"I want to torture Debra before killing her," Yumi said with a smile. She abhorred Debra. How dared she seduced her man? She should be put to death!

"Mrs Darby!"

James was shocked to hear that. He quickly persuaded Yumi. "You can't do that!"

"Why?" Yumi frowned. She was puzzled!

James smiled. Then, he lowered his voice and whispered to Yumi solemnly. "Think about it, Debra is a criminal, and the Emperor had personally sentenced her to prison. It doesn't matter if you took her home to torture her. But what if she dies here in your home? What will happen if His Majesty found out about it?"

Oh...

Yumi was shocked after she heard James dissected the situation. She finally calmed down.

Lord Kenny had given Florian and Yumi everything that they had enjoyed. Had they angered him, all of those luxuries would disappear as well. Yumi thought about it, and she was anxious. "Then what should I do? Should I send her back to prison?"

Debra was Darryl's most important woman—mere torture was not enough to vent Yumi's anger.

James laughed. He said, "It's simple. If you want to be nasty to her, yet you don't want to be found guilty, then just leave her to me!"

His handsome face looked malicious when he said that. "I can assure you that this woman will suffer a fate worse than death in my hands!"

"Sounds good!"

Yumi beamed when she heard that.

• • •

Meanwhile...

Queenie had eaten the Heavenly Flame Core, and her body was unable to withstand its ramification, so Celine had to heal her. Unfortunately, Celine was injured in the process. She had agreed to let Darryl heal her since they were desperate, and there was no other way out.

Darryl was healing Celine's injuries when he spotted a woman from the corner of his eyes. He was at an essential step in the healing process.

Darryl was shocked when he discovered who the woman was—he was overwhelmed.

'F*ck! There's no end to my problems.'

The woman was in a long purple dress that accentuated her slender and sexy figure. She had delicate features, just like a fairy from heaven, but her beautiful face looked gloomy.

That woman was Gonggong!

"Darryl, let's see if you can escape today!"

When Gonggong arrived in front of Darryl, she stared indignantly at

Emperor Hou Yi's sudden death had thrown the entire palace into chaos. Gonggong was out to investigate the matter; she wanted to search for suspicious people who could have killed Emperor Hou Yi. She was surprised to bump into Darryl!

Emperor Hou Yi had been furious when Darryl rescued Zhu Bajie from his palace, and he had ordered Gonggong to capture both of them. Even though Gonggong did not need to execute Emperor Hou Yi's order after his death, she was excited when she saw Darryl.

When they were at Mount Buzhou, Darryl had tricked Gonggong into a formation and trapped her there. She would never forget that humiliation.

Buzz!

A powerful breath of aura filled Gonggong's body! She immediately raised her jade-like hand and slapped Darryl with a palm attack!

"Brother-in-law, be careful!" Queenie exclaimed anxiously.

At the same time, Celine bit her lips because she was worried for Darryl.

Even though Celine did not know Gonggong, she noticed that her strength was one level higher than Darryl's. Her sudden burst of power was terrifying.

F*ck!

'This crazy woman, Gonggong, is seriously too annoying!'

Darryl cursed discreetly when he noticed the palm attack. Then, he quickly charged forward.

The next second, Darryl raised his hand and met Gonggong's palm! He could have dodged the attack, but he was afraid that Celine would be injured, so he decided to fight Gonggong!

Bam!

A loud noise exploded! Tyrannical internal energy permeated the area when the two palms collided!

Darryl and Gonggong grunted at the same time. The two of them were thrown into mid-air before they were flung more than ten meters backward!

It was apparent that no one had the upper hand in the palm duel!

Gonggong was shocked! She was already at the Heaven Ascension level, and she had cultivated for thousands of years! She was even hailed as the Water God! How could Darryl possibly match the power of her palm attack?

Gonggong still did not know that even though Darryl was a level five Martial Emperor, his internal energy had improved tremendously after he took some elixirs from Emperor Hou Yi's North Moana Palace. The man was only one step away from the Heaven Ascension level!

Gonggong was shocked and embarrassed, so she yelled at Darryl. "I haven't seen you for a few days, and your strength has increased a fair bit. No matter what, you'll have to kneel and surrender to me today!"

"Come on! Who cares about that?!" Darryl snorted coldly; he was fearless!

Darryl was infuriated.

Queenie had almost been made into an elixir when Megan held them captive. Then, Kent had humiliated him. Darryl could tolerate all of those instances. However, he could no longer stand it when Gonggong arrived and interrupted him—Celine and Queenie's lives were at stake.

F*ck!

Darryl would never forgive Gonggong if he could not treat those two women in time!

He flipped his wrist in rage and sent a palm attack toward Gonggong!

"You don't know any better, do you?"

Gonggong snorted and greeted Darryl's attack.

She was shocked and angry. Darryl had always run and hide when he saw her, but he seemed different that day. He even took the initiative to launch an attack on Gonggong. How could he tolerate her when she was so full of herself?

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The two of them continued to exchange attacks mid-air; their surging breath of aura filled the space. Gonggong had been confident about her attacks, but she realized that something was wrong after a few rounds.

She was shocked!

What had happened? How did she fail to subdue Darryl, who was only a level five Martial Emperor?

Gonggong still had no idea that even though Darryl was a level five Martial Emperor, he had pure internal energy because he had cultivated the Pure Energy Scripture. If he were to muster all of his strength, he could even defeat a Heaven Ascension-level cultivator!

