

My Crown 631

Chapter 631: Failure?

Hm? There was no reaction even after a long while. There was nothing in front of them!

Don't mention a ferocious beast, not even a tiny bird was to be seen flying overhead...

Inside the garden, the wintersweet was still in full bloom and the pines and cypresses were evergreen, but because it was too cold, all the creatures had holed themselves up inside their small burrows.

Wahhh! Failed again!

Qiao Mu hurled that ebony talisman into the snow, but she still wasn't appeased and stomped on it twice before running into the crown prince's arms in a huff.

"Ey, Miss, the runes on this talisman have lost their color!" Shaoyao ran up to pick up the ebony talisman in the snow, waving it in her hand.

When Miss took out the talisman at the beginning, the ebony had clearly been engraved with mystifying blue runes, yet the blue rune imprints had now disappeared from it, only leaving behind several faint grayish-brown rune grooves.

"That's right! That means the talisman was successfully activated!" *But nothing was summoned, just like before!* She simply couldn't summon anything!

Qiao Mu was awfully ticked off, and her small hand randomly clutched at the crown prince's long hair that fell before her eyes. She puffed out her cheeks moodily and griped, "Leaving, leaving now."

The crown prince couldn't help but laugh, and he grasped her small hand while turning around to walk back towards the bedchamber. "Qiaoqiao, don't be anxious. Not being able to summon anything now doesn't mean that you won't be able to summon anything in the future. You're still young, and the fact that you summoned out Qingluan as an intermediate-level talisman practitioner doesn't particularly accord with the laws after all, right."

Qiao Mu merely pursed her lips noncommittally.

"Caw!" The weak chicken put in its two cents as it ruffled its feathers, smugly thrusting out its chest with its head held up high.

"Forget it, you can't be too demanding when it comes to these things." The little fellow listlessly dropped her head.

"Qiaoqiao, I've returned that batch of medical books from last time. I also brought you back several books that are each its only extant copy. Do you want to go back and take a look?"

"Okay!" Qiao Mu's footsteps halted slightly before she raised her head at him and asked, "The old royal physician is willing to lend such precious medical books like only extant copies to you?"

Of course he wasn't willing! But what was the point of refusing? Hmph!

“Cough.” The crown prince put his fist to his mouth and coughed lightly, and Huifeng immediately said, “Crown Prince Consort, please rest assured. His Highness the Crown Prince didn’t seize nor steal them but talked it over with the old royal physician to take a look. Furthermore, Your Highness is also quick at reading, so we’ll be able to return them soon. The old royal physicians are all extremely reassured and even fought to send them over to Your Highness.” *As if!*

“That’s good then.” Qiao Mu nodded. “Your father has an incredible number of consorts in the three palaces and six courts, and the bunch of grandpas have to do routine checkups on the consorts in each palace and court even at their advanced age. It’s quite hard on them, so don’t bully them for no reason!”

The crown prince gave a grunt and lightly coughed twice with a serious expression. It was impossible to perceive that the heart of a small fiend was hiding underneath his gentle and warm exterior...

Alas, Royal Physician Cao cried today...

He couldn’t let his darling know that he bullied the royal physicians. Mhm, he’d send a gift to Royal Physician Cao tomorrow to console him.

Not long after the group of people left, the snowy ground that Qiao Mu was originally standing on suddenly shifted, and a small snow mound popped up.

Darling Qiao passed this day extremely leisurely. She read for half the day, but she would also occasionally be entranced by the serious expression the crown prince wore while evaluating memorials.

After dinner, the crown prince silently took the cloak that the royal maid handed over and pitifully glanced at Qiao Mu. After saying, “I’m going now, Qiaoqiao,” he shuffled at a turtle pace outside into the cold winds and snowy ground, his back silhouette lonesome and pitiful.

After glancing outside at the snowstorm that didn’t show any signs of weakening, Qiao Mu suddenly said, “H-How about, staying here to sleep?”

Chapter 632: Staying for the Night

“Clang!” The sound of Huifeng crashing into the doorframe rang out.

Immediately afterwards, the crown prince stretched out a long leg and directly kicked him out the door. Huifeng rolled into the snow and no more sound came from him...

While his back faced our dear Qiao Mu, Crown Prince the Great’s eyes had promptly lit up, as bright as twinkling stars and sparkling in splendor.

After collecting himself and fixing his facial expression, the crown prince turned his head around towards his Qiaoqiao, his moist phoenix eyes faintly rippling. “Qiaoqiao, really?”

“The snow is falling too heavily outside. It won’t be easy for you to walk over.” Qiao Mu wore a stern expression as she walked over to the crown prince, holding his hand. “You sleep on your own bed. I’ll sleep on the soft couch.”

“No, no need. You sleep on the bed, I’ll sleep on the soft couch!” Mo Lian hugged the little fellow and nuzzled his head against the side of her neck, revealing a pearly white grin that stretched from ear to ear.

