

## Full-Level 901

### Chapter 901: Confirming Her Speculation

“Senior Sister Murong, I really didn’t deceive you,” Zhou Cui’an spoke with a stern voice. “Ye Leng’an is truly not a good person. I understand that you might find it hard to believe for now, but I still hope you can remain vigilant and not fall victim to her schemes.”

Murong Yumeng appeared somewhat helpless but nodded nonetheless. “Alright, I understand. You don’t need to worry too much. I believe Leng’an isn’t that kind of person.”

Seeing Murong Yumeng’s firm stance, Zhou Cui’an didn’t press further. She knew Murong Yumeng didn’t believe her words at the moment.

Nevertheless, she silently resolved to find a way to reveal Ye Leng’an’s true nature to Senior Sister Murong.

“Oh, by the way!” As if remembering something, Murong Yumeng took out a piece of paper from her bag and handed it to Zhou Cui’an. “Junior Sister Zhou, this is for you.”

Perplexed, Zhou Cui’an accepted the note and unfolded it. Her expression froze. “This is…”

“It’s the IOU from before. I’m returning it to you now.” Murong Yumeng smiled.

“During a conversation with Shaohua earlier, I accidentally mentioned that you borrowed money from me. Upon hearing this, Shaohua immediately repaid the debt. The money’s all settled now, so I’m returning the IOU to you.”

Zhou Cui’an’s face paled at Murong Yumeng’s words. Her lips trembled. “Did Shaohua… say anything?”

She didn’t want Huangfu Shaohua to know about this. It would only bring her embarrassment. Yet, she couldn’t blame Murong Yumeng. She knew it wasn’t intentional. Moreover, Murong Yumeng had helped her a lot before, so she couldn’t blame her.

“You’ve misunderstood.” Murong Yumeng smiled and shook her head, “What happened at the mall concerned your privacy. I wouldn’t casually disclose it to anyone. I simply mentioned that your family was facing difficulties, hence the need for borrowing money.”

Relieved upon hearing Murong Yumeng’s explanation, Zhou Cui’an gratefully looked at her. “Senior Sister, you’re really kind.”

She knew Murong Yumeng wasn’t one to disregard the gravity of a situation.

“Junior Sister Zhou, Shaohua really likes you. Without asking any questions, he immediately repaid the debt,” Murong Yumeng said with a smile. “He said he didn’t want you to owe anyone. If you had to owe someone, it should be him.”

Hearing this, Zhou Cui'an couldn't help but smile sweetly.

The two continued chatting.

Suddenly, Zhou Cui'an asked, "By the way, do you know what kind of person Ye Leng'an's fiancé is?"

Murong Yumeng's eyes flashed with uncertainty. She raised her head with a puzzled expression.

"What's wrong? Why are you suddenly asking about Leng'an's fiancé? Has something happened?"

"No, I'm just curious." Zhou Cui'an smiled discreetly. "Senior Sister Murong, have you met Ye Leng'an's fiancé?"

"I'm not entirely sure." Murong Yumeng smiled. "I've only heard a bit, but I'm not sure about the specifics. However, Leng'an's fiancé treats her very well and has spent a lot on her."

Zhou Cui'an continued asking, "Is Ye Leng'an's fiancé quite old?"

Murong Yumeng hesitated momentarily, her smile seeming forced. "Why would you think that? Although I haven't seen him, I don't think Leng'an is that kind of person."

Observing Murong Yumeng's reaction, Zhou Cui'an knew her speculation was correct.

However, she didn't show it. Instead, she replied with a smile, "It's nothing, just curious. Since you haven't met him, let's forget about it."

She believed Murong Yumeng must have met Ye Leng'an's fiancé, but she refused to tell to protect Ye Leng'an's dignity.

Since Murong Yumeng had decided to conceal it, further inquiry would be futile. However, her suspicions were confirmed. Ye Leng'an was seeking a wealthy partner.

Zhou Cui'an believed that Ye Leng'an was just a gold digger. What right did Ye Leng'an have to flaunt in front of her? Zhou Cui'an vowed to expose Ye Leng'an's facade and reveal her true nature as a hypocrite selling herself for a lavish lifestyle.

Lost in thought, Zhou Cui'an didn't notice Murong Yumeng's overly bright smile.

Meanwhile, after leaving the dormitory, Ye Leng'an drove back to the villa, intending to return after class the next day.

She had gone early today just to tidy up. If she couldn't return by noon, at least she'd have a place to rest.

Upon returning to the villa, she found Huangfu Ruiling in the living room with documents in hand, seemingly working.

"Why are you here?" Ye Leng'an was surprised. "Aren't you supposed to be at the company? Why work here?"

"I'm waiting for you!" Huangfu Ruiling put down the documents, smiling. "Tonight, let's go back to the ancestral mansion together!"

“Huh?” Ye Leng’an sat beside Huangfu Ruiling, blinking in confusion. “Did something happen?”

“I don’t know.” Huangfu Ruiling shrugged casually. “But it’s probably related to Huangfu Ruixiang.”

“Hasn’t he decided not to divorce?” Ye Leng’an shook her head. “What’s going on now?”

“Huangfu Ruixiang called personally, saying it’s important, and begged me to come,” Huangfu Ruiling said casually. “So, I agreed.”

Ye Leng’an shrugged, unperturbed. “Alright, we’ll go later! Let’s see what’s so important that he’s resorting to begging.”

Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow, dropping the subject. Instead, he asked, “How was your visit to the dormitory today?”

“Everything’s fine.”

Suddenly recalling something, Ye Leng’an asked, “By the way, does the Huangfu family have a branch member named Huangfu Shaohua?”

Chapter 902: He Has a Fiancée

Hearing the name mentioned by Ye Leng’an, Huangfu Ruiling paused for a moment before responding, “Indeed, there is such a person. He himself isn’t particularly outstanding, but his father, Huangfu Ping, holds a notable position in the company.”

Ye Leng’an nodded, adding, “Huangfu Shaohua is dating a girl from our dormitory. I was just curious.”

However, she refrained from mentioning Zhou Cui’an’s words. Not out of kindness, but simply because they didn’t concern her. In her view, Zhou Cui’an was insignificant.

Huangfu Ruiling’s expression turned peculiar upon hearing Ye Leng’an’s words. He then asked, “Do you have a good relationship with that girl?”

“Why do you ask?” Ye Leng’an was taken aback by the question, blinking curiously. “Is there something wrong with Huangfu Shaohua?”

“If I recall correctly, he’s already engaged,” Huangfu Ruiling replied calmly. “His fiancée is the third daughter of the Xiao family.”