Celine and Queenie were worried as they watched the duel. They were extremely worried for Darryl.

Celine bit her lips in anxiety as she tried to endure the Heavenly Flame Core's raging power in her body. At the same time, her eyes were fixed on the fierce battle in mid-air; she was extremely nervous.

'That woman is so powerful, but Darryl manages to hold on so far. I'm

afraid that he will lose if the battle goes on for too long.'

Buzz!

Suddenly, a strong breath of aura filled the sky from a distance. Then, a man swooped down like thunder and lightning.

'F*ck, who is that?'

Darryl tilted his head to look; he was stupefied!

The man had golden armor on him.

The man seemed to be around 30 years old, and he had sharp features. His sword-like eyebrows and glistering eyes added to his unspeakably handsome look. The golden armor on his tall and upright figure exuded a masculine aura!

However, it seemed like the man was on a dog.

Darryl lowered his gaze in shock when he noticed the man rode on a big black dog. It was a huge dog—perhaps about three meters lengthwise. It looked ferocious, and it had a mouthful of fangs.

Darryl was startled by the scene.

The handsome and muscular man was on a terrifying big black dog. They looked rather odd together, but that was what had happened.

Darryl was also surprised when he realized that the man had unfathomable strength. He could not guess his level of cultivation.

'F*ck! Who is that?'

Celine and Queenie were inexplicably nervous.

"Grandmaster Erlang?"

Gonggong was also taken aback as she muttered that.

What? Was that person the real Grandmaster Erlang—Yang Jian?

Darryl felt his brain buzzed; he was confused.

Darryl was in a daze; he was shocked.

He was utterly shocked!

Who would not have heard of Grandmaster Erlang? He was a historical legend; almost everyone would know of him.

There was no wonder he looked so powerful even though he was riding a dog! That must have been the Howling Celestial Dog?

At the same time, Queenie was also startled.

The man turned out to be Grandmaster Erlang!

Is that the legendary Grandmaster Erlang? He looked powerful and intimidating, indeed!

Yes, the man in golden armor was the famous Grandmaster Erlang— Yang Jian!

Like Gonggong, Yang Jian also served under Emperor Hou Yi, but he had a much higher position. He only reported to the Emperor, and he had more than 10,000 people under him. Yang Jian had the final say in North Moana after Emperor Hou Yi and Chang Er.

Yang Jian was shocked by Emperor Hou Yi's sudden death. He had only returned to the palace from his expedition when he heard the news about Emperor Hou Yi's death. Then, he met Gonggong!

Yang Jian did not say anything; he nodded at Gonggong before he stood at the side to watch the duel. Even though he was on Gonggong's side, he was too arrogant to join the fight. He did not want to have a twoagainst-one fight with Darryl.

"Take that!"

Gonggong yelled; she took the opportunity to send another palm attack when Darryl was stunned!

Buzz!

The palm had Gonggong's Yin Yang Deep Sea internal energy. It was a technique that Gonggong cultivated. She was the Water God, and that technique was the purest and most refined Yin technique!

The attack caused the air within 100 meters around her distorted!

F*ck!

'This never ends, does it?'

Darryl's attention was on Yang Jian, so he was furious when Gonggong attacked him so suddenly.

Crack!

A loud and crisp echoed as the Heavenly Halberd appeared in Darryl's hand.

As soon as the weapon appeared, a sudden burst of fighting intent enfolded Darryl. The scent of blood filled the air.

'Is that Lu Bu's weapon? The Heavenly Halberd?'

Gonggong bit her lips in determination when she saw the Heavenly Halberd. It seemed that she was lucky that day. She would not only get to teach Darryl a lesson, but she had also got a chance to nab the Heavenly Halberd.

Gonggong grinned excitedly as she thought about it. She moved at an astonishing speed as she fought Darryl fiercely.

Cold sweat beaded on Celine and Queenie's face, especially on the former's beautiful face; she looked anxious.

Darryl was no match against Gonggong even when he had the Heavenly Halberd.

Yang Jian's gaze was locked onto Darryl as he cracked a smile.

'That's interesting! This kid is no more than a level five Martial Emperor, and he has the Heavenly Halberd.'

Half an hour passed in the blink of an eye; Gonggong tried her best, but still, she could not subdue Darryl.

"Grandmaster Erlang!" Gonggong panicked and shouted at Yang Jian.

"He's Darryl. He was the one who let Zhu Bajie out. I want to take him back to the palace. Grandmaster Erlang, please help me!"

Gonggong could subdue Darryl if she exhausted her internal energy, but it was too great a price to pay for that. She would risk draining her internal energy if she did that.

Gonggong was an arrogant woman. She did not think she needed to use any of her trump cards to deal with Darryl.

More importantly, Yang Jian was there to watch the duel. It would have been very embarrassing if she had to exhaust her strength just to defeat Darryl. It was better to ask Yang Jian for help so that she could get things done efficiently.

'What? Yang Jian and Gonggong are on the same boat?'

Darryl's face changed drastically after he heard that. He thought that they were merely acquaintances. Darryl did not pay much attention to Yang Jian's ability, though he was shocked by the man's strength. He had never expected that Gonggong would ask Yang Jian for help.

'F*ck, who can beat the Grandmaster Erlang?'

Celine and Queenie were also stupefied!

