

Full-Level 431

Chapter 431 - 431: The Invader 3

“Yeah!” Unlike before, Zheng Anyang walked right up to him with an air of confidence and vitality. “Principal Zhou, it’s been a long time! You’re looking quite haggard. It seems the pressure has been too much, huh?”

If it weren’t for Ye Leng’an, he wouldn’t have this much confidence. But with Ye Lengan on their side now, he could be certain that this time the championship would definitely belong to their school. So, he was full of confidence right now.

Seeing Zheng Anyang like this, Principal Zhou couldn’t help but narrow his eyes. The smile on his face also seemed somewhat fake. “Principal Zheng appears very confident! It seems you have high hopes for this group of students!”

As he spoke, his gaze fell upon the students of Shengan High School participating in the competition.

After competing with Zheng Anyang for so long, though he had always held the advantage, he had never underestimated this rival. At the same time, he understood Zheng Anyang very well.

Zheng Anyang had never been an impulsive person. For him to be so self-assured today, it seemed he felt he had already clinched victory. There was no doubt that among this group of students, there was definitely a dark horse that Zheng Anyang had pinned his hopes on.

However, during the training period, Principal Zhou hadn’t heard of any student performing particularly well. If there was one, it appeared to be a female student surnamed Ye, though she didn’t seem to stand out much. Moreover, the student surnamed Ye had not participated in the entire training program, and was absent after the New Year.

“Well, well, look at the way you talked!” Zheng Anyang tilted his head, looking like a triumphant rooster. “I naturally have confidence in these students, which is why I let them participate in this competition. By then, your school’s undefeated record may not be able to continue.”

It could be said that almost every competition was won by students from Capital No. 1 High School. So this man had always been arrogant in front of him. If Ye Lengan were to take first place this time, it would be a great help for him and the school, relieving some pressure.

Principal Zhou replied with a polite but icy smile, “Principal Zheng appears quite confident! However, nothing is decided until the results are out, so it’s best not to boast too early, lest you end up with egg on your face.”

He was equally confident in his own students. Moreover, he was certain that Capital No. 1 High School was far superior to Shengan High School, be it in teachers or students.

Zheng Anyang didn’t object but nodded in agreement. “Then let’s wait and see what happens! ”

Soon, the two teams separated.

After bringing the ten students to the exam hall, Zheng Anyang encouraged them for a few words and then allowed everyone to enter the examination room. However, just as they were about to enter the examination room, he called out to Ye Lengan.

“Principal, anything else?” Ye Lengan looked at Zheng Anyang and asked, “Or do you have other instructions?”

“Ye Lengan!” Zheng Anyang’s face was full of smiles. When looking at Ye

Lengan, his voice was gentle, almost tender. “This time, I’ve placed all my hopes on you. As you saw, I’ve already bragged in front of Principal Zhou from Capital No. 1 High School. You can’t make me out to be someone who only makes empty boasts!

Hearing Zheng Anyang mention the childish exchange with Principal Zhou, Ye Lengan couldn’t help but roll her eyes. Still, she promised, “Principal, don’t worry. I’ll make sure you can continue bragging to Principal Zhou when the time comes.”

“Good, very good,” Zheng Anyang said with repeated nods. But he immediately added, “However, you mustn’t feel nervous! While I do hope you’ll take first place, I’m definitely not trying to pressure you! Just take it

“Principal, don’t worry. Since I promised to take first place, I won’t go back on my word,” said Ye Lengan, rolling her eyes again. Then she continued, “However, Principal, after the competition, there’s a small matter I’d like to discuss with you. I’ll come find you when you have time, at your convenience..”

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As long as she won the championship in the math competition, the principal should agree to her grade-skipping plan, right?

“Ye Lengan, as long as you can secure first place in this math competition,” Zheng Anyang turned to Ye Lengan and spoke seriously, “then no matter what request you make, I’ll agree.”

Upon hearing these words, Ye Lengan’s eyes brightened, and she was pleasantly surprised.

“Principal, is that a genuine promise? You know, you can’t go back on your word!”

What a pleasant surprise it was! Before she could even state her request, the principal had already given his agreement. She just hoped that the principal would be just as forthcoming after hearing her request.

“I won’t go back on my word,” Zheng Anyang replied with a grin, “but remember, the condition is that you secure the first place!”

This time, all Ye Lengan needed to do was secure first place, and he could redeem himself in front of Principal Zhou. As for Ye Lengan’s request, Zheng Anyang was not concerned; it was likely something as simple as taking a leave of absence.

After all, he had hardly seen Ye Lengan throughout the entire semester, so a leave of absence wouldn't be a problem. What mattered most was that even with a leave of absence, Ye Lengan could maintain her top rank in the entire grade, so he was quite confident.

With this in mind, he easily agreed to Ye Lengan's request. However, when the time came for Ye Lengan to make her request, he was genuinely troubled.

"Don't worry, don't worry," Ye Lengan assured him. "Principal, just wait for me to bring you the first place!"

With that, Ye Lengan turned and entered the examination hall.

Ye Xiyuan, who had been strolling slowly, couldn't help but smirk upon hearing Ye Lengan's boastful words.

