

## **Eight Uncles 1261**

### Chapter 1261 Wise Old Man

For the next few days, Lilly's spirit continued to travel southward and visited all the villages. along the way.

She found that every home had its unique generational tradition.

Some families baked special pies for Christmas using homegrown berries and fruits. Some created lavish meals using produce from their farm.

For some other families, Christmas was a solemn affair. They would visit churches or pray at home, sometimes offering remembrances to their loved ones who were no longer with them.

Life seemed to slow down around Christmas when people returned to their roots. Traditions. that seemed to have vanished would return to civilization.

The closer to Christmas, the more she felt "something" that she had never felt before.

There was bad aura in the underworld. While there was no spirit aura in the human realm, the generational heritage of the civilization could be considered a type of aura.

The underworld had its roots in the supernatural, and the King of Hell was part of it. As Lilly observed those traditions, she could feel an ancient power flowing through her.

"I didn't expect this power to return to me..."

Lilly hovered in mid-air and cupped her hands around a firework. The light shone through. her transparent hands and illuminated her face.

Suddenly, she saw a ray of golden light in the distance. She narrowed her gaze.

"That's it."

She immediately flew in that direction.

from a small

and shale. It was not as pretty or modern as

and behind it was a forest. Being in the mountains, the around the area was

temperature

the window, Lilly saw a monk in a thick robe sitting in front of a desk copying

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peace in

young friend. Would you like  
gently at  
old.

was surprised. "You can

old monk smiled. "If

answer was very cryptic, though she hovered over and sat down

for her. Lilly asked, "Hey, Gramps, I saw a golden light from afar earlier. Was it a result of your

old monk smiled again.

was giving a straight answer, he was no different from

sure

happen naturally then?"

at her profoundly but did not

at the steaming cup of tea and thought for a long time before answering,

that faith could manifest itself. When Jessie's sister was made into a spirit drum, she had read

nodded. "That is

Chapter 1262 Advancing to the Emperor Realm.

The old monk gazed at Lilly lovingly. He had never expected to discuss faith with a spirit, much less one who was only a little girl.

"The commandments say "Thou shalt not murder, but murder isn't literally about killing people. It also includes abusive actions and words. To achieve enlightenment is to rid oneself of such thoughts."

Lilly suddenly understood something.

As she had known before, The source of mortal agony comes from being unable to let go. and being unwilling to see the truth. Only by letting go and opening one's mind could one achieve peace.

"I see! So that's what you mean, Gramps!" Lilly said.

The old monk smiled. "Many people claim to be searching for their faith, but they are only going around in circles, misled by their own obstinacy. They might practice the commandments, but they cannot tolerate a differing opinion. Some followers of the faith do it for the money, which itself is an act of greed. Even if someone might do good deeds without asking for anything in return, their blind obstinacy could become an obstacle. The road to enlightenment might just only be one thought away."

Lilly clutched her head and said nothing.

She thought that the old monk's words were very profound. Maybe the author didn't even know what they were writing about.

Lilly wagged her head. "I see, Gramps. I understand now. Thank you!"

The old monk chuckled. "Are you sure you understood everything?"

"Hmm... How can you tell if I haven't?"

They exchanged a knowing glance and smiled. They sat there for the rest of the night. without exchanging a word. When Lilly's tea became cold, the old monk patiently replaced it with a fresh cup.

It was the coldest right before dawn. The leaves of the forest behind the monastery. was snowing.

Lilly was surprised. "Does it snow this far south?"

rustled. It

cold this year," the old

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nodded and stood up. "Thank you for your tea, Gramps. I have to go now. We might not meet again, but it was nice knowing

his head. "Who can say? We might meet again very

"Huh?"

it was time for her to go. It would be Christmas the next

at

her head around, she could still see the golden light and the old monk standing beneath

face was blurry, but his silhouette became clearer than ever. It was like

of his faith.

that the conversation with the old monk had untangled something in her mind.

quickly, gathering the "spirit aura" found in the Human Realm. It

her from a half step away

was half a step away from the Middle Emperor

changed. It

the Emperor

from

considering there was no spirit energy here. Earlier, Alban had to travel to the underworld

an opportunity in cultivation!" Lilly clenched her fists and felt energy flowing in her veins. It was as though her palms

find something to punch,

head around again. She was already very far away, but the golden

I don't think there is anyone else like him in

Lilly mumbled

Chapter 1263 Was It a Coincidence?

