Tai-Chi Master



Version 1.2 by SpazzWave

Before the chaos of rebellion and the corruption of power, there were two brothers born in the Ming Dynasty. Once they trained together under the same roof, sharing their laughter, their struggle, and their dreams of enlightenment together. But as their paths diverged, one sought justice through harmony, the other through control. You enter this world as they leave the Shaolin Temple that once was their home. Here, take these **1000 Wuxia Points**, and good luck.

Origins



Ambitious Government Official

You rose through the ranks of the Imperial system with brilliance, discipline, and unshakable resolve. Once, perhaps, your intentions were pure: to bring justice, structure, and prosperity to a chaotic land. But power changes those who hold it, and you have tasted its intoxicating pleasure. You begin with influence, resources and command of loyal subordinates, along with an acceptable amount of experience in administration.

Monk With a Pure Heart

You've never taken life too seriously, and that's your greatest strength. While others chase status, power, or revenge, you find joy in simple things: a good meal, a funny story, a lazy afternoon beneath the sun. You drift from temple courtyards to city streets, often finding yourself in the middle of trouble without ever meaning to. Yet behind your easy smile and relaxed manner lies quiet wisdom. You've learned that peace doesn't come from rigid rules or lofty ambitions, but from balance. Knowing when to yield, and knowing when to act. You may be underestimated, but your calm spirit is a force few can match.

Rebel Wanderer

The world has forgotten its balance. You've seen farmers starve while nobles feast, monks beaten for faith, and honest men crushed beneath the shadow of an empire. Yet instead of bitterness, your heart burns with compassion. You fight not for vengeance, but for harmony, seeking dignity for those who cannot fight for themselves. You begin as a modest man, but with the right sort of friends someone would need in this chaotic time.

General Perks

Shaolin Training [Free/400]

You start with a basic amount of training in martial arts, having developed your limbs and extremities for endurance and knowing basic elements such as footwork and fist techniques. For 400 **Wuxia Points** you instead begin on the level of Gwanbou and Tienbou, being a martial arts prodigy capable of fighting dozens of people at the same time, master martial arts techniques easily and having a level of durability strong enough to receive attacks of normal people unharmed.

Shaolin Monk [Free]

You possess the fundamental knowledge of a Shaolin Monk, such as how to effectively condition your body and breathing. You also know how to cook vegetarian meals, repair and take care of a temple, maintain communal harmony and recite Buddhist philosophy. Meditation also comes naturally to you.

Jade Beauty [Free]

Your appearance is improved, with your skin being as flawless as jade, without any imperfections. Your facial features are refined, sharp and symmetrical, and your hair becomes strong, lustrous and well-kept without any work from you. Your appearance also naturally exudes vitality and health.

Kung Fu By Wire [100]

You know the most important technique in Wuxia: footwork. You can move as light as a feather, jump on fragile things without breaking them, and survive falls that would hurt a normal person. This advances according to your martial arts level, and with higher levels beyond those offered here you may even walk on water and on walls.

Bamboo Environment [100]

You can effectively and intuitively use your environment in a fight, being able to kick things to complex positions without thinking, turn nearby objects into improvised weapons, balance logs straight without them falling and many other feats seen in Wuxia.

Life Lessons [100]

To teach martial arts, you must teach more than just aggression. You need to teach experience, so your students are always centered and in harmony with themselves. Students you teach absorb more than your skill, they absorb your life lessons. Be martial arts, leadership or simple wisdom, your lessons take root deeply and shape your students in lasting ways. Even years later they may recall your teachings at pivotal moments, realizing meanings you never stated aloud.

Ambitious Government Official



Face Culture [100]

You have no weak emotions that would hold a person back, such as shame or remorse. You could easily humiliate yourself in front of a government officer or even betray your brother without blinking an eye. You can toggle this off if you want to.

Eunuch [200]

You have an intuition for the flow of authority and influence in a political hierarchy. This manifests as an awareness of alliances, rivalries and how to recognize the best opportunities to gain rank and favor, especially without overstepping or alienating others. You also have a sense that tells you your reputation with government officials and the people. Despite the name, you actually don't have to be an eunuch.

