

My Crown 1021

Chapter 1021: Departure

“Alright then.” Wu Xiao’en had a smile on his chubby face. “You can contact me again when you get back. Sixth Young Sir, don’t treat me as an outsider!”

“Old Sixth, what are you saying!!” Suddenly, an unexpected screech was heard.

Third Miss Zheng wasn’t the soldiers’ match, so she could only look on helplessly as they snatched away her only bag of mystic currency. She got up discomposedly from the floor and rushed towards Sixth Zheng. “If you don’t need a place to stay we need it!”

Sixth Zheng flashed to evade her, and he didn’t even spare Third Miss Zheng a glance as he directly patted Wu Xiao’en’s shoulder. “Let’s go.”

“Okay, then I’ll send you off.” Wu Xiao’en was also a slick person, and he understood from this conversation that Sixth Young Sir disliked his siblings. Hence, he didn’t squabble with them either and directly pulled Sixth Young Sir Zheng into his carriage.

On the other end, at the north city gate, Dou Fengchi had almost reached the end of her patience. Suddenly, she swept the Duan Family’s Seventh Miss Duan Siren a glance. “Seventh Duan, why don’t you say something! How long do we have to wait like this?”

Seventh Miss Duan was a 16-year-old young girl, with a pair of bright and glossy eyes on her small, round face.

When she heard Dou Fengchi say this, she replied with a smile, “Sister Fengchi, if you’re so impatient, then go ask the crown prince consort when exactly we will set out.”

Dou Fengchi instantly wilted.

Qiao Mu, who was sitting inside the carriage, of course knew that the people outside were getting impatient.

But she didn’t feel like paying attention to them, instead turning to look at Mo Lian, who was staring at her unblinkingly. “Lian, do you know why those people from Shuntian Prefecture took such great pains to machinate this show of accusing me to be the kingdom-destroying witch?”

Mo Lian’s heart jolted. “Do tell.”

“Because their high and mighty Prefecture Lord of the Shuntian Prefecture is intent on making my life miserable.” Qiao Mu curved her lips into a sneer.

They did all this not to make her die, but it was for nothing more than to make the crown prince spurn her. It would have been ideal if he repealed her title as crown prince consort so that she could suffer the censure of the ignorant masses, just like the present Courtesan Zheng.

These people racked their brains and did their utmost to make her live miserably!

If the developments in this life were the same as her previous life’s, then she would still be a weakling, which would conform to their wishes.

A ferociousness flitted across Mo Lian's eyes. He abruptly pulled her into his arms, putting his chin on top of her small head and speaking in a muffled voice, "I won't be accompanying you to the Mystic Beast Forest this time."

"I already know where Liu Yizhi is hiding from Black Cat's confession. Before you come back, I'll go dispose of them. Qiaoqiao, I want to give you a lifelong peace, and I will protect you for a lifetime. I won't let those vermin from the Shuntian Prefecture harass you anymore. Okay?"

As he spoke this gently, he lowered his head and lightly kissed the top of her head.

Qiao Mu snuggled into his embrace and responded in a soft and adorable voice. "Okay."

At this time, the sound of quarreling came from outside. Dou Fengchi was interrogating in her high-pitched voice, "Why have you come?"

Qiao Mu lifted up the carriage curtain and casually hopped down onto the ground. "Little Sixth."

"Zheng Tian greets His Highness the Crown Prince and the Crown Prince Consort." Paying no attention to Dou Fengchi's hullabaloo at all, Little Sixth Zheng turned around to salute the couple.

The crown prince scanned his face with a judgmental gaze before retracting it indifferently.

"Okay, everyone's here now. We can depart," Qiao Mu then looked at everyone as she said this with a nod.

Chapter 1022: Parting Sorrow

The Hong Clan's Hong Bawei knitted his brow as he questioned, "Crown Prince Consort, Sixth Young Sir Zheng is travelling together with us?"

"Is there a problem?"

Qiao Mu cast the others a glance as she said nonchalantly, "Didn't you all come to an agreement with the king? The eight great patrician families would only select four competitors, while the king would choose another two people to join the team."

In other words, the king chose only one person— Little Sixth Zheng—so what else did you people want?

What was there not to be satisfied about?

Hong Bawei and Fan Qiuming's complexions changed, and they protested anxiously, "This is the rule that your Family Head Qiao decided on his own previously..."

Sensing Qiao Mu's cold gaze, Hong Bawei could only change his tune in the middle, "This indeed was what Qiao Dongbo said, but the other family patriarchs didn't agree, so how could his decision represent everyone's stance?"