After the two people each washed up, they clung to each other again and whispered sweet nothings for a while.

Suddenly, Qiao Mu thought of something and asked, “I heard that that infamous thief Ding Tingding had stolen something from Consort Zheng. Do you know what it was?”

The crown prince coughed in slight discomfiture. “I-I don’t know.”

“You definitely know.” Seeing him like this, Qiao Mu knew that he was trying to hide it from her, so she immediately stabbed his waist with her finger. “Quickly tell me! You told me before that you’ll tell me everything you know without reservation and won’t cover up the truth.”

What kind of truth was this considered! The crown prince cried out bitterly on the inside. He simply wasn’t willing to mention Courtesan Zheng’s trivial matter.

“What was it!” After observing the crown prince’s expression, the more tight-lipped he was about it, the more Darling Qiao was curious, and her tone of voice inevitably turned a bit wheedling.

Mo Lian’s heart was nearly melting from this little fellow’s cuteness, but his expression was slightly awkward as he hugged the little one and breathed into her ear, “Ding Tingding previously stole Courtesan Zheng’s...”

His voice was suppressed, yet Darling Qiao shouted with bulging eyes, “What? He actually stole Courtesan Zheng’s belly...”

The crown prince hastily covered up her blindly shouting mouth, stifling the “band”[1] that this little demon was about to say at the edge of her mouth.

The two exchanged glances before automatically chuckling in amusement.

“Ding Tingding is too mischievous. No wonder Courtesan Zheng has an indissoluble enmity towards him, immediately sending people to the Second Prince’s Estate to capture him after receiving his news.”

“You don’t know.” Speaking of this all-pervasive Ding Tingding, the crown prince also fumed slightly. “This stinky worm likes to first leave his target a message before stealing.”

Qiao Mu’s bubble-like eyes opened wide from this unheard-of modus operandi. “What? He even previously left Courtesan Zheng a message that he was going to steal her belly...”

“Band?” Qiao Mu whispered quietly into the crown prince’s ear.

Mo Lian resisted laughing while shaking his head. “It wasn’t that explicit. In any case, it said that he was going to steal Courtesan Zheng’s most personal item.”

“It’s no use either to guard strictly in a tight lockdown, as well. For that period of time, Royal Father had issued an order, stationing the royal guard all around Sophora Flower Palace. Even when surrounded into an iron bucket like this, that person was still able to go in and out as he pleased. I suspect that he

either uses some kind of special talisman, or that he is a master of disguise.” The crown prince said with a smile, “From then on, Courtesan Zheng hated this person desperately.”

“He is actually quite interesting.” Qiao Mu also shared her viewpoint with a nod.

However, this promptly made Crown Prince Mo vigilant, and he cupped up her small face, gazing straight at his darling. “I’m telling you, this person is very ugly! He’s ferocious-looking and isn’t like a good person. You can’t come into contact with him, understand? Be obedient, okay.”

Our dear Qiao Mu simply rolled her eyes at him. “What kind of contact would I have with him? It’s not like I know him.”

[1] Dudou, also the Chinese bellyband, is an undergarment covering the chest and abdomen that women wore in ancient times, equivalent to the modern bra. Little naked boy infants, too, are often seen wearing a red dudou in cultural references as signs of fortune and prosperity.

Chapter 633: The Crown Prince Consort Pounced Over Herself?

“Right, my Qiaoqiao is the most obedient.” The crown prince was very happy, and he joyously nuzzled his face against her soft one. “Go sleep now and wake up earlier tomorrow to cultivate. You’ve been slothful for a good few days already, right.”

Qiao Mu puffed out her small cheeks. She had been at a bottleneck for a period of time anyways, so cultivating or not wouldn’t make much of a difference.

The crown prince kneaded her small face in amusement before setting her down on the large bed and pulling up the covers for her. He bent over and said softly, “Alright, go to sleep now.”

Qiao Mu shut her eyes, but she also couldn’t resist secretly propping open an eyelid to peep at him.

She had originally thought that she probably wouldn’t be able to fall asleep with an extra person in the room, but who knew she would be so carefree that she soon drifted off to sleep.

Qiao Mu was fast asleep up until midnight; however, her small hand suddenly felt slightly itchy, as if something was rubbing against her arm.

“Don’t fuss.” Qiao Mu waved her hand, yet she could still intermittently feel that squishy and chilly rubbing sensation.

After even her neck started itching slightly, Qiao Mu finally propped open her eyelids with difficulty. Squinting her eyes, she at first only saw a slightly swaying projection. Yet when she finally saw the figure clearly, she only felt her body temperature plummeting, and clusters of tiny goosebumps instantly surfaced on her arms!

Holy mama, no matter who they were, after groggily opening their eyes to a snake as thick as a finger beside their pillow, their souls would definitely be disgusted into leaving their bodies, right!

Even if this bluish-white and slender snake looked extremely pretty, with its small rotund head wearing a small, pure gold five-starred crown askew. And even if its pair of round and watery amber eyes were cutely expressing its desire to curry favor.

