

Immortal 221

Chapter 221: Bad Daughter

Bao Youlu asked with a smile, "It turns out that the young master knows a bit of medicine too. May I know which divine physician have you studied under?"

Despite his smile, his tone revealed his disdain for Zu An.

Zu An shook his head and said, "I don't have any divine physician mentor."

Mi Li immediately protested in his mind, "What do I count as then?"

"You're my beautiful big sis empress, not my teacher," replied Zu An.

"That's more like it." Mi Li harrumphed. Even though Zu An couldn't see her expression, he could totally imagine her lips curling up slightly in glee.

Meanwhile, Qin Wanru was already unhappy with Zu An when the latter had to butt in at a moment ago. Unable to take it any longer, she exploded in fury. "If you don't know anything at all, just step aside and keep your mouth shut! Don't waste our time here! Zhongtian, you should quickly head to the neighboring city to look for Ji Dengtu. No matter what you do, you have to bring him over!"

"Don't worry. Our daughter's life is at stake here, so I'll make sure to bring him over even if I have to shamelessly beg him. I'll be leaving the internal affairs here to you then," replied Chu Zhongtian grimly

Without any hesitation, he flitted out of the room and soon vanished into the night.

Zu An shrugged calmly and walked out too. Qin Wanru frowned a little upon seeing that, but she quickly turned her attention back to her daughter.

"Why did you come out?" asked Mi Li in confusion.

"There's no way Qin Wanru would trust me no matter what I say, so there's no point wasting my breath there," replied Zu An.

"You aren't going to save your wife anymore?" asked Mi Li teasingly.

Zu An was silent for a moment before replying, "I'll think of another way out."

It was then that a beautiful figure suddenly rushed out and exclaimed, "Brother-in-law, wait a moment!"

Zu An turned around to take a look, only to see that it was Chu Huanzhao. His face turned a little gentler as he said, "It's you, Huanzhao."

Chu Huanzhao stared at him intently with her large eyes and asked, "Do you really have a way to save my big sister?"

Despite being in a cold war with him earlier on, there was nothing that was more important to her than her big sister's safety.

"I think it should work," replied Zu An as he recalled the method Mi Li had taught him. He didn't think that the latter was fooling him.

"What do you mean by 'I think'? Will it work or not?" asked Chu Huanzhao anxiously.

"Yes, it'll work," replied Zu An affirmatively.

"Very well, I'll talk to my mother about it then."

Chu Huanzhao returned back to the room, and soon, loud bickering broke out inside. It was basically Chu Huanzhao insisting on giving Zu An a chance to treat Chu Chuyan and Qin Wanru vehemently rejecting it.

Eventually, Chu Huanzhao ran out with tears in her eyes. She turned to look at Zu An and said, "Don't worry, I'll make sure that you get a chance to save my big sister!" After that, she ran right into the shadows of the night.

Zu An was perplexed as to what she meant by that.

It was then that Qin Wanru marched out angrily and bellowed, "Just what kind of sorcery did you cast on Huanzhao that she's so sided toward you?"

You have successfully trolled Qin Wanru for +678 Rage!

Zu An shrugged in response. "I don't know what you're talking about. Huanzhao is already not young anymore and can come to her own judgment. You're underestimating your own daughter's intelligence."

"I really dislike your slick tongue. I don't know how you duped our Chuyan back then, but how dare you try to do the same to our Huanzhao? Don't even dream of it!" Qin Wanru pointed a finger at Zu An as she bellowed furiously. "If I ever find out that you're getting any ideas on the two of my daughters, I'll make sure that you die a terrible death!"

You have successfully trolled Qin Wanru for +777 Rage!

Zu An's face turned cold. "Are you done speaking yet?"

He was already fed up enough as he was, and this woman still continued prattling on and on, pinning false accusations she dreamed up of on him. He finally had enough of it.

"Y-you..." Qin Wanru was taken aback. She didn't think that the subservient drafted son-in-law would actually dare to raise his voice at her.

She was just about to rage once more when a maid suddenly exclaimed from behind, "Madame, the young miss is awake!"

Qin Wanru shot a piercing glare at him. "I'll settle the score with you afterward!"

After saying her piece, she turned around and rushed back into the room.

Meanwhile, Zu An hesitated a bit but didn't enter. Instead, he asked softly, "Are you sure that chuyan will be fine for the time being?"

“She’s terminally ill, but her condition isn’t that bad as to die within the next two days or so,” replied Mi Li.

Zu An’s heart was finally put at ease. He quickly called Cheng Shouping over and had him gather some medicine he needed from the Chu clan’s medicine vault. Even though the Chu clan was pretty useless in many aspects, at the very least, they had an abundance of resources.

Following that, he got a dummy and started revising what Mi Li taught him.

Despite his high aptitude, he had no experience in treating a patient at all. It was one thing to know some theoretically and another thing to put it into practice. As such, he felt that there was a need to practice in advance.

“What are you doing?” a hoarse voice suddenly sounded out of nowhere.

Shocked, Zu An turned around, only to see Old Mi standing by the doorway.

“You’re here.” Zu An quickly bowed to the other party.

Old Mi glanced at the dummy before asking doubtfully, “Are you learning medicine at the moment?”

“I was just a little curious, so I wanted to give it a try,” replied Zu An sheepishly.

“Are you thinking of figuring out a cure for your seal?” Old Mi revealed a hideous smile. “I heard that you’re on good terms with Divine Physician Ji’s daughter, but don’t get misled by her. Your seal cannot be externally removed. You’re better off focusing on your cultivation so that you can reach Master rank as soon as possible.”

“You’re right, elder.” Zu An had a feeling that he shouldn’t reveal the fact that he had already recovered to the other party.

“I heard that you managed to force the young master of the Shi clan back. It looks like you’ve stumbled upon a fortuitous encounter in the Ursae Dungeon,” remarked Old Mi curiously.

“I was lucky to find an Evanescent Lotus, which increased by cultivation by a bit,” replied Zu An respectfully.

“Evanescent Lotus!” Old Mi’s breathing hastened. “Did you eat it all?”

Zu An shook his head and replied, “I gave most of it to Chuyan in order to save her.”

“Foolish!” Old Mi slapped his thigh furiously as he rose to his feet out of agitation. “Why didn’t you take it for yourself?”

You have successfully trolled Mi Lianying for +250 Rage!

Zu An was taken aback. He thought that the other party was angry at him for not bringing the Evanescent Lotus, but it turned out that he was angry because he didn’t eat it for himself?

He actually cares so much about me... Could I have misunderstood him?

“Young miss Chu’s ki meridians have been destroyed, and her life was hanging on a thread then. Given that we’re a couple, I couldn’t just leave her to the lurch,” replied Zu An.

"A couple?" sneered Old Mi. "Don't you know better than anyone else what your relationship with her is like? Is there anyone in this manor who really treats you as a young master of the Chu clan?"

Actually, there is. At least Chu Huanzhao and Cheng Shouping count, right?, thought Zu An. As for Chu Chuyan, to be honest, he wasn't too sure what she was thinking either. However, since she had allowed him to do it once, she should have somewhat acknowledged him, right?

Old Mi shook his head at Zu An's naivety and said, "Besides, don't you know full well how your body is like at the moment? You can't even do what a man can do, let alone cherish her!"

You have successfully trolled Mi Lianying for +666 Rage!

"..." Zu An.

Bro, aren't you being too harsh? If it was me in the past, I would surely be angered out of embarrassment. You're lucky that I've fully recovered, or else I would have definitely held a grudge against you over that.

Seeing that Zu An wasn't reacting at all, Old Mi lost his interest in scolding Zu An. "Forget it, what's done is done. There's nothing I can say that can change things anymore. However, I want you to know that you should prioritize your cultivation. Everything is transient except for true strength. Ah, I heard that Wei Hongde has entered the dungeon too. How is the mission which I've entrusted you with going?"

While keeping his expression steady, Zu An replied, "We met up with one another in the dungeon and I bared myself to him. We're good friends now."

I consider him as a friend anyway. I don't care whether he thinks the same or not.

Old Mi's tightly knitted frown finally loosened a little as he said, "Good. Make sure to keep an eye on his family's movements. No matter how minor the matter is, make sure to report it back to me. Also, you mustn't let him know what you're doing. I believe that someone as sharp-witted as you are should be able to do as much."

"No problem," replied Zu An. Out of curiosity, he asked, "However, what should I be keeping an eye out for?"

"Don't ask questions that you shouldn't be asking," said Old Mi coldly. His eyes suddenly sharpened, and with a wave of his hand, the Tai'e Sword flew into his grasp.

Zu An immediately panicked. He would take the Tai'e Sword right away, but there was simply too huge of a disparity in their strengths that he dared not to make a move carelessly.

"It's really a heaven grade weapon! It's no wonder why it can slice Shi Kun's sword into two. It looks like you've made significant gains in the dungeon," remarked Old Mi as he flicked the blade lightly. After that, he casually tossed the sword back and said, "Don't worry, I won't go so far as to covet your possession."

What's yours will eventually become mine anyway, Old Mi thought in his mind.

"Thank you, elder." Zu An walked Old Mi out before directing a sharp glare at the Tai'e Sword. "What happened to your self-respect? Why the hell did you fly over as soon as he beckoned for you?"

Mi Li's silhouette rose from the blade, revealing a grim look on her face. "Do you know what's his current cultivation rank?"

"What is it?" asked Zu An. He had always been very curious about this.

"He's at the ninth rank," said Mi Li with a hint of fear. "He isn't any weaker than Zhang Han."

"Ah? He's actually that formidable?" Zu An was dumbstruck. One must know that Chu Zhongtian was known to be the strongest cultivator in Brightmoon City, but even so, he was only at the eighth rank. Yet, a scrawny gardener on the manor was actually at the ninth rank?

However, he soon heaved a sigh of relief and said, "Since you were able to beat Zhang Han up, there should be no need to fear this Old Mi."

Mi Li looked at Zu An solemnly and said, "You can't compare the two just like that. I was able to defeat Zhang Han easily because he wanted to die right from the start. On top of that, I'm only a soul at the moment, a severely depleted one at that after having to switch bodies twice. I won't be a match for him in my current state. So, I advise you not to offend him. I have no wish to die together with you."

"..." Zu An.

Big sis empress, your thighs are supposed to be extremely thick so that I can clutch onto them for safety!

Zu An was just about to continue speaking when he heard Chu Huanzhao's voice from afar. "Brother-in-law! Quick, follow me. We'll be saving my older sister now!"

A short-haired girl ran to his side, gasping for air. She seemed to be in a rush, having run all the way here.

Zu An looked at her doubtfully. "Your mother allowed me to treat your older sister?"

"Of course not! However, I've knocked her out!" Chu Huanzhao innocently revealed an explosive news.

Chapter 222: No Wonder He's So Weak

"???" Zu An.

Unable to believe what he had just heard, he asked once more to seek clarification, "What did you say?"

"My mother carries prejudice for you, so there's no way she would allow you to treat my older sister. So, I knocked her out," explained Chu Huanzhao. "I used chloroform."

Zu An's face darkened. "How in the world did you manage to get your hands on that kind of stuff?"

"Well, I got them for entertainment purposes. Besides chloroform, I also have laxatives, aphrodisiacs, and many others. You don't know how fun it was to play with those maids and servants back then. It's just a pity that they began avoiding me soon after, running frantically as soon as they see me," remarked Chu Huanzhao regrettably.

It was only then that Zu An remembered that this lass was a demon. When he first transmigrated into this world, Chu Huanzhao sent a dog to chase him all around and whipped him up good. He had clearly

taken those to his mind, though their recently improving relationship had changed his perception of her by a fair bit.

"I took a huge risk to help you, so you better make sure you treat my big sister!" Chu Huanzhao swung her fist furiously as she stared at him with a not-very-threatening expression.

"Don't worry, leave it to me!" said Zu An with a nod.

It just so happened that Cheng Shouping returned at this moment and said, "Young master, I've got what you asked me. Ah, the Second Miss is here too?"

Chu Huanzhao ignored Cheng Shouping and walked straight to Zu An side, craning her neck over to see the items that Zu An got. "What are these?"

"These are the key items to save your older sister's life," said Zu An as he quickly packed them up after checking them. "Let's go. We need to make haste."

"Young master, what are you planning to do? Is there anything I can do to help?" Cheng Shouping revealed a fawning smile.

"There is," replied Zu An.

"What is it? Feel free to ask anything of me. I'll be more than willing to brave through a mountain of flames for you!" Cheng Shouping patted his chest as he gave his promise.

