

The Story of Zhae

Chapter 6: Broken promises, broken chains

A discussion of leadership

Short story short, the Horse Rider is our battle leader, the hooded girl our regular decision maker. Good, this way I can keep my mind on my training, I have no time to learn the intricacies of command, Li Laoshi always said my foresight and inspiration is lacking, I am to stick to facts and a sharp blade, I'm too useless for more, but be damned if I shan't master them.

A new arrival

We have decided to pursue the Orcs to lend aid to our allies from Berdusk, with needing to recover we are far behind them, when we find them I doubt there will be a single warrior left for us to face. So much still to learn! Out of simple decency though we follow.

We encountered a peculiar man, he claims to have a matter of honor needs to be settled. He joins us for a distance till we reach the caravan harboring the man he desires to settle with. I can't but help feel a moment of doubt, but he approaches the caravan openly, not like a thief in the night. Should he assault the traveler's though I will aid, but... something is strange, he is changing, I feel my desire to rush in waver.

Most fortunately he settles indeed with the one who he has issues with and departs after shattering some blade. The hero marks him as inevitable. It is ... quite ironic.

The loss of master's gift and then...

After viewing the odd incident, we are now assaulted by four unusual creatures, while I look forward to battle, the lack of...how to describe it..."skilled" adversaries, this will be an interesting new challenge. Then the Hero warns me of the one heading closest to us, it is difficult to describe it, but it destroys metal. I do away with my sword, it will be good to test my fists. After I deliver it a blow the extensions on its whip around me and I suddenly feel much lighter! The master's gift to me for being so slow has been turned to dust! I should have realized sooner why the Hero sounded nervous when he described its abilities! The creature still falls easily to me....then I turned.... a strange feeling came over me as I approached Chi Xiaojie, she was too still. There were more creatures yet, I could only realize I had failed... So lost in my own fight, yet it was so insignificant, I know understand why I lost the master's protection, ironic for one who did not protect!

Travel....

I sit in thought throughout the trip, my mind is too...disappointed at my failure, yet again. I have no mind for my training, I just go over the fight, so insignificant the adversary I faced, yet in such an instant... then the vines happen, a nice distraction for my mind! Yet when it's over utterly disappointing, no joy in this fight, just simple cutting..... I stare at the white statue, the empty feeling returning....I only then realize we have a new companion, my attention on Chi Xiaojie haven't taken all my thought... I do not yet know what to make of him...

The fragile life

Such things are not good for me, I could almost feel myself crumble to bits and be scattered by the wind... Turned to flesh only to see her dead, I have no words, my blade can't fight off the reaper, fortunately one who can appeared(apparently fetched post haste), I hadn't even noticed him till he returned Chi Xiaojie to life..... such a feat I can't reproduce.... , o had I the ability to travel to the desk of the Yema kings and reclaim life...yet such would cause them great ire...would it be my turn to stand before them, their judgment would be harsh....yet one can dream to one day attain such skill....

The sword master

My mind at rest after it's recent turmoil I get to have some conversation with our new companion, he has a certain air to him, I can not put my finger on it. He mentions his master's name is Blade..... Li Laoshi has mentioned that name! The way he carries himself.... he will be a good ally.... he wields a blade too, I look forward to witnessing his skill in true battle. First however, I still have a score to settle and I hold to my word.