

Little Brat's 1011

Chapter 1011: Came for Her

Old Master Gu's words reminded everyone.

In an instant, several pairs of eyes fell on Gu Tinglan.

Gu Tinglan's throat tightened.

He had heard before that Shen Li could not hold her liquor and would basically pass out with just one glass, but he had not taken it to heart.

It was normal for young girls not to drink, and it was fine to drink occasionally.

However, he had not known that Shen Li would actually behave like this when she was drunk!

She did not recognize anyone in her family and the first person she had gone to look for was Lu Huaiyu.

The key point was that she was at home. Her entire family was here!

Gu Tinglan's lips moved.

"Father—"

"Ah Li drank from all five of those bottles of wine together, right?" Old Master Gu continued to ask.

Gu Tinglan's remaining words were stuck in his throat.

Yes.

Although he had not done it on purpose, those five bottles of wine had indeed been brought back by him. It had also been his initiative to ask Shen Li to pick the one that she liked the most.

If not for this, Shen Li probably would not have mixed the wine from so many bottles of wine all at once.

Even if his original intention was to give her the winery, and even if she had only drunk two cups in total...

But... she was now drunk, and he was the undisputed culprit!

Gu Siyang quickly dodged to the side.

It was over, it was really over.

His youngest uncle could be considered as one of his Grandpa's favored sons, and he always doted on him. This was the first time he had seen his grandpa speak to his uncle in such a tone!

Shakily, he looked over to the living room and saw Shen Li sitting on the sofa, looking really obedient as she waited for Lu Huaiyu.

The sympathy in Gu Siyang's heart disappeared in an instant. He looked at Gu Tinglan with a complicated expression on his face.

Under such circumstances, who wouldn't say "Serves you right"?

Finally, Old Madam Gu gently patted Old Master Gu's hand.

"Brother Ci, Tinglan didn't do it on purpose. It's more important to take care of Ah Li first."

At this time, only Old Madam Gu could speak.

Only then did Old Master Gu shift his gaze away from Gu Tinglan to look at Shen Zhijin.

“Is that kid from the Lu family coming over?”

Shen Zhijin lowered his chin slightly in acknowledgment.

The atmosphere froze again.

After a moment, Old Master Gu said, “Jingrou, take Siqi and Sicheng back to rest first.”

Yun Jingrou responded, waved at the brothers, and led them upstairs.

Although the two brothers were not sure what had happened, they were extremely smart. Their instincts told them that the atmosphere was not right.

When they reached the corner of the stairs, Gu Sicheng looked down and asked in a low voice, “Mom, Cousin is drunk. Will she be okay?”

Yun Jingrou stroked his head and comforted him.

“Don’t worry, Ah Li will be fine.”

However, it was hard to say for the others.

...

Gu Siyang watched the two brothers leave with envy in his heart.

He really wanted to leave too!

It was really suffocating to stay in this place!

He looked around and slowly stood up.

“That—”

“I happen to have nothing to do today. Qi Yang, bring me my ‘Old Tang Book’.”

Old Master Gu said calmly.

Qi Yang quickly replied, “Yes.”

With that, he turned around and went to the study to get the book.

Gu Siyang’s butt was parked back onto the chair again.

Qi Yang quickly brought the book over. Old Master Gu took it and opened it to read.

It looked like Old Master Gu was going to wait for Lu Huaiyu to come over...

Gu Siyang wanted to cry but he had no tears. However, even if he was given tenfold his amount of courage, he still would not dare to say a single word. Thus, he could only wait silently, hoping to minimize his presence.

“Tinglan, I seem to remember that you have a good relationship with that kid from the Lu Family?” Gu Tingchuan suddenly asked.

The second master of the Gu family was born with dignity, and he was also famous for his hot temper. As soon as he said this, the temperature in the surroundings immediately dropped by a lot.

Gu Tinglan's entire body tensed up, and a faint cold sweat broke out on his back.

"Just average."

Gu Tingyun asked with a smile, "Is that so? Why did I hear from Siyang that the two of you have had quite a few dinners together before?"

Gu Tinglan paused and looked at Gu Siyang expressionlessly.

Gu Siyang was flabbergasted.

In what way did this still involve him?

Besides, he was not wrong!

Wasn't his uncle the one who had invited Ah Li and Lu Huaiyu to Lincheng?

Later, it was his uncle who had invited them to Hong Kong City to watch the horse race.

Moreover, now that uncle's private clinic had been set up in the Capital, he had indeed had quite a few meals with them!

Gu Tinglan knew that he was in the wrong. In the end, he could only say, "... I've never seen Ah Li drink before."

When Gu Tingfeng heard this, he suddenly thought of something. He looked at Shen Zhijin and frowned.

“Ah Li looked for that kid from the Lu family while in her drunken state. Could it be that she has been drunk in front of him before?”

It would be really difficult to explain the current situation, otherwise.

Shen Zhijin did not answer him. His expression only faintly became colder.

Seeing his reaction, what did Gu Tingfeng not understand?

However, Ah Li had only just celebrated her nineteenth birthday today.

How long ago had she gotten drunk before?

Thinking of this, Gu Tingfeng’s face darkened.

Qi Yang took a call and came to Old Master Gu’s side.

“Old Master, Second Master Lu wants to borrow the landing pad.”

The Lu family had a private airport in Hong Kong City, but this time it was for Shen Li, so the fastest way would be to land on the Gu family property.

Old Master Gu raised his eyelids.

“Let him come.”

...