It looks like I've really gotten on the right boat this time around. Given how close the Second Miss is to the young master, even if the First Miss abandons him in the future, he can still hook up to the Second Miss and continue mooching off the Chu clan.

"Shut your mouth and head back to your room," said Zu An. Chu Chuyan's current state was a confidential secret in the Chu clan. If news were to leak and the other clans learned of this matter, it would pose a disastrous blow to the Chu clan. Given Cheng Shouping's leaky mouth, there was no way he would tell the other party this matter.

"Consider that done!" Cheng Shouping didn't look disappointed in the least. He zipped his mouth up and obediently marched his way back to his room.

Chu Huanzhao was still panicking a moment ago, but Cheng Shouping's response brought a smile to her face. "That study companion of yours really is an interesting guy."

Zu An was also surprised to see how obedient he was. "I guess he has been struck down by life too many times that he's finally learning to tone it down."

The two of them rushed over to Chu Chuyan's room. There were some guards at the entrance of the room who tried to stop them. However, when they saw that it was Chu Huanzhao, they stepped aside and allowed them to pass.

Zu An was deeply displeased. What's with this? I, the young master of the Chu clan, am here to visit my wife, but they are only allowing me to pass on Chu Huanzhao's account?

There was no one in Chu Chuyan's room, not even a maid at all. There was only Qin Wanru lying unconscious by the side of the bed, seemingly deep in sleep. Her figure was much more voluptuous compared to Chu Chuyan and Chu Huanzhao, but oddly enough, she didn't appear plump.

Looking at her moving profile, Zu An had to admit that she was indeed blessed with good looks. It was just a pity that her mouth was even worse than Snow's.

Zu An felt that Huanzhao was really brave for leaving her mother unconscious all alone here. Wasn't she afraid that something would happen to her mother while she was gone?

"Where's Physician Bao?" asked Zu An as he took a look around.

"I drove him away. Since he doesn't know how to treat my big sister, he'd just be a waste of space here." Chu Huanzhao harrumphed.

"Are you sure it isn't because you're afraid that he would notice that you've drugged your mother?" asked Zu An skeptically.

Chu Huanzhao's face reddened a little as she exclaimed, "That's just part of the reason. Aiyo, let's not bother with the details now, alright! Hurry up and treat my big sister!"

Chu Chuyan's faint voice sounded from the bed at this moment. "Huanzhao, is that you?"

Chu Huanzhao quickly rushed over to her side and pulled the curtains aside. There was no outsider at the moment, so there was no need for them to hide anything. "Big sis, it's me."

A chilling frost immediately gushed out as soon as the curtain was parted. Chu Chuyan could be seen lying on the bed with a pale face.

When she saw Zu An, a hint of redness crept onto her cheeks as she remarked, "You... are here too?"

Zu An nodded. "Don't worry, I can save you."

Chu Chuyan shook her head and said, "I know my own condition the best. Haa, if only I knew that things would turn out like this, I wouldn't have eaten the Evanescent Lotus. It's a waste on someone like me. If you had eaten it instead, you would have been nearing the fifth rank by now."

Zu An sat by the edge of the bed as he tucked her hair to the side and said, "Don't worry. I was able to save you from the dungeon despite being on the verge of death, so naturally, something of this level won't faze me."

Chu Huanzhao was a little surprised to see this. She knew her older sister wasn't the type to allow a man to get so close to her, but she wasn't reacting at all to Zu An's touch. Did something happen between the two of them that I don't know of?

Chu Chuyan thought about how she was saved in the dungeon, and her heart immediately began pounding hard. However, it aggravated her wounds a little, and she started coughing right away.

Zu An quickly helped her up and patted her back softly to soothe her discomfort.

Uweh!

Chu Chuyan spat out a small mouthful of blood that was filled with bits of ice. Even the warmth of her blood wasn't able to melt those ice fragments, and they emanated a chilling air.

Chu Huanzhao's eyes immediately reddened upon seeing that. "Big sis!"

"I'm fine. I've been in this condition for quite some time now," said Chu Chuyan as she forced out a smile. She suddenly noticed Qin Wanru lying unconscious next to her and exclaimed in horror, "What's wrong with mother?"

Chu Huanzhao wiped off her tears and explained in embarrassment, "Well, no matter what I said, she wouldn't allow brother-in-law to treat you, so I... I knocked her out."

"You knocked her out?" Chu Chuyan immediately straightened her body, which sent her into a fit of coughing once more.

Chu Huanzhao protested indignantly, "What else could I do? She simply doesn't listen at all!"

"..." Chu Chuyan.

She looked at her little sister with a complicated look on her face as she asked, "Why are you so confident that he would be able to save me, even going to the extent of..."

Chu Huanzhao bit her lips and replied, "I feel like all of you have been misunderstanding him. He's not a person to lie about such serious matters. He didn't lie about being confident at the Clans Tournament, and I don't think that he's lying about this either. Big sis, you should believe a little more in him too."

Zu An was moved to hear those words. Ahhh, my sister-in-law is really the best. It's only due to your presence that the Chu clan doesn't feel that cold.

Seeing how agitated her younger sister was, Chu Chuyan sighed deeply and said, "I believe in him too... but let's move mother to the wooden bed over there so that she can lie down. It wouldn't do to leave her here."

Chu Huanzhao pushed Zu An forward and said, "Brother-in-law, I'll be leaving it to you."

She had a small figure which made it inconvenient for her to carry Qin Wanru.

Zu An wanted to say that it was inappropriate, but Chu Chuyan wasn't saying anything about it either. On top of that, the two sisters seemed to be secretly exchanging words with one another.

So, he reluctantly walked over and carried the unconscious Qin Wanru up. As she had completely lost her consciousness, it was much harder to hold her up properly. Fortunately, this was the world of cultivation and Zu An's strength had far surpassed that of any ordinary man.

He could have never told otherwise, but Qin Wanru's body was actually incredibly soft. Vaguely, he could smell the scent of roses coming from her.

Zu An recalled having read about some research on the internet in his previous life that women who preferred rose-scented perfume tended to be more sexually active.

That would explain why Chu Zhongtian always had eyebags and looked weak. With such a wife, he'd probably be constantly sapped of his energy.

That being said, perhaps due to her being his mother-in-law, Zu An was unable to harbor any lustful thoughts toward her at all. To be honest, while carrying her to the side, the thought of dumping her onto the stone-cold floor did cross his mind. He could understand why Qin Wanru was prejudiced toward him, but nevertheless, that didn't mean that he could accept her treating him like this.

However, upon remembering that Chu Chuyan and Chu Huanzhao were right behind him, he eventually decided against it.

He casually placed her down on the wooden bed before heading back to Chu Chuyan's side.

"Brother-in-law, how are we going to treat my big sister?" asked Chu Huanzhao anxiously.

Zu An was just about to speak up when he suddenly remembered something and remarked sheepishly, "Regarding that... I need to discuss it privately with your older sister first."

Chu Huanzhao was first stunned for a moment before she pouted in dissatisfaction. "Are you trying to get rid of me after all I've done for you here? That's too much!"

Zu An scratched his head awkwardly. "It's not that I'm trying to get rid of you, but there are some things which your older sister doesn't want others to know of."

Those words made Chu Chuyan's heart skip a beat as she realized what Zu An was getting at. Her face began blushing furiously, but she tried her best to keep a straight expression as she said, "Huanzhao, help me guard the room. Alert us if anyone tries to enter."

Seeing that she was reluctant to leave, Chu Chuyan added, "What if father happens to return and sees that you've knocked out our mother?"

They had been sisters for many years, after all. She knew how she could curb her younger sister.

"He has already headed to the neighboring city, so how could he possibly return that quickly," murmured Chu Huanzhao. However, she was still unable to shake off the worry of her father returning in advance, so she headed outside to keep watch.

After her younger sister left, Chu Chuyan turned to Zu An and said, "So, how do you intend to save me?"

Zu An stared at her intently and said, "Actually, you already know the answer deep down."

Chu Chuyan's face quickly reddened as she averted her eyes. "That won't do. Definitely not!"

"Why not? It's not our first time anyway..." replied Zu An.

Chu Chuyan turned her face aside. By this moment, her redness had extended even to her neck. "No means no. It's not the same as the previous time... If you try to touch me now, I'll kill you!"

Despite her severely weakened state, her cultivation was still present. As a pinnacle sixth rank cultivator, she was definitely more than capable of killing Zu An in a heartbeat, though it would surely worsen her condition, bringing her a step closer to death.

"Do you hate me that much?" asked Zu An with a frown.

"It's not because I hate you, but... but... I'm just not prepared..." Chu Chuyan was flustered, not knowing how to explain this. "Anyway, it just won't do now!"

Zu An could tell that she would surely cause a huge ruckus if he were to force the matter.

Fortunately, he had asked for an alternative in advance. "Forget it, I still have another way out of this. If you still aren't willing to go along with me for this, there would be nothing I can do anymore."

"What way?" asked Chu Chuyan anxiously. I'll be fine with anything as long as it isn't the embarrassing thing we did in the underground palace.

Zu An took out a gleaming silver needle and replied, "Acupuncture. I'll use a special method to stimulate the acupoints in your body so as to release the frost bit by bit."

Chu Chuyan frowned in doubt. "If it's that simple, there's no way Physician Bao wouldn't be able to do it."

"You're right. In fact, I'm the only one in the whole world who is able to do this. Anyone else who tries to do the same will only be harming you," replied Zu An.

"Why is that so?" asked Chu Chuyan with a frown, not comprehending the basis of Zu An's confidence.

Chapter 223: Compromise

"I'm the only one who is familiar with every inch of your skin and ki meridians. I know how much strength to exert and which angle I should exert the force in. The slightest mistake here could easily destroy your ki meridians and internal organs, so it's an impossible deed for anyone who doesn't understand your internal condition well," said Zu An.

He wasn't speaking the truth here. The one who was familiar with Chu Chuyan's condition was actually Mi Li as she had entered Chu Chuyan's body previously, allowing her to know every nook and cranny inside.

However, he promised Mi Li not to expose her existence, so he could only claim it himself.

Chu Chuyan was taken aback by those words. "Why are you familiar with my physical condition?"

Zu An chuckled softly and said, "Have you forgotten? While I was treating you in the underground palace, I focused my attention on repairing your ki meridians. There's no way I could be unfamiliar with the insides of your body. There's no one else in the world who knows the insides of your body better than I do."

Chu Chuyan's face immediately reddened. "E-enough! Don't say anymore. Hurry up and apply your acupuncture on me!"

Zu An smiled softly as he got Cheng Shouping to lay out the medicine he had prepared beforehand. He crushed the medicine into powder before concocting it into a medicinal extract.

Catching a whiff of the scent of medicinal herbs, Chu Chuyan couldn't resist asking, "You know medicine too? But based on what I know, you've never dabbled in medicine before."

“Didn’t I tell you that there’s a mysterious grandfather who imparted to me his skills? That involves medicine too. It’s just that I’m not too interested in this field thus far. It’s only because of your condition that I chose to pick it up,” replied Zu An with a smile.

“Who are you saying is a grandfather?!” Mi Li roared furiously in his head. “Do I look old to you?”

Please, you’ve already lived for a few thousand years now. Do you really lack that much self-awareness?

But of course, there was no way Zu An would say those words out loud. He quickly replied, “I’m not talking about you. I’m just using a figure I fabricated in the past to explain the knowledge I’ve learned from you.”

“That’s more like it.” Mi Li harrumphed. “Speaking of which, I’m really interested to know where you picked up all your skills too. You knew my name right away when we first met too.”

Zu An deeply regretted pushing himself into a pit here. He shouldn’t have been honest with her and pushed everything to that mysterious grandfather too.

“We can talk about that later. You’re stuck with me for the time being anyway, so you’ll eventually find out about my secrets. For now, let’s focus our efforts on saving my wife first,” said Zu An.

Mi Li fell silent, an expression of subtle acknowledgment. This made Zu An heave a sigh of relief.

“What’s wrong?” Chu Chuyan noticed the subtle changes in Zu An’s expression as he stood in a daze.

“Nothing much. Let’s begin now.” Zu An reached out to grab Chu Chuyan’s hand.

Chu Chuyan instinctively tried to retract her hand, but Zu An didn’t let go this time around. Instead, he forcefully pulled her hand over to his side.

Chu Chuyan knew that her reaction was a bit too much given that he was treating her, so she resisted her urge to struggle and allowed him to do as he wished.

Zu An soaked his silver needles into the mysterious medicinal extract for a moment before flicking it lightly. His movements were so smooth that he looked like a veteran physician.

That made Chu Chuyan even more confused than before. This fellow sure is concealing a lot of secrets.

