Chapter 1021: Retired Old Men

The elders felt ashamed as they went limp on their chairs which made them look extremely forlorn.

Yang Pojun sat on his chair with a dazed expression. His lips were trembling because of the strong emotions he was feeling.

"Pojun." Yang Gongming smiled at his only son and said, "Do you know how painful it was to hear you call Yang Chen an illegitimate child?! You despise Yang Chen but at least he was your son. I wasn't even my father's son! Do you know how disappointed I was when you refused to acknowledge your own son when my father could raise a child who was not related to him with all his heart?!"

"Father, I..."

"I know, you think you're doing this for the bigger picture and I know it's my fault, but I was doing this for the Yang clan, for the political future of China! You refused to acknowledge him because of your position as a member of the standing committee. Despite stemming from the same issue, our cases are still undeniably different."

Yang Pojun was crestfallen and he looked down for a long while before sighing, as though he had let go of something heavy in his heart. "Dad, I was wrong."

Guo Xuehua wiped her tears while watching from the side. She felt as though her anger had been vented out, seeing how her husband had given in after receiving continuous blows.

At this time, Ning Guangyao who had been quiet for a long time spoke up again. "Sir, we've witnessed your touching relationship with the Old Marshal and we respect the principles that you carry. But that doesn't mean that the issue has been resolved. The whole world, the media, and the public are all paying close attention to this issue. Now that you've confirmed that you're not part of the Yang clan's bloodline, your clan has lost credibility in the eyes of the citizens."

The atmosphere became tense again as the government and military officials nodded along in agreement.

Even though Yang Gongming's speech gained their respect, it was impossible to gain everyone's trust with it. It could be said that he used this as an excuse from trouble.

Things would only get worse if they ignored it since the media around the world were ridiculing China.

The Yang clan members were distressed. They didn't feel like they had the right to vie for the spot as the clan leader since Yang Gongming was the reason they were able to stand in this hall today.

Ning Guangyao sounded righteous as he said, "Sir, there has to be a final conclusion today. I won't be able to hold a news conference at the State Council to address this matter otherwise."

Everyone looked at Yang Gongming but he turned to look at Yang Chen who was leaning on the door frame. "Yang Chen, what do you think about this?"

As a result of Yang Gongming's question, everyone shifted their gaze to Yang Chen once again. From the looks of it, Yang Chen was obviously closer to Yang Gongming seeing how he managed to answer Yang Gongming's earlier question where Yang Pojun had failed to do so.

They were also impressed by Yang Gongming's foresight because Yang Gongming was bold enough to make the decision to pass the clan over to Yang Chen when he didn't grow up next to him. However, judging from the present situation, it didn't seem like Yang Gongming had made an error of judgment.

Yang Chen was already bored to no end at this point. Instead, he returned the question to Ning Guangyao when he was called upon. "Premier Ning, you should just say what's on your mind."

Ning Guangyao seemed to have expected this and he gestured towards the government officials. "I've already discussed this with them. The citizens are mostly disgusted over the fact that the Yang clan had kept the actual background hidden and yet the Yang clan still retains the military within their grasps. Military officers from the Yang clan can be found all over the country. The citizens feel unsettled because of this since the Yang clan has lost its credibility, it's lineage and it's reputation at an international level. If we wish to resolve this situation, we have to...do something about the military powers."

Li Moshen snorted. "Premier Ning, why wasn't I involved in the discussion? I'm pretty sure that I'm still part of the standing committee."

Ning Guangyao wasn't offended at all. He smiled and said, "My apologies. It was carried out in a hurry and we weren't able to notify you since you were in the State Security."

"Hmph! Stop beating around the bush and just tell us that you want us to relinquish our control over the military." Yang Pojun was getting impatient.

Ning Guangyao gave an exasperated look. "Pojun, we've been friends for years and I've always acted justly. You shouldn't take this the wrong way."

"Your intentions have been made clear." Yang Pojun sneered.

"That's enough!" Yang Gongming shouted, feeling displeased.

"Premier Ning has provided a viable solution to the problem. We should discuss it peacefully instead of quarrelling!"

Yang Pojun turned around in a silent manner, as though he refused to give in to Ning Guangyao.

At this moment, those in the hall realized that Yang Chen was laughing with his hands in his pockets.

His shoulders were shaking from laughing so hard and it looked as though he had heard of something funny.

"Yang Chen, what are you laughing at?" Ning Guangyao squinted his eyes.

Yang Chen waved his hands and he took a deep breath to stop himself from laughing before saying, "I was just thinking, you talk as if you know what the citizens think. I'm really skeptical about your intentions regarding this. Whether you're doing this for the media or the citizens..."

"What's the difference? Our answer will be passed onto the public by the media, it works the same way," Ning Guangyao said in an indifferent matter.

Yang Chen shook his head. "Don't waste your breath. Which leader hasn't been ridiculed since the founding of the internet? A country's president was caught harassing an intern and he was also caught in the middle of a blowjob. He did not retire. Nor did his people start a revolt. He's just a retired old man and do you think the citizens will try and kill you and the State Council just because he's not his father's biological son?"

"You're right, but this is China. Our situation and culture are different," Ning Guangyao said.

"Yes, as far as I know, their average annual income is much higher than the citizens in China. Their lives are simple and they don't really have anything to do so they watch the president's family like they're a bunch of monkeys. Unlike our citizens who are afraid of being caught for giving birth to a child. They have to fight for a spot in schools for their children, constantly worry about their studies, worry about graduating from a top university, worry about being fired from their job. Day by day they fear giving into workplace pressure and trade sexual favors for security.

Yang Chen took a deep breath before continuing. "They have to be meticulous with their expenses and those who don't have a car feel embarrassed to leave their house. In some places, there are people who struggle to place food on their dining table and they're simply grateful that they have not been starved to death. Why should they care about whether or not the Yang clan's bloodline is pure? That wouldn't help them if it were true or otherwise. Besides, even if you did discuss it and played it on the television, do you think the citizens would know what it is about? If I'm not mistaken, during the dispute over the island, you guys were all talk and took no action even when the citizens protested about it. That was actual indignation displayed by the public but you guys did a great job, no? There wasn't a protest this time and the whole world had only ridiculed a retired old man. Even if he didn't tell everyone that he's an illegitimate child, no one asked him about it! We were also involved in this but we haven't even spoken up and you guys were already planning to take action?"

Different emotions showed up on Ning Guangyao's face and he tightened his jaw but no words came out of his mouth.

The government officials seemed troubled by this too. Yang Chen made it sound as though it wasn't a big deal.

Yang Gongming picked up his teacup and took a sip before telling Yan Sanniang, "Sanniang, the tea's getting cold, add some hot water for me."

"Will do." Yan Sanning nodded with a grin before walking away to carry out his orders.

Everyone else finally understood what was going on. Yang Gongming and Yang Chen were never nervous about it. They were merely enjoying a show!

Guo Xuehua and Lin Ruoxi were amused by Yang Chen's nonsense. He was turning a serious matter into a comedy.

Yang Chen continued on. "I know it isn't easy for you guys either. Casualties are inevitable when it comes to war. Even though your children weren't affected, people tend to forget it since it was ignored. Speaking about that, I'm quite puzzled by something. If you guys could ignore that, why are you guys rushing for a solution when it comes down to this?"

Everyone exchanged gazes with each other but no one had an answer.

At last, Ning Guangyao furrowed his brows and said, "Yang Chen, then what should we do about this?"

Yang Chen yawned. "It's simple, just tell the truth."

"What?!" One of the government officials cried out involuntarily. "How can we do that!? It will only cause more trouble once the rumor is confirmed to be true!"

Yang Chen rolled his eyes. "Even you people with ulterior motives were shocked by the old man's past. I am willing to bet that the citizens would believe it once it has been released."

Everyone was speechless at the underlying truth in his solution. The Yang clan's past was indeed an encouraging story but they still didn't feel comfortable being 'called out' by Yang Chen.

Chapter 1022: Movie

Yang Chen sneered when no one said anything. "Even if we do hand over our military powers, it wouldn't belong to the citizens. They wouldn't benefit from it. In my opinion...those who refuse to let this go must be going after the military powers. We all know...who exactly I am talking about..."

His intention was clear as day and even though they knew who he meant, the others deliberately avoided looking at Ning Guangyao.

He was right. If the Yang clan really did hand in their military powers, they would fall out of the four major clans and their position would be lower than the Tang clan.

The Tang clan might have lost Tang Zhechen but at least their businesses were unaffected. On the other hand, if their Yang clan were to lose their military powers, they would be inferior to the second-rate clan!

As for the possession of the military powers, the Li clan would not be part of it since they owned large groups of special forces and the State Security. The rest of the clans would be no match for the Ning clan.

At the end of the day, the government officials from the Ning clan were the ones who were after it.

The atmosphere fell silent as they whispered to one another, discussing how it would end.

Yang Chen chuckled. "Everyone, I'll be frank with you guys. My wife's company, Yu Lei International, has founded an entertainment company and there's a department for movies. I was trying to look for source material to shoot a movie! I'm planning to publish a memoir about our old man's story and then turn it into a movie about the two generations. Say, there are gimmicks, fame, gossips, war, love, family and suspense, everything you need for a good movie! Do you know how much we can earn if we sold his story?!"

Everyone on site froze and they stared at Yang Chen as if he was a ghost!

Guo Xuehua was just praising his son. When she heard what he had said, she couldn't bring herself to watch him anymore and she proceeded to cover her face with her hands.