When Lu Huaiyu arrived at the Gu family, Qi Yang was already waiting in the courtyard with his men.

“Second Master Lu.”

Qi Yang moved forward to welcome him.

Lu Huaiyu glanced at his watch. It was already close to midnight.

In fact, he had arrived very quickly, but it had been more than two hours since Shen Li had called him.

“Where’s Ah Li?”

He asked.

Qi Yang said, “She’s in the living room. Please follow me.”

Lu Huaiyu thanked him and followed him as they moved forward.

Shen Li was sitting on the sofa and had been in this position for a long time.

Suddenly, she seemed to have sensed something and turned her head to look out of the window.

Under the night sky, that tall and straight figure was walking towards them.

The wind ruffled his black shirt, vaguely outlining the man’s perfect muscles.

His black hair was a little messy, but it did not cover his cold eyes and brows. He was noble and abstinent, far away and out of reach.

Just like the first time they met.

She heard the sound of her heart beating. He was here for her.

The next moment, as if sensing something, he looked up.

Chapter 1012: You Touch, It's So Hot

The gorgeous crystal chandelier hung down, shining brightly.

The young girl sat obediently on the sofa alone, looking at him through the transparent French windows.

She did not know why, although she was surrounded by brilliant splendor, her body seemed to be covered by an invisible barrier, isolating her from all those things, and making her seem extremely lonely.

She turned to look over, as if she had been waiting for him for a very, very long time.

His heart tightened, and his footsteps quickened.

Qi Yang led the way in front and pushed the door open for him.

"Second Master Lu, please—"

Lu Huaiyu's long legs stepped through the door.

Then, he saw Qi Yang bending slightly to his right and said respectfully, "Old Master, Second Master Lu has arrived."

Almost at the same time, Lu Huaiyu immediately felt several pairs of eyes that seemed to be on him.

He stopped in his tracks and then realized something. He turned his head to look to his right.

Old Master Gu was sitting there, reading a book with his head lowered.

Hearing Qi Yang's voice, he put down the Old Tang Book in his hand and looked over.

Old Master Gu had been in and out of the business world all his life. He had experienced ups and downs, and his aura was extremely strong.

When he looked over, his sharp eyes seemed to be able to pierce through a person's skin.

Beside Old Master Gu, Gu Tingchuan was frowning, and Gu Tingyun was smiling.

Gu Tinglan was also there, but his expression was not the same as before. He only took a glance at him and quickly looked away. There were a few bottles of wine beside him.

Gu Siyang was the furthest away. He looked as if he wanted to say something, but he hesitated.

At the same time, Lu Huaiyu felt a chill coming from behind him.

He turned his head and saw Gu Tingfeng sitting on another sofa in the living room. He looked in his direction with a slightly serious expression and a scrutinizing gaze.

Next to Shen Li was Shen Zhijin.

When he heard the sound of movement, Shen Zhijin raised his eyes and looked over.

Their eyes met, but Shen Zhijin's expression was indifferent.

In just an instant, Shen Zhijin withdrew his gaze and helped Shen Li change her tea.

During this period of waiting, he had already changed her tea twice, but Shen Li had not moved.

Lu Huaiyu's eyes moved slightly.

The Gu family members were all here.

There was a subtle atmosphere in the air, as if every inch of the void was tense.

There was an instant, stagnant silence.

Finally, Old Master Gu said lightly, "He's here."

These two simple words were calm and plain. There were no fluctuations, but they carried an extremely heavy pressure as they sank down.

...

It was already twelve o'clock in the evening. The Gu family members, including Shen Zhijin, were obviously not here because they were too free.

They were obviously waiting for him.

Lu Huaiyu paused and met Old Master Gu's stern and scrutinizing gaze, as if he had not noticed the dangerous aura in the air. He smiled slightly.

"Old Master Gu, I'm here to see Ah Li."

The Gu family members were all formidable characters. An ordinary person would not be able to withstand one of them, let alone all of them.

Not to mention, there was also Old Master Gu and Shen Zhijin.

However, Lu Huaiyu stood there, looking extremely calm.

Old Master Gu narrowed his eyes and said slowly, "Yes."

Lu Huaiyu nodded slightly, before turning around and walking over to the left.

Shen Li's gaze had been fixed on him ever since she spotted him.

She watched him as he entered and approached her.

Step by step, Lu Huaiyu walked closer until he finally stopped in front of Shen Li.

Shen Li looked up at him, feeling that this scene was both strange and familiar.

"Lu Huaiyu, you're here."

She said.

Lu Huaiyu bent down. Seeing her flushed cheeks and dazed eyes, he knew that she was very drunk.

He caressed her hair and said in a low voice, "Ah Li, why are you drinking again?"

His deep voice reached her ears, which finally confirmed for her that it was him.

Her worried heart was relieved, but when she heard what he said, she felt strange.

She shook her head. "I'm not."

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows.

But when it came to people who were drunk, there was always no reason to talk about it.

Gu Tingfeng, however, sensed something fishy and suddenly asked, "How many times has Ah Li been drunk before?"

Lu Huaiyu paused.

The moment Gu Tingfeng asked this question, he felt the air freeze for a moment.

Obviously, everyone was waiting for his answer.

Except for Shen Zhijin, who already knew.

Gu Tingfeng continued to ask, "Is she like this only when she's drunk, or is she like this all the time?"

This question was even more difficult to answer.

Gu Siyang looked at this scene and silently gave Lu Huaiyu a thumbs up in his heart.

This was the Second Master Lu, who could remain calm under such circumstances.