Following that, she saw a blur fly across her eyes, and before she knew it, the silver needles were already stabbed into the webbing between her thumb and forefinger.

She blinked her eyes in surprise. She expected the process to be painful, but she didn’t feel anything at all. Instead, she could feel warmth diffusing into her body from the silver needles.

Following that, Zu An pulled her sleeves up to her shoulder, revealing her beautiful arms.

“What are you doing?!” Chu Chuyan was horrified.

“You need not react so strongly. It’s not like it’s my first time seeing it anyway—I’ve already kissed it all I wanted to the last time. I’m just applying acupuncture to the other acupoints on your arm,” remarked Zu An.

Chu Chuyan was left incredibly embarrassed by those words. She couldn't help but recall the image of him kissing her body all over in the underground hall, and it made her both a little maddened and embarrassed too.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +33 Rage!

The influx of Rage points shocked Zu An, making him think that he had really accidentally angered her. However, when he saw the sum of Rage points, his heart was put at ease. She was probably just feeling frustrated out of anger.

"Pull your attention together. Stop thinking about all of this nonsense," warned Mi Li.

Knowing that he couldn't make the slightest error here, Zu An quickly gathered his focus and followed Mi Li's instructions. He channeled his ki into the acupoints through the silver needles on her arms, shrouding them in a layer of primordial ki.

The primordial ki shouldn't have had any regenerative effects on anyone before he reached the fourth rank of the Primordial Origin Sutra, but he had intimate contact with Chu Chuyan before, having used his primordial ki to reconstruct her ki meridians previously. As a result, there was still a bit of his primordial ki lingering in her ki meridians, so he could channel them by resonating it with the primordial ki he was infusing into her body externally.

Meanwhile, Chu Chuyan was surprised by how professional his acupuncture was. She felt a cold sensation surging through her arm, toward the silver needles. Then, she could visibly see frost being expelled into the surroundings from the silver needles.

Zu An calmly placed her left arm on a cushion, but he didn't extract the needles there. Instead, he reached out to grab her right hand.

By this point, Chu Chuyan could already tell that the treatment was effective, so she wasn't as resistant to it anymore. Instead, she cooperated with him to raise her arm and allowed him to roll her sleeves up.

Zu An did the same with her right arm and filled it with silver needles.

"How are you feeling?" Zu An asked as he placed her right arm on a cushion too.

"My hands don't feel as chilly anymore. The frost around my acupoints are gradually being released outward," remarked Chu Chuyan as she stared at the white mist released into the surroundings. "I didn't think that it would actually work."

Toward that, Zu An replied, "It's not that simple. The accumulation of frost in your body is simply too severe. Your high aptitude has really backfired on you this time around. You advanced your cultivation far too quickly that your body is unable to adapt to the accumulation of frost, making you particularly vulnerable to a backlash whenever you sustain significant injuries.

"Now that I think about it, this problem can probably be traced back to the Clans Tournament, when you incurred a severe injury while fighting with Wu Di. You were still barely able to keep it in control back then, but the seed has already been planted there. After that, your ki meridians got destroyed, your cultivation rank was forcefully raised by the Evanescent Lotus, and you suffered a strike from Shi Lezhi. All of these triggers caused you to completely lose control over the frost in your body."

This was Mi Li's analysis, and he was just relaying it over to Zu An. Of course, the matter concerning the Clans Tournament was something he shared with Mi Li so as to ensure that she could get a more accurate assessment of the problem.

"That's indeed the case." Chu Chuyan was feeling deeply impressed with Zu An. His diagnosis was spot-on.

"The accumulation of frost has deeply permeated your organs and ki meridians, making this problem much more complicated. This isn't an issue which we can resolve within days. At the very least, it'll require two to three months of daily acupuncture to expel the frost for you to recover from your current condition," said Zu An.

"I'll be troubling you then." Chu Chuyan heaved a sigh of relief.

Even Physician Bao Youlu had mentioned earlier that her condition was hopeless, saying that it was unlikely that Ji Dengtu would be able to do anything about her condition too. The knowledge that she could recover within two to three months was already a miracle to her.

However, Zu An's following words left her dumbfounded. "It's good that you're willing to cooperate with me. Alright, you should take off your clothes now."

"???" Chu Chuyan.

"What are you staring at me for? All I've done thus far is to dissipate the frost in your hands! What's far more important is the frost accumulated in your organs!" Zu An rolled his eyes. "How am I going to apply acupuncture on them if you don't take off your clothes."

"I..." Chu Chuyan could tell that it was a reasonable request, but her embarrassment left her at a complete loss.

"It's not like I haven't seen your body before, so there's no need for you to make such a big deal out of it," replied Zu An. "If you have a huge qualm with it, we can do the first treatment method instead. It's actually far more effective, and you should be able to recover within days. The process will also be far more enjoyable... cough cough, I mean convenient."

Chu Chuyan immediately shook her head vehemently. There was no way she could accept the first treatment method. "C-can you cover your eyes? I heard that there are skilled physicians who are able to apply acupuncture even with their eyes closed."

"That won't do," replied Zu An affirmatively. "I'm not as skilled as those physicians, and your condition is far more severe for me to take such a risk. Even the slightest misuse of force here can cause devastating damage to your ki meridians and internal organs. It would be foolish for me to hinder one of my senses here and raise the level of difficulty for such a complicated operation."

"..." Chu Chuyan.

A long time later, she bit her lips and glared at Zu An sharply, saying, "Are you doing it on purpose?"

"What do you mean by that?" asked Zu An innocently.

Even when throwing a tantrum, she's still as beautiful as ever. It's really a feast for my eyes.

“The two treatment methods you propose are all... like that! It’s not even an option at all!” Chu Chuyan was frenzied. “Is there no third solution?”

Zu An sighed deeply and said, “Honey, you should also be aware of how complicated your condition is. You should thankful that there are two options for you to choose from here. How could there be a third one here?”

Chu Chuyan was deeply conflicted. Naturally, the first treatment method was an absolute no, but the second one was...

Sensing her hesitation, Zu An added, “You can use a thin veil to conceal the more sensitive parts of your body. I doubt that I would need to apply acupuncture on those places.”

Hearing those words, Chu Chuyan heaved a sigh of relief and said, “Very well... let’s go with the second treatment method then.”

Meanwhile, Zu An celebrated his victory. This was simply how humans were like. Had he proposed the second option right from the start, there was no way she would accept it. However, by throwing out the more unacceptable first option in advance, it made the second one much more palatable.

Lu Xun’s quote really rings true. If you propose to open up a sky window in an enclosed room, there’s no way the other party would accept it. However, if you propose to destroy the entire roof, the other party might come to a compromise and allow you to open a sky window.

“Can we... start from the back first?” Chu Chuyan lowered her body as her breathing hastened a little. She was obviously panicking at the moment.

“Of course, that’s not a problem,” replied Zu An with a smile.

Chu Chuyan pursed her lips in hesitation before finally sighing deeply. She loosened the belt around her waist, and her silk robe flowed down her shoulders, revealing her beautiful back,

As expected of the number one beauty of Brightmoon City, her skin was so smooth that it looked almost like a mirror. Her figure curved smoothly along her waist all the way toward her bum. There was not a flaw to pick with her at all.

Chu Chuyan pulled a silk cloth over to cover her front as she murmured in protest, “Why aren’t you starting yet?”

Chapter 224: A Thief In the Middle of the Night

“It’s rare that I get to enjoy such beautiful scenery, so isn’t it normal for me to want to stare a little longer?” asked Zu An with a smile. Even though he had admired her just a few days ago, he was too overwhelmed by pleasure to take a good look.

“...” Chu Chuyan.

She couldn’t imagine just how shameless a person had to be in order to say such words out loud.

You have successfully trolled Chu Chuyan for +233 Rage!

Seeing that she was really angry, Zu An quickly reined in his smile and said, "Alright, I'll begin right away. You mustn't exert your ki to resist me at all, or else it'll just undermine everything we have done thus far."

Chu Chuyan replied with a nod.

It was taboo for a cultivator to sit completely unguarded before another unless she was certain that she could trust the other party. Even though Zu An often spoke nonsense that left her with a headache, she still trusted him fully, especially when she recalled how he had fought hard to protect her back at the underground hall.

Seeing that her body had finally relaxed, Zu An began inserting the silver needles one by one onto the acupoints on her back.

His movements were slow but controlled. He was worried that he would accidentally exert too much force and injure her body, and he wanted to avoid leaving behind any scars on her body too.

Chu Chuyan sat with her eyes closed as she felt the sensations on her back.

Every time a needle was inserted into her body, she could feel an additional tinge of warmth on her body. The frost in her body would begin flowing out from the nearest silver needle to it.

She was still rather nervous at the start, but as more needles were inserted, her tensed nerves began relaxing instead.

Feeling as the frost in her body was slowly being expelled from her body, a thought suddenly arose in her mind as she thought of a crucial problem. She immediately asked, "Will this lead to a steep fall in my cultivation?"

After all, she was relying on her ice ki in order to deal with her opponent, If all of the frost in her body was fully expelled, wouldn't her Snowflower Sword, a sword art which she had practiced for man years now, be completely crippled?

Hearing her quivering voice, Zu An assured her, "You won't. My acupuncture only removes the frost you're unable to control. It won't hinder the ice ki you're usually able to tap into."

Chu Chuyan was surprised to hear that. It was already a miracle that someone of her condition could be treated, but she wasn't so naive as to think that it wouldn't leave behind any adverse side effects. She was prepared to suffer a steep fall in her cultivation or even be crippled once again. Yet, who could have thought that there would be none of those?

She thought about how pessimistic Bao Youlu was earlier. The latter had been treating the members of the Chu clan for years now, so she was familiar with the level of his skills. In fact, he was only second to Ji Dengtu in Brightmoon City.

The only reason why she was getting out of this so easily was thanks to Zu An.

She suddenly found herself with so many words that she wanted to say to Zu An, but she couldn't express them clearly. In the end, she whispered two words softly, "Thank you."

Zu An smiled freely and said, "We're a couple after all. It's only normal for me to help you, so there's no need to thank me."

"A couple, huh?" murmured Chu Chuyan in a daze.

A moment later, Zu An said, "Alright, I'm done with your back. Turn around."

Chu Chuyan turned her body over obediently, only to realize that something was amiss right away. Lowering her head to look at her bare body, she instinctively wanted to let out a scream, but she was afraid that she would alarm her younger sister here.

Given Huanzhao's character, this matter would surely spread throughout the manor within days!

Looking at Chu Chuyan's reddened face, Zu An said with a smile, "There's no need to be so anxious. Aren't you already covering your body with a blanket? Besides, I can't see your sensitive spots anyway..."

Didn't you say that you've already seen all of it anyway? Chu Chuyan directed a grudging look toward Zu An, but she dared not to say those words aloud.

Zu An eyed her slender neck, beautiful collarbone, and snowy white skin, and the combination of these elements made him heat up a little.

"This woman is truly beautiful. There's not a flaw I can pick with her," remarked Mi Li.

Zu An was rendered speechless. Big sis, you're a woman too. Why do you sound like a perverted old man here?

"It's all your fault. If not for your intervention, I could have such a perfect body for myself," grumbled Mi Li with gritted teeth. "While it's inferior to my original body, I can still barely accept it given how beautiful it is."

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +256 Rage!

"..." Zu An.

Wow, you're still holding a grudge over that?

"Can you stop staring at me..." Chu Chuyan had never felt so meek before. Never in her life had she pleaded with a person with such a tone.

Her words stirred Zu An's heart, and he immediately snapped out of his daze. With a slightly reddened face, he said, "I'll start right away."

Chu Chuyan lowered her head as she murmured an "Mm" before falling silent.

"Eesh, I can't take it anymore! This stench of a budding romance is so hateful!" exclaimed Mi Li.

"Oh? Do people in your era use such slangs too?" Zu An was surprised. "Heh, it's only normal for someone like you who was forced into a political marriage with Ying Zheng to be jealous of us."

"..." Mi Li.

“Speak another word about that, and I’ll wash my hands out of this and let your wife die!”

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +666 Rage!

Zu An immediately surrendered. “Big sis empress, I was wrong. Calm down...”

He had to coax her for a long while before her rage finally abated. He reminded himself to watch his mouth a little lest it really angered Mi Li.

Zu An quickly reined in his thoughts and began applying acupuncture to her front.

As she was holding onto a thin blanket in front of her, many parts of her body were veiled. He had to raise lightly raise the blanket a little in order to find the right acupoints to insert the needle.

Chu Chuyan’s body trembled a little during the process, but she didn’t say a word at all.

