## **Boss Mommy 481**

Chapter 481 Staying Up

Shen Ruojing was thinking about explaining her identity in the Valor Gate.

However, she didn't know where to start and Shen Yuansong suddenly spoke, "However, since there are disciples from Valor Gate who are uncultured and ill-disciplined, our Shen Family won't be scared even if they try to bully us!"

After saying that, he looked at the third senior uncle of Valor Gate. "Mister, you reported this to the police for the sake of the Shen Family today. If the Valor Gate dares to find trouble with you, our Shen Family will definitely back you up regarding this!"

Shen Yuansong suddenly felt that his words were a little inappropriate after he said them.

!!

Tonight, this person was the one who reported the incident to the police after apprehending the thieves, and Shen Yuansong said all that about Valor Gate because he didn't want this person to misunderstand that the Shen Family was blaming him.

Since these new guards were guarding the Shen Family, Shen Yuansong naturally had to protect them to the end.

He patted the third martial uncle of Valor Gate on his shoulder and nodded with certainty at him. After expressing his admiration, he continued, "It's already so late, you guys should go back to your rooms and rest."

"..." Shen Ruojing's lips twitched. She then exchanged a glance with her third senior brother before heading upstairs.

After she headed up, she saw Chu Cichen standing outside her room.

Chu Cichen was currently staying in a guest room. Since the two of them hadn't registered their marriage, they naturally didn't sleep together.

The man was clad in black-colored silk pajamas and was leaning against the wall. His gaze turned over upon hearing the sound of footsteps.

After the siren sound faded away, the Shen Manor finally regained silence. The man's phoenix eyes curled up slightly and had a hint of innocence in them.

The neckline of the pajamas had two unbuttoned buttons, and this caused his exquisite collarbones and chest to be revealed...

Shen Ruojing retracted her gaze and asked, "Did the commotion wake you up?"

"Hmm."

Chu Cichen stood up straight, causing his neckline to plunge, but he didn't seem to notice it. "It's pretty dangerous at night, so I decided to stay up tonight and guard you."

Shen Ruojing. "...There's no need for this, right?"

"It is needed."

Chu Cichen didn't listen to her any longer and directly entered her room.

A man and a woman were alone in a room together...

Shen Ruojing's peach blossom eyes flashed as a smile appeared on her face.

The moment she entered the door, the man abruptly turned and stretched out his arm toward her...

The man's aura abruptly closed in and this caused Shen Ruojing's heart to beat wildly. She subconsciously tensed and even her breathing was slowed by half a beat.

Although the two had expressed their true feelings to each other, they only had intimate contact during that night those years ago. Now that Chu Cichen had found an excuse to come to her room, he probably wanted to...

Just as she was thinking, she saw the man's hand bypassing her to close the door.

Shen Ruojing. "..."

Was there a need to make things so ambiguous when it was just closing a door?

She bit her lips and blamed herself silently for thinking too much. She then glared at Chu Cichen and just when she wanted to walk past him, her shoulders were grabbed by him, and he roughly pushed her against the door.

Shen Ruojing was skilled in martial arts and could clearly react in time to his sudden movements. However, it was unknown why she seemed to have lost control of her body at that instant and was actually forced into such a situation.

The man was half a head taller than her and his physique was way bigger. By trapping her like this, Shen Ruojing suddenly didn't know what to do.

Just when she wanted to say something, Chu Cichen suddenly lowered his head and kissed her!

Shen Ruojing's eyes opened wide...

She wanted to speak, but her arm was pressed down by the man, and her body was also pressed by his weight. She basically couldn't move.

All these were so sudden and made her feel like her mind was about to explode.

She murmured, wanting to say something, but Chu Cichen basically didn't give her a chance to talk...He directly controlled her lips...

Shen Ruojing. "..."

She felt that she was about to be suffocated. The air in her lungs was seemingly sucked away...

The silence in the surrounding area also seemed extremely loud...

Just when she felt that she was about to suffocate to death, the man finally released her.

Shen Ruojing breathed heavily and wanted to calm her emotions. However, the man in front of her suddenly carried her up and began walking toward the bed...

Chapter 482 Not Rejecting It

Shen Ruojing was thrown onto the bed...

She tried to climb up and retreat.

However, her legs were held by the man, and she couldn't move.

Looking at the darkness in Chu Cichen's eyes, Shen Ruojing knew that she was in trouble.

!!

She said, "You..."

But before she could finish, her lips were blocked by his rough fingers.

Chu Cichen pounced on her and blocked her mouth with his own as he started kissing her.

"Ugh..."

Shen Ruojing struggled hard, but as the Valor Gate's legendary little martial uncle, her body was surprisingly weak today and she couldn't break free...

Seeing that her clothes were all wrinkled...

Shen Ruojing felt a chill around her waist...

A large hand had reached in!

But just at this moment...

"Daddy, are you hitting mommy?"

A cute and milky voice suddenly came over.

Chu Cichen's movements stiffened.

He slowly looked up and saw his daughter, Chu Xiaomeng, rubbing her bewildered eyes as she stared at Shen Ruojing's big bed. She was hugging her dinosaur soft toy and looking at them in horror.

Beside her, Chu Tianye also looked curiously at them. "Why isn't Mommy resisting?"

At this moment, Chu Yu's little face was full of anger. "Daddy, get out of the way! Mommy belongs to me!"

Chu Cichen. "..."

He couldn't believe it and slowly lowered his head, only to see Shen Ruojing's face turning red. She was holding back her laughter.

It was no wonder the woman let him in tonight. So it turned out that the three children were sleeping with her.

When Shen Ruojing heard the commotion outside, she brought all three children over to her room to personally protect their safety just in case.

Unexpectedly, after all the fuss, there were only a few rascals, and they were all easily subdued by her third senior brother.

Earlier, she only headed downstairs to check on the situation...

Chu Cichen then coughed and stood up. He looked at the three children and said seriously, "Your mother and I made a bet to see if her body was soft or not...so I was testing her just now."

Chu Xiaomeng. "Girls are soft and fragrant, boys are stinky and tough..."

The three children had all grown up now.

Chu Tianye and Chu Yu's bones were gradually hardening, and their fingers were no longer as soft and playful as they were when they were younger. That was why Chu Xiaomeng could say this.

Chu Yu immediately retorted, "Mom, I'm not stinky. I take a bath every night."

He didn't want to be kicked out now that he was finally able to sleep with his mother. However, Chu Tianye didn't care about this and just yawned. "I'm so sleepy! Let's go to sleep!"

He pulled the blanket up over himself, but the next moment, he found that Chu Cichen was pulling the blanket back down, leaving him uncovered.

He asked in confusion, "Daddy?"

Chu Cichen slowly said, "You're all big kids now. You should go back to your own room and sleep."

After saying that, he glanced at Shen Ruojing and saw that her cheeks were red. Obviously, her emotions were fluctuating as she had just been messed with by him... Jingjing had always been cold and domineering, when had he ever seen her like this?!

Hence, Chu Cichen felt his blood boil. He wanted nothing more than to kick all three kids out and finish what he had started earlier.

Chu Tianye obediently got up. He grabbed his pillow while yawning and walked toward his own room.

Chu Cichen then looked at Chu Yu.

"I want to sleep with Mommy..." Chu Yu protested.

"No." Chu Cichen's face darkened. "You're getting older now, and you should keep your distance from your mother. Males and females are different after all."

Chu Yu objected, "But I'm only five years old!"

"You became a man at three years old. Get up." Chu Cichen lifted Chu Yu up, gave him his pillow, and pulled him off the bed.

Then Chu Cichen turned to Chu Xiaomeng.

The little girl looked up weakly at him and said, "Daddy, I'm a girl."

She meant that she and her mother didn't have any gender differences!