Yang Chen ran next to Lin Ruoxi with a huge grin plastered to his face. He wrapped one of his arms around her shoulders. "Dear, what do you think about my idea? Are you finally going to recognize my talent for business now?!"

He sounded extremely proud of himself which made Lin Ruoxi blush. She felt so embarrassed. This man was talking about work at a time like this?! It was fine if he mentioned it on his own but why did he pull her in? It made her sound like a capitalist who only cared about money!

Honestly, Yang Chen's idea wasn't all crazy nonsense.

Now that Yang Gongming's past had been exposed, hiding it would look more suspicious. If they were to publish the story in the form of a biography and then make a movie, showcasing a more heroic and human-like version of him, they might be able to change people's perception of the past!

Ning Guangyao's gaze turned dark but he couldn't think of another way to force Yang Gongming to give up on his military powers now that Yang Chen had taken control of the situation.

Being left with no choice, Ning Guangyao said, "If that's the case, we'll come up with a draft and organize a news conference to explain everything. However, Sir Yang has to attend the conference."

Yang Gongming wasn't opposed to it. "I must since it has to do with me."

"But..." Ning Guangyao changed his tone. "After this matter has passed, I wish that you can confidently face the military if someone were to question you. After all, a large number of the military officers hold posts in your army because of their respect towards the Old Marshal. They might have a change of heart when they realize the truth."

He basically meant that since Yang Gongming wasn't a real Yang descendant, those people wouldn't see the need to work under you. Ning Guangyao was essentially planning to scout them over openly.

Yang Chen sneered. "Premier Ning, I think so long as they have half a brain, they would not read too much into the situation lest they wish death upon themselves."

Ning Guangyao's clenched his jaw and furrowed brows. "Yang Chen, are you threatening them?!"

"Threatening? Who did I threaten?" Yang Chen's lips curled to form a ghastly grin. "I didn't specify anyone."

Everyone could feel chills running down their spine. His smile was technically telling everyone if they dared to take advantage of the situation or chose to betray them, they would be dead soon.

No one dared to harbor any disloyal thoughts, seeing how he had just killed an elder from his clan without any hesitation.

The other elders were especially scared, thinking to themselves that they had to warn the younger ones to be loyal! Even though Yang Gongming was an iron-handed man, he wouldn't kill recklessly like Yang Chen!

Yang Gongming was happy to see this outcome and he knocked on the table with his knuckles. "Now that everything's settled, I won't be sending everyone to the door personally so feel free to help yourselves."

Everyone else was tactful and the imposing manner they had at the beginning was all gone. They would only feel fear if they chose to stay any longer.

One left after another and once Ning Guangyao had left with the government officials, the clan members took their leave too.

Li Moshen stayed till the last and walked towards Yang Gongming with a smile on his face.

"Old Yang, you're really blessed to have a grandson like him. You must be able to rest easy now.," Li Moshen said with a suggestive gaze.

Yang Gongming glanced over at Yang Chen who looked rather indolent before shaking his head and sighed. "Blessings and misfortunes come together. His capabilities come with trouble. I was just gambling."

Li Moshen nodded knowingly, it was easy to tell that the enemies Yang Chen had to face would be on a different level compared to mundanes like them.

"I won't talk about it anymore. Tomorrow is Li Dun's wedding and even though it's not a grand one, all of you have to attend the wedding!"

Yang Gongming chuckled, "Did you stay back to talk about this?"

"What else? Is there anything more important than my own grandson's wedding?" Li Moshen sounded bold.

Yang Gongming chuckled. "Alright, but I'm a sincere man and I don't need to butter you up. You won't be getting a big red envelope from me."

Li Moshen gave a cunning smile and glanced over at Lin Ruoxi. "You might be poor but your granddaughter-in-law is one of the wealthiest women in China, I'm sure she knows what to do."

"Ah..." Lin Ruoxi could barely react to it.

Yang Chen wasn't pleased to hear this. "No wonder Li Dun is so stingy, he got it from you!"

"How dare you call me stingy!? You're so mean! I even used to buy you noodles!" Li Dun yelled.

Li Moshen and Li Yunpeng's faces turned green when they heard this.

For a moment, the others burst out laughing too which caused the hall to be filled with joy.

Yang Pojun didn't join their conversation. Instead, he dejectedly walked out of the hall.

Guo Xuehua was amused by Li Dun but when she saw the man's silhouette, she couldn't stop herself from feeling bad for him and she decided to follow him.

The atmosphere in the hall was noisy because Yang Chen and Li Dun were bickering with each other. In comparison to the hall, the backyard seemed especially quiet.

Yang Pojun had encountered too many ups and downs in the past few days, which was something he had never experienced before. His heart was being tossed around and it had completely shocked his life and values.

It didn't feel good to suddenly realize that the world wasn't tas he imagined. The people around him operated at a much higher level than he did

Time had slipped away and his rough edges had been smoothed out which made him look different from the formidable manner he had when he was a commander.

Yang Pojun walked past the garden and stepped into a pavilion.

He seemed to be lost in his thoughts as he stared at the tall locust tree in front of him.

"What are you thinking of?"

A voice was heard from behind him.

Yang Pojun turned around and he saw his familiar yet foreign wife, the woman who had been by his side for more than twenty years.

"Why have you come? The Li clan will be holding a wedding tomorrow and even though we are close to them, you still need to arrange the gifts."

Guo Xuehua smiled. "It's always the same. The maids will take care of it."

Yang Pojun nodded, not knowing what else to say. Before he met Guo Xuehua, he had a lot of questions to ask her but now that he was standing right in front of her, he was at a complete loss for words.

"You.."

"You..."

They spoke at the same time.

At this moment, they couldn't help but smile at one another.

"Are you feeling better these days? Are your wounds healing?" Guo Xuehua asked first.

Yang Pojun nodded and moved his arms. "They are almost done. The medical treatment in the military hospital is pretty good...how about you? Are you doing alright in Zhonghai?"

Guo Xuehua brightened up. "It's all the same. Ruoxi adopted a little girl called Lanlan a few days ago, which means that I have a granddaughter now..."

Guo Xuehua thought it wasn't appropriate for her to talk about this when Yang Pojun had stayed in the hospital on his own.

Yang Pojun caught on and he gave a faint smile. "It's fine as long as you're happy. I suddenly feel like none of it matters anymore...."

Guo Xuehua was startled. "Pojun...you....do you really think that way?"

"Why would I lie to you?" Yang Pojun shook his head and chuckled in a self-deprecating manner. "I've been through a lot and I've thought things through. It's been a long way and I think it's time for me to stop and rest."

Guo Xuehua was moved by this. "You've finally gotten over it after so many years! Powers, position, these will only bring you stress. I don't see the point in thriving for these things when your own life is a mess. Oh well, I won't talk about this anymore. Then....then what're you planning to do in the future? Do you want to stay with us?"

Chapter 1023 Broke

Yang Pojun was stunned to see Guo Xuehua's anxious gaze. With a trembling voice, he asked, "Xuehua...you...you don't hate me?"

Guo Xuehua shook her head while smiling. "I can't confidently say that I don't hate you now. I even wanted to poison you when you tried to kill Yang Chen. But, we have been together for many years. I kept thinking about you once the anger had passed."

"Xuehua...I..." Yang Pojun's eyes reddened. "I'm sorry for letting you down. But I can't stay with you right now."

"Why?"

"Men are weird. Even though I don't hate Yang Chen anymore, there's a limit to our interactions. I'm sure he doesn't wish to see me around him." Yang Pojun smiled. "I'm planning to stay by my father's side and teach in the military school. I won't be returning to the base now that I've been forced to step down."

Guo Xuehua wanted to say something but as she thought about it, it wasn't a half-bad decision. She nodded and said, "Alright, I'll just go back and forth then. I'll bring Lanlan to meet you too, after all you're her grandfather."

"Grandfather..." Yang Pojun sighed. "It hasn't really hit me until now that I am well into my years."

Guo Xuehua giggled. "You look like you have dementia."

Yang Pojun smiled bashfully in response.

The autumn breeze caressed their faces as they stood in the pavilion without uttering a single word.

After a long while, Guo Xuehua brushed her hair and said while smiling, "I'll be going first then, I know what's going on at the hall now."

Yang Pojun nodded and when he saw Guo Xuehua was about to leave, he called after her, "Xuehua."

"Hmm?" Guo Xuehua turned around.

"I...I want to apologize for suspecting you for so long."

"I know that." Guo Xuehua gave a knowing smile. "You've been suspicious of me because I used to like Ning Guangyao so you were constantly conscious of him. Do you think that I married you because I couldn't be with Ning Guangyao?"

"You...how did you know?" Yang Pojun was stupefied.

"You've always gone against him in my presence. You think I wouldn't notice?" Guo Xuehua sounded exasperated. "Don't overthink it anymore. We're already half a century old and we've been through so much. It's not like I didn't have any suitors at that time, why didn't I find anyone close to me instead of someone like you who was completely unrelated to me? The Yang clan was unstable at that time. Why would I have married you then?"

Yang Pojun blushed but now that the thing that had been gnawing at his mind was resolved. He smiled sincerely at last.

Nothing remained constant in a relationship. Not even those forged with time.

In the early morning, everyone in China and those all around the world was prepared to mock the Yang clan but by afternoon, they realized it wasn't as bad as they once thought.

Yang Gongming reappeared once again after his retirement and he started to explain the truth behind his past.

His tone was neither servile nor overbearing, which made it impossible for them to look down on him.

