

Chapter 1431

Reasonable Plan

The navy officers were Mason's most trustable subordinates. They immediately brought the hostages into the respective warehouses at his command, and some even stood guard at the doors.

Since the North Bureo clan members had completed their tasks, they no longer needed to be on the watch. Some were taking breaks on the warship, while some started playing games amongst themselves.

At that moment, no one noticed that a North Bureo clan member dressed in a Korean military uniform was making his way towards the fourth warehouse.

"Hey, what are you doing here? This warehouse is for the hostages. The lounge is right in front," said one navy officer who was guarding the warehouse.

The man straightened his hat and revealed the face of an ordinary Asian man.

Just when the navies wondered if he did not speak English, the latter suddenly jumped forward and punched them in the throat.

Their minds went blank. In the next second, the man wrapped his fingers around their throats and snapped them.

His movements were swift. Once he confirmed no one was heading towards there, he pulled the door open.

The female hostages, including Zhang Ru and Hwang Suyeon, huddled together in the corner.

They jolted in shock when they noticed someone had walked in. Soon after, a look of surprise crept across Zhang Ru's face.

"H-Hubby?!"

Jiang Xiaobai tossed the hat aside. Once he realized Zhang Ru was unharmed, he heaved a sigh of relief and pulled her up.

"Say nothing. There aren't many navies outside, so I can bring you guys out of here now. I looked just now; the raft can accommodate over twenty people. We should get out of here while it's still dark outside!"

Tears rolled down Zhang Ru's cheeks as she sobbed continuously. She never expected Jiang Xiaobai to risk his life to save her. The whole time she had always assumed he valued his work over her and yet he was willing to get himself in danger for her!

Filled with guilt, she dared not ask questions and nodded fervently. Then, she relayed his words to the other hostages in Korean.

The hostages were delighted to get out of here alive regardless of the risks.

Jiang Xiaobai walked out to take a look. Once ensuring no one was around, he gestured them forward with a wave.

The female hostages followed closely while Hwang Suyeon grabbed a rifle from one of the dead navies.

“What are you doing? Follow closely.” Jiang Xiaobai glanced back and frowned at her actions.

She smiled. “I’m a policewoman, and I know how to use a gun. I can fight with you.”

Seeing the insignia on her shoulder that represented her identity, Jiang Xiaobai nodded.

“We have to move quickly. No one is making the rounds now.” Jiang Xiaobai dashed to the back of the warship.

Suddenly, two gunshots sounded behind him!

With a grunt, he collapsed to the floor. Blood oozed out of the gun wounds on his left calf and thigh.

“Hwang Suyeon?! What are you doing?” Zhang Ru shrieked and glared at the shooter.

Her expression was sinister as she snorted. “You have a sharp mind and great agility. I suppose you’re a special agent from China. Fortunately, our leader was wary that someone would sneak in to save the hostages... and it turns out we really do have a guest from China,” she sneered.

Everyone looked at her in terror.

“You... you are part of the North Bureo clan?!” Cold sweat trickled down Jiang Xiaobai’s face, but he could not stand up.

Hwang Suyeon smiled smugly. “It’s too late now. Why do you think we manage to kill the policemen and soldiers in such a short amount of time? Without my ‘reasonable’ planning, this wouldn’t have happened without any casualties.”

Zhang Ru ran towards Jiang Xiaobai. Upon seeing the blood on his leg, she wailed. “Hubby... it’s all my fault. I shouldn’t have come to Korea... then you... you wouldn’t...”

Jiang Xiaobai gritted his teeth and forced a smile. “Xiao Ru, don’t say that. I don’t blame you. It’s fate...”

“Such a lovely couple.” Hwang Suyeon tutted as she walked towards them. Then, she pointed the gun at Jiang Xiaobai. “Spill, do you have any comrades on the ship?”

She kept him alive till then only for that sole reason.

Jiang Xiaobai snorted. “What makes you think I’ll tell you the truth?”

“It’s fine. I’ll bring you to the leader. She’ll have a way to make you talk.”

At that moment, several soldiers had come forth at the gunshots. Hwang Suyeon commanded them to lock up the hostages and increase the number of guards at the warehouse. Then, she brought the couple to meet the leader.

At the same time, Hao was in the most luxurious commanding room of the warship.

He stood respectfully before the desk with his head hung low, and sitting before him was Abbess Yu Lian on a leather!

She was holding the glass box of sariras as she said, "Great job, Hao. Your acting was perfect. I was worried that you wouldn't dare to slap me, but you didn't disappoint."

She still had an elegant bearing, but her voice was cold without an ounce of mercy.

Hao replied, "It's all thanks to your guidance. My efforts are nothing compared to yours. I should be punished for laying my hands on you, leader."

Yu Lian nodded, pleased with his flattery. "We'll leave the rest to Hwang Suyeon. Let her be the hero and send the hostages back to Korea. With that, she should be promoted and will be useful in the future. I've hypnotized the monks, so bring the hostages over later for me to hypnotize them. Then, you will put up a show with Hwang Suyeon. With that, we return safely and the sariras will also belong to us completely."

Hao nodded with a sinister smile and was about to say something when the door was pushed open by General Mason.

"Leader, Vice Chief Hwang caught a spy who sneaked on the ship."

Squinting her eyes, Yu Lian snorted. "I knew it. Send her in."

Hwang Suyeon immediately brought Jiang Xiaobai and Zhang Ru into the room. Jiang Xiaobai was tossed to the floor while Zhang Ru was still crying over her husband's injuries.

Shock crept up to their faces when they saw Yu Lian on the chair.

"You... you are..." Zhang Ru could not finish her sentence.

"That's right. I'm the leader of the North Bureo clan," Yu Lian sneered. "It's unfortunate that you two have solved the puzzle but will never get out of here alive."

Yu Lian stepped towards the couple.

"Leader, he's Chinese, Zhang Ru's wife. I think it's a special agent in China. Even if he's not, he must be part of the government. I'm worried that he has a comrade, so I dare not kill him. Please ascertain it with your power."

"Good job," Yu Lian praised her. Her gaze then fell upon Jiang Xiaobai. "If you don't want your wife to die in front of you, do not resist. Or else, the navies will lay their hands on her before we feed her to the sharks."

"You... you witch!" Jiang Xiaobai yelled.

Only then did Zhang Ru realize why her husband had always been secretive about his work. She never knew he was so exceptional and might be part of the intelligence agency.

Even though he had such a bright future, he was going to die on the ship because of her.

Overwhelmed with guilt, Zhang Ru dared not look at his pale face.

While Jiang Xiaobai was filled with rage and was emotionally unstable, Yu Lian seized the chance to hypnotize him. Soon, his gaze turned blank.

“Tell me your Identity. How did you get here, and do you have any comrades?” Her voice echoed in his mind like a demon’s call.

Chapter 1432

My Underpants

A dazed expression appeared on Jiang Xiaobai’s face. Even though he tried to get a grip on himself, it was futile.

“I... I’m Jiang Xiaobai, the deputy section chief of section one in the secret police department of the Ministry of State Security of the People’s Republic of China. As of now, I’m the deputy director of the Zhonghai branch. My... my wife, Xiao Ru, offended a dangerous person. I was worried about her, so I flew to Korea to find her. Because I was afraid she’d be upset to see me, I watched over her secretly. I saw her being caught by the Northern Bureo clan today, so I sneaked into the group. I was waiting to bring them out of here with the lifeboat at night. I came alone. No one else is with me...”

Jiang Xiaobai confessed everything, confirming Zhang Ru’s speculations. The North Bureo clan members let out a sigh of relief.

Things would be easy to deal with as long as it didn’t involve the MSS. Korea might be influential, but the MSS was still a major threat to them.

Zhang Ru was covered in tears. He must have come over after hearing the phone call. Why is he such a fool, hiding in the dark just to protect me...

Yu Lian caught onto a detail. She asked, “Who is the dangerous person you mentioned?”

“He’s...”

“It’s me.”

A man’s nonchalant voice sounded from outside.

That shocked everyone else in the room. How did someone manage to sneak in there?

Yu Lian stopped her hypnosis. When Jiang Xiaobai finally snapped out of it, he looked around with a befuddled expression. Then, his eyes met with his wife’s affectionate gaze.

Hao, Mason, and Hwang Suyeon raised their guns with a tense expression.

“Who’s there?” Yu Lian asked coldly, feeling as though she was being teased.

The door was kicked open from the outside, and Yang Chen strode in, dressed only in his underpants with seaweeds stuck on his skin.

Corpses sprawled across the corridor behind him—some had holes in their chests while some had broken necks.

Yang Chen was even grabbing on a fish and was munching on it raw.

and raw meat,” he blabbered.