Chu Cichen coughed and said, "Scientific research states that children should sleep by themselves so they would have an adequate blood and oxygen supply to the brain. It will make you smarter..."

Hearing this, Chu Xiaomeng was convinced and obediently got out of the bed while holding her dinosaur toy in one hand and her pillow in the other.

The rooms of the three little ones were just separated by a door from Shen Ruojing's room. This was intentionally designed by Shen Yuansong for the convenience of the children in case they woke up and needed their mother.

The three little ones went into their respective rooms, and Chu Cichen breathed a sigh of relief. His eyes gleamed like a wolf as he looked at Shen Ruojing.

Seeing his expression, Shen Ruojing felt a sense of panic. A starving wolf finally encountered the prey that it had been waiting so long for, and this caused her to tremble from the bottom of her heart.

She crawled under the covers, hiding her accelerated heartbeat and the warmth on her cheeks. She then lowered her eyes without refusing or speaking.

Chu Cichen was waiting for the sound of the doors closing before pouncing on her, but after waiting one second, two seconds... ten seconds, none of the three doors had closed.

He slowly turned his head and saw the three little ones looking at him from behind their doors.

Chu Yu said, "Daddy, why aren't you leaving?"

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Chu Cichen. "?"

Just as he was about to say something, Chu Tianye said, "You and mommy are not of the same gender!"

Chu Xiaomeng added, "Yeah, you two adults inhale more air when you sleep together, and the lack of air will make you stupid!"

Chu Cichen. "!!!"

He took a deep breath and ordered, "Go to your own beds right now, immediately!"

"Okay!"

"Yes!"

"...Fine."

The last reluctant voice was from Chu Yu.

Then there were sounds of three doors closing.

After the third door closed, Chu Cichen immediately fixed his gaze on Shen Ruojing. His eyes were dark, and he was determined to get what he wanted tonight.

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Chapter 483 I'll Drink!

Shen Ruojing's heart was beating wildly under his gaze.

She had never feared anyone before, but now she finally realized the difference between the physical strength of men and women.

Thinking back to that night many years ago...

She was sober.

The details of that night appeared vividly in her mind, making her feel like even her breath was scorching hot.

There was really no need to be so affected.

Although she understood the truth of what had happened in the past and knew that it was Song Chen impersonating Chu Cichen, it didn't matter as the one she liked had always been Chu Cichen himself...

Both of them had three children already, even if they hadn't officially registered their marriage, society had become more open...

Shen Ruojing was mentally preparing herself as she watched Chu Cichen walk toward her step by step.

She felt her breathing becoming more urgent, and the spacious room suddenly seemed to be shrinking.

She wanted to say something, but before she could speak, she suddenly heard a 'creaking' sound.

Chu Xiaomeng appeared at the door. "Daddy, don't hit mommy..."

Chu Cichen. "...I didn't hit mommy."

"You did."

"No. Just now, your mommy and I were joking... if you don't believe me, you can ask her."

Chu Cichen looked at Shen Ruojing with intense eyes.

Shen Ruojing. "... Yes. You know my skills, if he dared to hit me, I would definitely hit back."

"Okay."

Chu Xiaomeng believed it and closed the door.

Chu Cichen approached Shen Ruojing again, and just as he was about to kiss her, he suddenly heard another 'creaking' sound. He turned his head abruptly, only to realize that he must be hearing things as there was no one at the door

Chu Cichen. "..."

He sat on the edge of the bed, lowered his head, and tried to start the mood again. But then, another 'creaking' sound interrupted him.

It must just be his imagination.

As Chu Cichen was thinking, he heard Chu Yu speak, "Daddy, are mommy's lips sweet? Why do you keep kissing them? Can I try?"

Chu Cichen. "???"

He suddenly turned his head and looked at Chu Yu, suppressing his anger. "Go back and sleep!"

"Okay."

Chu Yu closed the door.

Chu Cichen. "..."

Shen Ruojing. "..."

The two of them looked at each other for a moment. After a while, Chu Xiaomeng's door opened again, and the little one said in a cutesy voice, "Mommy, I'm not sleepy."

Chu Yu and Chu Tianye also opened their doors and looked at the two of them. They had been sleeping well at the Chu Manor, but now that they were suddenly moved to a new location, how could they fall asleep quickly?

Chu Cichen took a deep breath and said, "Go back and sleep."

The three little ones obediently went back to bed.

Ten minutes later, Chu Cichen asked, "Are they asleep now?"

Shen Ruojing was about to speak when Chu Xiaomeng's voice came through. "They're asleep, Daddy."

"Uh-huh, I'm asleep too," said Chu Tianye.

Chu Yu tried to salvage the situation. "They're asleep now and talking in their dreams."

Shen Ruojing. "..."

Chu Cichen. "..."

At this moment, the two of them realized that in order to allow Shen Ruojing to hear feedback from the children at night, none of the three doors were soundproofed.

When Shen Yuansong was renovating the house, he clearly did not consider the feelings of both husband and wife.

After all, he had never been married in his life and only thought about taking care of the children. How could he understand that young couples needed their own independent space?

In the end, Chu Cichen left with resentment.

It wasn't until the next morning when Chu Cichen saw Shen Yuansong that his eyes were filled with a hint of a grudge.

Shen Yuansong didn't quite understand and pondered for a moment before saying, "Well, even if you haven't gotten married, you can still live together. I'm not that kind of closed-minded elder."

Both of them already had three children, and although Shen Yuansong didn't understand why they hadn't gotten married yet, he could see that Chu Cichen was devoted to Shen Ruojing, and his granddaughter also favored him.

Chu Cichen was silent for a moment and said, "Thank you for your kind offer, Grandpa, but we'll pass."

(Isn't it the most painful thing to be able to see and not touch?)

He felt like Shen Yuansong was a bit biased against him.

Shen Yuansong didn't understand what he meant but still praised him, "Hmm, you're indeed a gentleman."

"..." He didn't want to be a gentleman.

Shen Yuansong was about to say something else when his phone rang. He then answered it and heard the voice of Old Master Bai from the other end. "The queen has spread rumors that the Shen family has offended her, and she summoned me and the other two family leaders to chat today. In and between her words, she is trying to get us to ostracize and suppress the Shen family. We've had marriage alliances between families for so many generations, and who doesn't have a daughter from the Shen family? These people's days won't be good in the future... Are you mentally prepared?"

Shen Yuansong lowered his gaze. "Alright, it's done. Since they've taken the family dividends, they should pay for it."

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Old Master Bai coughed. "Well, about the incident with your grand-niece Shen Wanying targeting my granddaughter last time, I let it go for the sake of your face. But now, the queen wants me to make an example... my old friend, targeting your grandniece a little and letting out some steam for my granddaughter isn't too much, right?"

Shen Yuansong. "???"

Shen Wanying was the eldest daughter-in-law of the Bai family, but it was now clear that Old Master Bai was planning to hand over the Bai family to Bai Xiaojiu, so no one was particularly nice to her.

However, Bai Wei had refrained from acting on her out of consideration for the Shen family's face.

Even so, the behavior of the Shen family's second branch was really chilling.

"She's from the second branch, so she is not my legitimate granddaughter," Shen Yuansong said lightly.

Old Master Bai immediately understood and he immediately said, "Rest assured, I'll just have her follow some rules, and I won't do anything to her. After all, she's still Bai Yitong's mother."

After hanging up the phone, Shen Yuansong fell silent.

The other three families were pressuring the Shen family, and the only way to do so was to abuse the Shen family's women who had married into those families...

If even Old Master Bai, who had such a good relationship with him, wanted to reprimand Shen Wanying to give the queen some face, what about the other women who had married into the Xu and Rong families?

