worse today and none of them could stay.

The soldier followed the butler into the manor. Unlike the grandeur outside, the decorations in the manor looked more ordinary, low-key, and restrained.

After turning around a few corridors, the butler bowed respectfully in front of the study. “Your Majesty, there’s an urgent letter.”

A deep voice came from the room with indescribable dignity. “Come in.”

The butler gestured for the soldier to enter. The moment the soldier stepped through the threshold, he felt an extremely strong aura. He stepped forward fearfully and handed the document over.

“This... This... This is a document sent from the King of Jiangdong and the Xia family. You...”

Because he was too nervous, the soldier stammered. However, King Ning An did not criticize the soldier much. He said in a low voice, “Bring it over.”

“Okay.”

The soldier carefully handed the things behind the table. A pair of well-defined hands reached out to take the document. It was actually a pair of extremely young-looking hands.

There was the sound of pages flipping in front of him. The soldier was still a young man who had just entered the military camp. He was very curious about the legendary King Ning An.

He secretly looked up to see what this King Ning An looked like, but just as he moved, the person in front of him said, “What are you looking at?”

The soldier was shocked and hurriedly knelt on the ground, not daring to look up again.

“You can leave.” After a while, the man behind the table finally spoke.

The soldier did not even have time to wipe the sweat off his face and quickly retreated.

After the soldier left, the man behind the table picked up the document and looked at the beautiful words carefully.

The breeze carried the petals outside the window and gently floated on the man’s shoulder.

The man did not seem to notice and looked at the letter in his hand seriously. After a while, he lowered his head slightly and took off the peach blossom petals on his shoulder. Then, he sandwiched them in the envelope and carefully sealed them.

As for the other letter, the man did not even look at it and burned it with a match.

That day, a huge piece of news broke out.

King Ning An had agreed to cooperate with Jiang Qing.

Chapter 1556 Meeting

The news quickly reached Xia Wanyuan’s ears. Xia Wei frowned tightly. “Sister, what do you think this Ning Shijun is thinking?? Hasn’t he always been neutral?? Why did he suddenly agree to an alliance with Jiang Qing?”

Xia Wei and Xia Wanyuan originally thought that the worst outcome would be that King Ning An remained neutral, and they would carry the pressure and continue to fight Jiang Qing.

However, they did not expect the situation to be so bad. Once King Ning An and Jiang Qing reached an agreement, the Xia family’s territory would be in danger.

Xia Wanyuan was also very worried, but at the same time, she was a little dazed. Looking at King Ning An’s description on the memorial, Xia Wanyuan pursed her lips. “So King Ning An’s real name is Ning Shijun.”

King Ning An was too mysterious. He had risen too quickly in the past few years. The world only knew that he was King Ning An, who ruled eighteen continents and twenty-four counties. No one paid attention to his real name.

After Xia Wanyuan's reminder, Xia Wei was a little puzzled. He glanced at Xia Wanyuan's expression. "Sister, if I remember correctly, was that lecher three years ago called Jun Shiling??"

Xia Wanyuan did not speak. She was silent and finally shook her head. "I don't know."

At that moment, the soldier reported from outside, "Reporting to the crown prince and princess, there's news that King Jiangdong and King Ning An will meet at Yong'an Ferry in three days."

Xia Wanyuan put away the other thoughts in her mind and looked at Xia Wei. "No matter who he is, we can't reach an alliance this time."

"Mm." Xia Wei nodded. "I'll bring my troops to investigate first."

"Okay."

At this moment, on a tall city tower in the north of the Yellow River, Jiang Qing looked at the letter in front of him and felt puzzled. "Jun Shiling, Ning Shijun, is this a coincidence, or? Jun Shiling also came to this era??"

No matter what, in three days, he wanted to meet this King Ning An and see who he was.

This meeting that attracted the attention of the world was destined to be bumpy.

On the way from the camp to Yong'an Ferry, King Ning An's team suffered nearly six attacks in just two days.

However, without exception, they fell under the iron cavalry of the Ning An Army.

On the last day, less than ten kilometers away from Yong'an, the Ning An Army was ambushed for the last time. This time, the person leading the team was Xia Wei.

Xia Wei also wanted to know if this mysterious man was Jun Shiling, so he got a slender soldier to put on Xia Wanyuan's clothes and rushed into the enemy camp with him.

This soldier was wearing a helmet and looked like a woman. Even his fighting actions were the usual moves of a woman.

He passed through the crowd and rushed straight towards King Ning An's carriage.

Just as he was about to approach the carriage, a sword stabbed out from the carriage, aimed straight at the soldier's heart.

Although the soldier dodged in time, the person in the car clearly had killing intent. The tip of the sword turned and neatly stabbed three inches under the soldier's throat.