It was the nation's first time having a descendant of one of the most prominent clans share his past.

His honest attitude caused the public side with him. His views on which a hero's origin should not be linked to his personal achievements won their hearts the most.

With that being the case, no one would dare to isolate and betray the Yang clan now.

Something even more wonderful happened later on.

In the afternoon, the oil price in China was adjusted downwards by seven percent which attracted the public's attention as it was a rare case.

Later on, any countries that had a feud with China also admitted defeat by publishing a series of documents with such statements and they even called back their fleet!

This was more meaningful to them than Yang Gongming's bloodline!

All of a sudden, they diverted their gazes from the Yang clan and they eventually lost interest in this matter.

Yang Chen had arranged for all of this to happen.

It was easy enough to manipulate countries if you were imposing enough. Besides, it wasn't as if the countries were suffering any losses.

As for the oil price, Yang Chen spent a lot of money on it.

The whole nation consumed billions of liters of oil in a day and it would've been impossible to lower the price if he wasn't a billionaire.

The money he had spent seemed unnecessary but it was useful to cause an impact.

Yang Gongming had just ended the conference when the oil price decreased by seven percent. Even if it didn't seem related, people would still try and connect the dots!

The price drop continued for a few days and it looked as though a gold glow was emitting from the Yang clan.

No one cared who your father was or how disgraceful your past was. As long as they benefited from it.

Yang Chen was rather commanding when he arranged for Ron to take care of this.

However, no one would know how he cried while hugging Lin Ruoxi's arms after spending the money, wailing that he was now 'broke'.

As mentioned earlier, Yang Chen assigned jobs to the entertainment company for the memoir and the movie. He was hoping to recoup some losses.

Just when this issue had started to simmer down, the wedding between Li Dun and Tang Xin was carried out as scheduled.

Even though the Tang clan had declined, they were still greater than a second-rate clan. As for the Li clan, their position in China had never wavered.

Therefore, although Tang Xin wasn't a well-known figure, she still gained the media's attention.

At the day of the wedding, the hall was decorated with a simple style, elegant but not extravagant.

Only the elders were invited to the wedding and the rest were the relatives of the Li clan. As for the second-rate clans and ordinary ministers, they weren't given the chance.

Thunderous claps exploded in the State Guesthouse's hall when Tang Xin walked towards Li Dun with her father. She was dressed in a white wedding gown whereas Li Dun was dressed in a white suit.

Even though they didn't have a lot of guests, the claps were loud enough since they had to be respectful towards the Li clan.

However, something was quite out of place amidst the wedding. Tang Xin was holding onto a rainbowcolored ice cream cone instead of a bouquet which puzzled everyone.

Only those who knew about it found the gesture very touching.

Although Li Dun looked tall and strong in his white suit, he still had his black eyepatch on which made him look special yet out of place.

As they looked into each other's eyes from afar, only both of them would understand the complex feelings they shared with one another.

The things they had been through, their past, it all seemed like a dream.

Lin Ruoxi had asked Yang Chen about their story and even from the sound of it, she knew they had gone through a lot.

Near to them was Cai Ning who had attended the wedding with her father, Cai Yuncheng. She was staring at Tang Xin who was walking towards Li Dun with an envious gaze.

In her opinion, even though Tang Xin started off on the wrong path, she still reached an ending that Cai Ning yearned for.

She was able to find a man who loved her more than she loved him, a man that could forgive all her sins because of love.

Compared to her, even though she found her true love too, it was impossible for her to have a wedding like Tang Xin.

On the other side, Tang Wan attended the wedding with Tangtang and her clan members.

Tang Wan, on the other hand, had no regrets. She was fortunate and grateful enough to have found love despite being matured.

Tang Wan was filled with joy too, witnessing her dear cousin make her way to her lover after getting off the wrong path.

Before the wedding, Yang Chen contemplated whether he should give Li Dun an appropriate gift but the more he thought about it, he figured there was nothing he could buy that Li Dun couldn't get on his own.

At the very end, Yang Chen prepared something after being reminded by Lin Ruoxi. However, he could only give it out to him privately and he was getting eager on his seat from the long wait.

Chapter 1024: Silly And Naive

In Yang Chen's opinion, exchanging pleasantries and engaging in social niceties were the most boring things in the world. It made weddings unbearable for him but he was fortunate this time around as no one dared to strike a conversation with him.

On the other hand, Lin Ruoxi valued this kind of social conventions more than him. With Guo Xuehua by her side, they met many influential people with political and military backgrounds alongside Yang Gongming.

It was good practice for her since despite being good at business, she was still inexperienced with social convention.

Yang Chen was originally planning to pass the Bodhi pills to Cai Ning and Tang Wan during the wedding, but he decided against it when he saw how busy they both were.

Time passed and most of the guests had already left the venue. Cai Ning and Tang Wan left with their respective clans. They dared not approach Yang Chen with Lin Ruoxi in their midst.

Yang Chen was slightly frustrated by it but at the very least, he could finally catch his breath now.

With Lin Ruoxi at his side, they walked towards Li Dun and Tang Xin.

Li Dun had been drinking the whole day but showed no signs of drunkenness. Well, it was basically impossible to get him drunk since he was already in the Full Cycle. He also drank Tang Xin's portion since she was pregnant and most of the guests knew about it too.

Li Dun curled his lips when he saw them. "Old Yang, you're so mean. Why did you show up so late?"

"You know that I'll always get everyone's attention wherever I go. I couldn't possibly outshine you on your big day huh?"

Lin Ruoxi's eyes twitched when she heard his shameless statement.

Li Dun was conflicted at first but he laughed mischievously eventually. "Don't disgust me on my wedding day. Let's talk about something else, how much did you give me in the red packet?"

"Zero," Yang Chen said straightforwardly.

"What?"

"Zero, which means I didn't give you any." Yang Chen sounded proud of himself.

Li Dun yelled out in frustration. "Damn you! I bought you a bowl of noodles when I was broke!"

"I don't have a red packet but I've something else for you." Yang Chen let out a mysterious smile.

Li Dun's eyes gleamed. "What is it? Let me see it, is it a huge diamond?"

Yang Chen chuckled and he turned around to face Lin Ruoxi. "Dear, Li Dun is like you. He wants a huge gem too."

"I did not..." Lin Ruoxi mumbled but she did remember it vaguely.

Tang Xin felt embarrassed at the side and she pinched Li Dun's waist silently which was ignored by him.

Yang Chen pointed outside the hall. "It's outside. We have to drive there so we'll leave if both of you are done."

"So secretive..." Li Dun smacked his lips out of annoyance. He turned to ask Tang Xin. "Xin Er, are you tired? We can stay here if you're tired."

Li Dun didn't feel tired at all since he was a cultivator but Tang Xin wasn't one and she had to be taken care of since she was pregnant.

Tang Xin's heart swelled up at his thoughtfulness. Li Dun always cared about her and she really appreciated it. She couldn't stop cursing herself whenever she was reminded of the time she had almost missed out on a man like him.

Fortunately, they were both pleased with how things turned out.

"Let's go take a look, I'm curious about it too." Tang Xin smiled sweetly.

After telling the Li clan members about it, Yang Chen drove the car and the four of them left the State Guesthouse together.

Li Dun and Tang Xin changed out of their white suit and wedding dress so they wouldn't look out of place when they got outside.

Even though Lin Ruoxi wasn't on good terms with Tang Wan, her cousin was an entirely different story. It was rare for her to do this but it made Yang Chen glad.

The traffic in Beijing wasn't so congested since it was already late at night. About half an hour later, they reached downtown which was near the Third Ring Road.

After getting out of the car, the two] couples walked down the bustling streets with their arms around their respective lovers.

Somehow with the chilly night breeze and different smells from the streets, the unique rhythm of the mundane world made them feel at ease.

They strolled around for ten minutes until Li Dun was reminded of their purpose for coming here. He asked Yang Chen, "Old Yang, where's your gift? Were you lying?"

Yang Chen gave him a side-eye and pointed at a shop with coffee-colored walls and white LED lights. There was only the phrase 'ice cream' written on it.

"That's the gift."

Li Dun and Tang Xin exchanged confused gazes with each other.

"Isn't that an ice cream parlor? Your gift is ice cream?" Tang Xin asked.

Li Dun's facial muscles twitched. "Xin Er, I bet he took advantage of the fact that you like to eat ice cream."

"That's enough. Let's go in." Yang Chen ignored him and walked into the shop with Lin Ruoxi.

Only when they stepped into the shop, they realized that its interior was renovated in a gorgeous and elegant style.

It was retro and nostalgic with Italian style architecture. Their eyes lit up at the sight of the rich Baroque style color choices.

In the middle of the shop was a counter which was surrounded by ice creams. Two Caucasians and a few other workers were busy scooping ice creams for the customers.

All the ice creams were stored in delicate glassware and they could smell the rich scent of vanilla and cocoa from afar.

"Do you like this place, Madam Li?" Yang Chen teased.

Tang Xin blushed and she nodded her head with glinting eyes. "I've been here before but I haven't seen this place."

"This shop was opened recently by a Frenchman. He opened this shop in China after working for the Vivoli clan for years. I can assure you that the quality of the ice-cream here is top-notch."

Yang Chen introduced the shop to them.

"Old Yang, we can't be here just for ice cream, right?" Li Dun was hurt.

Yang Chen exchanged glances with Lin Ruoxi and they smiled at Li Dun's miserable face.