Upon looking at Jiang Xiaobai who was almost close to shedding tears of joy, he grinned. “Heh, you deserve to suffer for calling me a dangerous person. Looks like I’m not too late. You’re pretty skilled, huh? I didn’t even realize you’ve sneaked in. When did you arrive in Korea? Oh... I suppose you really care about your wife.”

“Mr. Yang! Young Master Yang!” Jiang Xiaobai was filled with delight as if Yang Chen was his father.

Before that, he was wondering why Yang Chen had yet to appear when he also attended the ceremony.

Having a rough understanding of Yang Chen’s ability, Jiang Xiaobai felt as if a weight was lifted off his chest.

“So it’s you! Hah, even if you can withstand my hypnosis, you’re still doomed! What a fool must you be to step into our territory willingly,” sneered Yu Lian.

Yang Chen tossed the leftover fish aside and smacked his lips together. “This fish tastes fine, but it has a lot of bones,” he commented.

“Are you even listening to me?!” Yu Lian bellowed.

Mason frowned and whispered in Yu Lian’s ears, “Leader, I think he said... he swam here...”

“Bullsh*t! How can someone swim for more than four hours and still catch up to the yacht?!” Furious, she yelled, “Stop staring! Kill him!”

Right afterward, Hao, Mason, and Hwang Suyeon started shooting at Yang Chen!

Sparks flew as bullets from the rifle and handgun landed on Yang Chen’s skin.

Realizing that holes were forming on his underpants, Yang Chen swelled with rage. Lin Ruoxi bought that piece of underpants for him! He had lost her and couldn’t afford to lose the underpants too!

With a big leap, he rushed towards the trio and reached out to grab Hao’s cheek.

Since Yang Chen moved in a flash, Hao could not dodge in time. While he was still shocked by the fact that Yang Chen was invincible to bullets, the latter had grabbed his cheek.

A creaking sounded as Hao’s head was squashed. Just like that, he died on the spot!

Not wasting another second, Yang Chen landed a slap across Hwang Suyeon’s cheek with the other hand.

It wasn’t a loud slap, but her head exploded when he backhanded her across the other cheek. Her brain was crushed immediately while the rest of her organs such as her eyes flew away.

Fear washed over Yu Lian and Mason as they watched his brutal attacks.

Yang Chen couldn’t care less about their shock and swung his leg towards Mason’s groin!

Blood gushed out immediately as Mason’s body was torn apart from the middle. Yang Chen’s foot landed on his abdominal area, so one-half of his body was kicked upwards and stuck to the ceiling.

Jiang Xiaobai almost fainted from the gory scene while his wife long fainted upon seeing Hwang Suyeon's eyeball that had rolled towards her.

Yu Lian gulped. Shivering, she retreated to the desk and shook her head repeatedly. "Don't... don't come over..."

At that moment, the soldiers heard the commotion and rushed in. However, they became panic-stricken and froze upon seeing the scene before them.

Yang Chen ignored them completely and made his way towards Yu Lian. "You're the leader of the North Bureo clan?"

Yu Lian nodded stiffly.

"How dare you snatch the sariras from me. You deserve to die a painful death. But if you give me the personnel files of your clan, I'll give you a quick death." Yang Chen wanted to investigate it thoroughly as he feared that Zhenxiu might be harmed.

"So you're after the sariras? Hah, aren't you afraid that the bombs in Seoul will be detonated after my death? Even if they found some of it, they couldn't find all of the bombs in such a short amount of time. By then..."

"Go to hell!" Yang Chen slapped her. "Plenty of people die in this world every day. Why would I care about them? They're not my parents! Cut the crap. Are you giving me the file or not?"

Yu Lian was stunned. As she glanced at the corpses of her subordinates, a shiver ran down her spine. She finally realized that the man standing before her was a vicious man—he couldn't care less about the lives of the innocent citizens!

"Don't you guys like to count down? I'll count to three. If you don't give me the file, I'll pull your fingers off one by one..." Yang Chen said flatly as he grabbed her hand and pulled her thumb off.

"Ahh!" Yu Lian let out a pained shriek.

The soldiers were about to attack Yang Chen, but they cowered when they saw that and even ran out of the room.

Yu Lian's eyes flashed with fury as she screamed, "Master! Save me!"

Yang Chen was startled to hear that.

Before he could think much about it, groans sounded from the soldiers that had run away earlier.

Yang Chen whipped his head around and his eyes narrowed at the scene unfolding before him.

A group of eerie-looking poisonous insects were biting the soldiers. In a flash, their flesh was devoured, leaving a pile of bones behind.

Yu Lian's eyes lit up. On the other hand, Jiang Xiaobai shuddered at that terrifying sight.

"Hah, so useless. I'd rather feed my kids than raise you guys."

A familiar sounding voice was heard from outside. Right after that, a short and chubby monk walked into the room.

It was Master Zihao, the monk who had been following Yu Lian and was also the director of the Buddhist Association!

Gazing at Yang Chen with eyes full of disdain, Zihao said, "I don't know where you came from, but you're asking for a death wish for chasing after us."

Yang Chen tutted. "No wonder... I was wondering why would the North Bureo clan dare target Jane when their leader is so weak. It turns out you're her master. So you're the actual leader? Man, you sure are secretive!"

Chapter 1433

So What

Yang Chen was shocked. Even if he could not use the divine sense, he could still technically sense the oppression from someone with profound cultivation.

However, he sensed nothing from Zihao until he unleashed his cultivation that was far more superior to the Soul Forming stage.

Could this monk have some technique or artifact to conceal his cultivation? Otherwise, he couldn't stay outside of China unharmed.

"Hah, so what if you find out about this? Your physique is impressive, something I've never seen before. If I feed your flesh and blood to my kids, it'll definitely benefit them!" Zihao smiled sinisterly.

"You're a cultivator, so shouldn't you be in Hongmeng? Don't you know the risks of being outside of China?"

Zihao replied, "Killing you would be a piece of cake. I know better than you."

"Yes, yes! Master, quick, save me!" Yu Lian was thrilled to see him that she had forgotten about her pain.

Zihao sneered, "You're utterly useless. Well, you've had a good life. I've given you plenty of supplements, and your flesh and blood are enough for my kids. I'll feed you two to my kids today!"

As he said that, a group of black poisonous insects appeared behind him and charged toward Yang Chen.

In a flash, Yang Chen's and Yu Lian's bodies were covered by black insects.

With a snort, Yang Chen decided to use the space laws to fight against Zihao. Although the latter's cultivation was superior to the Soul Forming stage, Yang Chen reckoned he was only in the Li Fire stage.

Swiftly, he tossed Yu Lian towards the insects and used the space laws to block the insects from him.

Yu Lian shrieked from terror but was immediately devoured to the bones by the insects. Before she breathed her last breath, she glared at Zihao as if asking why he had given up on her.

Zihao only cared about killing Yang Chen, whose physique was a treasure to him. For a pawn like Yu Lian, he could raise one whenever he wanted to.

“Huh? Is that the Gods’ legendary space laws? You’re a God?!” Zihao ignored Yu Lian completely and stared at Yang Chen in shock.

With the use of the space laws, Yang Chen moved Jang Xiaobai and his wife to the deck. Since the soldiers were in a hurry to run for their lives, they couldn’t care less about them.

At the same time, he built a space barrier over his body and teleported in front of Zihao, hoping to kill him before he could react!

Unfortunately, Zihao was prepared for that. Out of nowhere, he summoned another group of insects—fly-like green venomous insects that were the size of a thumb.

Shockingly, the insects managed to pierce through Yang Chen’s space barrier and bit him.

Zihao guffawed. “That’s all you’ve got? How dare you call yourself a God! My Ziwu green flies can carry True Yuan and pierce through the space laws!”

Yang Chen realized right after he was bit, the insects secreted a large volume of foul venom. They were trying to inject it into his body!

“Such a wicked technique!”

If it were not for his inhuman physique, he would have died immediately from the venom.

At that, Yang Chen used the space laws to explode the insects before charging towards Zihao.

Shocked, Zihao exclaimed, “You’re not affected by the venom? What kind of a monster are you!”

Although his cultivation was not exceptional, his poisonous animals could kill even cultivators far superior to him.

“Please, did you really think you can defeat me with these nasty bugs?”

Zihao had to admit that he was no match for Yang Chen’s physique.

Realising Yang Chen was continuously attacking him with the space laws, Zihao sent out groups of colorful poisonous insects to buy him some time.

Soon, the warship was quite shattered by the space laws. Sounds of explosions rang out incessantly. Some soldiers were dead or injured, while others had jumped into the sea to run for their lives.

The two kept attacking back and forth, but it was a tie.

Zihao felt that if the situation went on, the Gods would be alerted. Since he could not risk exposing his identity, he was forced to give up on Yang Chen’s body temporarily.