Lilly hurriedly returned to the Crawford residence.

Her body was already in the Human Realm, but for some reason, it was sealed in a certain place...

If she wanted to advance, she could not leave her body in the underworld while her spirit was in the Human Realm. A few days ago, she recalled her spirit and used the teleportation formation to go to the Crawford family residence.

It was the middle of the night when she arrived, and everyone was asleep, so she left the house. Later, she had a hunch she needed to astral project to complete the advancement, so she found somewhere to meditate.

In a neighborhood somewhere in Clodston, an old hovel stood defiantly in the blizzard. The snow had covered the roof tiles, and the brownish walls could barely be seen.

Next to the hovel was a tall old tree without any leaves. The branches were covered in a layer of snow.

A lamp was lit inside the hovel, as though the occupant was waiting for someone.

Lilly's spirit peeked into the window, and she was surprised to see Ivan sitting inside. Her body was on the bed, covered from head to toe by a thick quilt.

Ivan was reading a textbook. He absorbed knowledge like a sponge absorbed water.

"Ivan!" Lilly called out.

Ivan turned his head around and let out an imperceptible breath of relief. "You're back?"

He stood up from his chair. His extraordinary height made the room seem small.

do you know I'm here?" Lilly

for a moment and smiled.

the hovel. When he went over, he noticed Lilly's body there, but her

might happen to her, he occupied the room and guarded her.

sure?" Lilly obviously

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they're grown up now,

you here then? Aren't you afraid someone else  
in a hurry, and I knew that no one would come to this  
would you know?" Ivan  
here, the old couple who  
passed away not too long ago, and their daughter had just returned to her husband's  
permission, and they let me stay here for  
Ivan nodded. "I see."

been, Ivan? I haven't seen you for a long time." Suddenly, Lilly seemed surprised. "What Realm  
underworld. According to the definitions, I should be in the Hades Realm... But I'm not a king, so I can't  
tell if

"You definitely  
have completed the Hades Realm, but there's  
to

Lilly looked at the sky outside  
for me."

looked out of  
for me too."

Chapter 1264 Lilly Is Back

"Uncle Anthony!" Lilly was pleasantly surprised. "Why are you here, Uncle Anthony?"  
Anthony shot a glance at Ivan. "He contacted me."

Ivan knew he couldn't handle the situation alone, so he contacted Anthony as soon as he found her.

Anthony didn't know why Lilly didn't want to "sleep" in the Crawford family residence, but he didn't ask  
any questions.

He didn't want Bettany to worry, so he told her that he was going to his office every day, Instead, he  
went to the hovel to see if Lilly was awake. Even though Ivan said he would call him if she woke up, he  
wanted to see her for himself.

"Thank you, Ivan!" Lilly said. "I'll come and visit you soon!"

Ivan nodded. "Mm!"

Anthony was speechless. Can't you at least hesitate a little?

"Bye bye then!" Lilly stuck her head out of the window and waved at Ivan.

“Bye!” Ivan said.

Anthony nodded at him as a gesture of thanks, and he drove the car away.

The snowfall was getting heavier. Ivan stood there and watched the car leave. His shoulders were already dusted white with snow.

“Young Master, you should get in the car,” the driver said.

“Mm,” Ivan replied, and they left.

Lilly was anxious to go home. Soon, the car arrived at the family residence.

No one was surprised when they saw Anthony’s car.

“Oh, it’s Anthony”

home already? Good for

upstairs to do

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Zachary, and Lisa were

are you looking at me like that? It’s just

Dad is

Lilly still isn’t

“Aunt Jean, where did

also wanted to know the

waiting for her, just like you all. Make sure you don’t give me away. Mom will be more worried if do.”

the window looking out into the blizzard. She was mumbling to herself, “The snow is so heavy

up in her eyes. She wanted to tell her,

should be showing up with Lilly.

not be the same.

opened. Anthony’s coat was especially bulky today. In

was under his arm instead of holding it in his hand. There was

eyes.

turned her head back to look out

opened his coat, and Lilly's head stuck out from

"Tada! Surprise!"

eyes opened wide. She stood up with delight.

ran toward her. "I'm home,

why do

hungry? We're all hungry because

smiled. "You shouldn't have waited

her head.