Suddenly, Shen Yuansong thought of what happened yesterday when Shen Tingyan came back, and he immediately asked the butler, "Is the third miss still at home?"

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Uncle Liu replied, "Yes, she is."

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At this moment, the Xu family's butler was holding the newly made medicine and said, "Miss Shen, come out and drink your medicine. If you don't drink it, how can I explain it to Madam?"

This time, the earthworms in the medicine were not ground up as much, and they were struggling on the surface of the water in sections...

Shen Tingyan was hiding in her room and refusing to open the door.

"Ah, if you don't drink it, I'll have to talk to Old Master Shen... you still haven't given birth to a child, which is a disgrace to our Xu family!"

As soon as this was said, Shen Tingyan opened the door with a creak. Her face was pale, and her body was trembling. "I'll drink it!"

Her instinctive response made her feel like her stomach was churning even before she drank it. But her hand was still steady as she took the medicine.

Her granduncle's heart was already in chaos, and he needed to handle everything related to the Shen family.

The only thing Shen Tingyan could do for the old grandpa and the Shen family at this moment was to not cause any additional trouble.

Chapter 484 Daughter To Marry A Father?

Shen Tingyan was about to drink the medicine when Third Madam Shen suddenly rushed over and stopped her, saying, "Don't drink it!"

Third Madam Shen then angrily glared at the butler and said, "Get out of here! If you want to find the old master, go find him! Do you think we're afraid of you? We can always divorce!"

The butler of the Xu family sneered and said, "Divorce? Do you know what kind of treatment the Shen family is receiving now? If she divorces our master, what kind of life will she have?"

Third Madam Shen protected Shen Tingyan behind her and said, "We don't need the Xu family to worry about what kind of life she'll have. Go away! If you don't leave, I'll call security to kick you out!"

!!

The butler saw that she was serious, especially when Third Madam Shen shouted for the security guard outside to enter.

Hence, the butler took a step back and said, "Fine, I'll leave if you want me to! The Shen family will regret this!"

As she walked toward the door, she was stopped again and told to take all of the Xu family's things with her. The butler reluctantly picked up the disgusting medicine and left.

After she left, Shen Yuansong arrived. Although he didn't see the butler's attitude, he could tell that something was wrong from Third Madam Shen and Shen Tingyan's expressions.

The wife of the Xu family's leader was known for being narrow-minded and having only one child, whom she favored heavily. She had interfered in other people's marriages over the years, and the eldest son of the Xu family was a spoiled mama boy with no will of his own. Because of all those reasons, Shen Tingyan had never been happy in the Xu family.

But because the Shen family was too powerful, the Xu family's wife hadn't dared to be too over-the-top. At most, she would bring Shen Tingyan everywhere to seek fertility treatment. However, now that the Shen family's situation was bad and the other three families had received the Queen's request, she immediately began to bully her daughter-in-law.

Shen Yuansong looked at the crying pair of mother and daughter who were holding each other and sighed. "This marriage should have been over long ago. It's good that we have an understanding now. Tomorrow, I'll send someone to negotiate the divorce."

Third Madam Shen nodded tearfully and said, "Uncle, you must stand up for Tingyan!"

Shen Yuansong said firmly, "Don't worry, even if she gets a divorce, the Shen family is not penniless!"

After comforting Third Madam Shen and Shen Tingyan, Shen Yuansong left the third residence while feeling heavy-hearted.

Even his relatively close family members were treated like this. How were the others doing?

He thought of this and looked at the butler. "Call and ask how the rest who married out are faring."

The butler nodded.

Shen Yuansong then instructed, "Don't tell Ruojing about this."

In the Bai Manor.

Old Master Bai looked at Shen Wanying, who was trapped in a room and feeling frustrated. However, he didn't do anything to her. He just told her to stay in the room and read more books so that she wouldn't do anything foolish.

Matriarch Bai's face was cold as she said, "We've talked to Old Shen, so why can't we punish her?"

Old Master Bai sighed. "On account of Little Tong, let's forget it. Oh right, I have something to do, so I will be heading out."

Old Master Bai only brought a chauffeur out, and he got the chauffeur to drive around in circles for a long time before he confirmed that no one was following him. Old Master Bai then smiled and got the chauffeur to park at the roadside before taking his phone and making a call.

The other party soon picked up and a lazy voice rang out. "What's the matter?"

Old Master Bai sighed. "The queen is currently targeting the Shen Family. Are you really not going to do something?"

Jing Zhen. "But the Shen Family is still standing strong, right?"

Old Master Bai. "..."

Jing Zhen continued, "She always makes a lot of noise, but nothing much comes of it."

Old Master Bai pursed his lips and reminded him, "It seems different this time. She has her eye on Miss Shen and wants her to marry you."

"...Cough cough cough!"

"What?!" Jing Zhen coughed violently. "She's out of her mind!"

Old Master Bai wanted to say more, but suddenly, there was a knock on the car door. He turned his head and saw the Queen standing outside, staring at his phone.

Old Master Bai then obediently handed over his phone, and the Queen moved the phone to her ear.

The moment she did so, she heard Jing Zhen angrily exclaim, "Is she crazy? She wants her a daughter to marry a father?!"

Chapter 485 Your Child!

The queen was slightly stunned when she heard this and asked, "What daughter? Do you have a daughter?"

Jing Zhen, who thought he was speaking with Old Master Bai, choked for a moment before he angrily said, "I meant that Miss Shen from the Shen family is only in her twenties now and could even be my daughter. You are making a fuss for nothing!"

The queen smiled and said, "I have met Miss Shen before. I like her very much, and she has even given birth to three children from the same pregnancy. She is very blessed. Our royal family is now dwindling in numbers, and we need to have more children to boost our popularity."

Upon hearing this, Jing Zhen sneered and said, "As the one who caused the dwindling in the royal family, how do you have the cheek to say that?"

However, the queen was very gentle with him and asked, "Well, you have been away for more than twenty years. When are you coming back home?"

"I won't go back to that home," Jing Zhen said firmly.

"What about the family's business empire? How can you just abandon it like that? How can you justify it to the people of Country A? If Country A riots and causes unrest, can you justify it to your ancestors?" The queen's attitude became stronger.

"It's you who should apologize to them! I've said it before, whoever wants the throne can have it! I don't want it."

The queen persisted. "Then send me a child. I won't stop you from doing anything else."

"No." Jing Zhen sneered. "I suffered when I was young, and I won't let my children suffer like that."

The queen's attitude remained strong. "It doesn't matter. Just because you don't send me a child doesn't mean that I won't get a child from you."

She laughed. "If you come back, you will be the crown prince. If you don't come back, then your child will be the crown prince."

After saying this, the queen hung up directly.

Jing Zhen, who was in the drama studio, listened to the beeping sound from his phone and narrowed his beautiful phoenix eyes slightly.

His child?

Could it be that the queen already knew that Jingjing was his daughter?

Although Country A was a patriarchal society, back in the day, a queen had actually ruled the country. Could it be that everything the queen was doing was to force Shen Ruojing to go back and inherit the throne?

Jing Zhen tapped his slender fingers on the sofa as he instinctively thought about the problem.

If the queen wanted to target the Shen family, she could just confiscate their assets directly. Why did she have to spread such rumors? It felt more like she was putting pressure on the Shen family!

As Jing Zhen was pondering, Shen Qianhui walked in.

She moved lightly and poured him a glass of milk. But when she saw his actions and the slight frown on his face, she gently walked to his side. After rubbing his brow, she asked, "Is something bothering you?"

Jing Zhen's chin tensed.

He suddenly looked at Shen Qianhui and asked, "Qianhui, do you remember when Jingjing was kidnapped by human traffickers?"

Upon hearing this, Shen Qianhui's face immediately turned pale.