“A Thousand Spiders Poison!”

The True Yuan around Zihao sparkled with a green glow. Once again, he released a group of colorful spiders that were the size of his palm.

Yang Chen did not bother to defend himself against it since the venom would not harm him.

To his surprise, the spiders exploded right in front of him.

“Damn it! It’s a trick!” Yang Chen was frustrated.

He couldn’t care less about the venom, but the True Yuan within the spiders sent him flying meters back.

“I’ll take the sariras! See you next time!”

Zihao laughed when his plan worked. Then, he grabbed the sariras from the deck, ready to fly away!

Yang Chen’s heart sank. Zihao could conceal his aura and cultivation, so if he let him go, it would be impossible to find him again.

After all, he went through so much trouble to look for something that could subdue Chaos. Yang Chen would not let him take away the sariras.

Blazing with fury, Yang Chen glared at Zihao with a vicious gleam in his eyes.

“How dare you snatch it from me?! Everyone who dares snatch my things deserves to go to hell!”

Yang Chen snapped. In a fit of anger, he unleashed his cultivation.

So what if I’ll go crazy and kill thousands of people?! I’ll kill those who dare block my path!

In an Instant, his True Yuan transformed into a roaring surge of Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy.

At the same time, the Chaos Energy started moving to control his dantian and his mind!

Just you wait! I’ll deal with you once I retrieve the sariras!

Making use of his fury, Yang Chen suppressed Chaos and took control of his cultivation.

“Stop right there!”

In a flash, he overtook Zihao, who paled at his appearance.

Under the night sky, a giant hand made out of the Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy surrounded Zihao.

Zihao used everything he could to resist it, but his True Yuan was not a match for Yang Chen.

With blood trickling down his mouth, he shivered as he looked at the man who was unleashing a malicious aura.

“You... you are a cultivator?! No... it can’t be possible. Your cultivation... Are you at the pinnacle of Ruo Water?!”

Because the Nine Heavenly Lightning Tribulation was practically a legend, Zihao presumed only a cultivator in the Ruo Water-stage would have such capabilities.

As a matter of fact, with the Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy and the Chaos Energy, Yang Chen was technically at a Full Cycle of the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning!

However, because he did not have full control of his cultivation, the power he displayed was equivalent to the Ruo Water stage. Only when he advanced into the Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning realm would he be superior to all cultivators in the Ruo Water stage.

At that time, Yang Chen was not bothered to reply to Zihao. He was losing control over Chaos, so he grabbed the box containing the sariras anxiously.

With a simple flick, the high-tech box was crushed into pieces. The sariras floated in the air before Yang Chen, emitting a reddish-golden glow.

Upon sensing the sariras, Chaos moved more vigorously as if it was worried that Yang Chen would make full use of the sariras.

Yang Chen's senses were heightened greatly after recovering his newly improved cultivation.

He was thrilled to sense powerful energy on the sariras. It was the essence of Heaven and Earth, a calming energy of the Buddha that was refined from Ye Fire.

Judging by how terrified Chaos was, the sariras must be useful.

Suddenly, a question popped up in Yang Chen's mind. How should he use it?

Since Zihao was frightened out of his wits, Yang Chen figured he would not know a thing about that. After some thought, Yang Chen decided to put everything in his body!

With that in mind, he opened his mouth and swallowed the sariras!

Chapter 1434

Blinding Leaf

Initially, Yang Chen did not feel anything when he swallowed the sariras. Once it entered his stomach, Yang Chen used the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture to absorb it.

Something surprising happened!

The Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture used the Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy as the medium to absorb the Buddha's power from the sariras. With a reddish-golden glow, the power flowed through Yang Chen's body.

Yang Chen's soul was the first to feel its benefit as it thickened with Buddha's power. With that, Chaos would not be able to sway him as easily.

As for his dantian, Yang Chen could feel the Chaos Energy being oppressed by the tranquil power of the sariras.

He let out a breath.

The monks were not utterly useless after all. Although Yang Chen did not know the sariras came from which monk, he reckoned the monk must be from the Great Ancient times to have such great energy.

At that moment, Yang Chen felt soothed. He could easily control his cultivation, without feeling threatened by Chaos.

He balled his fists. There was a high similarity between Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy and Chaos Energy, so once he subdued Chaos, its energy mixed with him and was transformed into Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy.

He ascended to the Full Yang Chen of Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage at once. Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning tribulation once felt unimaginable to him, but at that instant, Yang Chen could feel a subtle change.

Although Chaos was still around, it was practically a caged beast. Since it would not affect his mind and soul, Yang Chen could not care less about it. In fact, he could use it like an ATM for more Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy.

Surprised by the scripture's ability to absorb and break down an artifact, Yang Chen was even considering collecting more artifacts and swallowing them.

Overjoyed that his cultivation was back, Yang Chen threw his head back and guffawed.

After that, he looked at Zihao with a mocking gaze.

Zihao was scared out of his wits, wondering about Yang Chen's identity. He knew the sariras were precious, so he kept scheming to get them without exposing himself. He was planning to research it afterward.

But Yang Chen showed up out of nowhere, snatched the sariras, and even ate it!

That was the heart of a giant Buddha! It might even be from the Great Ancient times, so it was impossible to find another treasure like that.

However, Zihao could not think about those. He only wanted to get out of there alive. The man before him was too powerful. His cultivation was on another level than him.

Noticing Yang Chen's gaze, Zihao thought he was thinking of a way to torment him.

"You have unparalleled cultivation, Master! I'm sorry for being a fool. Please let me go!" Zihao flattered him to get out of the dangerous situation.

Yang Chen said, "Answer my questions honestly, and I'll consider letting you go."

"Please ask!" Zihao dared not hide anything, for he knew with the disparity in their cultivation, it was hard to lie without getting caught.

Yang Chen pondered for a moment before asking, "Who are you? Where are you from? Why are you the head of the North Bureo clan? Why did you steal the sariras? Also, what did you use to conceal your cultivation?"

"Master, my real name is Master Insect. Zihao is just a fake name. I'm a Huang phase cultivator in Hongmeng. A hundred years ago, I was the Hongmeng Messenger. When I was traveling around China, I found an artifact from the Great Ancient times in the Kunlun Mountains. I call it Blinding Leaf. This artifact can conceal aura, change a person's physical appearance and whatnot. Even those with cultivation superior to could not sense it. That was how I thought of leaving Hongmeng and going overseas..."

Listening to Master Insect's recount, Yang Chen had a rough idea of his experience.

He knew that the other countries have more resources for cultivators which were far better than being constantly restricted in Hongmeng.

With Blinding Leaf, he came overseas. While he was in Korea, he met the head of the North Bureo clan which gave him the idea of using the clan's connections to scavenge resources from all over the world.

He used a hundred years to expand the clan, using the leader as a puppet to handle the affairs while he traveled all over the world to earn money to buy to even steal resources.

With the North Bureo clan, he was able to advance into the Li Fire tribulation despite his mediocre talent. However, it was tough to improve further.

The sariras were exactly what he needed. Although he was skilled at poison and curses, he was also familiar with Buddhism. Hence, he wanted to research the sariras for a chance of a breakthrough.

Unexpectedly, Yang Chen, who also needed the sariras, ruined his plan!

Yang Chen was in deep thought for a moment, and he asked thoughtfully, "So, you must have gathered a lot of resources for the past years?"

Master Insect understood that immediately. He nodded and replied, "That's right. Master, I have a treasury. If you want them, you can take them. Please let me go!"

"You're quick-witted. I also want Blinding Leaf. Also... give me the list of the important people in the North Bureo clan. Hmm... also... I can't think of anything now. That's all for now," Yang Chen said.

Master Insect was close to tears. He had given Yang Chen almost everything, and he was still asking for more.

Still, Master Insect figured he still had a chance to live since Yang Chen only wanted the resources. Although it would be hard to conceal himself without Blinding Leaf, he only needed to be careful and refrain from using his cultivation. Besides, the fight with Yang Chen did not attract any Gods or cultivators.

Unbeknownst to him, the Gods' absence was mostly related to Yang Chen. If Master Insect was alone, he could not have been that lucky.

Yang Chen made Master Insect hand in Blinding Leaf to him. He figured it should be similar to the missing Cap of Invisibility.

True to its name, it was a small golden leaf. Although it was considered a low-tiered artifact as it could not be used for offense and defense, its function was fascinating.

Whether he was carrying in on his body or in the space ring, it could still conceal his aura and cultivation. Moreover, depending on the amount of True Yuan used, he could also change his apparent cultivation and physical appearance.

Yang Chen snickered. He would be able to trick others into thinking he was only in Ruo Water. Then, suddenly he turned out to be in the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage! That would be exhilarating!

