



## **THE BOY IN THE BORDERLANDS**

“People could tell he was intelligent as soon as he was born. He had an imposing face like that of a king, as majestic and divine as a dragon. His wisdom and courage surpassed everyone. As he spent his early years between Hwaryeong and Hamju, the people in the north engaged in trading hawks often said, ‘I wish I could catch a hawk as outstanding as Yi Seong-gye is.’”

— *The Taejo Sillok*