Just as everyone was fighting, the sound of hooves could be heard not far away. Seeing this, Xia Wei knew that the team sent by Jiang Qing had arrived. He turned around and looked at King Ning An's carriage, denying his guess. "Let's go!"

Not long after Xia Wei's team left, Jiang Qing brought them to the carriage. "I've long heard of King Ning An's name. Greetings."

The curtain of the carriage was pulled open, and a pair of jade-like hands held the door. In the next second, a gentle face appeared in front of everyone.

He nodded slightly at Jiang Qing. "King Jiang Dong."

Looking at this young but unfamiliar face, Jiang Qing was a little surprised. "I didn't expect the famous King Ning An to be so young."

Chapter 1557 Back Then

King Ning An smiled slightly, looking like a gentleman. "King Jiang Dong is also young. It takes one to know one."

Seeing that the person in front of him was different from Jun Shiling in terms of appearance and temperament, the doubts in Jiang Qing's heart dissipated a little, but he still had a hint of scruples.

In order to be foolproof, Jiang Qing still had to make the final confirmation. He looked at King Ning An in front of him and felt that there was a hint of familiarity in his eyes. "King Ning An, you look a little familiar. Have we met somewhere?"

King Ning An's eyes flickered. "We've met once."

"Oh? Can you remind me?"

King Ning An smiled. "Ten years ago, in the palace of the Great Xia Dynasty, you blocked a hidden arrow for me."

When King Ning An said this, Jiang Qing immediately remembered.

Ten years ago, he had followed his father to the palace to congratulate the emperor at that time, Xia Wanyuan's father.

In the royal court, only by standing with the right team could he ensure that he could rest easy in the future. In order to be foolproof, the previous King of Jiangdong had thought of a way to get the best of both worlds.

On the one hand, the previous King of Jiangdong had brought a large amount of gold, silver, and jewelry to visit the crown prince's faction led by Xia Wei.

However, at that time, the Second Prince's faction led by Consort Wang was also very strong, so the previous King of Jiangdong got someone to cooperate and act.

He had arranged for an assassin to assassinate the Second Prince. At that time, Jiang Qing, who was still in his teens, did not know his father's plan. Seeing that the sword was approaching, he rushed forward and blocked the sword for the Second Prince, Xia He. Fortunately, he only suffered superficial injuries.

However, at that time, in order to reward Jiang Qing for protecting his master bravely, the emperor still gave Jiang Qing many things.

Now, looking at Xia He in front of him, Jiang Qing connected the little prince in his memory to this gentle-looking man.

“So it’s the Second Prince.” Jiang Qing cupped his hands at Xia He. “I wonder how the Second Prince became King Ning An?”

Xia He held Jiang Qing’s hand and did not let him really bow. “The dynasty has already been destroyed. Why would there be a prince? King Jiangdong, you don’t have to be so polite. Now, I still have to rely on you.”

The corners of Jiang Qing’s lips curled up slightly as he straightened his body. “Second Prince, why aren’t you with Xia Wei and Xia Wanyuan? Instead, you established your own sect?”

Xia He sneered. “We’re all members of the royal family, so there’s no need to hide. That Xia Wei and Xia Wanyuan wish they could destroy my mother’s entire family. How can they tolerate me?”

“I see.” Jiang Qing’s doubts about Xia He gradually dissipated, and really wanted to make an alliance with him. “Second Prince, please come this way. Let’s go back to the tent first.”

“Okay.”

In the Xia family’s tent, Xia Wanyuan stood outside and watched Xia Wei return energetically.

Xia Wei got off the horse and did not walk towards Xia Wanyuan immediately. “Sister, I’m covered in dirt. I’ll come and see you after I deal with it.”

However, Xia Wanyuan did not care about this at all. She walked to Xia Wei’s side in a few steps and sized him up. “Are you injured?”

“No.” Xia Wei shook his head. “Sister, I’ve tried. He’s not Jun Shiling.”

Xia Wanyuan was stunned for a moment before nodding. “Mm, I understand.”

Xia Wei carefully observed Xia Wanyuan’s expression. “Sister, you seem a little unhappy.”

Xia Wanyuan smiled slightly. “No, go and count the team members first.”

“Mm.”

However, there was no time for them, because the horn outside sounded.

Xia Wei became serious. “Sister, there’s an enemy. I’ll go take a look first.”

Chapter 1558 Defeat

“I’ll go with you.” Xia Wanyuan abandoned all her thoughts and rushed out with Xia Wei.

They had thought that it was an ordinary surprise attack, but no one expected that this time, it was Jiang Qing’s long-planned attack.

Everyone thought that Jiang Qing was still in contact with King Ning An and did not have the energy to deal with the battle with Xia Wanyuan.

However, no one expected that Jiang Qing's goal had never been King Ning An. What he wanted was to severely injure Xia Wanyuan.