"Very well!" Yang Jian replied faintly.

Then, he leapt into the air and headed straight for Darryl.

Yang Jian arrived in front of Darryl in only a second. His eyes blazed with thick contempt. "Such a good boy; it's amazing to see how you can fight against Gonggong for so long. Now, give up and surrender yourself!"

Buzz!

Yang Jian emanated a terrifying breath of aura, and the surrounding air seemed to be stagnant instantly!

His intimidating aura was unfathomable; its oppressive effect was appalling!

The next second, Yang Jian raised his right hand slowly and sent Darryl a palm attack!

F*ck!

That speed!

Darryl was shocked to feel Yang Jian's lightning speed; he had no time to dodge. Therefore, he held the Heavenly Halberd tightly to try and avoid the attack! Darryl dared not take it lightly; he mustered all his internal energy to defend himself!

Bang!

Yang Jian's palm strength slapped against the Heavenly Halberd. Darryl could feel the gush of power that rushed at him—he grunted and retreated a dozen steps backward. He could feel his blood stirred in his body, but he held it back.

F*ck!

Yang Jian's power was simply too terrifying. Darryl could barely block his palm attack even after he garnered all of his internal energy!

Celine and Queenie got even more nervous; their hearts almost leapt out of their throats.

Gonggong smiled. She knew that Darryl would not stand a chance once Grandmaster Erlang made a move. However, she was surprised that he could block Yang Jian's attack.

As for Yang Jian, he was suspended in mid-air; he looked his usual arrogant self. Nevertheless, he was a little shocked; he looked at Darryl in astonishment.

"Such a good boy. I'm surprised that you could block my palm attack."
Yang Jian gave Darryl the up and down as he nodded his approval.

Click!

A long black weapon appeared in Yang Jian's hand.

It was a spear. At first glance, it looked quite similar to the Heavenly Halberd in Darryl's hand, but it had three sharp blades, and each of them was carved with a giant python!

The weapon was called the Tri-point Double-edged Saber!

Yang Jian's weapon—the Tri-point Double-edged Saber—was not a Grand Weapon. It belonged in the purple category, and it was known as the most powerful in that category!

The surrounding temperature seemed to have dropped sharply as soon as Yang Jian drew out the weapon!

Whoa!

Celine and Queenie held their hands together; they were worried sick for Darryl.

Darryl had gone all out to parry Yang Jian's palm attack. They were afraid that he would be in grave danger once his opponent drew his weapon!

Gulp!

Cold sweat beaded on Darryl's forehead as he swallowed his saliva nervously when he felt the fighting spirit in Yang Jian!

Oh, dear!

Yang Jian was serious; Darryl was afraid that he could not stop him.

Buzz!

Yang Jian did not waste his time with nonsense. He waved the weapon, and the Tri-point Double-edged Saber howled loudly; the sound could stun the world. Then, a streak of golden light tore through the air and zoomed toward Darryl.

Darryl did not have time to think; he quickly mustered his internal energy to resist the attack with his Heavenly Halberd!

Bang!

The golden light slammed on the Heavenly Halberd. Darryl let out a muffled grunt. He was shocked; he was thrown almost 100 meters backward before he fell to the ground.

Darryl had already exhausted much of his internal strength when he blocked Yang Jian's palm attack earlier. So, he was unable to resist Yang Jian's weapon at all.

After all, Darryl had to fight against the famous Grandmaster Erlang!

"Darryl!"

"Brother-in-law!"

Celine and Queenie exclaimed at the sight of Darryl's defeat. They wanted to rush to Darryl's side and check on his injuries, but they were too weak to stand up.

"Hang on!"

opponent!

Whoosh!

Mmm!

"Hang on!"

man. Don't trust him!"

decide what to do next!"

you've got? Get up and continue."

"Boy!" Yang Jian studied Darryl before he scoffed at him. "Is that all

Yang Jian gripped his Tri-point Double-edged Saber as he walked toward Darryl slowly.

His intimidating aura filled the forest.

Gulp! Darryl was terror-stricken; he swallowed his saliva discreetly. He whined about his ill fate in his heart!

Darryl was the Elysium Gate's Sect Master, and he would rather die than surrender. However, he had no choice as the Grandmaster Erlang's strength was simply unfathomable. It would be suicide to continue the fight with him.

Grandmaster Erlang was a well-known fighter for thousands of years;

Darryl was not ashamed of admitting defeat to such a powerful

Darryl begged for mercy when Yang Jian got closer; he yelled,

"Grandmaster Erlang, I surrender. Let's stop fighting, please..."

More importantly, Celine was in danger. She still needed Darryl to treat her.

Yang Jian's eyes flashed when he heard Darryl's words. He lifted his hand and stowed the Tri-point Double-edged Saber.

fight Darryl, so it was meaningless to push on when the younger man had pleaded for mercy and surrendered. After that, Yang Jian tilted his head and glanced at Gonggong. "You can

Yang Jian was an egoistic man. He did not think it was a challenge to

Gonggong nodded; she was very excited and happy.

That was what she had expected—Grandmaster Erlangcould subdue Darryl in only just two moves! Gonggong was pleased; she was about to reach out and catch Darryl.

Darryl suddenly yelled. He looked at Yang Jian with a sincere expression on his face. "Grandmaster Erlang, you are an indomitable

'What the hell is this kid doing?' Gonggong stood still; her eyebrows furrowed. Then, she turned to Yang

Jian and said, "Grandmaster Erlang, Darryl is a cunning and deceptive

and powerful man. I have a sincere request. I hope you'd help me?"