But this already spooked Darling Qiao half to death. Shrieking on the spot, she jumped up and pounced at the crown prince's soft couch without thinking. She fluidly crashed into his embrace and hooked onto his neck, wishing for nothing more than to burrow into his body and hide herself completely.

On the other hand, the pitiful Crown Prince Mo was momentarily caught off guard.

When he heard Qiaoqiao's scream and was just about to sit up, the little fellow had already pounced over in a violent collision.

Precisely because he was caught off guard, the little one toppled him over. The two people's centers of gravity were off balance, and they rolled onto the thick high-pile woolen rug. In the end, they were piled on top of each other in a weird position...

No sooner said than done, a huge bang was heard, and Shaoyao was the first to barge into the bedchamber to protect Their Highnesses. She shouted, "Miss, don't be scared, Shaoyao has come!"

A throng of junior royal maids and junior eunuchs quickly followed inside behind her with a rustle, wielding clubs and trowels while checking the surroundings vigilantly.

Thereupon, they saw their crown prince and crown prince consort's unique poses.

The two people's upper bodies were on the floor, yet their legs were still on the soft couch...

His Highness the Crown Prince's arms were circled around the crown prince consort while being pressed underneath. His expression couldn't be discerned, but most likely, the crown prince's mood wasn't too pleasant with the throng of people running in. His handsome face had probably darkened entirely by now!

Shaoyao twitched her mouth, but she still threw caution to the wind and quickly ran up to help Qiao Mu up.

After all, she was someone who loyally protected her master. She definitely couldn't allow His Highness the Crown Prince to bully her little master.

Qiao Mu was helped up while still at a loss, even stepping on the crown prince in the process. Shaoyao facepalmed, not even daring to look at Crown Prince the Great's complexion.

"Are you okay, Miss!" Shaoyao inquired in concern. "Don't be afraid, His Highness was only a bit eager and doesn't have ill intentions! Forgive him, alright!"

After standing up in bewilderment, the crown prince looked around at the crowd of junior royal maids and junior eunuchs and discovered that they had similar thoughts as Shaoyao. They all seemed to be peeking furtively at him with queer expressions.

Chapter 634: Summoned Beast!

"Your Highness, the crown prince consort is still young, so don't bully her," Shaoyao reminded in a low voice.

The way you're saying it sounds like... he was that impatient to get on with it! Crown Prince Mo felt like it would be impossible to explain himself.

Could it be that you're all blind? Couldn't you see that your crown prince consort was the one that pounced over here by herself and pushed me down?

"Alright, alright, all of you leave now." The crown prince snatched the little fellow's hand from Shaoyao and chased everyone out.

Didn't you see how his darling's eyes were currently hazy? She obviously still wanted to sleep, yet these bunch of tactless people were still lingering about when the sky was already about to brighten in a while!

"Qiaoqiao, you had a nightmare?" The crown prince held her small hand and carried her as he walked towards the bed. "Sleep for a bit more. Everything's fine, it's only a dream."

"Snake, there's a snake." Qiao Mu hooked tightly onto his neck, not letting go, and she refused to sleep on the bed again no matter what.

Snake? The crown prince quickly walked up and checked the bed, both inside and out, but didn't discover anything.

The servants would clean the Eastern Palace every day, so it was normally dry and tidy. How could there be a snake?

However, the little fellow wouldn't randomly make a fuss over nothing; if she said there was a snake, then she certainly saw it with her own eyes.

"Don't worry." Mo Lian carried the little one back to the soft couch beside the window with an aching heart. "You sleep here for now. I'll go around to check again."

Qiao Mu truly was drowsy, and she fell asleep as soon as her head hit the pillow.

However, because she had been spooked earlier, she couldn't sleep very soundly.

It wasn't until after a pair of warm hands caressed her face that Qiao Mu was finally able to fall into a deep slumber.

Early the next morning, Qiao Mu had a weird dream while half-asleep.

In her dream, she saw that little snake slithering around for a bit while burrowed in the snow. A full and bulging sack was wrapped around the top of its head as it aggrievedly glanced back at her with pitiful, watery eyes.

The character "Summon" could faintly be discerned beneath its slanted crown.

Summoned beast? Qiao Mu immediately woke up with a start!

When her small hand thwacked a bulging sack, Qiao Mu was slightly at a loss.

She immediately lowered her head to take a look. *Wasn't this the cotton print sack that the little snake was carrying on its back in her dream?*

Coming to this realization, the little fellow shuddered with a jolt, and she kicked the sack off the soft couch with a trembling leg. However, the sack opening loosened, and a variety of items dropped out of it with a rustle.

Gold, silver, and jade wares, inkstones, incense, pearls, jadeite, coral, agate, amber, ivory, and all kinds of colorful gemstones. There was too much to list, but in short, there was everything valuable that one could think of.