If he conceded to what Qiao Mu said, then they had to eliminate one more person from the team.

Wasn't it obvious that it was either Fan Qiuming or him, Hong Bawei, that would be the unlucky fool selected to be kicked out of the team?

After all, the two of them were the weakest out of the six people, so they had the highest chances of getting kicked out.

However, the two people had both come while bearing the weight of their clans' hopes, so they naturally couldn't allow someone else to kick them out with just a few words.

"Surely, the crown prince consort is bringing Sixth Zheng along because the list of names the king submitted actually contains seven people." Qin Susu said insipidly, "Alright, don't worry about this stuff. I see that it's getting late, so let's set out earlier."

The Mystic Beast Forest was located at the boundary of the northern and eastern regions, reportedly 5000 kilometers away. After leaving the Mo Kingdom, they would be heading eastward. Even with war hawks as guides, they still needed to travel for about two days.

After reaching the Mystic Beast Forest's periphery, they must then continue their travels by foot.

On the one hand, it was to avoid getting attacked by a mob of beasts while at high altitudes. On the other hand, it was because a gray fog blanketed the sky above the Mystic Beast Forest all year round.

In this vast, dark, silent, and continuous forest home to gigantic beasts, generally everyone made a detour around this area in flight. There wasn't anyone who would foolishly challenge this forest that was beyond everyone's comprehension.

Seven guide hawks had been waiting for them outside the city gate for some time.

The passersby all looked at them curiously, and some even specially stopped to watch, looking at those large and robust pitch-black hawks with yearning.

"Properly protect yourself, and do only what you are capable of." Mo Lian stroked her small face as he sighed gently, reluctant to part.

What to do? He was already missing her even before parting. This small beauty really tormented him in every possible way.

Qiao Mu patted her own chest emphatically, indicating for him to set his mind at rest.

The next second, she gave him an unexpected smile, and she waved her small paw before turning around and briskly walking out of the city.

Mo Lian stared blankly at her departing figure, continuously reflecting on Qiaoqiao's smile in his mind.

However, this was only up until an urgent voice drifted into his ears from afar. "Qiaoqiao, Qiaoqiao!"

Running up to Mo Lian impatiently, Duan Yue blinked his eyes as he looked left and right, questioning, "Where's Qiaoqiao? Wah, did I come too late and she left already?"

Mo Lian harrumphed. "She left."

Qiao Mu was just about to straddle the war hawk, but she probed her head out from the city gate when she heard Duan Yue's voice. "Duan Yue?"

“Fourth Brother!” Seventh Miss Duan also hastily got off the war hawk, and she dashed to the city gate, looking at him joyously.

“Qiaoqiao.” Duan Yue galloped over while grinning from ear to ear, but he completely ignored Seventh Duan’s gaze. He directly passed by her and ran up to Qiao Mu instead.

Chapter 1023: Be Good at Home

Duan Yue fished out a small box and handed it to Qiao Mu. He then huddled close and told her in a suppressed voice, “These are ten enhanced Core Ravaging Thunders, which are twice as destructive as the ones I gave you before. You should exert less energy when you are away from home. Should you encounter troublemakers that pester you endlessly all day long, directly blast them dead to avoid dealing with a buttload of trouble.”

At this, he winked at Qiao Mu evilly.

Giving a nod, Qiao Mu very conveniently put the box away in her own inner world.

“Then I’m going now! You guys be good at home. Don’t fight.” As Qiao Mu stretched out her small hand to very naturally stroke Duan Yue’s dog head, she instructed thus in an extremely pleasant mood.

Afterwards, when she saw the two men’s simultaneously amused and exasperated expressions, she quickly retracted her gaze and turned around to make a run for it.

Sigh, truthfully speaking, these two people were of about the same height, and their statures were similarly tall, upright, and elegant.

One wore clothes the color of fading ink and possessed phoenix eyes that twinkled with his every glance, while the other wore clothes the color of snow and was like a blossoming peach blossom. They each commanded earth-shaking beauty, so the scene where they stood together as a pair was practically too beautiful for one to look at.

Strange, back when she was still a baby girl, she felt that everyone looked pretty much the same.

Epecially those batches of youths serving the crown prince—she simply couldn’t distinguish one from the other!

In her tiny worldview! Men, actually all looked pretty much the same.

So in her eyes, Duan Yue, this guy, was particularly weird and hilarious.

A man that narcissistically praised his own looks in front of her all day long, even mistakenly believing that she only showed him mercy because of his looks...

Ha ha! Was that possible?

However, since she was now grown up, it seemed like her standards of aesthetic appreciation had also slowly returned to normal.