Imperial Edict [400]

History has shown ruling through fear doesn't work. Not for you. You know exactly how to use fear and dominance to rule and make those below you follow your orders and respect your authority. Also, when you do something to instill fear or kill someone as an example, the act is carved on the memories of the people, cementing your authority over them.

Weapon Master [600]

You have achieved harmony between self and steel. Whether it is the staff, sword, spear, chain, or fan, every weapon becomes an extension of your body, with you achieving instant mastery as if you have trained with it for a lifetime. Any weapon you use also becomes perfectly balanced in your hand, and you gain an intuition on how to deflect any enemy weapon that is used against you. In fact, you also know how to disarm them with effortless grace, which will show your mastery.

Monk With a Pure Heart



Humble Heart [100]

You have learned that true mastery begins not with display, but with reflection. You are humble, having a heart without arrogance and eyes that are open to any lesson. You are attentive to the needs of others, and you always seek to absorb lessons from every experience.

Kind Spirit [200]

A smile can open doors that power cannot. You have a natural warmth and openness that draws others to you, helping you make friends even among strangers. Your presence is comforting to others, your laughter genuine and your attention sincere.

Eating Bitterness [400]

You have learned to endure what would cripple most. You can easily deal with scarce food, rough terrain and long nights under the stars with no problem or consequence. Your body requires little, and your mind finds calm even under discomfort that would affect any normal man.

Tai Chi [600]

You have been illuminated in one of the most fundamental principles of the universe: Everything is round, from the sun to the moon and even in movement, there is stillness. As such, you have mastered the principle of rotation, being able to redirect kinetic motion and energy with your martial arts. You can easily create vortices of air around you strong enough to affect the wind, redirect the energy of your enemies and rotate around your center of gravity without falling or even midair.

Rebel Wanderer



Melody of the Heart [100]

You possess a natural gift for music, especially with all the chinese instruments such as the zither. Your playing expresses emotions that words cannot, and creating songs comes easily for you. You could have easily made a living with this if life didn't put you on a most perilous path.

Housewife [200]

You have the skill and talent to present yourself as obedient, harmless and unremarkable. Your expressions, posture and tone naturally convey subservience, and as long as you act in this way in front of any government official, not a single one of them will suspect you are potentially a rebel or dissident.

Dissent of the Common People [400]

You can see among the masses those who have the potential to rebel against the current regime, such as those that carry defiance in their gazes. Those people have the potential to unify against tyranny, and all they need is someone like you, who is charismatic enough to convince anyone that rebelling is a cause worth fighting for.

Mandate of Heaven [600]

The Mandate of Heaven decides which emperors are fit to rule for the good of the people. When a ruler becomes corrupt, tyrannical, or neglectful, it is said that Heaven withdraws its favor, leaving them vulnerable to rebellion and misfortune. And you are its agent. When fighting against corruption and tyranny, the Heavens themselves will guide your hands to opportunities to expose corruption, challenge their power and protect the vulnerable. You will find yourself at the right places at the right time to do the most good you can for the people. Even if you are outnumbered, Heaven will help you as much as it can, offering distractions or the opportunities to find allies.

Items



Shaolin Robes [Free]

Simple robes from a Shaolin temple. Quite durable.

Bamboo Staff [Free]

A lightweight bamboo staff that is perfect for martial arts. If broken, you will find another one nearby.

Horse [100]

You have a well-bred horse that appears whenever you need to travel to somewhere far away or to pursue someone. If the horse dies, a new one will appear one day later.

Ambitious Government Official

Jian Sword [100]

An elegant sword for an elegant age. Will repair itself if broken and retain its edge even if you hit bricks or wood with it.

Palace [200]

This small palace is a luxurious building made for government officials with all the necessities that a man would need. This also comes with a group of servants that will tend to your every need and take care of the palace.

Official Clothes [400]

This uniform adjusts itself to the style and culture of whatever army you serve, and once worn, this makes you a general in that army, with all the benefits of the position. This uniform is also pretty comfortable and cleans itself.

Monk With a Pure Heart

Teapot [100]

This is a beautiful jade teapot made in a Buddhist temple. Any tea brewed from this pot replenishes the energy and spirit, restoring internal harmony.

Buddhist Temple [200]

This Buddhist temple stands as a place of serenity beyond the worries of the mundane world. Capable of comfortably housing dozens of students, its most important function is that all the masters inside here perfectly understand any martial art technique that you bring to them, ensuring this knowledge is taught among the students.