In her eyes, Ye Lengan was being overly arrogant. The competition hadn't even begun, and she dared to make such bold claims about securing first place. She couldn't wait to see the moment when Ye Lengan failed to even complete the competition.

It was unclear whether it was a coincidence or fate, but Ye Lengan and Ye Xiyuan were assigned to the same examination room.

The exam began shortly after. After receiving the test papers, Ye Xiyuan quickly glanced through them and mentally called out to the system, "System, seize the opportunity now and knock out Ye Lengan immediately." A mechanical voice promptly replied, "The system is about to attack Ye Lengan."

As Ye Lengan received her test paper, she immediately picked up a pen and began writing. The questions on the paper were quite straightforward for her, and she could answer them with just a quick glance.

However, as Ye Lengan diligently tackled the test paper, she suddenly felt an intruder in her consciousness.

Here it was!

A cold smile appeared on Ye Lengan's face, and she was certain that this was related to Ye Xiyuan. While continuing to write, she diverted her attention to investigate the intruder in her consciousness.

She quickly discovered a small, faint light in her consciousness. Evidently, this light had infiltrated just now. Yet, she had no idea what this light represented.

Thinking about it, Ye Lengan temporarily ignored that thing and trapped it within her consciousness. She intended to study it more thoroughly after the exam to determine its nature.

She then turned her gaze towards Ye Xiyuan. When she noticed that Ye Xiyuan had been observing her, she suddenly broke into a radiant smile, laced with malice and sarcasm.

Following the system's attack on Ye Lengan, Ye Xiyuan had been discreetly watching for any sign of Ye Lengan fainting and being carried out.

However, after waiting for a while, she didn't observe any abnormalities in Ye Lengan. She began to criticize the system for being too slow.

Suddenly, she saw Ye Lengan looking in her direction. Startled, she immediately averted her gaze.

Although she had withdrawn her gaze, Ye Xiyuan still sensed Ye Leng'an's malicious stare directed at her.

Her heart began to race uncontrollably.

The mere thought of Ye Leng'an's gaze made her feel as if she knew something. However, the existence of the system was something that others couldn't possibly know about. Even if Ye Lengan possessed remarkable abilities, she couldn't be aware of the existence of that elusive system.

Nonetheless, despite mentally reassuring herself, Ye Xiyuan couldn't quell her racing heart.

She took a deep breath in an attempt to regain her composure.

Simultaneously, she continued to call upon the system in her mind.

At this point, she felt that the system needed to provide an explanation. The system had promised to assist in attacking Ye Lengan's consciousness, yet Ye Lengan appeared entirely unaffected, continuing to write vigorously. In contrast, she felt increasingly uneasy.

In such a situation, she was at a significant disadvantage.

However, no matter how much she called, the system remained unresponsive.

Nevertheless, even without a response, Ye Xiyuan wasn't too concerned. Since the system had disappeared for a period before returning, it would occasionally be absent like this after the system was upgraded.

Because of the system's malfunction, Ye Lengan seemed to be fine.

Ye Xiyuan was worried, but she forced herself to stay calm. However, whenever she saw Ye Lengan writing energetically, her anxiety resurfaced.

In less than half an hour, Ye Lengan stood up, took her test paper, and walked towards the podium.

The invigilator seated at the front was baffled by Ye Leng'an's actions. "Hey, what are you..."

In fact, it wasn't only the invigilator; the other students present also raised their heads to look at Ye Lengan.

"Submit my paper." Ye Lengan placed her test paper on the podium without hesitation.

"What?" The invigilator was puzzled. He subconsciously checked his watch.

"Uh, it's only been half an hour since the start of the exam."

"I know!" Ye Lengan nodded, stating matter-of-factly, "Isn't there a rule that allows us to submit the paper after half an hour?"

"Indeed, there is such a rule, but are you certain?" The invigilator was skeptical.

Ye Lengan gave a straightforward answer. "Yes!" After that, she turned around and exited the examination room..

Because of Ye Leng'an's actions, the invigilator couldn't help but frown, and his impression of this student became much worse. He even wondered how this student was selected to participate in the Mathematical Olympiad. Only half an hour had passed, and it was impossible to finish the exam paper. Even teachers like them were not sure if they could complete all the questions within the stipulated time.

Thinking of this, the invigilator wanted to find out which student had taken up a spot in the examination room.

Ye Lengan, from Shengan High School!

Frowning, the invigilator began to examine the test paper. However, when he saw the first question, he couldn't help but be captivated. Then, things quickly escalated.

Every question on the test paper had a detailed solution process, and the answers were correct. However, there was a difference from the standard answers. Perhaps it should be said that this was far better than the standard answers.

The problem-solving steps were clear and straightforward, giving the feeling of a sudden revelation as if the questions could be answered in this way.

He couldn't wait to read through all the questions and answers, and the delight on his face became increasingly evident. He double-checked the name and couldn't sit still any longer. He now wanted to call the school principal urgently and inform him that they had discovered a genius student here. It was a chance that must not be missed.

It was worth noting that almost all the teachers supervising the exam this time were from prestigious universities in the capital. They came not only because of the competition's significance but, more importantly, to identify promising talents for their institutions.

This invigilator was from Capital University.