Just now, she actually felt for some reason that those two peerlessly wicked devils were simply so beautiful that they incurred the wrath of Heaven and the anger of men. That scene was so picturesque that it could totally be preserved for eternity.

Mhm, it seemed like her face blindness could be cured.

After she reached out to caress her wooden little face, a strange thought popped into her head. *Hm, then could her stoic face be cured...*

Qiao Mu straddled the war hawk's back while still in a perplexed mood.

The seven war hawks took flight, spreading their wings as they soared into the sky. In the blink of an eye, they had become seven small dots that gradually disappeared from Mo Lian and Duan Yue's sight.

Qiao Mu activated her defensive barrier first thing, isolating herself in an environment unaffected by the strong wind outside.

In her boredom, she fished out a bag of preserved fruit and tossed one into her mouth.

Seventh Miss Duan, who was flying alongside her, couldn't help but pucker her small mouth when she saw this. A shadow flitted across her small, round, and rosy face. "Hey, you're still in the mood to eat?"

Qiao Mu turned to glance at Seventh Miss Duan.

Duan Yue seemed to loathe the bunch of siblings in his family very much. Other than his grandfather, it looked like Duan Yue treated everyone else lukewarmly.

Just earlier, Duan Yue had clearly seen Seventh Duan, yet he ignored her, passing on by without even sparing her a single glance.

That's why Qiao Mu felt that she didn't need to pay attention to this Miss Duan.

Seeing that Qiao Mu wasn't responding, Duan Siren couldn't resist asking after a while, "Crown Prince Consort, you... you have a very good relationship with Fourth Brother, right."

Qiao Mu turned her head to glance at her. "Didn't you see already?"

This fellow, asking a question while already knowing the answer. She was just trying to make pointless conversation! Didn't she know that it was very tiring to speak?

Previously, she had no choice but to say that much when dealing with those orioles and swallows, but after she returned home, she was so tired that she just plopped on the bed and fell asleep.

Duan Siren hung her small head and bit her lips before asking, "Then, then can you help us persuade him?"

Chapter 1024: Protective Qiaoqiao

"There are some things that you probably know already." Duan Siren sighed lightly and said, "His mother is my youngest aunt, a normal person without mystic energy."

"Ever since Youngest Aunt and someone..." said Duan Siren vaguely, "gave birth to Fourth Brother, he and his mother were held in contempt by our clansmen."

"Fortunately, Grandpa had always doted on them dearly. With Grandpa's protection, Youngest Aunt and Fourth Brother got by not too badly."

“Ever since Fourth Brother’s talent was discovered, Grandpa became even more fond of him. A rumor even started circulating in the clan that Grandpa intended for Fourth Brother to inherit the position of the next patriarch.”

At this, Qiao Mu swept an icy gaze at her before lightly asking, “So some of you couldn’t restrain yourselves and made a move?”

“Correct! Because of Grandpa’s attitude, some clansmen targeted him and his mother.” Duan Siren recounted quietly, “Several years ago when Grandpa went into closed-door cultivation, some of the people in the clan took advantage of the fact that he wasn’t home to injure Aunt, even deriding and humiliating her. That’s why in a fit of anger, he renounced the Duan Clan’s surname^[1] and brought Aunt away from the clan to settle down somewhere else.”

“Right now, Grandpa brought him and his mother back again, but the gaze with which he looks at my clan brothers every time is very scary. Besides, he treats me...” *like a stranger and turns a blind eye to me.*

Yet Qiao Mu merely gave a harrumph before continuing to toss a preserved fruit into her mouth. “The reason you told me this is for me to persuade him to reconcile with you all?”

“At that time, some clansmen were young and aggressive, and they didn’t know how to control their temper, so...”

“Are you joking. If someone humiliated, derided, and beat up my mother, I would have long turned him into ashes. Right now, Duan Yue is only letting you people live in consideration of Old Patriarch Duan. You’re not deeply grateful and instead dare to grumble about it?” Qiao Mu berated irritably, “Shameless!”

After saying her piece, she was unwilling to waste her breath on Duan Siren anymore. She directly patted the war hawk’s head to urge it forward, immediately leaving Duan Siren far behind her.

After gawking at the young girl that cast her away upon not liking what she heard, Seventh Miss Duan squeezed her fingers aggrievedly.

“Dummy,” Qiao Mu, however, was mumbling to herself.

He was always grinning cheekily and looked like a carefree idiot. He never said anything, so she simply didn’t know about this matter at all.

