

Beast Tamer 481

Chapter 481: Early Lotus Tri-life Carp!_3

But now, the Sea Clan clearly had no intention of communicating at all.

No matter whether the Gao family and the Zhao family were aware of the Sea Clan's attack on Lu City, both of them are good channels to find out why the Sea Clan suddenly initiated the attack.

Just as Fang Mu was about to call Li Yuanchao to give him a lead.

Fang Mu's phone rang.

Seeing that it was Shui Miao who was calling, Fang Mu immediately picked up.

"Ah Mu, from what I've found out, the Sea Clan's attack on Lu City is mostly due to the disappearance of the descendant of an important figure from the Han Yang Empire, near the waters of Lu City."

"And there is evidence to suggest that the disappearance is related to Lu City."

"My source of information is reliable."

"You better get in touch with the officials of Lu City right away and find out which forces have been lingering suspiciously near the waters of Lu City for the past half month."

"Remember, do not alert them!"

"Otherwise, if they destroy the body and erase all traces, the entire Lu City will have to bear the blame!"

Fang Mu pondered for a moment after hearing this, before speaking to Shui Miao.

"Ah Shui, I will look into it immediately. How are things on your end?"

It was quite surprising for Shui Miao to get such news from Qin Ming.

If it really is the offspring of an important figure from the Han Yang Empire that's been kidnapped by some power in Lu City.

This battle will not cease until that important person's offspring is found!

If they find the offspring of this important figure and discover that they have been contracted as a Guardian Beast or have already died.

The Dragon Rising Federation will become enemies with the Han Yang Empire deep in the sea, launching a protracted campaign!

"Ah Mu, there won't be any problems in the short term, but in the long run, unless you're willing to collide with the entire Han Yang Empire."

"Otherwise, Lu City will be hard to hold!"

Getting the message that there wouldn't be any harm in the short term from Shui Miao was already enough for Fang Mu.

After hanging up Shui Miao's call, Fang Mu dialed Li Yuanchao.

The entire legion of Lu City was focusing all their efforts on defense and rescue, and hadn't yet had time to investigate the real reason for the Sea Clan's rampage.

Through the speaker, Fang Mu could hear the loud wind, knowing that Li Yuanchao was leading the resistance outside at this moment.

"Mr. Jianmu, thank you again for your help to Lu City. I wonder if there is anything you need me to do?"

Since Shui Miao specifically emphasized not to stir up trouble, Fang Mu did not tell Li Yuanchao the situation directly.

Because at this moment, Fang Mu can't guarantee that Li Yuanchao can definitely be trusted.

"Actually, I do have a favor to ask you!"

"Please send someone over to me to pick up a batch of healing supplies. These supplies can definitely be used right now!"

"I don't have much to do in the Si Ning Mansion, so is it convenient for you to give me the fishing records of the major powers in the sea within the past three months?"

"That way, I can infer the spawning period of various Fish Beasts based on the number of various fish harvested by the major powers!"

"You know how important this kind of data is to a Creator in breeding Guardian Beasts!"

Ever since Fang Mu experienced the Evil Heart Sect's city attack in JA City, he began to stockpile medical supplies.

Although it hasn't been long since the Evil Heart Sect attacked JA City, Fang Mu's medical resource reserves have already reached five times the previous amount.

Fang Mu knew that under the present circumstances, even if he asked Li Yuanchao for help and the task exceeded Li Yuanchao's ability.

Li Yuanchao would most likely not refuse him.

The excuse Fang Mu found for himself was very reasonable. Creators all have a strong curiosity.

Unless Li Yuanchao knew something, he wouldn't be suspicious.

Fang Mu held his breath, waiting for Li Yuanchao's answer.

Fang Mu found that Li Yuanchao's answer was very straightforward, without any hesitation.

"Mr. Jianmu, it is a blessing for Lu City that you are here. The two experts you dispatched have done a great favor for Lu City!"

"I will deliver the fishing records of Lu City over the past three months to you in person."

"Thank you for your generosity towards Lu City, we will not forget what you have done for us!"

Less than twenty minutes later, Li Yuanchao, looking travel-worn, appeared in Fang Mu's room.

After seeing off Li Yuanchao, Fang Mu began to flip through the thick stack of fishing data in his hand.

She Wan, Lu Xiaoyin, Feng Chenhao, and Lu Zhong all came to help.

It was the first time that Feng Chenhao was involved in such a big event, and while he was nervous, he was very meticulous in reviewing the data.

Each of the records is nearly ten centimeters thick, and Fang Mu couldn't finish reading them all in a week without help.

What's more, while reading, a lot of the content needs to be memorized.

Luckily, the Beastmaster World has the same type of statistical charts as in Fang Mu's previous life.

Linear statistical charts have the same format, allowing everyone to separately mark the fishing data for each major power.

Finally, they could piece together the results, clearly showing the fishing time and harvest of each power.

Whether it was doing research in his past life or writing papers with Cui Ruochen in this life.

Fang Mu was used to concentrating intensively for long periods of time.

After ten hours, the five of them finally compiled all of the daily fishing time and harvest data from all the major powers over the past three months.

Colorful Spiders can secrete various colored silk threads from their silk sacs. Master Lu Zhong often needed to draw design diagrams for some research records.

Therefore, even though Colorful Spiders are rare and expensive, Master Lu Zhong has raised a considerable number of them.

And he also upgraded these Colorful spiders to platinum rank, allowing the Colorful Spiders to instantly weave a large amount of multi-colored silk threads.

Otherwise, like the low-rank Colorful Spiders, they would have to wait for a while after secreting one color of silk thread before they could change it to another color.

These platinum rank Colorful Spiders were a huge help to Fang Mu.

Otherwise, due to the numerous powers, even if they drew a linear statistical figure, it would be difficult to distinguish the line representing each power.

When everyone was observing and compiling the data for the ten days, they didn't find anything unusual.

But when they put it all together, they suddenly found a clue!

Chapter 482: Sea Lord and Long!_1

Fang Mu lightly drummed his fingers on the desk.

According to She Wan, the Gao Family and Zhao Family have a significant relationship with the Sea Clan.

She Wan's information came from She Junjie, who has no reason to deceive her at this time.

If the Gao Family and Zhao Family are related to the Sea Clan, it should be easier for them to know some of the Sea Clan's secrets compared to other forces.

According to the line chart, Fang Mu noticed that the time and financial gains from the fishing activities of all the forces for the past two months have been directly proportional.

However, due to the varying capabilities of each force, the proportion of their fishing haul varied.

Yet, in the last month, the fishing time of the Zhao Family and Gao Family's fleets had more than doubled compared to two months ago.

But their harvest was much less than that of the previous two months.

This could be because with the approaching 'Fish Feast,' all prominent forces had increased their time spent in marine hunting.

As a result, other forces achieved increased profits the more they ventured into the sea.

But this single observation made it clear that the vessels of the Gao Family and Zhao Family didn't venture into the sea for fishing, they had another objective.

They were likely searching for something.

Fang Mu had no knowledge of the forces behind Shui Miao, all he knew is that Shui Miao was a formal member of the Starwheel.

Moreover, Shui Miao was the one who recommended Fang Mu to join the Starwheel.