Chapter 1265 A Feast

Edward and the others put away the work on their hands when they heard that Lilly was home.

"Lilly! I bought some new clothes for you! Come upstairs and try!" Edward said.

"Lilly! I saw a very fun toy on the way home. Do you wanna see..." Gilbert said.

"Lilly! I bought you a new phone, a new tablet, and a new computer! I've also installed my latest AI assistant in it. It'll be fun!" Max said.

"I don't know what to buy for you, but if you need it, I can buy you a private jet, Bryson said.

"I built a new house for you," Liam said.

Anthony didn't know what to give Lilly. Eventually, he decided that he would transfer a company to her name and give her all the profits.

Lisa handed Lilly a beautiful purple gem. "This is for you! I found it in the mountains."

Jonas grinned mischievously, "It's too easy to give you money or presents. I'm not like them. I'm giving you an aunt!"

Everyone was speechless when they heard that.

Lilly clapped her hands in delight. "Wow, an aunt? Where?"

"We've registered our marriage, but I was waiting for you to come home before deciding on a date for our wedding reception. She's still in her family home now."

Now that Quinnie had achieved what she wanted in her career, it was time for her to focus on other personal achievements.

Lilly suddenly remembered about Grace and wondered how she was currently.

Maya had been waiting for her

Everyone

around Lilly and fawned over  
smiled and said, "That's enough. Why are you  
the kitchen to  
finally found the opportunity to talk to Lilly. He pulled her  
his 'work.'"

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the hospital, and she's doing fine now. The narrow-minded ghost is still stuck in the Taylor family  
residence. When I went to visit him yesterday, his deathly energy was  
growing mad with jealousy when he  
can stay there," Lilly  
He doesn't seem to mind it though. He was still smiling on the day  
Lilly frowned.

that Joe was another narrow-minded ghost. She wasn't expecting him to repent in 12  
visit him after  
reason for it. She just wanted to  
nodded and agreed to  
the dishes from the kitchen to  
What the? Why is he  
of Styx couldn't wait to eat. He sat  
Lilly's shoulder.

his arm and greeted him warmly.  
at Blake and said, "What can we  
gently. This mortal life would last only several decades, a mere blink of an eye compared to his millennia  
Styx patted the chair next to him. At the same time, he and Lilly said, "Sit together with me,  
Uncle Styx!  
your granny!" the King of Styx said

Chapter 1266 Stuffed to the Brim

Josh and Hannah had never thought someone could be a bigger eater than Lilly and Jean. They watched  
on in shock as the King of Styx devoured plate after plate.



Lilly watched him eat with a smile on her face. "Are you full yet? I hope you won't regret it later."

"Why would I?" the King of Styx said. "There's nothing more enjoyable than having a full stomach!"

Bettany brought a full cake to the table. "Anyone want dessert?"

The King of Styx's eyes sparkled. "Wow! Dessert!"

There's no dessert in the underworld!

The other people around the table were already full. They each took a small piece of cake so the matriarch of the family wouldn't be disappointed. The King of Styx, on the other hand, ate slice after slice. He didn't want to stop!

Bettany was delighted. Her family barely ate dessert, which limited her chances to flaunt her cooking skills.

With the King of Styx around, she could cook so much more!

"Are

you

done with the cake? Do you want some milk tea?" Bettany asked.

"Sure!" the King of Styx replied.

while later, she asked again, "Are you feeling bloated? Do you want some

"Of course!"

cream

"Ice cream! Yay!"

asked again, "You've eaten a

\*... Okay..."

said, "I made some

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of Styx was still pacing around the yard. He

he was

If he hadn't

shot a glance at the wolfhound in the kennel. It seemed to be smirking at

in the underworld, Polly stood on Pablo's shoulder and complained loudly, "I'm not her favorite bird anymore! Why didn't she

unperturbed. "She nearly forgot about her  
she forgot about you too! She forgot  
very hard to keep cool. "I'm here to  
the Crawford family treasured their time with Lilly together. He could watch them  
out! Tortoise is forgotten too! I  
resisted the urge to throw the noisy bird at the  
the reeds and ate little  
was a  
a familiar voice. "Oh hey there!  
you have anything more important to do? Let me tell you, I'm already instated as an avian soul collector,  
and I've been traveling independently on official business! How about  
how Bellflower is. She's probably still the same cat, but I'm more than just

Chapter 1267 Almost a Happy Reunion.