If he had said that that Duan Youbing was his foe, then she would have dealt with him in the competition. *How would she have given him a chance to be carried home?*

Sixth Zheng and the rest did not know what had happened between the two girls.

They only saw Qiao Mu flying far away from Duan Siren all of a sudden. With a pat on the war hawk’s head, she made it speed up with a flap of its wings and rush to the front at once.

Dou Fengchi suppressed the anger in her eyes.

She steered her war hawk next to Seventh Duan and pretended to ask inadvertently, “What’s wrong, Seventh Duan. You quarreled with the crown prince consort?”

"It's nothing." Seventh Duan shook her head. She didn't want to talk, so she gave a gentle cry to urge her war hawk forward.

They flew like this for nearly two days, only stopping occasionally to eat and relieve themselves.

The war hawks' strength was nearly spent.

Hence, their riders discussed landing and going by foot. After all, they were not far from the adventurer base in the Mystic Beast Forest's periphery.

After all, it would only take them five minutes to walk from here.

Yet just as they prepared to land, another hawk squad appeared on the horizon.

Chapter 1025: Provocation

Without explanation, the leading hawk charged violently towards the hawk Sixth Zheng was riding.

Little Sixth Zheng responded unhurriedly, controlling his defensive shield in one hand while drawing out his sword with the other, and he attacked in mid-air without any room for objection.

Are you joking, someone was directly charging at him?

Was it possible for him to be a pushover!

Soon afterwards, a storming mystic energy swept over, triggering clanging sounds in mid-air.

While sitting firmly on the hawk's back, the newcomer scoffed at Little Sixth Zheng.

With a wave of his hand, the four to five hawks behind him cried out and pounced toward Little Sixth Zheng like a thunderbolt, intending to tear him apart.

Where did this idiot come from, to provoke them without a word?

Qiao Mu was enraged, and she directly stood up from her hawk's back, berating, "Are you all stupid? You're just standing there even when they're bullying us? Are you waiting for them to finish off your teammates so that it'll be your turn next?"

Qin Susu was the first to react, and she urged her hawk to fly towards Little Sixth Zheng. She then drew her sword and struck out an arc of mystic light. "Crown Prince Consort, it's those fellows from the Eastern Ying Kingdom."

Eastern Ying Kingdom? How was it possible for Qiao Mu to know them!

Without saying anything further, she pummeled her fist behind her, directly clobbering an approaching hawk several meters away.

If the Eastern Ying Kingdom person hadn't wrapped his arms tightly around the hawk's neck, he would have probably long fallen off and died violently on the spot by now.

His face had turned pale, and he was so furious that he squabbled wildly, "You d*mned Northern Mo people, you have huge guts! To dare to so brazenly provoke us in our eastern region!"

Other than Dou Fengchi, the six people all attacked with one accord and confronted the people from the Eastern Ying Kingdom.

The six people and their six war hawks were thus hovering in a line.

On the other hand, the other party had two people in the lead, with five to six attendants behind them.

One of the two people in the lead was a short, taciturn man with ordinary looks.

Meanwhile, the other person was the one who was jumping about and raising a tremendous hullabaloo, and he was wantonly cursing Northern Mo at the moment.

Qiao Mu had originally thought that the taciturn man was already considered short, but she didn't expect for the other idiot to be even shorter. His height was about the same as an eleven to twelve-year-old child. Even if he was standing high up above on the hawk's back, he was still a midget!

"Shut up." Qiao Mu was annoyed by his racket, and she tossed out a row of concealed weapons with a wave of her hand.

When the five to six attendants heard the sound of the concealed weapons streaking through the air, they were automatically alarmed, and they hastily bolted forward to shield their master.

One of the attendants was directly struck by the concealed weapons, and he fell off his hawk's back on the spot. Even if he didn't die after falling down from such a high altitude, he would only be half-alive.

"Ah! You d*mned woman!" The midget roared as he stood on his hawk's back, gesticulating with seemingly weird dance moves.

At this time, the midget's subordinate reported to him in a suppressed voice, and the midget's gaze instantly shone as he looked at Qiao Mu, his pale yellow eyes harboring a hint of indescribable excitement.

"You are the crown prince consort of Northern Mo?"

"What does it matter to you who I am." Qiao Mu jabbed at him without holding back. "You are qualified to ask?"

"You!!" The midget turned livid with rage, and he stood with crossed arms on his hawk's back as he ordered with a high and mighty attitude, "Considering that you are still young, I won't argue with you! Immediately come to my side! At once!"

"Crown Prince Consort of Northern Mo, I am the Eldest Crown Prince of Eastern Ying Kingdom. Right now, I permit you to enter my palace and become my woman. I will not shun you, but you must demonstrate your fidelity to me!"

