

Divine 1951

Chapter 1951 Zhao Dier's Plan 2

Mu Yan glanced at Zhao Dier and nodded slightly. He did not have the intention of speaking with her.

After all, the Wuji Sect only needed to express their goodwill at the right time for a vassal like the Piaomiao Pavilion to exist. There was no need to give face at all times.

Especially when his seniority with Zhao Di'er was not even equal.

After Mu Yan stopped at Zhao Dier's place for a moment, his gaze landed on Mu Weiran seriously.

Mu Weiran, Mu Yan's eldest daughter, was also the most outstanding daughter in cultivation and other aspects.

Many matters in the sect were handed over to her to handle.

The Xuantian Sect's competition this time was also arranged for her to obtain the Golden Rolls.

Mu Yan was still not that anxious when facing Mu Weiran.

However....

Even if he didn't have to worry, he still had to exert pressure on her where necessary.

He took a seat and wore a serious expression as he inquired, "Tell me, are you confident in the upcoming competition at the Xuantian Sect?"

Mu Weiran's demeanor shifted, but he made an effort to control his facial expression and replied with assurance, "I am confident."

"Weiran possesses exceptional cultivation and remarkable talent. I, Di'er, feel ashamed of my own shortcomings. Weiran will undoubtedly emerge victorious in the Xuantian Sect's competition. And by Weiran's side, I, Di'er, will provide assistance. Sect Master, rest assured," Zhao Dier declared, emphasizing her loyalty to the Wuji Sect.

Her plan was straightforward.

She needed to establish a positive image first.

If she managed to obtain the Golden Rolls, she could return to her father and claim the credit.

If she failed to acquire the Golden Rolls, she would ingratiate herself with Weiran. At the very least, she would be able to observe and participate.

In either scenario, the Piaomiao Pavilion would not be at a loss.

Zhao Dier took pleasure in offering some flattery.

Mu Yan nodded approvingly. "Excellent. Our Wuji Sect and the Piaomiao Pavilion have long been acquainted. I am grateful for the attitude displayed by Brother Huai's daughter. Once we secure the Golden Rolls, relay my regards to your father."

"Yes." Zhao Dier's face was filled with joy.

Mu Weiran paid little attention to the conversation taking place.

Despite her claim of confidence, it was evident that she harbored deep concerns and an intense desire to obtain those Spirit Stones. Other matters failed to capture her interest.

Lost in thoughts about the Spirit Stones and her breakthrough, Mu Weiran turned and returned to the stone gambling hall, hoping to acquire Spirit Stones of a similar caliber. However, after wasting a day, she was left dissatisfied and had no choice but to resume her cultivation.

When she awoke again, it was the day of the competition.

For someone like Mu Weiran, the events of the first day were utterly uninteresting. They merely involved eliminating a group of ignorant participants who lacked discernment.

What truly interested her was observing Gu Chaoyan.

Mu Weiran wished to ascertain if Gu Chaoyan had utilized that particular spirit stone and, if so, to gauge her current level of cultivation.

Meanwhile, she also kept an eye out for other formidable competitors.

Wandering aimlessly through the Xuantian Sect, Mu Weiran was accompanied by the obedient Zhao Dier.

During this time, numerous individuals greeted Mu Weiran, and she responded with kindness, treating them as if they were long-time friends, even though many couldn't recall who they were.

Her amiable nature made Mu Weiran a well-liked Elder Miss of a sect within the Yuehua Continent.

As she continued her walk, Mu Weiran spotted a familiar figure and hastened towards them.

Chapter 1952 The Contest 1

It was Gu Chaoyan.

She did not expect that she, who had been missing for a few days, would be seen here.

As he approached Gu Chaoyan, Mu Weiran used his spiritual power to check Gu Chaoyan's current level.

What?

Mu Weiran was puzzled.

Didn't she use that spirit stone? How could she still not detect her spirit energy?

It was impossible for her cultivation to be so much higher than his after using a Spirit Stone. This was impossible.

What happened?

"Long time no see, Lady Chaoyan." Mu Weiran was still gentle as she greeted her.