Given that Shui Miao personally provided the information at such a critical juncture, Fang Mu believed it was at least 90% credible.

So Fang Mu suspected that for nearly twenty days, the Zhao Family and Gao Family's random explorations in the sea have been to capture the descendant of a key figure in the Han Yang Empire.

As Fang Mu deliberated, Lu Zhong intoned soberly,

"There are a lot of inconsistencies upon examining this statistical graph."

"We should consider objective factors for the minor inconsistencies, such as dangers encountered at sea."

"Or maybe, they discovered a certain valuable school of fish during fishing, chose to pursue and catch them."

"These minor inconsistencies may cause a day's data to fluctuate, at most for three to five days."

"But in the line charts of the Gao Family and Zhao Family, the chaotic period astonishingly lasts for as many as seventeen days!"

"There must be something fishy about the recent fishing activities of Zhao Family and Gao Family!"

"I think we should fix our gaze on the Zhao Family and Gao Family."

After She Wan noticed this, she was convinced that there must be a problem with the Zhao Family and Gao Family.

Given the sudden tempest, the only clues could be found were closely linked to the two powers.

Obviously, this could not be explained away by coincidence.

The problems that Fang Mu was now pondering were not about the motives of the Zhao Family and the Gao Family, but about how to resolve the conflict between the Sea Clan and Lu City.

Since the key point was the child of an important person in the Han Yang Empire, Fang Mu needed to verify whether that child was amid the Zhao Family and Gao Family.

If they were, he wondered how to safely find the child of the key person from the Han Yang Empire within the Zhao Family or Gao Family's territory.

First of all, Fang Mu couldn't afford to startle the snake in the grass.

In case the child of the key person from the Han Yang Empire was indeed in the hands of the Zhao Family and Gao Family, the two forces could take measures to ensure Fang Mu had no chance to slip away.

Secondly, even as a disciple of Grandmaster Creator, Fang Mu had no right to search the two largest families in Lu City.

Fang Mu thought about handing this issue to the Lu City officials and letting them investigate.

But the Zhao Family and Gao Family had been rooted in Lu City for hundreds of years, and they could easily get the news from their informants inside the city officials.

This was as good as startling the snake in the grass.

Fishing actively was inferior to waiting for fish to bite the bait.

Fang Mu thought, if only the Zhao Family and Gao Family would take the initiative to contact him now!

At this moment, a giant shark with a vivid hue was lurking under the surging seas near Lu City.

This enormous shark had a pair of double chignons on its head, and its body displayed a dazzling range of colors.

Once the gaze fell on the patterns of the giant shark, a plethora of hallucinations would immediately appear.

One would fall into the illusion quickly if they were not determined, becoming as if in a stupor.

This double-chignon shark was frantically swinging its crescent-shaped tail, which was about a hundred meters tall, but it didn't move forward at all.

Standing in front of this double-chignon shark were two petite clam shells, one blue and one purple.

From these two petite clam shells spilled out the fantastical light of the ocean waves, illuminating the deep sea.

The shark raised its double chignon and said in a deep voice,

"This sea area is my territory, granted to me by the Sea Lord himself."

"Your Han Yang Empire has brazenly invaded my territory and offended Lu City, which will undoubtedly affect my area!"

“I will report to the Lord of the Sea, and your Han Yang Empire must give me an explanation!”

The shark spoke sternly, but it was actually feeling weak already, merely putting up a front.

Let alone whether the Sea Lord would help it.

Even if he did, the empires in the deep sea had already stopped taking Lord of the Sea seriously.

The Lord of the Sea was now more like the leader of the spare sea beasts.

As soon as the shark’s words came out, the two clam shells, one purple and one blue, were pushed open by a huge force from inside.

A pair of sea sprites born from the clamshells appeared in front of the shark.

“Hua Ji, Master Long’s only direct descendant had an accident in your territory, yet we from the Han Yang Empire haven’t blamed you.”

“What gives you the right to talk like that!?”

“Now we give you an opportunity to make up for your mistakes, immediately deploy all your minions.”

“Find Master Long’s descendant!”

“You’re well aware of Master Long’s temper. If anything happens to Master Long’s descendant, you and we will be implicated!”

Chapter 483:

The tone of these two sea sprites was neither serious nor harsh, but rather as if they were mustering great courage.

As personal maids to the Young Mistress, losing her was the greatest dereliction of duty for a servant.

Once the news reached the Han Yang Empire, it didn't matter whether the Young Mistress was eventually found or not.

The two of them would not escape death!

So these two marine spirits, born from a clamshell, chose not to report the news to the Han Yang Empire for the time being.

Instead, they launched an attack on Lu City with the power and resources they had.

Under such circumstances, they had to find an ally for themselves.

Being the lord of the nearby sea area of Lu City, Hua Ji was the best choice for an ally.

Also, their words were not empty, because they were not attempting to intimidate or deceive Hua Ji.

Once the Young Mistress is not found or something bad happens, and the news reaches the Han Yang Empire.

Hua Ji would not escape retaliation, even if he were to abandon his territory and flee to the four corners of the earth.

Upon hearing the words of these two sea sprites, Hua Ji's gills emit a low-frequency vibration.

Hua Ji had known long ago that the Commandery Princess of the Han Yang Empire would be coming to his territory to play and had planned to make the necessary preparations.

But at the time, Zhu Lan had come to him and said that the Young Mistress didn't like being disturbed during her play, so there was no need for him to prepare.

Now that something has happened, he's the one being blamed.

Since he couldn't change the situation, Hua Ji could only order his subordinates to launch an attack on Lu City to apply pressure.

"Zhu Lan, Zhu Zi, you certainly have a way of doing things!"

"If you want my help, that's fine, but you both have to write a letter for me."

“Explaining that I was initially prepared to be responsible for the Young Mistress’s security, but you two turned me down!”

Noticing that Zhu Lan and Zhu Zi’s expressions were turning ugly, Hua Ji changed the subject.

“Of course, I won’t make you sign this letter for nothing.”

“Once you sign this letter for me, I’ll show it to the Lord of the Sea and ask for his protection.”

“And you two can command my subordinates at will!”

“This way, your chances of finding the Young Mistress will be much greater!”

“I can also assist in fighting against the human powerhouses.”

“Otherwise, if you drag me into this without grounds, we might as well all die together!”

“Maybe Master Long will give the Lord of the Sea some face and spare me.”

“But will Master Long really let you two off the hook?”

If we're talking about Zhulan and Zhulan being caught in a tough spot, then Hua Ji's words now were doing the same to them!

When Hua Ji was backed into a corner he couldn't fight back, and the same was true for Zhu Lan and Zhu Zi.

It would be better for the two of them to have more chances to survive than for everyone to lose their lives together.

Zhu Lan and Zhu Zi had a great relationship with the Young Mistress.

Zhu Lan and Zhu Zi were sure that as long as the Young Mistress was found safe and not contracted by some reckless human,

Their lives would definitely not be in danger!

Even if they were to be punished after Master Long found out, the Young Mistress would plead for their lives.

"Alright! We'll write the letter right now!"

“And you should hand over all your subordinates to us!”