To stay low profile, Yang Chen changed his apparent cultivation to the starting phase of the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage, which was his cultivation before entering the Ten Thousand Demon Realm.

Then, he returned to the ship and treated Jiang Xiaobai's gunshot wound. Yang Chen transferred to him a surge of Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy, and he was immediately rejuvenated.

"Don't remember too much about today. I can save you, and I can kill you. Bring them back to Korea. I need to do something."

Yang Chen ignored Jiang Xiaobai's expression of gratitude and ordered Master Insect to bring him to the treasury.

Having lost Blinding Leaf, Master Insect recovered his original appearance—a scrawny old monk with a wretched face. Yang Chen thought it was fitting with his poisonous insects. After all, for him to reach Li Fire after three hundred years, he would surely be old.

Master Insect's treasury was built on an uninhabited island in Korea. It was his private territory and inside a small mountain contained his treasury.

"Master, these are all the resources I've gathered in the past years, including the herbs, fruits, iron, and spring water. I've used some of it to feed my kids while the rest are..."

As Master Insect introduced his treasure, he walked into the inner region and opened a heavy bronze door with his True Yuan.

Chapter 1435

Break Promise

It was very easy for a cultivator in the Tribulation Passing stage to make a cave.

As soon as Yang Chen stepped into the cave, he could feel the richness of the spiritual energy.

Around him were neatly placed jade bottles, containing spring water, herbs, and fruits. They were all well preserved. For most of them, he had heard it from Xiao Zhiqing while some were listed as rare resources in books.

Located at one corner was the iron, such as the frosty iron and fire iron. There were even extremely rare ones, like the colorful dark iron and gold iron. Those were used to forge upper-tier artifacts.

If Master Insect had the ability and a proper cauldron, he would have obtained plenty of artifacts by then.

However, Yang Chen also noticed something that made him furrow his brows—the pile of human bones at one corner.

Judging from the shape of the bones, they were mostly female. From the looks of it, the bones must have come from one thousand people at the very least.

"What with the bones?" Yang Chen asked.

Master Insect dared not hide anything from being under his oppression.

“Master... Those are the bones of young women whom I’ve fed my kids.”

Yang Chen frowned, deep in thought. He had heard about some wicked cultivation techniques that used blood and flesh as the medium.

Those who practiced such cultivation techniques were different from the demon cultivators he had met in the Ten Thousand Demon Realm. In the realm, only those who lost to their inner demon would go berserk and become a demon cultivator.

As for those who practiced such evil techniques, they harmed others for their own benefit. Although they were also fighting against the odds, one was brave and righteous while the other was malicious.

Master Insect had been in Korea for more than a century, so those women must have been abducted during that time. It was not surprising that he killed thousands of people since he could easily abduct a dozen people each time during the war.

Worried that Yang Chen would kill for that, he quickly defended himself. “Master, my cultivation technique was passed down to me by my master. I... I want to learn a better cultivation technique too, but this isn’t the Great Ancient times. It’s hard enough to get one that could bring me to the Soul Forming stage. Please let me off the hook for the sake of the resources I’ve given to you!”

With a deep voice, Yang Chen said, “Give me the list of the major personnel in the North Bureo clan.”

Master Insect nodded and a small book appeared out of nowhere.

“Hmph, so that’s a space ring. You have plenty of good stuff,” Yang Chen said as he took the book over.

Upon hearing that, Master Insect let out a wry smile and handed his space ring to Yang Chen.

He was hoping to keep it since it had quite a lot of resources in it too. Unfortunately, he had to give it up to stay alive.

Yang Chen checked the ring with his divine sense. That ring was almost the same size as the Sumeru ring he had given to Hui Lin. He could give it to the other ladies. The thought of it pleased him, but he was more pleased to see the rare herbs in it.

With that, he could concoct more pills that were unattainable by Hongmeng and the hidden clans to boost his and the other ladies’ cultivation.

“Master, I’ve given everything to you. Can I go now? I swear I won’t harm others anymore and I’ll never show up in front of you again...”

Master Insect was already prepared to leave.

Yang Chen fiddled with the new ring and smirked, “You need to leave one more thing here.”

“Wh-what?” Master Insect touched the items on his body, but he only found the beads bracelet valuable enough. Still, it was nothing special.

“Your life...”

Once Yang Chen uttered those two words, Master Insect freaked out.

“Master! How could you break your promise! You said I only need to give you...”

Yang Chen guffawed. “I’m not a master, nor am I a hero. I only know that a hypocrite as wicked as you does not deserve to live!”

By then, Master Insect knew he had fallen for Yang Chen’s trap.

He wanted to flee, but Yang Chen refused to give him the chance. As he stretched his fingers, a strong surge of Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy was released from his palm. It moved like a silver dragon claw which grabbed Master Insect!

At that instant, Master Insect’s body was covered by a cloud of black smoke. He was trying to get out of there with his poisonous insects.

Unfortunately for him, Yang Chen’s Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy was mixed with Chaos, hence it could engulf the spiritual energy in the poisonous insects.

“I’ll find you even when I’m a ghost... You-”

Master Insect had yet to finish his threat when his body flattened and shattered into a surge of spiritual energy.

He did not have the chance to be a ghost as even his soul was engulfed.

In just a few seconds, Master Insect dissolved into nothing. His spiritual energy entered Yang Chen’s dantian and was transformed into the Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy.

Yang Chen was also surprised by it, for he did not expect the Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy to have such an effect. He was even thinking about doing it but the Energy just absorbed Master Insect on its own.

That meant that he no longer needed to use the Chaos Cauldron to absorb the spiritual beings.

Plus, because of the Chaos Energy, Yang Chen would not have to worry about his True Yuan being mixed with different energy since Chaos itself was the ultimate form of disorderly.

Still, there was a possibility that Master Insect’s cultivation level was far weaker than his, so he could be engulfed easily. If it were a powerful opponent, it would be difficult to break down their True Yuan and absorb it. Yang Chen knew better that he could not depend on that to win all battles.

With that settled, Yang Chen started to organize Master Insect’s wealth.

For the past century, Master Insect had been in control of the North Bureo clan, hence most of the money they earned went to his pocket. Although he used a lot, he still saved a significant amount.

Yang Chen made a rough calculation. There were around hundreds of billions of dollars here, not including the good bars Master Insect had deposited in banks all around the world.

The realization made Yang Chen laugh. He had just lost billions for giving petroleum to the government and someone immediately gave him money to refill his own pocket.

As for the book of names, Yang Chen merely glanced through it and saw there were no familiar names on it. He thought the Gong family was suspicious, but their names were not there. Yang Chen figured he was being too skeptical.

At the same time, he did not plan to do anything with the list. Since they lost their leader, surely they would fight amongst themselves to take the position. That was the Korean government's problem, not his. After all, he only cared about the clan's wealth, not the members.

Yang Chen looked around and was thrilled to see the resources around him. Then, as he walked, he put them into his space ring.

He recognized some of the stuff, but the ones he did not recognize were rich in spiritual energy. Hence, Yang Chen made a mental note to ask Xiao Zhiqing about them.

When he saw a crimson red fruit inside a jade bottle, he froze.

"This... Is this..."

It took him some time to regain his senses. Once he did, he quickly took out the book Yu Xuening had given to him. After checking the name of that fruit, he suppressed his joy and kept it in his ring.

Yang Chen was no longer interested in looking at the rest of the stuff. He just stuffed it in his ring and left after making sure the cave was emptied.

Then, he flew to the sky and unleashed a beam of Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy to the mountain.

With a thunderous rumbling sound, the mountain collapsed. Soon, the seawater flooded the small island.

Once the island was nowhere to be seen, Yang Chen hummed and returned to Seoul.

Chapter 1436

Guilty Beast

The danger in Seoul had been solved as the bombs were discovered with the use of high technology equipment. The guests of the ceremony had also returned home.

Due to the incident, the wedding ceremony between the Park family and Kim family at Jogyesa was unlikely to take place.

Back at the Park residence, Park Cheon had just got off the phone with the person in charge.

Judging from his furrowed brows, the Parks and Kims knew that they were not allowed to proceed with the wedding ceremony.

Kim Yang said, "Sir, we can't do anything about it. After all, no one would've expected the terrorist attack. We can just do it on another day."

“Yes, yes, Grandpa! It’s too rushed to change the location of the wedding ceremony. Besides, the emergency had just ended. It’s not a good omen for a wedding,” Zhenxiu said eagerly. She wanted to seize the opportunity and call off the wedding.

On the other hand, Kim Jip seemed calm as if he was not bothered by it.

Noticing the joy on Zhenxiu’s face, Park Cheon recalled something which made him grit his teeth. “No! The invitations have been sent out. All the preparations have been completed. Tomorrow is a good day, so the wedding must go on!”

