

“Young Master, since you are setting up a company, why not make it a bigger one?”

“It isn’t worth your time to mess around with such a small company.”

Han’s doubtful voice came drifting in from the other end of the line.

But Ye Fan shook his head and laughed softly.

“This is Mu-Cheng’s first time running a company. It is better for her to take small steps at the beginning. If she tries to run before she can walk, she will easily stumble and fall.”

“Moreover, it will be a most wonderful experience for her if she can personally transform a small enterprise into a commercial giant.”

If Ye Fan wanted to, he could easily give his wife a three-digit billion-yuan enterprise.

But he had chosen not to. Because he knew what his wife really wanted was a stage to exhibit her talent.

Take a professional dancer for example. As long as she has a stage and an opportunity, she can exhibit her peerless dance form before the public. Step by step, she can approach the pinnacle of the art world.

But if Ye Fan had conferred that greatest honor upon Qiu Mu-Cheng right from the get go, then her life would become one without any pleasure.

“Mu-Cheng, I have already set up the stage for you.”

“Now, let me see your peerless dance form.”

Within the study, as Ye Fan looked at the vast sky outside the window, an expression that was part deep indulgence and part heavy expectation could be seen in his eyes.

It was just like what Ye Fan had said before.

If you want the clouds, I will summon them for you~

If you wish for autumn to come, I will make

the leaves fall for you!

For your sake, I can give you the whole world~

.....

“Oh yeah, Han. I told you to investigate Wu He-Rong’s background when we spoke last. So have you found out anything yet?”

“He knew about the ‘Book of Celestial Cloud.’ I did not expect that.”

The “Book of Celestial Cloud” was one of the Chu family’s most guarded secrets. Even among the Chus, only a few core family members had the chance to come in contact with it.

During the Mount Tai Tournament, Ye Fan had used one single technique from the “Book of Celestial Cloud,” and Wu He-Rong had immediately recognized it for what it was. That had come as a surprise to Ye Fan.

And he had no choice but to suspect that Wu He-Rong was also a member of the Chu family.

“Young Master, I have investigated his background thoroughly.”

“Wu He-Rong was the overlord of Jiangdong before Chen Ao. But one day, the empire he had built in Jiangdong was shattered overnight. Strictly speaking, that was all your fault.”

Back then, in order to prop up Chen Ao as the ruler of Jiangdong, Ye Fan had secretly ordered Han to collect evidence of Wu He-Rong’s criminal activities and hand them over to Chen Ao. Afterward, the current King of Jiangdong had toppled his archrival in one fell swoop.

Looking at things from this angle, Ye Fan had indeed been the person single-handedly responsible for the fall of Wu He-Rong.

Most probably, none of the leaders in Jiangdong knew that a single mysterious puppeteer had been responsible for the earth-shaking change that had taken place in Jiangdong years ago.

“But this Wu He-Rong was a tough guy. After he fled overseas, he took up mercenary work in order to survive. Back

then, he was hiding his identity as he moved about in the western underworld. And he was also involved in the wars that have taken place in the Middle East during the past few years.”

“Also, he enjoyed a certain amount of fame in the western mercenary world. They even gave him a nickname. The Blood Wolf King.”

“I guess he must have fought with members of the Chu family in the past. That must be why he could recognize your technique from the ‘Book of Celestial Cloud.’”

“As you know, the Chu family’s influence has spread to all walks of life. Even in the western underworld, they have their own businesses there.”

“Moreover, this person was hired by the Chus to come kill you. So it was not surprising for him to know about the ‘Book of Celestial Cloud.’”

“Mm.” Ye Fan nodded his head. The result of Han’s investigation matched his own deduction.

“But Young Master, it is extremely dangerous for you to reveal either your identity as the eldest son of the Chu family or the fact that you have mastered the ‘Book of Celestial Cloud.’ Either of these revelations could lead to your death. So my advice to you is to maintain a low profile whenever you can. Although we are not afraid of trouble, but it is best to avoid it whenever we can,” Han persuaded Ye Fan in a heavy tone of voice.

Ye Fan nodded and said: “Don’t worry, I know how to be discreet.”

After he ended the call, Ye Fan closed the curtains, locked the door and took out a book from a drawer.

Although it was daytime, the study was pitch dark.

Ye Fan switched on the light and, within the dimly lighted room, the book he was holding appeared within his vision.

It was black all over and, at first, the pages were completely blank.

But when Ye Fan placed his hand on the inside of the book, something fantastic

happened. Numerous words suddenly started to appear on the hitherto blank pages.

Meanwhile, gilded patterns were slowly forming on the cover. Finally, the patterns gathered to form the characters for “Book of Celestial Cloud”!