Oh my heavens, this nondescript cotton print sack was actually hiding an entire cosmos! Did it sack half of the royal palace's treasury!!

As our dear Qiao Mu sat on top of a growing pile of jewels, she gazed in bewilderment at the jadeites and jewelry that kept spilling out of the sack nonstop. She simply didn't know what to say.

"Miss!" Shaoyao walked in cheerfully, but her eyes bulged immediately afterwards, and she hastily turned around to shut the door tightly.

"T-This?? Miss! Where did this come from!" *Why were these precious stones and metals still piling up unceasingly without end?*

Shaoyao's yell caused Qiao Mu to come to her senses, and she quickly stood up from the pile of jewels, frantically putting everything away.

It was with great difficulty that they finally stuffed these items back into that frumpish cotton print sack, returning the room to its original state.

Afterwards, the master and servant both looked at each other in stupefaction.

"M-Miss, t-this is a Cosmos Treasure Sack, right. According to legend, only divine weapon engineers can fabricate such a treasure sack. W-Where did Miss get it from?"

Qiao Mu opened her mouth.

Chapter 635: The Oddball White Snake

What could she say? That she saw a white snake carrying this tacky sack on its back in her dream, which she then found beside her when she opened her eyes?

Wasn't that just a fantastical story? Who would believe such an explanation? Even she herself didn't believe it!

"Shaoyao, these things wouldn't be from the king's private warehouse, right." Qiao Mu suppressed her voice as she asked.

Shaoyao twitched her mouth. "Master, Shaoyao hasn't been to the king's private warehouse before either. Regardless, each piece of jewelry here is rare and precious. They must be quite valuable."

"Then what should we do now?" Qiao Mu turned to look at her.

"Of course we should... put it away!" Shaoyao glanced around like a thief before quickly stuffing the sack into Qiao Mu's arms. "It'll be fine, Little Master. If you put it inside your inner world, neither gods nor ghosts will know. Even if the king's private warehouse was indeed looted, no one will be able to search your inner world."

"Furthermore, how would we know why this sack appeared here? It might even be a part of that malicious woman's, Consort Zheng's, crafty plot again! If we take it out right now and just so happen to

be caught red-handed, then we wouldn't be able to explain ourselves!" After finishing her spiel, Shaoyao dragged her little master along as she trotted to the area behind the heavy curtains. "Quickly put it away, Little Master."

Consort Zheng is shouldering the blame again! After musing it over, she had to concur that leaving such a large bag outside indeed attracted too much attention.

But if she put it away... her small body quivered from the depths of her heart when she thought of that white snake sporting a small, round, and bald head.

Recalling that icy and squishy sensation, she felt unwell all over.

With a motion of her mystic conscious, the Cosmos Treasure Sack entered her inner world, opening up and turning upside down. Behind the original jeweled mountain, numerous items spilled out sonorously, like gold pearls falling onto a jade basin, and they quickly piled up into another high mound.

Mobilizing her mystic conscious, Qiao Mu shifted out a stalk of red coral the height of a person into the room, and the master and servant gasped in amazement while circling around it. Only after admiring it for half the day did they exchange a glance.

"Little Master, excuse my frankness, but I feel that even the king's private warehouse wouldn't be able to take out an even more perfect red coral than this."

"Look at how lustrous and translucent this is!" Shaoyao clicked her tongue in wonder. "This is a supreme-grade red coral."

Qiao Mu sighed with emotion as she glanced at it some more before putting it away. "Shaoyao, after the small banquet concluded that day, the queen gave me a lot of jewelry as compensation. Among them, there's a box of beaded flower head-ornaments whose styles are all quite suitable for you young people. Go retrieve it and distribute it among the junior royal maids."

After saying this, she pulled Shaoyao to the mirror on the dressing table and took out an embroidered box, handing it to Shaoyao.

Shaoyao was speechless. The crown prince consort was clearly younger than them all, yet she acted as an elder when she spoke at times, causing people to be deeply amused.

In addition, only you, Crown Prince Consort, dared to call these items compensation!

"Thank you, Miss, for your bestowal." However, Shaoyao didn't point that out and only received the box with a giggle.

After she finished attending to Qiao Mu's morning routine and meal, Shaoyao then pulled the junior royal maids to the courtyard to choose and distribute the beaded flower head-ornaments.

The entire afternoon, the sound of happiness and laughter filled the Eastern Palace, just as if they were celebrating the new year in advance.

Qiao Mu once again browsed through the medical books for a while. When the crown prince came back, she told him to quickly return the books to their owners.

That evening, it finally stopped snowing.

The two people chatted until very late, and they confirmed that they would return home together tomorrow after the crown prince finished handling state affairs in the morning.

Qiao Mu went to sleep after throwing that empty hideous cotton print sack to the side. However, during the night, she heard some rustling noises while still half-asleep.

She abruptly opened a pair of eerily chilly eyes.

Chapter 636: One Sentence Unveils the Arcane Truth

A candle's faint yellow glow danced slightly in a corner of the bedchamber..