The Parks were not surprised by it since they were familiar with Park Cheon’s personality. He was never one to give up easily.

Frustrated, Zhenxiu stomped her feet. “Grandpa! Why are you in such a hurry to marry me off?! I don’t like Kim Jip!”

“Quiet! How could you say that here!” Park Cheon chastised her.

Kim Yang smiled and said, “It’s not surprising that Ms. Zhenxiu doesn’t like my son. It’s all right. Most marriages in families like ours are marriages of convenience. It takes time for their feelings to develop.”

“You should be thankful that the Kims are forgiving. When will you understand your duty as the heir?” Park Cheon shook his head and sighed.

Zhenxiu clenched her teeth and glared at them. “I hate all of you!”

With that, she stalked upstairs.

Eunjung went after her worriedly, calling Zhenxiu’s name as she did.

Kim Jip, who had been silent the whole time, glanced upstairs silently with an odd gleam in his eyes.

“Dad, since we can’t use Jogyesa, do you need me to look for a new venue?” Park Cheon’s second daughter, Park Jiyeon asked.

Ever since the incident with Park Jonghyun, no one in the Park family dared to rebel against Park Cheon. Besides, Park Cheon had recovered and chose Zhenxiu as his heir. They knew their place and dared not cross the line, for fear of upsetting Park Cheon.

“Contact all the guests and tell them we will have the ceremony at Starmoon Villa. Carry all the stuff there tonight. I need it to be perfectly done!”

Park Jiyeon nodded and proceeded to carry out his orders with her husband.

On the second floor, Zhenxiu was throwing a tantrum, hitting her bed vigorously.

Eunjung stood at the doorway helplessly. She knew Zhenxiu would not listen to her, so she could only watch her.

Suddenly, Zhenxiu sat up, tidied her hair, and picked up her phone from the desk.

“Miss, who are you calling?”

While dialing the number, Zhenxiu replied, "I want to ask if Brother Yang has returned. I want him to bring me out of here."

.....

On the other hand, Jane sat in the lobby of the Hilton Hotel the whole afternoon. While waiting for Yang Chen, she took out her tablet and drew on it for a while. Some rich young man even walked over and tried hitting on her, but she did not entertain them.

Jane was not worried about Yang Chen. Probably because she had admired him since young, she believed that he would survive past all hardships and return unharmed.

After yawning for the umpteenth time, a familiar figure finally showed up in front of her.

"Yang Chen?" Immediately, she could sense something different about him from his expression. "Dear, you've recovered your cultivation?!" she exclaimed.

Yang Chen chuckled and pecked her on the lips.

"I gained a lot this time. Honey, it was a blessing in disguise. I think God really likes me." Yang Chen smiled smugly.

Jane was happy for him. Curious, she urged, "Quick, tell me what happened!"

Having nothing to hide, Yang Chen recounted the whole incident to her.

Wide-eyed, Jane uttered in disbelief, "That Zihao... I mean, Master Insect, he's so good at hiding that he tricked all of us."

"It's because of the Blinding Leaf. I can conceal my cultivation with it and even change my appearance. It's truly fascinating," Yang Chen praised.

Just when he wanted to talk about the resources, his phone rang.

Yang Chen answered the call, "Zhenxiu? What's wrong?"

"Brother Yang, are you all right?" Zhenxiu asked.

"Yeah, of course, I'm fine." Yang Chen smiled. She still cares a lot about me although she ignored me in the morning.

"That's great! Brother Yang, bring me away, please. I really don't want to marry Kim Jip. Grandpa said he's changing the venue and that the wedding has to go in. I... I really don't want to marry him..." Zhenxiu's voice was shaky.

Yang Chen was silent for a while. After taking a deep breath, he said, "Zhenxiu, I'm just an outsider. Even though I want to take care of you, you have a real family. Your grandfather won't harm you. He only wants you to have everything. You should be more considerate of his feelings. Try to get to know Kim Jip. He's not a bad person..."

"No! I don't want to hear this! Brother Yang, you're the same as them! No one understands me! I hate you!"

Zhenxiu threw her phone away in a fit of anger.

Yang Chen shrugged. Zhenxiu's call had suppressed his earlier joy.

"Are you sure you won't regret it? Even if you're unwilling to accept her feelings for you, you shouldn't force her to marry someone she doesn't like," Jane said.

Yang Chen touched his forehead in exasperation. "To be honest, I don't know how I feel about Zhenxiu. Sometimes I think of her as my childish younger sister, but sometimes she acts so maturely that I can't read her mind. You know that I can't give her a title or a complete love. What if afterward, she realized her feelings for me stemmed from gratitude? Won't I be blamed for changing her life? Besides, I'm not the right person for her. When Hui Lin and I started dating, Ruoxi said I was worse than a beast. I felt the same too. I... I dare not imagine the guilt I'll feel if Zhenxiu insists on being with me..."

"In the end, you still care about Lin Ruoxi's feelings. Even though your marriage is practically over, you can't stop thinking about her. That's disheartening." Jane pouted.

Yang Chen smiled sheepishly. "I can't stop myself from feeling guilty. How did someone like me manage to win your heart? Besides, my further enemies could be very dangerous at an unimaginable level. Zhenxiu might be in danger if we get together. From the book I received from Master Insect, it showed that the Kims, Parks and Gongs do not have members of the North Bureo clan. So, although I know she doesn't like Kim Jip, I don't wish to stop the wedding. Because I know it'll be a peaceful life for her."

Jane did not say anything since she was not fond of the idea of having another woman date Yang Chen. She then wrapped her arms around his arm to go upstairs, hoping to see the things Yang Chen had brought back.

Yang Chen had a different plan. "Jane, go back to the room first. I need to make a trip to Zhonghai and ask Qing'er to verify something for me. I'll be back when it's settled."

Chapter 1437

Phoenix's Blood Fruit

The thing he wanted her to review was none other than that red fruit in the jade bottle.

If it turned out to be what he had guessed, it would be extremely useful for him!

Since Yang Chen had recovered his cultivation, it only took a few minutes for him to return to Zhonghai. Soon, he was already standing on the balcony outside Xiao Zhiqing's room.

As it was the dead of the night, she was already fast asleep. Yang Chen, too excited to wait any longer, knocked on the glass door.

Xiao Zhiqing woke up to the noise. With a groggy expression, she turned on the light switch. When she saw Yang Chen grinning outside the window, she rubbed her eyes and made sure she was not dreaming.

Immediately, she jumped out of bed and ran to open the door for him. "Hubby, why are you here?"

After a brief moment, she exclaimed, "You recovered your cultivation!"

Yang Chen nodded and pulled her to the bed. After sitting down together, he recounted the incident in Seoul to her. Lastly, he said, "I obtained a lot of herbs. I recognize most of them, and plenty of them can be used to concoct upper-rank medicinal pills and some can be used for forging upper-rank artifacts. Since I don't know how to forge artifacts, I'd like to start with the pills. I found this amongst the herbs, but I wasn't sure if it's the spiritual fruit I had in mind. So I came over to ask you."

As he said the last sentence, he retrieved the jade bottle and put it on Xiao Zhiqing's hands.

Under the light, a faint red round fruit could be seen through the translucent jade bottle. Once the bottle was opened, a refreshing surge of spiritual energy was emitted.

Xiao Zhiqing stared at the item inside unblinking for a long while. Then, she sniffed it. With an overjoyed expression, she uttered, "Hubby, I... I never knew such a spiritual fruit existed in this world. There's no doubt that this is the Phoenix's Blood Fruit!"

"It's really the Phoenix's Blood Fruit!?" Even though Yang Chen had a rough guess earlier on, the affirmation from Xiao Zhiqing still made him spring out of bed.

"The legend has it that dragons and phoenixes exist in the Great Ancient times. The dragon was an actual mythical being, the ancestors of the dragons in the Ten Thousand Demon Realm. As for the phoenixes, they were immortal and had come into existence due to the will to land on the parasol tree. Since they were immortal, the only thing that could make them be reincarnated and go through the suffering in six realms was their tears—the Phoenix's Cry of Blood. They only shed tears when they are moved by something. That tear would turn into blood, and any fruit that touched the blood would evolve into Phoenix's Blood Fruit, far more powerful than any herbs!"

Xiao Zhiqing continued, "I don't know how Master Insect obtained it, but I guess he knew nothing about it and only stored it in a good jade bottle because of the spiritual energy it possessed. You have to know that the spiritual energy within one Phoenix's Blood Fruit is enough to add a century's worth of cultivation to someone whose cultivation level is greater than the Soul Forming stage. He must be thinking of using it after finding out its function. Unfortunately, someone got to it before him!"

"This is all thanks to the Gods for arriving at Earth or else the cultivators in China would have found this. The monk wouldn't have had a chance to get it. Hehe, I got lucky. With this fruit, I can concoct the most powerful medicinal pill in the book, the dragon forming pill, which would help you guys to break through the Xiantian stage!"