"Dear, tell him yourself. I can't bear to see his face anymore." Yang Chen shook his head helplessly.

Lin Ruoxi smiled through pursed lips and said, "I heard from Yang Chen that Tang Xin likes ice cream so naturally Li Dun liked it too. We thought that giving you two gems was meaningless so we bought you this shop instead."

"This shop?!" Li Dun was stunned.

Tang Xin took some time to react and she waved her hands. "We can't take it, it's too much. The shop lot itself costs more than five million and the ice cream parlor is so classy. It's too valuable..."

"Haha! Xin Er, you don't have to worry about them. It's nothing for them." Li Dun grinned. "I was thinking you wouldn't be so stingy, you're really my true brother. It's fine. The shop works for me too. I can always sell it for the money..."

"Don't you dare!"

Tang Xin reprimanded him. "How can you do something as rude as that! It's still a gift from them!"

Li Dun smiled sheepishly. "Xin Er, I'm only joking..."

Tang Xin grunted, "I bet you wouldn't dare to do that."

Li Dun lowered his head in an obedient manner. He was just joking around and it wouldn't do him any good if she got mad at him.

Yang Chen looked down at him secretly. He really was whipped.

"Alright, stop it." Lin Ruoxi cleared her throat. "I've purposely asked them to leave the shop's name blank. Take your time to think of a name for this place."

"You're really thoughtful, Ruoxi." Tang Xin smiled at her gratefully.

Lin Ruoxi felt accomplished, seeing that they were both satisfied with the gift.

Following that, the four of them sat at the booth by the window and chatted after ordering their favorite ice cream flavors.

Probably because Tang Xin was still young with a girly and innocent personality, it made it easy for Lin Ruoxi to talk to her.

They started talking about their Hello Kitty collection to the hottest K-drama, discussing which men and women were the worst in it. They were so into it that they completely ignored their husbands!

Tang Xin knew about these things since she had a lot of free time back when she was only taking care of Tang Zhechen.

Their conversation then shifted to Tang Xin's child and they started talking about childcare and child education.

Initially, Tang Xin felt awkward over the fact that she wasn't pregnant with Li Dun's child but she got over it eventually since even Li Dun himself didn't care about it.

Yang Chen and Li Dun had nothing to do so they both ordered another serving of ice cream for themselves.

When it was almost dawn, Tang Xin took out her cell phone and started showing Lin Ruoxi some photos.

"Ruoxi, look, these are Li Dun's childhood photos. Grandfather showed it to me, doesn't he look especially silly and naive?" Tang Xin giggled while pointing at a chubby boy who was wearing boxers with a wooden gun in hand.

Li Dun wanted to crawl under the table. "Xin Er, you can't bully your husband like this!"

"It's fine, we were just looking at it, it's not like I'm posting it." Tang Xin refuted him and continued to show Lin Ruoxi other photos.

In the end, she even shared her own photos and photoshopped childhood photos of her and Li Dun which showed how bored she usually was.

Lin Ruoxi got excited over it. She actually enjoyed gossiping so even though it looked meaningless to the guys.

Lin Ruoxi even took out her cell phone and showed her own photos. It was mostly her childhood photos and she could show it easily from having it saved online.

Tang Xin exclaimed in admiration. "Ruoxi, you were so pretty even as a child! You would have been a child superstar."

Yang Chen was intrigued too. He said proudly after looking at the photos, "What're you talking about? How could anyone measure up to our Ruoxi?"

"True." Tang Xin nodded in agreement. "Oh yeah, what about yours? We showed ours and you haven't shown yours!"

Yang Chen's face stiffened. He turned silent as his smile was wiped away from his face.

Chapter 1025 Three Sentences

The atmosphere suddenly dropped several degrees.

Lin Ruoxi felt sorry for him when she realized the reason behind his silence.

Soon, Yang Chen chuckled with his head down. "I would love to share some but unfortunately I don't have any."

Tang Xin then realized that she had hit a sore spot. She cast a glance towards Li Dun, feeling awkward because of what she had done.

"Old Yang, don't take it to heart. She doesn't know about your past." Li Dun turned serious now and he replied in a sincere manner.

Yang Chen waved his hands. "It's alright. It's normal for everyone to have a childhood. I guess I'm pretty special huh?"

Yang Chen left the Yang clan when he was a baby and got into ZERO somehow. No photos of his hell-like childhood were ever taken.

A smooth and soft hand caressed Yang Chen's thigh gently.

Yang Chen turned around and realized that Lin Ruoxi was looking at him with moist eyes.

"Don't worry about me. I'm fine." Yang Chen smiled despite experiencing a heavy heart.

After this brief interlude, the four of them lost the mood to chat any further, so they decided to leave since it was already late.

Yang Chen drove Li Dun and Tang Xin back to the Li clan before driving home with Lin Ruoxi.

On their way there, Lin Ruoxi stared at Yang Chen who had been driving silently and asked, "It's bothering you, isn't it?"

Yang Chen didn't deny it. He nodded and replied to her, "Well, it doesn't feel good but you know me, I'll get over it soon."

Lin Ruoxi stopped probing any further. She wanted to comfort him but not knowing what to say pained her too.

Yang Gongming and the rest were already asleep when they reached home. The maids didn't dare to disturb them either, so the whole mansion was extremely quiet.

As they were walking back to their room, probably because of the cold weather, Lin Ruoxi's throat felt dry and she coughed a little.

Yang Chen saw that and he took off his jacket for her. Following that, he held her hand and started to look into her body.

Lin Ruoxi smiled knowing he was examining her. "It's fine, it's just a cough. I've been training for so long and I also cultivated according to the scripture. It's almost impossible for me to catch a cold, right?"

"It's hard to say. Your foundation is weak so it is still possible if you overwork yourself." Yang Chen smiled after checking her body. "There's nothing wrong but even if there's any problem, I can treat it immediately as long as I'm by your side."

Lin Ruoxi smiled sweetly. "I've really hit the jackpot then. Having a bodyguard and a doctor as my husband."

"Yeah, you did." Yang Chen smiled proudly before opening the door for her.

Lin Ruoxi was about to walk into the room but she paused in her tracks to look up at the sky.

"What's wrong?" Yang Chen was confused.

Lin Ruoxi looked at him. "Hubby, let's watch the stars for a while, I don't want to sleep yet."

Yang Chen wasn't planning to sleep so soon since they still had 'things' to do but he didn't want to say no to her romantic gesture.

While feeling sorry for himself, Yang Chen walked to the pavilion with his hands in hers. He sat on the bench and motioned Lin Ruoxi to sit on his lap before wrapping his arms around her waist.

The night was chilly as the two of them sat in the quiet backyard, enjoying the night sky.

The Yang mansion was located slightly further away from the bustling city so they were able to spot a couple of stars but weren't able to make out the whole Milky Way.

Rather than stargazing, this would've been better described as spending quality time together.

After a long quiet moment, Lin Ruoxi suddenly turned around and leaned her head on Yang Chen's shoulder. She mumbled, "Hubby...I miss Lanlan."

Yang Chen never would've expected that her first sentence would be about her daughter.

"Is the fat girl really that nice to the point that you would miss her so much?" Yang Chen was kind of jealous.

"She's not a fat girl. It's just baby fat. It'll be gone once she grows up." Lin Ruoxi defended her daughter.

Her eyes were filled with longing as she said, "I don't know why but I just like her a lot. If we have our own children, I'll love them all the same."

Yang Chen caressed her hair. "Do you feel like having a child again because you saw Tang Xin?"

"A little bit..." Lin Ruoxi didn't deny it. She pretended no one saw her blushing face when in fact Yang Chen could see it clearly.

Yang Chen sighed. "We really can't rush it. Li Dun has a higher chance to impregnate Tang Xin since he's in the Full Cycle of the Xiantian stage. It's highly unlikely that it'll happen to us until you enter the Soul Forming stage."

"Mm...I know, I'll keep working on it." Lin Ruoxi nodded her head.

Another moment of silence went by and Yang Chen asked, "Do you still want to sit here? Or should we go in?"

Lin Ruoxi shook her head. "Let's sit here for a while more. I like it here, it's quiet and peaceful. I can even hear your breathing sound."

"You will hear me shout in bed." Yang Chen mumbled internally. At the same time, he whined over the fact that he was forced to hold his urges.

Lin Ruoxi was immersed in her own world and she asked in a carefree manner, "Hubby, say...our staff at Yu Lei, how do you think their lives are? Are they different from us?"

Yang Chen smiled bitterly. "How could it be the same? They live in a commercial residential building, unlike our President Lin who bought a villa with a snap of your fingers."

"No, it's not about the houses." Lin Ruoxi corrected him. "I meant their pace of life..."

"Pace?"

"Mmh, like....the woman would get home first. She would buy groceries and cook dinner while waiting for her husband to return. Or she could pick up her children from school, attend the parents' meeting..."

Yang Chen was at a loss. "Why the sudden thought?"

Lin Ruoxi replied to him slowly. "I don't know, I just envy their life. Even though it's mundane, they won't have to worry as I do..."

Yang Chen pinched her cheeks. "Silly girl, I bet you'll be bored with that life in two days."

"Why would I? It's warm and sweet," Lin Ruoxi said in disbelief.

Yang Chen smiled. "If we were really an ordinary couple, our lives would boil down to three sentences..."

"Three sentences?"

"Mmh." Yang Chen nodded.

"Which are?"

Yang Chen answered her. "When I get home I'll say let's eat, then I'll ask where's our kid. Lastly, I'll say let's sleep to end the day."