“The Xiao family?” Ye Leng’an pondered for a moment before questioning, “Are you referring to the Xiao family involved in diplomatic affairs?”

The Xiao family was known for its involvement in politics, particularly in diplomacy. Many diplomatic officials of this country hailed from the Xiao family. It was almost predetermined that

the Xiao family's offspring would join the Ministry of Foreign Affairs unless they proved exceptionally inept.

"Yes," Huangfu Ruiling affirmed. "The third daughter of the Xiao family graduated last year. However, she didn't pursue a diplomatic career. She's a renowned painter. I've heard she's held several art exhibitions. She's considered a desirable wife candidate in the capital."

Ye Leng'an was surprised. "So, Zhou Cui'an is a homewrecker! I wonder if she willingly became one or was made one."

"Zhou Cui'an?" Huangfu Ruiling frowned. "Your roommate! If you're close, remind her. If not, don't bother."

"I won't bother." Ye Leng'an shrugged nonchalantly. "Besides, Zhou Cui'an is quite vain. Regardless of whether Huangfu Shaohua has a fiancée or not, she won't let go of this wealthy husband."

Furthermore, if Zhou Cui'an truly didn't know about Huangfu Shaohua's engagement and someone told her, she wouldn't believe it. She'd likely think it was fabricated out of jealousy.

As evening approached, Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Leng'an returned to the Huangfu family's ancestral mansion.

Upon entering, they found members of the first and second branches already gathered in the living room.

Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying wore inscrutable expressions. Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating sat to the side.

Zhong Yating still appeared pallid, as if recovering from a severe illness. She sat beside Huangfu Ruixiang, displaying utmost docility and dependence as if he were her everything.

Members of the second branch sat on the other side, with only Huangfu Jingxian and Nangong Xiyu present. Their son, Huangfu Ruihang, was absent, reportedly on a business trip abroad since the new year.

However, the most surprising presence was Li Yiran's.

Though she sat somewhat apart from the others, her attendance was unexpected.

Without formality, Huangfu Ruiling pulled Ye Leng'an to the empty main seat and sat down. Leaning back on the sofa, he surveyed the assembly.

With Huangfu Ruiling silent, the others remained so as well. The atmosphere in the living room grew somber and peculiar.

After a while, Huangfu Ruiling's gaze settled on Huangfu Ruixiang before he spoke directly, "Why did you ask me to come back today?"

His question immediately drew everyone's attention to Huangfu Ruixiang.

Clearly, he was the orchestrator of this gathering, leaving everyone in suspense about his intentions.

Even Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying were perplexed. They, too, wondered what their youngest son had in store. With everyone convened, even Huangfu Ruiling back, it seemed significant.

Yet, if it were truly crucial, why hadn't Huangfu Ruixiang informed them as parents beforehand?

At Huangfu Ruiling's inquiry, Huangfu Ruixiang glanced at Zhong Yating beside him and then at Li Yiran seated nearby, a hint of apology in his eyes.

Noticing his gaze, Li Yiran felt a foreboding sense.

While Zhongyu Liuying hadn't summoned her, Huangfu Ruixiang had notified her.

Previously, Zhongyu Liuying had invited her to the Huangfu family's gatherings to embarrass Zhong Yating. However, this time, it was Huangfu Ruixiang who had summoned her. This didn't elicit joy but rather an odd feeling.

Having miscarried to save Huangfu Jingzhang, Zhong Yating had lost her chance at motherhood due to severe injuries. Under such circumstances, no one in the Huangfu family would want to humiliate her.

So, although resentful, Li Yiran had prepared herself mentally. She likely couldn't openly appear in public as before.

Yet, Huangfu Ruixiang had personally invited her today and insisted she attend. She didn't feel joy, only a faint dread, as if something had spiraled out of her control.

Taking a deep breath, Huangfu Ruixiang began, "I believe everyone already knows that Yating and I have no intention of divorcing. We plan to live together from now on."

His announcement didn't surprise anyone, not even Zhongyu Liuying.

#### Chapter 903: Take Her Son Away

Though Li Yiran had known it already, hearing the confirmation from Huangfu Ruixiang ignited a flame of jealousy in her heart. Especially after all the effort she had put into exposing Zhong Yating's true identity, nearly leading to Huangfu Ruixiang's decision to divorce her. Yet now, all her efforts seemed to have been in vain.

Not only that, although Huangfu Ruixiang mentioned this matter, Li Yiran felt there was more left unsaid.

"There's one more crucial matter." Huangfu Ruixiang's gaze fixed on Li Yiran before he continued, "Due to the injuries sustained, Yating's body has suffered greatly, rendering her incapable of conceiving in the future. Therefore, I've made the decision that from now on, Haohao will be raised under Yating's name. He will be Yating's son."

Haohao, as he spoke, was the son born to Li Yiran – Huangfu Zihao.

As soon as the words left his mouth, it felt like a drop of water had fallen into a still pot of oil, causing an instant explosion.

“Ruixiang...” All color drained from Li Yiran’s face, leaving it nearly translucent. “You... Do you even know what you’re saying?”

She couldn’t believe her ears. Huangfu Ruixiang intended to give her son to Zhong Yating. Her son would henceforth call Zhong Yating ‘Mother’.

No, this was absolutely unacceptable.

Huangfu Ruiling’s expression remained unchanged, indifferent as ever. In fact, this matter had nothing to do with him.

Ye Leng’an’s eyes flashed with surprise, but she remained silent.

It seemed that Huangfu Ruixiang had called Huangfu Ruiling back tonight precisely for this matter. Yet, she never expected Huangfu Ruixiang to have such thoughts.

However, whether it was Huangfu Ruixiang’s idea or Zhong Yating’s, it was hard to determine! At least, there was no surprise on Zhong Yating’s face. Obviously, she had already known about this matter.

Huangfu Jingzhang initially wanted to say something, but after consideration, he remained silent. After all, the reason Zhong Yating had become like this was to save him.

On the other hand, Zhongyu Liuying frowned. “Is this your decision or Yating’s?”

Before Zhong Yating could speak, her hand was grabbed by Huangfu Ruixiang, who shook his head at her.

“This is my decision,” Huangfu Ruixiang stated firmly. Then, he looked apologetically at Li Yiran. “Yiran, I know this is unfair to you. However, you will have other children in the future. But Yating will never have that chance.”

Upon hearing Huangfu Ruixiang’s words, everyone reacted differently.

Ye Leng’an cast a disdainful look at Huangfu Ruixiang. She had long known he wasn’t a good man, but she didn’t expect him to be such a scoundrel.