Other students in the classroom grew increasingly nervous. Although they hadn't seen Ye Leng'an's answers, they could observe the invigilator's reactions. From initial dissatisfaction to growing amazement, it was clear that he was highly impressed by the contents of the paper.

Excelling and submitting the paper so early placed considerable pressure on all of them.

Especially Ye Xiyuan, who felt her back sweating. The system hadn't assisted her in dealing with Ye Leng'an, and now that Ye Lengan had submitted her paper early, it only intensified her unease. Regardless of the aspect, she felt incredibly anxious. If she hadn't accepted the system's mission this time, perhaps she wouldn't be feeling this tense.

Seeing Ye Lengan's performance, she sensed that her first-place position was now in jeopardy.

The more anxious she became, the less able she was to concentrate on answering the questions. Although she knew how to solve some of the problems, she couldn't seem to find the right approach. Her growing anxiety impeded her progress, creating a frustrating cycle.

Unaware of the developments in the exam hall, Ye Lengan strolled out confidently.

Zheng Anyang, waiting outside, approached Ye Lengan with a worried expression. "Why did you come out at this time? Did something happen during the exam?"

He couldn't think of any other reason. Of course, he never expected Ye Lengan to complete the entire exam in just half an hour.

Therefore, when he saw Ye Lengan emerge at this moment, he was filled with anxiety. After all, Ye Lengan was their school's secret weapon, and their success depended on this competition against Principal Zhou of Capital No. 1 High School.

Not only Zheng Anyang but also the principals and teachers from various schools outside the door were intently focused on Ye Lengan. Although some students had handed in their papers early before, no one had done it this early. It was essential to realize that the questions in the National Mathematical Olympiad were incredibly challenging. Major universities took the opportunity to identify promising talents. The difficulty level was apparent.

"No, everything is fine!" Ye Lengan shook her head and replied honestly. "I've already finished, so I submitted my paper early."

And, furthermore, she strictly adhered to the rules by submitting her paper only after half an hour had passed..

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"What? Finished?" Zheng Anyang's voice involuntarily rose by several degrees. However, upon noticing that everyone was looking towards him, he promptly lowered his voice. When he gazed at Ye Lengan, his tone still carried a hint of incredulity. "Are you saying that you completed all the exam papers within half an hour?"

"Yes," Ye Lengan replied with a nod. "That's why I submitted my paper.

Principal, I won't wait here. I'll head back now."

"Well..." Zheng Anyang contemplated for a moment, his expression taking on a slightly serious yet hopeful tone as he inquired, "So, how many points do you think you'll score this time?"

"Full marks," Ye Lengan replied casually. "The questions this time weren't particularly difficult! Barring any unforeseen circumstances, I should get a perfect score."

"Good, very good!" After receiving her response, Zheng Anyang's face was wreathed in a relieved smile. "If you have other plans, feel free to go! I'll wait here until the results are announced in the afternoon.'

As in previous Mathematical Olympiad competitions, after the morning exam, teachers would be summoned to grade the papers, and the results would be released in the afternoon. Thus, typically, examinees would remain at the venue awaiting the results. Achieving a top-ten ranking would make them highly coveted by major universities, which would eagerly extend admission offers, granting them direct entry to college without having to take the standard college entrance examination.

Following her departure, Zheng Anyang's smile never waned. The principals from various high schools who were waiting in the vicinity grew restless, with a desire to approach and seek information, but they remained in place.

Unaware of the outcome, they pondered whether the student who had exited early was exceptionally proficient or simply unskilled. However, they were more inclined to the former, as those selected to participate in this Mathematical Olympiad were handpicked students and unlikely to perform poorly. Moreover, the uncontainable smile on Principal Zheng's face didn't seem remotely disappointed.

After leaving the examination hall, Ye Lengan didn't immediately return to the villa. Instead, she hailed a taxi to the Huangfu family's company, Huangye Group.

Upon reaching Huangye Group, Ye Lengan paid no heed to the reception desk and proceeded toward the direction of the elevators.

Observing Ye Lengan's demeanor, the receptionist immediately signaled the security personnel to inquire about her intentions. The security staff, too, found Ye Lengan's actions somewhat unusual, prompting them to advance. Yet, upon witnessing her subsequent movements, they immediately halted in their tracks, silently relieved that they hadn't acted precipitously. Otherwise, they might have offended someone and jeopardized their continued employment at Huangye Group.

Ye Lengan proceeded directly to the CEO's elevator and input her fingerprint. The elevator doors opened, and she stepped inside, en route to visit Huangfu

Ruiling.

Previously, Huangfu Ruiling had informed her that her fingerprint was registered for the company's exclusive elevator. However, Ye Lengan had not ventured to Huangye Group previously, making this her inaugural visit.

Upon observing Ye Lengan's actions, the group of security guards couldn't help but break into a cold sweat. Although they didn't know the nature of the relationship between the young woman and the CEO, the presence of her fingerprint on the CEO's private elevator hinted at a significant connection.

Thankfully, they hadn't obstructed her earlier. Had they done so, the outcome might have been far less favorable.

Ye Lengan took the elevator to the top floor.

As the elevator doors opened, she disembarked. The top floor contained just a single office, that of Huangfu Ruiling. Five desks were positioned just outside the office, housing Huangfu Ruiling's five secretaries.