If it were him, he would have bid farewell to this beautiful world the moment he had entered the room and was given such death stares.

However, before Lu Huaiyu and Shen Li could reply, Shen Li suddenly spoke.

“Lu Huaiyu, I have a fever.”

These words immediately attracted everyone’s attention.

Old Master Gu furrowed his brows slightly.

“Ah Li has a fever?”

Shen Zhijin sized her up and shook his head.

“She was fine when she came. It shouldn’t be—”

He abruptly stopped talking.

This was because Shen Li had grabbed Lu Huaiyu’s hand, which was originally been placed on her head, and pressed it against her cheek.

Compared to his hand, her hand was a little smaller and seemed especially tender and soft.

“Feel it, it’s so hot.”

She murmured.

Perhaps it was because he had come in a hurry, Lu Huaiyu’s hand was still slightly cold, but it made her feel much more comfortable when it was pressed against her face.

So she rubbed her face against the palm of his hand again.

The scene froze.

Gu Siyang quickly looked left and right, as he tried to think about where he could run away from this dangerous place as soon as possible. He still cherished his life!

The city gate was on fire. He shouldn't get caught in the crossfire!

Lu Huaiyu's eyebrows jumped. He moved closer and coaxed her patiently.

"Ah Li, it's very late. Would you like to go and rest first?"

It was really not good for her to be so drunk.

The familiar cool smell of cedar filled the air. It was the smell that lingered when she was sober every day.

Shen Li raised her head from his palm.

"Sure."

As she spoke, she furrowed her beautiful brows slightly.

Her body seemed to be drenched in sweat. Her clothes stuck to her body, making her feel uncomfortable.

"But I want to take a shower first."

She gently tugged at his hand.

“I don’t have to wash my hair this time.”

As soon as she finished speaking, the vast space instantly turned deathly silent.

Chapter 1013: Shen Tangtang, You Have to Take Full Responsibility for Me for the Rest of Your Life

Lu Huaiyu’s entire body tensed up.

At this moment, no one spoke.

It was clearly a hot and dry day at the end of June, but Lu Huaiyu felt a chill coming over them.

His Adam’s apple moved, and then he touched Shen Li’s forehead without changing his expression.

“She shouldn’t be having a fever.”

He bent down and looked at Shen Li with his dark phoenix eyes. He said each word with certainty.

“Ah Li, you’re drunk.”

Shen Li looked at him blankly.

She didn’t have a fever?

But she felt very hot and uncomfortable.

But since he said so, it should mean that she really did not have a fever.

Lu Huaiyu continued to ask, "Shall I take you to get some rest?"

She nodded, not having the strength to think any further. She leaned into his embrace, her movements natural and smooth as if she had done it countless times before.

Still, no one spoke.

Lu Huaiyu paused and gently stroked her hair.

"Ah Li, shall I take you upstairs?"

As he spoke, he held her hand.

Shen Li obediently followed him and stood up.

Lu Huaiyu turned his head to look at Shen Zhijin.

"Teacher Shen, Ah Li's room—"

Shen Zhijin's gaze froze on their hands for a moment without saying a word.

Old Master Gu said, "Qi Yang, take him there."

"Yes."

Qi Yang walked forward.

"Second Master Lu, this way please."

Lu Huaiyu thanked him, then held Shen Li's hand and walked upstairs.

Until their figures disappeared at the corner of the stairs, the large living room on the first floor was still dead silent.

Gu Siyang lay down in despair.

Destroyed!

This world could no longer be saved!

...

Lu Huaiyu took Shen Li back to her room. Qi Yang waited outside the door, without going in.

Lu Huaiyu placed Shen Li on the bed, as the tip of his tongue pressed against his upper palate. He stared at her with a dangerous look in his eyes.

"Shen Tangtang, if you dare to drink behind my back again, you will suffer."

His tone was full of warning, and his eyes were as deep as the sea.

Shen Li looked at him in a daze, unable to understand what he was saying.

But he seemed to be angry.

She reacted for a while, then raised her head and kissed his lips gently, comforting him in a low voice.

"Lu Huaiyu, please don't be angry. I took my medicine properly today."

Lu Huaiyu was suddenly stunned.

He furrowed his brows, and a sharp glint flashed across his eyes.

“What did you say?”

Shen Li did not continue. She raised her hand and touched the space between his brows, stubbornly wanting to caress the coldness between his brows.

Lu Huaiyu grabbed her hand and asked again, “Ah Li, what medicine did you say you took just now?”

Shen Li looked at him blankly for a moment.

“... Didn’t you know?”

Lu Huaiyu did not speak. He continued to stare at her, not letting go of any expression on her face.

Her eyes seemed to be covered in a layer of mist, and she could not seem to see clearly.

His hand was too hard, and she felt as if he had touched her wound.

So she struggled for a while, and the visible grievance in her eyes welled up.

“... It hurts.”

Lu Huaiyu’s eyes darkened slightly.

In actual fact, he was only holding her wrist. His grip was definitely not hard, but the expression on her face made her seem as if she was in real pain.

However, seeing her look like this, his heart ached so much that he could not care about anything else.

He let go of her hand and patted her head to comfort her. He said in a low voice, "It's not good to take a shower immediately after drinking. Can you wait for a while?"

She was so drunk now. He would never let her take a shower by herself, but it was obviously not good to let others help her.

Shen Li hesitated for a moment. "Okay."

Lu Huaiyu comforted her and then stood up.

Shen Li realized something and grabbed his hand.

"Where are you going?"