Outside, the blizzard was in full force. The snowflakes almost obscured Pablo's white robe.  
He would be almost invisible while hovering in the snow, if not that he had a green bird on his shoulder.  
Lilly's eyes widened in delight. "Master!"

Pablo came closer to the window. Other than Polly on his shoulder, there was also a kitten on his head,  
a black cat on the other shoulder, and a tortoise in his hand.

"Wow! Master, you're..."

Pablo said, annoyed, "We're here. Everyone get off!"

Polly flapped into the room while squawking, "This is the final stop! Everyone get off! F\*ck! I'm  
freezing!"

Pablo said nothing, though he resisted the urge to make roast bird for the thousandth time.

A shadow flitted past the air.

Bellflower attack!

Before Polly could land on the radiator, she jumped in fright again. "Bellflower, you Rookie! Do you miss  
me that much?"

Esper found a soft cushion next to the window. He sat on it and closed his eyes.

No, I'm not here for the anchovies...

I've heard that the King of Hell has officially returned. Now that the year is almost over, I've got to report to my boss.

Lilly wanted to brush the snow off Pablo's robe, but she found that he was clean.

a long journey.

left her a message, saying

while patting Lilly's head. "Are

13

Lilly tried to think.

are here. All the uncles, Aunt Lisa, Mommy, and the spirits in the

here too...

elder

and even Esper and

Master and

think everyone's here!"

he

kitten

He walked past it.

the? Did the two-legged

you know you should bring

pounced on Blake's foot and snarled

you ditching me once I've

He raised his hand, and Little Heartless suddenly found itself in his

while, and his powers have already outgrown

"Meow?"

to

Why do I need

room and placed the kitten on

"Oh?" Lilly was surprised.

three cats at home

Heartless? You're so cute! Do you want an

Chapter 1268 Cloud Is Home

"Merry Christmas!"

In the dining hall of the Crawford family residence, everyone raised their arms and clinked glasses. Even Matthan raised his feeding bottle and shouted, "Agagaga!"

Balke nearly choked on his champagne. He took his phone and snapped a few quick shots of Matthan holding his bottle happily and sucking on it.

Matthan seemed to have noticed something and turned his head.

away.

Blake smiled cryptically and said, "Why don't we take a family photo?"

There were two tables in the dining hall. The first one had all the Crawford family members sitting around it. The second was occupied by the spirits from the jar of souls. There was another "table" of animals outside.

The phone camera could not fit everyone.

Matthan stared at Blake, eager to hear what he had to say about it.

In the next moment, a drone hovered in front of them. Blake pointed at the drone and said, "Everyone, look at the camera!"

Click!

The drone transferred the photos to Blake's phone. There were eight photos in total. One of them included everyone in the dining hall.

Jessie and Tinkerbell were squeezed next to Lilly. The Harem spirit and the weakling spirits were floating in the air. Pablo was floating behind Lilly.

There was also the passionate spirit, the rich spirit, the crying spirit, and others. The photo was full of "people."

of the better

moment of silence as everyone checked their phones.

the photo on her phone Everyone was there, except for Jean, who couldn't appear in the photo, and Cloud, who did not return home

'Moin, I can't leave any trace of my existence in

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I'm happy as

not ask for too

hall was noisy once more.

home,” Edward said. “Everyone else is

replied, “He told me he was

“It’s pretty chaotic where he is now. I hope he

good luck bracelet and other

“That’s right. It’s

“I’ve gotten a message from him. He says he’ll be

Bryson said.

say anything. Her gaze was

she said, “Uncle Cloud... will

was surprised. They knew Lilly was not lying.

hide her excitement. She said, “Margaret, go

up. “Yes! I’ll get it

also very excited to see a full reunion of the family.

down and waited for Cloud’s

started a bet. “I bet Cloud will be back in

too fast! It means that he’s already at the front gate. I say it’ll take

no sign of anyone at the front gate yet.

“Are you doubting Lilly’s abilities? I say

Chapter 1269 Sorry, Lilly

Lilly opened the front door. The cold outside was a harsh contrast to the warmth within the house.