When the elevator doors slid open, the five secretaries acted in unison and focused their attention on the entrance. Concurrently, a sense of curiosity welled up as to the identity of the visitor.

This was the CEO's private elevator, a privilege not even extended to the CEO's parents. Typically, only the CEO utilized this elevator. However, the CEO was presently inside his office.

Under the scrutiny of all present, Ye Lengan exited the elevator.

Upon sighting a breathtaking young woman emerging from the elevator, everyone was left momentarily dumbfounded, evidently caught off guard..

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At that moment, no one moved forward to greet the newcomer, as they were all unsure of the visitor's identity.

In the midst of the uncertainty, Li San, who had been standing on the sidelines, immediately rose and respectfully addressed her, "Miss Ye."

Upon seeing Li San, Ye Lengan was unsurprised. She raised an eyebrow and inquired, "Is Ruiling in his office?"

"Master is inside," Li San promptly replied. "I can take you in."

"No need." Ye Lengan waved her hand. "I can go in by myself."

Having heard Ye Lengan's response, Li San refrained from insisting and retreated to the side, Ye Lengan passed by Li San and directly pushed open the door.

The five secretaries who had been observing the scene couldn't help but feel a sense of shock. While they were unsure of the young woman's identity, it was evident that her relationship with the CEO was not ordinary. She not only had access to the CEO's private elevator but was also treated with such respect by Li San.

Li San held a significant position as the CEO's personal assistant, a role even more crucial than their own. While they could be replaced at any time, Li San's position was stable and irreplaceable. On occasion, Li San even served as the CEO's spokesperson.

Now, observing Li San's high degree of respect for this young woman and allowing her unfettered access to the CEO's office without prior notice, it was apparent that her connection with the CEO was exceptional.

Huangfu Ruiling had been engaged in official matters when he suddenly heard the door opening. He couldn't help but frown. As he raised his head, he intended to reprimand the individual for entering without knocking. However, when he saw who it was, his once stern expression melted away instantly, replaced by a gentle and welcoming smile.

"Why have you come at this time?"

Since there were no other people in the office, Huangfu Ruiling rose from his wheelchair and approached Ye Lengan, enfolding her in a warm embrace. "Isn't today the Mathematical Olympiad? You submitted your paper early!"

"Yes!" Ye Lengan nodded, then withdrew from Huangfu Ruiling's embrace, smiling as she responded, "The questions were quite straightforward, so I handed in my paper early. However, the principal is still waiting for the results! I heard that in previous years, the exam would conclude in the morning, and the results would be available in the afternoon."

Huangfu Ruiling held Ye Leng'an's hand and sat down on the sofa. "In that case, your principal must be overjoyed. Your performance makes it seem like you're a shoo-in for the championship."

"He's indeed thrilled," Ye Lengan replied with a smile. "Moreover, I believe I'll be skipping a grade this time. The principal promised that if I secure first place in the Mathematical Olympiad competition, he'll allow me to skip a grade."

"Is that so?" Huangfu Ruiling's tone carried a tinge of skepticism. "Is your principal really that easy to persuade?"

If Ye Lengan achieved first place this time, wouldn't Principal Zheng want to keep her for an additional two years? After all, an extra two years would likely bring even more honor to the school. How could Principal Zheng so readily agree to let her skip a grade? After the acceleration, Ye Lengan would only have one semester left at the school.

"The process isn't essential," Ye Lengan replied with a mischievous grin. "The principal promised that as long as I secured first place, he would grant one of my requests. As for what that request is, I haven't had a chance to mention it

Huangfu Ruiling responded with a look of understanding, his sympathy extending to Principal Zheng. "When Principal Zheng hears your request, he'll surely regret having agreed so readily today."

"A person must honor their word!" Ye Leng'an showed no sign of sympathy. "Since the principal has already promised, he won't go back on his word."

Watching Ye Leng'an's matter-of-fact demeanor, Huangfu Ruiling found it rather amusing.

"Why did you suddenly decide to come see me today?" Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow and asked, "I've mentioned it many times before, but I've never seen you visit.. What brought you here right after the exam?"

Chapter 436: The Remnant Soul 4

"That's because I've got something good to share with you!" Ye Lengan said with a sly smile, "I believe I've figured out the secret of Ye Xiyuan."

"You know?" Huangfu Ruiling was taken aback. "Did you do something to her?"

"Hey, you've got me all wrong." Ye Lengan grinned mischievously, shaking her head. "This time, it was Ye Xiyuan's doing. I didn't lift a finger. However, since she's delivered it into my hands, it wouldn't be right for me not to accept it."

"What happened?" Huangfu Ruiling furrowed his brow, a hint of severity in his gaze. "Has Ye Xiyuan been up to something again?"

Ye Lengan remained tight-lipped. Instead, she turned her wrist, revealing a white glowing orb floating in her palm. The orb seemed to be trapped by some force, struggling intensely but unable to break free.

Observing the radiant object in Ye Lengan's hand, Huangfu Ruiling couldn't help but frown. "What is this?"

The aura emanating from the orb felt alien. It didn't seem particularly unique, yet it gave off an unsettling vibe.