Manual of Chi [400]

A book written by monks with the purpose of calming the heart instead of teaching martial arts. Anyone who reads this manual will find themselves inspired on how to live their lives.

Rebel Wanderer

Zither [100]

This finely crafted zither has a clarity of sound unmatched all over the world. When played on a street, nearby listeners will be moved and offer generous donations or gifts.

Buddha's Laugh Restaurant [200]

A humble looking restaurant tucked into the corner of a bustling street, the Buddha's Laugh Restaurant is a successful establishment that attracts visitors from all over the country, and it's fully yours. For some reason, it seems to attract many martial artists and prodigies, and if they end up fighting amongst themselves, your restaurant will appear fully repaired the next day. Its kitchen never runs out of ingredients and the place runs by itself.

Name Scroll [400]

By writing the name of every single rebel in your organization in this scroll, any methods used by government officials to discover their identities will fail as long as they do not act against the government. If they act such as attacking a government official, this protection disappears for one year. Government officials will know in what city this scroll is located, and if they get their hands on the scroll, the protection disappears.

Companions

Recruit Anyone [Free]

Anyone you want to recruit in this world is free to join you as a companion if they agree.

Create/Import [50 Wuxia Points for 1, 200 Wuxia Points for 8]

You can create new Companions or import existing Companions. They get an Origin, with all freebies and discounts, along with 600 Wuxia Points to spend. You can also import any companion you bought here for a Wuxia Point stipend.

Drawbacks

Canon Character [Free]

Assume the life of a character in the movie related to your origin.

Main Protagonist [Free]

Leave when the plot of the movie ends a few months after you appear here. If taken with other drawbacks, they will occur as fast as possible in this timeframe.

Restless Spirit [+100]

You find it nearly impossible to sit still. You cannot understand meditation no matter how you try, patience is a difficult task for you and you can't stand silence.

Corrupted Authority [+100]

The government you serve (or oppose) is steeped in greed and corruption. Officials demand bribes, tax collectors abuse taxes and even military officials extort the people.

Pride Before the Fall [+100]

Your confidence shines like the sun, being radiant and blinding. You are confident in your abilities to the point you underestimate your enemies, dismiss warnings or push yourself beyond your limits simply to prove a point.

Strife Seeker [+100]

You are drawn to danger and challenges of skill. Even when caution would serve you, you pursue dangerous challenges such as duels, risky maneuvers or confrontations with people you shouldn't mess with in the first place, just to prove yourself.

Broken Balance [+100]

Your emotions burn bright and fast, igniting with the smallest spark. Pride, anger and desire often cloud your inner peace, and this affects even the most serene meditation or most disciplined training. You will have difficulty controlling your emotions unless you stop whatever you are doing and take a deep breath.

Naive Idealist [+100]

You see the world in absolutes, such as good and evil, justice and corruption, and this makes you blind to nuance. People seeking you harm will manipulate your sense of honor, and you will discover yourself incapable of evading this.

Bruised and Bloodied [+200]

Your training is grueling, your battles relentless and your body bears the cost as a result. Injuries heal extremely slowly, and recovery takes time and the discipline to not hurt yourself anymore. Be careful with battles.

Once Brother [+200]

Someone you trusted harbored ambition in their heart that twisted their path from yours. And now they are your enemy. As your skills in martial arts grow, so do theirs. It will be up to you to defeat them, and this will break your heart.

Rebel [+200]

You have been branded a traitor by the empire, and you cannot walk the streets in safety anymore. Soldiers and bounty hunters will seek to defeat and capture you, and as long as you live in a city, you will eventually be found.

Torn Between Paths [+200]

You cannot reconcile your martial arts with the violence it must sometimes employ to protect you and those you love. Every fight and every victory will leave you questioning your spirit and draining you emotionally.

Marked by Fate [+400]

You are fated to face tragedy, such as exile from your temple, the loss of your comrades or the death of someone you love. The pain will shape your journey and drive your growth, but it will never leave you.

Changelog and Notes

V 1.0 - First Version

V 1.1 - Rebalanced the drawbacks.

 ${\rm V\,1.2}$ – New Origin, Perk Tree and Item list.