However—

When Qiao Mu's gaze landed on the floor, she discovered that the Cosmos Treasure Sack had disappeared!

Qiao Mu glanced about vigilantly but could not find any traces of the white snake. It was only then that she closed her eyes, yet she still listened carefully for a while. Only after not hearing any strange sounds did she finally drift off to sleep in a stupor.

Qiao Mu only lazily got up the next morning when it neared 10 o'clock.

However, the moment both feet touched the floor, she kicked a round and bulging sack, which startled her into quickly retracting her feet.

After glancing downwards, she saw that that downright ugly sack had somehow found its way back again.

It couldn't be, right? Qiao Mu stuck out her foot to jab at the sack. That white snake couldn't have brought her some things again for another night in a row?

She swiftly got up, and while squatting on the floor, she tore open the bag and flung out its contents. Immediately, she could smell rare fragrances wafting over.

After focusing her gaze, she saw stalks of very rarely seen herbs and flowers tumbling out of the sack, and their accompanying fragrances assailed her nostrils. Although their number wasn't as exaggerated as the pile of jewels from yesterday, their grades were an eye-opener!

These were all? Rare herbs! Qiao Mu immediately became enthused and squatted on the floor, looking over this stalk and then that stalk while clicking her tongue in wonder.

When Shaoyao entered, she saw her Little Master squatting before a pile of flowers and herbs, examining them with nimble fingers. The corners of her mouth were unexpectedly turned up into a long unseen smile.

"Miss, it's time for your meal." Shaoyao called out twice. Yet when that didn't elicit a reaction, she couldn't help being curious and ran over to take a look. "Miss, why did this Cosmos Treasure Sack get stuffed with so many herbs again?"

“If I said that they’re a present from a white snake, you definitely wouldn’t believe me.” The little fellow pursed her lips. This time, she didn’t think it over at all and directly had the sapling put all these herbs away.

There were also many medicinal seeds scattered among the herbs, so she also instructed the sapling to plant them properly.

Before, she was still moping around because Paradise Planet didn’t have many medicinal materials that she could use. Now that her inventory was supplemented by so many varieties of herbs, it was terrific!

Just now, she saw two to three stalks of herbs that were precisely the ingredients needed for concocting a level-11 mystic breakthrough pill. She intended to concoct a few to reward herself.

It was just that she still lacked a handy medicinal cauldron. After checking out the Elixirs Appreciation Convention that Wurun Pill House hosted that day, she had been too busy to go there again, but it must have long concluded by now. It seemed that she truly did miss out on the chance to snag a good medicinal cauldron.

After neatly categorizing the flowers and herbs with contented sighs, she casually took her meal. Subsequently, she started pacing about the bedchamber, occasionally asking Shaoyao, “When is Mo Lian coming back?”

Shaoyao giggled while covering her mouth. “The crown prince should be back soon. Since His Highness promised that he would go back to the marquis’s estate together with you, he naturally won’t go back on his word.”

After nodding, Qiao Mu had someone bring her some brushes and paper. She spread out the white paper and started writing from its head.

After a quarter of an hour, when Mo Lian walked into the bedchamber, he saw his little one standing before the table with a brush in her grip, pondering with her eyes fixated on the paper in front of her.

Walking over to take a look, he saw three lines of graceful and exquisite small characters going from left to right:

‘The distant river’s shadow departs like a startled swan

Even if you resent the vast sky

How could you spurn the moon’

Mo Lian bent over, leaning in close to look at those three lines. All of a sudden, he picked up the brush and drew three circles, each in a group of three, for a total of nine characters.

“Ravine of Resentment, Vast Distant Woods, Shadow Moon Monastery[1]. Isn’t this near Beilan Fortification?”

Qiao Mu promptly jumped up, almost bumping into his chin. She abruptly turned around and hugged him while exclaiming, “Mo Lian!! You’re so amazing!”

“What?” Mo Lian was baffled.

Chapter 637: Startled Swan Dagger

Crown Prince Mo lowered his head to glance at the little fellow. How was this amazing? In order to select suitable cities for building fortifications of all sizes, Crown Prince Mo could be said to know the entire kingdom, including its remote nooks and crannies, inside out.

Setting down the brush, Qiao Mu neatly folded that piece of paper with the circles before stuffing it into her pocket.

It was only then that she raised her head to look at him. "Do you know what 'Startled Swan' means? This 'Startled Swan' is the key to activating a secret inheritance realm, and this 'Startled Swan' is probably at the place you just said."

The three sentences she wrote down on the paper earlier was the message that a mysterious female left behind in the jade voice transmission talisman she had used in the incident with Courtesan Zheng.

The message stated: She was able to obtain this jade talisman because fate brought them together, and the same went for the Startled Swan. However, it was unknown whether she was fated to obtain the secret inheritance realm.

"Startled Swan?" Mo Lian chewed it over. "Could it be that Startled Swan Dagger?"