"If I'm not mistaken, this is the secret from Ye Xiyuan," Ye Lengan remarked, gazing at the small entity, her eyes gleaming with a cold determination. "The reason for Ye Xiyuan's enigmatic behavior likely stems from this. Today, during the exam, this thing entered my mind, seemingly attempting to attack my consciousness," Ye Lengan continued, her voice composed. "I took the chance to contain it."

"Do you know what this is?" Huangfu Ruiling inquired, his interest piqued by the peculiar item.

"I'm not sure," Ye Lengan replied, her eyes locked on the luminous sphere in her hand. She sported a sly smile and continued, "But I think it's capable of communication. Otherwise, how could it interact with Ye Xiyuan? Let's give it a try."

With that, she spoke directly to the peculiar thing, her gaze fixed on the orb. However, it appeared the thing couldn't comprehend her words, continuing to struggle without response.

"It seems like it doesn't understand me," Ye Lengan remarked, her smile growing more radiant, yet her aura chilling. "Ruiling, what do you think we should do now?"

"If communication is impossible, we might as well destroy it," Huangfu Ruiling suggested in a straightforward and ruthless manner. "Useless items don't deserve to linger."

Having spoken, Huangfu Ruiling raised his hand, and a murderous aura seeped from his fingertips. The aura seemed to act with intent, drifting toward the orb in Ye Lengan's grasp, enshrouding it completely without harming Ye Lengan.

Swiftly, the luminous orb was nearly engulfed by the murderous aura.

"No, please, don't. Please release me. I'll tell you everything you want to know," a shrill, aged voice suddenly reverberated in the office, originating from the luminous orb. The voice was sharp and tinged with panic.

"It appears it can speak," Ye Lengan remarked, nodding at Huangfu Ruiling. She continued, "Ruiling, isn't it funny how some things can be so stubborn? When you try to talk to them nicely, they refuse to listen, but they strangely prefer it when you get tough with them."

Huangfu Ruiling, unfazed, nodded in agreement. "You're absolutely right,

An'an."

"You insolent brat! How dare you be so disrespectful to me?" the elderly voice retorted. "Do you even know who I am? Back when I reigned supreme, you were nowhere to be found!"

"Ah," Ye Lengan responded indifferently. Her words struck a nerve, underscoring her point. "But what of it? You're in our hands now, and we decide your fate."

The luminous orb, upon hearing Ye Lengan's blunt words, remained silent, perhaps miffed.

"Alright, now that you can speak, that's more convenient," Ye Lengan declared.

Retracting her hand, the luminous orb continued to hover, enshrouded by the murderous energy. "Let's set aside the rest for now. Tell us, just who are you?" The orb bobbed up and down, but it did not respond to Ye Lengan's inquiry.

As Ye Lengan was about to act again, Huangfu Ruiling interjected, "It's a remnant soul, concealing itself with special techniques, that's why we didn't notice it."

"How did you know that?" the elderly voice inquired, sounding surprised.

However, it soon realized its mistake and promptly fell silent.

Ye Lengan understood, her gaze shifting. "So that's the case!"

The murderous aura had merged with Huangfu Ruiling, most likely detecting it during its interaction with the luminous orb. This explained how Huangfu Ruiling had knowledge of it.

"Now that we're aware, there's no need for pretense," Ye Lengan addressed the remnant soul. "Speak up! What's your connection with Ye Xiyuan?" The remnant soul continued to feign ignorance, behaving as if it couldn't understand.

"As expected, you won't confess until it's your last resort," Ye Lengan commented, her smile growing even brighter and colder. She turned to Huangfu Ruiling, saying, "Ruiling, I believe that since it's a remnant soul, it implies it shouldn't exist in this world. Therefore, we should assist it in gaining an early release!"

Huangfu Ruiling nodded, then raised his hand and squeezed it. The murderous aura seemed to sense something and began to tighten.

"No, please, don't," the elderly voice cried out again, this time filled with panic. "You can't do this. If I'm gone, you won't know anything."

"But even if you were here, I wouldn't know anything!" Ye Lengan remarked casually. "Besides, I just need to know that you've been assisting Ye Xiyuan in framing me. That's enough, isn't it?"

Thinking back to her first life, she knew that it was with the aid of this remnant soul that her fate had been so miserable. Therefore, this remnant soul was also one of the main culprits. Since she

couldn't extract any information from it, destroying it seemed like the best course of action. With that in mind, Ye Leng'an's eyes glittered with a murderous intent..

Chapter 437 - 437: Confession 1

"No, you can't say you're going to kill me," the remnant soul responded, detecting the killing intent in Ye Lengan's words. It quickly added, "If you kill me, you won't find out anything."

"But still, I can't extract any information from you," Ye Lengan replied with a cold laugh. "That's why I'm saying you have no value to me. Moreover, you've been dead for many years. I don't want to kill you; I want to obliterate you completely."

She was serious, with a genuine intention to follow through. She had no plans to let this remnant soul, who had caused her a tragic fate in her previous life, continue existing in this world.

"I'll tell you everything." The remnant soul's voice quivered. It no longer cared to hide anything. "As long as you spare me, I'll tell you whatever you want to know."

"Who are you exactly?" Huangfu Ruiling asked. "When a person dies, their soul should vanish. Were you a cultivator in your past life?"