Lu Huaiyu thought of the group of people waiting downstairs and gently exhaled.

"To clean up the mess for you, little ancestor."

Shen Li did not seem to understand his words.

Lu Huaiyu cupped her face.

"I'll be back later, but... Shen Tangtang, if your boyfriend stays here tonight, you'll have to take full responsibility for the rest of your life, understand?"

...

Lu Huaiyu finally managed to coax his little ancestor into sleeping obediently before he left.

When he walked out of the room, Qi Yang was still waiting outside the door.

“Second Master Lu.”

Qi Yang glanced inside the room with a complicated feeling.

Lu Huaiyu closed the door with a “click”.

“Let’s go.”

...

Gu Siyang took his phone out again and looked at the time.

Very good. Lu Huaiyu had been up there for nine minutes, but he had not come down yet.

Every minute and second of these nine minutes was the most difficult moment in his twenty-odd years of life.

At the tenth minute, the sound of footsteps finally came from the stairs.

Gu Siyang’s heart skipped a beat. He hurriedly looked over and saw Lu Huaiyu walking down.

Lu Huaiyu went downstairs and first looked at Shen Zhijin.

“Teacher Shen, Ah Li is already asleep.”

Gu Siyang covered his face.

Good, very good.

After Shen Li had drunk the wine, she had called Lu Huaiyu and asked him to pick her up. For more than two hours, she had been sitting on the sofa, not moving at all.

She had not drunk any tea, had not talked to anyone, and had not wanted to go to sleep. No one had been able to persuade her.

When Lu Huaiyu arrived, he had coaxed her upstairs to rest with just a few words.

Then there were Shen Li’s words—

Under such circumstances, it would be difficult for Lu Huaiyu and Shen Zhijin to walk out of the Gu residence safely tonight!

Shen Zhijin did not say anything.

Lu Huaiyu paused.

Even though he knew that the effect was minimal, he really had no other choice.

He said, “Ah Li seems to be very drunk this time.”

Shen Zhijin said lightly, “Didn’t she still recognize you? How can you consider that as being very drunk?”

Lu Huaiyu was silent.

A suffocating silence fell upon the scene again.

Old Master Gu suddenly said, "Ah Li is indeed tired today. It's always good to rest first."

He looked at Lu Huaiyu. His sharp and wise gaze seemed to be pressing down on him.

"But, Lu Huaiyu, don't you have anything to say?"

...

Lu Huaiyu was silent for a moment, then he smiled.

"Before that, I have something to ask you. Tonight, was it Ah Li who wanted to drink?"

When he said this, his gaze was already on the red wine on the table not far away.

There were five bottles in total, and they were all open.

There was still a faint smell of wine in the air.

Gu Siyang subconsciously looked at Gu Tinglan. Gu Tinglan's expression remained normal, as if this question had nothing to do with him.

Lu Huaiyu continued, "If I'm not mistaken, these five bottles of wine should all have come from Fifth Master Gu's winery?"

He rarely addressed Gu Tinglan this way.

Gu Tinglan's eyelids twitched.

If it was anyone else, they might not have been able to recognize it, but Lu Huaiyu also had a wine collection, so he was too familiar with these things. He could tell at a glance.

He finally said, "What Ah Li drank was indeed the wine I brought."

Lu Huaiyu's gaze slowly swept across the five bottles of wine.

"Which one?"

Gu Tinglan did not say anything.

Silence.

This was the answer.

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

Alright, tonight, they would agree to dig a hole for him to jump into.

Old Master Gu stared at him and asked in a deep voice, "How many times has Ah Li gotten drunk since the last day you were together when she was still seventeen?"

Before Lu Huaiyu could speak, Shen Zhijin, who was behind them, suddenly spoke. His voice was frighteningly calm.

"What?"

Chapter 1014: Sobering Up

There was no emotion in this rhetorical question.

However, all the oxygen in the air seemed to have been stripped away in an instant, making it difficult for a person to breathe.

Lu Huaiyu's Adam's apple moved slightly, and his throat tightened.

The Gu family knew about this matter at the horse race last year.

At that time, Shen Li had not been acknowledged as part of their family yet, and she had attended the party as his girlfriend.

Therefore, the Gu family had not said anything at that time.

Later, Shen Li's family background had been confirmed. Although the Gu family had some opinions on it, it had been in the past, so they did not mention it much.

However, Shen Zhijin was completely unaware of it.

Before this, he had only asked about Shen Li and Lu Huaiyu once on the day the results of the paternity test had come out.

What he had asked at that time was whether Shen Li had been together with Lu Huaiyu before she had started university.

At that time, Shen Li had given a vague affirmative answer. Although Shen Zhijin was unhappy, he had not probed further for the sake of his daughter.

However, he had never expected that "before she attended university" would be so early that Shen Li had still been underage!

In other words, the day before her 18th birthday, she had already been taken by Lu Huaiyu.

What's more—

Yesterday had been the day before her 19th birthday. She had followed Lu Huaiyu to the Lu family home and only returned home at 10 pm.

Come to think of it, had it actually been the anniversary of their relationship?

Shen Zhijin looked at Lu Huaiyu with an extremely cold gaze.

“Where would you like to start?”

...

Shen Li had originally wanted to wait for Lu Huaiyu to come back, but perhaps it was because she was too drunk or too tired from her day, she had lain in bed for a while until she eventually fell into a deep sleep.

When she woke up the next morning, she slowly opened her eyes and looked at her phone on the bedside table. It was already 8:37 am.