The entire process was hard for both Chu Chuyan and Zu An to bear. After all, he had to hold himself in despite having such a great temptation sitting right in front of him.

Noticing that his breathing was growing heavier and that sweat droplets were forming on his forehead, Chu Chuyan couldn’t help but ask, “Is it very exhausting to treat me?”

Zu An was stunned for a moment before realizing that she had misunderstood. Of course, there was no reason for him to clarify such a beautiful misunderstanding, so he replied vaguely, “I’m fine. I can still hold on.”

Chu Chuyan bit her lips hesitantly as she directed a tender and grateful gaze toward him.

“You’re really more shameless than I thought. It looks like I need to tread carefully around you in the future lest I get duped by you,” sneered Mi Li.

Zu An was rendered speechless. “You can’t twist the facts just because you’re beautiful. If anything, you are the one who has been fooling me thus far.”

“Hmph! It doesn’t change the fact that you’re a horrible human being,” sneered Mi Li coldly.

“Big sis empress, you aren’t a good person either. Oh? Doesn’t that make us a perfect pair?” Zu An was almost done applying the acupuncture on Chu Chuyan, so there was no need to worry about offending her a little.

“Are you teasing me?” replied Mi Li with a sharpened voice.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +511 Rage!

“I’m just joking with you. There’s no need to get so mad,” replied Zu An.

“Had you dared to speak to me in such a manner back in that era, I would have had your tongue pulled out by now!” sneered Mi Li before falling silent.

Zu An chuckled softly a little. It was kind of fun to bicker with her from time to time.

A moment later, he began taking out the silver needles from Chu Chuyan’s body one by one before asking, “How do you feel now?”

"I feel like... I'm resting in a hot spring." Chu Chuyan was astonished. Her body had always been cold on touch, and she always felt like there was an ice cube sitting in her stomach. While that sensation hadn't completely vanished yet, she did feel much better than before.

Even with her lack of knowledge regarding medicine, she could tell that the treatment method was effective.

"As long as we continue this treatment for another three months, we'll be able to cure you of your affliction," said Zu An as he continued retrieving the needles while not forgetting to admire her body.

By this point, Chu Chuyan had already gotten used to his bold glare. She figured that since he had already seen everything that was to be seen, it didn't matter whether he took an additional look or not.

"Does it take that long?" asked Chu Chuyan with a frown.

Considering the enemies that the Chu clan had at the moment, she couldn't afford to let her condition be known by the others.

"That's why you should consider allowing me to move in with you. It'll be much easier for me to treat you when we're staying in the same room," proposed Zu An gleefully.

"Give me some time, alright? I... really am not prepared yet," asked Chu Chuyan with a pleading tone.

Zu An relented a little. "But still, it would incur suspicion if I drop by your room every day."

Chu Chuyan pressed her lips tightly together before saying, "You can come by in the middle of the night, just make sure that no one sees you. I'll keep the door open for you."

"Really?" Zu An's eyes lit up.

His delighted reaction shocked Chu Chuyan. She quickly clarified, "You're just coming over to treat me... Don't think too much into it!"

"Of course," replied Zu An with a chuckle. Well, when a guy and a girl meet together in the middle of the night every day, it's only a matter of time before they get close to one another

A groan suddenly sounded as Qin Wanru, who had been lying on the wooden bed all this while, started moving a little. It seemed like the effect of the chloroform was running out.

Chu Chuyan's face paled in horror upon seeing that her mother was waking up. The thought of her mother stumbling upon a barely-dressed her being together with Zu An made her heart thump in fright. She immediately pushed Zu An and said, "Why are you still standing in a daze? Hurry up and leave! Don't let my mother see you!"

Zu An's dazed expression made her subconsciously lower her head, only to notice that her act of pushing her away had caused the blanket covering her front to slip down, baring her body.

"..." Chu Chuyan.

"..." Zu An.

...

Even after slipping out Chu Chuyan's room through the windows, Zu An couldn't help but smile foolishly when he reminisced everything that had happened earlier.

It was then that a person suddenly flipped across the wall and happened to collapse on his body, causing them to crash into one another.

"The hell!" Zu An was still immersed in his fond memories when someone forcefully snapped him out of his thoughts, so it was only normal for him to be enraged.

But all of a sudden, he noticed that something was amiss—or to be more exact, it was the soft sensation on his hand. This intruder had a soft and slender body, and she gave off a familiar fragrance.

Clearly, the other party also didn't expect there to be someone beneath the wall. It made her infuriated to be suddenly fondled, such that she immediately launched an assault toward him.

Fortunately, Zu An was no longer the same person he used to be. He quickly grabbed her arms and took a good look at her appearance, only to freeze in place. "It's you?"

Chapter 225: Not Even a Drop Left

The other party also saw his face at the same time and stopped her attack. With a hint of surprise and joy in her tone, she exclaimed, "It's you?"

The intruder had a beautiful oval face and an exquisite ponytail tied with a blue butterfly knot. Who else could it be other than Qiao Xueying?

"What brings you here to the Chu clan? Could it be because you missed me?" teased Zu An. Despite his casual tone, he was actually quite perplexed as it wasn't likely for her to come here after having betrayed the Chu clan.

At the same time, he noticed that her face was slightly redder than normal.

Qiao Xueying also finally snapped out of her state and exclaimed in astonishment, "Q-quick, call the Brightmoon Duke out!"

"What's wrong?" Noticing the horror in her voice, Zu An quickly helped her up while scanning the surroundings warily.

"It's useless. I just received intelligence that the Brightmoon Duke isn't in the manor anymore," a teasing voice sounded. Following that, an old man suddenly appeared on top of the manor's wall. His hands were placed leisurely behind him, and he eyed Qiao Xueying coldly as if a cat preying on a mouse.

"Shi Lezhi!" exclaimed Zu An in astonishment. Even though the latter had tried to mask his appearance, he was still able to recognize the other party right away.

The old man was also astonished. His face darkened as he said, "How did you recognize me?"

Zu An pulled Qiao Xueying behind him as he said with a smile, "No matter how you disguise yourself, you can't hide that scummy aura around you."

“...” Shi Lezhi.

You have successfully trolled Shi Lezhi for +598 Rage!

“You sure have a sharp tongue. However, you’ll soon understand that this is not a world where words matter. You’ll regret having been born with that mouth of yours!” sneered Shi Lezhi coldly.

Zu An looked at Shi Lezhi intently before scoffing, “Just because I’ve always concealed my true strength beneath my cheerful expression, you really think that I’m a mere third rank cultivator, huh? Did you think that I would dare to provoke all of you if I only have that much? Since that’s the case, I shall cast aside my disguise and reveal my true strength to you!”

Zu An’s disposition caused Shi Lezhi’s eyes to narrow warily. He immediately gathered his ki and put up his guard against the other party. There was some sense in what the other party had said. It indeed made no sense for a third rank cultivator to maintain such a high profile, and anyone else in his place would have already died many times over by now.

To be honest, the happenings in the dungeon made no sense to him and Shi Kun. They couldn’t understand why the army of third rank and fourth rank cultivators they had dispatched to kill Zu An would end up getting wiped out.

That shouldn’t have been impossible.

And putting that together with Zu An’s words, Shi Lezhi suddenly found himself wondering if Zu An was actually a hidden expert, just that he was intentionally suppressing his cultivation so as to numb those around him.

Now that he thought about it, Zu An had managed to sever Shi Kun’s weapon with a single strike back then. Had he not interfered, there was a good chance that Shi Kun might have already been dead by now.

How could a third rank cultivator wield such power?

Putting aside a third rank cultivator, even a fifth rank cultivator couldn’t hope to defeat Shi Kun in a single hit!

All of the evidence suggested that Zu An was indeed hiding his strength.

Could he be a sixth rank, seventh rank, or eighth rank cultivator?

Shi Lezhi’s complexion darkened. If Zu An really actually managed to reach a level at such a young age, he would indubitably grow to become a powerhouse in the future.

Qiao Xueying also looked at Zu An in astonishment, wondering if the latter was really a hidden expert. The novels which she often read with Chu Chuyan often had such a development, such as the prince of some country feigning to be an ordinary worker or some incredibly powerful sword immortal disguising as a mortal to court a woman...

Could he be the same as well?

It was then that Zu An suddenly grabbed her hand and ran away. “What are you dazing off for? Run!”

He immediately activated Grandgale and instantaneously moved tens of meters away.

“...” Qiao Xueying.

“...” Shi Lezhi.

The huge contrast in her expectations and reality caught Qiao Xueying completely off guard, such that she fell into a daze. Shi Lezhi also took a while before he finally realized what was going on. Just the thought that he had been fooled into putting his guard up against a mere trashy third rank cultivator left him feeling deeply humiliated.

“You bastard, I’ll slice you into pieces!”

You have successfully trolled Shi Lezhi for +1024 Rage!

With a powerful step, he charged toward Zu An with a speed as fast as a released arrow. To his astonishment, even though his speed as a eighth rank cultivator should have been much faster than that of a third rank cultivator, he was actually unable to catch up with the latter!

“How could this be possible?!”

Shi Lezhi was astonished. Could that fellow possibly have been hiding his true strength?

Meanwhile, Zu An continued screaming as he ran, “Help, help! A madman is after me!”

His voice echoed far and wide, swiftly drawing attention here.

Qiao Xueying’s lips crept up. All this while, she had scorned Zu An for not having any dignity, but it was only now that she realized that the nifty tricks he resorted to were actually oddly effective. At least, the guards of the manor were indeed rushing toward him.

When the two guards saw them, they immediately drew their swords and siad, “Who are you?”

“I am your young master! That man behind me is the intruder who crept into the Chu clan!” shouted Zu An.

Shi Lezhi was dressed completely in black, which made it obvious that he wasn’t a good person. So, the guards quickly rushed forward to stop him, demanding, “Who are you?”

Unfortunately, barely after they said those words, Shi Lezhi grabbed their necks and twisted it, producing a crisp cracking sound. Just like that, the two guards breathed their last.

Zu An felt his goosebumps rising all over his body.

One must know that those two guards were at the third rank too, but they were killed like helpless sheeps!

While Zu An did possess some unusual means that made him far stronger than an ordinary third rank cultivator, he knew that he would only last a second or two at most against an eighth rank cultivator if he were to get caught.

So, he desperately ran away with Qiao Xueying in his hand, but once the effect of Grandgale ran out, it turned out that Qiao Xueying was the faster one of them. As a result, it turned into Qiao Xueying dragging him along instead.

Shi Lezhi's eyelids twitched. He had received an order from the young master to nab Qiao Xueying alive so that the young master could have a taste of her, so he went easy on her. Yet, it ended up creating an opportunity for Qiao Xueying to get away.

He thought that she would run to the academy to seek help, but with a feint, she ran toward the Chu Manor instead.

His fear of Chu Zhongtian made him hesitant to give chase, but all of a sudden, he received news that Chu Zhongtian had left the city in a hurry. With that, there was nothing for him to fear anymore.

Even so, he still didn't want to alarm the Chu clan wherever possible, so he disguised himself first before continuing to give chase. Yet, who could have thought that Zu An would do exactly what he wanted to avoid?

Had it been any other cultivator, he would have strangled him before the other party could let out a squeak, but for some reason, Zu An's burst speed actually outmatched him even when he was already giving it his all.

A vicious glint flashed across Shi Lezhi's eyes. With things having come to this point, he had no choice but to quickly take down Qiao Xueying and kill Zu An so as to limit the disturbance. Otherwise, if news were to spread that he was here, it could cause a great deal of trouble.

It was true that the Shi clan didn't fear the Chu clan, but the issue was that he was merely a guest elder in the Shi clan. At this moment, the patriarch of the Shi clan still didn't want to get into any direct confrontation with the Chu clan just yet, so it was likely that he would be abandoned if he were to get caught here.

Meanwhile, sensing that Shi Lezhi was getting closer and closer, Zu An began to panic. Isn't there usually a lot of guards in the manor? Why did it take so long for just two of them to appear here?

The truth was that Chu Zhongtian and Qin Wanru were worried about the news of Chu Chuyan's illness leaking, so they intentionally sealed off this area and instructed them not to come in no matter what happened.

So, even if the guards in the outer perimeters of the Chu clan noticed a commotion here, they dared not to barge in given the Master and Madame's orders.

"Zu An, what are you shrieking there for?"

All of a sudden, a bellow sounded not too far away. Qin Wanru stared at him with her phoenix eyes from a distance away.