"You know?" Qiao Mu's eyes brightened, and her curiosity grew.

"Around ten or so years ago, a batch of fairly powerful great spiritual cultivators who came down from Shuntian Prefecture were attacking a female at full strength while in hot pursuit." Mo Lian browsed through some incomplete ancient texts that he had read before in his mind. "Reportedly, that female's cultivation was also especially high, probably having even broken through the great spiritual cultivator barrier. However, over here, people's cultivation will be inhibited without limit to the mystic realm."

"Then those people from the Shuntian Prefecture won't be inhibited?" Little Qiaoqiao's lips compressed together as a concentrated anger roared through her heart for some reason.

Whenever she heard the words "Shuntian Prefecture," she had the impulse to personally tear them apart!

"They will!" Mo Lian's voice paused. "However, according to the remaining records, a portion of Shuntian Prefecture's forces had used some kind of secret technique, which only inhibited their cultivation to the beginning stages of the spiritual realm. So, around the strength of a level-four spiritual cultivator. Shuntian Prefecture and that female senior faced off in a huge battle in the Western Territory."

"According to many accounts, the Western Wilderness is so desolate and unable to produce vegetation precisely because the battle at that time was that exceptionally brutal. Upwards of ten thousand people attacked that female senior from all sides."

Qiao Mu felt her blood boil when she heard this! Upwards of ten thousand people! That mysterious female fought a crazy uphill battle with the strength of a single person. How incredibly unbridled and brassy was this move?

Mo Lian's gaze also revealed a look of commendation. "That senior was incredibly formidable, resisting the attacks of ten thousand people with her inhibited level-15 cultivation. Reportedly, that Startled Swan Dagger had once soared through the sky and disappeared on the ground, setting a 3000-kill record! No spiritual weapon nor even divine weapon is a match for this record."

It was as if Qiao Mu was listening to a fantasy story. Her face became somewhat flushed, and her small mouth couldn't resist gaping slightly.

Seeing how cute she was acting, Mo Lian couldn't resist pinching her small face before saying with a smile, "Additionally, the senior also had a super powerful combat beast, whose robust physique was strong enough to raise mountains and rivers. It looked like a large mouse and had thirteen huge tails, which each had the power to split apart a mountain peak. The people call it the White Emperor Sacred Beast."

"The lone woman and single beast put up a brave fight. In the end, they unexpectedly killed more than 9000 of Shuntian Prefecture's men."

Qiao Mu released a long gasp of admiration.

"The senior was able to escape the encirclement in the end, but her whereabouts were unknown after that." Mo Lian then stretched out his arms to carry the little fellow. "Alright, storytime is over. Now, tell me about the three lines you wrote just now."

"It was most likely left behind by that senior." Qiao Mu informed Mo Lian about the jade voice transmission talisman in its entirety.

Mo Lian's eyes couldn't help lighting up faintly. "But why would the Startled Swan Dagger be stored away in Shadow Moon Monastery?"

Chapter 638: Restored

Qiao Mu shook her head. "That I don't know. I will probably only find out when I go there."

"Perfect. I was just considering going to Beilan for an inspection. They were able to grow a batch of edible food." The crown prince said with a smile, "Let's go together after the snow melts somewhat."

Qiao Mu thought of the thriving veggies, melons, and fruits in Paradise Planet, but in the end, she didn't say anything after musing it over.

Even though Paradise Planet was large, its food production was not sufficient to support the entire Northern Mo's food consumption. It was right that the crown prince was attaching importance to the food Beilan was able to cultivate. After all, only by tackling the root cause would the people's fundamental livelihoods be solved.

However, if she transplanted the plants in Paradise Planet outside, she wondered if there would be some kind of special effect on its growth.

This was worth an experiment.

While lost in her thoughts, she felt a chill hit her in the face.

It seemed that the crown prince had already wrapped the cloak around her before carrying her out the door.

The carriage had stopped at the door, and the two people could feel the comfortable warmth inside after boarding it.

Furthermore, the interior had long been prepared with a small stove, and there were two cups of piping hot tea that were releasing a steamy fog, as well.

Mo Lian helped her remove the cloak, revealing her pink and tender small face, and he smiled while nuzzling her forehead. "Qiaoqiao, you won't be able to come back with me after going back today, so you have to let me hug you for longer right now."

He was already missing her before they were about to part. What should he do about this?

Seems like he could only urge the Ministry of Rites to speed up the arrangements and purchases for their marriage. After all, the only solution was pushing up the marriage ceremony on the agenda.

Qiao Mu simply rolled her eyes at him. She didn't believe that this person was going to stay in the Eastern Palace well-behavedly without coming to look for her.

"This is for you." Mo Lian stretched out his hand, and a small, short, and lustrous ink-colored ferule lay quietly in his palm.

Qiao Mu's brows jerked, and she raised her head to glance at him.

To be able to shrink and extend a weapon at will, this should be a spiritual weapon!