There were so many people in the Xuantian Sect, and only Gu Chaoyan was able to receive Elder Miss of Wuji Sect greet her like this.

If it had been anyone else, they would probably have become overjoyed.

But this person was Gu Chaoyan. For Gu Chaoyan, it was very annoying to receive greetings from someone like Mu Weiran.

No one could tell what she looked like underneath her gentleness.

She could tell.

The constant fixation on Spirit Stones was evident in Mu Weiran's intentions. She had even arranged for someone to tail Gu Chaoyan, leaving little room for doubt regarding the methods she would employ if her desires went unfulfilled.

"I am not acquainted with the Elder Miss of the Wuji Sect, so such a greeting is uncalled for," Gu Chaoyan retorted with a cold smile.

"Gu Chaoyan, you are shameless! Weiran is displaying her good temperament and proper etiquette by approaching you. You are taking things too far!" Zhao Dier admonished directly, her displeasure with Gu Chaoyan's demeanor apparent.

Upon hearing Zhao Dier's words, Mu Weiran couldn't help but think that apart from being foolish, Zhao Dier was also pleasing to the eye. Nevertheless, out of habit, Mu Weiran still reprimanded her, saying, "Di'er."

It was as if she was cautioning Zhao Dier against speaking further.

Zhao Dier snorted at Gu Chaoyan, her tone filled with disdain. "Don't be so arrogant. You will have your chance to cry after the competition."

Little did she know the vastness of the world that lay beyond her comprehension.

She probably did not know that the people in the Yuehua Continent were different. No matter which sect it was, there were many individuals with extremely high cultivation.

"Oh yeah?" Gu Chaoyan responded with disdain, clearly unimpressed by Zhao Dier's words.

"You will find out soon enough. Gu Chaoyan, this is the Yuehua Continent. Do you think you can win with your petty tricks? If you can, I, Zhao Dier, will become your slave!" Zhao Dier retorted angrily.

"Oh? I look forward to it," Gu Chaoyan replied with a smile.

"Hmph," Zhao Dier huffed in response.

The competition in the Xuantian Sect commenced.

During the first round, most participants were eliminated, leaving only the final ten contenders. Among them were Mu Weiran, Zhao Dier, and Gu Chaoyan, along with seven other individuals whom Gu Chaoyan had never encountered before.

Gu Chaoyan was slightly surprised by the outcome.

It was no wonder that Zhao Dier, the foolish and headstrong Elder Miss, held considerable influence in the Piaomiao Pavilion. She was undoubtedly formidable, securing a spot in the top ten.

This exceeded Gu Chaoyan's expectations.

While Gu Chaoyan was taken aback by Zhao Dier's performance, Zhao Dier was visibly displeased that Gu Chaoyan had managed to make it into the top ten.

Mu Weiran remained silent.

However, a puzzling thought lingered in her mind...

Chapter 1953 The Contest 2

Gu Chaoyan was a highly-practised person, but she still could not see through her. Also, she had observed Gu Chaoyan during the contest, but she still could not understand what Gu Chaoyan's abilities were.

That was the most scary and worrying thing of all.

She just could not tell what on earth that person was like.

No matter whether she was better or weaker than the other person was, as long as she had the answer in his heart, she would be able to solve many problems easily. But she had no idea how to deal with this one.

The approach she was adopting was the most secure and comprehensive one.

14:42

The second round of the contest was held on the following day. The Xuantian Sect would select the most excellent contestant to take over the Golden Rolls.

But now, they could take a break and continue with their practice.

The other seven people went down to practise in silence.

Gu Chaoyan decided to take a break at home.

Seeing Gu Chaoyan leaving, Mu Weiran followed up.

Mu Weiran had already come up with a new solution.

The difference between Mu Weiran and Zhao Dier was that even if Mu Weiran did not like her, he would still try to maximize his own interests rather than get rid of this person he disliked.

"Gu Chaoyan, wait a moment," Mu Weiran called out, halting her progress. "The final contest is tomorrow, and we need to have a clear conversation."

Impatiently, Gu Chaoyan paused, demonstrating her characteristic humility despite her considerable abilities.