Yes. This was the Book of Celestial Cloud that could only be read by members of the Chu family!

Moreover, only pure-blooded Chus could make the words in the book appear.

Ye Fan was the only scion of the family who was allowed to have the “Tian” character in his name. If even he could not make the words appear, then nobody else in this world could “start up” the book.

In the past, Qiu Mu-Cheng had always wondered why Ye Fan would go lock himself in the study for hours, after finishing his meals and household chores.

In the past, she had simply believed that he had sought refuge in the study because of his inferiority complex and his fear of being jeered at by her parents. Little did

was a brain-taxing task and, moreover, the Book of Celestial Cloud was a very profound book.

“Oh yeah, Xu Lei has helped us a lot in setting up the company. I ought to be polite and give her a call to thank her.”

He had known Xu Lei for some time already. Although this woman put on the airs of a stately and stern strongwoman in public but, in Ye Fan’s opinion, she could be very petty at times.

Ye Fan could still remember how he had been kicked out of her car twice without rhyme or reason. If he did not call to thank her after she had done him a favor, that woman would probably get mad at him again.

After making up his mind, Ye Fan pulled out his phone and dialled Xu Lei’s number.

But after a while, Ye Fan frowned.

“Mm?”

she know that, during all these years, Ye Fan had actually been studying the Book of Celestial Cloud.

A dozen or so years ago, Ye Fan had heard about the book from his weakling father. At that time, he had assumed that the Book of Celestial Cloud was just like one of those martial art manuals that appeared in wuxia novels, a book that taught one how to fight. But afterward, when he had finally gotten his hands on the book, he discovered that he had made a mistake. A huge mistake.

The Book of Celestial Cloud was all-encompassing. It covered all sorts of topics – ranging from interpersonal skills, personal conduct, strategizing and so on and so forth – and it definitely was not just some instruction manual for fighting.

It was obvious once one thought about it. How could the most closely guarded secret of the Chu family be something so common?

It was evident just by looking at the name!

A few hours later, Ye Fan left the apartment to get some fresh air. Reading

Chapter 170 Book of Celestial Cloud



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“Her phone is switched off?”

“Could something have happened to her?”

Ye Fan frowned as he felt a nagging bit of worry.

But on second thought, after taking into consideration her status and level of influence, he decided that she was probably not in any sort of big trouble.

However, out of concern for his friend, Ye Fan made a call to Li Er to ask for more information.

Li Er had always been Xu Lei’s rival in Yunzhou.

On the surface the both of them appeared to have a harmonious relationship but, privately, competition had always been fierce between them.

There was not enough room for two kings in Yunzhou City. But although Li Er and Xu Lei were not mortal enemies, they were still competitors.

In Great China, there was a saying: the person who understands you the most is

not yourself but your rival.

Therefore, in the whole of Yunzhou, the person who understood Xu Lei the most was Li Er, the person who had been her rival for so many years.

“Mm?”

“The Xu family has sent their people here?”
Ye Fan’s curiosity was piqued after hearing what Li Er had to say.

“Yes, Mr. Chu. A few outsiders came to Hongqi Group a few days ago. After carefully investigating them, I deduced that they must be Xu Lei’s family elders.”

“I guess something must have happened to her family?”

“From the looks of things, Xu Lei’s family must have transferred her out of Yunzhou. Yesterday, she resigned from her position as president of Hongqi Group and somebody else was put in charge of the company.”

“Oh? Something like that happened?” Ye Fan was slightly surprised. He had not expected Xu Lei to leave just like that.

But Ye Fan did not ask anymore questions after finding out the truth. After all, this was Xu Lei's family matter. As an outsider, he had no right to go meddle in somebody else's family affairs.

"But could Xu Lei be a member of the Xu family of Yanjing?"

When he thought of this, Ye Fan shook his head with a smile.

He had not imagined that Xu Lei had such a powerful background.

But it made sense. Xu Lei was just a woman after all. Even though she was a resourceful person, there was no way she could have grown the company to such an extent all by herself.

Moreover, Xu Lei had been wearing another hat as the regional manager of Hongqi Bank while she was running her company.

According to Ye Fan's knowledge, both extraordinary capabilities and a powerful family background were needed for a person to become a regional manager of Hongqi Bank.

Now that he had found out the truth behind Xu Lei's disappearance, Ye Fan felt relieved.

He had been afraid that Xu Lei was in trouble, but now it seemed that he had been worrying too much. They were Xu Lei's blood-related family after all, so they would do nothing to harm her. Ye Fan had nothing more to worry about.

But just as he was about to end the call, Li Er suddenly chimed in with a request.