Yang Jian merely waved his hand. "It's fine."

Then, Yang Jian looked at Darryl and said, "What is your request? Tell me!"

Phew!

Darryl took a deep breath and slowly directed his finger at Celine, who was not far away. He said, "The Heavenly Flame Core's ramification torments my friend. She's still in danger, and I need to heal her first. I hope you can be merciful and allow me to save her first!"

Darryl pleaded earnestly. "As long as you agree, I'll do whatever you ask of me after I've saved her!"

'He-

Celine trembled as her heart warmed. She was deeply touched.

Darryl was so thoughtful, even when he was in plight.

"You can dream on!"

Gonggong approached him with a sullen face. "Why would we care about a woman's life? Stop the nonsense and come with us!"

She took her soft whip as if to tie Darryl up!

'This woman is too impersonal.'

Darryl was angry, but he ignored her. He locked his eyes onto Yang Jian.

"Very well!"

Yang Jian took a deep breath and nodded at Darryl. "You did not fluster even in danger, and you are a thoughtful man. It's rare to find someone so chivalrous and benevolent. Go on and heal them; no one will disturb you while I'm here!

Yang Jian did not care about Darryl. However, he changed his opinion toward the man when he noticed his thoughtfulness, even when he was in a desperate moment.

Gonggong was anxious. "Grandmaster Erlang-"

Yang Jian interrupted her before she could finish her sentence.

Gonggong could not say anything else once Grandmaster Erlang had made up his mind, so she stepped aside. Even though they served Emperor Hou Yi, Yang Jian had much higher power and status than Gonggong.

Yang Jian wasted no time; he beckoned at Darryl. "Hurry up; your friend can't hold on much longer."

"Thank you, Grandmaster Erlang!"

Darryl was overjoyed. He held his fists together to pay obeisance to Yang Jian before he rushed toward Celine and Queenie.

He immediately sat cross-legged in front of Celine and smiled. He said, "Let's start!"

Darryl sounded relaxed, but his face was pale, and he was weak.

He was injured after he tried his best to resist the two attacks from Yang Jian. However, it did not affect his intention to save Celine. He needed the White Lily Cold Flame to get rid of the Heavenly Flame Core in her; there was no need for him to use his internal energy.

Mmm!

Celine nodded. Then, she bit her lips before she said softly, "Are you okay?"

Even though Darryl looked relaxed, Celine knew that Darryl must have sustained quite serious injuries. His thoughtfulness moved her.

Soon, Darryl began to get rid of the Heavenly Flame Core. His right hand was gently placed over Celine's energy field.

Mmm!

Celine trembled slightly when she felt the warmth from the man's hand. She was not as reluctant as before, and she even felt a touch of sweetness.

Queenie, who was next to her, also cracked a smile.

Gonggong observed from a distance with an impatient look. She could not vent her anger because Yang Jian was there.

Time passed by slowly.

Yang Jian was the Grandmaster Erlang, and he was one to keep his promise. He stayed by the side quietly while Darryl helped Celine to get rid of the Heavenly Flame Core in her. He stood tall and proud like a guardian.

Sometime later, Darryl finally managed to expel the Heavenly Flame Core in Celine's body.

Celine's exquisite face was restored to a rosy shade without the burning heat that tormented her. She looked inexplicably charming.

Phew!

Darryl breathed a sigh of relief. He finally felt genuinely relaxed.

The issue was finally solved.

After that, Darryl stood up and paid obeisance to Yang Jian again. He said gratefully, "Thank you, Your Excellency Grandmaster Erlang!"

Darryl expressed his heartfelt gratitude. Grandmaster Erlang was rumored to be upright and arrogant, and it was true, indeed.

Even though Yang Jian and Gonggong were on the same side, it did not affect Darryl's gratitude toward him.

Mmm!

Yang Jian nodded; his handsome face remained straightforward. As the famous Grandmaster Erlang, Yang Jian was used to a poker face.

"What nonsense is this?"

Gonggong muttered as she walked toward Darryl impatiently. "You've saved your friend. Now, come with me!"

Gonggong had wanted to kill Darryl and vent her anger, but she changed her mind after she saw the Heavenly Halberd.

However, Gonggong was embarrassed to snatch the Heavenly Halberd from Darryl then. Hence, she wanted to take Darryl back and then retrieve the Heavenly Halberd when she had the opportunity to do so.

"Gonggong!"

Darryl smiled bitterly at Gonggong. "We don't have much enmity with each other. You don't have to be so hard on me, do you?"

Darryl felt helpless when he said that.

'How are the two of them so different even though they served the same master, Emperor Hou Yi? Yang Jian is righteous, but Gonggong is so narrow-minded.'

"Stop the nonsense at once!" Gonggong was too lazy to dwell on it any further. "Hurry up and come with me!"

She stretched out her jade-like hand to grab Darryl.

"Grandmaster Erlang, Gonggong!" Suddenly, a royal guard from the North Moana shouted from a distance. He was panting; he was excited, yet he felt slightly complicated.

When he arrived, the guard held his fists together and paid obeisance to Yang Jian. He roared, "I found a clue to Emperor Hou Yi's sudden death!"

Whoa!