It was already past the time for breakfast for the Gu family, so why had no one called her yet?

Shen Li struggled to sit up from the bed. She pressed her temple with one hand, feeling that her head hurt badly.

Were these the after-effects of yesterday's drinking?

It was not that she had never gotten drunk before, but it had never hurt as much as this time. She was even a little dizzy, and her head felt like it was about to explode.

She massaged her head to relieve the pain while trying to recall what had happened yesterday.

In fact, she had only drunk two glasses of wine. It had not been much, but the after-effects were probably because she mixed the wine.

Shen Li sat on the bed for a long time. Feeling thirsty, she subconsciously looked around.

There was a glass of water on the bedside table.

She picked it up and the moment her fingertips touched the glass, she suddenly stopped.

This glass of water had obviously not been poured by herself.

A hazy image flashed through her mind. It seemed that... it had been Lu Huaiyu who had poured the water for her and leaned over to talk to her.

Her heart skipped a beat.

Lu Huaiyu?!

Her mind went blank for a moment.

She had drunk some wine last night. After that, she felt a little too hot, so she had said that she would go to the living room to have a seat.

After that—

She could not remember anything after that, except for the hazy image of Lu Huaiyu telling her to have a good rest here.

This was Hong Kong City, which was thousands of miles away from the Capital. Why would Lu Huaiyu come, especially on the day when she was celebrating her birthday with the Gu family?

He had no reason to come here, unless...

Shen Li thought of a possibility, and her heart started beating rapidly.

She slowly lowered her head to look at her phone. Her fingers tapped twice, and her gaze immediately froze.

Last night, she had called Lu Huaiyu!

Shen Li's heart beat even faster.

After the previous few times, she already had some experience with this.

After she got drunk, she would confuse some things from this life and her previous life.

The situation would often be more troublesome if Lu Huaiyu was with her.

Yesterday had been her birthday, and the whole family was there. Gu Tinglan had suggested that she choose a bottle of wine that she liked and treat the winery it came from as a birthday gift to her.

It had been difficult to decline such a kind offer. Moreover, Lu Huaiyu was far away in the Capital, while she was at the Gu family home. Shen Zhijin and the others were all there, so she did not think it would cause any trouble and she agreed.

But, but...

She had actually called Lu Huaiyu, and it seemed that Lu Huaiyu had really come!

Shen Li felt a strong sense of unease in her heart.

She immediately called Lu Huaiyu back. The ringtone went on for a long time, but no one answered.

At this time, Lu Huaiyu would usually pick up her calls.

She took a deep breath and got up.

However, as soon as she got out of bed, she found that she was still wearing the clothes from last night.

Had she been that drunk to this extent...?

Shen Li closed her eyes and drank the glass of water in one gulp. Her dry throat finally felt better.

However, she still felt uneasy.

She sent a message to Lu Huaiyu asking where he was.

After waiting for a while, Lu Huaiyu still did not reply.

Shen Li simply put down her phone and turned around to go to the bathroom.

With her current appearance, she really could not even get out of the door.

After taking a hot bath and removing the smell of alcohol from her body, Shen Li finally felt like she was alive again.

She came out to change her clothes and blow-dry her hair.

When she accidentally looked in the mirror, her eyebrows suddenly jumped.

‘This time, I don’t have to wash my hair.’

She heard her own voice echoing in her mind.

The wind from the hair dryer continued to blow, but Shen Li’s hand trembled slightly.

She said this... Huh?

She had said this to Lu Huaiyu?!

Shen Li barely knew how she continued to dry her hair.

After she finally sorted it all, she finally came to the door.

Looking at the tightly shut door, she reached out with difficulty and held the door handle.

She did not know what was waiting for her outside once the door was opened.

However, hiding here was not a solution.

Moreover, until now, Lu Huaiyu still had not replied to her message.

Creak—

Shen Li opened the door. After taking just one step forward, she saw a servant standing guard outside the door.

“Miss Ah Li, you’re awake.”

The servant bowed respectfully, as if she had been waiting for her here.

“What would you like to eat for breakfast? The kitchen will prepare it now.”

How could Shen Li still eat at this time?

She gripped her phone tightly and hesitated for a moment before asking, “Yesterday, did Lu—”

Before she could finish her sentence, someone suddenly came upstairs.

Shen Li looked up.

His figure was tall and straight, elegant and cold. It was Shen Zhijin.

“Ah Li.”

He walked over.

For some reason, Shen Li felt that the way he was looking at her seemed to be different from before.

But she could not tell the exact details.

“Dad.”

Her fingers tightened, her voice sounding a little tense.

Shen Zhijin handed her a blue box.

“This is your birthday present.”

Shen Li was stunned.

“Originally, I planned to give it to you last night, but it was delayed by some matters.” Shen Zhijin’s voice remained extremely calm.

Delayed by some things...

Some things...

Shen Li’s eyelids twitched, as she accepted it with both hands.

“Thank you, Dad.”

She wanted to ask if Lu Huaiyu had really come here and where he was now, but Shen Zhijin was standing there. For some reason, she did not dare to say a word.

Shen Zhijin looked at her quietly and was the first to speak.

“Are you sober now?”

Chapter 1015: Was Really Rare

Shen Li lowered her head slightly.

“... I’m alert now.”

She simply could not be more alert.

She even began to miss the time when she had completely blacked out after drinking. That way, at least she would have some courage to face the world after she sobered up.

And not like now—

Why had she not controlled her hand and not called Lu Huaiyu?

No, she should not have drunk any wine from the start!