“In addition, the news of the Young Mistress visiting your territory is classified, only you and Master Long know about it.”

“Even the other top officials of the Han Yang Empire are not aware of it.”

“If someone is deliberately targeting the Young Mistress, it must be one of your subordinates who revealed the news to humans!”

“Now that you’ve given us control, you may as well investigate this matter thoroughly since you have nothing else on your plate.”

“Once we catch the mole, our safety will be a bit more guaranteed!”

Upon hearing this, Hua Ji’s eyebrows furrowed slightly.

The suspicion of a mole among his subordinates was the biggest negation of him as a superior.

But Hua Ji did not contradict the words of Zhu Lan and Zhu Zi.

If other high officials of the Han Yang Empire knew about the Young Mistress's tour, he could reasonably suspect that there were problems within the Empire.

Because of the power struggle with other officials and Master Long, the Young Mistress fell into their plot.

However, only Master Long knew of this matter within the Han Yang Empire. Because Zhu Lan had informed him that he didn't need to take any measures for the Young Mistress's visit,

Hua Ji only had the chance to inform his three deputy officers about the matter.

And strictly warned the three deputy officers not to leak the situation.

Therefore, the mole who could inform humans and make effective countermeasures could only be one of his three deputy officers.

In an instant, Hua Ji had locked onto a suspect.

As Hua Ji's gills vibrated at a low frequency, Hua Ji's subordinates quickly gathered upon hearing his orders.

Hua Ji directly ordered the two leading sea beasts among the trio.

“Dian Luo, Man Ye, from now on, you should regard the orders of these two envoys from the Han Yang Empire as my orders.”

“Whatever they tell you to do, do it. Don’t worry about the relationship with Lu City or the Dragon Rising Federation.”

Saying this, Hua Ji looked at a sea serpent, with a long scar from head to tail.

He had heard from Dian Luo before that She Jian had some collusion with the internal forces of Lu City.

It’s well known that the collusion between sea beasts and human forces is strictly forbidden by several empires and the Lord of the Sea in the deep sea.

Because She Jian was the one he valued most, and many human forces were always actively contacting the Sea Clan to deepen cooperation,

Hua Ji turned a blind eye to She Jian’s actions.

Chapter 484: Sea Lord and Long! _3

She Jian and his family had been captured by humans while hunting and fishing. Only She Jian managed to dive back into the sea when they tried to gut him on the boat.

Fortunately, there was a crevice in a rock nearby, where he hid and nursed his injuries, thereby saving his life.

Otherwise, with such severe injuries, the blood in the water would not only have drawn large predators.

Some small fish, as thin as hair, loved burrowing into such wounds and feasting on the flesh.

Hua Ji had also had a brush with death in his youth, coincidentally saved by a powerful human.

This made Hua Ji not particularly malevolent towards humans.

However, Hua Ji still obeyed the Lord of the Sea's orders.

Other than secretly helping Lu City suppress several disastrous tsunamis, she had not formed any bonds with human powers.

She Jian had ample reasons to hate humans, so he was the most likely one to leak information about the young mistress of the Han Yang Empire.

By leveraging the power of the entire Sea Clan to oppose humans.

Humans were not fools, especially those from powerful organizations.

Those humans from great powers should be clear about what it entails kidnapping the young mistress of the Han Yang Empire.

They wouldn't touch this hot potato.

So even if She Jian tells the humans this news, he certainly will not tell the truth.

Instead, he can use a deceptive tactic to trap those humans from powerful organizations.

Thinking of this, Hua Ji felt a surge of murderous intent towards She Jian.

“She Jian, I am going to enter seclusion. You will stay by my side during this time!”

She Jian was taken aback by these words.

Among Hua Ji’s subordinates, he was the strongest and should be the one leading the charge against human territory.

But why did Hua Ji choose to keep him now?

Could it be that Hua Ji discovered something?

Thinking this, She Jian immediately denied his speculation.

The entire Sea Clan had not yet communicated with Lu City, so it was impossible that his secret alliance with the two great families of Lu City had been exposed!

Till now, those two families are probably still being kept in the dark.

Unaware that the Sea Clan’s operation against Lu City was related to the information he leaked.

...

Within the Five Clans of Lu City, almost all talented individuals from the families had been dispatched.

Master Lu Zhong didn’t participate when they competed for the Silver-Blue Mystical Snake last time, so the final beneficiary was among the Five Clans of Lu City.

It was the same case now.

Only the Five Clans of Lu City were eligible to compete for the Guardian Beast similar to the Silver-Blue Mystical Snake.

None of the Five Clans was willing to yield to others, especially when such a precious Guardian Beast was at stake.

Even if one failed to acquire the Guardian Beast similar to the Silver-Blue Mystical Snake, they could still secure a bottle of Life Elixir with a purity of ninety-four percent.

If it weren't for the many affairs needing attention within the family, which led to decreased profits from some of their industries within Lu City.

Family Heads like She Junjie, Wu Ge etc would also have personally braved dangers to join the competition.

After informing She Wan about the situation and having her relay it to Fang Mu, She Junjie felt relieved.

Since Fang Mu wanted to help Lu City through this crisis, he would undoubtedly look into this matter.

With his ability, She Junjie undoubtedly couldn't handle the Gao Family and Zhao Family simultaneously.

She Junjie essentially shifted his pressure onto Fang Mu.

Wu Ge and He Kuan were busy dealing with their family affairs and prepared to rush for the rescue once they were done.

However, the family head of the Zhao Family, Zhao Junwei, was not at the Zhao family's old house at this moment.

He was at the Gao family's old house, conversing with Gao Hongying during such a critical time.

Zhao Junwei asked Gao Hongying with a solemn expression.

"Old Gao, don't you feel there's something off about the person from the Sea Clan who negotiated with us?"

"We caught the Aquatic Sovereign Beast, which we've never seen before, based on his information."

"We were going to thank him after everything had been completed, but we used the communication method we had used with him."

"And we couldn't meet with him on the ship like before."

"I always feel a bit uneasy about this negotiation with the Sea Clan!"

"This operation of the Sea Clan against Lu City doesn't involve us, right?!"

Gao Hongying shouted angrily after hearing his words.

"Old Zhao, have your heart been muddled by lard? You even dare to speak such nonsense!"

"What does the Sea Clan's attack on Lu City have to do with our two families?"

"If this gets out and some malicious people take it seriously and start spreading it."

"Even if it has nothing to do with us, it will still be spread far and wide!"

“The rumors of other powers are often fabricated by their enemies. I don’t want the rumors about the Gao Family and Zhao Family to be started by you, the family head of the Zhao Family!”

When Zhao Junwei heard Gao Hongying’s words, he realized he misspoke. But his concerns didn’t lessen a bit.

This partnership was initiated by Gao Hongying, and Zhao Junwei didn’t personally negotiate with the Sea Clan member.

Therefore, he wasn’t as well-informed about that Sea Clan member compared to Gao Hongying.

Lack of information was also a reason for feeling insecure.

Just as Zhao Junwei was worrying about this, he heard Gao Hongying sigh.

“The Seafood Festival can’t be held as scheduled. After this disaster, Lu City will face reconstruction.”

