

# Yao (Template)

<https://www.glowfic.com/templates/2037>

- Meng Yao (not-a-single-sin)
- Jin Guangyao (all-things-to-all-men)
- A-Yao
- Meng Yao (willing-to-know)

# Meng Yao (not-a-single-sin)



<b>Other Names</b>	A-Yao, Jin Guangyao
<b>Setting</b>	The Untamed, gay ancient magic china
<b>Facecast</b>	Zhu Zanjin

**Meng Yao** is derived from The Untamed. He is the illegitimate son of Jin Guangshan and Meng Shi.

**Jin Guangyao** post-installation in the Jin family is a separate template instance. The accounts of his history and relationships are continued [here](#).

## History

### Childhood

Meng Yao is born February 20th in a Yunping brothel. His mother raises him with love and care, doing her best to shelter him from the unpleasant environment. She teaches him manners that, for now, are necessary for his survival, and one day will serve him well as a young master of the Jin Sect. Meng Shi imparts onto him her belief that one day Jin Guangshan will come for them and buy her freedom from the brothel, elevating Meng Yao as his son. This never happens. In the mean time, Meng Shi devotes most of her time and money attempting to educating her son the way a cultivator is supposed to be educated.

Meng Yao learns reading, writing, etiquette, and some approximation of meditation. He learns to be polite to everyone he meets. He learns to be afraid of everyone he meets. Some of the other prostitutes who are irritated by having a child around are cruel to him, strangers in the streets outside the brothel are dangerous, and his mother is often being hurt. She becomes sick when Meng Yao is nine, and the sickness never leaves completely. Over the years it worsens, and they cannot afford any doctor who knows how to treat her. When Meng Yao is thirteen, a brothel client attacks and publicly humiliates his mother. Meng Yao runs to their room after he hears her scream and tries to fight the attacker away; instead he is kicked down a flight of stairs and badly hits his head. Meng Yao fully recovers from his injuries after this incident; Meng Shi does not. She dies of her illness before Meng Yao turns fourteen.

After his Meng Shi's death, Meng Yao is untethered from the brothel. He travels to the Lanling Jin Sect to meet his father, carrying the supposedly rare and valuable pearl that Jin Guangshan gave his mother to prove his relation. He arrives at Carp Tower on his birthday, which turns out to also be the birthday of Jin Guangshan's *legitimate* son, Jin Zixuan. Jin Guangshan refuses to acknowledge Meng Yao in front of his displeased wife. Instead he crushes Meng Shi's precious pearl to dust and kicks Meng Yao down all the steps of Carp Tower, breaking bones. Meng Yao bows to his father before he leaves.

## Residence with the Nie Sect

Meng Yao joins multiple night hunting parties, trying to get a foothold in the cultivation world. He does everything he can to earn the approval of actual sect members. His traveling companions only laugh at how hard he tries, considering it pathetic and hopeless. Meng Yao overhears his group of Nie cultivators gossiping and making fun of him when he returns from fetching water for the entire group. He leaves to sit in the forest and eat by himself beneath a tree, exhausted and rather miserable.

Nie Mingjue finds him that way. When he stands over him and looks him over, Meng Yao looks up at him with big, big eyes. Infuriated to hear of the petty cruelty of his sect members, Nie Mingjue yells at all of them for being prejudiced idiots, and promotes Meng Yao to vice-general on the spot, shocking everyone present. Meng Yao feels fulfilled in a way he has never experienced before. It isn't enough to fill his heart, but Meng Yao thinks with enough power he will get there eventually.

He and Nie Mingjue come to trust and deeply rely on each other. They have entered a sexual relationship by the time Meng Yao escorts Nie Huaisang to the Cloud Recesses and meets Lan Xichen.

[Meeting Lan Xichen]

[Nie Captain, Divorce]

## Sunshot Campaign

Meng Yao heard Wen Chao boast that Cloud Recesses is being destroyed. Concerned for Lan Xichen and having no one else who he thinks might support him, Meng Yao journeys to Gusu. Lan Xichen was assailed by Wen soldiers on his escape from Cloud Recesses, managing to kill them all but sustaining serious injuries. Meng Yao finds him, collapsed and bleeding, and saves his life. They spend four months together in hiding, doing laundry and having sex. Then Lan Xichen goes to join in the Sunshot Campaign and Meng Yao goes to infiltrate Qishan Wen as a spy.