She stood up suddenly and asked, "Has something happened to Jingjing again?"

Jing Zhen quickly grabbed her hand and said, "No, no... She's doing fine. I heard that she moved to live with the Shen family."

"That's good." Shen Qianhui patted her chest and then sighed. "Husband, do you know? All mothers in the world always hope for their children to be safe and well. If life could be exchanged, do you know what would happen?"

Jing Zhen shook his head.

Shen Qianhui said, "If life could be exchanged, then the rooftop of the hospital would be filled with mothers."

This sentence stunned Jing Zhen slightly.

Shen Qianhui then held his hand and said, "Jingjing suffered so much when she was young. I would rather it be me who suffered instead of her. Even if it means I would live ten years less or have to die early, I don't want Jingjing to experience those things again."

Jing Zhen tightened his jaw.

He lowered his gaze and said, "So if it happens again, you want me to prioritize her, right?"

"Of course. Do you even need to ask?" Shen Qianhui smiled. "If both Jingjing and I fell into the water, promise me that you will save Jingjing first."

Jing Zhen held her hand and said, "Okay."

He looked at Shen Qianhui's beautiful face and innocent eyes.

Jing Zhen was born into the royal family and was destined to experience power struggles. Back then, he was always surrounded by people wearing masks and fake smiles.

But Shen Qianhui was never like that.

She was always sincere to everyone, taking care of others first no matter what she did. That was why Jing Zhen was attracted to her when he came to China years ago.

He silently sighed.

He hoped that no one in the Shen family would disappoint him, and he hoped that they would never have to go that far.

Shen Manor.

Chu Cichen was handling business in Shen Ruojing's study, and he had overseas meetings every afternoon...

At this time, his phone suddenly rang.

It was a message from Chu Cimo. [Big brother, I know that the Shen family is being targeted now, and our family is also affected. Don't worry, when I join Valor Gate, I will bring people from Valor Gate to live in the Shen Manor. Let's see if that queen dares to be so arrogant!]

Chu Cichen stared at his phone, and his lips were slightly curled as he felt that his younger brother had grown up.

He replied with one word. [Okay.]

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In the underground fighting arena.

Chu Cimo was getting ready, looking at the fighting ring.

For the past month, he had been learning boxing skills here. That, combined with his agile body movements, he finally made it to the finals!

Today, he would compete with another person for the championship.

If he won, he would be able to rejoin the Valor Gate. At that time, who would dare to underestimate the Chu and Shen families?

. . .

(Let that old woman bring her guards to attack the Shen family and see what happens!)

He threw his phone to his fifth senior brother and stretched a bit before getting on the stage.

He had thoroughly researched and thought of many ways to counter the person he was competing against today. It wouldn't be difficult to beat this opponent.

As Chu Cimo thought about this, he jumped onto the stage.

For a whole month of competition, he always fought with great enthusiasm. As a result, his martial arts skills made a qualitative leap in terms of improvement!

Everyone below was watching him, including his fifth senior brother.

The fifth senior brother's eyes were filled with excitement as he knew that his talented young junior brother had returned. In just one month, he had come this far. It was no wonder that he was praised for resembling the legendary little martial uncle when he first joined Valor Gate.

Today, he would shine with his own glory!

Although there were many twists and turns during the final match and Chu Cimo did not have an easy time, he won the championship in the end!

The fifth senior brother immediately applauded vigorously and rushed onto the stage, giving Chu Cimo an excited embrace.

His little junior brother had returned! He was about to rejoin Valor Gate!!

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The grand martial uncle who hosted the fighting match also witnessed this final match, and when he looked at Chu Cimo, his eyes showed an appreciative look for talent.

He smiled and went on stage. "Welcome back."

These words made Chu Cimo straighten his back.

His eyes were hot. He wanted to say something but was unable to speak.

The helplessness he felt when he chose to quit and the excitement of returning now made him want to scream for a moment.

He looked at the grand martial uncle and suddenly knelt, bowing his head and saying, "Greetings, Eldest Martial Uncle."

The grand martial uncle extended his hand. "Get up. From today on, you are a disciple of Valor Gate. You must be cautious, follow the rules of Valor Gate..."

Before the grand martial uncle could finish speaking, the eldest senior brother suddenly walked in and said, "Martial Uncle, he cannot join Valor Gate!"

The fifth senior brother immediately shouted, "Why not? He is the champion! The champion automatically joins Valor Gate!"

The eldest senior brother looked at Chu Cimo.

His gaze made Chu Cimo feel panic in his heart. At the next moment, he heard the eldest senior brother saying. "Because he is none other than the Rooftop Gentleman. He is a thief, an imposter who tries to confuse people. How can our Valor Gate tolerate such a person?"

Chapter 486 Judgment!

When the eldest senior brother spoke, everyone present was shocked.

They all looked toward Chu Cimo.

Chu Cimo tensed his jaw and didn't deny it immediately.

He had voluntarily left the Valor Gate because of this reason back then.

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The eldest senior brother knew his identity and had used it to force him to leave, but now, since Chu Cimo came for the Chu and Shen families, he naturally would not back down anymore.

The fifth senior brother was shocked. "This can't be true!"

The eldest senior brother sneered. "What? Do I need to present evidence? Haven't you noticed that he doesn't even dare to deny it?"

The grand martial uncle also looked toward Chu Cimo. "Is this true?"

The 'Rooftop Gentleman' was actually well-known in the capital. Even though he often stole things, most of what he did was rob the rich to help the poor, and he also stood up for justice...

But no matter what, he was indeed a thief!

Chu Cimo lowered his head.

The fifth senior brother understood what was happening when he saw that Chu Cimo didn't speak.

At this moment, he suddenly realized why this junior brother of his had voluntarily left Valor Gate back then. He had his own pride and believed that he was doing the right thing, so he didn't want to be bound by Valor Gate's rules. Hence, he simply left.

All participants of the competition who were standing below also sighed. "He is the gentleman thief? Oh my god, when he was famous in the capital, my sister even admired him..."

"I think the most shocking thing he did was stealing back an antique that originally belonged to China but was stolen by foreigners. He then donated it to the museum for free..."

"..."

But some people had opposing opinions. "But with him like this, it will be even harder for us martial artists in this world, right? We will definitely become the targets of attention in the future!"

"We practice martial arts for both physical fitness and to pass on our ancestors' legacy. If we all do these lowly things, won't we be in conflict with the teachings of our ancestors?"

"Valor Gate's rules are strict. I wonder how they will handle this."

While the people below were discussing, the grand martial uncle tensed his jaw and looked toward Chu Cimo.

He suddenly spoke, "Regardless of this, you are still the champion. Right now, Valor Gate has issued an invitation to you. Will you accept our invitation to join?"

If Chu Cimo didn't accept the invitation and continued to roam as a wandering martial artist, then Valor Gate would not take his identity as the 'Rooftop Gentleman' into account.

Anyway, in these years, the Rooftop Gentleman had not committed any crimes, so everyone here probably would not reveal this matter and cause someone to catch him.

However, if Chu Cimo accepted the invitation, he would be one of the members of Valor Gate!

Even so, since he had committed theft, which violated the Valor Gate's rules, he must be judged by the Valor Gate's court!

The punishment might be a few lashes, verbal reprimand, or even expulsion from Valor Gate by breaking his legs and feet.

The severity of the punishment depended on the judgment of the Valor Gate's court.

Therefore, the grand martial uncle left this decision to Chu Cimo.

However, Chu Cimo's gaze did not waver, and he firmly said, "I am willing to accept any punishment from Valor Gate!"

Now that he had grown up, he understood that people couldn't live recklessly and sometimes, sacrifices had to be made for the family.