“The Seafood Festival will be postponed for at least a year, and Jianmu will probably not show up at the festival’s venue.”

“We spent nearly twenty days searching in the sea before we caught the Guardian Beast. Initially, we planned to use it to draw Jianmu’s attention during the Seafood Festival.”

“Instead of deciding ourselves who should contract it, it would definitely bring more value to both our families if we give it to Jianmu!”

“Speaking of which, Jianmu is really generous. He threw out so many resources for the sake of Lu City’s safety!”

“Such a person would have seemed noble to me when I was a child, but now he seems like a fool.”

When Zhao Junwei heard these words, his eyebrows drew together again into a frown.

From the moment he knew Gao Hongying had arranged Gao Wenyuan to hook Jianmu, Zhao Junwei increasingly felt that his values and Gao Hongying's didn't match.

He felt that the cooperation between the Zhao Family and the Gao Family should not continue.

Chapter 485: I Believe You Won't Lie to Me! _1

The intersection between the Zhao Family and the Gao Family right now is the precious Aquatic Sovereign Beast that they have captured.

Once the issue of ownership of the Aquatic Sovereign Beast is settled, and our family receives sufficient compensation...

Zhao Junwei is prepared to give up sea trade entirely, severing all ties with the Gao Family!

After this storm, even if Lu City is rebuilt, the sea trade business will certainly be severely impacted.

With this attack by the Sea Clan, Lu City will inevitably develop animosity against them, resulting in a significant increase in the cost of sea trade.

Those working in sea trade must understand how dangerous it is to make a living on the sea.

They can be attacked by Sea Beasts at any time.

In such circumstances, the labor cost could increase by at least five to ten times.

Rather than continuing to invest heavily in sea trade, the Zhao Family might as well put their resources into the cultivation of raw materials, a job with nearly zero risk.

Just as Zhao Junwei was prepared to, once again out of the many years of friendship, give Gao Hongying a heads up...

Gao Hongying's clenched fist pounded on the table twice, and his personal butler immediately entered the room.

First, he glanced in the direction of Zhao Junwei, then asked softly.

"Master, do you have any instructions?"

Gao Hongying casually looked at the lines on the palm of his left hand, then asked in an offhand manner.

"What has Wen Yuan been doing since she came back?"

As Gao Hongying's personal butler who has served for several decades...

The old man clearly understands Gao Hongying's personality and thoughts.

When Gao Wenyuan was needed, Gao Hongying treated her like his own daughter.

But now, Gao Wenyuan has been discounted because she didn't get things done.

If Gao Wenyuan truly no longer has any value, Gao Hongying will definitely squeeze out her remaining usefulness before quickly discarding her.

Having a non-direct-descendant female member as the Noble Lady of the Gao Family is not a glorious thing.

It can easily become gossip during other forces' leisure time.

Gao Wenyuan becoming the Noble Lady of the Gao Family was never because of her merits or irreplaceability.

But because having Gao Wenyuan in the position of the Noble Lady made it easier to achieve Gao Hongying's goals.

Just now, Gao Hengyun came to see Gao Hongying, expressing his intention to make Gao Wen yuan, who was from side branches, his concubine.

Such words are inappropriate, considering that Gao Wen yuan has already become the Gao Family's Noble Girl.

But Gao Hongying only reprimanded Gao Hengyun, without imposing any substantial punishment.

This is because Gao Hengyun is Gao Hongying's biological son.

The underlying reason why the Gao Family has avoided selecting a Noble Lady for so many years is because of Gao Hongying's value for his own bloodline.

Gao Hongying has brothers, some of whom have very attractive daughters.

But Gao Hongying did not plan to give his brothers' daughters the opportunity.

Otherwise, how could the position of the Noble Lady of the Gao Family remain vacant up to now, for the turn of Gao Wen yuan!?

The old man is certain that if Gao Wenyuan fails to successfully attract Jianmu, and no other major clans propose to her...

Gao Wenyuan is indeed destined to become Gao Hengyun's concubine!

"Master, Miss Wenyan has stayed in her room since she came back."

"She must be upset because she couldn't share your troubles!"

"Shall I call Miss Wenyan over?"

Hearing the Butler's address towards Gao Wenyuan, Gao Hongying grumbled lightly.

From this grumble, Zhao Junwei keenly felt Gao Hongying's attitude towards Gao Wenyuan.

"Go and call her over."

"Before she comes, make sure she dresses carefully. Tell her that I am giving her one last chance tonight."

“If she still can’t do it, let her go find Hengyun first thing tomorrow morning.”

Hearing this, the old man sensed the hidden meaning in Gao Hongying’s words: Gao Hongying was giving Gao Wenyan a final ultimatum.

Although the housekeeper was unable to accompany Gao Hongying to the closely-watched trade meeting, he understood one thing.

If Jianmu had truly taken an interest in Gao Wenyan due to her appearance...

Then under the deliberate arrangement of Gao Hongying and Gao Wenyan at the trade meeting...

Gao Wenyan should have stayed with Jianmu!

Why would she need to return with Gao Hongying and Gao Hengyun?

After the initial failure, how can success be achieved so suddenly?

The old man, as Gao Hongying’s personal butler and the overall head of the Gao Family...

Gao Hongying trusts his personal butler more than his own brothers, which placed the old man in a position of power within the Gao Family, second only to Gao Hongying.

All of Gao Hongying's understanding of Gao Wenyan came from the butler's investigations.

Thus, the old man was even more familiar with Gao Wenyan's character than Gao Hongying.

Gao Wenyan has always been self-satisfied as a Noble Lady, little knowing that there is a price tag attached to all the benefits.

If she can't deliver value, then she must repay in other ways.

Gao Wenyan thought that after returning to the Gao Family, she would be able to rest for a while.

The postponement of the Sea Ceremony due to the current disputes would provide her with more preparation time.

However, before she could even warm her seat, Gao Hengyun charged into her room without a word.

He consecutively unleashed a series of humiliations on her, then went to find Gao Hongying in an attempt to turn her into his concubine!

Gao Hengyun's actions completely rattled Gao Wenyuan.

Gao Wenyuan, with a cluttered mind, waited for the Gao Family's decision.

Gao Wenyuan thought that even if she fell short of her duties, Gao Hongying could punish her...

Chapter 486: I Believe You Won't Lie to Me! _2

She would not allow herself to become a mere concubine for Gao Hengyun.

Within an hour, Gao Wenyuan received a verdict on her life.

Surprisingly, Gao Hongying actually agreed to Gao Hengyun's request.

She was even instructed to seduce Jianmu in the midst of Lu City's crisis.

Even if Jianmu was truly a hedonistic son of privilege who thought with his lower desires...

He would not fall prey to her at this moment.

Almost instantly, Gao Wenyuan's last sense of belonging to the Gao Family vanished from her heart.

Gao Wenyuan believed she had put in enough effort, yet the outcome was this.

If the Gao Family was unwilling to offer her a lifeline, then she could only seek one elsewhere!

During her time as the Gao Family's Noble Lady, Gao Wenyuan was not idle.

At the very least, Gao Wenyuan had learned some secrets she neither had the capability nor the opportunity to discern before.

If these secrets were to get out, they would certainly have a significant impact on the Gao Family.