Meng Yao earns Wen Ruohan's favor with his cleverness, his efficient, mercenary manner, and his torture creativity. Meng Yao tortures many innocent people to death and, as he ascends to Wen Ruohan's second in command, harshly punishes those who displease him or the sect leader. Wen soldiers in Nightless City are terrified of him. Meng Yao loyally sends reports to Lan Xichen, but he has no intention of assassinating Wen Ruohan or doing anything especially risky unless it is impossible that he will fail. He does not actually care if the Sunshot Campaign succeeds, as long as he's earned the favor of the winning side.

[Nie Mingjue confrontation, killing Wen Ruohan.]

## Personality

Outwardly, Meng Yao is subservient, agreeable, and very polite. He is artfully spoken and clever. He is also extremely manipulative and flashes his dimples the way an octopus sprays ink when threatened.

Meng Yao is an ambitious sociopath. He does in fact possess values, but none that he is unwilling to discard the moment he thinks it might be necessary; typically he never looks back. He values the health, safety, and flourishing of ordinary people when he affords himself that luxury, but will still murder anyone you put in front of him if their death benefits him or their existence offends him. He rarely experiences grief over his actions, and even more rarely believes he could have done anything differently.

Meng Yao is calculating and analytical, rarely displaying genuine emotion. He actually experiences some emotions quite strongly, beneath the detached scheming. Most of those emotions are negative: fear, anger, hurt, jealousy, resentment, humiliation. He is very sensitive to perceived betrayal. He also experiences strong bursts of positive emotion: pride, satisfaction, and accomplishment.



## Relationships

Meng Yao has few people that he cares about and even fewer that he is unwilling to hurt. At the top tier of Meng Yao relationships are the (two) people he would never intentionally hurt and would go out of his way to protect. (These are his mother and Lan Xichen). The next tier contains a few people that Meng Yao cares about and disprefers hurting, but will absolutely kill if he needs to or if they offend him deeply. (e.g. Nie Huaisang, Wei Ying (????)). Below that, a large number of people that Meng Yao gets along with and generally thinks well of, but would hurt without regret. (e.g. Lan Wangji, Wei Wuxian). Anyone who Meng Yao *dislikes*, he will hurt gleefully when possible.

- **Lan Xichen** (Soulmate, sworn brother)
  - Calls Zewu-jun > Er-ge (Second Brother), is called A-Yao
  - Xichen is the only person who stays by Meng Yao's side consistently, the only person who ever stops Meng Yao from bowing to him. He is the person Meng Yao desires most to help and least to hurt.
  - "In a grey world, he's like white moonlight." - Zhu Zanjing describing Xichen's significance to Meng Yao
- **Nie Mingjue** (Boyfriend/ex-boyfriend, liege, sworn brother)
  - Calls Sect Leader Nie > Da-ge (Eldest Brother), is called Meng Yao
  - Nie Mingjue was the first person to see worth in Meng Yao and elevate his status. They both respected and cared deeply about each other, though Meng Yao was always subordinate.
  - Messy divorce after Wen Chao attacks the Unclean Realm and Meng Yao murders the Nie captain, painful on both sides.
  - Even messier second divorce, after which Meng Yao decides that Nie Mingjue never loved him and always saw him as lesser and despicable, that no matter how hard Meng Yao works to ascend

ranks, Nie Mingjue will never value him or see him as equal.

- Da-ge is the only murder he ever feels haunted by.
- **Nie Huaisang**
  - Calls Huaisang, is called Meng Yao
- **Jin Guangshan** (Father)
  - Calls Father
  - Jin Guangshan is by *far* the person Meng Yao gives the most chances, but unfortunately also the worst person in the entire setting. Meng Yao is more desperate for his father's approval than he is for almost anything.
- **Meng Shi** (Mother)
  - Calls Mama/Mother, is called A-Yao
  - Meng Yao loves his mother fiercely and thinks better of her than most people in the world.
- **Lan Wangji** (Brother-in-law, approximately)
- **Jin Zixuan** (Half-brother)

## Appearances

**by your clear light and color** - !Wei Ying reports the Nie captain for harassing Meng Yao. Nie Mingjue publicly punches the captain and has him punished. This leaves Meng Yao feeling less of a burning need to murder the captain as soon as possible. When Wei Ying and Lan Zhan escape Nightless City, he oversees their hospitality in addition to the imprisonment and interrogation of Wen Chao. When the Nie send forces to Gusu, Meng Yao accompanies them to search for Lan Xichen. In this thread, Meng Yao and Wei Ying gradually befriend each other. During the Sunshot Campaign, they become sworn siblings by Wei Ying's suggestion. In an accident with the Yin Iron, Wei Ying revives Meng Shi as a fierce corpse and she reenters her son's life. [\[Wiki\]](#)