The blizzard grew heavier. It was hard to even walk now.

Tears welled up in Lilly’s eyes. “Uncle Cloud...” she called out softly.

“Uncle Cloud, why are you hiding here? Are you planning to give all of us a surprise? Everyone.... Everyone’s waiting for you.”

As Lilly spoke, tears began to fall. They fell to the ground and made little holes in the snow.

Cloud was dressed in his military uniform, but it was covered in mud and blood.

He was trying his best to clean his wounded face, and he put his charred cap into the bag.

He wanted to look his best in front of his family...

Lilly remembered the young man who had eaten buffalo wings. Her uncle looked so mature in the military uniform, but he would not grow older anymore.

“Uncle Cloud!” Lilly was sobbing. As much as she tried, she could not stop her voice from shaking.

She hugged the frail man, but she dared not cry out loud. Instead, she kept on asking questions.

so late,

the way back, Uncle

you hungry, Uncle Cloud?”

lowered his head dejectedly, at a loss for what to do. A

manage to

shook her head but said nothing. She allowed her tears to fall freely onto the snowy

but this separation was her

Lilly. “Well, you know, I’m a

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to

can return to the system. I’ll have to rejoin the main team

family and friends, and they could ask him

far away from home. His merits in battle ensured him a hopeful

I was in was not very stable. For the past half a year, I was tasked to maintain the peace. A few days ago, I was making my last patrol before packing my

but Lilly felt

you hide, Uncle Cloud? You could’ve dodged...” Lilly asked the question she already knew the answer

her back. “This is my duty. No one expected the terrorists to attack. The embassy had to evacuate our countrymen. They

too.”

I gave you?” Lilly

I wouldn’t have been able to evacuate everyone successfully! You know, I was a hero back then! I charged into the terrorists’ base like Rambo. You can’t imagine how frightened they were. They fired a bullet at my head. That should’ve killed me, but I sprang back to life! They fired again, and... I stood

was so proud of himself for what he had done. Lilly could not hold her tears back. He could have

could have come home and reunited with his family. Hundreds of his

Chapter 1270 Mom, I'm Home

Lilly felt her heart ache.

She held back her tears and sobbed, "Mm. Let me help you clean up."

Cloud breathed a sigh of relief and smiled. "Well, this is my first time returning in uniform! You need to make sure I look my best, alright?"

Lilly nodded. "Mm."

She smoothed and cleaned the tattered clothes. Her hands went over a hole in his shirt, and it became as good as new.

Her fingers rubbed Cloud's face, erasing the wounds and scabs.

His fingers were charred. Lilly held his hands, restoring them to their original form.

Holding back her tears and forcing a smile, Lilly carefully groomed Cloud to look the best he could be.

"You look so handsome in that uniform, Uncle Cloud!" Lilly said.

Cloud looked at himself, then touched his face. He said proudly, "I'm the pride of the country! I'd better be handsome, right?"

Lilly broke out into a smile, though she could not control her tears.

She had been true to her feelings, laughing when she was happy and crying when she was sad. This was the first time she had to smile when she was sad.

Pablo was standing behind them, watching silently.

Lilly broke down when she saw him. "Master, I can't do this. This is too hard for me... I can't... I can't control my tears... Boo hoo... Please help me, Master..."

Lilly crouched on the ground and curled up

twinge in his nose.

in agony.

He hugged her gently and shielded her from the falling

snowflakes.

covering her with golden

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were shaking. Her cries could be heard from

golden

house. "Lilly? Are

on her cheeks, and her eyes were

was also worried.

of his robe. They swept past Lilly's face, and it

okay now," Pablo said. "You two should go in. You don't want Granny to

master's comforting words calmed

"She won't be able

his boots and bag nervously, just to make sure

Uncle Cloud. You'll be fine!" Lilly said.

They went up to the front door and flashed their biggest smile.

was at the front door earlier, but it was too cold,

and saw Lilly and Cloud. They were holding hands, and Cloud's back

hiding in Anthony's coat. She laughed and said, "Oh, you naughty kids! I was wondering

out to look for Lilly because she didn't come back, but they

Bettany said to Cloud. "When did you reach here? I

and wanted to take Cloud's

over and took the bag from Cloud's