There was already a problem with the provisions, and the morale of the army was unstable. Now that another powerful enemy had attacked, the Xia family's army retreated step by step.

Xia Wanyuan brought Xia Wei to kill the enemy in front of the array. In the end, seeing that the enemy was increasing in number and their own people were decreasing, Xia Wanyuan finally gave the order. "Retreat."

Following Xia Wanyuan's order, the team quickly retreated. Not long after, they were forced into Taicang Mountain.

With the natural danger of Taicang Mountain, the team was temporarily out of danger.

However, Xia Wanyuan and the rest were retreating, and Jiang Qing's people had been chasing behind. In this battle, Xia Wanyuan had lost at least half of her main force.

Xia Wanyuan and the rest retreated in front while Xia Wei brought his men to cover the rear.

It was only when the night approached that Xia Wei returned from the night with his men. The armor on his body was already broken and he had a bloody aura. Mixed with the coldness of the night, it was terrifying.

"Sister, we were deceived by Jiang Qing and King Ning An." Seeing Xia Wanyuan, Xia Wei told her everything he had discovered. "So they've long formed an alliance."

Actually, three months ago, Jiang Qing's letter had been sent to King Ning An's Estate. However, the news that spread at that time was that King Ning An had rejected the gift from Jiang Qing.

The scene of the two of them joining forces was too real. Even King Ning An and Jiang Qing pretended to fight. Both sides lost a large number of people and troops. Even Xia Wanyuan was deceived by this illusion.

Actually, today, when she was attacked, Xia Wanyuan had understood.

There was only one way for Jiang Qing's troops to quietly lurk around Xia Wanyuan, and that was to secretly move from the prefecture under King Ning An's jurisdiction.

Xia Wanyuan frowned. "I was careless."

"Sister, it's not your fault." Xia Wei's eyes burned with anger. "They're too cunning. Who would have thought that Jiang Qing would do this? Sister, what should we do next?"

Xia Wanyuan looked at the mountain behind her. "Let's go into the mountain first."

At this moment, in the Jiang Dong camp, Jiang Qing was drinking with Xia He.

"Second Prince, let me toast you. It's all thanks to your plan this time. If not for you, Xia Wanyuan would still be going against me."

Xia He clinked glasses with Jiang Qing and took a sip of wine. "You're too humble. Even without me, you've been confronting Xia Wanyuan for so long. That Xia Wanyuan isn't an easy character to deal with. I'm really surprised that you could force her to this extent."

Jiang Qing smiled. "Same to you."

The two of them looked at each other and smiled. With the victory report, they finished the bottle of wine on the table.

Although Xia Wanyuan had led the team into Taicang Mountain, without food, such a large team would come out sooner or later.

The next day, Jiang Qing gave his subordinates a death order.

As long as they could capture Xia Wanyuan alive, they would be rewarded with a field amounting to a hundred miles and ten thousand taels of gold.

Instantly, the crowd was excited. The teams heading to Taicang Mountain were like carp crossing the river.

Chapter 1559 Burning the Bridges

Taicang Mountain had the river and natural peaks as cover. Although there were many teams attacking Xia Wanyuan, they could not find the location of her army for a while.

"Sister." Xia Wei rode a horse over from afar. After a few days of running around, Xia Wei's handsome face was filled with fatigue and frost. "We don't have enough food."

There were plants covering Taicang Mountain, but it was already late autumn. In addition, the temperature in the mountain was much lower than outside. The animals were hibernating, and it had already begun to snow in some places. Under the cover of the vast snow, there was nothing to fill their stomachs. The food brought by the team barely lasted for a few days, but they had already seen the bottom.

Xia Wanyuan also had many worries in her heart, but at this moment, she was the one who could not panic the most in the military. Xia Wanyuan looked calmly at Xia Wei. "I'll think of a way. Go and train first."

"Okay." Xia Wei nodded and took out half a white steamed bun. "Sister, this is the last one. Take it."

Xia Wanyuan's gaze froze. After a while, she reached out to take it. "I didn't expect..."

Xia Wanyuan did not say the rest, but Xia Wei understood what she meant.

They did not expect that they would one day fall to this state and be forced to this state.

Looking at Xia Wanyuan's thin but determined body, Xia Wei's eyes burned.

Although it was not etiquette, Xia Wei still walked forward and pulled Xia Wanyuan into his arms.

The young man three years ago had already become a future emperor who could shoulder the heavy responsibility of the world through the tempering of the battlefield.

Xia Wanyuan leaned on Xia Wei's shoulder and sighed softly. "If I can't protect you this time..."

"Don't talk nonsense." Before Xia Wanyuan could finish speaking, Xia Wei stopped her. "We'll successfully leave this place. Trust me."

Xia Wanyuan looked up at Xia Wei's strong outline and a smile flashed across her eyes.