This person probably wasn't an idiot, right?

Chapter 1026: Suffering from Illness?

Even Dou Fengchi glared in disbelief at that Eastern Ying Kingdom midget who was rambling on to himself.

“Pfft!” Qin Susu bluntly gave a snigger before escalating into a belly laugh.

You’re certain he didn’t come to provoke laughter?

The Eastern Ying Kingdom’s Eldest Crown Prince was such an idiot? No wonder the Eastern Ying Kingdom had been forced by Northern Mo to a small island along the coast. They had retracted into their turtle’s shell and not dared to stir for so many years already.

“What are you laughing at!” Seemingly perceiving Qin Susu’s ridicule, the Eastern Ying Kingdom’s Eldest Crown Prince, that flat-nosed midget whose looks really didn’t meet the mark, glowered at Qin Susu.

“Don’t refuse a toast only to drink a forfeit! I’m telling you people! Even if I can’t dispose of you all right now, wait until we enter the secret realm, ha ha! Humph!”

“Kill him,” Qiao Mu ordered in irritation.

Where did this blockhead come from? She was unwilling to even waste her breath on him.

Several dark figures abruptly appeared in mid-air, and without a word, Lightning and the other hidden guards promptly grabbed towards the midget’s neck.

“Ah!” The midget screamed. It seemed like he hadn’t processed the fact that there would actually be so many hidden guards beside the crown prince consort.

He shrieked furiously, “You’re breaking the rules! How can you bring so many people? Your Northern Mo Kingdom at most has six quotas for entering the secret realm!”

Everyone stared at him as if looking at a fool.

You moron, why did you have such a different view of the world? Were we inside the secret realm right now? We haven’t even entered the Mystic Beast Forest at the moment! Didn’t you also bring a group of attendants with you, so why couldn’t the crown prince consort of the Northern Mo Kingdom bring people?

Even Dou Fengchi couldn’t resist bursting out in laughter. “Oh my! Could it be that everyone in the Eastern Ying Kingdom only possesses this amount of intelligence? Then don’t enter the secret realm to lose face! Because it’s useless even if you enter! With this intelligence of a three-and-a-half year old, you’re courting death by going inside.”

“Stop!” The other Eastern Ying Kingdom leader who had stayed taciturn spoke out at this moment.

“Third Brother, Third Brother, save me, wah, Third Brother!” The Eldest Crown Prince had pissed his pants in terror before bolting towards that person with a slap on the flying hawk’s butt.

The taciturn Third Crown Prince Ying Fa knitted his brow coldly. He directly evaded the person who was pouncing at him, and he steered his black hawk towards Qiao Mu and the others.

After cupping his fists, he spoke quite politely, “Ever since the Eldest Crown Prince suffered from excessive fright several years ago, he would intermittently suffer from mental confusion, so will everyone please excuse him.”

“Pfft—”

Qin Susu and the others truly couldn't hold it in anymore, and they burst out in laughter again.

"It looks like his brain really isn't working well!" Little Sixth Zheng shook his head in all seriousness before turning to ask Qiao Mu, "Miss Qiao, since the other party has a mental problem, then we won't fuss with him. How is that?"

Qiao Mu nodded indifferently, yet she spat out an icy order. "Slap his mouth!"

Slap! Lightning, who was closest to the Eldest Crown Prince, cut to the chase and gave him a big slap across the face.

"Ah!!" Being caught off guard, the Eldest Crown Prince staggered from his footing on the hawk and plummeted downwards.

Third Crown Prince Ying Fa hastily turned his hawk around and rushed to catch the Eldest Crown Prince. Yet just as he turned this head, intending to question Qiao Mu sternly, he saw a black flittering light shooting straight for the person in his hands.

Third Crown Prince Ying Fa was promptly freaked out into a body of cold sweat, and he hastily wanted to throw the Eldest Crown Prince behind him.

Yet no sooner said than done—

Qiao Mu's figure flitted across the sky like a phantom, appearing beside the two crown princes of the Eastern Ying Kingdom in the blink of an eye.

Chapter 1027: Rip-Off

After fortification with a diamond talisman, her hands were as solid as steel, and they directly snapped the two black hawks' heads with a crack.

"Eldest Crown Prince, Third Crown Prince!!!"

Following this, the two crown princes of the Eastern Ying Kingdom also plummeted towards the ground along with their hawks.

Qiao Mu then patted her small, fair hands as she swept a frigid glance at the plummeting Eastern Ying Kingdom people.

"You have to pay for your loose tongue."