"The winner will receive the Golden Rolls, and you understand the significance attached to them," Mu Weiran spoke directly. "Moreover, it's crucial to recognize that even the Xuantian Sect wishes to avoid involvement in this situation. This implies that those who obtain the Golden Rolls will shoulder significant responsibilities. You are alone in this, and even if you acquire the Golden Rolls, are you truly prepared to handle the weight they carry?"

"...."

"I am different from you. I was born into the Wuji Sect and hold the position of Elder Miss. With the support of the Wuji Sect, even if I bear the responsibility of the Golden Rolls, I can rely on their assistance."

"....."

"Alternatively, you could choose to join our Wuji Sect. Whether it's me or you who obtains the Golden Rolls, the Wuji Sect will undoubtedly extend its help to you. What do you think?" Mu Weiran inquired.

Zhao Dier felt a strong sense of displeasure.

Why should Weiran assist Gu Chaoyan? If she couldn't secure the Golden Rolls, she had no intention of sharing them with her!

"Weiran!" Zhao Dier interjected, cautioning her against entertaining such thoughts.

Mu Weiran paid no heed to Zhao Dier's words. She considered Zhao Dier to be a foolish person, someone she wouldn't have allowed to accompany her unless there was some utility in doing so. She had no interest in entertaining Zhao Dier's opinions.

The approach she was adopting was the most secure and comprehensive one.

Mu Weiran was well aware of this fact.

Ordinarily, anyone else would have been swayed by her proposition.

But not Gu Chaoyan.

She had no intention of joining the Wuji Sect.

Gu Chaoyan shook her head. "Thank you for your kindness, Elder Miss of the Wuji Sect. Tomorrow, we can do our best to get the Golden Rolls. As for the mission after getting the Golden Rolls, you don't have to worry about that at all."

Chapter 1954 The Contest 3

Mu Weiran's expression turned into a frown.

Clearly, she was quite dissatisfied with Gu Chaoyan's response.

However, considering the circumstances within the Xuantian Sect and her own position as the Elder Miss of the Wuji Sect, she nodded and bid Gu Chaoyan farewell.

Mu Weiran was the kind of person who cared little about her reputation. If someone couldn't be of use to her, it was better to have no association with them. Otherwise, they could potentially become a threat in the future.

On their way back to the hostel, Mu Weiran had already made up her mind.

Zhao Dier was muttering beside her, but Mu Weiran paid no attention. She returned to her own room and resumed her practice.

Meanwhile, on the way back to the hostel...

Observing that there was no one around, Li Mu cautiously asked, "Lady Chaoyan, are you alright? I sense that the Elder Miss from the Boundless Sect has ulterior motives."

"It's fine. I knew that choosing the Golden Rolls would come with its own troubles. Nothing will happen right now, but I need to train myself to prevent being bullied in the future," Gu Chaoyan replied, sounding somewhat distressed.

Li Mu nodded in agreement.

Indeed.

In the world of cultivation, the strong preyed on the weak. As long as one possessed sufficient cultivation, they didn't have to worry about such matters.

On that day, instead of returning to the casino for stones, they headed back to the hostel. Gu Chaoyan still had some Spirit Stones left in her storage space, and she decided to forgo further practice. What she needed most was a proper rest. Therefore, she entrusted most of the Spirit Stones to Li Mu so he could commence his practice as soon as possible.

There was no ulterior motive behind her actions.

Since Duan Feng had assigned Li Mu to protect her, Gu Chaoyan felt responsible for his well-being. Having offended Mu Weiran on the Yuehua Continent, she had no idea what the future held. Therefore, the most crucial thing was to help Li Mu advance in his cultivation, enabling him to protect himself if any unforeseen circumstances were to arise.

Gu Chaoyan spent the entire night rejuvenating herself with the magical energy from the Spirit Stones.

The following day...

Li Mu was in a good mental state.

Upon arriving at the Xuantian Sect, everyone wore a grave expression. They were no longer as relaxed as they had been on the first day.

These ten individuals were all highly skilled practitioners who had managed to reach this stage. It wasn't easy to outperform the other nine contestants.

Gu Chaoyan's face bore a serious expression as well, as she too felt the weight of the pressure.