Yang Jian and Gonggong exchanged looks. They were both extremely excited.

They were perplexed at Emperor Hou Yi's sudden death. Finally, there was a clue?

Darryl felt a sharp pain in his chest. 'Oh, no! How did they manage to find a clue? I'm pretty sure that I left no clue behind when I made Emperor Hou Yi go into a psychotic break!'

Darryl's heart pounded. 'I wasn't the clue he picked up, right?'

'No way. I only took the elixirs and pills when I came out of Emperor Hou Yi's cultivation cell. I'm pretty sure I left no clue behind.'

"So, you discovered the reason for the Emperor's death? Let's go then!"
Yang Jian said coldly. Then, he jumped onto his Howling Celestial Dog
and hurried toward the palace.

Tap, tap, tap...

"Take all of them back!" Gonggong's lips parted slightly as she

Gonggong took advantage of Darryl's carelessness-she reached out

and sealed his acupoints. Celine and Song Qian were also not spared as

The captain responded quickly. "Yes, Gonggong!" Then he walked

delivered the command to the royal guard captain.

that you'd take me only. The two of them are innocent!"

to negotiate any terms with me?"

treat you when you fall into my hands."

toward Darryl and tied him up.

"Ugh!"

Gonggong snorted and sneered at him. "Do you think you have the right

Darryl looked at Gonggong helplessly and said, "Gonggong, you said

Darryl was angry, but at the same time, he was also extremely depressed. Gonggong was an unreasonable person, even though she

was the Water God. 'Gonggong, you better watch out. Let's see how I'll

Gonggong was not bothered by Darryl's dissatisfaction; she tapped her toes on the ground and hurried toward the palace.

Darryl, Celine and Queenie.

The royal guard captain followed closely behind her as he grabbed onto

Soon, the three of them were taken to North Moana Palace!

It was dawn, and the sky brightened up gradually; Darryl and the ladies were not locked up immediately. They were taken to the Emperor's chamber, which was also his cultivation cell.

Hiss!

Darryl took in a sharp breath of cold air when he saw the scene before him!

looked solemn with their long saber. The air was filled with great sadness and killing intent.

The front of the room had many royal guards in black armor. They

The civil and military officials stood in line quietly!

"Hubby—"

Sorrowful shouts came from the room—it was Chang Er's voice.

Darryl's palms were sweaty. If they discovered that he had killed Emperor Hou Yi, he was worried that the entire World Universe continent would be implicated.

Soon, Darryl and the ladies were taken into the room.

Chang Er held Emperor Hou Yi's body in her arms on the jade platform in the center of the room. Tears streamed down her cheeks incessantly; Chang Er was heartbroken!

Yang Jian, Gonggong, and other civil and military officials stood next to her—all of them looked very powerful.

Chang Er almost collapsed!

Chang Er and Emperor Hou Yi had lived together for thousands of years. Chang Er thought she would be with Emperor Hou Yi all her life; she did not expect her husband to die so suddenly. Chang Er felt as if her world had turned upside down!

"Your Majesty! Hubby, don't scare me! Open your eyes, please!" Chang Er cried out loud. Her tears could not stop as she was reminded of the times they were together!

"Hubby, you said that you would stay with me forever. I won't let you die, no!" Her voice got softer, and her body trembled constantly!

Yang Jian, Gonggong and the others were silent as they watched the grief-stricken Chang Er—they were very sad.

Gulp!

Darryl swallowed his saliva nervously when his eyes fell on Chang Er.

Chang Er was the Moon Palace Fairy, indeed. Her alluring curves and noble temperament remained fascinating even when she was heartbroken.

Darryl stared at Chang Er; the sight of her took his breath away!

Wow!

Chang Er turned her head slowly when she perceived Darryl's gaze. Her eyes were full of tears when she looked at him!

"Darryl?"

Chang Er frowned. Her beautiful face looked like she was ashamed and angry!

had used the Transfiguration Powder and pretended to be Emperor Hou Yi. Chang Er would never forget how he played a trick on her.

A few months ago, Darryl had released Zhu Bajie. At that time, the man

"What's the matter?" An icy voice echoed from Chang Er's mouth. Her powerful aura was beyond anyone's doubt.

"Lady Chang Er!"

Gonggong stepped forward and said respectfully, "I was patrolling just now and found Darryl, so I've arrested him! Darryl let Zhu Bajie go, so he is a criminal!"

Mmm...

Chang Er nodded silently. Then, she waved her jade-like hand. "Lock him up!"

If that had happened earlier, Chang Er would definitely find a way to teach Darryl a lesson. However, Emperor Hou Yi had only passed away; she did not have the heart to do anything because she was heartbroken.

"Yes, Lady Chang Er!" Gonggong replied. Then, she leaned in and whispered into Chang Er's ear. "Lady Chang Er, why don't you let me interrogate Darryl?"

Darryl was imprisoned, she would not have a chance to snatch the Heavenly Halberd. She would only get that chance if Darryl were in her hands!

Gonggong showed a faint sly smile when she made the suggestion. If

Chang Er did not reply to her. Yang Jian walked toward the royal guard captain and asked, "You said that you found a clue to His Majesty's death. What is it?"

Phew!

The royal guard captain took a deep breath and pointed at the jade platform under Emperor Hou Yi. "Grandmaster, the clue is on the jade platform under His Majesty's body. When His Majesty was dying, he engraved a few words on the jade platform."