**making room for new regrets** - Meng Yao is manipulated by Nie Huaisang into staying longer at Cloud Recesses, where he spends some quality time with Lan Xichen during the Lan lectures. [\[Wiki\]](#)

**talk less, smile more** - Wen Ying runs into Meng Yao during Wen Chao's attack on the Unclean Realm and drags him over to take credit for her kill of Wen Zhuliu before Nie Mingjue can find him murdering the Nie captain. Offscreen, he receives much attention and acclaim for this feat. [\[Wiki\]](#)

## Trivia

- The screen name "not-a-single-sin" is quoted from Meng Yao in the MDZS novel, speaking to Lan Xichen. *Just like you said, there is not a single sin in this world that I haven't committed! But you, never have I ever thought about doing you harm.*

# Jin Guangyao (all-things-to-all-men)



<b>Other Names</b>	Lianfang-zun, Sect Leader Jin, A-Yao
<b>Setting</b>	The Untamed
<b>Facecast</b>	Zhu Zanjin

**Jin Guangyao** is the continuation of argona's take on Meng Yao, split into a separate instance for gallery convenience.

## History

For Jin Guangyao's earlier history, see [here](#).

[Transition to Jin Guangyao]

[Wei Wuxian's death]

Jin Guangyao identifies Qin Su, the daughter of one of Jin Guangshan's men, as a suitable marriage candidate. He spends months working his father and her family into agreement. Even after relenting, Jin Guangshan digs his heels in during the wedding ceremony planning process. Feeling threatened by his father's unreliable support, Jin Guangyao suggests that they consummate the marriage in advance of the ceremony to secure their union. Two weeks later, right before the wedding ceremony, Jin Guangyao is informed that Qin Su's mother was raped by Jin Guangshan and Qin Su is actually his half-sister.

Jin Guangyao does not tell anyone else or call off the wedding ceremony. He marries Qin Su but never touches her sexually again. Qin Su figures that this is because her husband is gay, since she is not blind to his relationship with Lan Xichen. She cares about him, and Jin Guangyao genuinely likes her. He was planning to have Qin Su made (or made to think herself) infertile, and then under her approval secretly sire an heir with another woman. Before he can put this into motion, they discover that Qin Su is already pregnant. Their son Jin Rusong is born a year and a half after Wei Wuxian's death.

[Second divorce]

[Nie Mingjue's death]

[Jin Guangshan's death]

Jin Guangyao had planned to kill his son since he discovered his conception, but he does care about Rusong, in his way. As each year goes by without the appearance of potentially suspicious developmental delays, Jin Guangyao postpones the need for him to die. When Jin Rusong is six years old, he is captured by a small group of Jin Guangyao's political opponents. They threaten to kill him. Jin Guangyao sees this as the best opportunity he will ever get, and waits two days to announce that he's received the threat and take any action.

Jin Rusong is killed before he can be rescued. Jin Guangyao puts on a big show of shock and grief and fury. He possesses genuine grief and distress to channel into this performance, discarding his own responsibility for his son's death and allowing himself to feel wronged and devastated. He has the entire small sect of the culprits wiped out in vengeance; the vast majority of those killed were entirely innocent.

[After Wei Wuxian's resurrection]

[Exposure]

[Guanyin Temple]

## Personality

See [here](#).

[Notes on character development]

## Relationships

- **Lan Xichen** (Soulmate, sworn brother)
  - Calls Er-ge (Second Brother), is called A-Yao
  - "In a grey world, he's like white moonlight."
  - The only person to not lose their trust in him instantly. The person Guangyao desires most to help and least to hurt. Jin Guangyao often manipulates Lan Xichen in ways he would consider to be benign, sometimes seeing it as protecting Lan Xichen from information that he would find distressing and doesn't need to know.
- **Nie Mingjue** (Boyfriend, ex-boyfriend, sworn brother)
  - Calls Da-ge (Eldest Brother), is called Meng Yao; Jin Guangyao
  - Extremely messy second divorce, after which Jin Guangyao decides that Nie Mingjue never loved him and always saw him as lesser and despicable, that no matter how hard Jin Guangyao works to ascend ranks, Nie Mingjue will never value him or see him as equal.
  - Da-ge is the only murder he ever feels haunted by.
- **Nie Huaisang**
  - Calls Huaisang, is called San-ge (Third Brother)
  - Yikes
- **Jin Guangshan** (Father)
  - Calls Father, is called Guangyao