The effects of the medicine had receded, resulting in her regaining her consciousness. She was a little perplexed as to why she would suddenly lose consciousness, but both Chu Chuyan and Chu Huanzhao insisted that she had overworked herself and fell asleep. Naturally, she wasn't convinced by that excuse,

but not even in her wildest imagination could she have imagined that her own daughter would actually drug her and gang up with one another to dupe her.

After that, Chu Chuyan told her that she was feeling a little better, a piece of news that Qin Wanru was skeptical about. She thought that her daughter was just consoling her.

However, when Chu Chuyan held her hand, she astonishingly realized that her hand was much warmer than before. At the same time, she noticed that Chu Chuyan's complexion also looked much better than before. So, she quickly rushed out to call Bao Youlu over to take a look.

However, before she could leave the room, she heard a commotion outside. So, she got Chu Huanzhao to stay with her older sister whereas she headed out to take a look.

When she saw Zu An holding the hands of another beautiful woman, she immediately felt rage rush into her head.

Very well, Zu An. It has just been moments before my daughter fell into danger, but you have already hooked up with another woman outside? Do you think that our Chuyan and the entire Chu clan are pushovers?

You have successfully trolled Qin Wanru for +999 Rage!

Zu An immediately pointed to the person behind and shouted, "An intruder has snuck into our Chu clan with malicious intentions in mind!"

He didn't expose Shi Lezhi's identity out of fear that the latter would attempt a massacre after being cornered.

Qin Wanru frowned upon hearing those words. She looked behind Zu An and immediately spotted the masked Shi Lezhi. Her eyebrows shot up as she questioned, "Who are you? How dare you barge into our Chu clan!"

Shi Lezhi's eyes immediately lit up. Looking at the curvaceous woman before him, he couldn't help but murmur, "What a bountiful woman!"

Had he met with such a beautiful woman on any occasion, he would surely do whatever it took to snatch her over so that he could toy with her.

Unfortunately, he had already recognized the other party's identity. Knowing that she was the wife of the Brightmoon Duke, he could only toss the idea out of his head. At the same time, he felt a little jealous of the Brightmoon Duke too.

It's no wonder why he didn't take in a concubine all of these years. Such a beautiful wife would be more than enough to suck him dry, so there's no way he would have any energy left for any concubines.

Sensing the other party's disrespectful gaze, Qin Wanru roared in fury, "You're courting death!"

She raised her palm to attack Shi Lezhi.

Worried that she would be put at a disadvantage due to being unguarded, Zu An immediately warned her with a shout, "Be careful, he's an eighth rank cultivator!"

Chapter 226: Despair

Qin Wanru was shocked to hear those words. She couldn't have imagined that a random intruder who barged into the Chu clan in the middle of the night would actually be an eighth rank cultivator!

However, it was already too late to take back her attack.

"Forget it! So be it if I die!"

Such a thought flashed across Qin Wanru's mind.

Shi Lezhi quickly responded with a punch on her palm. Out of fear that he would reveal his identity, he chose not to use any cultivation techniques or moves that could potentially identify him, using just the raw strength of an eighth rank cultivator.

"Ahhh~" With a cry, Qin Wanru was sent flying backward before falling onto the floor.

"Is this all you got?" Zu An's lower jaws nearly fell to the ground.

Based on how she was able to keep Chu Zhongtian in line, he figured that she should at least be an eighth rank cultivator at the very least. Perhaps, out of respect for her own husband, she might even have intentionally suppressed her cultivation so that her husband could be known as the number one expert of Brightmoon City.

But as the saying went, the higher the expectations, the greater the disappointment.

Way too weak!

Seeing how Qin Wanru was still struggling to get to her feet, Zu An reckoned that she should be fine for the time being and breathed a sigh of relief. Then, he turned to Shi Lezhi and shouted, "Stinky old man, you sure are useless! For an eighth rank cultivator to be unable to catch up with a mere third rank cultivator, I feel sorry for your mother for giving birth to someone as useless as you!"

"..." Shi Lezhi.

You have successfully trolled Shi Lezhi for +1024 Rage!

He finally understood why even the young master would end up losing his cool before this fellow. How could anyone not lose their temper at this?!

"You bastard! Once I get my hands on you, I'll tear off your limbs one by one and torture you for life!" bellowed Shi Lezhi as he darted straight for Zu An.

His movement was so quick that his figure morphed into a blur. It took him only an instant for him to arrive right beside Zu An.

Qiao Xueying's face paled in horror, but it was too late for her to do anything.

But fortunately, Zu An was already prepared. He summoned Grandgale once more and moved tens of meters away once more.

With the rise of his cultivation, he could summon Grandgale more than once per day now, and the distance he could move each time had greatly increased too. Unfortunately, he knew that this wasn't enough for him to escape from an eighth rank cultivator. Once he used up his three uses of Grandgale, he would be completely helpless before Shi Lezhi.

Shi Lezhi also had the same thoughts in mind. As an eighth rank cultivator, he could tell that Zu An was using some sort of secret art to escape from him. Such powerful techniques definitely had a limit to it, or else Zu An would have already fled by now.

If so, all he needed to do right now was to wait for Zu An to deplete himself, and that would be the end of that bastard.

Just thinking about how his initial plans were foiled due to Zu An's interference made him gnash his teeth in anger. I shan't allow him to die that easily later on!

Just like that, Zu An and Shi Lezhi vanished once more.

Qin Wanru's body trembled in fear. She wasn't severely injured as the intruder seemed to have gone easy on her, simply pushing her away without inflicting much damage. Nevertheless, her ki was still shaken up by the impact, causing her body to go limp. She wouldn't be able to gather any strength to fight at least in the short-term.

She thought about what Zu An did earlier, and a thought surfaced in her mind. Could he have intentionally lured the enemy away for my sake?

That left her with a conflicted look on her face. However, she quickly realized that Zu An was still in danger and hurriedly summoned the guards over.

...

Meanwhile, Zu An was just fleeing with Qiao Xueying in hand. At the same time, he quickly called out for Mi Li's help. "Big sis empress, big sis empress! Hurry up and save me!"

However, no matter how he called her, Mi Li refused to answer at all.

"Could she have gone back to sleep after guiding me on the acupuncture earlier?" Zu An was scared out of his wits. One must know that most times he dared to act boldly was because he knew that he had trump cards he could resort to if things went awry, such as the skills he had received from the Keyboard and Mi Li.

Yet, who could have thought that his trump card would fail at this vital moment?!

It was then that he noticed that Qiao Xueying's speed was getting slower and slower. He turned around to look at her, only to notice that her face had become as red as a cooked lobster. Her eyes were glistening brightly, looking as if she would tear up at any moment.

"What's wrong?" asked Zu An anxiously.

"Shi Lezhi poisoned me. He was intending to have me serve Shi Kun." Qiao Xueying bit her lips indignantly as her breathing began to grow a little unstable.

Had it been half a month ago, when she was still filled with admiration for Shi Kun, she would have been more than willing to accede to Shi Kun's request even without any medicine. However, when she saw how Shi Kun was willing to abandon her as a pawn just so that he could survive back at the dungeon, all of the feelings she harbored for him died at that very instant.

She would rather die than be taken advantage of by Shi Kun right now.

So, she fled desperately as soon as an opportunity arose. She had no idea what was going through her mind—it could be because she had lived there for many years or that she knew that Chu Zhongtian had the means to deal with Shi Lezhi—but she instinctively ran toward the Chu Manor.

“...” Zu An fell speechless upon learning of her situation.

He never thought that Shi Kun would exact vengeance on Qiao Xueying so quickly. He had stopped Qiao Xueying from stepping forward to testify for him earlier despite the bad situation in order to avoid this situation.

However, it seemed like he had overestimated Shi Kun's decency as a human.

And it seemed like Shi Lezhi was someone without a shred of dignity too. Despite being an eighth rank cultivator, he had no qualms about poisoning a young lady. Those of the Shi clan were really worse than beasts!

Qiao Xueying felt her body slowly growing weaker and weaker. Soon, she was no longer able to keep up with his footsteps anymore and ended up tumbling onto the floor.

Of course, there was no way Shi Lezhi would let this opportunity slip past him. He immediately charged forward and exerted his terrifying pressure on the two of them, rendering them immobile.

It was so powerful that Zu An even had difficulties trying to breathe, let alone summon Grandgale. All of a sudden, a thought surfaced in his mind, and he shouted, “Whatcha staring at?”

“I’m staring at you, shithead!”

The moment those words came out of Shi Lezhi's mouth, he fell into a daze. Why would I suddenly say those words?

He had never even heard of such a comeback before!

Wait a moment, I think I heard of something similar back at the Clans Tournament. It was during a crucial moment in the fight when Zu An suddenly shouted ‘Whatcha staring at’ and Yuan Wendong oddly replied ‘I’m staring at you, shithead’. It was this lapse in attention that caused Yuan Wendong to lose the match and end up crippled.

Back then, everyone thought that Yuan Wendong was a fool for making such a foolish mistake... but now I look at it, it seems like Zu An possesses some sort of mysterious skill!

But why would there be such a skill in the world?

Shi Lezhi was utterly confused, but he would make sure to report this upwards in the future lest the young master fell for this trick in the future.

Meanwhile, Zu An made use of the opportunity where Shi Lezhi released his pressure due to his lapse of attention to summon Grandgale and move tens of meters away once more.

By this point, Qiao Xueying was already on the verge of losing consciousness. She grabbed Zu An's collar and said, "Kill me."

"What?" Zu An was baffled.

"Kill me! Otherwise, I'll only be humiliated once I fall into the hands of the Shi clan!" exclaimed Qiao Xueying with the final shred of her rationality.

Zu An shook his head and replied, "Don't you know that I'm a gentleman? How could someone like me possibly kill you? Don't worry, I'll definitely find a way to save you."

"How do you intend to save me in such a situation?" Even in her state of grogginess, Qiao Xueying could see Shi Lezhi coming closer and closer to them, gripping her with despair.

Chapter 227: Six Pulse Divine Sword

"There has to be a way out of this. There must be!" appeased Zu An in agitation, almost as if he was trying to convince himself of it too.

By this point, Qiao Xueying had already completely lost her consciousness. Her hand was still clutching tightly to his collar, as if this was the only way she could faint in peace.

Every time Zu An felt that Shi Lezhi was coming close, he would immediately turn around and shout 'Whatcha staring at?', to which, Shi Lezhi would be compelled to respond with a 'I'm staring at you, shithead!'.

Using this short gap, Zu An would try to put some distance between them. It was just that this trick only worked if the opponent was caught off guard. After a few times, Shi Lezhi had already gotten accustomed to it, such that it had barely any effect anymore.

In the end, Zu An ran into a remote courtyard before finally coming to a halt while gasping for air.

Shi Lezhi also stopped several meters away before slowly making his way over. He sneered coldly, "Continue running. Why aren't you running anymore?"

He could have rushed straight up to end things right away, but he was a little hesitant to approach recklessly because he was afraid that Zu An might still have some other trump cards in his hands. After all, the latter had already displayed many unbelievable means thus far.

So, he first spread his ki around to check the surroundings, and only after confirming that there were no traps or cultivators in the area did he finally heave a sigh of relief.

Haa, it looks like I'm really getting scared for nothing here. No matter how many tricks he has up his sleeves, he's still no more than a third rank cultivator. What could he possibly pull off?

However, Zu An revealed a mysterious smile and said, "Run? Why should I? I specially chose this place so as to grant you a quiet resting place. You'll get to enjoy the fragrance of the flowers and the chirping of the birds here. You should be thanking me for my consideration here."

"..." Shi Lezhi.

He had no idea whether he was hearing things or that Zu An really had a screw loose. Really, how does he get the courage to say such stuff?

You have successfully trolled Shi Lezhi for +666 Rage!

"Did you think that I would continue falling for your tricks?" sneered Shi Lezhi coldly. He could still remember the humiliation he felt when he fell for Zu An's bluff earlier, and there was no way he would allow history to repeat itself.

But all of a sudden, a shaky figure walked out from a nearby wooden hut and said, "What happened? Why is it so noisy here?"

Shi Lezhi quickly turned his gaze over with a frown, only to see an old gardener standing there. The latter looked like a human-shaped, dried-up persimmon holding onto a hoe in his hand.

What's going on? I checked everything within a thirty meters radius, and there should be no one here!

However, sensing no pulsations of ki coming from the old man at all, Shi Lezhi's heart was soon put at ease. He's no more than an ordinary old man. There's no need to fear him.

So, he ignored the old man and maintained his gaze on Zu An, sneering, "Looks like there's another person to join you on your afterlife journey."

Zu An quickly hid behind the gardener as he said, "Elder, that guy dares to disrespect you!"