To utter such words! If anyone dared to say such things to her, she would end them without hesitation.

Huangfu Jingxian and Nangong Xiyu didn’t voice their opinions. After all, it wasn’t someone else’s matter. Huangfu Ruixiang was just their nephew. Though they were elders, it wasn’t appropriate for them to interfere.

However, their expressions revealed their disapproval of Huangfu Ruixiang’s actions.

“No, this is absolutely not possible.” Li Yiran’s lips trembled, her voice hoarse.

“Haohao is my son. I will never allow anyone to take him away.”

“Yiran, you’ve always been sensible, haven’t you?” Huangfu Ruixiang’s expression turned serious. “Yating can never be a mother again. Consider it a pity for her. Can’t you do that? Moreover, if Haohao becomes Yating’s child, he will be my legitimate son and can be recorded in the family tree. Isn’t that what you want to see?”

“No, no way.” Li Yiran shook her head continuously. When she looked at Huangfu Ruixiang, her eyes were filled with sorrow. “Ruixiang, I only have Haohao now. If you want to take him away, then I truly have nothing.”

“Yiran, what are you saying?” Huangfu Ruixiang frowned, his tone sharp. “How can you have nothing? You still have me. I will be with you! Besides, even without Haohao, you’ll have other children in the future. But Yating will never have such an opportunity.”

Listening to Huangfu Ruixiang’s heartless words, Li Yiran felt she was about to burst with anger. She had never imagined Huangfu Ruixiang was so irresponsible.

And what did he mean by she would have other children in the future? Was she supposed to hand over her son just because of this reason? Moreover...

Li Yiran couldn’t help but glance in Ye Leng’an’s direction.

She knew her body had collapsed long ago due to what happened before. The only reason she could give birth to Haohao was because of Ye Leng’an’s help. It was uncertain whether she could still conceive in the future. Even if she did conceive, she didn’t know if she could carry the pregnancy to term.

Therefore, this might be her only child in this life. And now, Huangfu Ruixiang actually wanted to give her son to Zhong Yating. Regardless, she would never agree.

Thinking of this, Li Yiran said firmly, “That’s impossible. Haohao is my son. I will never give him to anyone else.”

At this point, tears streamed down Li Yiran’s face. She looked at Huangfu Ruixiang, pleading through her tears, “Ruixiang, I beg you, please don’t take Haohao away, okay? I carried him for ten months and gave birth to him. I cannot let him go. If Yating really wants a child, you can adopt one! Otherwise, you can adopt someone from the collateral family!”

Seeing Li Yiran’s tearful appearance, Huangfu Ruixiang felt reluctant as well. But...

He looked at Zhong Yating beside him, who looked so dependent and sad. When he considered that she had become like this because she saved his father, he felt even more unwilling to part with her.

However, adoption or inheritance...

Huangfu Ruixiang didn’t have time to think before his thoughts were interrupted by Zhongyu Liuying’s words which completely rejected such a suggestion.

Chapter 904: It Has Nothing to Do With Me

“No,” Zhongyu Liuying asserted firmly, “Whether it’s through adoption or inheritance, the child won’t carry Ruixiang’s bloodline. Isn’t this essentially raising someone else’s child? I absolutely oppose this.”

“I agree with Liuying,” Huangfu Jingzhang, who had been silent, chimed in. “Haohao is Ruixiang’s child. This is just a change of mothers. Besides, Haohao will be raised within the Huangfu family, and if Yiran wants to see the child, she can do so anytime.”

He, too, held traditional values and couldn’t fathom his son raising another’s child. Even if it were a distant relative’s child, he couldn’t approve. Moreover, Ruixiang already had a son, so why adopt someone else’s? Simply give Li Yiran’s child to Zhong Yating, and all would be well.

And ultimately, the child would still be raised by the Huangfu family. What difference would it make?

“But this is completely different!” Li Yiran couldn’t help but defend herself. “Haohao is my child. How can I accept my child calling another woman ‘Mom’?”

“It’s not just any other woman. She’s Ruixiang’s wife.”

Observing Li Yiran’s agitation, Zhongyu Liuying, though displeased, patiently continued, “Furthermore, this is also beneficial for Haohao. When Haohao becomes the child of Ruixiang and Yating, he’ll be a legitimate heir, and his name will appear on the family tree.”

Although Huangfu Jingxian and Nangong Xiyu felt uneasy about the situation, ultimately, Zhong Yating’s miscarriage and subsequent infertility were due to saving Huangfu Jingzhang. In the end, this was a debt owed to Zhong Yating by the Huangfu family.

Therefore, Huangfu Ruixiang’s proposal seemed to be the best solution for now.

“Well...” Nangong Xiyu paused, then offered her persuasion. “Yiran, you don’t have to see this in such a negative light. Ruixiang and Yating will eventually return to the Hidden World. The child will stay here at the ancestral mansion, and you can visit him whenever you want. In truth, there won’t be much change; it’s just a difference in titles.”

Unnoticed by most, Zhong Yating couldn’t help but smile smugly.

In reality, she didn’t care whether Li Yiran would agree. Perhaps, when Huangfu Ruixiang made the suggestion, her first thought wasn’t about having a child but about exacting revenge on Li Yiran.

If not for Li Yiran’s exposure, she wouldn’t have been forced to divorce. To capture Huangfu Ruixiang, she had taken a gamble. However, she didn’t anticipate miscarrying and losing her maternal rights.

Li Yiran’s actions led her to this plight, so she would make Li Yiran suffer the same fate. She wanted Li Yiran to lose her son and watch him call her rival mother every day.

She believed this revenge would be worse than death for Li Yiran.

Looking around at the others, Li Yiran’s face showed despair. Although no one knew Huangfu Ruixiang’s plan before, now that they knew, everyone sided with him and Zhong Yating, disregarding her feelings.

Was this merely a change in titles? If she relented, would her son cease to be hers?



Moreover, she might never have another child in the future.

And her son was her greatest asset, her lifeline in the Huangfu family. She would never give him up.

With this in mind, she turned to Ye Leng'an and asked, "Miss Ye, what's your opinion? Do you agree?"

She didn't know why she thought of Ye Leng'an. Perhaps it was because Ye Leng'an's assistance ensured her child's safe birth.

In an instant, all eyes were on Ye Leng'an.

Especially Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating, who were especially anxious.

Because they knew that if Ye Leng'an objected, their plan would fail.

Although Ye Leng'an was only Huangfu Ruiling's fiancée, not yet married, she held a higher place in Huangfu Ruiling's heart than his blood relatives.