Even powerful individuals in the Hidden World didn't always leave behind a remnant soul after their deaths. Moreover, judging by the remnant soul's aura, it didn't seem like it belonged to a strong cultivator.

Hearing Huangfu Ruiling's question, Ye Lengan chose to remain silent, patiently awaiting the remnant soul's response.

What followed was a prolonged silence. It was unclear whether the remnant soul was hesitant to answer or contemplating how to respond.

Huangfu Ruiling's brows furrowed, his eyes turning cold.

Eventually, the remnant soul pleaded for mercy again. Then, like spilling beans, it quickly began sharing its story, "My original name is Zhongyu

Zhenhua, and I was the head of the Zhongyu family in the Hidden World. Later, when I ventured alone into a secret land, I met my demise there. Before my death, I had already reached the initial stage of the Golden Core Realm. I was on the brink of complete soul dispersal, but I carried a family heirloom with me at that time, which left behind this remnant soul.'

Upon hearing this, Huangfu Ruiling's eyes held a glint of realization.

"You're aware of it!" Ye Lengan immediately deduced when she saw Huangfu Ruiling's reaction. "Your mother's surname is Zhongyu as well."

"So, you also have the bloodline of our Zhongyu family?" the remnant soul's voice revealed a hint of hope. Perhaps it believed that with a trace of shared lineage, it might escape its fate today.

Huangfu Ruiling didn't spare a glance at the remnant soul. His full attention was on Ye Lengan. When facing Ye Lengan's inquiries, he responded promptly, "Although my mother's surname is Zhongyu, our connection with the Zhongyu family in the Hidden World isn't particularly close. As for Zhongyu Zhenhua, many in the Hidden World have knowledge of him. This individual vanished suddenly three hundred years ago, taking with him the

Zhongyu family's treasured Five-Colored Stone. According to him, it was the

Five-Colored Stone that preserved this remnant soul. All these years, the Zhongyu family has been in relentless pursuit of the Five-Colored Stone's whereabouts. You should understand that with the Five-Colored Stone in their possession, the Zhongyu family's cultivation will advance more rapidly, and their foundation will become stronger."

Ye Lengan nodded and then turned to the remnant soul and inquired, "What about the Five-Colored Stone? Do you still have it?"

"I've already refined the Five-Colored Stone," the remnant soul admitted. "It was the absorption of all the spiritual energy within that allowed me to maintain this remnant soul and survive in this world."

"But it's clear you don't wish to remain in this state," Ye Lengan remarked with a wry smile. "Honestly, what is your relationship with Ye Xiyuan?"

Ye Xiyuan was once an ordinary person, yet she had suddenly become extraordinary. It was evident that the remnant soul had played a significant role in her transformation. However, the nature of their relationship remained a mystery.

With Huangfu Ruiling's menacing presence, the remnant soul dared not conceal any details. It proceeded to reveal its entire story.

It turned out that the power derived from the Five-Colored Stone, after many years, was on the brink of depletion. Zhongyu Zhenhua was unwilling to dissipate completely, so he sought ways to revive himself..

Chapter 438 - 438: Confession 2

Later, through a fortunate twist of fate, he obtained a means to strip others of their providence. When his acquired providence reached a certain level, he could then utilize the natural spiritual energy to reconstruct his physical form.

However, as a mere remnant soul, obtaining another person's providence was impossible. Nearly everyone in the Hidden World was a cultivator, highly vigilant and skeptical of others. Consequently, he left the Hidden World and ventured into the mortal world. He chose Ye Xiyuan as his host, harnessing her to acquire providence from others.

Fearing Ye Xiyuan's suspicion, he disguised himself as a system, convincing her that he could help her become a paragon of the heavens. This earned Ye Xiyuan's trust, enabling him to manipulate her for his ends. Periodically, he would offer Ye Xiyuan small rewards to allay her suspicions. The talk of points and such was mere deception, designed to create the illusion that he was a genuine system.

“Didn’t expect you to be so up-to-date!” Ye Lengan sneered and remarked, “You even know about systems.”

“I only learned about it after coming to the mortal world,” Zhongyu Zhenhua quickly replied. “I dare not let Ye Xiyuan know I’m just a remnant soul, fearing she may harbor malicious intent.”

Having lived for hundreds of years, he was cautious in all his endeavors.

“Why did you choose Ye Xiyuan?” Ye Lengan inquired. “Don’t attempt to conceal anything from me, or I will ensure your death is excruciating.”

During her query, Ye Lengan raised her hand, causing a tiny flame to flicker on her fingertip. The flame might have been small, but it seemed to possess boundless power, capable of incinerating everything in its path.

Zhongyu Zhenhua’s soul quivered the moment the flame materialized. With just a remnant soul remaining, he acutely felt the menace the flame posed. He was now engulfed in a murderous aura, and the threat of the flame loomed not far away. Either of these threats could easily disperse him into oblivion, and the fact that they converged now made him feel extremely unfortunate. Despite maintaining his concealment for so long, he was apprehended when he finally attempted to assault Ye Lengan.

“Speak!” Ye Lengan demanded coldly.

Zhongyu Zhenhua hastily replied, “Ye Xiyuan is unique; she isn’t an ordinary person. Her soul possesses an anomaly, and that’s why I selected her. Later, I discovered she had been reborn.”