But before she could muster enough thoughts of retaliation against the Gao Family, Gao Wenyuan suddenly felt a chill down her spine.

She was privy to far too many secrets. Would the Gao Family really let her leave alive?

Therefore, the impending meeting with Jianmu was the last chance for her to find a way to survive.

The only person who could potentially grant her a lifeline was the very man she was about to seduce – Jianmu.

If she failed to seduce Jianmu, would he be willing to offer her protection if she traded the Gao Family's secrets?

Gao Wenyan thought she would be trembling as she prepared herself, but on the contrary, she found herself extraordinarily calm at this moment.

Because there was only this one option left for her survival.

Therefore, she had no choice but to embark on this path.

Gao Wenyan knew that Gao Hongying was reckless, but he became notably cautious when faced with serious issues.

Despite having made up her mind and embraced calm, Gao Wenyan still displayed a facade of earnest fear.

Stepping out of the Gao Family mansion's gate, Gao Wenyan looked up at the sky.

A huge bird was basking in the sunlight, evaporating the massive steam pillars rising from the distant sea.

The steam pillars rose out of the sea and coiled for tens of thousands of miles. Who knows how many times bigger they were compared to the bird!

But before they could thrash Lu City, they were vaporized into nothingness by the sunlight.

What was initially a natural disaster became a scene of the bright sun hanging high in the clear sky.

Gao Wenyuan suddenly felt that if she could survive this ordeal, she had to tread a bright path.

Ever since Lu Xiaoyin started helping Fang Mu collate and organize the data, she had not left the room.

The duties of a guard and a temporary housekeeper were handed over to Yin Nanzhen.

It was not that Yin Nanzhen was capable, but rather that he was not proficient in data organizing.

No matter how diligent he was, he always seemed to be more of a hindrance than a help.

Yin Nanzhen was surprised that someone came to visit Fang Mu at this time.

Under normal circumstances, wouldn't all the major forces be focusing their attention and energy on competing for the reward?

Yin Nanzhen didn't want to report it initially, but upon seeing that the visitor was the Noble Lady of the Lu City Gao Family...

He went to notify Fang Mu about it.

Unlike She Wan, Yin Nanzhen did not know much about the situation in Lu City, and naturally did not know about Gao Wenyan's circumstances.

He was worried that if Fang Mu and Gao Wenyan were friends, his neglect might anger Fang Mu.

For the first time in his life, Yin Nanzhen encountered a beauty as stunning as Gao Wenyan.

Fang Mu was thinking how nice it would be if someone from the Gao Family or Zhao Family initiated contact with him.

But as it turned out, his wish was granted the moment his head hit the pillow.

Even though Gao Wen yuan had just been designated as the Gao Family's Noble Lady, and was arguably a core member of the Gao Family...

She would likely provide some clues.

Even if there was nothing to gain from Gao Wen yuan, Fang Mu could still use her to get a chance to meet and talk with the Gao Family Patriarch, Gao Hongying.

Gao Wen yuan stood nervously at the entrance of the Fang Mu Courtyard.

She was afraid that the person who had just announced her arrival would come back out and ask her to leave.

Fortunately, upon coming out, Yin Nanzhen instantly said.

"Miss Gao, our young master agrees to see you. Please, go right in!"

Gao Wen yuan looked back at her two guards. These two, rather than being sent by Gao Hongying to protect her...

Seemed more like they were here to watch over her.

Her visit this time was not for the purpose of seducing Fang Mu, but to seek his protection using the Gao Family's secrets.

This would assuredly jeopardize the interests of the Gao Family.

The presence of these two guards was rather inconvenient.

On her way here, Gao Wen yuan had neither the power nor the excuse to get rid of these two guards.

But it was different now that she was at Fang Mu's place.

"You two wait outside. I will see Mr. Jianmu alone!"

Without waiting for the guards to respond, Gao Wen yuan began heading towards the main gate under Yin Nanzhen's guidance.

The guards considered for a moment but decided not to follow.

Having been given a directive by Gao Wen yuan, to press forward would make them seem intrusive.

It would give the impression that Gao Wen yuan, despite being a proper Noble Lady of the Gao Family, had no control over her guards!

Moreover, the guards knew that Gao Wen yuan was here to seduce Jian mu.

Since she was trying to seduce him, there was no telling what measures she would resort to.

Their presence could potentially interfere with her plans.

Yin Nan zhen escorted Gao Wen yuan to the staircase on the first floor of the main house, and from there, did not proceed any further with her upstairs.

Chapter 487: I Believe You Won't Lie to Me! _3

"Miss Gao, the young master is upstairs. You may go up yourself!"

"I still have to keep watch at the door."

Under Yin Nan zhen's gaze, Gao Wen yuan gently sweeps a loose strand of hair from her forehead.

Gracefully she ascends the spiral staircase.

Upon reaching the second floor, she finds only Fang Mu, engrossed in reading a stack of thick documents.

The cup of tea beside him is still full, but it's already stopped steaming.

This indicates that the tea has been sitting by Fang Mu for a considerable time.

If her plan were to lure Fang Mu, Gao Wenyan would, at this moment, elegantly walk over to him, pour the cold tea from his cup into the tea rinsing vessel.

Then she would refill his cup with hot tea!

But now, Gao Wenyan has changed her mind.

If she seeks Fang Mu's protection through pledging loyalty, such ambiguous behavior can seem inappropriate!

Gao Wenyan could sense that Fang Mu is a straight-forward person.

Therefore, she takes a deep breath and directly kneels down onto the floor, her forehead heavily knocking against the ground.

“Mr. Jianmu, please save me!”

Fang Mu, engrossed in the valuable items being traded during the exchange meeting, did not notice Gao Wenyan.

However, this does not mean that once he knew about it afterwards, he could not guess Gao Wenyan's logical actions.

Moreover, She Wan had specifically reminded Fang Mu.

The cold tea by Fang Mu's hand had been specifically prepared for Gao Wenyan.

Surprisingly, Gao Wenyan did not behave as per the planned script, but directly knelt down before him, begging him for help.

Since it's come to this, the communication between Fang Mu and Gao Wenyan would get simpler!

Fang Mu directly throws the fishing and hunting documents in his hand in front of Gao Wenyan, saying solemnly,

“Never thought that you, a noble lady of the prominent Gao Family, would need to beg for help from an outsider like me!”

“It seems that you aren’t quite comfortable in your position as a noble girl in the Gao Family!”

“Now, I offer you a chance. But you must answer a few questions of mine.”

“I trust that you will not lie to me!”

Fang Mu’s words were indeed a response to Gao Wenyan’s plea for help.

Hearing that Fang Mu was willing to give her a chance, Gao Wenyan’s spirits soar.

She knows that no matter what, her life is now safe.

As for the questions Fang Mu wishes to ask, Gao Wenyan feels that there are no questions she can’t answer.

Provided she knows the answer.

If she doesn't know the answer, she wouldn't dare to guess in front of Jianmu.

Fang Mu's statement "I trust you won't lie to me" was said lightly, but it sounds like a warning to Gao Wenyan.