Ye Leng'an, who had been quietly observing, was suddenly drawn into the situation and was baffled.

Without hesitation, she shrugged and said casually, "You can decide. It's not my concern. Besides, my opinion doesn't matter."

Although she disdained Huangfu Ruixiang's proposal, ultimately, it had nothing to do with her. There was no need for her interference, which would only make her disliked. Moreover, she didn't think she had much of a relationship with Li Yiran to speak up for her now.

And she didn't believe Li Yiran cared about this child. The reason for her anxiety was probably fear of losing an important bargaining chip!

Hearing this response, Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating breathed a sigh of relief.

As long as Ye Leng'an stayed out of it, that was the best outcome.

On the other hand, Li Yiran felt a heavy blow upon hearing Ye Leng'an's reply. It was as if she had been betrayed.

"Miss Ye, how can you say that?" She looked at Ye Leng'an with grief and indignation. "This is my child! Why are you, like them, trying to take my child away?"

She was utterly mad!

Seeing Li Yiran's expression, Ye Leng'an couldn't help but find it amusing. "I'm not trying to take your child away! I just don't want to get involved in your affairs. Can't I even do that? Besides, this really has nothing to do with me!"

Chapter 905: The Greatest Winner

"How can it have nothing to do with you?" Li Yiran's voice quivered with urgency. "This child..."

She nearly revealed that this child was born because of Ye Leng'an's intervention, but before she could finish her sentence, Ye Leng'an cut her off.

"How could it possibly be related to me?" Ye Leng'an countered with a smile. "The child's biological parents are here. I'm just an outsider. Why would I meddle in your affairs? Whatever decisions you make, it has nothing to do with me."

Li Yiran's heart sank at Ye Leng'an's indifferent demeanor.

If even Ye Leng'an wouldn't stand by her side, then she truly had no recourse. No, she couldn't accept this.

"Miss Ye, I..." Li Yiran tried to speak again, only to be interrupted once more.

But this time, it wasn't Ye Leng'an who cut her off.

"Li Yiran, that's enough!" Zhongyu Liuying's voice was stern. "Ye Leng'an has made it clear she doesn't want to be involved. Why are you dragging her into this? And do you dare to ignore all the elders here?"

Previously, Li Yiran had hoped to elevate herself to suppress Zhong Yating. But now it seemed, Li Yiran wasn't worth much. She clearly knew she hated Ye Leng'an, yet now she was trying to involve Ye Leng'an in this matter. Did Li Yiran think Ye Leng'an's words carried more weight in the Huangfu family?

"I... I didn't..." Li Yiran stammered, her voice faltering.

Seeing the grim expressions of Zhongyu Liuying and Huangfu Jingzhang, she realized her grave error. Not only had she failed to gain Ye Leng'an's support, but she also offended Zhongyu Liuying and Huangfu Jingzhang.

"This matter is settled." Huangfu Jingzhang's decision was final. "From now on, Haohao belongs to Ruixiang and Yating."

"No, it's not possible." Li Yiran stood abruptly, then dropped to her knees. "Haohao is my son. I won't allow anyone to take him away."

Her tears fell freely, evoking pity from everyone, including Huangfu Ruixiang. For a moment, he regretted his decision.

Yet, when he glanced at Zhong Yating's pale face, his resolve solidified.

Originally his suggestion, Zhong Yating had initially opposed it, advocating against separating the mother and child. However, he saw Zhong Yating's desire to be a mother, hence his insistence.

If he went back on his word now, it would hurt Zhong Yating.

Yating had been injured while trying to save his father. She deserved this. As for Yiran, she could have children in the future.

“Yiran, stop being stubborn,” Huangfu Ruixiang said, suppressing his emotions.

“Don’t worry, it’s only this once. In the future, any child you have can be raised under your name. I’ll also transfer a villa to you. Just... stop causing a scene.”

Whether Li Yiran agreed or not, the decision was final. As for compensation, Li Yiran deserved it.

Hearing Huangfu Ruixiang’s words, Li Yiran’s heart turned to ashes.

This might be her only chance to have a child in this lifetime!

But she couldn’t voice it. She had concealed her health condition to stay by Huangfu Ruixiang’s side. If it were revealed now, she might lose her child and be cast out.

Li Yiran looked up and saw Zhong Yating’s smug smile as if silently taunting her. At that moment, Li Yiran’s rationality snapped.

She strode to Zhong Yating, pointing accusingly. “Zhong Yating, you wretch. Unable to bear a child, you want to steal mine, don’t you? Let me tell you, it’s just a dream. I won’t let you have my child.”

Her outburst shocked everyone.

Normally gentle, Li Yiran’s sudden hysteria was unexpected. Was it the shock or merely her excellent acting?

Only Zhong Yating’s eyes gleamed with satisfaction.

“Yiran, that’s enough.” Huangfu Ruixiang’s tone was firm. “Haohao is my child too, and I have the right to decide. Don’t target Yating. This is my decision, not hers.”

Initially, he felt some pity for Li Yiran, but her tantrum erased any guilt.

He believed his decision was best. A woman who couldn’t control her emotions couldn’t be a good mother.

Yating would now have Haohao as her only child, and she would cherish him.

Li Yiran simply couldn’t believe her ears. However, before she could say anything more, a cold voice rang out.

“Li Yiran, it seems you’re quite dissatisfied with the decisions made by us elders!” Huangfu Jingzhang looked coldly at the raging Li Yiran and said coldly, “If you’re truly so dissatisfied, then leave! As for Haohao, he is a child of the Huangfu family, so we have the authority to make decisions. If you’re not satisfied, then get out.”

At this point, he felt there was no need to reason further with Li Yiran. After all, it seemed she was beyond reasoning.

His words instantly froze Li Yiran in place. She stood there, dazed, as if her soul had departed. She wanted to leave with dignity, but she didn’t know how to survive outside the Huangfu family. Even if she left, she couldn’t take her child. The outcome would be worse.

In the end, Li Yiran fell silent. Perhaps, she had accepted her fate.

With things having reached this point, it could be considered a conclusion.

This time, the greatest winner was undoubtedly Zhong Yating. Without saying a word, she emerged victorious.

## Chapter 906: A Foregone Conclusion

The affair concluded amidst Li Yiran's reluctance and silent protest.

Throughout, Huangfu Ruiling and Ye Leng'an remained mere spectators, offering no input.

Finally, the decisive moment arrived. Huangfu Ruiling turned to Huangfu Ruixiang, Zhong Yating, and Li Yiran, speaking, "This matter is settled. From now on, Li Yiran's child, Huangfu Zihao, will formally be adopted under Zhong Yating's name. Any objections?"