"This spiritual weapon doesn't need its power sealed anymore. It will automatically adjust its power according to your actual cultivation level, which makes it a bit more easy to use." Mo Lian hugged her and lowered his head with a grin. "Like it?"

Qiao Mu nodded her head vigorously and joyously took over that ferule. While caressing it gently with her small hand, she could immediately feel the ferule's excitement.

Her little Inky had returned! It wasn't lifeless or broken anymore; Mo Lian had restored it!

Qiao Mu was so happy that she practically wanted to spin in circles, but since her small limbs were restrained by a certain someone in his embrace, she wasn't able to budge.

"Try it out?"

Nodding her head, Qiao Mu injected a wisp of mystic energy into it, and an inky light promptly coursed through it in a brilliant vigor.

With a whoosh, the ferule extended to the length of a normal ferule, which Qiao Mu gripped in her hand.

"Mo Lian, thank..." Mo Lian placed his finger on Qiao Mu's lips before she could finish speaking.

"You really are a little dummy. You're prohibited from telling me thank you."

“You’re a spiritual weapon engineer!” Qiao Mu’s eyes were shining as she gazed at the man in front of her.

However, Mo Lian merely tilted his head in slight vexation. “Perhaps. I only followed the inheritance in my mind, so even I myself don’t really know exactly what level of engineer I am. But I can at most forge level-15 spiritual weapons at present. However, I used a kind of supreme-grade material that is able to mature for your ferule. Later on, when your cultivation increases, it can still be forged further.”

Qiao Mu’s eyes brightened as she tugged his sleeve and asked, “Then how about Big Treasure?”

Mo Lian extended his hand to summon it, and a small person hopped out from empty space before pouncing at Qiao Mu like a loose cannon. “Little Masta! Big Treasure missed you too much! Little Masta, you keep getting prettier!”

Chapter 639: Duan Yue Came Bouncing Over

Hahaha! Qiao Mu laughed heartily from the bottom of her heart.

This silly guy was just as talkative as before. Although she rather disdained it at the beginning, she now truly felt out of sorts from not being able to hear that chatterbox.

Habit truly was a frightening thing. Once you got used to it, you would naturally stay accustomed to it.

“You’re already happy with this? I still haven’t given you the fabulous made-to-order item that you were pining for.” Mo Lian smiled as he took out a club the size of a palm. It was covered in a layer of forbidding, densely packed barbs, which had even been painted with a layer of dazzling bright-golden fluid.

Qiao Mu could only think, this small golden club truly did look very exquisite and good-looking.

Taking the club that the crown prince handed over, Qiao Mu turned and flipped it in her hands lovingly, practically unable to take her eyes off it.

“Inky, this is your good partner Goldie.” The little fellow mumbled this to herself, which greatly amused the crown prince.

Qiao Mu flung out her small arm lightly, and the club in her palm promptly elongated and fattened up. In the blink of an eye, it had become the size of a domestic-use wooden club. Actually, this club was able to grow even longer, but because they were inside a cramped space right now, Qiao Mu let it be.

She excitedly lifted up a corner of the curtain and silently injected mystic energy into the club, which then released a faint golden glow that shot out the window. After a huge boom was heard, a tall heap of snow nearby instantly exploded apart, causing snowflakes to silently fly upwards.

Even though Qiao Mu had only used a wisp of mystic energy, the club already demonstrated such formidable power, and this made her mood get even better.

Mo Lian couldn’t help but exclaim in amazement as he pinched the little fellow’s cheek. “Qiaoqiao truly is amazing to make a spiritual weapon submit and recognize its master so smoothly.”

If it were a normal person, merely the process of taming a spiritual weapon would probably take at least three days and two nights.

After all, a spiritual weapon couldn't be compared with a mystic weapon. Spiritual weapons possessed a spiritual nature, and only spiritual cultivators and above could tame and use them.

Yet a level-11 mystic cultivator subdued a maturing level-15 spiritual weapon as easily as blowing off dust. No one would dare to believe it even if he told other people about it.

"I still have a portion of this supreme-grade blood-forged gold material remaining, which I estimate is enough to upgrade your defensive weapon. Give me your defensive weapon for now, and I'll send it over after forging it while you stay obediently at home these two days." Look, wasn't this an opportunity to grandiosely visit his Qiaoqiao!

Qiao Mu silently took the ring off her finger and handed it to him. "Then, can you change its design? Switch out this eggshell for something else? Like a defensive barrier would be fine."

Mo Lian shook his head vigorously. "I can only change it into a flower shape."

Hearing this, Qiao Mu twitched her mouth, not knowing whether or not he was duping her. She hastily waved her hand and said, "Then forget it, keep the eggshell!"

If he really were to change it into a flower, and she encased herself inside it, then ha ha, wouldn't that amuse her opponent to death when she fought!

"Okay!" Mo Lian agreed while beaming.