Yang Chen could not suppress his joy. He had been intrigued by the dragon-forming pill from the moment he saw the formula. After all, it would take a long time for the ladies to advance into the Xiantian stage based on their efforts.

However, with the dragon forming pill, it could strengthen their cultivation and physique without any side effects.

Though, the only downside was the excruciating pain they would have to suffer.

At that time, he was disappointed that he had all the rare ingredients except for the Phoenix's Blood Fruit that seemingly only existed in legends.

“What? Hubby, are you planning to concoct the dragon-forming pill?” Xiao Zhiqing frowned, appearing to be conflicted.

Yang Chen was surprised. “Qing’er, what’s wrong? Is it not useful?”

“No. Dragon forming pill is a long-lost formula, and its effect far surpasses any other pills. But...”

She sighed. “I think you can have two centuries’ worth of cultivation if you ate the fruit yourself. Then, you might have the chance to advance into the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning stage. By then, Hongmeng and the hidden clans would dare not cross you. On the other hand, if you concoct the dragon forming pill, the girls can advance into the Xiantian stage, but to reach the Soul Forming stage, it would depend on their encounter and comprehension. Their powers would not increase greatly, and the only thing that would benefit them would only be a longer lifespan. They won’t be able to help you in battles.”

Yang Chen’s gaze softened when he heard that. He stroked her hair and said softly, “I know you’re concerned about me, but what’s the point for me to get stronger if I have to watch you guys get old day by day. I’m not living my life for myself. Besides, I was lucky to survive the Tai Qing Heavenly Lightning tribulation last time. I bet the Shang Qing Heavenly Lightning tribulation would only be even stronger. I might not survive it. So I would rather work hard in my cultivation to prepare myself for it.”

Xiao Zhiqing knew he would say that. She pouted and said, “You said so yourself. I don’t want to be old, so you have to cure my body for me.”

Yang Chen was baffled. “What? The dragon-forming pill doesn’t cure your Nine Yin Meridian body?”

Xiao Zhiqing smiled wryly. “Only those in the pinnacle of the Houtian stage can withstand the dragon forming pill. Since I can’t cultivate, I’ll die from being overflowed from spiritual energy in the pill. Only a cultivation technique that disperses the Nine Yin Cold or a super Yang artifact would be able to cure my body. However, I’ve yet to see something like that in the current world.”

Xiao Zhiqing had been suppressing the bitterness in her heart, having been forced to watch her beloved and friends enter another stage one by one. She was well-educated and yet was not given the chance to put her knowledge into practice.

Yang Chen’s heart felt heavy too. He pulled her into his arms and comforted her, “Don’t worry. You’re still young. Besides, I’m very lucky, so I’m sure I’ll stumble upon something sooner or later. I’ll cure you.”

Xiao Zhiqing was swelled with warmth when she heard that. Tears welled up in her eyes as she nodded and hummed in agreement.

Yang Chen comforted her for some time. Once she was all cheered up, Yang Chen returned to Seoul.

After all, he had to attend Zhenxiu’s wedding ceremony, which would in a sense be a farewell to her. He hoped that one day she would come to realize an ordinary life was hard to come by.

Xiao Zhiqing stood at the balcony and watched his retreating figure. The cold wind blew against her skin, the smile on her face vanishing as she looked up at the starry sky. At that moment, she was shrouded by loneliness.

On the next day, Yang Chen walked out of the suite in Hilton Hotel while holding hands with Jane.

The couple did not sleep the whole night as they had a heated discussion over their future plans.

Jane was naturally excited to hear that Yang Chen had a way to improve their cultivation quickly. Still, she was meticulous about it. Since it was unsafe for the news about the dragon forming pill to leak out, Jane suggested sending everyone to the Forgotten Realms where they would advance to the Xiantian stage together under Yang Chen's protection.

Thus, for the rest of the night, Yang Chen called his other ladies to head to Zhonghai. Lanlan would also join them at the island since her classes had yet to start.

Everyone else was taken care of except for Lin Ruoxi. Yang Chen's head throbbed at the thought of her. He kept wanting to send her all the good stuff but was worried that she would be angry at him and ignore him.

They got into the lift. On their way to the lobby, the lift stopped at a floor and a young couple walked in. The woman was holding onto her husband's arm tightly with a sweet expression on her face.

However, when they noticed Yang Chen and Jane in the lift, their faces stiffened, and they smiled awkwardly at them.

Jane saw right through them and asked with an ambiguous tone, "Zhang Ru? Is this your husband?"

Chapter 1438

Treat Her Well

Zhang Ru nodded immediately and said, "Yes, Ms. Jane. His name is Jiang Xiaobai."

Yang Chen tutted and remarked, "You two are so lovey-dovey now. Jiang Xiaobai is pretty quick huh."

The couple felt embarrassed.

After returning to Seoul last night, the joy of escaping the jaws of death made the couple bury the hatchet. Their hearts were reconnected.

For the rest of the night, they had a passionate lovemaking session. Since Yang Chen healed Jiang Xiaobai, he was rejuvenated. As if he wanted to make it up for their lost time, he did not stop until he was thoroughly satisfied.

That was why Zhang Ru looked as if she was glowing, prompting Jane and Yang Chen to tease her.

Still, the couple was thankful to Yang Chen for saving them last night. If it wasn't for him, they would have died in the sea. Naturally, they would not say a word about the incident.

Once they arrived at the lobby, Yang Chen found out that Zhang Ru was about to resign from her work before the couple returned to Zhonghai.

After some hesitation, Jiang Xiaobai beckoned Yang Chen to a corner and bowed to him.

"There's no need to thank me. I'd rather you leave me alone the next time I kill someone in Zhonghai," Yang Chen said with a smile.

Jiang Xiaobai grinned. “Young Master Yang, I work for the government. Even though I’m indebted to you, I’ll still separate work and personal life. You might not care about my gratitude, but I still want to thank you formally. Thank you, Young Master Yang. You made me believe that as long as I love my wife and treat her well, she would surely understand my feelings.”

Yang Chen was startled. Then, he shook his head. “That’s not completely true. It’s because you two still love each other.”

Jiang Xiaobai replied, “Maybe. But if we didn’t have feelings for each other, we wouldn’t have gotten married. No matter what happens in the future, I’ll always treat Xiao Ru well even if she’s angry with me or misunderstands me. Regardless of what she thinks, I’m determined to treat her well.”

While looking at the confident look on Jiang Xiaobai’s face, Yang Chen was reminded of him and Lin Ruoxi.

Yeah, regardless of what she thinks, I have the freedom to treat her well. There’s no need to overthink things...

After bidding farewell to Jiang Xiaobai and Zhang Ru, Yang Chen listened to Jane’s advice and went to buy a Giorgio Armani suit as the outfit to wear to the wedding.

As for Jane, she chose a simple white BV dress to not overshadow the bride. Coincidentally, it matched Yang Chen’s outfit.

Once everything was settled, they headed to Starmoon villa—a vast and glamorous villa built by Starmoon Group in Seoul. As it contained all sorts of basic facilities, they did not need to make many preparations for the wedding.

Park Cheon was initially talking to some big shots in the political and corporate world, but upon seeing Yang Chen and Jane, he immediately left them to greet Yang Chen.

For someone as influential as him, he knew a thing or two about the incident on the high seas.

Once the military arrived at the two yachts, they bumped into a New Zealand warship and found the clan members whose corpses were in an awful state.

According to the survivors from the North Bureo clan, one person broke into the commanding room and did the deeds.

Park Cheon put the pieces together and reckoned it must have something to do with Yang Chen.

Since Yang Chen was a true elite, Park Cheon was eager to curry favor with him.

“Mr. Yang, Dr. Jane, you two are late. I was worried you would miss out on the wedding,” he said in a very friendly tone.

“Of course, I have to attend Zhenxiu’s wedding. Sir, you can just greet the other guests. We’ll just walk around.”

Park Cheon was displeased to hear that. “Are you saying that a businessman like me isn’t worthy of your company? No guests in this wedding are comparable to you!”

Yang Chen frowned slightly. Then, he smiled when he realized Park Cheon must have known about his doings on the high seas.

Park Cheon tried to get more information from him, but Yang Chen only gave him vague replies. After all, if he really admitted it, it would be equivalent to telling him he took the sariras. Although Yang Chen was not afraid of trouble, he preferred to be careful.

Knowing that his presence was not welcomed, Park Cheon chuckled dryly and left them alone.

Yang Chen and Jane asked about the bride's room and moved on in search of Zhenxiu.

When they arrived at a white house within the villa, a bodyguard stopped them.