The grand martial uncle fell silent, feeling heartbroken for this disciple. He then said, "Have you thought it through? You should know that the court is managed by your second martial uncle, someone who is very strict and follows the Valor Gate's rules to the letter. You may be kicked out of Valor Gate by him."

Chu Cimo nodded and replied without hesitation, "Grand Martial Uncle, I am willing to go to court to defend myself!"

The grand martial uncle warned him again, "Once you join Valor Gate, you will be a guilty person. At that time, if you disagree with the court's judgment, you cannot leave Valor Gate just because you want to. Do you understand?"

"I understand," replied Chu Cimo.

"Then, will you still join our Valor Gate?"

"Yes!" Chu Cimo answered without hesitation.

A few years ago, he joined Valor Gate to learn martial arts and movement techniques because he wanted to punish evil people in his own way. He indeed made many mistakes and then chose to leave on his own before being discovered by the organization.

But now, the situation was different. Since the eldest senior brother had revealed this matter, Chu Cimo would not have the option to leave by his own will once he rejoined Valor Gate.

However, Chu Cimo still wanted to join because he wanted to break down the barriers between Valor Gate and the four great families. He also wanted to support the Chu and Shen families and let Old Master Bai know that he was truly dependable and that Bai Shanshan could rely on him!

Seeing that Chu Cimo had made up his mind, the grand martial uncle took a deep breath and said, "Good, from today onward, you are Valor Gate's little junior brother."

"Disciple pays respect to the grand martial uncle." Chu Cimo kowtowed to him.

After that, the eldest senior brother stepped forward and stared directly at Chu Cimo as he spoke, "Criminal Chu Cimo, you have committed the sin of thievery while you were in the Valor Gate, come with me to the court for trial now!"

The second martial uncle, who was in charge of the court, was the father of the eldest senior brother.

Chu Cimo knew that he would probably be physically punished for his crime.

He then stood up and followed the eldest senior brother, and the two of them left by car to the Valor Gate's court in the capital city.

The fifth senior brother became anxious when he saw this and immediately ran to the grand martial elder as he shouted, "Grand Martial Uncle, second martial uncle is too rigid in his actions and blindly believes in what elder senior brother says. Please go and help little junior brother. Otherwise, I'm afraid that he won't be able to walk out of the punishment hall!"

The grand martial uncle looked embarrassed and said, "It's not that I don't want to help, but I promised your second martial uncle that I wouldn't interfere with the affairs of the punishment hall."

If he interfered with the punishment hall every time someone in Valor Gate made a mistake, it would be like the punishment hall was nonexistent.

The grand martial uncle was kind and took care of the juniors, so when anyone made a mistake, they would come to him for help.

Because of this, the second martial uncle became angry and demanded the grand martial uncle not to interfere with matters of his punishment hall.

Hearing this, the fifth senior brother became frantic and asked, "What should we do then? The punishment hall is under the second martial uncle's control. Junior brother is definitely finished! Among so many martial uncles, is there anyone who thinks that junior brother is innocent?"

So what if he was the Rooftop Gentleman?

He never accepted money for his thefts and only stole what he thought he should.

He remembered that the Rooftop Gentleman had once done something—A female celebrity was set up and someone took indecent photos of her in the fitting room to extort her. However, the female celebrity had a strong personality and refused to give in, so the other party threatened to post the photos online.

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The Rooftop Gentleman immediately took action and stole back the photos and negatives for the female celebrity, thus avoiding a scandal.

After that, the female celebrity publicly thanked the Rooftop Gentleman on Weibo, and her fans were even more grateful to him.

His reputation was clearly very good and different from the other thieves.

However, the second martial uncle hated him very much.

Because of the Rooftop Gentleman's appearance, someone reported the case and everyone began to investigate who this person was.

The police even came to Valor Gate for this, and it did cause a lot of trouble for the major martial arts schools in the capital

Because of this, the second martial uncle angrily criticized the Rooftop Gentleman, saying that he was not a gentleman but a thief!

The grand martial uncle had also heard of the Rooftop Gentleman's deeds, and after thinking for a moment, he suddenly said, "Actually, there is someone who dares to break into the punishment hall to save people."

"Who?"

"Your little junior uncle!"

Upon hearing this, the fifth senior brother became deflated. "We don't even know where my little junior uncle is, so how can we contact him? Grand Martial Uncle, are you pranking me?"

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The grand martial uncle coughed and suddenly lowered his voice. "Actually, your little junior uncle is in the capital."

In the capital?

The fifth senior brother was overjoyed and quickly grabbed the grand martial uncle as he asked, "Where is he?"

Chapter 487 Clear Conscience!

In the punishment hall.

Chu Cimo was tied up by his eldest senior brother using a rope, with several other disciples standing behind him, guarding him to prevent him from resisting judgment and attacking others. So, seven or eight Valor Gate disciples in the punishment hall stood with their hands behind their backs, staring at him.

The second martial uncle had not arrived yet. Hence, the eldest senior brother stood beside Chu Cimo and sneered, "Little Junior Brother, there was a road to heaven, but you chose to break into hell. This is your own choice."

Chu Cimo stood quietly. "Years ago, I ran away. Returning now is my formal acceptance of Valor Gate's judgment."

The eldest senior brother said, "I'm afraid today's judgment will disappoint you."

Chu Cimo only looked at him.

Chu Cimo, who was usually unrestrained and playful, was now looking at him seriously. "Senior brother, I have nothing to be guilty of!"

"Having nothing to be guilty of is not enough, Valor Gate didn't teach you martial arts for you to become a thief!"

The eldest senior brother finished speaking and laughed. "I understand my father's personality well. Today, let's see what fate awaits you here!"

After speaking, footsteps could be heard outside the door, followed by a loud voice. "It's so late already, who is the one that has made a mistake?"

Chu Cimo turned his head and saw a tall and stern middle-aged man walking in. The man's gaze fell first on the eldest senior brother and then on Chu Cimo.

He frowned. "What's going on?"

This person was none other than the second martial uncle of Valor Gate, the eldest senior brother's father.

However, in the punishment hall, the senior brother knew his father's character well, so he stepped forward and shouted officially, "Second Martial Uncle, I found out today that one of our disciples has committed theft, so I brought him here."

Upon hearing this, the second martial uncle's expression became sharp, and a forceful aura pressed down on Chu Cimo.

He looked at Chu Cimo before walking quickly to the front of the judging seat and sitting down. He said, "Speak!"

The eldest senior brother stepped forward and directly said, "I, as the senior brother, am guilty of carelessness. It turns out that our little junior brother Chu Cimo is the Rooftop Gentleman."

Upon hearing the words "Rooftop Gentleman," the second martial uncle's face became dark. He stood up suddenly and looked at Chu Cimo incredulously before angrily asking, "It's really you?"

Chu Cimo clenched his jaw and said nothing.

The eldest senior brother immediately glared at Chu Cimo. "Second martial uncle is asking you a question."

Chu Cimo greeted his teeth. "Yes, but..."

His words were then interrupted by the eldest senior brother. "During the interrogation, you only need to answer yes or no!"

The eldest senior brother then took a step forward and asked, "Five years ago on October 3rd, the Liu family in the capital was robbed, and a contract was lost. Did you do it?"

Chu Cimo replied, "Yes, but that Liu family..."

"You only need to say yes or no! Don't answer with nonsense!" scolded the second martial uncle angrily.

Chu Cimo felt a lump in his throat and took a deep breath before saying, "Yes."

The eldest senior brother continued to ask, "November 6th, five years ago, someone reported that the medicine in the Huairou Private Hospital was stolen. Did you do it?"

Chu Cimo clenched his lips and said, "...Yes."

Chu Cimo then looked at the eldest senior brother, knowing that he wouldn't have a chance to argue. He was speechless.