Lin Ruoxi chuckled and rolled her eyes at him. "That's too dramatic."

"It's just an example. After all, life is repetitive."

Lin Ruoxi pursed her lips and smiled. "If that's the case, my answer would be in three sentences too. 'Hurry up and eat', 'Our kid is asleep' and 'Go to sleep'."

Yang Chen laughed too. Even though it was meant to be a joke, it was kind of mocking too.

Just when Yang Chen was about to carry Lin Ruoxi back into their room, he sensed motions from afar through his divine sense.

Yang Chen furrowed his brows and looked towards the south.

Lin Ruoxi sensed his action and asked curiously, "Hubby, what's wrong?"

"It looks like tonight might not be a peaceful one." Yang Chen sneered. "Two 'VIPs' seemed to have found their way to me tonight. If all goes well, I might get a few more goodies..."

Chapter 1026: Bypass Ranks

Lin Ruoxi did not understand where he was coming from. She followed his gaze and saw nothing at first but within the next second, two silhouettes appeared on the roof in front of them!

The tall, buff man was dressed in a black gown with a cold and arrogant look on his face.

Next to him was a woman in a nun outfit as she held a white horsetail whisk in her hand with a gloomy expression.

They were naturally Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu.

Yan Feiyu remembered Yang Chen's face and with detailed sketching, the Huang ranked Hongmeng cultivators could identify him successfully.

"Hubby, who are they?" Lin Ruoxi was worried. They did not seem friendly.

Yang Chen held her hands and beckoned for her to stand behind him. "It's a long story but let's just say they aren't here to buy me supper."

Yan Feiyun furrowed his brows when he noticed Yang Chen's calm demeanor. He then realized that he couldn't see through Yang Chen's cultivation.

Yan Feiyun had investigated Yang Chen's background and his identity as a Yang clan member didn't bother them. However, it was highly abnormal for a young man like him to have this level of cultivation!

Even so, no matter how high his cultivation was, he was just a roaming cultivator. They wouldn't be afraid of him since the siblings had a Heaven ranked father and the whole Hongmeng backing them.

"Feiyu, are you sure it's him?"

Yan Feiyu's eyes were filled with murderous intent as she said, "Yes, Big Brother. This fellow destroyed my nunnery and he almost killed me!"

"Hey, old nun. You harmed my woman first. I tried to persuade you but you insisted on using violence. How dare you push the blame on me?!" Yang Chen sneered.

"Shut up! You're at fault for trespassing my nunnery! Big brother, ignore his words. He's just an ignorant pig!" Yan Feiyu berated him.

Yan Feiyun nodded and spoke with a deep voice. "Yang fellow, I am Yan Feiyun, an Earth ranked elder from Hongmeng. I am here to seek revenge on behalf of my sister. You've ruined her nunnery and even tried to kill her because of a small misunderstanding!"

Yang Chen sized him up. Yan Feiyun's cultivation base was much higher than his sister and even though Yang Chen hadn't fully grasped the concept of cultivation bases, he knew that Yan Feiyun was in the Kui Water tribulation of Six Frost Water.

However, if he could see through Yan Feiyun's cultivation base, it also meant that he could still handle him.

Unfortunately, Yang Chen wouldn't be able to kill him because of his unusual background. He wouldn't benefit from it if his death would bring him more trouble from Hongmeng, therefore he had to deal with him carefully.

The commotion had alerted the guards and they started to move in closer.

The veteran guards were all armed and dozens of rifles were already being aimed at the two of them on the rooftop. At the same time, snipers had already gotten into their positions at obscure corners.

Yan Feiyun snorted. "I haven't been in this mundane world for years. Who knew a clan could act so arrogantly nowadays?"

"Young Master Chen, who are they? Should we ask Sir to come over?" One of the guard leaders walked forward and asked Yang Chen.

Yang Chen furrowed his brows. It was impossible for Yang Gongming to be oblivious to the situation here and with Yan Sanniang by his side. They would definitely come over soon. He couldn't risk getting them into danger.

"Move away, all of you. Don't get involved in this." Yang Chen commanded with a stern voice.

This wasn't a confrontation that could be joined by mundanes. Yang Chen didn't wish them to sacrifice their lives for nothing.

The guards were confused but they didn't forget to obey his commands, retreating far away from them.

Yang Chen contemplated for a while before looking up. "Their nunnery was already ruined by me, I can rebuild it for you if you wish. However, my woman was harmed by your sister and she even tried to steal my cultivation method. What should we do about that?"

"Utter nonsense! I was just trying to take her in as my disciple and I used the medicine to make her forget about the mundane world so that she can focus on cultivation. I had no other intentions!" Yan Feiyu spat out in disdain.

Yang Chen sneered. "There's no point in this discussion if you refuse to admit your mistake. Just tell me what you want."

Yan Feiyun said, "The people of Hongmeng have never associated themselves with the mundane world but this is a special case. Firstly, you are not a mundane person as you have surpassed the Soul Forming stage. Strictly speaking, you should've joined the ranks of Hongmeng. However, you can be excluded from this rule as you're part of the four major clans. Secondly, you had a conflict with my sister. Others will think of us as easy targets if you refuse to apologize to my sister. Therefore, you have to rebuild my sister's nunnery and hand in your cultivation method as a form of compensation!"

Damn these people. How dare they blackmail him! They were obviously making things difficult for him because he was a newbie to the cultivation realm and that he wouldn't dare to challenge Hongmeng.

They wanted nothing else but his cultivation method which meant that they must have assumed it was the same method that allowed him to use Nanming Li Fire.

It looked like they didn't have any relations to the hidden clan who attempted to steal his Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture.

However, Yang Chen would've never expected that the siblings didn't even see the need to waste their time on him. It was more crucial for them to get what they wanted and returned to cultivate as fast as possible. A clan member from the mundane world could not defy them even if he was in the Tribulation Passing stage!

Why would they beat around the bush with a minor character like him?

"What if I refuse to do so, will you guys kill me?" Yang Chen sneered.

Yan Feiyun laughed at him mockingly. "You think we wouldn't dare to kill you? My brother's cultivation base is much stronger than mine and you got lucky with the Nanming Li Fire last time. Even though we don't associate ourselves with the mundane world, you are excluded from it since you've already surpassed the Soul Forming realm. No one would dare to question our actions even if we did kill you!"

"A thief is trying to claim that she's innocent. I bet Hongmeng is a cult."

Even though Yang Chen had his worries, he knew that others would always take advantage of kind people. Since they weren't planning to talk things through, Yang Chen didn't see the need to abstain himself!

"How dare you insult Hongmeng! I must end you today!"

Yan Feiyun felt indignant. The Sumeru ring on his finger flashed and a weird looking longsword showed up in his hand!

The body of the sword had the color of a moon and in the middle of it was a hollow space, causing the sword to be narrow at both ends and wide in the middle. It sparkled under the starlight as though it was made out of glass!

Yang Chen's heart dropped. The sword seemed to be of a higher class artefact. Judging by its odd shape, there must be some sort of secret function to it.

"We only needed to warn you for humiliating my sister and you only needed to compensate us. You refused to comply and you even insulted us. We'll have to punish you in the name of Heaven!"

Yan Feiyun was aware that Yang Chen didn't use any mystical artefacts and since he had a mid-upper ranked artefact, he should be able to defeat him!

Yan Feiyu was certain that his brother would win when she saw his sword. She mocked Yang Chen, "Rascal, you'd better admit your mistake and hand in your cultivation method. Once my brother uses his 'Kongming Sword', even those in the second level of the Six Frost Water tribulation wouldn't be able to survive it!"

The second level of the Kui Water tribulation. It must be the Ming Water tribulation then. Yan Feiyun could bypass ranks with a mystical artefact? Yang Chen was feeling slightly nervous.

"There's no need to say anything else. We shall seize hold of his woman after we kill him. We will find a way to get his cultivation method eventually," Yan Feiyun said bluntly, he had already thought of the whole workflow.

Yang Chen's face darkened. Even though he wasn't facing an easy opponent, he couldn't stand insults from them!

Without further ado, Yang Chen leapt from his spot!

"The only people dying today are you lot!"

Yang Chen showed up a few inches away from Yan Feiyun and with a flash, he extended his right hand and aimed it at his head!

Chapter 1027 Foolish

Even though the three of them were all in the Tribulation Passing stage, it was going to be difficult for Yang Chen to defeat them easily since not all of them were facing the Nine Heavenly Lightning!

Even if Yang Chen's physical body was much tougher than the average cultivator, with the overwhelming strength from True Yuan as their armor, he wouldn't be in much of an advantage.

If they were mundanes, Yang Chen could have grounded their bodies into ash with a simple flick of the wrist. However, it was already difficult to do it with cultivators above the Xiantian stage, let alone the Soul Forming stage!

He had no choice but to go all out against them!

Yan Feiyun retreated quickly and avoided Yang Chen's attack while swinging his sword at Yang Chen's waist!

A semi-transparent light flashed past but Yang Chen managed to avoid the attack by moving upwards.

Yan Feiyu, who was by Yan Feiyun's side, initiated an attack too. Without the slightest hesitation, she whipped her Taiyi horsetail whisk and thousands of hair strands tried to wrap themselves around Yang Chen!

"There's no use trying to fight us alone!"

Even though Yang Chen was enraged, his state of mind was quite the opposite. He remained calm as he surrounded himself with a circle of Nanming Li Fire and caused an explosion with it abruptly!

The hair strands from the whisk were burnt by the fire as they scattered away!