“Reborn?” Ye Lengan couldn’t help but exclaim. This was an unexpected revelation. In her first life, Ye Xiyuan must have been reborn. Assisted by this remnant soul, she persistently targeted her. At that time, she was entirely defenseless, which explained her tragic fate.

However, Ye Lengan was left wondering what Ye Xiyuan had experienced before her rebirth and why she had subjected her to such torment afterward.

Huangfu Ruiling, wearing an enigmatic expression, couldn’t help but cast a brief glance at Ye Lengan, refraining from voicing his thoughts.

“Yes, indeed,” Zhongyu Zhenhua continued, “Before her rebirth, her life was said to have been miserable due to you. That’s why she has persistently targeted you.”

“Reborn? That aside, there must be another reason,” Ye Lengan replied with a sardonic curve to her lips. “Don’t tell me you weren’t fanning the flames. You’d hardly believe it yourself!”

Silence hung in the air once more. After a considerable pause, Zhongyu Zhenhua spoke again, “It’s because your providence is incredibly potent. If I could obtain your luck, I could reconstruct my body faster.”

He couldn't quite fathom it, but Ye Lengan possessed remarkably potent providence. Each time he glimpsed her providence, he couldn't resist his covetous desires. This led him to subtly guide Ye Xiyuan to confront Ye

Lengan..

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However, due to Ye Xiyuan's inherent animosity towards Ye Lengan, guiding her was effortless.

"How can you see other people's providence?" Huangfu Ruiling suddenly interjected, "Even when you were alive, you shouldn't have had this ability.

Why do you know it now, after death?"

Generally, everyone's providence was predestined but could change in their daily lives. However, something as ethereal as providence was impossible to see or even sense. Now that Zhongyu Zhenhua was nothing more than a remnant soul, it was inconceivable that he could perceive something as extraordinary as providence.

"It's because I acquired a cultivation method that can reshape my physical body. After practicing it, I gained the ability to see others' providence," Zhongyu Zhenhua admitted without reservation now, "I happened to stumble upon this method in that secret land."

"Where is that secret land?" Huangfu Ruiling's eyes displayed a cold gleam.

"Don't attempt to conceal it."

"It's located within the Hidden World, on Mount Kunlun!" Sensing the cold aura emanating from Huangfu Ruiling, Zhongyu Zhenhua promptly responded, "That place opens once every hundred years, and I happened to be on Kunlun when it occurred, which allowed me to enter."

However, to his surprise, once he entered that secret place, he couldn't find his way out.

"Did you attempt something in the restaurant earlier?" Huangfu Ruiling recalled an incident and inquired.

"At that time, Ye Xiyuan wanted to learn more about you, so I wanted to investigate."

But he hadn't expected to be attacked by Huangfu Ruiling before he could act. He had sustained significant damage to his spiritual form, and he had spent a considerable amount of time recovering. He had also secretly absorbed a substantial amount of Ye Xiyuan's providence in order to convalesce. When he did eventually recover, he had intended to use Ye Xiyuan to rapidly absorb more providence to make up for what he had lost.

However, Ye Xiyuan had become increasingly ineffective, failing nearly every attempt. He couldn't even absorb the formidable providence of Nangong Xuyao anymore because Ye Xiyuan had lost favor with Nangong Xuyao.

Now that everything was out in the open, Huangfu Ruiling turned to Ye

Lengan and asked, "An'an, what do you think we should do about this?"

"Since it's just a remnant soul, it implies that he should no longer exist." Ye Leng'an's eyes flashed with a cold light. When she looked at the radiance, the intent to kill was glaring, "Moreover, the cultivation method he practices is evidently an evil one, focused on robbing others of their providence, which is even more unacceptable."

"You promised to spare me." Sensing the killing intent exuding from Ye Lengan, Zhongyu Zhenhua became anxious. "Now that I've revealed everything, you can't go back on your word."

Though he was currently in a spiritual form and was only a wisp of a remnant soul, he was even more attuned to human emotions, which allowed him to perceive that Ye Lengan genuinely intended to end his existence. This awareness filled him with boundless fear. Though he was only a remnant soul, he still existed in this world. If he were to truly dissipate, there would be no hope left.

"I never once said I would spare you." Ye Lengan sneered and retorted, "You committed such deeds, yet you deluded yourself into thinking you could continue living. You've lived for so many years, why are you still so unperceptive?"

These words left Zhongyu Zhenhua without a comeback, but he promptly implored, "Spare me. As long as you're willing to let me go, I'll give you everything I have. I have many valuable items in my collection. As long as you want them, I'll immediately tell you their whereabouts."

"I have no interest in those items." Ye Leng'an's killing intent had yet to fade.

"Right now, I'm only interested in your life. What I most desire to do now is to annihilate you."

Not only him, but also Ye Xiyuan. She would not spare them. Although she was tremendously powerful now, it couldn't erase the torment she had experienced in her first life. So, she was absolutely determined not to let these enemies escape.

"Why?" Zhongyu Zhenhua's voice grew shrill. "You clearly suffered no harm, and I didn't gain any of your providence.. Why do you insist on exterminating

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"Want to know the reason?" A faint smile tugged at the corner of Ye Leng'an's lips. However, her words were as cold as frost. "Because I've been reborn."