- Yikes
- **Jin Zixuan** (Half-brother)
  - Calls Zixuan, is eventually called A-Yao
  - Jin Zixuan is the only member of Jin Guangyao's family to accept him and acknowledge his hard work, calling him A-Yao and trying to convince their father to give him more credit.
- **Jin Zixun** (Cousin)
  - Calls Zixun, is called Jin Guangyao
  - Zixun thinks of Jin Guangyao like dirt, and acts like it. Jin Guangyao continues to make efforts to get along with him, though they stop being sincere very quickly.
- **Madam Jin** (Not-Mother)
  - Calls Mother, which she does not appreciate
  - He tries hard to please her; she hates him and rarely acknowledges him, is openly frustrated when they do interact.
- **Lan Wangji** (Brother-in-law, approximately)
  - Calls Wangji post-timeskip, is called Sect Leader Jin
  - Jin Guangyao tries to fall into the role of Lan Wangji's bonus older brother the way he does for Nie Huaisang. Lan Wangji is completely bemused by this. Sort of the dynamic of your dad's new girlfriend trying to be friendly with you when you are a sullen teenager.
- **Qin Su** (Wife, half-sister)
  - Calls A-Su, is called A-Yao
  - Jin Guangyao likes his wife and treats her very well throughout their marriage, aside from hiding many things from her and indirectly murdering their son. He feels genuine hurt and betrayal when she turns on him so quickly after receiving the letter that exposes him. When she refuses to be cooperative, he cuts himself off from caring about her.
- **Jin Rusong** (Son)
  - Calls A-Song, is called Daddy
- **Su She** (Accomplice)
  - Calls Sect Leader Su > Minshan, is called Sect Leader Jin
  - They respect each other, and they are both starved for respect. Su She thinks they are friends, and he is not strictly wrong.
- **Xue Yang** (Accomplice)
  - Calls Chengmei, is called Jin Guangyao
  - Xue Yang is like a feral neighborhood dog that Jin Guangyao takes on walks because it pays well.

## Trivia

- The screen name "all-things-to-all-men" is taken from the translated lyrics of Jin Guangyao's Official OST Song, seen below. These lyrics are also quoted in the glowfic character pages of both [Meng Yao \(not-a-single-sin\)](#) and [Jin Guangyao \(all-things-to-all-men\)](#). Seen below:

*The more humble you are, the more terrified you are  
 Can't bear to touch anything in this world  
 You froze your unfeeling heart and put on a moving act*

*The more eloquent you are, the more inarticulate you feel  
They're all to fill up the vacantness in your heart  
You try to be **all things to all men.**  
But who knows who you truly are?*

*[...]*

*As if a warning, and as if self-mockery  
You lamented that life is destined to be short  
And how many people in your life are willing to know who you truly are?*

*Willing to know?*

# A-Yao



<b>Nick name(s)</b>	yaobei
<b>Setting</b>	The Untamed, gay ancient magical china
<b>Face cast</b>	

**A-Yao** is argona's Meng Yao as a young child. Son of Meng Shi.

## History

Meng Yao is born February 20th in a Yunping brothel. His mother raises him with love and care, doing her best to shelter him from the unpleasant environment. She teaches him manners that, for now, are necessary for his survival, and one day will serve him well as a young master of the Jin Sect. Meng Shi imparts onto him her belief that one day Jin Guangshan will come for them and buy her freedom from the brothel, elevating Meng Yao as his son. This never happens. In the mean time, Meng Shi devotes most of her time and money attempting to educating her son the way a cultivator is supposed to be educated.

A-Yao learns reading, writing, etiquette, and some approximation of meditation. He learns to be polite to everyone he meets. He learns to be afraid of everyone he meets. His memory is impeccable even as a young child, and he learns things very quickly.

## Personality

[He's not a sociopath yet, hooray!]

## Appearances

**let the children come to me** - in which multiple babies are given much better childhoods than they receive in canon. A-Yao (age 3) and his mother are rescued from the brothel and A-Yao is given a much more healthy and

normative middle childhood than usual. [\[Wiki\]](#)

# Meng Yao (willing-to-know)



<b>Other Names</b>	A-Yao, Jin Yao
<b>Setting</b>	gay ancient magic china
<b>Facecast</b>	Zhu Zanjin + faceapp

**Meng Yao** is a character in the Yao template [Wiki] written by argona.