Huangfu Ruixiang and Zhong Yating exchanged glances and replied in unison, "None."

Li Yiran stayed silent, resembling more of a silent dissenter.

Huangfu Ruiling's icy gaze fell upon Li Yiran, "This is your son. What's your decision?"

His demeanor suggested this inquiry was merely perfunctory.

Li Yiran hesitated but eventually nodded amidst the intimidating stares, "I... I agree!"

With that settled, Huangfu Ruiling announced, "In three days, we'll add Huangfu Zihao's name to the family tree."

He harbored little sentiment toward Huangfu Zihao, a mere babe with no teeth. His previous reluctance to include Huangfu Zihao in the family tree stemmed solely from identity concerns, not opposition to Huangfu Jingzhang. His agreement now was purely procedural.

As for their personal grievances, they were of no concern to him.

With the matter concluded, the group prepared to adjourn for dinner.

However, Huangfu Ruiling had other plans. He rose with Ye Leng'an, stating, "Now that matters are resolved, unless there's anything else, we'll take our leave."

Aster that, he began to depart with Ye Leng'an.

"Wait a moment." Seeing Huangfu Ruiling about to leave, Zhongyu Liuying hastily stood up. However, her expression was still somewhat unnatural when facing Huangfu Ruiling. "Why not stay and have dinner together? It's been a while since we've eaten together."

"No." Huangfu Ruiling declined without hesitation. "We'll take our leave."

Without even sparing a glance at the others, he then led Ye Leng'an away, completely ignoring the displeasure on the faces of Huangfu Jingzhang and Zhongyu Liuying.

Observing their departure unnoticed, Li Yiran gritted her teeth and slipped away.

Only Zhong Yating noticed her exit.

As she watched Li Yiran leave, a faintly dark gleam flickered in her eyes. But she remained silent, refraining from stopping Li Yiran.

Now, she harbored no worries. The die was cast. Regardless of whom Li Yiran sought for aid, it wouldn't alter the outcome.

She knew if Li Yiran left now, she'd seek Huangfu Ruiling or Ye Leng'an. If these two intended to support her, the outcome would've been different.

"Wait, Ye Leng'an, hold on!"

Before departing the old mansion, a familiar voice sounded behind them.

Huangfu Ruiling frowned, ignoring it, and continued with Ye Leng'an. At this point, he had no intention of entertaining anyone chasing after him.

Li Yiran's urgency intensified. Seeing Ye Leng'an ignore her completely, her voice rose, "Ye Leng'an, wait! Don't go!"

If possible, she'd block Ye Leng'an's path directly. But with Huangfu Ruiling present, she dared not.

Ye Leng'an halted, along with Huangfu Ruiling.

Seeing Ye Leng'an stop, Li Yiran breathed a sigh of relief.

Huangfu Ruiling looked at Ye Leng'an, puzzled. He couldn't fathom what Ye Leng'an and Li Yiran had to discuss.

"You go ahead." Ye Leng'an held Huangfu Ruiling's hand, saying, "I'll join you shortly."

Huangfu Ruiling's brow furrowed slightly. But before he could speak, Ye Leng'an planted a kiss on his cheek.

Stepping back with a smile, Ye Leng'an urged, "Okay, go ahead!"

Huangfu Ruiling, previously displeased, now gazed at Ye Leng'an with affection. He gently ruffled her hair before departing.

Witnessing their intimacy, a flicker of jealousy flashed in Li Yiran's eyes. But she quickly quashed it, knowing she had no right to stand beside Huangfu Ruiling.

A moment of regret surged within her, but she swiftly suppressed it. She understood she had no right to regret anymore. She was now Huangfu Ruixiang's lover, precluding any interaction with Huangfu Ruiling.

Her task now was to win Huangfu Ruixiang's heart, leveraging her son as her main asset. But with her son about to be taken away, her only hope lay with Ye Leng'an.

"What is it? Spit it out."

Impatient with Li Yiran's indecision, Ye Leng'an urged, "If you stopped me just to stay silent, then take your time! I won't wait around."

"Wait." Li Yiran quickly composed herself, pleading, "Ye Leng'an, please help me. You're my only hope now."

“I’ve made myself clear.” Ye Leng’an shook her head, indifferent. “This isn’t my concern. I won’t meddle.”

Furthermore, she didn’t consider herself and Li Yiran close enough to warrant intervention. In fact, their relationship had never been amicable. Ye Leng’an believed refraining from causing further harm was already a kindness.

Chapter 907: A Solution

“Why?” Li Yiran’s tone dripped with urgency. “For you, this is a mere trifle. Why refuse to lend a hand?”

“Why must I?” Ye Leng’an found it amusing. “Do I owe you anything? Li Yiran, you know well I have no interest in meddling in your affairs. Besides, there’s no connection between us.”

“But this child is here because of you!” Li Yiran pleaded, her gaze fixed on Ye Leng’an. “Have some pity on me. Can’t you?”

“No.” Ye Leng’an remained impassive. “Your plight is none of my concern. And as for the child, he’s yours and Huangfu Ruixiang’s, not mine.”

Ye Leng’an’s indifferent demeanor infuriated Li Yiran, yet she dared not resort to coercion. Firstly, Ye Leng’an was now engaged to Huangfu Ruiling, towering over her in status within the Huangfu family. Secondly, she was in a position of weakness, lacking the leverage to sway Ye Leng’an.

Seeing Li Yiran before her, Ye Leng’an’s expression remained unsympathetic.

Li Yiran raised her head, casting a glance at Ye Leng’an. She promptly knelt down, attempting to grasp her pant leg, only to be deftly evaded.

Retracting her hand in embarrassment, she spoke with a plaintive tone, “Ye Leng’an, there’s no one else who can help me now. Please, help me this one last time! I promise I’ll never refuse any request you make in the future. I’ll spend the rest of my life repaying your kindness today.”

“I don’t need that, but I won’t help you either.” Ye Leng’an eyed the kneeling Li Yiran without a hint of emotion. “However, if you truly want to protect your son, you’ll have to rely on yourself. I can’t assist you.”

Upon hearing Ye Leng’an’s words, Li Yiran immediately perked up. She looked at Ye Leng’an eagerly and urgently asked, “What method do you mean?”

She believed that Ye Leng’an had softened her heart, which was why she had come up with a solution. Whatever it was, as long as Ye Leng’an was willing to help, it would surely work.