Needless to say, this old gardener was Old Mi. Zu An had not been running blindly all this while; he was heading straight toward where Old Mi resided. Since Mi Li couldn't be counted on, the only one of the entire Chu Manor who had the means to save him was Old Mi.

"Your way of sowing discord isn't particularly ingenious," remarked Old Mi with a frown. He was displeased with Zu An leading an outsider here, putting him at risk of being exposed.

Zu An replied with a sheepish smile, "Well, I'm not lying. He really is disrespecting you."

Shi Lezhi suddenly felt uneasy listening to their conversation. He took a deep look at Old Mi, but nowhere on the latter's feeble silhouette could he see any hints of a powerful cultivator. After a short moment of hesitation, he sneered, "Trying to put on an act once more, huh? Are you trying to buy time for your reinforcement to arrive?"

He could hear the commotion going on in the Chu Manor. All of the guards who were resting had woken up and were rushing here at this moment.

Shi Lezhi had no intention of clashing head-on with the Chu clan, so he decided to get this matter done with and carry Zu An and Qiao Xueying out of this place. As for the gardener, he would simply kill him off while he was at it. There was no need to keep this ant who had seen him alive in this world.

However, Old Mi didn't pay any heed to Shi Lezhi at all. Instead, he glanced at the woman in Zu An's embrace and asked, "Who is she? Hm, Snow?"

Having stayed in the Chu Manor for so many years, there was no reason why he couldn't recognize Snow.

"Indeed. That fellow rushed in with the intention to kidnap our people, and needless to say, there's no way someone as heroic as me could turn a blind eye to it! But that fellow refused to let the matter go and came after me as well!" exclaimed Zu An.

"Didn't Snow betray the Chu clan?" Old Mi exposed his lie right away. "What's going on?"

Zu An finally answered sheepishly, "He's from the Shi clan. He's under orders to kill us."

He dared not to say that Shi Lezhi was here to kill Snow out of fear that Old Mi wouldn't make a move. He was betting on the fact that he was somewhat half a disciple to Old Mi that the latter wouldn't turn a blind eye to his dangerous plight.

"Shi clan?" Old Mi's eyes narrowed contemplatively.

"Are you done with your act yet?" Shi Lezhi was already losing his patience. "Darned old man, get lost and I can grant you a painless death!"

Old Mi sighed deeply and said, "How disappointing. So many years have passed, and yet, I still see so many frogs in the well in the world of cultivation. A mere eighth rank cultivator like you dares to talk big before me?"

"How did you know..." Shi Lezhi's heart skipped a beat. He dared not to look down on the old gardener before him anymore.

He used his ki once more to scan the other party, but he was still unable to detect anything at all. If so, there were only three possibilities. One, the other party's cultivation was far higher than his. Two, the other party was an ordinary person. Three, the other party was carrying some sort of artifact that concealed his artifact.

After careful contemplation, Shi Lezhi figured that the third option was the most likely of all. Considering the other party was able to remain composed before him and see through his cultivation, it didn't seem like he was an ordinary person.

As for the other party being far stronger than he was, how could that be? He was an eighth rank cultivator, one of the strongest experts in the world!

There were only so few people who could compete with him in Brightmoon City. Even against the number one expert Chu Zhongtian, he would still be able to put on a fight. No matter how powerful the old gardener before him was, it was simply impossible for him to be even stronger than Chu Zhongtian. Otherwise, how could he possibly lower himself to serve as a mere gardener in the Chu Manor?

There were only so few 'hidden experts' in the world as cultivators needed a lot of resources to sustain their growth. Due to that, stronger cultivators tended to have a far higher standing in the world. Those who remained little-known were likely to be overtaken by their more well-known counterparts.

Having finally thought things through, Shi Lezhi cast aside his fear. He didn't think that there was anything for him to fear here. Even if he's indeed stronger than me, he couldn't possibly kill me in a single blow, right? If things get awry, all I have to do is turn tail and run!

"It looks like I'm getting timider with age. Forget it, I can't be bothered to waste my breath with you anymore." Hearing the sound of the approaching guards, Shi Lezhi knew that he couldn't hesitate anymore.

A powerful force rippled forth from his body, causing the nearby tree branches to snap off and fly away. The grass on the ground also pressed down to the earth, as if there was a massive hand pushing them down. Even the bloomed flowers in the vicinity were reduced to ashes in the blink of an eye.

Seeing the disastrous fate that had befallen the flowers he had been taking care of all this while, Old Mi's wrinkled face trembled a little. "I was still hesitating as to whether I should interfere or not, but now... you can drop dead."

Shi Lezhi sneered in response to Old Mi's rage. Where does he get the courage to make such boasts? It looks like those who are acquainted with Zu An are all braggarts!

He didn't hold back in his attack at all, determined to blast the darned old man into shreds with his force before using the remaining momentum of his attack to break Zu An's limbs. After that, he would bring the two of them back. While the young master had his fun with Qiao Xueying, he would make sure that Zu An thoroughly regret having been born on the face of this world!

But all of a sudden, warning bells began ringing in his head, causing goosebumps to rise all over his body. It was almost as if every cell in his body was warning him of imminent danger, making his heart thump in unease. Yet, he was unable to discern anything dangerous about the situation he was in.

Why is this so?

He scanned his surroundings, but there was nothing amiss at all.

The guards of the Chu clan wouldn't be able to rush here in time, Zu An is still standing at his spot, and the old gardener... Huh? Where did the gardener go?

It was then that an eerie voice sounded behind him. "Since you've already seen me, how could I let you escape with your life?"

Before Shi Lezhi could respond, he felt a terrible pain at the back of his head. Realization struck him at that very instant, and he exclaimed, "This movement skill and that speed, you're..."

Unfortunately, before he could finish his words, his consciousness had already plunged into darkness. His body slumped forward before falling heavily onto the ground.

Zu An was dumbfounded by what he had seen. "Holy shit! I knew that you were powerful, but you actually killed an eighth rank cultivator just like that. This is way too... too..."

He was unable to find a suitable adjective strong enough to express his current feelings at the moment.

Old Mi glanced at him nonchalantly and said, "I'll leave you to handle things here. You better think things through carefully before explaining things to the Chu clan. If you expose my identity once more, you can accompany him on his journey."

With a tap of his foot, he vanished into the night.

Zu An knew that Old Mi was hiding his identity at the moment, so he couldn't afford to appear in public. He recalled the chilling words he had left prior to his departure, and it sent a shudder through his body. He knew that Old Mi wasn't just making an empty threat here.

It looks like there's some huge secret behind his identity.

However, this was no time for Zu An to be pondering about this matter. He could already hear the footsteps of the Chu clan's guards not too far away, so he quickly hid Qiao Xueying's body in the midst of bushes. Considering that the latter was a traitor of the Chu clan, she would surely be put through a great deal of suffering if she were to be captured here.

Soon enough, Qin Wanru and Yue Shan led a group of elite guards over. Upon seeing the sight before them, they halted their footsteps before widening their eyes in astonishment.

They saw Zu An and Shi Lezhi standing face-to-face. Zu An's finger was pointing at Shi Lezhi's head whereas Shi Lezhi's punch had stopped in front of Zu An's chest.

"Zu An, a-are you fine?" Qin Wanru asked with a quivering voice.

Despite her question, her heart had already turned cold. She had personally experienced just how powerful that black-clothed man was, so she knew full well that there was no way Zu An could still be alive after receiving that punch.

She couldn't help but think about how Zu An had lured the black-clothed man away in order to save her, and it made her feel terrible inside. All this while, she had never hesitated to show her scorn toward him, but who could have thought that he would sacrifice himself to save her at such a critical moment?

If he were to die here just like that, how could she possibly face her two daughters?

"Zu An, rest assured. I'll exact vengeance for you! Men, hack that bastard into shreds!" roared Qin Wanru furiously.

So what if you're an eighth rank cultivator? The Chu Manor is not a place where you can come and go as you please! Since you're already here, don't even think about leaving here alive!

The guards immediately rushed forward, only for a familiar voice to sound right after.

"Haa. I've been wanting to keep a low profile thus far, but you simply had to force my hand. You should have known that there's no way you could have stood a chance before my Six Pulse Divine Sword, so why did you even bother?" Zu An exerted a bit of force in his finger, pushing the already dead Shi Lezhi down onto the ground before the incredulous eyes all around him.

Chapter 228: Admiration

After saying his lines, Zu An even blew the tip of his finger, looking as if he had just fired a bullet.

Everyone's mouth fell agape, and for a moment, there was an awkward silence lingering in the air.

How powerful did the Madam say the intruder was again? Eighth rank?

They had marched here with the resolve to lose at least half of their people, but such a powerful enemy was actually defeated by the young master with absolute ease.

"What kind of skill is the Six Pulse Divine Sword?"

The guards stared at one another questioningly, only to see the ignorance in each other's eyes. So, they quickly directed their eyes toward their more knowledgeable leader, Yue Shan, instead.

"How am I to know?"

Yue Shan's face heated up. He knew a lot of cultivation techniques and combat skills, but he had never heard of the Six Pulse Divine Sword before.

Even though he had never heard of this skill before, just the name itself hinted that it was no ordinary skill. At the very least, it should be an earth grade skill. Perhaps, it might even be a heaven grade skill, especially since it carried the word 'divine' in it.

Just like ki stones and weapons, the combat skills in this world could be divided into mortal grade, earth grade, and heaven grade too. The Elementary Swordplay of Brightmoon Academy was a mortal grade combat skill.

While mortal grade combat skill might sound weak, there was still a huge difference in the prowess of the cultivator whether he was using combat skills at all. In fact, the only places to obtain combat skills were major clans and the academies, such that the average cultivator without any significant background wouldn't know any combat skills at all. Most of them were fully reliant on their instincts and combat experience.

Of cultivators in the same rank, those who had combat skills can dominate those without them.

Of those cultivators who had combat skills, most of them were mortal grade combat skills. Usually, only the prodigies of the academies and core members of major clans were able to learn earth grade combat skills. As for heaven grade combat skills, those were already things of the legend.

While the guards of the Chu clan were trying to figure out what kind of combat skill was the Six Pulse Divine Sword, Qin Wanru was still unable to recover from her shock.

The other guards had never fought with the mysterious black-clothed man—the other two who did were already dead by now. However, she had experienced the strength of the black-clothed man herself.

Despite being a sixth rank cultivator, she was still defeated in a single strike, and that was with the other party going easy on her. That showed that the black-clothed man was far stronger than her.

At the very least, he had to be at the seventh rank, very possibly an eighth rank too.

Yet, Zu An killed this powerful expert so easily?

How much time had passed? On top of that, there was no sound at all. All of these proved that Zu An defeated the black-clothed man with an overwhelming advantage.

But how could that be possible?

Zu An was still maintaining his Six Pulse Divine Sword posture. Usually, anyone who saw this posture would wonder if he had lost his bonkers, but at this very moment, he seemed to be shrouded in a mysterious halo.

“Hurry up and check that person’s identity!”

Qin Wanru soon snapped out of her daze and took control of the situation. She ordered the guards to check on the deceased before walking over to Zu An’s side.

“Zu An... are you alright?”

“I told you before, call me Ah Zu instead,” said Zu An as he struggled to his feet. It was honestly quite difficult to maintain that posture, and the slightest mistake might lead to him tugging on his balls.

“Oof oof! Help me up! My waist... waist...”

In order to show off, Zu An had assumed an incredibly difficult posture earlier, such that it ended up straining his muscles.

“...” Qin Wanru.

She had a whole bunch of questions she wanted to ask, but before she knew it, Zu An had reverted back to his usual self.

What was I going to ask again? Damn it! This fellow made me forget what was on my mind!

Qin Wanru stared at Zu An quietly for a moment before she finally managed to keep her emotions in check and asked, “Are you injured? How are you feeling at the moment? I saw that man striking you squarely in your chest...”

If the black-clothed man was really an eighth rank cultivator, even her husband, Chu Zhongtian, the number one expert of Brightmoon City, would have suffered severe injuries at the very least. Due to that, she was very worried that Zu An was in bad shape.

“Injured? Ah yes, I’m injured!” Zu An clutched his chest as he began shouting exaggeratedly and fell in the direction of her body.

But halfway through his action, he suddenly remembered that it was not his own wife in front of him, so he quickly stopped what he was doing in fright and scratched his head awkwardly.

“Bring some heaven grade ki stone right away! If there aren’t any heaven grade ki stones, the earth grade ones would do too. Also, prepare some top-quality medicine and nourishing medicinal herbs too! I need to recuperate from my injuries!”

“...” Qin Wanru.