Before the contest began, Mu Weiran approached Gu Chaoyan and whispered, "You still have one last opportunity to reconsider. Once the contest starts, there's no turning back. Are you absolutely certain that you don't want to reconsider?"

Gu Chaoyan shook her head, harboring a certain admiration for Mu Weiran.

She couldn't help but acknowledge Mu Weiran's remarkable patience and tolerance. Despite her intense dislike for Gu Chaoyan, she still engaged in a discussion with her calmly. That was no easy feat.

While Gu Chaoyan had the chance to ask her one more question, she knew that the Wuji Sect was not an alliance she would consider.

Shortly after Mu Weiran's speech, the contest commenced.

One by one, the ten participants faced off against each other, with the victors advancing and the losers being eliminated immediately.

Gu Chaoyan found herself pitted against an unfamiliar, fierce-looking opponent.

However...

Despite his formidable appearance, Gu Chaoyan swiftly defeated him.

As he fell, Zhao Dier also collapsed.

As the contest drew to a close, the Xuantian Sect's arena lay in ruins, with only two participants remaining.

It was none other than Mu Weiran and Gu Chaoyan.

This outcome had been anticipated by Mu Weiran.

She held the nine-segment whip in her hand.

Chapter 1955 The Contest 4

At the start, he cast a cold gaze towards Gu Chaoyan, who shielded herself with the white jade sword.

Gu Chaoyan had experienced relative ease throughout the contest, but it was clear that Mu Weiran posed a formidable challenge. Mu Weiran was nearly on par with a Great Warrior, and Gu Chaoyan had no clear understanding of her current strength.

A beam of light descended, catching Gu Chaoyan off guard. She took a hit, injuring her arm.

Seeing the blood, Mu Weiran's excitement grew.

She was determined to defeat Gu Chaoyan.

Mu Weiran exerted her full magical power, pressing down on Gu Chaoyan and forcing her to the ground. Gu Chaoyan struggled to resist the overwhelming force, but it continued to bear down on her.

If Gu Chaoyan hadn't resisted, she might have suffered further injuries.

With intense concentration, Gu Chaoyan mustered all her strength and launched a powerful counterattack.

A beam of white light burst forth.

Mu Weiran toppled to the ground, blood trickling from the corner of her mouth.

She hadn't expected Gu Chaoyan to withstand her assault. That was why she hadn't ceased in time.

Mu Weiran, the one who had lost.

Lost the Golden Rolls?

Mu Weiran clenched his fists tightly, completely stunned.

Gu Chaoyan, too, felt weak after expending her magical power.

They had barely surpassed Mu Weiran and emerged victorious.

Internally, Gu Chaoyan trembled.

Nevertheless...

She gathered her strength, forcing herself to stand and approached them with the air of a triumphant winner. Instead of going towards Mu Weiran, she halted in front of Zhao Dier and spoke icily, "If I recall correctly, Lady Dier, you mentioned that if I, Gu Chaoyan, were to win, you would serve me as my attendant."

Zhao Dier hadn't anticipated that Gu Chaoyan would bring this up in this moment. She felt both embarrassed and enraged, about to retort...

But Gu Chaoyan continued, "However, I have no need for someone like you. Find someone else."

With those words spoken, Gu Chaoyan calmly proceeded towards the Xuantian Sect.

Zhao Dier was beyond irritating. Gu Chaoyan wouldn't let this opportunity to put her in her place slip away.

As for Mu Weiran...

Victory or defeat was a trivial matter.

She had no intention of concerning herself with Mu Weiran.

"If I emerge victorious, what about the Golden Rolls and the Heaven Slaying Sword?" Gu Chaoyan inquired.

The Head of the Xuantian Faction wore a smile.

He found Gu Chaoyan to be an intriguing individual.

She had already secured the victory. In addition to the Golden Rolls, she had also expressed her interest in the Heaven Slaying Sword.

Everyone present was fixated on the Golden Rolls alone.

The Head of the Xuantian Sect instructed someone to bring the box to him.

He then opened the box in full view of everyone.