Gao Wenyan took the fishing and hunting documents that Fang Mu had tossed over and said,

"Mr. Jianmu, as long as I know the answer, I will tell you everything! There will be no concealment whatsoever!"

"I also know many secrets of the Gao Family. If you're willing to listen, you can ask me anytime!"

First, Gao Wenyan expressed her allegiance to Fang Mu, then promptly brought up her own value.

Fang Mu involuntarily admired Gao Wenyan's intelligence.

"Your collision with Master Lu Zhong at the trading meet was not an accident, was it?!"

Fang Mu's first question makes Gao Wenyan tremble. This question directly exposes her and the Gao Family's plotting.

Gao Wen yuan instinctively tries to cover it up, but quickly adjusts her stance.

Now, she is a surrenderer, willing to answer Fang Mu's questions.

If she were to evade even the first question, it would be akin to rejecting the opportunity she's been given.

Fang Mu must have noticed something, or he wouldn't have asked the question.

"Mr. Jianmu, the reason I was selected as the noble girl of the Gao Family is because Gao Hongying, the leader of the Gao Family, wanted me to seduce you."

"If Master Lu Zhong hadn't suddenly appeared, I would have been the one to bump into you!"

"It was a chance encounter that I had planned out."

Hearing these words, Fang Mu can't help but twitch his mouth.

In the mind of Gao Hongying, what kind of image does he, Fang Mu, have?

He's merely a high school student, but such schemes have already been used against him.

Gao Wenyuan indeed looks quite pleasant. In Fang Mu's previous life, she could have become a top star just by her looks alone.

However, in Fang Mu's eyes, Gao Wenyuan's attractiveness holds less appeal than the joy of successfully enhancing a new guardian beast.

This first question allows Fang Mu to ascertain that Gao Wenyuan is honest enough.

"You must be wondering why I would throw the hunting records of the major powers in Lu City from the past twenty days in front of you, right?!"

"I'm curious about what exactly the Gao Family and the Zhao Family are fishing for!"

Upon hearing this, Gao Wenyuan is taken aback. How did Jianmu find out about this situation?!

Just when Gao Hongying summoned her earlier, Zhao Junwei, the leader of the Zhao Family, was also in the room.

The two were definitely discussing the ownership of the Guardian Beast.

Fang Mu had only arrived in Lu City recently. However, Gao Hongying's plan to use her beauty to bait Fang Mu into a trap had been set in motion.

It wasn't conceived after Fang Mu arrived in Lu City.

Fang Mu's arrival in Lu City had simply presented a suitable opportunity!

Ever since Gao Hongying found out about Fang Mu and decided to groom her, Gao Wen yuan had started to gain access to the Gao Family's high-level resources, superior to other young women in the family.

At the time, the hunting activities of the Gao and Zhao families hadn't shown any anomalies.

This was a situation where Gao Wen yuan had viewed the events from start to finish.

Although she wasn't aware of the detailed specifics, she could certainly outline the general situation.

"Mr. Jianmu, you must know that there is a Sea Lord in the waters near Lu City."

"This Sea Lord has several trusted subordinates who help him manage the waters."

“One of these subordinates has been in cooperation with the Gao Family for decades, I’m not quite clear on the specifics of the cooperation.”

“But after Gao Hongying met with this Sea Beast this month, he started personally managing the Gao Family’s fishing operations.”

“He consistently had the Gao Family’s ships fish at a location 350 nautical miles east from the coast.”

“This location is well beyond the range of inshore. It’s extremely dangerous!”

“From what I know, that location is crisscrossed with trenches, and the seabed is covered in a lot of corals with little to no big fish.”

“Small fish hide within the corals during the fishing process, resulting in almost no catch.”

“The fish reported in the documents were the Gao Family and Zhao Family’s move to distract public attention, filled in afterward!”

“For nearly twenty days, the Gao Family’s ships didn’t have any gains, causing dissatisfaction among some of the Elders.”

“Ultimately it seemed like they found something, then the Gao Family and Zhao Family’s shipping vessels resumed their normal fishing activities!”

“But just as they resumed fishing for about a day, the Sea Clan’s invasion of Lu City began!”

Gao Wenyuan didn’t realize anything while she was talking, but after she finished, she was taken aback.

It seemed like she had suddenly understood something.

Could it be possible that the Sea Clan’s invasion of Lu City had something to do with what the Gao Family and Zhao Family fished up?!

Chapter 488: You are already mine!_1

Gao Wenyuan abruptly turned to look at Fang Mu.

Seeing Fang Mu’s serious and solemn expression, it was clear that he wasn’t just asking casually.

This made Gao Wenyuan instantly more certain of the guess in his mind.

If the Gao Family really were responsible for the Sea Clan invasion of Lu City, and by extension, the entire Dragon Rising Federation, due to their recent fishing expedition, then the Gao Family would be deemed the criminals by all.

How could his uncle, Gao Hongying, dare to do that?!

Gao Hongying indeed was a cunning man, but he always shunned risks when making decisions.

In many decisions made for the Gao Family, Gao Hongying would always try to limit risks as much as possible.

Even if a risk-averse decision could affect the Gao Family's interests to some extent.

The interaction among the Lu Du Five Families was one of both cooperation and competition.

If a mistake occurred on an opportunity that should have been profitable, causing the family's interests to be compromised,

It would widen the gap with the other families.

This was because the opportunities available to the five major families were mostly equal on ordinary days.

Seeing the look in Gao Wenyan's eyes, Fang Mu knew what Gao Wenyan had guessed.

The words of Gao Wenyan were the best confirmation, supporting the hypothesis in Fang Mu's heart.

Fang Mu presumed that if the Gao Family and Zhao Family knew that the Guardian Beast they aimed to catch during their fishing expedition was the offspring of a high-ranking figure in a Sea Clan empire,

they wouldn't dare to act so brazenly.

Even if they dared to take such a bold step, they should have prepared the requisite goods using their family's power to avoid any irregularities in the official fishing records of Lu City.

Fang Mu figured out there was a high chance that the patriarchs of the Gao Family, Gao Hongying, and the Zhao Family, Zhao Junwei, didn't know what the capture of this Guardian Beast implied.

Both families had close connections with a Sea Clan leader, and the information they obtained likely came from that Sea Clan leader.

However, that Sea Clan leader only informed them of the rewards from this fishing expedition but not the risks involved.

Therefore, there must be something wrong with the Sea Clan leader whom they were in contact with!

What Fang Mu needed to do now was to rescue the offspring of that high-ranking figure in the Han Yang Empire from the hands of the Gao and Zhao families.

As long as this offspring was safe, the Sea Clan's invasion of Lu City might be resolved.

Even though the Gao Family and Zhao Family started the conflict with the Sea Clan, the turbulence was actually instigated by the Sea Clan.

The root cause was within the Sea Clan.

The districts in the outskirts of Lu City were submerged by seawater, countless ordinary people and Beast Masters lost their lives in the night, becoming ghosts in the sea.

The Sea Clan must provide an explanation to Lu City for all this.

"Let me ask you a final question, do you know how the Gao Family and the Zhao Family plan to deal with what they caught?"

Fang Mu's question stumped Gao Wen yuan.

Even though Gao Wen yuan had been raised to the status of Noble Lady by Gao Hongying, she was unlikely to know about this kind of affair.