With that, Ye Lengan gestured with one hand, and the flames immediately enveloped the radiant sphere.

Before Zhongyu Zhenhua could comprehend what was happening, he felt a deep-seated pain from within his soul. This was the first time he had experienced pain in years. Perhaps he had felt pain when he was alive, but since becoming a remnant soul, he had never known such agony.

However, now, as the flames surrounded him, he felt a pain emanating from the depths of his soul, a pain beyond words. It was as if he were on the brink of vanishing.

The entire office was filled with Zhongyu Zhenhua's anguished cries.

Initially, the cries were loud, but they gradually weakened. Then, they disappeared entirely, and the flames vanished along with them.

When the flames dissipated, the luminous aura that had been enveloped was gone as well.

The disappearance of Zhongyu Zhenhua provided a sense of relief to Ye

Lengan. While Ye Xiyuan continued to be lively, the absence of Zhongyu Zhenhua, one of the culprits, lightened her burden, as if she had let go of something.

"Aren't you curious about what just happened?" Ye Lengan didn't look at Huangfu Ruiling and spoke directly. "Now is your chance to ask whatever you want!"

Ye Lengan had been frank when speaking earlier, so she had no reason to withhold anything now. If Huangfu Ruiling wanted to know, she would tell him.

"Do you want to tell me?" Huangfu Ruiling responded with a question.

He had placed the decision in Ye Lengan's hands. If she chose to share, he would inquire further. If not, he would refrain from asking. He didn't need to know everything; as long as Ye Lengan stayed by his side, that was sufficient.

Upon hearing Huangfu Ruiling's words, Ye Lengan turned her head and gazed at him. Then, she tilted her head and smiled. "Since I'm in a rather good mood today, I'll tell you. But make sure you think carefully because once I spill the beans, there's no turning back!"

Huangfu Ruiling nodded, and under Ye Lengan's gaze, he inquired, "Alright, what do you mean by 'rebirth?'"

He was aware of the term's meaning, but he wanted to know the experiences that Ye Lengan had undergone, for rebirth implied a brush with death.

Contemplating this, he felt a dull ache in his chest. He couldn't fathom the life-and-death trials Ye Lengan had faced. Moreover, he couldn't envision a world without Ye Lengan.

"In fact, I haven't just been reborn once; I've been reborn twice." Ye Lengan's tone was casual, concealing the gravity of the two life-and-death ordeals she'd undergone. "I believe you've conducted an investigation into my past. You might have noticed that I changed suddenly. But the truth is, I didn't change; I was reborn."

Subsequently, Ye Lengan divulged her entire history, recounting her tragic death in her first life due to Ye Xiyuan's machinations and her subsequent demise during the cultivation world's tribulation before returning to this life. She shared every detail without reservation.

Upon revealing her story, she experienced a sense of liberation, as if she had shed a burden that had weighed heavily on her heart.

Unbeknownst to her, right after she finished narrating, she found herself enveloped in a warm embrace. She struggled briefly to understand Huangfu Ruiling's intentions.

“Don’t move.” Huangfu Ruilings voice carried a tinge of restrained heartache and an almost imperceptible undercurrent of fear. “Let me hold you for a while; it will be alright.”

His heart could only find solace when he held her close, sensing her warmth. It was as if this were the only way to assure himself that the person in his embrace remained alive and well in this world.

In this moment, he finally comprehended the depth of Ye Leng’an’s animosity toward Ye Xiyuan. It was because Ye Lengan had been killed by Ye Xiyuan once.

Not just once, but twice, all because of Ye Xiyuan, Ye Lengan couldn’t successfully transcend the tribulation.

Twice. The person he cherished the most had endured two deaths. How excruciating that must have been!

Throughout his life, he had never experienced fear. Regardless of the dangers he had faced, even in situations where he thought he might not survive, he had never known fear.

But now, he was genuinely afraid. Afraid of losing Ye Lengan. Afraid that upon waking, everything would be revealed as a dream, and Ye Lengan would no longer exist in this world.

If that were the case, he believed he might go mad.

He was like a child who had never tasted candy before but had now savored its sweetness. If fate were to take away this sweetness, he feared he might truly go mad and be unable to suppress the urge to shatter the entire world.

Sensing Huangfu Ruilings emotions at this moment, Ye Lengan reached out and encircled his waist. She spoke in a soothing tone, “I’m still here! Everything in the past is behind us. I’m alive and well, right here in your arms.”

“You won’t leave me, will you?” Huangfu Ruiling’s tone was slightly obstinate as if he was determined to secure a promise. “Promise me that you’ll never leave me.’

“Alright.” Ye Leng’an’s tone carried indulgence. She smiled and replied, “As long as you don’t betray me, I’ll never leave you.”

If you didn’t leave, I wouldn’t abandon you.

Huangfu Ruiling didn’t say anything more, but the tightening of his arms conveyed his commitment. Even though Ye Lengan felt somewhat uncomfortable, she made no effort to resist. Resting in Huangfu Ruilings embrace, she understood the gravity of the situation and recognized the need to give him time to come to terms with it.

As a result, she remained silent and still, nestled in Huangfu Ruiling’s arms..