Revealing the Golden Rolls to the assembled crowd, he stated, "As promised by my Xuantian Sect, the winner shall receive the Golden Rolls and the Heaven Slaying Sword. Today, we fulfill our commitment and present the Golden Rolls and the Heaven Slaying Sword."

"...."

"However, there is one matter I must clarify."

"..."

"We possess only a single piece of the Golden Rolls, and we remain unaware of the whereabouts of the remaining fragments. Moreover, we have no intention of involving ourselves in any of these matters. Henceforth, we shall close the sect."

"A fragment?" Gu Chaoyan gazed at the box in utter disbelief.

Chapter 1956 Golden Rolls Fragment

Within the box lay only a single, small fragment, emanating a radiant golden glow. It rested quietly, seemingly untouched.

A realization dawned upon Gu Chaoyan as to why the Xuantian Sect had offered the Golden Rolls while asserting their reluctance to be further involved. They possessed only the fragments and expended significant resources in their pursuit. In order to avoid the sect reclaiming the Golden Rolls directly, they refrained from deeper involvement.

"What about the other fragments?" Gu Chaoyan inquired, aware that a lone fragment was insufficient, and the whereabouts of the others remained unknown.

The Head of the Xuantian Sect shook his head.

Annoyance surged within Gu Chaoyan. She had not anticipated such a turn of events.

However...

While Gu Chaoyan felt discontent, a collective sigh of relief resonated from the others, including Mu Weiran. Gu Chaoyan had secured merely a fragment of the Golden Rolls, signifying that an opportunity still existed. Should they acquire the other fragments and abscond with Gu Chaoyan's, the Golden Rolls would remain within their grasp.

Mu Weiran wiped the blood from the corner of her mouth, rising to her feet, and departed without casting a glance towards Gu Chaoyan or the Golden Rolls.

Zhao Dier trailed behind, following her lead.

Mu Weiran cast a chilly glare at Zhao Dier. "You are no longer needed by me. Return to Piaomiao Pavilion and try to retrieve the fragment from her. As for the rest, we of the Wuji Sect will figure out a plan."

With that, Mu Weiran grew impatient to discuss the matter of the Golden Rolls any further.

Zhao Dier nodded, seeing it as a favorable outcome.

Mockingly, she addressed Gu Chaoyan, "Not so smug now, are you? You may think you've obtained the Golden Rolls, but it's nothing more than worthless trash."

Having spoken her piece, she turned away and prepared to inform her father of the outcome.

Piaomiao Pavilion still had a chance to acquire the remaining Golden Rolls.

Silently, Gu Chaoyan collected the fragment and the sword, departing alongside Li Mu.

Unaware of the happenings at Haitian, they had been away from the continent for too long. They needed to return swiftly and unlock the barrier.

Before the portal...

Seeing Zhao Dier depart, Gu Chaoyan's mind suddenly wandered to another matter.

She and Zhao Dier had come to the Yuehua Continent with clear objectives - she sought the Heaven Slaying Sword, while Zhao Dier pursued the Golden Rolls. Their reasons were straightforward and understandable. However, she had not encountered An Mingxi at the Xuantian Sect, nor did she have any knowledge of An Mingxi's purpose for being there. Moreover, she hadn't spotted An Mingxi on their way back either.

Well...

What was An Mingxi's intention?

"Lady Chaoyan, is something bothering you?" Li Mu inquired.

They stood before the portal, yet Lady Chaoyan seemed lost in thought, as if contemplating something else. Li Mu sensed that there might be more to the situation.

Gu Chaoyan shook her head slightly. "It's nothing."

"..."

"I was simply wondering about the whereabouts of the individual from Wuhui Gate."

Having voiced her musings, Gu Chaoyan prepared to depart with Li Mu.

Once they returned to the palace...

Haitian was still bustling with activity.

Duan Feng must have noticed Zhao Dier's return, and he likely anticipated their arrival as well. Thus, he stood guard at the palace's entrance.

As Gu Chaoyan and Li Mu arrived, Duan Feng inquired, "How did it go?"

Chapter 1957 Not Moving 1

Gu Chaoyan handed the sword to Duan Feng but refrained from revealing the box containing the Golden Rolls.