Eunjung ran out of the house and said with an apologetic expression, "Mr. Yang, Ms. Jane, I'm sorry. Miss said she doesn't want to meet you two."

Although Yang Chen was mentally prepared to hear that, he was still disappointed. Even so, he was not angry at her, merely feeling sorry for rejecting her.

At that, they returned to the yard, sat on their seats near to the first row, and waited for the wedding ceremony to start.

On the other hand, Zhenxiu was sitting before the mirror, dressed in a wedding dress while the maids did the finishing touches.

However, the dark look on the bride's face was evident. Her eyes were slightly red from not having a good night's sleep last night.

Eunjung walked in and reported, "Miss, I've stopped Mr. Yang and Ms. Jane from coming in as per your order."

Zhenxiu hummed as a response. Still, her heart was aching. He really didn't come in just because I said so. Does he care about me at all?

At that thought, Zhenxiu's heart turned cold. The feeling of disappointment was making her feel stuffy.

Yang Chen, who was sitting in his seat, felt restless for no reason. The thought of Zhenxiu becoming someone else's wife made him shake his legs uncontrollably.

Jane saw his odd behavior but merely shook her head and said nothing.

Finally, with the melodious piano sound playing, the wedding ceremony officially began.

The whole villa was decorated with pink and white flowers. As the professional band from Vienna played the Wedding March, the guests tilted their heads to watch the groom and bride walk towards the altar.

Yang Chen was in a daze when Jane pulled him up. In the next second, he saw Zhenxiu, who was dressed as a princess, walking forward with her hand in Park Cheon's.

The petals were floating in the air, adding a festive mood to the wedding, but everything felt so far away from him.

He felt as if he was in a vacuumed space where he could smell or hear nothing. The only person he could see was Zhenxiu's approaching figure.

With the veil covering her face, her expression was concealed. Still, he could see the reluctance in her steps.

Kim Jip, donning a white suit, was already waiting for her at the altar. As usual, he had an aloof expression which made it seem as if he was just the bodyguard for the groom instead of the groom himself.

Finally, with Park Cheon's support, Zhenxiu walked before Kim Jip. She glanced at Yang Chen briefly before turning to face her groom.

Park Cheon smiled a little as if glad that the wedding was going on smoothly.

Just when he was about to give Zhenxiu's hand to Kim Jip, something happened suddenly!

Zhenxiu staggered and collapsed to the floor as if she lost all her energy.

That caused an uproar in the crowd.

Everyone including Park Cheon, Kim Yang, and Kim Jip were shocked.

"Zhenxiu!"

Yang Chen was the first one to snap out of it. He dashed towards Zhenxiu and pulled her veil off, revealing her ghastly pale face. She was struggling to breathe, her pupils constricting as her body spasmed violently.

"Zhenxiu! Wh-what happened! Don't frighten me!" Park Cheon cried and knelt next to her.

"Get out of the way! I'm a doctor!"

Jane squeezed past the crowd and rushed toward Zhenxiu. Then, she checked her eyes to examine her condition. With a sharp gaze, she uttered, "She has been poisoned!"

Chapter 1439

Have Her Dead

"Poisoned? How is that possible!" Park Cheon was horrified.

Jane did not bother to respond to him. Instead, she turned to Yang Chen and said, "Hubby, bring Zhenxiu somewhere quiet."

Yang Chen couldn't care less and carried Zhenxiu to the nearest bungalow. Although his movements were fast, he tried to be as careful as possible so that the girl in his arms would not feel uncomfortable.

Jane followed him quickly. Once they entered the bungalow, Jane told him, "Based on my experience and understanding, Zhenxiu is displaying symptoms of potassium cyanide poisoning. Upon coming into contact with heat in the air, it can absorb water and carbon dioxide and release hydrogen cyanide. It can cause body spasms, difficulty in breathing and affect blood circulation leading to death!"

Yang Chen put Zhenxiu down on the sofa. Seeing that she was spasming uncontrollably, her pupils dilating, he yelled, "I don't care what poisoned her! How should we save her?"

Frowning, Jane pondered for a moment before saying, "It's too late for any emergency treatment. Hubby, why don't you use the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture and the pills? Inject the spiritual energy into her meridians to strengthen her cells. Once they are strong enough, they could metabolize and eliminate the toxin quickly! Then Zhenxiu may survive past this critical period!"

Yang Chen knew there was no time for delay. He had done toxin elimination before, but not with something as complex as this! Swiftly, he took out a dragon guarding pill and fed it to Zhenxiu. At that moment, its rarity could not bother him.

If anyone from the cultivation world saw that, they would have berated him for wasting such a precious treasure.

As the dragon guarding pill could strengthen one's physique and speed up the process of the spiritual energy coursing through the body, it was the best time to use it.

After feeding it to Zhenxiu, Yang Chen started operating the Endless Resolve Restoration Scripture and helped her dissolve the pill so that it could reach all her meridians.

At that moment, the Parks and a big group of guests had arrived at the building. Jane walked out to the door to keep them outside. "Sir, if you believe in us, do not come in! Or you'll have to pay the price!"

In that instance, Jane was emitting an aura of nobility that stirred up reverence within them.

Shaking with fear, Park Cheon was dying to look inside. However, when he recalled Jane's outstanding medical skills and Yang Chen's magical abilities, he gritted his teeth and said, "All right! No one is allowed to go in!"

The bodyguards immediately surrounded the area. At that, the guests left one by one.

"Sir, I advise you to seal off the area in which Zhenxiu had stayed before. Everyone here is a suspect. Once Zhenxiu is out of danger, we have to catch the culprit," Jane said calmly.

Park Cheon finally snapped out of his trance and ordered his people to take care of it.

"Dr. Jane, Zhenxiu is my life. She can't be in danger... I... Please, save her!"

While saying so, Park Cheon bent his knees to kneel before her.

Jane held his arms and comforted him, "Don't worry. According to my observations, the dose of poison wasn't huge. That's why she didn't die immediately. She has a high chance of recovery."

Jane dared not be too confident. After all, with a poison like potassium cyanide, she could not have saved Zhenxiu without ye.

Whoever it was, the culprit must be dead set on killing her!

Reminded of something, she told Park Cheon, "Sir, I need some equipment and medicine. I know someone in the local institute of chemistry. Please send someone to retrieve the items for me."

Knowing that Jane wanted to locate the crime scene, he agreed to her request immediately.

Time ticked away. The supposedly joyous occasion turned gloomy as the band stopped playing. The vibrantly dressed servers stood in the yard with blank expressions on their faces.

The guests had yet to leave. Although they appeared to be concerned about the bride's safety, in truth, they had different opinions about it. Those who had collaborations with the Parks wished only the best for them, while those preying on them wished the opposite.

Nonetheless, they were all waiting to hear from Zhenxiu.

On the sofa in the living room where the trio was, Yang Chen had been eliminating the toxin from Zhenxiu's body, round after round. Beads of black blood were formed on her skin. Other than the chemical toxins, he had also eliminated other toxins from her body.

A nasty stench filled the room, but Yang Chen was relieved to see that her heart rate and breathing rate had stabilised. Color had returned to her face too.

He then converted a surge of Heaven and Earth Restoration Energy to a water spiritual energy to clean the toxins off her skin.

Jane, who had been guarding the door, was relieved to see that. She patted her chest and approached him. "Thank goodness you're here, or Zhenxiu would've died today."

Gently, Yang Chen reached out to touch Zhenxiu's warm cheek and tucked her hair behind her ear.

It was supposed to be her wedding, but she almost died.

The fact that someone had tried to kill her caused a dark look to creep into Yang Chen's eyes.

"Did you go out to survey the crime scene just now?" Yang Chen asked.

"Yeah. I've found out the mode of operation, but I still haven't found out the culprit," Jane replied while furrowing her brows.

Yang Chen sneered, "They can't do it without attending the wedding. The culprit must be someone in the villa. Investigate them one by one, and we'll surely catch them."

As soon as the couple walked out of the bungalow, a group of people surrounded them.

Upon knowing that Zhenxiu was safe, Park Cheon kneeled before Yang Chen out of joy.

"Mr. Yang, can I go in and look at Zhenxiu?" Yang Chen asked expectantly.

"No!" Yang Chen announced, "Everyone here is a suspect until the culprit is caught. I forbid anyone from coming close to the bungalow! Stay far away!"

Most of the people were displeased to hear his orders.

"Who are you? Why should we listen to you?" An influential official jeered.

Yang Chen's face was dark as he uttered, "Come nearer if you dare, and I'll treat you as the prime suspect."

That gave them the shudders. However, they did not know Yang Chen's words bore murderous intent. On the contrary, the experienced bodyguards sensed it and cowered.

Knowing that Yang Chen was speaking the truth, he took the lead to leave first.