Hearing Zu An's ridiculous demands, Qin Wanru belatedly realized that he actually wasn't injured at all. However, out of consideration that he had just made a huge contribution to the Chu clan, she knew that this wasn't a good time to berate him, so she turned her attention toward Yue Shan instead.

"Have you found out the identity of the intruder yet?"

Yue Shan shook his head and replied, "Not yet. He doesn't have any identifying objects on him. On top of that, his face..."

He glanced at Zu An fearfully before remarking, "The young master's Six Pulse Divine Sword is simply too powerful that the intruder's head seemed to have exploded. We can't recognize him at all."

Zu An suddenly felt incredibly disgusted. Isn't Old Mi a little too vicious? It's one thing to kill him, but you actually crushed his head as if it was a watermelon?

Zu An quickly wiped his hands on his clothes. In order to show off, he had placed his finger on Shi Lezhi's head earlier. He realized that there was a sticky sensation on the tips of his finger, and he realized that it might just be blood or brain matter.

That being said, he still enjoyed the 10% shock, 20% fright, 30% admiration, and 40% reverence gaze directed toward him from the guards. He felt invigorated by their gazes, as if he had just eaten a pile of ginseng.

It feels so good to be strong! Well, even if it's fake, it's still something that I faked out with my own skills!

"Zu..." Qin Wanru was halfway through her words when she quickly remembered what Zu An said earlier and changed her method of address." Ah Zu, do you know this person's identity?"

Zu An hesitated for a moment before shaking his head. "I'm not sure. I was too worried about Chu Chuyan's injuries and was unable to sleep, so I began walking around the place. However, this man suddenly appeared out of nowhere and attacked me."

Zu An didn't reveal Shi Lezhi's identity as he knew that it could cause a great deal of complications. Shi Lezhi was a renowned eighth rank cultivator, and if others were to know that Shi Lezhi had died in his hands, he would surely garner unwanted attention from the other powers in Brightmoon City.

That would likely cause a great deal of trouble for him, especially since he didn't have the strength to protect himself from them yet. Besides, it wasn't his style to stand out in the open. He would rather hide in the shadows and assault his enemies secretly.

I'd rather let Shi Kun remain unnerved about the death of his subordinate.

When Qin Wanru heard that he was worried for her daughter's safety, she nodded her head in approval. At least you have a conscience!

However, Zu An's account only intensified her doubts. "Why did someone suddenly pop out and attempt to take your life?"

Zu An shrugged calmly and replied, "How am I to know? Someone as outstanding as me tends to attract admiring gazes from beautiful women all around. Some men might have held a grudge against me due to that and sought me for revenge."

"..." Qin Wanru.

"..." Yue Shan.

"..." The guards.

They suddenly understood that it was not anything weird for someone to be after his life. On the contrary, it would be weird if no one was trying to kill him.

Seeing the reactions of the surrounding crowd, Zu An knew that they harbored some doubts regarding his response. Haa, how ironic. You trust me right away whenever I'm lying, but as soon as I start speaking the truth, you immediately doubt me.

"How do you know he's an eighth rank cultivator then?" asked Qin Wanru.

"I guessed it. He looks pretty strong," replied Zu An with an innocent blink of his eyes.

Qin Wanru nodded in agreement. It would be impossible for an eighth rank cultivator to be killed by him so easily, so it was more likely for the black-clothed man to be at seventh rank or even just pinnacle sixth rank.

But regardless of which one it was, the black-clothed man still wasn't someone whom Zu An could possibly deal with. So, she asked, "How did you kill him?"

"How? I was just stronger than him," replied Zu An with a shrug. "Didn't you see how cool I was on the dueling ring during the Clans Tournament? I'm also an expert too, so isn't it normal for me to be able to kill another expert?"

Qin Wanru harrumphed upon hearing his response. She thought that he was simply unwilling to reveal his trump card to them, so she didn't bother probing on.

"Speaking of which, where's the woman?"

She suddenly remembered seeing Zu An pulling another woman's hand, and her face immediately darkened.

"Ah, that woman ran off the first opportunity she got," replied Zu An. Then, he smacked his fist on his palm as he remarked in realization, "Ah, I was just wondering how weird it was that someone would be after my life. Now that I think of it, that black-clothed man might have been after the woman. Haa, what a pity that she ran off too quickly. I didn't even manage to ask her for her name! The least she could do is betroth herself to me for saving her life, right?"

Yue Shan stared at Zu An with eyes filled with admiration. What an incredible man our young master is. To think that he would be dreaming of having another woman betroth herself to him in front of his mother-in-law!

On the other hand, Qin Wanru's thoughts went in a different direction. I was saved by him earlier too. Could he be trying to tease me here?

"Hmph! I reckon that he doesn't have the guts anyway!"

Her thoughts left her feeling incredibly awkward, so she quickly turned her attention to the guards and began issuing orders. She instructed the guards to search the area to check if there were any other intruders in the area while assigning more guards to patrol the outer perimeters of the Chu clan.

Afterward, she summoned the members from the other branches, Yue Shan, Hong Zhong, and the other close aides of the Chu clan to discuss this matter.

Soon, the only one left in the courtyard was Zu An. After ensuring that everyone was gone, he carried Qiao Xueying out from the bushes, only to find that her body was searing hot, almost as if she had come right out of the furnace.

Worried that others would notice her, he quickly carried her back into his room.

It was fortunate that the guards assigned near his room had been dispatched elsewhere due to the sudden intruder, which made it easier for him to slip Qiao Xueying back into his room without getting caught by anyone.

He quickly poured out a cup of cooling tea and fed it to Qiao Xueying, but it didn't seem to be working. He remembered how feverish patients in his previous world would usually have a cloth placed on their forehead to lower their temperature, so he headed out to fetch some water. However, before he could walk off, he suddenly felt something grabbing his arm.

He turned his head around, only to see that Qiao Xueying had woken up. Her eyes weren't as clear as they usually were. Instead, they were glazed with amorous intent. "Don't go~"

"I'm just heading out to grab some water to cool you down. Or should I bring you to the lake so that you can have a cold bath? That should help alleviate your effects of the poison, right?" asked Zu An anxiously.

However, Qiao Xueying shook her head and said, "There's no way the Shi clan's poison can be resolved that easily."

"Ah, do you still have the Heartcalming Pill Xiaoxi gave you previously?" asked Zu An.

"I don't have it." Qiao Xueying shook her head while keeping her eyes intently on him.

"What do we do then?" Zu An frowned. "Should I carry you over to Xiaoxi's place now?"

"You dummy, are you feigning ignorance?" Qiao Xueying's usual sharp voice sounded incredibly sweet and pleasant, as if it had been mixed with honey.

Chapter 229: Prodigy

Her sweet voice felt like a cat playfully scratching at his heart. He looked at the blushing woman on the bed, and it made his throat go dry. He remarked hoarsely, "Actually... I am a gentleman."

Qiao Xueying would have usually gotten mad upon hearing those words, but she ignored his words entirely. She continued grabbing his hand tightly and said, "Don't leave me. I'm afraid..."

"Yes, I won't leave your side." Zu An took a seat by the side and tidied up her hair, which had been messed up a little by the sweat drenching her forehead.

He wouldn't be so foolish as to leave at this moment. He had watched far too many television drama serials to know that another man would likely slip in and take advantage of her if he were to leave right now to look for an antidote.

Qiao Xueying moaned softly before rushing forth to hug him tightly. She was a maiden after all, so she had no idea how to do that kind of stuff. She could only instinctively hug onto his body, as if this was the only way for her to vent the heat in her body.

"Help... help me..." mumbled Qiao Xueying indistinctively.

Zu An even scorned himself a little. He had been traumatized by Ji Xiaoxi blocking his goal that he forgot the most primitive method to alleviate the effects of an aphrodisiac.

Looking at the woman's plump lips, Zu An gulped down a mouthful of saliva as he began to lean forward.

But just as their lips were about to touch, Chu Huanzhao's voice suddenly sounded by the doorstep, "Brother-in-law, brother-in-law!"

Zu An immediately jolted in horror. Shit, there would be hell if that little lass encounters this sight!

Qiao Xueying had already betrayed the Chu clan, and Chu Huanzhao was a member of the Chu clan. If they were to meet one another, there was no way Huanzhao would let her off easily.

On top of that, Qiao Xueying's current state made the situation even more complicated. He wouldn't be able to explain this matter if she were to see this.

He quickly searched the area, but his room was simply too simple to hide anyone in here.

Hearing as the footsteps grew closer, a thought suddenly popped into his head. He thought about a trick used by the protagonist of the Deer and the Cauldron, Wei Xiaobao, and he immediately wrapped Qiao Xueying up in a blanket before placing her horizontally by the corner of the bed. Then, he drew the curtains to cover her up.

After all of it was done, he sat in front of the bed in order to prevent her from rolling outward.

"Don't make a noise, alright?" warned Zu An. If Qiao Xueying were to let out even a moan here, he would likely suffer a terrible whipping from Chu Huanzhao.

"Brother-in-law~ Brother-in-law?" The footsteps grew closer before Chu Huanzhao suddenly barged through the door.

Zu An's eyelids twitched. That lass sure is a violent one. I clearly locked my door up earlier, but she still barged in without any hesitation anyway.

"It's you, Huanzhao." Zu An forced a smile on, though he knew that his smile probably looked incredibly awful at the moment.

"Hm? You're actually in your room. Why didn't you respond to my calls then?" asked Chu Huanzhao doubtfully.

"You called me?" Zu An feigned ignorance. "I didn't hear you. Ah, what brings you here? Weren't you looking after your older sister?"

"My mother is taking care of my big sister now. I heard that you crossed blows with an expert, and I... my big sister was worried that something might have happened to you, so she sent me here to check on you," said Chu Huanzhao.

Despite her nagging, her voice was gentle and carried a youthful quality, making it pleasurable to the ear. It was just that Zu An was in no mood to enjoy it right now.

"Is your older sister really worried about me?" asked Zu An in astonishment.

"She might not have said it aloud, but I can still tell as much. She hinted very strongly for me to head over to take a look," replied Chu Huanzhao. She narrowed her eyes in suspicion and asked, "Did something happen between the two of you in the dungeon? Why does it feel like the two of you have gotten much closer than before?"

"Did we? Hahaha, I guess I'm just a very likable person. Your older sister's impression of me probably improved after spending several days together," Zu An laughed it off.

"Oh yeah, how did you save my big sister? Her complexion looks much better than before, so it seems like your method is quite effective," asked Chu Huanzhao curiously.

"Why don't you ask your older sister instead?" Zu An could sense that Qiao Xueying was burning up furiously, so he was in no mood to explain anything to Chu Huanzhao at the moment.

"I asked her, but she wouldn't tell me!" Chu Huanzhao pouted. She took a seat by the bed before continuing on, "I feel like the two of you have changed after returning from the dungeon, such that I have become the outsider now."

"..." Zu An.

I'm a couple with your older sister. Isn't it obvious that you're the outsider here?

However, he could still understand where Chu Huanzhao was coming from. After all, she and Chu Chuyan were close sisters all this while, so him coming into the picture probably left her feeling as if she had lost her older sister.

On top of that, he used to hang out often with Chu Huanzhao since she was the only one who didn't discriminate against him here. From such a perspective, Chu Chuyan was kind of like an outsider here too.

So, the advancement of his relationship with Chu Chuyan ended up resulting in Chu Huanzhao's exclusion, so it was inevitable that she would feel a little crestfallen.

"So, are you injured from the earlier fight?" Chu Huanzhao suddenly remembered her purpose here and began touching his body so as to check if he had any wounds.

Zu An was shocked by her action. One must know that she was literally only a reach away from Qiao Xueying at the moment. Just a single careless movement could lead to her touching Qiao Xueying.

So, he quickly shifted sideward a little and grabbed Chu Huanzhao's arms, saying, "Don't worry, I'm fine. Given my skills, how could a mere intruder possibly pose a threat to me?"

"I heard that you used the Six Pulse Divine Sword or something?" asked Chu Huanzhao with a harrumph.

"What's wrong?" asked Zu An indignantly as he noticed the scorn in Chu Huanzhao's voice.

"Heh! You might be able to fool others, but how can you possibly fool me? How could I not know what kind of level you're at?" Chu Huanzhao thought about how she had whipped Zu An back then, and it brought a gleeful smile to her lips.

Zu An could also guess what she was thinking, and his face immediately darkened. "You only managed to get your way because I was gentlemanly enough not to hold it against you. Besides, I've grown a lot since then! Isn't it perfectly normal for a prodigy like me to advance my cultivation quickly?"