Under Li Yiran’s expectant gaze, Ye Leng’an slowly spoke, “As long as you’re truly willing to give up everything and leave with your son, then you won’t have to worry about your son being adopted by Zhong Yating, right?”

When they were gone, what was there left to discuss about adoption?

“What? Leave!” Li Yiran’s voice couldn’t contain her disbelief. She abruptly stood up, her face filled with incredulity. “What do you mean? Are you asking me to leave the Huangfu family?”

“I’m just offering you a suggestion.” Ye Leng’an shrugged, then continued, “As long as you leave and stop relying on the Huangfu family, there’s nothing to fear, and it’s even less likely that Huangfu Ruixiang will threaten you, right?”

If she were in a similar situation, she would have left with her child without hesitation. After all, a child was one’s own flesh and blood, something impossible to abandon. As for men! Say goodbye, and onto the next one who was better.

Of course, these were just thoughts she could only keep to herself. If Huangfu Ruiling knew she had such thoughts, he would surely be jealous. Then, it would be difficult to placate him!

“But...But I...” Li Yiran stammered, unable to find the right words.

She was very clear about her own situation. She knew she had no way of leaving the Huangfu family now. If she left Huangfu Ruixiang’s side, she feared she wouldn’t even be able to support herself, let alone take care of a child.

She didn’t know whether Ye Leng’an was genuinely offering her a solution or simply mocking her.

“Stop dilly-dallying!” Ye Leng’an waved her hand, continuing, “If you can’t bear to leave Huangfu Ruixiang, then don’t waste time here. Just listen to Huangfu Ruixiang’s opinion and hand the child over to Zhong Yating for upbringing.”

Towards Li Yiran, she truly felt no sympathy. She believed that since Li Yiran couldn’t leave Huangfu Ruixiang anymore, she shouldn’t resist anymore. Wouldn’t that be better? Moreover, it wasn’t good to keep pinning her hopes on others.

Li Yiran’s mind was in turmoil. She spoke softly, “Even if I really wanted to leave with Haohao, Huangfu Jingzhang won’t let me off! We simply can’t escape.”

“If you’re really determined to leave with the child, I can help you,” Ye Leng’an said calmly. “I can ensure that Huangfu Ruixiang will never be able to find you. But...”

As Ye Leng’an spoke, her sharp gaze pierced Li Yiran. “Once you leave, you’ll never be welcomed back into the Huangfu family.”

Confronted by Ye Leng’an’s piercing gaze, Li Yiran couldn’t meet her eyes, murmuring, “But... But if I leave with my son, won’t he grow up without a father? It’s too cruel...”

Observing Li Yiran’s constant evasion, Ye Leng’an’s eyes flashed with disdain. “Stop with the excuses, Li Yiran. Do you even believe what you’re saying? Even you don’t buy your own words. Do you expect others to? It’s not about the child losing his father; it’s about you clinging to Huangfu Ruixiang and the Huangfu family. Since you’ve chosen to be submissive, then obey. Don’t expect help when you won’t even resist. Today’s events have nothing to do with me. Do you think I’d choose to get involved?”

Li Yiran's face paled at Ye Leng'an's words, her expression fraught with grievance. "Ye Leng'an, why are you so heartless? Helping me and my son isn't difficult for you. Why side with Zhong Yating and pressure me?"

"Li Yiran, spare me your pleas," Ye Leng'an scoffed. "I've given you a way out, but you refuse to take it."

Chapter 908: A Coincidence

"What kind of solution is this!" Li Yiran exclaimed, her frustration evident. "You're essentially asking me to leave here so that Zhong Yating can take my place."

"You're overestimating yourself," Ye Leng'an retorted casually. "Do you truly believe that you're a threat to Zhong Yating? Li Yiran, stop kidding around. Regardless, Zhong Yating's position is currently quite stable."

Li Yiran's expression shifted between shades of green and white as she struggled to find words to refute Ye Leng'an's argument. However, she could only look at Ye Leng'an with a sense of grievance

Unwilling to indulge her, Ye Leng'an smirked and turned to leave.

Watching Ye Leng'an's departure without hesitation, Li Yiran opened her mouth but found herself unable to speak. She slowly lowered her raised foot.

She knew that even if she approached Ye Leng'an now, she wouldn't be able to persuade Ye Leng'an to help her. Yet, she couldn't bear to simply leave the Huangfu family like this. Once she departed, she'd never have the chance to return.

She had lived a life of luxury for so long.

Before becoming Huangfu Ruixiang's lover, she had delighted Zhongyu Liuying. Just the slightest favor from Zhongyu Liuying had been enough to secure her livelihood.

Even after falling out with Zhongyu Liuying, she had become Huangfu Ruixiang's lover. Though Huangfu Ruixiang didn't wield much power in the Huangfu family, he still treated her generously.

She couldn't fathom how she would survive if she left the Huangfu family now. Raising a child while struggling to support both herself and the child through work seemed inconceivable.

At the thought of this, she couldn't bring herself to take that step.

Was she really doomed to hand over her child to Zhong Yating obediently? Would she have to watch her child call Zhong Yating 'mom' in the future?

No, that was absolutely out of the question.

With a flash of determination in her eyes, Li Yiran turned around, intending to return to the hall. Huangfu Ruixiang still harbored deep guilt towards her, so she couldn't afford to give up this opportunity so easily.



Furthermore, she needed to contact Li Yi as soon as possible upon her return. She had to investigate thoroughly to see if she could find any clues. She had always felt that Zhong Yating's recent act of saving someone was very suspicious. However, without evidence, she needed Li Yi's help.

Meanwhile, Ye Leng'an had returned to the car.

As she entered, she saw Huangfu Ruiling sitting there, waiting for her.

"Are you finished?" Huangfu Ruiling raised an eyebrow. "Did you promise her anything?"

"Do you think I'm foolish?" Ye Leng'an rolled her eyes. "Do I appear to be someone who readily assists others? Even if I were inclined to help, I would only aid those I favor."

Clearly, Li Yiran did not fall into that category.

Huangfu Ruiling listened quietly to Ye Leng'an's complaints. He didn't respond, but the affection in his eyes was palpable.

"I never expected Huangfu Ruixiang to convene us all here today for such a matter," Ye Leng'an remarked. "However, I must say his methods are despicable. While I don't particularly care for Li Yiran, I still find Huangfu Ruixiang's actions excessive."

"Oh!" Huangfu Ruiling chuckled. "In that case, why didn't you help Li Yiran?"