Yang Jian frowned and asked impatiently, "What are the words?"

"The words engraved by His Majesty are..." The captain sweated profusely. He glanced nervously at Chang Er and then lowered his voice. "The words are Zhu Bajie and Chang Er!"

The captain was nervous; he felt as if his heart was about to jump out of his throat.

He was not a fool. He knew that it was not a trivial matter when he saw those engraved characters. He told no one about it; he covered them with the Emperor's body and went to look for Yang Jian. The man's status was only second to the Emperor. Only he could question Chang Er!

What?

Yang Jian was startled to hear that; he looked at Chang Er in disbelief!

"Lady Chang Er!" Yang Jian said coldly, "I hope you can explain that!"

Everyone shifted their attention to Chang Er.

"Explain?" Chang Er shuddered, and she looked confused. "What do you want me to explain?"

The captain had spoken to Yang Jian in a tiny voice, so no one heard him. That was why Chang Er was stunned when Yang Jian asked her for an explanation.

Yang Jian walked forward and lifted Emperor Hou Yi's body. Then, he pointed to the lettering on the jade platform. "How do you explain this?"

What?

Chang Er looked at the words; she was shocked.

Whoa!

Everyone in the room was in an uproar.

They saw the words—Zhu Bajie, Chang Er—had been carved on the jade platform. It was obviously written with one's deep internal energy.

It was apparent that Emperor Hou Yi was the one who carved it before he died.

The jade platform was for cultivation, and it was made ten thousand years ago. It was tough, so not even Martial Emperor or Heaven Ascension elites could do it. Only Emperor Hou Yi could do that!

For a while, everyone talked about the words that Emperor Hou Yi had left!

"What's the matter? How are these words engraved on the jade platform?"

"Remember that time when Zhu Bajie offended Empress Chang Er. and Emperor Hou Yi trapped him in the formation?"

"Were Empress Chang Er and Zhu Bajie dating then? And His Majesty accidentally saw them, and that was why he died?"

The discussions were in a very soft tone, but Chang Er could hear them clearly!

could this happen? Zhu Bajie and I are innocent in this. Why did His Majesty engrave our names on the jade platform?'

Chang Er blushed, and her brain buzzed. She was distraught. 'How

For a time, the atmosphere in the room was extremely grave.

....

Darryl laughed in his heart.

'Is that the clue?'

must have heard that Zhu Bajie and Chang Er were dating. Then, he engraved both of their names on the jade platform with his fingers.

When Emperor Hou Yi looked back and realized that Darryl had been

Darryl guessed that the Emperor must have fallen to his voice trick. He

the only person there, it was already too late.

Chang Er recovered her senses and looked at Yang Jian quietly. "What

"Yang Jian!"

do you mean?"

"What do you mean?"

think I need to explain more about this. You should know better. Why did His Majesty engrave Zhu Bajie and your name on the jade platform?"

Yang Jian took a step forward; he was an awe-inspiring figure. "I don't

Yang Jian's voice turned cold as he stared at Chang Er. He said, "Why don't you tell us if His Majesty's death is related to you? Also, is Zhu Bajie hidden in the palace?"

"You—"

Chang Er shuddered when she heard Yang Jian's stern question. She was angry as she pointed at Yang Jian. "Yang Jian, you are too arrogant!"

As Emperor Hou Yi's wife, Chang Er was embarrassed when Yang Jian questioned her in front of so many people.

More importantly, Yang Jian even slandered Zhu Bajie and her name.

She could not take it anymore!

Yang Jian remained fearless and kept his somber face, even when he sensed Chang Er's anger.

Phew!

Darryl was deeply shaken. It was as he expected—Grandmaster Erlang even dared to question Chang Er!

The hundreds of civil and military officials around them held their breath.

On the one hand was Empress Chang Er, the world's mother figure. On the other hand was Grandmaster Erlang, who had a superior status. They dared not offend either of them.

For a while, the atmosphere in the room seemed extremely gloomy.

"Yang Jian!"

Suddenly, a tall and burly figure stepped forward. His eyes were wide in fury as he yelled at Yang Jian, "You are too bold! How dare you slander the Empress! What's your intention?"

The person held a pair of giant hammers; he was so tall that he looked like a hill. He also had an oppressive aura; he was as ferocious as a ghost from hell.

That was E Lai!

E Lai was a famous warrior in the olden days, and he had cultivated for thousands of years. In the Three Kingdoms' historical materials, Cao Cao once praised E Lai as the Long-standing E Lai—that was how brave E Lai was!

Emperor Hou Yi had a few brave warriors—Grandmaster Erlang ranked first, and E Lai was in second place. However, the latter rarely intervened in political affairs. Instead, he was placed by Chang Er's side to protect her.

He was Chang Er's bodyguard.

Even though E Lai looked fierce, he was a caring person. He knew that Chang Er and Emperor Hou Yi loved each other very much, and the Empress would never cheat on Emperor Hou Yi. Therefore, he could not take it that Yang Jian questioned Chang Er so ruthlessly in public.

E Lai was the only person in North Moana who would dare to challenge Yang Jian.

He stared at Yang Jian as he bellowed, "How could you conclude that Lady Chang Er was dating Zhu Bajie with only these few words? Yang Jian, you are too arrogant. Don't simply slander Lady Chang Er if you don't have any evidence!"