The eldest senior brother continued, "Stealing is one thing, but on January 7th four years ago, when you went to the Liangshan Company to steal contracts, did you also injure someone? This caused harm to their descendants!"

Chu Cimo said, "That was because..."

"Yes or no?!"

Chu Cimo gritted his teeth, feeling extremely suffocated in his chest. "Yes!"

"On January 17th last year... yes or no?"

"Yes."

The eldest senior brother revealed all of Rooftop Gentleman's thefts. Although there was no evidence to prove that it was done by Chu Cimo, as a disciple of Valor Gate, he must not lie here. Hence, Chu Cimo could not deny it.

With each revelation, and with each "yes" that Chu Cimo uttered, the second martial uncle's expression became increasingly grim.

After the eldest senior brother finished talking about the last case, he finally looked at the second martial uncle and said, "Second Martial Uncle, in summary, after joining Valor Gate, our junior brother learned movement skills and committed 58 counts of theft! Each case is shocking, involving either trade secrets or personal privacy. Although I have no concrete evidence, he has confessed. I request that according to the Valor Gate's rules, you must deal with this seriously!"

The second marital uncle's face turned as black as water.

He suddenly slammed the teacup in his hand to the ground and yelled at Chu Cimo, "Did I teach you Valor Gate's skills so you could commit such crimes?!"

Chu Cimo lowered his head and said, "Second Martial Uncle, I want to explain."

"Explain? Are you trying to say that you're a noble thief? That you're doing good deeds? We have laws in China. What gives you the right to punish and eliminate evil? If everyone acted like you, what use would the law have?"

The eldest senior brother spoke with righteous indignation, "Little Junior Brother, you're really confused! Do you know that because of the things you've done, several martial arts schools in the capital have had to keep a low profile for years? No matter what we do, we must consider our reputation!"

As the son of the second martial arts uncle, the eldest senior brother knew exactly what words would strike a chord with his father.

Hearing these words, the second martial uncle immediately remembered that time in the past.

Martial arts sects were already misunderstood by many in modern law-based society, with most people regarding martial arts as a way to keep fit. However, their Valor Gate clan had always regarded martial arts as their life mission since ancient times.

Hence, in the eyes of others, Valor Gate always had a somewhat reckless reputation.

As if they were a hidden danger in society.

When a thief appeared and the relevant personnel couldn't find anyone, they immediately suspected these martial arts sects. They then dispatched many people to investigate them every day, making their neighbors look at them with caution.

It was as if everyone in Valor Gate was a criminal.

The second martial uncle exploded, glaring at Chu Cimo and roaring, "The minimum punishment for theft is 20 lashes! You stole 58 items and even beat someone up. Chu Cimo, do you know your crime?"

Chu Cimo looked at him and said, "I know I'm wrong, but..."

"No buts! Even if those people deserved to die, it was not up to you! What's the rule of Valor Gate? Obeying the law is the top priority!" The second martial arts uncle stared at him. "You have committed such a serious offense. According to the rules of the Valor Gate clan, your tendons should be cut, and you should be kicked out of the sect!"

Chapter 488 Looked Down Upon

As soon as these words were spoken, Chu Cimo was dumbfounded.

The fifth senior brother, who rushed in at the door, was also stunned. "Second Martial Uncle! Little Junior Brother only made a mistake due to a moment of recklessness, how can it be so serious? Second Martial Uncle, please think twice!"

The second martial uncle sneered, "This is still considered light. What's there to think about? If it weren't for the fact that Valor Gate cannot take lives now, according to the rules left by our ancestors, he should be beaten to death for making so many mistakes!"

After saying this, the second martial uncle immediately ordered, "Press him down, hold a trial tomorrow, and execute the punishment in public! All Valor Gate disciples must come to observe. I want everyone to know what mistakes he made! From now on, Valor Gate disciples are not allowed to make any mistakes again!"

"Yes!"

The eldest senior brother and the other Valor Gate disciples went straight forward and grabbed Chu Cimo. Chu Cimo looked at the second martial uncle in front of him and shouted angrily, "Second Martial Uncle, I do not accept this!"

"You are not qualified to not accept it! You are not qualified to defend yourself in this matter either!" The second martial uncle stared at him.

"Because of you, our sect was wronged and investigated, and many people had difficulties on their missions. These are all things you must bear! Take him away!"

In order to prevent Chu Cimo from escaping, they directly detained him in an enclosed room, and the eldest senior brother even arranged for people to be on guard from both the front and back.

The fifth senior brother came over and wanted to bring Chu Cimo some food, but he was stopped by the eldest senior brother. "What qualification does he have to eat when he has made such a mistake?"

The fifth senior brother was furious. "Even if it's a death sentence, there's still a last meal! Why can't I go and bring it to him?"

The eldest senior brother sneered. "Fine, we'll arrange the food. You don't need to bring it in. Who will be responsible if something happens?"

The fifth senior brother heard these words and became even angrier.

He then stared at the eldest senior brother and shouted through the door, "Little Junior Brother, do you regret it?"

Chu Cimo inhaled deeply and spoke, "I only regret not being able to convince Second Martial Uncle and not being able to remain as part of Valor Gate."

Being expelled from Valor Gate meant that he was no longer a disciple, and no one from Valor Gate would protect his family.

He had worked so hard because he wanted to give the Shen and Chu Families a safety guarantee. It seemed that his efforts were wasted now.

If he had known about this...

Even if he had, he probably would still have tried.

Chu Cimo took a deep breath and said, "Eldest Senior Brother, I know we don't get along, but can I at least make a phone call to let my family know that I'm safe?"

The eldest senior brother sneered and handed him his phone. Chu Cimo then stared at WeChat on the phone for a long time before finally sending a message to Bai Shanshan. [I'm dealing with some things outside and will be busy for two months. I'll see you again after that.]

After sending the message, he threw the phone aside.

He didn't want Bai Shanshan to worry about him. After his arms and legs were broken, he would be promptly sent to the hospital for treatment. In the future, he would be no different from a normal person, but he would never be able to exert his strength again.

Movement skills mainly depended on footwork, so he wouldn't be able to do that either in the future.

Chu Cimo sat on the ground and pondered.

The fifth senior brother spoke outside the door in a crying voice, "Little Junior Brother, it's all my fault. I shouldn't have let you come back!"

He cried and said, "Grand Martial Uncle said that only our little junior uncle can save you, but I can't contact him at all. I called the number he gave me, but no one answered..."

Chu Cimo then said, "Don't tell my family about my situation."

The fifth senior brother cried even harder. "Okay, okay..."

Hearing this, the eldest senior brother sneered. After that, he called two people over and whispered, "Spread the news that Chu Cimo is about to be punished by Valor Gate, so that people won't think that we didn't let him join despite him being the champion, we must not allow him to protect the two families."

"'Okay."

After the fifth senior brother left the room, he immediately took out his phone and continued to frantically call his little junior uncle. However, the familiar prompting tone was repeating from the other end of the phone. "Hello, the phone you are dialing is not in the service area..."

The fifth senior brother was so anxious that he cried, calling over and over again, but no one answered.

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At the Chu family, Bai Shanshan's countenance dimmed when she received the text message from Chu Cimo.

Also, Matriarch Bai happened to be visiting her today. She then looked around and asked, "Where's Chu Cimo?"

Bai Shanshan explained in a hurry, "He's busy..."

Upon hearing this, Matriarch Bai's face turned black and she said, "Busy, busy! He's been busy every day. Every time I come to see you this month, he's been busy! He's a rich second-generation profligate son without any responsibilities. What could he possibly be busy with?"

After saying that, Matriarch Bai also looked at Matriarch Chu and said, "Shanshan has a good temper and can't control him. As his mother, you should at least manage him a bit!"