Little Sixth Zheng twitched his mouth silently.

That's right. With the crown prince consort's vengeful temper, that Eldest Crown Prince of the Eastern Ying Kingdom naturally had to lose at least half of his life for obscenely taking liberties with her.

"Reportedly, the Eastern Ying Kingdom previously had a Second Crown Prince. Because his mother was the queen, he had the strongest backing, but he was secretly poisoned to death in a struggle a year ago."

Qiao Mu merely pursed her lips noncommittally.

She simply wasn't interested in knowing this.

After steering the war hawk into descent, Qiao Mu examined the surroundings. Seeing that that group of people from the Eastern Ying Kingdom weren't there to disgust her, her mood turned a bit better.

"Let's go." Little Sixth Zheng and the rest had also landed beside her.

After the war hawks rested here for a bit, they would naturally fly back to Northern Mo by themselves as per their training. Hence, they didn't need to worry about this.

At present, this place where they were located at was one of the two adventurer bases in a 2500-kilometer radius of the Mystic Beast Forest.

The other adventurer base was located several thousand kilometers away on the other end of the Mystic Beast Forest, near the western region. There was definitely no way of getting there at present.

When Qiao Mu and her party walked up to the adventurer base, they could see from afar a file of people patrolling back and forth before the gate.

There were also four to five base guards keeping watch inside the battle towers on the two sides.

Qiao Mu and the rest were courteously stopped at the gate.

"Guests from afar, to enter our adventurer base, you must first check in and pay a certain fee."

Qiao Mu and the rest nodded in understanding.

After all, it was only natural to abide by the local customs. There was nothing to say about it, so they sent out a person to register and pay the fees.

As Fan Qiuming possessed the air of a scholar, everyone sent him to check in and negotiate.

Before long, Fan Qiuming ran over with an awkward expression. He rubbed his hands and informed, "To check in, every person needs to pay one dou of grain."

"One dou??"

*F*ck, what kind of lousy adventurer base was this? They were demanding too exorbitant of a price!*

One dou of grain was a full 10 liters. It was sufficient to feed a normal family for a month, okay?

They had to pay so much when they were just entering this adventurer base to rest for at most two nights! This adventurer base was so greedy, simply devouring a man without spitting out the bones!

"Little Sixth, I'll pay for you!" After saying this, Qiao Mu followed that smiling base guide.

"What kind of good treatment is there?"

"If this miss can pay three dou of grain, you can stay in a luxurious court for free, for three days."

"Okay."

"Hey, Miss, over here! You check in here." Feeling that Qiao Mu had led him astray, the base guide gestured to her with a chuckle.

Yet the next second, a small fist resiliently bashed his chubby face.

This old bloke thought she was a blockhead in money matters? Did she look that easy to fleece?

After a bit of light exercise, the base guide sullenly bore his pain and completed the procedures for a free stay for this little devil.

While holding the tablet to the court, Qiao Mu paced quickly to Little Sixth Zheng. "Little Sixth, let's go!"

"How about us?"

"Pay yourselves!" Qiao Mu called Little Sixth along and left without turning her head.

Chapter 1028: At Daggers Drawn

Of the present leaders of all the kingdoms, the old king of the Eastern Ying Kingdom was definitely a weirdo. Even if you were to casually pick out an unreliable king from the other kingdoms, none of them were like him.

The king of the Eastern Ying Kingdom fathered around a dozen sons, and he left them alone in their scramble for the position of crown prince. One would be poisoned to death today, while the other would be assassinated tomorrow. Yet he thought nothing of the chaos!

The old king of the Eastern Ying Kingdom was still as composed as always, watching as his sons vied in this conflict that surged like a gathering storm.

This struggle for the position of crown prince lasted for a full seven to eight years. During this time, the old king of the Eastern Ying Kingdom had been attacked on multiple fronts by Northern Mo, Northern Wei, and Southern Baili. In the end, they split up and gobbled up Eastern Ying Kingdom's territory, forcing them to settle on an island.

Yet this wasn't the end of it!

His sons simply had no thoughts of going out to open up new borders nor recovering their lost territory. Instead, they continued to set their gazes on that shrinking cake inside their kingdom, fighting bloodily for the position of heir apparent.

In the end, however, this oddball old king once again astonished people with a bizarre feat.

He numbered his sons that had survived the internal struggle according to age before conferring them all as crown princes...

In reality, there was no difference in conferring all of them as crown princes.

But the crown princes of the Eastern Ying Kingdom were excited, since each person felt that they were only a half-step away from that throne.