Sigh!

upright. He said lightly, "I have always been righteous. We're investigating what caused the Emperor's sudden death, so don't you blabber away!"

Yang Jian snorted at E Lai's comment; his handsome figure remained

That was true—Yang Jian was a righteous man; he could not tolerate any unjustifiable matter.

Emperor Hou Yi treated Yang Jian very well, so he was terribly sad about the Emperor's sudden death. Yang Jian could not accept the fact that the Emperor had passed away, so he secretly vowed that he would track the murderer no matter the consequences. Even if Chang Er were the suspect, he must investigate the issue thoroughly.

"Righteous?"

E Lai was stunned for a moment before he sneered, "Don't act innocent, Yang Jian. Everyone knows that you are the most powerful after the Emperor. Now, tell me, did you engrave these words to frame the Empress?"

E Lai got bolder as he snarled, "You blamed the Empress to frame her so that no one could control you in North Moana. Then, you could ascend the throne and take the Emperor's place, right? I suspect that you're the one who killed His Majesty. This must be your conspiracy—"

Chang Er did not say anything. She bit her lips tightly as she shook in anger.

She also had the same thoughts.

Yang Jian enjoyed a respectable position in the Royal Palace, so if Emperor Hou Yi died, he would be the most powerful candidate to be the next Emperor. Therefore, he might have harmed Emperor Hou Yi and then framed Chang Er. That was something very likely to happen.

However, even though Yang Jian was aloof, he was loyal to Emperor Hou Yi. Why would he do that?

If it were not Yang Jian, then who could have been the real murderer?

"Nonsense!"

Yang Jianjian frowned. He was furious; he looked at E Lai coldly. "His Majesty had been very kind to me; why would I harm him? Don't you blame me!"

E Lai laughed as anger rose in his heart. "Yang Jian, did you say I blame you for this? Then what about you slandering Lady Chang Er with Zhu Bajie?"

The man stood in front of Chang Er as he said, "No matter what you do today, don't you dare hurt Lady Chang Er unless you step over my dead body first."

His tone was unquestionable.

Phew!

Yang Jian took a deep breath, but he did not say anything else. He pointed to the words on the jade platform and said, "You asked me for evidence; here they are. E Lai, you may say that I engraved these words or I slandered the Empress, but Lady Chang Er must give us an explanation today!"

Yang Jian looked firm when he said that!

Suddenly everyone looked at Chang Er.

"Yang Jian!"

Chang Er bit her lips so hard that they almost bled. She said, "Well, since you want to do this, then I'll do as you said."

Chang Er looked around the room. "I have nothing to do with Zhu Bajie.

I have not seen him since he escaped from the palace!"

She glanced at Yang Jian. "Are you satisfied now?" She sounded calm, but a fit of uncontrollable anger continued to brew.

Yang Jian insisted on giving Chang Er a hard time in public—he was simply despicable.

"Is that all?"

Yang Jian blinked in disbelief. He asked Chang Er, "Then how would Your Highness explain these words on the jade platform?"

Chang Er was so angry that she stopped in her tracks. "I told you, I don't know! I don't know!"

'Is Yang Jian crazy? Why would he insist that I caused my husband's death?

Phew!

Yang Jian took a deep breath and shook his head. "If that's the case, then I'm sorry, Your Highness. I have the right to detain you in prison while we investigate this matter."

Yang Jian glanced around the room; he looked like he was filled with evil spirits—his cold voice permeated the room. "The law must be obeyed, nonetheless. His Majesty's death is a significant matter. We have all received grace from His Majesty, so all of you must support my decision.

Having received the grace from His Majesty in the past, you must be clear and support my decision. I'll kill whoever disobeys my command!"

Buzz!

In his last sentence, a powerful breath of aura broke out from Yang Jian and swept across the audience.

Hiss!

Everyone sucked in a mouthful of cold air; they were displeased.

Yang Jian was called the Grandmaster Erlang, and Emperor Hou Yi gave him the title of the Invincible General. He had a lofty status in North Moana, and he was very powerful. Who dared to provoke him when he was that serious?

Gulp!

At the same time, Darryl swallowed his saliva nervously. He was so shocked; he was speechless.

D*mn it!

Just as one expected from Grandmaster Erlang, his domineering attitude was terrifying. It was rumored that Yang Jian never tolerated the slightest mistake. As long as he thought it was right, he would do everything he could to persist. He even dared to put Chang Er in prison. It seemed like there was some truth to that rumor.

"You—"

Chang Er was so shocked that she trembled and pointed at Yang Jian. She was so angry that she was speechless.

'Yang Jian is too bold. Not only did he slander me having a relationship with Zhu Bajie, but he also wants to imprison me?'

"Yang Jian!"

E Lai roared, "You've slandered and disrespected the Empress, and now you're trying to make a move? I'll kill you, you rebellious traitor!"

E Lai's eyes flashed with anger as he charged at Yang Jian!

Everyone was stunned at what had happened!

'F*ck! Are they going to fight?'