The Taiyi horsetail whisk showed its mystical abilities whereby new white hair grew from the damaged parts and it danced along to the strong breeze!

"Sis, no need to attack. I can handle him on my own!" Yan Feiyun was completely relaxed and he said those words without even panting.

Yan Feiyu giggled when she heard him. "I'll watch from the sidelines then."

The spectators were absolutely dumbstruck. This was something completely out of this world.

They watched Yang Chen as he flew around the sky. They wondered to themselves, was Young Master Chen some kind of God?

Lin Ruoxi clasped her hands tightly in front of her chest. She was extremely worried about the fight that was happening above her head and she blamed herself for her uselessness. She could barely even pay any attention to their dazzling techniques.

It was then she realized why Yang Chen kept urging her to cultivate. It wasn't just for her own beauty and longevity, it was a matter of life and death!

Up in the sky, Yang Chen was fighting against Yan Feiyun with the Nanming Li Fire surrounding his own body. He kept aiming for his vital parts and even though Yan Feiyun wasn't as fast as Yang Chen, he always found an opening to counter by swinging his Kongming sword skillfully!

Yang Chen was slightly vexed by it. Even though the Nanming Li Fire was a heavenly fire, it was the lowest-ranked heavenly fire amongst the Three Yang Fire.

He could have restrained Yan Feiyu easily as she was in the first stage of the Three Yang Fire but for Yan Feiyun who was in the first stage of the Six Frost Water, it wouldn't work as well!

The Kui Water which Yan Feiyun had experienced during the heavenly tribulation was far stronger than the Li Fire. Therefore, even if Yang Chen attacked him with the Li Fire, it wouldn't be much of a threat!

Besides, Yang Chen hadn't even landed a single blow on him!

Yan Feiyun wasn't even using his full powers as he swung his sword to bring up gusts of cold air!

Yang Chen summoned a wall of Li Fire as a barrier in front of him to defend against the attack.

"Your cultivation method is really mystical, seeing how it provides an endless supply of the Nanming Li Fire. Sadly, you're still inexperienced. There is so much wasted potential here! Allow me to find a new, more suitable owner for it!" Yan Feiyun sneered.

"Cut the crap and come at me!"

Yang Chen spat and locked his eyes on his opponent. At the same time, he wiped the beads of sweat away which had formed on his face unknowingly.

He hadn't perspired because of a fight for a long time and this time it didn't happen due to heat but rather by his lack of confidence.

It was true that Yang Chen's cultivation base and cultivation method were superior to Yan Feiyun but even with these and the endless supply of energy from Heaven and Earth, he still couldn't unleash his full potential!

According to the old man who had possessed his body, his greatest ability was probably the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning which he summoned to aid him in passing the heavenly tribulation!

The last stage of the Three Yang Fire, the Ye Fire and the second stage of the Six Frost Water, the Ming Water were supposedly equivalents to the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning. Supposedly, he was able to master all of them!

As for the stronger ones like Ruo Water, Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning, and the Yu Qing Heavenly Lightning, Yang Chen was not quite there yet.

However, he had only mastered the Li Fire so how could he master the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning when he hadn't had the slightest clue about the Samadhi True Fire and Kui Water?!

Damn it, if only he had mastered them earlier! He wouldn't have to drag out this fight for so long.

"That's enough, I'm no longer keen on wasting my time on you. You're much weaker than expected," Yan Feiyun said when he realized that Yang Chen was no longer advancing towards him.

An unusual surge of True Yuan was unleashed from the Kongming sword.

Yang Chen's pupils constricted. The Kongming sword...it was disappearing?!

Not only was the sword disappearing, but Yan Feiyun was also vanishing from his line of sight too!

He didn't use some kind of flawed invisibility skill. If that was the case, Yang Chen could have tracked him down easily with his divine sense.

However, even his divine sense couldn't detect Yan Feiyun!

Yan Feiyu laughed at Yang Chen mockingly. "It's useless. My brother's sword might not have strong destructive abilities but he could become invisible by blocking off divine senses. Even if your cultivation base is much greater than ours, you won't be able to detect his location."

At this time, a voice was heard from someplace above him.

"Spirit of the Northern Sea, freeze!"

Yang Chen yelped internally, but it was already too late!

A huge ring of cold sword aura emerged around him!

Yan Feiyun combined the sword's aura with his cold True Yuan and they were radiating with enough pressure to make it seem like it was a solid block!

Dark blue coloured gusts of cold air wrapped around him like a snowstorm as if it was going to swallow him completely!

The rest could only see Yang Chen's body being drawn into the blue glow under the night sky!

Strong gusts of wind blew and a snowstorm had broken up which turned the sky above the Yang mansion into a desolating frozen sea!

"Yang Chen!"

Lin Ruoxi could barely open her eyes because of the blizzard. Her eyes reddened at the change of events but her tears were already dried up by the wind!

Up in the sky, Yang Chen barely blocked the sword auras from touching him by keeping the barrier of Li Fire up as much as possible. Even so, his blood circulation was starting to slow down.

Yan Feiyu's cackles rang out in the sky. "Hahahaha! You damned rascal! I didn't tell you this, but my brother's sword can conceal his True Yuan too. Back when you were still stupefied, my brother had already solidified his aura around you! How do you feel now?!"

Yang Chen was furious. He wasn't expecting this sword to be incredibly hard to deal with!

Even though this mystical artifact didn't have strong destructive abilities, Yan Feiyun could still stand tall in front of other cultivators with similar cultivation bases!

No wonder he wasn't afraid of cultivators in the Ming Water stage of the Six Frost Water. He still had a trump card to play!

Fortunately, the energy from Heaven and Earth was constantly being fed into Yang Chen's body and with a bellow, a ball of flame was summoned and countless cracks were seen on the ice swords!

Yang Chen emerged from the blizzard in a giant ball of flame!

Yan Feiyun looked indifferent as if he didn't care about Yang Chen's reappearance.

Yang Chen didn't have time to recuperate. He seized the chance to lay a blow on him now that Yan Feiyun was finally in his line of sight. He had to be quick before Yan Feiyun concealed himself and attacked him from the dark again!

Yang Chen swung his fist and a ferocious Li Fire Dragon growled as it flew towards Yan Feiyun!

At the same time, Yang Chen vanished from his spot and reappeared behind Yan Feiyun, ready to grab his neck!

Something bizarre happened at that exact moment!

Just when Yang Chen's fingers were about to wrap around his throat, he realized that there was nothing there!

Was it just an image?!

"How foolish ... "

Coming from the back of Yang Chen, Yan Feiyun's voice was filled with disdain.

Yang Chen leapt forward instinctively but it was already too late!

The Kongming sword had already come into contact with his back!

Chapter 1028 Torn Apart

His body was pierced by an icicle, causing blood to spurt out of his wound. Ice started to creep into his meridians!

Yang Chen couldn't imagine how serious his wounds were. If they ventured any deeper, he would have sustained some serious internal damage to his organs!

He could have died if his instincts were any slower!

Some of Yan Feiyun's icy True Yuan still remained on the Kongming Sword as it continued to penetrate Yang Chen's meridian. Even though his wounds were no longer bleeding, he couldn't heal them with his Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture!

"Your body is quite resilient. You're still alive even after suffering a blow from the Yan clan's 'Spirit of the Northern Sea'. Not bad, not bad." Yan Feiyun sneered. "Let me take things one step further."

Having said so, Yan Feiyun concealed himself and disappeared from everyone's line of sight again!

Yang Chen was already prepared for this. But because of the True Yuan invading his meridians, he had to divert his attention into resisting the attack whilst repairing the damaged meridians!

At this time, a silhouette appeared behind him and he could see a sword coming down towards him!

Yang Chen descended abruptly and summoned a surge of Li Fire!

BOOM!

The flames exploded but the silhouette was no longer there!

Another illusion?!

Cold gas rose up from beneath his feet before he could even react in time!

"Spirit of the Northern Sea, icy trails of the Northern Lake ... "

While he was chanting that, countless icy swords materialized and it looked as though arrows were being shot towards the sky!

Suddenly, Yang Chen felt as if he was being buried by millions of arrows. Regardless of how strong his physical body was, a cut was still a cut and millions of them were nothing to sneeze at!

Yang Chen tightened his jaw as he formed a protective barrier around him with the Li Fire. Even though he was eventually able to mitigate the attack, the damage was already done!

The people on the ground were already shaken as they watched on silently.

Lin Ruoxi had already gone limp onto the ground, her heart-wrenching at the sight of Yang Chen's suffering!

Yang Chen could hardly care less about the situation on the ground. The icy True Yuan stayed on the small cuts on his body, thus he was forced to divert more of his attention into resisting the invasion of the cold aura.

Yang Chen realized that Yan Feiyun's scripture was extremely vicious. It was targeting his meridians instead of inflicting physical damage!

Any other ordinary cultivator would have been in a worse off state than him!

The more infuriating fact was that he couldn't see through the illusions!

If it was any ordinary illusion, he could have seen through it immediately. However, Yan Feiyun's illusion was nothing like Yang Chen had ever seen, causing him to fall for it twice

"Don't be shocked, my Kongming Sword was named based on the mirror. Everything you've seen was not illusions but mirror copies of reality..."

Yan Feiyun was pleased with himself as he said nonchalantly, "I'm the one in the mirror but it's also not me. A roaming cultivator like you wouldn't know about this so I suppose I should educate you."