Her uncle, Gao Hongying, and Zhao Family Patriarch Zhao Junwei, had indeed been frequently meeting recently.

However, there was no chance for Gao Wen yuan to eavesdrop on the contents of their conversations.

Nonetheless, Gao Wen yuan deduced that Fang Mu was most probably interested in that thing they caught.

Gao Wen yuan quickly tried to lighten the situation and said,

“Mr. Jianmu, minor members of the Gao Family like myself have no access to such core secrets!”

“But if you want to know, I can help gather information after I return to the Gao Family.”

“Give me three hours and I can provide you with an answer.”

Hearing this, Fang Mu knew that Gao Wen yuan was very good at reading people’s minds.

Protecting a smart person is always better than protecting a fool!

“You are now mine, and I will protect you.”

“When you go to the Gao Family on my behalf, tell them that the Wan Fish Festival will be postponed due to the current unrest.”

“Ask the Gao Family if they have any valuable items that they plan to bring to the festival and if they are interested in a trade with me.”

“You know what I want.”

“After this is done, I will make you the true Noble Lady of the Gao Family. And in the future, you will have the opportunity to control the Gao Family.”

Fang Mu’s words were like a soothing pill to Gao Wenyan and brought her a great joy.

The phrase “you are mine” has relieved Gao Wenyan’s fear about being discarded by Gao Hongying when she returns to the Gao Family and being reduced to a serving maid to Gao Hengyun.

After she returns, Gao Wenyan can communicate with Gao Hongying as “one of Jianmu’s people”.

And Gao Hengyun would have to bow in her presence.

Now she realized that to outsiders, her status was no different from She Wan’s.

But to Fang Mu, she was just a recent defector who hadn’t been of much value yet.

Also, Fang Mu’s words told Gao Wenyan what she could get if she did well.

Fang Mu was helping her, indicating that he wanted her to replace Gao Hongying, squeeze out Gao Hengyun, and become the Gao Family’s matriarch.

This was something Gao Wenyan had never dared dream of before.

As for what Fang Mu wanted, the answer was quite obvious and there was no need for Gao Wenyan to guess.

What Fang Mu wanted must be the thing that the Gao Family and Zhao Family had caught during the fishing expedition.

Otherwise, he wouldn’t have asked her about it in his previous question.

Since Fang Mu had already taken her as one of his own, Gao Wenyan also changed how she addressed him.

"I'll return to the Gao Family right away, young master. Once I have the answer, I will contact you immediately!"

Fang Mu gave Gao Wenyan his phone number and prepared to send Yin Nanzhen along with her.

Fang Mu assigned Yin Nanzhen to accompany Gao Wenyan to the Gao Family, not for the sake of her safety.

But rather, Yin Nanzhen, being his chauffeur, could represent Fang Mu's stance quite succinctly.

Chapter 489: You are already mine!_2

From a purely black-and-white perspective, the Gao Family and the Zhao Family had wrought upon Lu City a catastrophe.

The annihilation of both families would not make up for the loss experienced due to the catastrophe.

But from the standpoint of Lu City's development, it was impossible for the Gao Family and the Zhao Family to disappear.

The industries and industry chains they were involved in encompassed all facets of Lu City.

If the two families were eradicated, the number of people who depended on them for their livelihood might even surpass the number of casualties from the catastrophe.

If the two families were to perish, only the remaining three among the Lu Du Five Families could possibly divide up their resources.

Contemplating such a massive benefit, the She Family, Wu Family, and He Family would invariably disrupt the present equilibrium.

This would plunge all of Lu City into decades of turmoil.

Therefore, when negotiating with the Sea Clan, they must try to push the responsibility onto the Sea Clan Leader who had incited the Gao and Zhao Families to make their decisions.

The impact of the actions taken by the Gao and Zhao Families must be minimized.

Circumstances being what they were, the situation in Lu City was of utmost importance.

Those truly at fault within the Gao Family and the Zhao Family were decision-makers like Gao Hongying and Zhao Junwei, as well as some members of the Elder Council who added fuel to the fire.

These individuals would definitely have to pay a price after this storm.

The restoration of Lu City would almost drain the cash flow of both families.

Fang Mu did contemplate helping Gao Wenyan rise to the position of the Gao Family Patriarch, which would essentially mean that the Gao Family was under his control.

But of course, implementing this would certainly face numerous obstacles, as an influential family would not be willing to let someone with a bloodline from a side branch become the Family Head.

Even though Gao Wenyan had already been elevated to the status of a Noble Lady.

Thus, everything depended on Gao Wenyan herself and how she would rise from the ground to build a high tower and reach for the stars upon her return to the Gao Family.

When she first arrived, Gao Wenyan feigned calm, but in reality, she was lost and disoriented.

However, on her return, Gao Wen yuan held her head high, her elegant swan-like neck arched upward.

The aura of a noble lady from an influential family suddenly emanated from Gao Wen yuan's demeanor.

Contained within this demeanor were the sharpness and ambition that Gao Wen yuan had always kept hidden.

Now that Gao Wen yuan had Fang Mu to rely on, she no longer needed to use the image of an innocent girl to protect herself.

Yin Nanzhen, who was riding in another Beast Car, could exactly prove to Gao Hongying how much Fang Mu valued him.

However, after returning to the Gao family, in order to complete Fang Mu's task successfully, Gao Wen yuan still had to put on the disguise of an innocent girl.

First, Gao Wen yuan ceremoniously bowed to Yin Nanzhen, then spoke to the guards of the Gao Family who were monitoring her.

"We have a prestigious guest and you haven't informed my uncle to prepare a proper reception!?"

The guards were utterly surprised by Gao Wen yuan's deftness and her apparent success in winning Fang Mu's favor!

All these guards were Gao Hengyun's men.

After hearing Gao Wen yuan's words, one of the guards was about to report, when he heard Gao Wen yuan say, her voice sweet yet resolute.

"As guards of the Gao Family, you really don't comprehend the rules."

“From now on, you four will follow me, and I’ll teach you the rules thoroughly!”

“I’m sure my uncle won’t deny such a trivial request!”

“Mr. Yin, allow me to personally lead you to my uncle!”

Yin Nanzhen had been by Fang Mu’s side for some time, but this was the first time Fang Mu had sent him out on such a mission. He was somewhat nervous.

But thinking of the attitude displayed by the Family Heads of the Lu Du Five Families and Master Creator Lu Zhong towards Fang Mu, Yin Nanzhen quickly suppressed his anxiety.

If he lost face at this moment, it would dishonor Fang Mu!

Fang Mu was only going to have more and more followers. If he made a mistake in any aspect, wouldn’t he immediately be overshadowed by others?!

Yin Nanzhen didn’t want to end up as an outsider in Fang Mu’s inner circle, even though he had become one of his followers quite early on.

Before Gao Wen yuan even entered Gao Hongying’s study, Gao Hongying had already received news from his steward.

Gao Hongying didn’t show disbelief like Gao Hengyun. In fact, he didn’t rage at all.

On the contrary, Gao Hongying appeared pleased.

Gao Hongying was the one who had suggested using Gao Wen yuan to allure Fang Mu and had personally elevated her to the position of a Noble Lady.