Yet just as he put away Qiaoqiao's ring, the carriage suddenly halted with a jolt.

It seemed that a tiny disturbance was happening outside. "N-No, you can't? You?"

"Swoosh!" The curtain lifted, and a slender figure abruptly jumped into the carriage. "Qiaoqiao!!"

"Duan Yue." Qiao Mu's mouth gaped slightly as she gazed at that youth that was pouncing towards her.

However, the crown prince had perceptive eyes and deftly kicked him away while hooking his Qiaoqiao into his embrace in passing.

Duan Yue wasn't able to pounce into his Qiaoqiao's arms and was instead nearly kicked out of the carriage by Mo Lian. His peerlessly delicate and handsome face instantly clouded over...

Chapter 640: Didn't Pay Attention

"Qiaoqiao." Duan Yue gazed bitterly at Qiao Mu, who had been snatched into Mo Lian's embrace. Afterwards, his peach-blossom eyes looked Mo Lian up and down while their gazes battled it out. "Hurry and release Qiaoqiao, you shameless guy! You scoundrel!"

He was so bitter! Ever since they parted at the Qin Estate, he hadn't seen his Qiaoqiao again!

The weirdest thing was that several days ago, he actually heard the people in the capital circulating news that the king had betrothed the Qiao Family's Eldest Miss to the crown prince.

What betrothal, he didn't acknowledge it at all! Did this king go nuts to blindly mismatch mandarin ducks[1] for no reason, betrothing his Qiaoqiao to that despicable crown prince!

If not for the Duan Clan's trivial matters that kept entangling him these past few days, he would have long snuck into the palace and met up with his Qiaoqiao, wuwuwu.

Mo Lian glanced at him vigilantly. "What did you come here for? Hurry and get out!"

"Qiaoqiao, even if the king is foolishly making trouble by betrothing you to Crown Prince Mo, you can oppose if you don't like it!" Duan Yue was instigating her again and again, causing Mo Lian's gaze to grow sullen.

"It's not like I don't like it." Qiao Mu replied honestly.

Crown Prince Mo, who originally had dark clouds hanging over his head, instantly turned sunny. He lowered his head to gaze at his darling with a grin, in addition to casting Duan Yue a disdainful glance. "Did you hear that? Hmph! Quickly get out! Stop carelessly saying strange things all the time to incite my wife. Hurry and scam!"

Duan Yue felt as if he had been struck by a thunderbolt out of the blue. His eyes looked Qiao Mu up and down as he sized her up, and he abruptly attempted to pounce at her again. "Qiaoqiao, listen to me. You're still young! Don't be duped. We're all not in a hurry to get married, so quickly come over here, and I'll help you run away."

Crown Prince Mo directly struck his palm over.

You can run the hell away yourself! And go back to wherever you came from.

Duan Yue flung his sleeve as he evaded Mo Lian's palm. The window creaked while trembling from their actions, and the carved wooden window frame nearly splintered.

"What are you doing?" Duan Yue glared at Mo Lian indignantly. "You wanna fight?"

In response, Mo Lian simply tossed him a contemptuous "Like I'm afraid of you" glance.

Qiao Mu suddenly stretched out a hand and stroked Duan Yue's dog head, saying helplessly, "Can you guys cut it out for a bit? You're both so old now. Even Xiao Sen is better than you guys."

Duan Yue: ...

Mo Lian: ... Puhaha! Look, look at how his Qiaoqiao's small hand seemed to be petting a small dog, the way she would help it smooth out its fur.

Duan Yue blinked his eyes before suddenly pulling over Qiao Mu's small hand. Mo Lian's handsome face darkened, but he was too late in snatching it back.

"Qiaoqiao, tell me, tell me! What did Mo Lian say to you? Why did you later run to the palace when you were clearly staying inside the Qin Estate?" That night, he had even snuck into the Qin Estate to look for her but didn't find her there.

Qiao Mu was an honest darling, so she answered his question. "I don't know either. I found myself inside the Eastern Palace when I opened my eyes. Mo Lian carried me back!"

He actually let that shameful scoundrel strike first and gain the upper hand! Duan Yue gritted his small steely teeth as he angrily glared at the crown prince.

The crown prince merely raised his brow at him, with a “Sorry, Qiaoqiao is my wife, so scram aside” expression written all over his face.

“Qiaoqiao, do you know what the Qin Estate is like right now?”

“Didn’t pay attention.” Qiao Mu was speaking the truth.

She wasn’t familiar with anyone from the Qin Estate. At best, she was on good terms with Xiang Yuanyuan.

According to principle, the Qin Estate would certainly be quarantined since a level-four zombie had appeared in it. Xiang Yuanyuan hadn’t made contact with the level-four zombie at all, so she would naturally be released, safe and sound, when the incubation period was over. Furthermore, since she couldn’t be a hindrance to anyone as a lowly maidservant, she would definitely be fine.

As for Eldest Qin and Second Qin, she couldn’t be bothered to pay attention to them.