Xia Wanyuan patted Xia Wei's shoulder. "Our Xia Wei is already indomitable."

With that, Xia Wanyuan stood up straight. "I'll discuss military intelligence with General Shen and the rest."

"Mm."

Xia Wei stood rooted to the ground and quietly watched Xia Wanyuan walk towards the central tent, his eyes dark.

When he could not see Xia Wanyuan at all, Xia Wei turned to leave. However, he did not walk towards the training ground. Instead, he left in the opposite direction.

In the tent, Xia Wanyuan was discussing something with everyone. Seeing that the sky was starting to darken outside, Xia Wanyuan looked outside in confusion.

According to Xia Wei's training habits, he should have returned to the tent to discuss something with them. It was strange that Xia Wei had not returned today.

Just as Xia Wanyuan was puzzled, hurried footsteps suddenly came from outside, followed by a soldier's voice. "Princess, His Highness the Crown Prince rushed out with his men!!"

Xia Wanyuan's heart sank. She strode out. "Tell me clearly. Where did he go??"

The soldier knelt on the ground. "His Highness the Crown Prince rushed to the exit with his troops. He instructed us to leave with you in four hours from the route he gave us. He said that he would lure the enemy away."

No matter how calm Xia Wanyuan was, when she heard this news, her ears instantly filled with blood and she could no longer hear anything.

At least ten teams from different forces were guarding the exit. There was no chance of Xia Wei surviving.

Chapter 1560 Wiped Out

Thinking of this, Xia Wanyuan's heart seemed to have been pulled open. The fierce cold wind poured in. For a moment, Xia Wanyuan could not stand still.

The general beside her immediately supported Xia Wanyuan. Xia Wanyuan forced herself to be calm and asked the soldier, her voice trembling. "Where is he now??"

"Princess, the crown prince brought his troops and arrived at the entrance of the mountain an hour ago."

Xia Wanyuan's hand suddenly tightened. Her nails dug into her palm, bringing with them traces of blood.

The mountain entrance was surrounded by at least tens of thousands of elite soldiers. If Xia Wei went there...

Xia Wanyuan's mind exploded. "Come with me to save him."

Hearing Xia Wanyuan's words, everyone looked at each other and knelt in front of her.

"Princess, it's not that we're unwilling to save the crown prince." The person who spoke was the crown prince's grand tutor before Xia Wei. Xia Wei's homework was taught by him alone. To be honest, the old tutor had dedicated his life's work and energy to the Great Xia Dynasty.

However, at this moment, he knelt on the ground and looked at Xia Wanyuan in pain. "Princess, you should know very well that the Crown Prince is destined to die without returning. We don't have a crown prince anymore and can't lose another princess. You're the hope of the Great Xia Dynasty to recover. Please think twice."

"Princess, please think twice!" After the Grand Tutor finished speaking, the others knelt down in front of Xia Wanyuan.

Looking at the people who had followed her through life and death, Xia Wanyuan was silent for a while before finally looking up. "Pass down the order. Leave according to the map Xia Wei left behind."

"Yes, Princess!!"

The team began to gather. Under Xia Wanyuan's lead, everyone quickly retreated out of the mountain.

Xia Wei had given her a secret passage. She did not know when he had started digging, but it was very close to the mountain pass. However, because there were hills in the middle, it was very hidden.

All the horses in the team were abandoned in the mountains. The soldiers walked lightly and tried to lower their voices.

As everyone walked out quietly, they could feel the sound that shook the world from the mountain pass next door. Even the ground under their feet was constantly trembling. Everyone knew very well that it was the sound of artillery falling to the ground.

Accompanied by the tremors of the cannon fire were shrill cries that lingered in the mountains.

Hearing that familiar accent, everyone gritted their teeth and tears flowed down their faces.

They knew very well that their compatriots who had once been in a team were suffering the most terrifying punishment, and their way out had been exchanged by their comrades with their statements and blood.

The generals were worried about Xia Wanyuan and could not help but look forward.

To everyone's surprise, Xia Wanyuan actually walked forward calmly. Her expression was neither sad nor happy, and she only walked forward firmly.

Seeing that Xia Wanyuan, a woman, was so determined, the others felt a sense of pride.

The seeds of hatred were planted in their hearts. All the blood feuds today would be sacrificed with the enemy's bones in the future.

After walking for a long time, the team finally saw the light in front of them on the long mountain path. They walked out.

At this moment, the sounds of fighting at the mountain pass became softer and softer. In the end, it was silent.

Before leaving Taicang Mountain, Xia Wanyuan turned around and fainted.

When Xia Wanyuan woke up after being unconscious for three days, the team had already retreated to a safe place, and bad news arrived.

The team led by Xia Wei was completely wiped out at the entrance of Taicang Mountain.