Just because of a winery, she had actually said such a thing!

She did not even know how to save this situation!

Shen Zhijin nodded.

“Well, that’s good. Come down and have something to eat first.”

Shen Li agreed and put the blue box back into the room, before following Shen Zhijin downstairs.

The surroundings were quiet and deserted.

Shen Li followed Shen Zhijin to the dining room. Shen Zhijin then asked, “What would you like to eat?”

Shen Li sat down at the table. “Anything... anything is fine. Dad, I’m not very hungry.”

Shen Zhijin asked the kitchen to serve some lotus seed and lily porridge.

He sat down opposite Shen Li.

“Do you feel uncomfortable?”

Shen Li wanted to shake her head, but when the words reached her mouth, she changed her mind.

“... I still have a headache.”

Shen Zhijin furrowed his brows slightly. “Don’t drink so much in the future.”

Shen Li immediately nodded obediently.

As the maid brought the porridge over, the fragrance spread. Only then did Shen Li feel that she was indeed a little hungry.

It was just that... When people felt guilty, no matter what they ate, they could not taste anything.

As she ate the porridge one mouthful at a time, she began to mull over what explanation she would give if Shen Zhijin asked her anything.

However, even after waiting and waiting, Shen Zhijin did not speak again.

He sat there, his handsome and clear face remaining calm.

Shen Li almost felt as if nothing had happened last night.

However, the scene in her mind, as well as the phone call to Lu Huaiyu, continued to remind her that all of this was indeed the truth.

Just then, a cautious voice came from the side.

“... Sister?”

Shen Li turned her head.

“Cousin.”

Gu Siyang first greeted Shen Zhijin, then quickly looked at Shen Li, his gaze carefully sweeping across her face.

He coughed lightly.

“That... Sister, did you sleep well last night?”

Shen Li paused. “I did. But Cousin, didn’t you... sleep very well?”

The dark circles under his eyes were almost like a national treasure.

Gu Siyang’s face was filled with tears.

“It’s all because my dad and the others went home so late last night. I stayed up extremely late—”

Bang.

As Shen Zhijin put down the cup of water, he made a sound that was neither light nor heavy.

Gu Siyang was instantly silenced.

Shen Li frowned.

“First Uncle and the others... What happened?”

Gu Siyang waved his hands repeatedly. “It’s nothing... nothing! I mean, I really didn’t sleep well last night—”

How could he have slept well?!

After Shen Li had gone upstairs to sleep, the lights on the first floor of the Gu residence had stayed lit up for another hour!

After that, only Old Master Gu went back to rest, but the remaining few were not done yet.

It was not until two o’clock in the morning that the situation finally ended.

After witnessing the brutal scene of Second Master Lu being surrounded by all his men, Gu Siyang had not slept well the whole night, and his young mind had been greatly traumatized.

It was too scary...

The men of the Gu family were too scary!

But that was not all.

This was the first time he had truly experienced Shen Zhijin!

Recalling the scene at that time, Gu Siyang could not help but shudder.

In the past, he used to see Shen Zhijin as someone who was refined and pure, subconsciously thinking that he had a gentle and indifferent temperament.

That was until last night when he had finally understood.

Too simple, he was still too simple-minded!

If this man was as simple and harmless as he looked on the surface, how could he have taken away the only pearl in the Gu Family?

But how could he dare to say these words to Shen Li in front of Shen Zhijin?

Seeing his evasive expression, Shen Li guessed something and pursed her lips.

The situation seemed to be... worse than she had expected...

She asked, "Have First Uncle and the others already gone home?"

Gu Siyang coughed.

"Yes, they have. My parents have gone home. In addition, Second Uncle's family and Third Uncle have also left."

"Where's Little Uncle?" Shen Li asked.

Gu Siyang's eyebrows jumped.

"Ahem, he... Little Uncle is still at home."

Shen Li looked left and right. "I don't think I've seen him?"

Of course not. If he guessed correctly, he was still lying on the bed right now, wasn't he?

Old Master Gu had only said one sentence at the time.

"Your wine is indeed not bad."

Gu Tinglan had drunk all the wine he had brought back until not a single drop was left.

Although his alcohol tolerance was good, he still could not stand drinking like this. When he had gone back, he had vomited until it was almost dawn before he had finally fallen asleep.

However, under such circumstances, Gu Siyang naturally did not dare to tell the truth.

"He probably has something to do. Didn't he open a clinic recently? He's quite busy."

Gu Tinglan was the boss. He could be busy if he wanted to be busy, but no one could rush him if he did not want to be busy.

This was especially true when he returned to the Gu family home.

Under such circumstances, it was obvious that he "needed" to be busy.

Shen Li nodded sensibly.

At the moment, there was only one person left to ask.

Lu Huaiyu.

Her lips moved. Just as she was about to muster up the courage to ask, she remembered that Shen Zhijin was sitting just opposite her and swallowed back her words.

In the end, she could only choose to save the situation.

“Where’s Grandpa?”

Gu Siyang’s eyebrows twitched.

“Grandpa... is in the study.”

Of course, there was another person who was also there.

He had thought that the matter had passed, but unexpectedly, Old Master Gu called Lu Huaiyu into the study early this morning.

It had been a long time since, and he did not know what was going on over there...

Shen Li looked at him, instinctively guessing that something was up.

Subconsciously, she looked in the direction of the study room.

Shen Zhijin suddenly said, “Go if you want to.”

Shen Li was shocked, and her heart beat quickly, almost jumping out of her chest.