"Why should I?" Ye Leng'an smiled. "While I disapprove of Huangfu Ruixiang's behavior, Li Yiran herself has no intention of resisting. As an outsider, I see no reason to meddle! Besides, if Li Yiran truly wished to keep her child, she would find a way. It's just that she's unwilling to forfeit her current life of luxury."

"So, it's her own choice, unrelated to us," Huangfu Ruiling replied coldly. "Since everyone has agreed, this matter is settled."

Ye Leng'an nodded in agreement. Then, as if struck by a thought, she looked at Huangfu Ruiling and asked, "Ling, do you believe Zhong Yating's act of saving Huangfu Jingzhang was genuine?"

She couldn't shake off the feeling that everything was too coincidental. Just as Zhong Yating's past deeds were exposed and they were on the verge of divorce, Zhong Yating saved Huangfu Jingzhang. Not only did she suffer a miscarriage, but she also lost the ability to become a mother.

It all seemed too planned.

However, if that were the case, Huangfu Jingzhang should have uncovered the truth!

In the mortal world, Zhong Yating didn't have any influence whatsoever. No, perhaps it was better to say that even in the Hidden World, she lacked any influence. It was just that Huangfu Ruixiang was equally weak, which allowed the plan to succeed initially.

In the mortal world, the Huangfu family still held significant power. Although Huangfu Jingzhang was no longer the head of the Huangfu family, he was not someone Zhong Yating could manipulate.

“This incident is indeed true,” Huangfu Ruiling replied calmly. “I can only say that Zhong Yating’s luck was favorable. Just as she was about to divorce, this incident occurred. She simply took advantage of the situation.”

“In that case, I wonder whether she’s fortunate or unfortunate.” Ye Leng’an mused, shaking her head. “Because of this incident, her marriage with Huangfu Ruixiang was preserved. However, she lost her child and suffered significant physical harm, rendering her unable to conceive in the future.”

“That was her decision,” Huangfu Ruiling continued. “Initially, she likely only intended to have a miscarriage. She just didn’t anticipate the extent of the damage to her body.”

Ye Leng’an chuckled. “It goes to show that no matter how meticulously people plan, they can’t outsmart fate! Nevertheless, Zhong Yating seems to have gotten what she wanted. Both Huangfu Jingzhang and his wife, as well as Huangfu Ruixiang, are now filled with guilt towards her. As long as she refrains from any further excesses, her divorce from Huangfu Ruixiang is unlikely.”

Huangfu Ruiling nodded. “These two are firmly entangled now.”

“Indeed,” Ye Leng’an agreed. “However, I wonder if today’s suggestion originated from Huangfu Ruixiang or Zhong Yating.”

Chapter 909: The Reward

“No matter who proposed it, it must have been Zhong Yating who first conceived the idea,” Huangfu Ruiling remarked lightly. “Huangfu Ruixiang isn’t the type to consider every detail, so it’s unlikely he would notice such a thing.”

He had some insight into his so-called younger brother.

“So it’s probably her who guided Huangfu Ruixiang into thinking this way!” Ye Leng’an nodded knowingly. “However, Huangfu Ruixiang will probably find it very difficult to shake off Zhong Yating for the rest of his life. Originally, because of Huangfu Jingzhang’s matter, he already felt guilty towards Zhong Yating. Plus, Zhong Yating is very scheming and knows how to leverage her advantages. Huangfu Ruixiang won’t be able to escape.”

“He brought this upon himself,” Huangfu Ruiling said without a hint of sympathy. “He’s reaping what he sowed. However, Zhong Yating’s advantage is only temporary. Such guilt won’t last forever.”

Whether it was Huangfu Jingzhang or Zhongyu Liuying, they weren’t grateful people. Their current protection of Zhong Yating was only temporary. As time passed, such gratitude and guilt would fade away.

That was their cold-hearted approach.

“So, Zhong Yating wants to take Li Yiran’s son!” Ye Leng’an tilted her head and smiled. “She won’t be able to have children in this lifetime. Li Yiran’s child is still a baby and won’t remember anything. So, she can raise that child as her own.”

She had known Zhong Yating was cunning in the past. Now, after some time had passed, her cunning seemed to have deepened. However, ultimately, this should be Huangfu Ruixiang’s fault! If he hadn’t pressured her step by step, perhaps Zhong Yating wouldn’t have become like this today.

However, it was also uncertain. After all, Zhong Yating was not to be trifled with. The reason she held onto Huangfu Ruixiang tightly was because she had her own motives, not because of love.

“Don’t worry too much about other people’s matters.” Huangfu Ruiling took Ye Leng’an’s hand, a hint of jealousy in his tone. “Don’t you think you should spend more time on your fiancé?”

After hearing Huangfu Ruiling’s words, Ye Leng’an waved her hand, sniffed, and said teasingly, “Where did this jealousy come from? Someone is jealous?”

“It’s your fiancé who’s jealous.” Huangfu Ruiling raised his eyebrows, sounding confident. “If you don’t give me more attention, I’ll be even more jealous in the future.”

Ye Leng’an was left speechless by his matter-of-fact response. She reached out and pinched Huangfu Ruixiang’s cheek. “You! You dare to say anything! If others heard this, your image would be instantly shattered.”

Who would have thought that the patriarch of the Huangfu family would say such things with such a stern face? It didn’t match his cold and heartless image at all!

Huangfu Ruiling reached out and pulled Ye Leng’an into his arms, whispering in her ear. His warm breath enveloped her.

“An’an, I never need to put on a facade in front of you. I’m always my true self, and I don’t mind letting you know my true feelings.”

The warm breath by her ear made Ye Leng’an pause for a moment, but she quickly recovered. She turned her head and kissed Huangfu Ruiling’s cheek. “Well said. That’s your reward.”

Huangfu Ruiling chuckled softly. “It’s not a romantic phrase, but a sincere one.”

As Ye Leng’an listened to his laughter, a sweet smile appeared on her lips.

In the Hidden World’s Ye family, at this moment, Ye Wanwan was in her room, looking relaxed.

Murong Xingrui had just left. After several days of contemplation and crafting excuses, she finally managed to temporarily appease him

Though she wasn’t entirely sure about Murong Xingrui’s thoughts, she was confident he wouldn’t consider breaking off the engagement for now.

This outcome temporarily relieved her. At least with this marriage, her grandfather wouldn't take any action against her.

As Ye Wanwan was lost in thought, a servant knocked on her door and informed her that the old master wanted to see her.

Hearing this, Ye Wanwan couldn't help but feel nervous again.

It hadn't been long since Murong Xingrui left, and now her grandfather wanted to see her. She wasn't sure if it was related to that matter. She felt a bit scared.