Even if they were residing on an island the size of a sesame seed, they were freaking still a future king!

After the Second Crown Prince died last year, there were only seven crown princes of the Eastern Ying Kingdom left.

Even though the Eldest Crown Prince Ying Jian wasn't intelligent, it couldn't be helped that he had a powerful wife helping contend for him. In addition to his own strength as a level-nine mystic cultivator, he was indeed not all that weak. Hence, he was one of the longer-living crown princes.

The Third Crown Prince Ying Fa was taciturn, and he only possessed level-seven cultivation. His mother also wasn't of high status, so he didn't have a maternal clan supporting him. Hence, he had always been giving counsel to the Eldest Crown Prince as his shadow.

After plummeting from high up in the air, these two people were finally saved after their royal guards fought desperately to cushion them.

After sacrificing two royal guards, the two unlucky devils, who were bruised black and blue, rushed to the adventurer base in their tussled state.

By coincidence, Qiao Mu and Sixth Zheng had already gone in, while the rest were still negotiating with the adventurer base's junior manager whether they could reduce the amount of grain and so forth.

Therefore, when the two sides met, they were instantly like two cocks meeting in a fight, at daggers drawn.

Seeing that they were about to fight in front of the adventurer base again, the junior base manager gave an angry holler, quickly appointing the guards to separate the two parties.

"Who dares to fight in front of the adventurer base? No matter who! If you violate the adventurer base's rules, we'll immediately send you away."

Are you joking? You think this was one of the large fortifications in the cities?

That there were tens of thousands of soldiers to defend the city, city gate towers that reached a thousand feet, and sufficient defensive items to fend off all attacks!

Their small, poor adventurer base didn't have anything!

The tower in front of the gate, and the defensive walls and trenches in the perimeter, had all been slowly dug and constructed with just manpower during these few years.

Their commander spent who knows how much effort to increase this small base's defense!

So if they made a large commotion, on the one hand, it would attract the wandering zombies nearby, while on the other hand... it was very possible that it might trigger a terrifying beast tide.

That was no joke!

This small base had already been assaulted by a beast tide ten years ago.

Chapter 1029: Bullies the Weak But Fears the Strong...

Ten years ago was also the previous time that the Mystic Beast Forest secret realm had opened.

At that time, there were two death-seeking teams that started fighting at the base's front gate. The huge commotion ended up triggering the entire Mystic Beast Forest's periphery, and all the beasts got agitated!

In the end, the tiny adventurer base was basically trampled to the ground, and there were countless innocent casualties.

Many of the young people from the various countries who had come to participate in the competition had also perished in this beast tide.

The reconstruction of the base consumed a large amount of time and money, and no one could bear such a loss.

“Everyone must have come for the Mystic Beast Forest secret realm. In that case, why don’t you settle any conflicts after getting to the secret realm! At that time, we won’t be able to interfere.” That junior base manager nodded in understanding.

“Since you are at our small base now, then follow our rules! If you all insist on fighting inside our base, then sorry! According to the rules our commander set forth, I must request that you leave.”

“Humph.” The Eldest Crown Prince harrumphed angrily before taking out a large bag of grain from his attendant’s inner world and throwing it to the junior base manager. “Arrange a more spacious lodging for us.”

If you had grain, you were the boss!

The junior base manager’s eyes instantly lit up, and he obsequiously nodded repeatedly in assent. He then specially ordered for someone to lead Ying Jian and his party to their quarters.

Afterwards, he redirected his gaze to Fan Qiuming and the others, and the look he gave them made them turn red.

The detestable junior manager evidently seemed as if he was looking at several paupers that couldn’t afford to pay the fee...

Speaking frankly, it wasn’t that they couldn’t afford this grain, but it was just that they felt ripped off!

They were only resting in this small base for one or two days, yet they had to pay an amount of grain that was enough to feed a family for a month!

They simply found it difficult to accept!

After twitching her mouth, Qin Susu took out the amount she needed to pay and threw it at the junior manager. “Alright, just pay it. Let the manager arrange for us to stay in the same place.”

After hurrying here on a long journey, in any case, they should first get a good night’s sleep and adjust their conditions before energetically entering the forest!

After receiving the payment, the base manager immediately wore an amiable expression and instructed someone to lead them to where Qiao Mu and Sixth Zheng were.

Duan Siren paused, fixating on the manager’s slightly swelling upper eyelid as she asked, “Earlier, one of the young ladies in our party brought you over to the side. She also paid the fee?”

However, the manager's face shifted slightly before nodding hurriedly as he snapped impatiently, "What are you asking so much for. Of course you have to pay up in order to enter! Alright, hurry up and go inside."