Her hands tightened slightly.

“If Grandpa is in the study, I shouldn’t disturb him...”

Just then, Old Master Gu’s voice could be heard.

“Is Ah Li looking for me?”

Shen Li turned around and saw Old Master Gu walking out of the study.

And who else could the tall figure that was two steps behind him be but Lu Huaiyu?

Sure enough...

Sure enough!

Just as Shen Li was filled with shock, Lu Huaiyu seemed to have sensed something and looked up.

Meeting the young girl’s flustered and nervous eyes, Lu Huaiyu chuckled.

It was rare for the little ancestor to know the feeling of guilt.

Chapter 1016: Little Ancestor, Please Explain

Shen Li clenched her fists as she stood up.

“Grandpa.”

Her gaze quickly swept over Lu Huaiyu.

Nothing seemed to be out of the ordinary...

But the more it was like this, the more uneasy she felt.

“How do you feel?”

Old Master Gu asked as he scrutinized her face.

Shen Li said, “Much better...”

“That’s good.” Old Master Gu nodded.

Shen Li hesitated for a moment, but she continued to look at Lu Huaiyu.

“Second Brother.”

She wanted to say something, but in this situation, it did not seem appropriate for her to say anything.

How had he gotten here?

She still had the call record on her phone.

Should she ask him how he was?

No matter which way she looked at it, this situation did not seem appropriate for that...

On the other hand, Lu Huaiyu looked calm as his thin lips curled slightly.

“Good morning, Ah Li.”

Meeting in such a manner at the Gu residence in the early morning... It was an indescribably strange feeling.

Shen Zhijin suddenly said, "Ah Li, go upstairs and pack up your things. We'll be going to Seven Treasures Mountain later."

Shen Li came back to her senses and nodded.

She turned around and walked upstairs.

When she reached the corner of the stairs, she looked back again.

Lu Huaiyu was standing there. His figure was tall and straight, and he was still as handsome as ever.

She did not know that last night...

She withdrew her gaze and returned to her room.

Ten minutes later, she went back downstairs again.

"Dad, I'm ready."

Shen Zhijin lowered his chin slightly in acknowledgement.

Then, he looked at Lu Huaiyu.

"Let's go."

Shen Li stopped in her tracks and widened her eyes in disbelief.

What had Shen Zhijin said?

Had he actually meant to ask Lu Huaiyu to go to the Seven Treasures Mountain with them?

Lu Huaiyu did not seem surprised. He replied and bid goodbye to Old Master Gu before walking over.

As soon as he walked over, his gaze met the young girl's eyes which were filled with shock and confusion.

He raised his eyebrows and gave a faint smile.

"Why? Are you still drunk?"

Shen Li subconsciously denied, "I'm not—"

What kind of place was the Seven Treasures Mountain?

It was evident that Shen Zhijin wanted to introduce Lu Huai to the past.

She was completely dumbfounded now.

What was it exactly that had happened last night?

Lu Huaiyu seemed to laugh.

"That's good."

Now that she had woken up, it would be easier to settle the score.

Shen Li's heart skipped a beat.

For some reason, she instinctively sensed a hint of danger from Lu Huaiyu's simple and concise words.

She lowered her head slightly.

"... Second Brother, when... when did you come?"

She could only vaguely remember a few scenes, but she really did not know the exact time.

The Capital was so far away from Hong Kong City. When she made that call, it had already been nighttime. It was obvious that it had already passed midnight by the time he arrived.

Lu Huaiyu looked at her.

"You don't remember?"

Shen Li nodded.

Lu Huaiyu tilted his head. "I came after you called."

Shen Li was speechless.

At that moment, the small group of people walked out of the gate. A black sedan was parked in the courtyard. The Gu family's driver was already waiting.

Shen Zhijin got into the passenger seat.

Lu Huaiyu opened the back door for Shen Li. Shen Li had no choice but to get into the car first. Lu Huaiyu then followed behind.

There was a short distance between the two of them.

The car started and slowly drove out.

It was very quiet inside the car, as if even the air had become denser.

Shen Li wanted to ask so many questions, but Shen Zhijin was still there, so it was really difficult for her to ask.

She could only suppress those thoughts.

Half an hour later, the car arrived at the foot of Seven Treasures Mountain.

“Ah Li, we’re here.”

Shen Zhijin said as he got out of the car.

The three of them walked up the mountain.

Shen Zhijin led in front, Shen Li was in the middle, and Lu Huaiyu was at the end.

The forest was dark, and the wind rustled.

Lu Huaiyu put down the white daisies in his arms. The breeze blew the black hair on his forehead, vaguely revealing his eyebrows.

He said in a low voice, "Aunt Gu, I'm Tangtang's boyfriend, Lu Huaiyu."

...

Shen Zhijin said, "Tangtang, you guys can go back first."

Shen Li nodded and turned to look at the tombstone.

"Mom, I'll visit you again next time."

Then, both she and Lu Huaiyu went back down the mountain together.

Shen Zhijin turned back and watched them leave.

Lu Huaiyu held Shen Li's hand tightly as they walked down the mountain.

Their figures quickly disappeared into the tree-lined path in the mountain. Only when they finally disappeared did Shen Zhijin withdraw his gaze.

"Yinyin."

His brows drooped slightly, as if he was thinking of many things, but also as if he was not thinking of anything at all.

"The weather today is very good. I think you would like it.

"Tangtang was drunk last night. Have I not told you that she's as annoying as you after drinking?"