Duan Feng proceeded to speak, "I have acquired the Heaven-Slaying Sword, and you can now remove the barrier. Additionally, the Xuantian Sect surrendered the fragment of the Golden Rolls, which is now in my possession. I intend to leave Haitian as soon as possible to prevent any trouble arising from the fragment."

Duan Feng appeared slightly taken aback.

Evidently, he hadn't anticipated the involvement of the Golden Rolls.

However, after the initial surprise, he displayed no further emotions.

Haitian had no stake in these matters.

"Let's go together," Duan Feng suggested.

Gu Chaoyan nodded, harboring no rush to depart.

Accompanied by Duan Feng, they arrived at the barrier, and with adept precision, Duan Feng wielded the Heaven-Slaying Sword, cutting a substantial opening in the barrier.

Haitian's market remained bustling with people, some departing while others entering. Amidst the commotion, Duan Feng and Gu Chaoyan ventured inward.

Numerous items were piled up, but as Gu Chaoyan scanned her surroundings, Zhou Huaijin was nowhere to be found.

Baffled, she inquired, "Where is he?"

Duan Feng was well aware of whom she referred to.

"He is likely at the auction house. He has been rather elusive lately, so I'm uncertain of his whereabouts," Duan Feng confessed.

Since her departure, he hadn't encountered Lady Chaoyan.

Elusive?

Gu Chaoyan found herself pondering when Zhou Huaijin suddenly emerged and stood before her.

He appraised her, remarking with a husky voice, "You've lost weight."

He then pulled her into his embrace, displaying his concern.

Observing the scene, the masked man turned and departed.

"Let's return home now," Gu Chaoyan said, her tone softening.

Duan Feng did not interject.

The two of them made their way back to the hostel.

It was the same hostel they had previously resided in.

"Now that the barrier has been opened, we should leave Haitian as soon as possible. I'm anxious to know what has been happening outside," Gu Chaoyan expressed her worry.

"Alright," Zhou Huaijin responded in a hoarse voice.

He held her tightly in his arms.

Kisses cascaded like raindrops.

This was the longest period of time they had spent apart. Though he appeared composed on the surface, inwardly he was filled with panic and concern.

Thankfully, she was right by his side.

He could feel her presence clearly.

That was why she felt a strong connection and an unwillingness to let go.

He wanted to be close to her, to feel their unity.

Zhou Huaijin's mind was a whirlwind of emotions. He held her firmly, wanting to possess her completely.

Gu Chaoyan trembled, clutching his clothes tightly, torn between desire and hesitation.

In that moment, they were lost in their own world, forgetting about everything else around them.

The white robe slipped off, revealing her bare shoulders. Gently, Zhou Huaijin guided her onto the bed, treating her with care.

He placed light kisses on her shoulders, his affection evident.

Gu Chaoyan, slender and delicate, blushed, her eyes shining with intensity.

As Zhou Huaijin drew closer, Gu Chaoyan instinctively pushed him away, a sense of unfamiliarity overwhelming her.

"Don't move, I promise not to hurt you."

Chapter 1958 Not Moving 2

Zhou Huaijin's gentle voice soothed her, alleviating all her uneasiness. She retracted the hand that had pushed him away and instead wrapped it around her back, embracing him tightly.

Aware that it was her first time, Zhou Huaijin was careful not to frighten her. He made every effort to be gentle, even though he could barely control his own desires.

He continued to offer reassurances, comforting her throughout the intimate moment.

Unable to contain her excitement, Gu Chaoyan clutched the blanket tightly.

As she clung to the blanket, beads of sweat formed on her forehead.

Worried that she might become frightened, Zhou Huaijin held her tightly, providing comfort and security.

After a while, she finally spoke up, her voice trembling, "Prepare some hot water."

Sword One and Lingyun promptly attended to the task.

Elder Miss and her master had been married for quite some time, but tonight marked their first night together. Strangely enough, Sword One couldn't help but feel a sense of happiness as well.

When Sword One and Lingyun returned with the hot water, Gu Chaoyan instinctively averted her face, overcome with shyness.

"Assist your Elder Miss with her bath," Zhou Huaijin instructed.

Gu Chaoyan hesitated and tugged at him reflexively.