Matriarch Chu lowered her head, feeling ashamed. Hence, she apologized, "It's my fault for not managing him well. He wasn't like this when he was young. He even got admitted to China University. Sigh, I have spoiled him."

Matriarch Bai continued unhappily, "He spends all his days outside drinking and having fun. It's outrageous. Although Chu Cichen is the head of the family, as a younger brother, he should be more responsible at this critical time and not go out that much!"

Matriarch Chu nodded. "When he comes back, I'll break his legs! I'll call him now!"

Unfortunately, when Matriarch Chu took out her phone and dialed Chu Cimo's number, the display showed that his phone was turned off.

She tried several times in a row and got the same result, which made her even more furious.

"This kid is asking for trouble!" she exclaimed.

Matriarch Chu immediately turned to Bai Shanshan and said, "Shanshan, don't worry. When he comes back, I will speak up for you!"

Matriarch Bai was extremely angry. Ever since she learned that her granddaughter had married Chu Cimo, she had not been fond of him.

Now that the Shen family was in trouble, Chu Cichen had moved in with them, indicating his loyalty. But what about Chu Cimo? Could they count on him if the Bai family encountered any difficulties?

Matriarch Bai looked at Bai Shanshan and suddenly said, "Actually, they haven't gotten married yet, have they?"

Bai Shanshan was surprised by Matriarch Bai's sudden comment.

"Grandma, what do you mean?" she asked.

Matriarch Bai sighed. "Our family needs to seriously consider this grandson. A Bai family granddaughter cannot marry a useless man like him!"

Matriarch Chu became anxious and wanted to say something, but then thought of the things her son had done, she felt embarrassed to speak up.

Seeing Matriarch Chu's hesitation, Matriarch Bai became even angrier. She stood up and was about to leave when the butler suddenly rushed in from outside and said, "Madam, something bad happened to the Second Young Master!"

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## Chapter 489 Understanding Him!

Upon hearing the butler's words, Matriarch Chu immediately frowned and looked guiltily toward Matriarch Bai, who also furrowed her brows and angrily questioned, "What happened? Did he get drunk and hit someone? Or did someone set him up?"

Having a few unruly grandsons that caused trouble every year, Matriarch Bai instinctively thought that Chu Cimo was also that kind of person upon hearing the butler's words.

Matriarch Chu felt even more ashamed and quickly apologized, "Matriarch Bai, my son really... has embarrassed you. Don't worry, I won't let him get away with it this time. I will make sure he behaves properly from now on!"

The butler quickly interjected, "No, no... it's not that. I heard the Second Young Master has offended Valor Gate and is going to have his legs broken by their disciples..."

Matriarch Chu's face suddenly changed. "What?"

Matriarch Bai also found it unbelievable. "Offended Valor Gate?! Why would he provoke them at a time like this? The Shen family is already in trouble, and they even want the Valor Gate's help!"

Matriarch Chu stumbled a bit, and Bai Shanshan's little face turned pale. She quickly looked at the butler and said, "What's going on? Hurry up and tell us!"

She then looked at Matriarch Chu. "Mother-in-law, grandmother, we need to find a way to save Cimo!"

Matriarch Chu also wanted to save her son, but in this situation, she was hesitant to ask for help from the Bai family.

As soon as Bai Shanshan spoke up, she felt even more ashamed and looked toward Matriarch Bai. "Matriarch Bai, what do you think?"

Matriarch Bai was furious and said, "Save him? I think he needs to be taught a lesson! Let him stay at home and rest for a hundred days, at least he can keep Shanshan company!"

Bai Shanshan's eyes welled up with tears. "Grandmother!"

Matriarch Chu also sighed, but she didn't believe her son was that kind of person. He had been in the Sea City for so many years, and although he went out every night, he never caused any trouble for the family. Even for the one time he got into a fight, it turned out to be a false accusation.

She furrowed her brows and said, "Although Cimo is unreliable, he never caused trouble for the family. Could there be a misunderstanding?"

Matriarch Bai had a rigid impression of Chu Cimo and sneered. "At a time like this, Matriarch Chu, you still side with him? Valor Gate is always righteous and doesn't bully people, so he must have done something wrong! Or maybe he got drunk and caused a scene!"

Matriarch Chu took a deep breath and looked toward the butler. "Tell me, what exactly happened?"

The butler finally had a chance to speak and his eyes were red. "No, Second Young Master didn't cause trouble. He was participating in the fighting matches for our family this past month, and he finally won the championship. As a result, he was accepted as a disciple by Valor Gate! But then it was revealed that he was none other than the famous thief 'Rooftop Gentleman' many years ago, and now Valor Gate wants to break his legs and expel him!"

Matriarch Chu's body shook. "What?!"

Bai Shanshan was also stunned and looked incredulously at the butler. "You mean Cimo hasn't been home for the past month because he was participating in fighting matches?"

Her eyes filled with tears as she looked directly at Matriarch Bai. "Grandmother, did you hear that? Cimo isn't a useless person! He has always been working hard for the protection of the Chu and Shen families!"

Upon hearing the butler's words, Matriarch Bai already understood what had happened. At this moment, she finally realized that she had misunderstood Chu Cimo.

She became anxious and said, "What should we do about this?!" It was clear that Chu Cimo had put in a lot of hard work to win the fighting championship and become a disciple of Valor Gate.

Matriarch Bai immediately continued, "I will go to find my husband and think of a solution. But Valor Gate's rules are very strict, and they never got involved with the four great families' problems. I'll see if my husband can talk to Valor Gate, and we will also check on the Shen family..."

As soon as she spoke, Bai Shanshan immediately shook her head and said, "Don't tell sister-in-law about this..."

Matriarch Bai was taken aback.

Bai Shanshan tearfully said, "Cimo secretly participated in the competition to give us a surprise and help the family. But now, he has caused trouble..."

She wiped her tears and said, "He just messaged me that he will be busy outside for two months... This is his punishment, and he will come back only after he's fully recovered. He doesn't want to cause any trouble for the family."

Matriarch Chu, seeing Bai Shanshan understanding her son's intentions, teared up and held Bai Shanshan's hand. "Shanshan, what should we do now?"

Bai Shanshan's gaze became firm. The usually gentle woman turned to Matriarch Chu and said, "Mother-in-law, get someone to find out where Valor Gate is and where he is being punished. I will wait for him there tomorrow. If his legs are broken, I will take him to the hospital and accompany him during his recovery!"

Matriarch Chu's eyes welled up even more as she held Bai Shanshan's hand tightly. "Okay."

That day, a rumor began circulating among the capital's wealthy elite. "Have you heard? The Shen family is in trouble! The Queen and her people broke into the Shen Manor without regard for their security forces. So this supposedly lofty number one family of the capital is actually like this?"

"I used to think that the Shen family was unapproachable, but now they have fallen to earth."

"Yes, and I heard that the Shen family asked the younger brother of the Chu family to participate in the fighting competition to establish contact with Valor Gate and have some means of self-protection, but instead he was expelled by Valor Gate..."

There were rumors spreading outside, and Matriarch Bai rushed into Bai Wei's study as soon as she returned home.

Bai Wei seemed to have known about the situation and was on the phone with Old Master Shen.

He said, "Shall we go to ask for help from Old Hong together?"

Old Master Shen sighed. "I just contacted Old Hong, and he stated that the matter is none of the four great families' business. Besides, it's better for your Bai family not to get involved in this matter. Otherwise, if the Queen knows your intentions, the Bai family will also be involved."

Bai Wei immediately said, "But he is my grandson-in-law! How can I just sit and watch?"

Old Master Shen fell silent for a moment and suddenly said, "Don't tell Jingjing about this. I have something else to do now. Let's go to Old Hong's place later and think of a solution then."

"Okay." Old Master Bai understood that Old Master Shen did not want Shen Ruojing to feel guilty.

