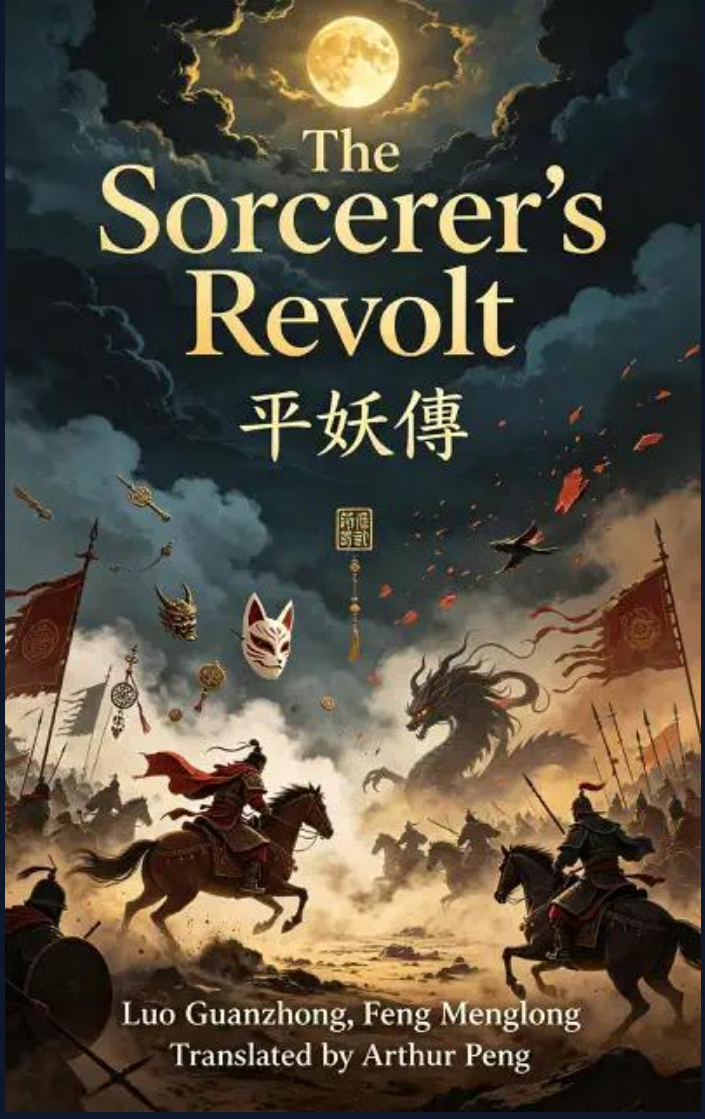
The
Sorcerer's
Revolt
平妖傳
Luo Guanzhong, Feng Menglong
Translated by Arthur Peng

The Sorcerer's Revolt

by **Luo Guanzhong**

BOOK DESCRIPTION

The Sorcerer's Revolt, also known as The Three Sui Quelling the Demons, is a classic Chinese vernacular novel rooted in Northern Song history and folk mythology. The original draft was written by Luo Guanzhong, and Feng Menglong expanded and revised it into the definitive forty-chapter version, making it one of the earliest surviving full-length novels from the late Ming Dynasty.

The story weaves supernatural sorcery, mortal rebellion and historical events together. It centers on a group of fox spirits and magic practitioners led by Holy Aunt, a thousand-year-old vixen skilled in Taoist arts. Her clan masters the seventy-two transformations from the sacred As-You-Wish Manual carved on the stone walls of White Cloud Cave. Later, they assist Wang Ze, a Northern Song soldier, to launch an uprising in Beizhou. The veteran statesman Wen Yanbo is ordered to suppress the rebellion, with divine help from the Mystic Maiden of the Nine Heavens. Key characters also include the Egg Monk, who spends years seeking the secret arts, Hu Yong'er, the reincarnated spirit and core figure of the rebellion, and Zuo

Chu, the crippled warrior under Holy Aunt.

Blending history, folklore and Taoist mythology is the book's greatest highlight. It vividly depicts ancient Chinese folk beliefs about spirits, spells and immortals, while reflecting real social conflicts of the Northern Song. The lively storytelling follows traditional Chinese storytelling style, with rich character portrayals and tense battles between magic and military forces. As a bridge between Song-Yuan oral tales and mature Ming novels, it also profoundly influenced later supernatural classics like Journey to the West. This work not only presents a fantastic magical world but also mirrors ordinary people's lives and social turbulence in ancient China, retaining high literary and cultural value to this day.

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