Zhou Huaijin pondered for a moment. "If you're uncomfortable, I can..."

Before he could finish his sentence, Gu Chaoyan interrupted, saying firmly, "It's fine, they can handle it."

As Gu Chaoyan spoke, she suddenly became aware of the events that had just unfolded. She turned away from Zhou Huaijin, refusing to meet his gaze.

Zhou Huaijin smiled gently, suggesting that she should take a bath first.

Feeling sticky from the sweat, Gu Chaoyan agreed and immersed herself in the warm water. It brought her relief and refreshed her.

While Sword One was drying her body, she noticed the faint red marks. Initially startled, she realized what had caused them and allowed Sword One to continue.

Gu Chaoyan's face flushed crimson. She hadn't realized the extent of the marks until now, but all she wanted was to climb into bed without looking at Zhou Huaijin.

It was the longest bath Gu Chaoyan had ever taken.

Sword One and Lingyun assisted her in getting settled for sleep.

Zhou Huaijin enveloped her in his arms.

It was a truly tranquil night.

The next day, Zhou Huaijin rose early and prepared to depart.

During the past few days when Gu Chaoyan was at Yuehua Continent, he was preparing all kinds of pills and magical weapons.

People from the Saint Divine Land were already cultivating, and those things could be given to those who were more practised. In this way, they would have more bargaining chips to counter the enemies.

There were many interspatial rings in Haitian, and he put them all into the interspatial ring and took them away.

Though they were in a hurry, Duan Feng still came to see them off.

The masked man was also at the window, watching them leaving. He did not come down but kept a distance from Gu Chaoyan.

When they were about to leave, Li Mu hurried in.

He passed a few bloody tongues to Gu Chaoyan. "Lady Chaoyan, thank you so much for your trip to Yuehua Continent. Li Mu can do anything to repay you. These can help you to cultivate, please take them."

Li Mu said sincerely.

Gu Chaoyan's face twitched as she saw the snake's tongues.

She had no choice but accepted them.

Li Mu looked pale, and he was injured too. He must have spent a lot of efforts in catching those things. But she accepted his offer since he looked so sincere.

When she was done, Li Mu greeted her and they left together.

They walked out of Haitian Market.

Only now...

Did they realize that something earth-shattering was happening outside.

Chapter 1959 - Situation Outside 1

When they came to the Haitian Market, they also noticed a small market outside the Haitian Market. The market was very comprehensive, with hostels, restaurants, and small auctions around. There were all kinds of things, and there were endless streams of people.

But as they walked out..

What they saw was a dilapidated market. The original hostels and restaurants were all ruined, and traces of a big war were everywhere.

“What is going on?” Gu Chaoyan was confused.

They had no idea what was going on outside after they walked out of Haitian. They had no idea if it was because those people were killing each other or because monsters or witches had invaded them.

There was no one around, except for some people at the market.

Gu Chaoyan observed everything carefully.

There was something shining in front of her. She walked closer and saw an interspatial ring, which seemed to have been accidentally scattered during a fight.

Gu Chaoyan checked the things in the interspatial ring that were quite long. There were only some golden knives and Spirit Stones, nothing special. Gu Chaoyan put away the ring first.

They continued to head towards the hostel where the hidden guards were staying.

The hostel was still there, but it had been badly damaged during the intermediate fight. There was no one inside.

She showed a look of worry. “Where had they gone?”

When Gu Chaoyan asked the question, she had not thought that they might have run into an accident. What she had been thinking was that they should stay away from each other.

Because...

She trusted those hidden guards for their abilities.

Zhou Huaijin was also observing the place. When Gu Chaoyan asked the question, Zhou Huaijin said, “They should be not faraway from here. The hostel is right here, and we are coming back to find them. So they won’t be faraway. In the meanwhile, they won’t leave either, because they are not sure if we are safe inside.

“Let’s explore the area.”

“Okay.” Gu Chaoyan responded, as they started to look about.

The hidden guards from the Shadow Door were renowned for their expertise in concealment and stealth. They excelled at remaining hidden even in plain sight.

During their search, they received a signal from Fu Bao, prompting a group of black-clad figures to approach them. It was the hidden guards who had been assigned to protect them.