"Alright alright, you're a prodigy." Chu Huanzhao was still smiling a moment ago when her face suddenly turned grim. She sniffed around a bit before remarking, "Hm? Why is there the scent of a woman here?"

"..." Zu An.

Are you a dog? How can you smell it?

Qiao Xueying's scent was usually extremely subtle, but under the effects of the medicine, her body ended up emanating a sweet musky smell. Considering how close Chu Huanzhao was to her, it would be weird if she didn't smell it instead.

"Are you hiding a woman?!" Chu Huanzhao leaped to her feet in agitation. "It's no wonder why you didn't respond to me earlier. You must be messing around with some women! Who is it? Come out!"

She began searching the room while hollering.

"What are you shouting for? I've been keeping myself chaste for your older sister... Am I that kind of person?" asked Zu An with a guilty look on his face.

"Yes, you're that kind of person!" exclaimed Chu Huanzhao. She kneeled onto the floor and began searching under the bed.

She couldn't have imagined how attractive the curves of a youthful lady like her was when crouching over to a man.

Zu An quickly averted his gaze while fondling his nose. Damn it, why does this keep happening today? It's only a matter of time before I die in the hands of these women.

After seeing that there was no one on the bed, Chu Huanzhao proceeded to search the other places in the room. She opened the cupboard and checked behind the screens.

But even though this room wasn't too big, she was unable to find anything at all.

"Speak! Where did you hide her?" Chu Huanzhao was starting to lose her temper.

“What woman could possibly be here? Didn’t you already search the area? There’s no one here!” Zu An shrugged helplessly.

Chu Huanzhao suddenly remarked in intrigue, “Speaking of which, you have been sitting there for some time now.”

As she said those words, she began making her way over toward his side to check the area behind him.

Zu An was so nervous that he felt that his heart was going to leap out of his chest. He quickly grabbed onto her and exclaimed, “Huanzhao, I didn’t know that you care about me so much. Are you jealous?”

“W-w-w-what? How could I possibly be jealous? I-I’m just keeping an eye on you for my older sister!” roared Chu Huanzhao in response. “Also, let go of my hands now!”

Chu Huanzhao struggled to free herself from Zu An’s grip, such that she stretched her hand forth to push him. However, she unexpectedly touched a certain part of his body instead, and both of their bodies stiffened up right away.

Chu Huanzhao’s face immediately flushed red as she shook off Zu An’s hands. “Y-you pervert of a brother-in-law! You actually had... had such thoughts about me! I’m going to tell my older sister!!!”

With a stomp of her feet, she rushed out of the room in embarrassment.

Zu An felt deeply frustrated. It wasn’t that he was perverted, but this was simply a natural reaction after he was provoked by Qiao Xueying. It just so happened that Chu Huanzhao happened to touch it and think that it was directed toward her...

In any case, he was still more than happy to chase her away, so he wouldn’t bother trying to explain things to her.

He quickly locked the doors of the room, only to see that the latch had been completely broken. It made his eyelids twitch a little. She really is like a dinosaur.

Worried that someone else would barge in, he decisively used the Tai’e Sword as the door latch instead.

Meanwhile, Qiao Xueying, who was rolled up in a blanket, fumbled about and was just about to fall to the floor when Zu An quickly rushed back to catch her before placing her back onto the bed.

“It looks like the Second Miss...” Qiao Xueying stopped her words halfway through as she reached out to hook his chin. Then, she leaned in with her warm lips.

A soft, burning body and an alluring fragrance; Zu An felt like mini explosions were occurring in his head. How could any man possibly resist such temptation?

“Why does your body smell so fragrant?” asked Zu An.

Qiao Xueying’s eyes stared at Zu An with groggy, semi-closed eyes as she murmured in response, “Isn’t it normal for a wood elf like me to give off the scent of flowers?”

“But why didn’t I smell it previously?” asked Zu An curiously. This was a special scent that was unlike anything Zu An had smelled before. The two of them had hugged each other many times in the past—

they had even bared their bodies before one another at one point in time—but he had never smelled this scent before.

“... Because... only when I’m feeling... feeling excited will I... give off such a scent.” Qiao Xueying closed her eyes, but her long eyelashes continued to flicker on. Her huffing chest showed just how nervous she was at the moment.

Any man who didn’t reciprocate after hearing those words would really be a dense blockhead.

Zu An’s pounded hard in his chest as he leaned in to kiss her.

Unknowingly, Qiao Xueying’s robe had already slipped down, revealing a body that was even more slender than that of normal women. Due to the effects of the medicine, her fair skin was covered in a reddish glow, making her even more captivating than usual.

When the two of them finally became one, a hint of pain flashed across Qiao Xueying’s face. She leaned in and bit hard on Zu An’s shoulders.

“Ssss!” Zu An hissed in pain. “Why did you bite me?”

“I’m giving you a taste of how I’m feeling.” Qiao Xueying looked at him with tearful eyes that were enough to melt even the most unsentimental man.

Zu An felt a rush of emotions as he held her even more tenderly...

Chapter 230: Promise

It took quite some time before the effects of the medicine finally receded, and Qiao Xueying’s eyes finally regained her clarity.

Looking at the man on top of her, she bit her lips tightly as she wondered how Chu Chuyan was able to endure him back then. Even when her body was stimulated by the medicine, she was still almost unable to recover from the impact.

Back then, Chu Chuyan had her ki meridians tattered and her cultivation crippled, which meant that she was taking him in with just her weak body. Just the thought of it filled Qiao Xueying with respect for her.

“What in the world am I thinking about?!”

The embarrassed Qiao Xueying lowered her head and leaned in to hug the man in front of her. She felt so embarrassed that she dared not to meet her eye.

...

The following day, Zu An woke up refreshed. He subconsciously reached out to the person beside him to hug her, but his hands fell empty. The soft sensation he had experienced last night wasn’t there.

Shocked, he quickly sat upward, only to find that the woman who was beside him had disappeared without a trace. It was only the lingering fragrance in the blanket that proved that the events last night weren’t just a dream.

"Snow!" Zu An quickly began searching the area.

"Don't bother wasting your strength. She's already gone," a cold voice sounded. He saw Mi Li's soul lying casually on the wooden bed at the opposite end of the bed, vaguely revealing her fair, smooth legs through her robe. However, her beautiful face was currently cloaked in frosty anger.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +233 Rage!

Zu An was stunned.

She left? Just like that? But more importantly, why are you getting mad here?

"Big sis empress, what's wrong?" asked Zu An.

"You still dare to ask!" Mi Li immediately lurched up and got into a proper sitting position. "You licentious bastard dared to show me such a hideous scene for an entire night!"

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +513 Rage!

Zu An felt goosebumps upon hearing those words. "W-wait a moment, who told you to watch us? You could have just closed your eyes! Not to mention, you watched for the entire night? Gosh, I feel like I've just been taken advantage of."

He quickly picked up the blanket and wrapped it tightly around his body, as if guarding against a lecher.

"..." Mi Li.

"You said that I was taking advantage of you?" Mi Li darted straight to the side of his bed and stomped a foot onto the bed frame. She gazed down on him coldly as a dangerous glint flashed in her eyes.

Zu An couldn't help but notice how Mi Li's clothes were much more revealing this time around, exposing the humps of her chest. "Do those of the Qin Dynasty dress so boldly?"

One must know that Mi Li's clothes were made out of her consciousness, so it was entirely based on her preferences and habits.

Wow, she's actually wearing a low collared dress. It looks like big sis empress is quite the frisky one.

"What are you looking at?" Mi Li was furious to see Zu An staring at her instead of answering her question.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +256 Rage!

"You're exposing your cleavage right in front of me. What choice do I have other than to look at it?" Zu An wondered why Mi Li was still so hot-tempered despite already being reduced to a soul. "Besides, aren't you wearing such clothes so that others can see it? You should be glad that I'm appreciating your fashion sense."

"..." Mi Li.

"You sure have a glib tongue. It's no wonder why you can dupe those little girls into falling for you." Even though Mi Li's words were still biting, her complexion clearly improved a little. She straightened her body and tugged on her dress a little, seemingly feeling a little uncomfortable under his stare.

This man really is a queer one. In the past, no matter what I wore, no one would dare to look at me with such fearless eyes.

Even now, after the Great Qin Dynasty was destroyed and she was no longer an empress anymore, she would still have ripped off the eyes of anyone who dared to gawk at her.

It was just a pity that her life was currently bound to this fellow, such that she couldn't afford to kill him or even punish him. It was incredibly frustrating for her to see that nothing worked on him at all, putting her at a loss.

"You said that Snow has already left earlier? Where did she go?" asked Zu An.

"How am I to know?" Mi Li harrumphed. She pointed to the side and said, "You were sleeping like a dead log that she even had time to write a letter for you."

"Letter!" Zu An noticed the presence of a letter on the table, and he quickly rushed over to pick it up.

The sudden exposure of Zu An's naked body made Mi Li blush slightly. She quickly turned her head aside as she said, "Can't you at least put on some clothes first?"

"You already saw everything for a night anyway. It doesn't make any difference whether I wear any clothes now or not." Zu An rolled his eyes.

"..." Mi Li.

This fellow really is infuriating!

She turned back around to say something to him when she suddenly noticed a certain part of his body that made her heart skip a beat. It was so overwhelming that it actually stifled her words.

However, Zu An didn't pay her any heed. He picked up the letter Qiao Xueying left behind and began reading it carefully.

'I'm leaving now. Now that I've fallen out with the Shi clan, I need to relocate my people before the Shi clan finally comes to and make a move. For the matter last night... thank you. Also, don't tell Miss Chu about it. If you aren't happy with staying in the Chu clan, you can look for me at the capital.'

...

The words on the letter looked a little messy, seemingly reflecting the hesitation in her heart when she wrote them out.

"She's really gone..." Thinking about the warmth they shared last night, he suddenly felt incredibly empty inside.

He stowed the letter away before turning to look at Mi Li. He couldn't help but grumble grudgingly, "Since you were around, why didn't you try to stop her? You should have at least woken me up so that I can bid her farewell."

"Why should I do that?" replied Mi Li.

"..." Zu An.

Wow. That was such a good point that I can't even find a single word to refute it.

However, the more Mi Li thought about it, the more infuriated she became. "Do you know how much trouble you put me through last night?"

"Trouble?" Zu An was astonished. What did you even do for me at all?

"Hmph! You caused a huge commotion last night. I would have never imagined that lass' small body would be capable of producing such a loud scream. If I hadn't set up a barrier around the house, your affair would have been known by the whole Chu clan by now!"

The thought that an empress like her actually had to lower herself to clean up after him as if she was a eunuch or maidservant made her feel incredibly stifled.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +627 Rage!

Zu An felt a gush of cold sweat upon hearing those words. He was so engrossed in the act last night that he didn't pay any heed to the details.

"T-thank you..." Zu An wasn't sure what he should say at a moment like this.

"You better not make me clean up after you once more. I won't be so patient the next time." Mi Li was still angry from the unwelcomed performance last night.

Zu An laughed sheepishly before changing the topic. "Since you're awake, why didn't you respond to my calls last night?"

"Aren't you still alive and kicking now?" Mi Li rolled her eyes.

"I nearly died!" exclaimed Zu An. "I had to use all of my trump cards in order to survive. If not for Old Mi, the two of us would have been dead by now."

"Do you know why I didn't come out?" asked Mi Li coldly.

"Is it because you can't defeat Shi Lezhi?" Zu An tried making a guess.

"..." Mi Li.

You have successfully trolled Mi Li for +314 Rage!

This fellow's mouth really is... Argh!

With a cold harrumph, she said, "A mere early eighth rank can't possibly be a match for me. I didn't make an appearance because I didn't want you to become dependent on me. You'll never become strong once you form a dependence on another person. Also, if you adopt the mentality that I'd always clean up after you, you might just start foolishly leaping into danger at every opportunity you get.

"So that I can at least live a few more years, I think it's wiser for me to take some risks at the start. If you can't even survive such a trivial ordeal, I might as well end things here so as to not prolong my suffering."

Those words struck Zu An's heart like the loud chimes of a bell. He had indeed gotten much bolder than before due to Mi Li's presence, thinking that there was no way she would be able to turn a blind eye to him if he were to get in danger.

A long time later, he bowed deeply toward her and said, "I've been enlightened. I won't rely on you anymore and try my best to resolve my problems on my own."

"You can't try your best; you have to be able to do it. In the future, unless it's an opponent of Master rank and above, you shouldn't even dream of making me save you. I hope that you can at least understand that much," said Mi Li. "Also, can you at least wear your clothes properly before speaking to me in the future? Stop flinging your thing around!"