It was true that Yang Chen didn't understand it. After all, the sword was initially an upper-tier rare mystical artefact from the Great Ancient times and if it wasn't for the damage it had received over the years, it wouldn't have landed in Yan Feiyun's hands as a mid-upper tier artefact.

Even so, Yan Feiyun wouldn't have been able to gain such an upper hand if it wasn't for the Yan clan's status in Hongmeng!

Technically, the Blood Dragon's Golden Dagger owned by Yang Chen also belonged to the mid-upper tier artefact category but it only worked best by hindering the recovery of wounds. In this case, the Kongming Sword had an obvious advantage!

Besides that, Yang Chen knew that it wouldn't be practical for him to use his artefact as it would reveal the fact that he had killed the Huangyun Taoist!

Yang Chen knew he couldn't stay still any longer. He leapt towards him after locking onto Yan Feiyun's body with his divine sense to prevent him from running away again!

Yan Feiyun wasn't even bothered to dodge. He watched Yang Chen with a mocking gaze as he dashed towards him!

A huge blazing ball of Li Fire erupted around his body and with frightening coercion, it enveloped Yan Feiyun!

"Let's how you're going to get away from this!"

Just when Yang Chen was about to grab Yan Feiyun's head, he vanished again!

"I am the image but it isn't me."

This time, Yan Feiyun appeared beside Yang Chen and with his sword, he cut across Yang Chen's waist!

Yang Chen dodged it by millimetres and he touched the wound after retreating to a safe distance. His face turned pale when his condition deteriorated.

He couldn't think of any better way when his earlier attempt of locating him with his divine sense had failed. He could only increase his speed as much as possible, hoping to strike him before Yan Feiyun concealed himself again!

With that in mind, Yang Chen dashed towards Yan Feiyun in a much quicker and violent manner!

Yan Feiyun still remained still, showing zero intentions to move.

Yang Chen's heart dropped when he saw that!

Was this another mirror image?

Yan Feiyun saw his hesitation and he snickered. "How unfortunate, you've guessed it wrongly. This is real...."

While saying that, he swung his sword towards Yang Chen's chest!

Yang Chen's eyes widened in fury but it was already too late!

Yan Feiyun didn't stop there, he landed a kick at Yang Chen's wounded chest immediately after striking it with his sword!

Pfft!

Yang Chen coughed out blood and his body started to descend onto the ground like a rocket that had run out of fuel.

Regardless of the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture's recovery abilities, it couldn't heal all his wounds in such a small amount of time. In addition to that, the True Yuan was corroding his meridians which made it hard for him to summon energy from Heaven and Earth.

Due to these reasons, Yang Chen's body could no longer bear such a burden and he fell out of the sky!

As he landed onto a shrub, he coughed out another mouthful of blood uncontrollably.

Yang Chen couldn't even muster any strength to force himself up or even fight Yan Feiyun who was descending onto the ground whilst looking at him with a condescending gaze!

His whole body was filled with the icy True Yuan and it felt as though they were freezing his blood!

"Hubby!"

Lin Ruoxi ran to him when she saw that Yang Chen had fallen out of the sky!

Yan Feiyu cackled from the side. "You've overestimated yourself, did you really think you could defeat my brother?"

Having said so, she locked her gaze onto Lin Ruoxi who was running towards Yang Chen.

In a flash, she had landed behind Lin Ruoxi, wrapping her fingers around Lin Ruoxi's slender neck!

The guards couldn't hold it in any longer when they saw this. The leading guard yelled with a stern voice, "Let her go! Or else we will fire!"

Yan Feiyu's horsetail whisk whipped them before they could do such a thing!

The white hair acted like steel cables, crushing all the guards into a big pile of flesh and blood!

"Who gave you the right to bark in front of me, lowly servants."

Yang Chen's veins were bulging when he saw the massacre!

Yang Gongming and Guo Xuehua weren't around now. Yang Chen assumed that the guards or Yan Sanniang must have brought them away from here. Or else it would've been disastrous!

If this continued on, would he really let himself be killed by these vicious siblings !?

On the other hand, Lin Ruoxi couldn't focus on Yang Chen anymore. She could only feel herself being lifted off the ground and she struggled to breathe since her neck was being gripped by Yan Feiyu.

"Let...let me go...cough cough..."

Blood rushed to her face as tears fell down her cheeks.

However, the pain she was feeling was minuscule compared to the pain she felt when Yang Chen fell from the sky!

This man was capable of being defeated too?!

From the past, even though Lin Ruoxi knew that Yang Chen always went out to fight and kill people, she was never worried about him or even concerned about his safety.

However, the scene she had just witnessed made her feel as though her world was being torn apart!

The man who was invincible, as if nothing could stop him, had fallen!

Lin Ruoxi never expected this day to come!

Chapter 1029 Incapacitate Him

"Hmph, this rascal has a lot with women huh. Rose was a beauty but this one is on another level." Yan Feiyu laughed disdainfully. "Sadly, he's incapable yet he acts so ignorantly. She has to suffer along with you since she's your wife."

While talking, Yan Feiyu emitted a fragment of her divine sense to look into her body.

Her face lit up seconds later. "Big brother, this woman has the same special scripture in her body. She must know something about it. We must take her in for interrogation."

Yan Feiyun nodded. "Sis, what should we do about this rascal?"

While saying so, Yan Feiyun laid his sword above Yang Chen's chest.

Yan Feiyu's eyes flashed in a sinister way for a split second and she snorted. "Hmph, he's the eldest grandson of the Yang clan. It will affect the people if we were to kill him. Why don't we let him live but incapacitate him to prevent him from causing any more trouble!"

"That's perfect. We can settle our personal grudges and yet we wouldn't violate Hongmeng's principles." Yan Feiyun sneered. "I shall destroy his dantian now!"

Having said so, a thick cloud of cold sword aura erupted from his sword, threatening to pierce through Yang Chen's Qihai acupoint!

Right when the siblings were talking to each other, Yang Chen took the time to heal his wounds using the energy from Heaven and Earth.

After all, his cultivation base was greater than Yan Feiyun, so even though the icy True Yuan was hard to deal with, it was impossible to get rid of.

Once the True Yuan was gotten rid of, Yang Chen's self-healing ability would be far greater than what Yan Feiyun had imagined!

At this moment, Yang Chen strained his muscles and summoned his working meridians, attempting to strike back the split second Yan Feiyun swung his sword!

He could only succeed at that moment, knowing fully well that he had no other options!

It was incredibly difficult to figure out a way to defeat Yan Feiyun's Kongming sword in such a short amount of time!

It was right at this moment when a voice cut through the silence!

"Stop!"

A grey silhouette appeared abruptly into everyone's line of sight.

Yan Sanniang had walked out from the backyard. Her heart was wrenching in pain at the sight of the disfigured bodies.

Yang Gongming trailed behind her calmly but when he saw Yang Chen being threatened with a sword while Lin Ruoxi was being held captive, he could no longer mask his emotions.

However, Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu froze when they saw Yan Sanniang. They stared at her with stiff facial expressions!

"Third...third sister?!"

"Feiling?!"

Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu were dumbfounded, their faces filled with disbelief as they kept staring at Yan Sanniang!

Yan Feiyu was so shocked that she dropped Lin Ruoxi onto the ground.

Even though Lin Ruoxi was confused, she still ran next to Yang Chen to help him up.

Yang Chen didn't really need any help but he had to pretend he was in pain to puzzle Yan Feiyun.

It was his first time thinking that women were really made out of water when he saw Lin Ruoxi sob to the point of incoherence. At the same time, he felt bad for her too.

Yan Feiyun glanced downwards at Yang Chen but as if he couldn't care less about him, he walked towards Yan Sanniang alongside Yan Feiyu.

Everyone fixed their gaze on Yan Sanniang.

Yang Chen could only lower his guard and he proceeded to squint his eyes at the odd trio.

Yan Sanniang...Yan? Could she be...

"Feiling...is it really you?!"

Yan Feiyun looked at her with a complex gaze, his face was twitching when he said that.

"Do you even have to ask?!" Yan Feiyu's eyes were moist.

Yan Feiyun took a deep breath before saying, "No wonder we didn't realize you were here. You've been hiding your cultivation base, right?"

Yan Sanniang nodded. Her wrinkly face was filled with helplessness. "That's right, I thought I wouldn't need to show up."

Yang Chen jolted in realization. Yes, he didn't notice it earlier but ever since the siblings arrived, Yan Sanniang didn't show up and she even kept her cultivation base hidden!

She must have done it on purpose!

"Till this day, are you still refusing to meet us or meet Father?!" Yan Feiyun questioned her.

Yan Sanniang shook her head. "I wouldn't have stayed here if I was willing to return."

"Feiling, why would you transform yourself into this state. You're already in the middle phase of the Soul Forming stage so why would you make yourself age on purpose?!" Yan Feiyu started sobbing. "Are you trying to hurt your own sister?! Do you know how long I've been looking for you? Ever since you left home, I fell out with Father too! I cultivated in the mundane world and searched the whole country for you! I never would have imagined that you were hiding in the Yang clan!"

Yan Sanniang was moved by her and she looked at Yan Feiyu with watery eyes.

"Second sister ... I ... "

"Feiling, let me take a good look at you. Transform back....don't age yourself anymore." Yan Feiyu pleaded with her.

Yan Sanniang looked at Yang Gongming with a troubled gaze and she sighed when she turned back to Yan Feiyu who was looking at her with an expectant gaze.

She sighed. "Fine..."

Yan Sanniang nodded before summoning her True Yuan.