“Mr. Head, Lady Chaoyan!” the hidden guards greeted them respectfully.

Observing that the guards were unharmed, Zhou Huaijin and Gu Chaoyan felt a measure of relief. Without the ability to wield magic themselves, they had been concerned about their vulnerability in the midst of the recent conflicts.

Zhou Huaijin inquired with a calm demeanor, “What has transpired?”

The leader of the hidden guards stepped forward, his gaze sweeping across the desolate scene. “Mr. Head, shortly after you entered the market, a barrier unexpectedly materialized, isolating us from the outside. Chaos ensued, with people turning on each other in a frenzied attempt to seize each other’s interspatial rings and escape. They claimed that chaos was imminent.”

“Monsters emerged, cunning and elusive. They possessed pills that allowed them to assume human form. Many lives were lost.”

“The monsters have since vanished.”

“Knowing our inferiority against these monsters, we chose to conceal ourselves for our safety..”

Chapter 1960 - Situation Outside 2

“So I witnessed what transpired here, but I chose not to intervene. Our duty, after all, is solely to safeguard our master and Elder Miss, and fulfill the mission of Shadow Door,” the hidden guard admitted, his voice tinged with guilt.

In the end...

Numerous lives were lost right before their very eyes, yet they remained mere spectators.

They kept to themselves, preventing any interference.

Zhou Huaijin nodded gravely, comprehending the events relayed by the hidden guards.

That was the situation unfolding beyond Haitian. How was the Saint Divine Land faring?

He felt deep concern.

His gaze lifted to the hidden guards. “You’re right. Devoid of magical powers, you are already at a disadvantage compared to seasoned practitioners, let alone monsters. We must take action to rescue people during this tumultuous period, but we cannot act recklessly.”

“We will depart now and return to the Saint Divine Land this morning,” Zhou Huaijin declared.

In this tumultuous world, his sole desire was to ensure their safety.

Gu Chaoyan had already mastered Sword Kinesis Flight, but the current location was unsuitable for utilizing it.

Therefore, before their departure, she administered some pills to the horses, known for their swiftness.

After detoxifying herself and undergoing cultivation, her physical condition improved significantly. Gone were the days when even being in a wagon at a distance.

Consequently, they traveled at a rapid pace.

They hastened their return.

As evening approached, they needed to find a suitable place to spend the night. Inns no longer existed in these areas, so they had to seek refuge in a suitable mountain.

“How is that location?” Sword One gestured towards a specific spot and inquired of Dao Seeking.

Gu Chaoyan raised her gaze, anticipating the response.

She observed a frantic group of people fleeing in a state of panic.

“What’s happening?” Gu Chaoyan was bewildered and inclined to investigate.

Taking in the scene, Zhou Huaijin instructed the hidden guards to remain still and followed suit.

Zhou Huaijin possessed remarkable agility. Even without magical powers, he could still accompany Gu Chaoyan.

“Help us, please! Help us!” Those individuals pleaded desperately, seeing Gu Chaoyan as their last hope.

Pursuing them were several ape-like creatures.

Gu Chaoyan wielded her white jade sword and struck at them. Her magical power was considerable, and it was evident that these ape-like beings were frightened by her capabilities. They had not anticipated encountering someone with such formidable magical prowess in this place.

As they prepared to give chase, they swiftly vanished like shadows.

Gu Chaoyan refused to let them escape so easily. With the white jade sword in hand, she pursued them.

These cunning creatures proved elusive. Sensing that Gu Chaoyan was the only one possessing significant magical power, they scattered in various directions, leaving her with no time to deal with each of them individually.

However...

Even with their evasive maneuvers, they could not elude Gu Chaoyan's persistent pursuit.

She had been tailing them all along.

Then, she dispersed a powder towards the ape-like creatures. The powder emitted a distinct scent, enabling Gu Chaoyan to discern their whereabouts no matter how they tried to flee.

Eventually, she halted and relinquished the chase.

Instead, she mounted her sword and observed as the ape-like creatures scampered away.

Perceiving Gu Chaoyan's absence, the creature let its guard down..