He had placed high hopes on Gao Wen yuan’s ability to lure Fang Mu into a relationship.

It was Gao Wen yuan's failure at the trade fair that had led to Gao Hongying's aloofness towards her and to him lowering his expectations of successfully captivating Fang Mu.

Gao Wen yuan's triumphant return, with Fang Mu's faithful coachman accompanying her, revived Gao Hongying's spirit.

Gao Hongying didn't know that Gao Wen yuan had found herself another way out because of the pressure he put on her.

Gao Hongying had just sent away Zhao Junwei and scoffed at Zhao Junwei's cautiousness.

Gao Hongying reckoned that with the foundation of the Gao Family and the Zhao Family, there was no need to be overly cautious and prudent in Lu City for any matter.

The small and medium-sized forces that lacked a solid foundation should be the ones being careful, not behemoths like the Gao Family and the Zhao Family.

Gao Hongying always felt that Zhao Junwei was a bit petty, lacking vision.

That's why during their cooperation, Gao Hongying often liked to act according to his own decisions and didn't take Zhao Junwei seriously.

Since the Gao Family had paid more to get the Guardian Beast, it was kept in the Gao Family's custody.

Gao Hongying had more than once thought of monopolizing it.

If he couldn't get enough benefits from Fang Mu in exchange for this Guardian Beast, Gao Hongying even considered letting his son, Gao Hengyun, contract with this unseen Sea Divine Beast.

Chapter 490: You are already mine!_3

Now knowing that Wen Yuan had succeeded in seducing Fang Mu, Red Falcon had changed his initial thoughts.

This Sea Divine Beast, no matter how capable it may be, could never compare to the Guardian Beast from Fang Mu that required only 10% of the spiritual power of a normal contract to bind successfully.

Humans' spiritual power is limited.

To be able to contract ten Guardian Beasts using the same amount of spiritual power and still be able to choose amongst them was certainly better than contracting only one!

This was an indisputable fact.

Besides, the capabilities and exclusive attributes of the Silver-Blue Myst Snake were exceptional.

A Guardian Beast cultivated and left behind by a Grandmaster Creator wouldn't fail!

Red Falcon warmly welcomed Yin Nanzhen.

As Yin Nanzhen had only come with Wen Yuan to convey Fang Mu's intentions, he didn't choose to stay in the Gao family home for too long.

After spending less than half an hour at the Gao family, he left to report back to Fang Mu.

Red Falcon could clearly sense a change in Wen Yuan's demeanour.

Now, all Wen Yuan exhibited was a confident demeanor.

This made Red Falcon realize that he may no longer be able to manipulate Wen Yuan as he had before.

With Lord Jianmu backing Wen Yuan, Red Falcon had to consider Jianmu's reaction in dealing with her.

“Wen Yuan, what I said before was just to help you develop a sense of urgency and make every effort to attract Mr. Jianmu’s contribution to the Gao family.”

“You really did it, and you didn’t let me down!”

“You’re indeed my good niece!”

“From now on, you can call me ‘dad’ along with Hengyun!”

“No one in the whole Gao family will dare deny you.”

“If anyone dares to disrespect you, slights you with their words...”

“Just let me know directly, and I will have their tongue cut off.”

Upon hearing Red Falcon’s words, Wen Yuan once again witnessed his hypocrisy.

Wen Yuan used to respect and fear Red Falcon.

Because her rise to the position of Gao Family’s Noble Girl was due to the opportunity given by Red Falcon himself.

It could be said that Wen Yuan respected Red Falcon more than she feared him.

However, Wen Yuan had experienced rejection from Red Falcon firsthand.

It turned out that she had always been just an insignificant pawn in Red Falcon’s eyes.

When useful, he would use her, and when she wasn’t, he could discard her without a second thought.

If she hadn't successfully seduced Fang Mu this time, she would likely have already become Hengyun's woman by now.

Upon her return, she would immediately be handed over to Hengyun by the four guards, as if her delivery was to earn them merit.

By the time Hengyun officially married, she, who was brought in to relieve Hengyun's boredom, would be considered a stain on his reputation and would be secretly disposed of.

Red Falcon would never allow her to be an eyesore for the future matriarch of the Gao family.

Each time she thought of this, Wen Yuan's hatred for Red Falcon and the Gao Family grew more intense.

Now, just because she had a connection with Fang Mu, Red Falcon was calling her 'daughter'.

Wen Yuan found this somewhat ironic.

Wen Yuan lost her father at a young age, so the term 'dad' held a special place in her heart.

To Wen Yuan, the word 'dad' signified support.

What kind of support was Red Falcon?

But even though it was disgusting, she would have to continue addressing him this way in the future.

Wen Yuan didn't feel the slightest bit guilty as she calculated her moves against Red Falcon on behalf of Fang Mu.

Wen Yuan knew that Red Falcon arranged for her to seduce Fang Mu in order to extract Grandmaster resources from him on behalf of the Gao family.

Thus, Wen Yuan could fully consider Fang Mu's objective as her contribution to the Gao family.

"Dad, Lord Jianmu is very pleased with my looks."

"Not only did I meet your expectations, but I also managed to secure an opportunity for our Gao family from Lord Jianmu."

"I took a lot of risks to secure this opportunity for the family from Lord Jianmu!"

"Dad, you have to reward me for it!"

In a large family like theirs, asking for rewards for contributions was a perfectly normal act and Red Falcon didn't feel anything out of the ordinary.

On the contrary, Wen Yuan's conduct only made Red Falcon realize how he should control Wen Yuan in the future.

Red Falcon felt the need to caution Hengyun not to antagonize Wen Yuan anymore.

If Wen Yuan could continue to maintain her connection with Jianmu,

When Hengyun eventually succeeded him as the Gao Family Patriarch, Wen Yuan would definitely be of great help to Hengyun!

"Wen Yuan, what kind of opportunity have you brought for the family?"

"If you have managed to gain any benefits for the family, I will certainly reward your efforts!"

Upon hearing his words, Wen Yuan showed a sweet smile.

“Dad, I know you arranged for me to attract Lord Jianmu in order to obtain opportunities to trade for resources of a Grandmaster Creator from him.”

“Lord Jianmu is quite pleased with me and willing to give our Gao family a chance to secure resources from a Grandmaster Creator.”

“But Mr. Jianmu said that in order for our Gao family to obtain Grandmaster Creator resources, we can only put forward one item.”

“The more valuable this item is, the more Grandmaster Creator resources we can swap for!”

“If this item can arouse Mr. Jianmu’s interest, and satisfy him...”

“We may be able to secure even more opportunities!”

“Dad, what do you think?”

“This chance is hard-won, it almost made Mr. Jianmu think I was greedy.”

“If the family doesn’t cherish this chance, I won’t be as diligent in the future!”

Wen Yuan didn’t go along with what Fang Mu had taught her to say but chose to guide Red Falcon to bring out the item Fang Mu wanted on his own accord.

Otherwise, if she brought up the item fished out from the sea spontaneously, it would raise Red Falcon’s suspicion.

Red Falcon has always been cautious by nature, and she couldn't explain to Red Falcon how she had come across the information.