Yang Chen was positive that the three of them were from the same family!

That was because Yan Sanniang's True Yuan was exactly the same as Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu! However, Yan Sanniang's cultivation base was weaker since she hadn't reached the Tribulation Passing stage.

As her True Yuan revolved around her body, she started to change!

Her wrinkly face started to tighten and whiten at the same time. Her eyes brightened too and her hair started to turn black.

Her crooked body began to straighten and if one were to look closely, they could see that the skin around Yan Sanniang's neck had started to resemble that of a young lady.

Slowly, she had turned into a young lady!

Her face was fair with pink lips and her eyes seemed especially bright and dewy.

Yang Chen wasn't the only one to be entranced. Lin Ruoxi stopped sobbing when she witnessed the changes to Yan Sanniang's body.

Yan Sanniang, granny Yan, was actually a young lady?!

Even though Yang Chen knew it very possible for her to maintain her figure given her cultivation, it was hard for them to face it since they were used to seeing her as an old woman.

They couldn't even call her 'Granny Yan' anymore!

Yan Sanniang seemed abashed, completely avoiding Yang Chen and Lin Ruoxi.

Yang Gongming looked as though he was reminiscing on the past and he smiled when he saw that Yan Sanniang had reverted to her original appearance.

"Feiling...it's really you! My sister!" Yan Feiyu cried with joy, pulling Yan Feiling into her arms.

Yan Feiling bit her lips. "Sis...it's my fault for making you suffer...."

Yan Feiyu shook her head "It's fine, it doesn't matter as long as you're fine..."

"Feiling, why are you in the Yang clan? What's your relationship with this clan?" Yan Feiyun snapped out of it and asked with a stern voice.

Yan Feiyu was reminded of this and she cast a spiteful glance towards Yang Gongming while asking, "Feiling, did you turn old because of that old man? What kind of relationship do you have with him?"

Yan Feiling seemed troubled by her questions. "Sis, Big Brother, please don't ask me about it. It's a long story."

"No! We've been looking for you for more than forty years and we've finally found you. How could we not ask? Tell us everything, did they do something to you?! Your brother and sister are here, we will avenge you!"

"Don't jump to conclusions so fast." Yan Feiling shook her head. "I stayed in the Yang clan voluntarily. I'm indebted to Sir and Madam. Plus I didn't want to return to Hongmeng and meet that person, so...so I remained here all this while."

"Indebted? What do you mean?" Yan Feiyu was baffled.

Yan Feiling turned around to look at Yang Gongming and when she saw Yang Gongming nodding at her with a smile on his face, she breathed out before saying, "I'll have to start from the very beginning when I left home..."

Chapter 1030 – Army Doctor

The leaves rustIde in the air as the breeze swept the smell of blood throughout the backyard.

Yang Chen's wounds were completely healed with the use of the self-healing abilities from the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture. The only evidence left behind were his torn clothes.

All remains of the icy True Yuan had been removed from his body. But whilst he was doing so, a thought surfaced.

Lin Ruoxi stayed close to him, relieved to know that blood had returned to his face.

<i> It doesn't matter if he loses. As long as he's fine now...</i> Lin Ruoxi couldn't think about anything else.

She wasn't aware of the fact that Yang Chen was deep in thought about something.

The Yan siblings were still immersed in talking about their pasts and they failed to notice Yang Chen's change of expression. He was still in pain a few moments ago but his eyes were glinting with joy now.

Yang Gongming stood nearby with a dim expression on, as though he was reminiscing the past.

Yan Feiling was sharing about her past when she first left Hongmeng which wasn't a complicated one to understand.

"I met Sir and Madam at the border between China and India. I had just left Hongmeng and I was planning to choose my own 'dao'."

China wasn't prospering forty years ago. Although they had defeated their invaders, the war near the borders continued, whether it was at the Northeast or Southwest borders.

Firefights happened almost every day but Hongmeng felt that it wasn't their duty to intervene despite existing to protect the country.

This was because wars in the mundane world wouldn't affect the foundation of a country and if they were to intervene, it would only disrupt the development of the country.

Hongmeng had also ignored the times when China had suffered oppression from other countries.

Even though the citizens were suffering, there were always rebels who stood up against oppressive forces, therefore the country was never truly conquered.

According to history, China had experienced numerous wars and even during the time when half of Asia was under Mongolia's regime. Hongmeng did nothing to stop it. They thought it was normal for regimes to change and they were apathetic to it.

Hongmeng never misjudged things since the Mongolians returned the country back to China after a few centuries.

Therefore, as long as the citizens of China never faced a large scale genocide, Hongmeng thought wars were an acceptable form of transition.

Yan Feiling grew up in Hongmeng, so she wasn't well informed about the mundane world.

However, the members of Hongmeng were required to experience the mundane world as a form of learning once they entered the Xiantian stage. This was done as a preparation for entering the Soul Forming stage.

Yan Feiling was in her twenties when she was in the middle phase of the Xiantian stage. When she first entered the Xiantian stage, she had already travelled across the country and had witnessed a lot of wars.

Piles of corpses littered the streets and people were forced to leave their families to fight in the frontlines. Having witnessed such a catastrophe, Yan Feiling started to question herself and her principles. Was Hongmeng's decision to stay neutral right?

Even after returning to Hongmeng, Yan Feiling couldn't erase her memories about the war. She felt like she could no longer sit idly by as this went one.

Therefore, when she had entered the middle phase of the Xiantian stage, Yan Feiling decided to leave Hongmeng. Even if she wouldn't be much of a contributor, she was determined to help the citizens as much as she could.

However, according to the rules in Hongmeng, they were not allowed to intervene with the matters in the mundane world without permission. Even though Yan Feiling wasn't in the Soul Forming stage yet, she was still restricted to such rules since she knew about the secrets of Hongmeng!

At the same time, Yan Feiling's identity was not insignificant. The Yan siblings' father was one of the few Heaven ranked elders, Yan Wuchen.

The Huang ranked cultivators weren't qualified to stop Yan Wuchen's daughter from helping in the war. Besides that, Yan Feiling was only in the middle phase of the Xiantian stage so it wouldn't have affected much.

As for Yan Wuchen, he had a huge quarrel with Yan Feiling and when she refused to listen to him. In the end, he basically disowned her as a daughter

In the end, Yan Feiling was firm with her decision and she left Hongmeng without any hesitation.

Well, Yan Feiling obviously wouldn't tell them everything now but Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu knew about it.

Yan Feiyu felt indignant about this probably because she thought that their father was being too cruel to her sister, so she left Hongmeng for her own cultivation while looking for her sister at the same time.

"At that time, a war had broken out between Tibet and India. China's army and the herdsmen in Tibet were in a difficult time as their equipment was outdated and their logistics were having a hard time catching up to them. The main commander in the army was Sir. I killed the Indian army when I saw that they were plundering the Tibetan herdsmen. However, I didn't know that there was an organization in India named 'Brahma' at that time. They were the ones who were suppressing the Dragons which caused them to be at a disadvantage. Even though I was already in the middle phase of the Xiantian stage, Siva and Asura, the two elites caught up to me. I managed to defeat them but not without sustaining serious injuries myself..."

Yang Chen who was listening to her from the side became stunned when he heard that.

<i>> Brahma? I didn't know they were enemies with the Yang clan from a long time ago. Thank goodness I've killed their leaders. </i>

Yang Chen was in high spirits as he had somehow gained a new perception earlier on.

"Serious injury? Then...what happened then?" Yan Feiyu asked hurriedly.

Yan Feiling replied, "I was trying to escape since that was the only way to evade the rest of the Indian army. I was suffering from a serious internal injury and it was impossible to recover in a short amount of time. However, I didn't expect the members to be so vicious. They poisoned me during the fight, so I fainted before I could run any further."

Yan Feiyun and Yan Feiyu furrowed their brows when they heard that.

Yan Feiling gave them a faint smile. "It was at that time when Madam found me..."

It turned out that Yang Gongming's wife was part of his military logistics team as a military doctor. Even though she was from a noble clan, she studied medicine overseas and returned to China as an army doctor.

She chose to work at Yang Gongming's army since she was engaged to him. It was considered a marital harmony since she was willing to follow her fiancé to war!

During an emergency retreat, she met Yan Feiling who had fainted.

Others found it weird for a woman to show up so suddenly and they said to leave her alone since they were in a dire situation.

However, Madam insisted on bringing her along.

Finally, after bringing Yan Feiling back to their military base, she managed to eliminate some of the toxins. Yan Feiling survived through Madam's tireless toiling.

When Yang Gongming returned to the base, he was suspicious of the young woman whom his fiancée had rescued.

After all, Yan Feiling showed up at the common border between the opposing armies. Technically, civilians should have already evacuated the area.

Even after Yan Feiling was questioned, she wouldn't tell them where she came from and the only thing she said was that her name was 'Yan Sanniang' because she was the third child in her family.

Yang Gongming was concerned about having her here at his base when she didn't have an identity. Besides that, she recovered so quickly just by some simple treatment even though she was poisoned on a battlefield!

Therefore, Yang Gongming wanted her to leave the base and he even wanted to kill her just in case she was a spy from the Indian army."

"It's a funny story to tell, we acted like enemies during our first meeting. Sir kept insisting that I was a spy and I couldn't really explain myself. In the end, Madam had to stand between us. She defended me, saying that I didn't look like a bad person..."

Yan Feiling chuckled but her eyes were moist.

Madam had protected her as if they were sisters when they were only strangers.