The guests did not want to be treated as suspects, so they retreated to the yard.

At that moment, Jane raised Zhenxiu's veil that had been sealed in a plastic bag and said, "Everyone, please have a look at this. This is the item used to poison Ms. Zhenxiu. The culprit applied potassium cyanide on the veil. When Ms. Zhenxiu heated the veil with her breath, the potassium cyanide on it released hydrogen cyanide. I've asked around. The wedding gown was not guarded. So, most guests had the opportunity to touch the veil and poison it when the wedding gown was transported to the villa and the bride's room. It does not require any complicated technique, so anyone could do it. Hence, we'd like to ask for everyone's cooperation in the investigation."

Yang Chen stood before the crowd and raised his voice. "No one is allowed to leave until we complete the investigations. Those who have grudges with the Parks, whether in private or in public, current or the past, step forth!"

"You've got to be kidding me! You should start with the maids and makeup artists first. They are the most logical suspects!" A guest snapped.

"I don't need you to tell me that. They would have to undergo an investigation, too. Besides, why would they poison the wedding gown when they would be the first to be suspected?"

That guest's face turned red with shame. "If you want to know who bears the biggest grudge against the Parks, it would surely be the Gongs!"

Gong Gyechung and Gong Woo glared at that guest. If he were not from a traditional noble family, they would have fought him there and then.

"We would not do something as despicable as this! Ms. Zhenxiu may have rejected my son, but my father is close to President Park. Our families are close with each other," Gong Gyechung defended himself.

Another guest tutted and taunted, "Please, no one would believe that. Everyone knew how much you wanted President Park to stay on his sickbed and how you coerced them to marry Ms. Zhenxiu to your son. We're not fools!"

At that moment, all the guests only wanted to get out of the problematic situation. Since Park Cheon was furious, it was the best time to deal a blow to other families.

The Gongs knew they were the prime target. Because of the past incidents, they had the most plausible motives to commit such a crime.

At that, they were swelled with indignation. "We did not do it! Father, there's no need to entertain them. No one would dare to stop us from walking out of here!" Gong Woo uttered coldly and gave Yang Chen a side-eye.

Gong Gyechung cackled. "That's right! You guys are a bunch of rabid dogs who target others to save yourselves. Do you really think we would be afraid of you guys?!"

Then, he pointed at Yang Chen and smirked. "How dare a Chinese man intervene with our matters? Keep spewing nonsense, and I'll have the police arrest you!"

Chapter 1440

Did I Ask About Your Nationality?

Upon hearing that, the crowd finally remembered their identities in the upper-class society of Korea. Most of them were millionaires in Asia, so why should they listen to Yang Chen?

Plus, they only attended the wedding out of respect for Park Cheon.

The Gongs were gloating over it. They pushed the guests out of the way and stalked to the parking lot.

The guests felt humiliated for being frightened by Yang Chen. Displeased with the fact that Gong Gyechung could pull off such a heroic act, they glared at Yang Chen in disdain.

Park Cheon, too, realized this. Some of the guests were more influential than him and could not be coerced to cooperate with the investigations.

As the crowd dispersed, some were starting to discuss their next gathering, deliberately annoying Yang Chen.

However, Yang Chen seemed unfazed and caught up to the Gongs.

Seeing Yang Chen following them, Gong Gyechung turned around and jeered, "Why? Are you still trying to confine us? Don't you know that we're a lawful country? You'll be jailed for confining the citizens..."

Yang Chen ignored him and walked to the wedding car which was parked at the side of the yard.

Under everyone's curious gaze, Yang Chen put his hands on the bonnet and the undercarriage.

What is he trying to do? Move the car?! The crowd thought in unison.

At that next second, the scene that unfolded before them baffled them.

As if he was crying a giant bubble wrap, the wedding car was lifted over Yang Chen's head with metal creaking sounds.

The car which weighed two tonnes was light as a feather on Yang Chen's hands!

It was nothing for Yang Chen and Jane, but in the eyes of the guests, Yang Chen was no different from a monster.

The Gongs finally recollected themselves, their mouths slacked as they took a few steps back.

"You... What are you trying to do?!" Gong Gyechung asked with a shaky voice.

.....Emotionlessly, Yang Chen strode to them with the car raised above his head.

Overwhelmed with shock, Gong Gyechung failed to realize that the car had cast a shadow over him.

A thunderous thud sounded right after Yang Chen swung the car towards Gong Gyechung like a bat.

Immediately, his brain exploded into blood and flesh, his bones cracking into pieces one by one.

Yang Chen ignored all the horrified shrieks and continued to pound Gong Gyechung with the car.

It was like he was mincing his body, using the car as a knife.

Gong Gyechung died before he even realized it. His corpse was flattened to a pile of flesh, his bones broken to shards. Even his intestines and blood were splattered across the yard.

Yang Chen was stained with blood, some of the flesh even fell onto his face.

When Yang Chen threw the broken car aside, the whole venue was so silent that one could hear a pin drop. The guests were all holding their breaths.

The only one who seemed normal was Jane. After all, he was used to watching his inhumane brutality.

Yang Chen wiped the blood and flesh off his face and licked his red lips before sweeping his gaze across everyone.

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At that moment, even Park Cheon, who was always calm and composed, started to fear him.

On the other hand, Yang Chen was exasperated. He was not pretending to be contemplating but was truly frustrated. Frowning, he sighed. "You guys should've listened to me when I asked you to stay back for the investigations. Why must you provoke me?" Korea... Korea... Did I ask about your nationality? I could've just killed all of you instead of looking for the culprit, still, I controlled myself. However, you guys seem to have a death wish..."

The guests who had complained earlier were scared out of their wits. Someone even peed themselves from the fear.

They dare not object to him after witnessing Yang Chen's viciousness. Everyone was sweating buckets, afraid of being the next victim.

Yang Chen glanced at Gong Woo who was the nearest to him. The latter no longer looked proud, too terrified to even cry. He was so close to a mental breakdown from smelling his father's blood.

"I'll start with you." Yang Chen lifted him and threw him to the middle of the yard and had Jane order the bodyguards to search him.

The bodyguards dared not disobey him. They did not even wait for Park Cheon's orders and proceeded to search Gong Woo thoroughly.

Once the search was completed, Jane did some chemical tests with his clothes. After confirming that everything was normal, she nodded at Yang Chen. "Nothing suspicious about him."

Yang Chen beckoned towards the rest of the guests. "Those who have grudges against the Park family, step out. If you dare to hide anything, you'll have the same ending as that guy..."

They dared not resist as Yang Chen was a madman. It was better to cooperate with him. After all, they could take revenge on him once this was over.

So, around a dozen people stepped out.

With Jane as the lead, they examined them but the culprit was still nowhere to be found.

“That’s weird. Judging by the time and mode of operation, if they wanted to poison the veil, they must have some powder on them. Did the maids and makeup artists do it?”

Yang Chen sounded aloof. “They are all here. I’ve covered the whole villa with my divine sense. No one can run away. Take your time. If we can’t find any evidence on them, we’ll search the whole villa.”

Jane nodded and asked Park Cheon to bring them over.

The mystery remained unsolved even after all the maids and makeup artists were examined.

At that time, Yang Chen looked towards Eunjung who was standing next to Park Cheon. “Eunjung, you work for Zhenxiu too. You need to be examined too.”

Park Cheon and the Kims stared at her in shock as if they could not believe she would be one of the suspects. After all, she had been the most caring maid to Zhenxiu.

Eunjung pursed her lips and walked forward to let Jane do the test.

Jane wore rubber gloves and searched her whole body. Then, she mixed the sample on her clothes with a solution.

When the colorless solution turned pink, Jane’s eyes widened in shock.

“Potassium cyanide?! Eunjung, is it really you?”

Everyone stared at Eunjung incredulously. As if she had expected it, she bit her lower lip and lowered her head.

At that, the guests sighed in relief since they were no longer suspects.

“How... how could it be Eunjung?” Shocked, Park Cheon staggered backward and roared, “Bastard! Have we ever wronged you?! Why did you poison Zhenxiu!”

The Parks swelled with indignation. Kim Yang and Kim Jip frowned at her. With his fists tightly clenched, Kim Jip looked as if he would explode with rage anytime soon.

Yang Chen calmed down at that moment, staring at Eunjung and waiting for an explanation.

Eunjung’s eyes welled up with tears as she showed a pained smile. “President, I’m sorry... But I’ve waited for this day for a long time.”

“What?!” Park Cheon thought he was hearing things.

Hatred flashed across Eunjung’s face as she took a deep breath. “I’m sure you’ve forgotten a woman you’ve met more than twenty years ago... Her name is Ho Jiwan.”

Park Cheon gasped, his body shaking. Pointing a trembling finger at her, he stammered, “You... you are...”