Yet only he himself knew that his heart was currently bleeding tears of blood that could flow into a river!

Not to mention how that young lady savagely beat him up, she even stuffed a poison pill into his mouth at the end.

If it weren't for the fact that this poison pill put him completely under her control, he would have long called over the base guards to capture that savage young lady.

Duan Siren knitted her brows as she entered the base with the others, and it was only after a while that she declared, "I think that the crown prince consort definitely didn't pay the fee!"

"I also think so too." Everyone nodded in agreement.

"Look at that fatso, he bullies the weak but fears the strong. The crown prince consort must have been the one who made his eyelid swell!"

Dou Fengchi also couldn't help but be indignant. "We're all part of the same team. Since she dealt with the d*mn fatso from the base and successfully got her and Little Sixth Zheng's fees exempted, why couldn't she also have exempted our fees together as well?"

Chapter 1030: Do You Like Her?

After giving a snigger, Qin Susu looked back to sweep Dou Fengchi a glance. She curved her thin lips into a sneer as she mocked, "Miss Dou really is quite amusing!"

"Don't say such high-sounding words as 'the same team!' Among the people who can enter the secret realm now, who isn't going with the intent to search for benefits? Could it be that once we enter the secret realm, you would still humbly concede whatever good stuff you see to the crown prince consort?" After speaking her piece, she walked forward without turning her head and declared coldly, "I advise that you put yourselves in order and don't look for trouble. As our team is just a temporary one, we can part ways anytime and anywhere for personal interests."

Teammates, ha! What was the use of making it sound so highfalutin? Don't you have the slightest clue as to the reason why this team was formed?

Were you a bunch of idiotic fools? It's not like you didn't witness the crown prince consort's methods before. Didn't you all see on the day of the competition?

Even with this, you still dare to talk big and provoke her? Truly a bunch of things that didn't want their lives.

Dou Fengchi was so furious that she actually let out a laugh instead, and she stomped her foot while glaring at Qin Susu's leaving figure. "This woman from the Qin Estate has quite the temper. Do you know her background? I had never seen her before, yet she just popped out all of a sudden as the godsister of the two young sirs from the Qin Estate. Isn't that hilarious!"

Duan Siren didn't say anything else, but the eyes on her small, round face contained a hint of melancholy.

"Alright! Don't say anything more!" Hong Bawei gruffly cut off Dou Fengchi's words. "Not going to rest?"

The group thus frustratedly hurried toward the quarters that the manager had arranged.

That manager was also a clever person. From the fact that this team had separated into two groups when entering the base, he was particularly willing for them to get involved in a fight amongst themselves! Hence, he simply arranged them all inside an independent courtyard so that they could fight all they wanted!

When Dou Fengchi and them arrived, Qiao Mu and Little Sixth Zheng were just about to go out. They both swept them an indifferent glance before giving a nod and heading out.

"Hey, how to allocate the rooms?" Dou Fengchi couldn't resist shouting.

From the situation, Little Sixth Zheng and Qiao Mu, who had arrived first, had each fr*cking selected one room each, and they even locked their own rooms upon going out.

"We all paid the fees. One dou of grain! And yet they have us live in this lousy place! One courtyard only has four rooms?? How do you expect us to stay here!!"

"Alright, stop wasting your breath!" Qin Susu irritably arranged, "You, me, and Seventh Duan in one room. The Fan Clan's lad and the Hong Clan's lad in the other. Just put up with it for one or two nights. It's quite good already that we have rooms to stay in right now. When we enter the forest we'll be exposed to the elements all day, and who knows if we can get a good night's rest!"

"Why do we have to squeeze inside one room? While she gets a room to herself?" Dou Fengchi started to bicker, "Qin Susu, right. Do you have a pit in your brain? Or is it that you like Miss Qiao? I see that you've been doing your best to speak well of her the entire time!"

At this time, Qin Susu was dressed up neatly in black men's clothes. She had tied her hair up, revealing her fine, delicate, and full forehead.

She looked quite spirited, and also a bit androgynous.

Upon hearing this, she involuntarily twitched her mouth. She merely didn't want to provoke that thorny crown prince consort and hoped to stir up less trouble, yet she didn't expect her actions to be misinterpreted as a problem of her sexual orientation.

"By entering Mystic Beast Forest, we are interacting as teammates! There isn't any superiority and inferiority between the crown prince consort and commoners!" Dou Fengchi squabbled.

"Qin Susu, you and me in one room." Qiao Mu directly tossed the key to Qin Susu before turning around and leaving with Sixth Zheng.