Everyone didn't want to push everything onto Shen Ruojing's shoulders and make her feel a lot of psychological pressure.

After all, it wasn't her fault that she didn't marry into Country A. It was the Queen who was too forceful.

Old Master Bai also instructed Matriarch Bai, "Don't tell Miss Shen about this for now."

Matriarch Bai sighed. "You are all so kind to Miss Shen, and Shanshan thinks the same."

Old Master Bai thought of Shen Ruojing's character and said, "This is all the good karma she has accumulated over time."

But at that moment, a housekeeper suddenly rushed in. "Master, Matriarch, something bad happened! Madam Shen Wanying is back at the Shen Manor. She said she wants to question Miss Shen Ruojing and see how she messed up the Shen family! She even said she will tell her that Chu Cimo, the second young master of the Chu family, is going to have his legs broken by Valor Gate because of her!"

## Chapter 490 United

After hanging up the phone, Shen Yuansong looked at the butler, Uncle Liu, and said, "There are too many rumors outside lately. Let the family know that we shouldn't tell Ruojing about Chu Cimo's matter for now."

The butler nodded and said, "Master, all the married ladies have returned."

Shen Yuansong immediately nodded. This was what he needed to handle. He was silent for a moment before saying, "Call Ruojing. She should get to know her relatives."

When Shen Ruojing was called out by the butler, the Shen Manor became very lively.

All the young ladies who had been married off in the capital had returned, even those who were far away. Although there was no laughter and joy, there were no sad faces either.

As Shen Ruojing went downstairs, Shen Yuansong introduced everyone to her one by one. He then sat in front of the living room and asked everyone, "Has anyone caused trouble for you in your husband's family?"

The married ladies hesitated for a moment before smiling and saying that they had not encountered any issues.

The eldest aunt, who had the most seniority, laughed and said, "Not for me, but maybe for the others. After all, we have been married for more than ten or twenty years. With the Shen family as our support, we have established ourselves in our husband's family. Don't worry, even if they want to cause trouble, they won't be able to! Speaking of my family, my son is currently the family head. Would he dare to make things difficult for me?"

At this point, the benefits of the alliance between the four great families became apparent. Even though the Shen family had offended the queen and she had made it clear that she would use other families to make things difficult for the Shen family, it was of no use. Didn't other families' daughters marry into the Shen family as well?

Shen Yuansong called everyone back, firstly to let Shen Ruojing see that the Shen family didn't only have Shen Zhong and Shen Chong but also many good-natured relatives. This was so that she could feel a sense of belonging to the Shen family. Secondly, he wanted her to see that the queen's pressure was not a big deal for the Shen family.

Although everyone had gossiped about this matter in their homes, they didn't blame Shen Ruojing.

They even comforted her. "That rule should have been changed a long time ago! Otherwise, how many more daughters of the Shen family will suffer? I heard that women in country A live in a very difficult

environment. Perhaps they have been accustomed to it since birth, but if it were me, I would rather die than marry!"

Amidst the discussions, the eldest aunt suddenly spoke up, "Family leader, if three-quarters of the family's assets were taken out, would the liquid assets be insufficient? My husband has a personal fortune of ten million that can be used in emergencies."

After speaking, she trembled as she took out a bank card and handed it to Shen Yuansong.

Shen Yuansong smiled and returned it. "The Shen family hasn't reached that point yet, don't worry."

The rest of the people breathed a sigh of relief when they saw his calm demeanor.

Then everyone turned to Shen Tingyan again and asked her, "Tingyan, are you sure you want a divorce?" Shen Tingyan nodded. "Yes."

She had had enough of the Xu family and that husband who was a mama's boy.

The others nodded in agreement. "Divorce him. Your mother-in-law is always acting petty, I've never liked her!"

"Yes, get a divorce and come back home, or we can find someone else for you!"

But someone else suggested, "Actually, there's no need to divorce. After all, he's the eldest son and his status is important. I suggest going to the hospital to check your health and see what the problem is."

When this was mentioned, everyone immediately looked at Shen Tingyan. "Wasn't it proven that the drowning incident of your childhood doesn't affect your body? Why can't you get pregnant?"

Shen Tingyan sighed. "The doctor couldn't find any problems with me. I also saw a few traditional Chinese medicine doctors and they said it might be caused by the coldness in my womb..."

As soon as she said this, someone immediately said, "It's normal for women to have coldness in the womb. Who wouldn't suffer from that? It's not really related to pregnancy. Actually, Tingyan had very good health when she was young. Although it was winter when she fell into the water, how low could the temperature be in the indoor swimming pool?"

She lowered her voice and asked, "Is it your husband's problem? Has he seen a doctor?"

Shen Tingyan immediately lowered her head, her eyes turning red. "Every time I ask him to go with me, he refuses, saying it's embarrassing. He also said that not being able to have children is my responsibility and has nothing to do with him. He's absolutely fine."

"How is that possible? Having a child is a two-person matter!"

"Yes, in this day and age, how can he insist that he has no problem? I think you should take him to see a doctor!"

Shen Tingyan was also very helpless.

In the first two years of their marriage, she didn't know how many times she had been to the hospital during ovulation. Everything was normal, yet they still couldn't conceive.

Two years later, the doctors still couldn't find any problems with her, and she wanted her husband to get checked, but he was very confident and told her that he had no problem. She thought it was just a man's pride and didn't want to push it further.

But Matriarch Xu was eager for a grandchild, so she started to make things difficult for her every day.

Before the incident in the Shen family, her life at the Xu family was already not easy...Matriarch Xu would criticize her every day, saying that she was a hen that couldn't lay eggs.

It was just that she didn't dare to do anything too extreme.

Although her husband was weak and submissive to his mother, he still treated her pretty well, so she didn't want to get a divorce.

However, now that the Shen family was in trouble, the true faces of the mother and son were exposed.

Shen Tingyan was very open-minded and quickly said, "My situation is not important..."

Just as she spoke, a gloomy voice sounded from the doorway. "Why isn't your situation important?"

Everyone turned to see Shen Wanying being pushed in with a wheelchair.

Perhaps because she had been unable to go out recently or maybe because of her physical disability, she no longer had the pride that Shen Ruojing had seen in her when they first met.

Her face was gloomy, and she locked her gaze on Shen Ruojing as soon as she entered the room.

Her words were harsh. "You all only report good news to the family, keeping Grandfather unaware of the current situation. Do you think you're helping the Shen family? You're not, you're harming it!"

She pounded the armrest of her wheelchair forcefully and continued, "From what I know, some of our sisters and aunts are not doing well!"

Other people spoke up, "Do we need to report to you whether we're doing well or not?"

Shen Wanying sneered at their response. "Alright, you're doing well, and you haven't been affected by the troubles of the Shen family. But what about Chu Cimo?!"

As soon as she said that, Shen Ruojing narrowed her eyes. "What about Chu Cimo?"

Shen Wanying coldly laughed. "In order to get the Valor Gate's help in resisting the Queen's guards, Chu Cimo participated in a fighting competition. Now that he has joined the Valor Gate, he was exposed as a hypocrite, and they want to break his legs and kick him out of Valor Gate!!

"The Chu family has been affected by the troubles of the Shen family, and now Chu Cimo is also receiving this treatment because he wants to protect the Shen family. Now, you people dare to say that your husbands' families are treating you well? Who would believe that?!"

Shen Ruojing was stunned by her words. "What are you talking about?!"

Shen Wanying scolded her furiously, "I'm saying that you're a disaster since the day you returned to the capital! The Shen family has been suffering ever since! Since you have acknowledged the Shen family

and become the Shen family's eldest young miss, why don't you take responsibility and fulfill the terms
of the agreement with Country A?!"