Especially with rumors flying around about her, even during her recovery, she couldn't help but overhear some gossip.

But what scared her most was that during her recovery, her father hadn't visited her once.

She didn't know if her father was disappointed in her because of what happened at the banquet, or if he didn't want to acknowledge her as his daughter.

The only comfort was that her mother visited her often. This reassured her somewhat. At least one of her parents was willing to stand by her side.

Now, hearing her grandfather wanted to see her, she felt anything but happy. She was worried.

But regardless of her feelings, Ye Wanwan had to muster the courage to go to her grandfather's courtyard.

In the courtyard, Ye Yikun sat on a chair with tea and snacks beside him, looking like an ordinary old man enjoying life. But the powerful aura and serious expression he exuded indicated otherwise.

Seeing Ye Yikun like this, Ye Wanwan's legs trembled. If she could, she wouldn't want to see her grandfather at all. She was always extremely nervous when she saw him, afraid of being kicked out of the Ye family.

Ye Yikun's silence made Ye Wanwan's mind race with various guesses. Her expression became increasingly unsightly, and panic continued to spread in her heart. Sweat covered her forehead, and she looked like she might collapse at any moment.

Chapter 910: Healing Medicinal Pills

Ye Yikun maintained an unchanged expression as he observed Ye Wanwan's somewhat disheveled appearance in the evening. After leisurely sipping his tea, he finally spoke, "I heard that Murong Xingrui came to see you today. Is that correct?"

"Yes."

Hearing his sudden question, Ye Wanwan shivered momentarily but quickly regained her composure and replied, "Grandfather, I have temporarily pacified Murong Xingrui. He shouldn't have any thoughts of breaking off the engagement now."

"Temporarily? Shouldn't?" Ye Yikun's sharp gaze pierced Ye Wanwan, "I instructed you to find a solution to this matter promptly, and this is your approach?"

Upon hearing the cold tone, Ye Wanwan's pupils involuntarily contracted. She bowed her head, offering no excuses, and promptly admitted, "I apologize, Grandfather. I didn't handle it with enough care. I will ensure the Murong family doesn't call off the marriage."

"Wanwan, haven't I spoken to you about this before? I asked you to find a way to marry Murong Xingrui as soon as possible." Ye Yikun's aged voice echoed again. "Only when everything is settled will there be no room for change."

A flicker passed through Ye Wanwan's heart. She replied, "Grandfather, I am working on a solution. However, it seems that the Murong family isn't planning to proceed with the wedding so soon."

She had previously tested Murong Xingrui on this matter, but the results were unsatisfactory. Moreover, she dared not broach the topic of marriage first, fearing suspicion. After all, her age was apparent. In the Hidden World, getting married in one's thirties or forties was rare. Furthermore, she was only in her teens.

Her background was almost exposed to the sunlight now. Although the Ye family hadn't issued a statement, everyone who needed to know was already aware. Even if she proposed marriage to Murong Xingrui now, the Murong family wouldn't readily agree. They might even suspect that her status was shaky, leading to a desire to marry quickly. Moreover, it might even prompt the Murong family to consider breaking off the engagement.

"Strategies are devised by people." Ye Yikun lifted his head, glancing at Ye Wanwan before continuing, "Wanwan, I've watched you grow up, and our Ye family has invested considerable effort in nurturing you. You must not be inferior to Ye Leng'an. She managed to capture Huangfu Ruiling's heart. Can't you capture Murong Xingrui's? Do you truly believe you're inferior to her?"

At this, Ye Wanwan's expression became somewhat agitated. Her voice rose several degrees. "Grandfather, I will find a way to convince Murong Xingrui to agree to marry as soon as possible. I will prove to you that I am much stronger than Ye Leng'an."

Though she knew her grandfather was provoking her, she couldn't help but take the bait. She understood well that in her grandfather's eyes, people were divided into useful and useless. If she couldn't demonstrate her value, she might be discarded.

Her ability to remain in the Ye family rested largely on her grandfather. If even he abandoned her, she would truly have nothing left.

Furthermore, she wouldn't allow herself to be inferior to Ye Leng'an. She would show everyone, including her parents, that only she was fit to be the Ye family's young lady.

Ye Yikun nodded in satisfaction at Ye Wanwan's competitive spirit. "Wanwan, I've raised you, so you should understand my temperament well. Don't waste the effort I've put into you. Otherwise, when I decide to retract it, I'm sure you know what the consequences will be."

"Rest assured, Grandfather." Ye Wanwan couldn't help but shiver. She quickly reassured him, "I won't disappoint you."

“Very well.” Ye Yikun nodded, then continued, “Also, remember to diligently practice the cultivation method I taught you. You’re aware that the Elite Competition in the Hidden World is about to commence. If you want to change others’ perceptions of you, this is the perfect opportunity.”

This Elite Competition differed from the previous Family Competition. Anyone could sign up, and even if they didn’t, they could still accept challenges.

However, not everyone had to accept challenges. The challenger had to present a bargaining chip that would entice the challenged party to accept.

Before the challenge, both sides would agree on the stakes. It could be treasures, spirit weapons, pills, or even conditions.

The winner of the Elite Competition would receive a prize from the Enforcement Team. The nature of these prizes varied each time, but they were undoubtedly valuable.

At the mention of the Elite Competition, Ye Wanwan’s eyebrows twitched, and a gleam flashed in her eyes. Her spirits lifted. “Grandfather, in the days to come, I promise to practice the cultivation method diligently and strive to advance to the mid-stage of the Foundation Establishment Stage as soon as possible.”

She was currently in the early stage of the Foundation Establishment Stage. With continued effort in her cultivation, she should be able to reach the mid-stage before the Elite Competition. Once there, she’d be confident of winning first place.

At that point, no one would dare to look down on her, whether she belonged to the Ye family by blood or not. After all, in the cultivation world, strength was paramount.

But... Thinking of her injuries, she couldn’t help but harbor some resentment towards Ye Leng’an. Her injuries were currently hindering her cultivation.

Seemingly aware of Ye Wanwan’s thoughts, Ye Yikun waved his hand, summoning a small wooden box onto the table.

“These are healing pills,” Ye Yikun explained. “Take one each day. In five days, your injuries will be completely healed.”

Ye Wanwan picked up the wooden box and opened it, revealing five round pills tinged with a hint of red. The pills emitted a strong, somewhat eerie, bloody scent, giving off an unsettling aura.

Upon seeing the pills in the box, Ye Wanwan’s eyes glittered with an unknown light. She was far from afraid; if anything, she was excited. She had witnessed the potency of those medicinal pills before.