At the same time, Darryl was very excited. He wondered if he could try to escape when a fight broke out. "A brave man, but very simple-minded!" Yang Jian did not cringe, even as E Lai attacked him. He merely snorted; his internal energy surged, and he gripped his Tri-point Double-edged Saber tightly to greet E Lai's attack! Clang! The Tri-point Double-edged Saber collided with the giant hammers. Everyone heard that world-shattering noise that shook the room violently. Then, they saw E Lai stumbled a few steps backward! A streak of blood oozed from the corner of his mouth. Even though E Lai was known for his bravery, Yang Jian had the upper hand. After all, he was the famous Grandmaster Erlang; E Lai was not his match. Hiss! Everyone gasped when E Lai took that blow. Powerful. So powerful! No one was surprised that Grandmaster Erlang could injure E Lai with a single blow. "E Lai!" Chang Er shuddered and exclaimed loudly. E Lai had protected her for so many years, and she appreciated his loyalty. She almost lost it when she saw how he suffered the blow! Chang Er stared at Yang Jian coldly. "Yang Jian, you are too bold. You even dared to attack my people! Come here, and I won't move. Come and put me in prison!" She stood protectively in front of E Lai. "Lady Chang Er!" The man was touched and furious. As a subordinate, how could he let Chang Er protect him? E Lai roared and went around Chang Er. Then, he charged toward Yang Jian again! "How stupid!" Yang Jian snorted coldly; he was lighting fast. He raised his palm and then sent another attack at E Lai! That attack was like thunder, and the burly E Lai was like a kite with a broken string. His body was sent more than ten meters backward; he spouted several mouthfuls of blood.

Chapter 1740 Hiss! Everyone gasped! That was Grandmaster Erlang's real strength! Those who wanted to stand up and speak for Chang Er held their breath fearfully. "Lady Chang Er, I—"

E Lai looked miserable; he gaped at Chang Er. He had failed as a personal guard to keep the Empress safe—he was incompetent. The more E Lai thought about it, the angrier he got. The bad emotion was not good for him. He fainted as everything around him turned dark.

"Yang Jian!"

Chang Er's pretty face turned somber as she scolded Yang Jian. "How dare you do that to E Lai! Do you still respect me? Well, you want to imprison me for your investigation, right? Let's see if you have the ability to do that!"

Crack!

A sword appeared in Chang Er's hand, accompanied by a crisp sound.

The sword had a brilliant luster. Its blade was about one meter and one inch long, and it dazzled like the stars and moon.

It was Chang Er's personal weapon—Star and Moon Sword!

that appeared when the world was first formed. Emperor Hou Yi stumbled upon it and used it to make a sword for Chang Er. When Chang Er first got the sword, she liked it very much. She waved it around on the spot, and it was like how the moonlight shone onto the earth. That was how Chang Er got her name as the Moon Palace Fairy.

That weapon's primary material was rumored to be a rare meteorite

As soon as she drew her sword, the spiritual power in the entire room suddenly converged!

Damn it!

Darryl shook as he felt the powerful aura that emanated from the Star and Moon Sword; he was extremely shocked.

Chuck!

Chang Er leapt up and then aimed a stab at Yang Jian without any hesitation!

Whoa!

Chang Er used all of her strength in that sword attack; I was also driven by the immense grief and anger in her heart. Emperor Hou Yi had just died, and she was still grieving. How could she tolerate Yang Jian's accusation of her?

The air distorted wherever the sword went!

Ugh!

Yang Jian sighed lightly without panic. He stood there as steady as Mount Tai while his gaze followed Chang Er's sword!

"Lady Chang Er, I'm doing this to investigate the Emperor's death. I have no choice but to offend you since you're not ready to cooperate with me!"

Yang Jian's gaze turned cold after he said that. The scary aura in him rose as he wielded the Tri-point Double-edged Saber to meet Chang Er's sword!

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The Star and Moon Sword and the Tri-point Double-edged Saber collided numerous times and made loud clanking noises. The people around them could not bear the uncomfortable noises.

Oh, yes!

The fight had finally started; Darryl's opportunity to escape was almost there!

Darryl was excited; he wanted to escape amid the chaos with Celine and Queenie, but he held back after he saw the number of guards outside the room!

He convinced himself that there would be plenty of opportunities to do that in the future since they had started an internal fight.

At that moment, on the jade platform.

Chang Er's graceful figure darted back and forth in the fight with Yang Jian.

She was very confident at first, but she gradually lost hope.

'What happened? When did Yang Jian become so strong?'

Chang Er and Yang Jian had fought each other thousands of years ago. At that time, they were equal in strength. However, things had changed. Chang Er felt that Yang Jian's strength had already surpassed her by leaps and bounds.

That was not a surprise. Chang Er had lived a good life as a pampered Empress for thousands of years since she married Emperor Hou Yi. Over the years, she had slacked in her cultivation under Emperor Hou Yi's protection.

Yang Jian, on the other hand, had been working hard for nearly a thousand years. Hence, he had long surpassed Chang Er in strength.

Yang Jian did not want to continue with the fight. He flipped his hand and sent a palm attack at Chang Er when he noticed she had lost her focus!

His palm attack was so fast that Chang Er could not avoid it. She could only use her internal energy to greet Yang Jian's palm with her own!

Boom!

The two palms created a dull vibration. Chang Er retreated several steps backward; her beautiful face looked surprised and embarrassed!

Then, Yang Jian dashed forward and quickly raised his hand to tap twice on Chang Er's acupoints.

Suddenly, Chang Er stiffened; she could not move an inch.

"Take her down!"

Yang Jian gave the command without any hesitation.

A few royal guards came and took Chang Er out of the room. The guards were loyal to Yang Jian, and they only obeyed him!