"Mr. Chu, it will be Mid-Autumn in a few days. Every year on that day, the Yunzhou city government will collaborate with the business magnates to organize some festive activities. And the most popular one is the auction held at Shanshui Hall."

"This year, I am involved in the planning for the auction and I have come up with some new gimmicks. I hope Mr. Chu can do me a favor by giving me something that I can put up for the auction."

Before Li Er could complete his sentence, Ye Fan interrupted him and shook his head with a laugh.

“You old bastard. How dare you try to take advantage of me?”

“My wife runs a tight ship at home. I even have to save up money just to be able to afford my own meals. Under the circumstances, do you think I own anything presentable enough for the auction?”

“For things like this, isn’t it better for you to ask Shen Jiu-Yi? That old fellow owns a lot of precious antiques. That time, he even came up with an original painting by Tang Bo-Hu.”

“Alright, I am going to stop chit-chatting with you. My wife is about to get off work. I have to hurry home and prepare dinner.”

Just as Ye Fan was about to end the call, Li Er hurriedly interjected: “Please don’t, Mr. Chu.”

“I have already thought of everything. I don’t need you to come up with a precious antique. I just need you to...”

And Li Er started chatting away on the phone.

When he had finished speaking, Ye Fan smiled and said: "Okay, Er. You have good business acumen indeed. You deserve to be making money."

"Alright. I promise you. I can give you what you want. You just go ahead with the auction. But I am not going to turn up at the event. Too lazy to go."

Li Er chuckled and said: "Mr. Chu, don't be too quick to say that. Would you believe it if I told that, when the time comes, you will have to show up whether you want to or not?"

"Mm?" Ye Fan was taken aback. He had no idea what Li Er meant by that.

But the latter did not say anything more. After greeting Ye Fan once, he hung up the phone with a smile on his face.

Afterward, Li Er called for Jin Bao and Yin Bao.

"Go make some arrangements. Get me two invitations for the 'Mid-Autumn's Night' event. Send one to Miss Qiu Mu-Cheng and, remember, you have to get her to promise to attend."

“And then, since Madam Chu will be attending, doesn’t that mean Mr. Chu will have to go as well?”

And Li Er smiled the smile of an experienced schemer.

He could not persuade Mr. Chu to attend the auction, but surely Qiu Mu-Cheng could!

After all, Ye Fan’s reputation as a henpecked husband was well-known among the leaders of Jiangdong!

Li Er was the organizer for this year’s “Mid-Autumn’s Night” auction. And if he could invite a VIP guest like Mr. Chu, that would make him look good.

Chen Ao, Lei San and the others would have to think more highly of him.

After all, after the Mount Tai Tournament, Ye Fan’s status and influence had peaked in Yunzhou. It was as if he was now the master of the whole province.

If the people found out that even the master of the province would be attending the auction, then it would instantly make

items. Since so many cities were holding auctions at the same time, Li Er and the other leaders had to come up with ways to attract those magnates to their respective territories.

That was the reason why, each year at this time, Jiangdong would be engulfed in marketing war. In order to attract the buyers to come, each city would advertise the valuables that would be up for bidding at their auction.

But for the past few years, Li Er had been greatly falling behind Chen Ao and Lei San in terms of money power and the quality of auction items. So each year, the Mid-Autumn's Night auction held at Yunzhou would be particularly deserted. All the magnates had been lured away by Chen Ao and Lei San, so the Yunzhou auctions had not seen many sales transactions. After repeated failures, the money Li Er had earned was not even enough to cover the costs of setting up the venue.

But fortunately, this year, a dragon had appeared in Yunzhou.

Li Er was fully confident that the presence of an esteemed VIP like Mr. Chu would

the event more high-end.

“Hahaha~”

“With Mr. Chu as a gimmick, we shall see how Chen Ao and Lei San are going to be able to challenge me during the “Mid-Autumn’s Night” auction.”

“At that time, the event hall at Yunzhou will be filled with wealthy people and bigwigs. It will be so lively here. But the guests at Jianghai and Jingzhou will be few in number and their halls will be deserted. Chen Ao, Lei San and the others will be so mad!”

Li Er felt enormously satisfied when he imagined the bitter expression on the faces of his rivals.

The Mid-Autumn’s Night auction would be held in many cities in the province.

Not just Yunzhou City. In previous years, prosperous cities such as Jianghai and Jingzhou would also hold their own auctions.

But there were only so few magnates with enough wealth and influence to bid on the

Chapter 171 Auction on Mid-Autumn Night!

transform the Mid-Autumn's Night auction at Yunzhou City into the brightest jewel of the province!



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