As he said this, a thought seemed to come to Shen Zhijin's mind. The corners of his lips curved slightly, helpless and gentle.

The mottled light and shadow scattered down, reflecting on his clean, handsome brows and eyes.

The light and wind stretched his shadow, looking tall, straight, and quiet.

"This should be the first time that Lu Huaiyu has met you. I thought it was a little early, but... Tangtang got drunk last night and kept looking for him."

As he spoke, he fell silent.

After a long time, he spoke again, his voice much lower.

"I shouldn't be so greedy. After all, it's already good that Tangtang was able to return."

"I just... miss you so much."

...

Shen Li and Lu Huaiyu slowly walked along the stone steps between the mountains.

Other than the sound of the wind rustling the leaves, there was no other sound. It was quiet and peaceful.

Seeing that Lu Huaiyu still had no intention of speaking even after walking for some distance, Shen Li finally could not hold it in anymore and asked, "Second Brother, I called you earlier, why didn't you pick up?"

Lu Huaiyu lazily said, "I was in Grandfather Gu's study at the time, so I didn't look at my phone."

Shen Li choked.

As soon as he said this, she did not know how to reply.

Lu Huaiyu glanced at her and seemed to have guessed what she was thinking. He raised his eyebrows and smiled lightly.

"Don't you want to know what we talked about?"

Of course, Shen Li wanted to know, but her instincts told her not to ask!

She clenched her hands.

"... Since the conversation is between Grandpa and Second Brother... I... I won't ask..."

"Really?" Lu Huaiyu leaned in slightly, and his voice seemed to carry a hint of a smile. "Actually, last night, I talked a lot with Teacher Shen and the others. Do you want to hear about that?"

Teacher Shen... they...

Shen Li did not need to ask to know who the "they" was referring to!

She lowered her head even lower.

"No... there's no need..."

"I see..." Lu Huaiyu said, dragging out the last syllable. Then he said, "That's a pity. I thought it was quite interesting and I think you'd like to hear it."

Shen Li did not know what to say.

She finally stood still and pulled Lu Huaiyu back.

Lu Huaiyu walked in front of her and stood on the steps below her. When he noticed her movements, he stood still and turned around.

Shen Li met his gaze, feeling nervous and ashamed.

“Second... Second Brother... I’m sorry... I didn’t mean to get drunk...”

Lu Huaiyu smiled.

“I know. That’s why Gu Tinglan is still drunk in bed.”

Shen Li’s eyelids twitched.

So—

Lu Huaiyu looked at her.

“Do you really know what you did wrong?”

Shen Li grabbed his hand and nodded obediently.

“Yes.”

Lu Huaiyu suddenly smiled and looked into her eyes. He said slowly, "Then explain all of them, one by one."

"The first one: You said that you had to take some medication. What's going on with that?"

Chapter 1017: I Had a Dream

Shen Li was stunned.

"Medication? What medication?"

Lu Huaiyu looked at her with his pitch-black eyes.

"Have you forgotten? At that time, you said that you had taken the medication properly today and told me not to get angry."

Shen Li's heart skipped a beat.

She did not remember.

She really did not remember.

However, if she had not said this, Lu Huaiyu would never have asked this question now.

Their surroundings were so quiet that Shen Li could clearly hear the sound of her own heart beating.

The sun was very bright, but she felt that her fingers had gone cold.

In the last period of her previous life, she had been staying with Lu Huaiyu.

He had asked a doctor to come over.

She had had external injuries, both old and new, which had been hidden under her hospital gown.

However, what was more serious was the internal organ failure caused by the long-term overdose of various drugs.

At that time, there had been no turning back.

She had not been able to eat normally, and she had not been able to swallow the drugs.

So she had only been able to drink liquid food. In the end, she had to be given nutrient injections, including the kind of drugs that could only be injected.

But at that time, she had been very resistant to these things. No matter how much she refused to use the drugs, Lu Huaiyu hugged her and coaxed her over and over again.

Changing the dressings, bathing, administering her medication... all of these had been done by him personally.

So last night, she would have said something like that.

But she did not know that she had actually mentioned the medication!

These words obviously couldn't be explained by "Drunk talking nonsense."

Shen Li lowered her eyes, but her gaze was a little out of focus.

But, what was she going to say?

She stayed silent while Lu Huaiyu waited patiently.

Every second seemed to lengthen infinitely.

After an unknown amount of time, she finally spoke.

“Lu Huaiyu, I had a dream.

“I dreamed that I was sick, and then you tried to feed me medicine, but I refused to take it, so you got angry.”

Lu Huaiyu was slightly startled, but he then burst into laughter.

“Why would I get angry with you for such a reason?”

Shen Li did not dare to look into his eyes, so she reached out to hug him and leaned into his embrace.

Her forehead was pressed against his chest, and her voice was a little muffled, sounding a little aggrieved.

“Well, you seem to be angry with me.”

Lu Huaiyu had originally planned to settle this matter with her, but she was now so obedient and soft in his embrace while complaining in a low voice that he was angry at her. She was so delicate that his heart instantly softened.

She gently rubbed against his chest, and her soft hair gently brushed against his chin, tickling him slightly, just like a cat.

His chest shook a little as he chuckled softly.

“Shen Tangtang, are you being unreasonable?”

He had yet to find the culprit to collect his debt, but she had already made a false accusation, saying that he had scolded her while she had been in a dream.

Shen Li buried herself in his arms without saying a word.

Lu Huaiyu had no way of dealing with her. In the end, he lowered his head and compromised, coaxing her nicely.

“Okay, then can I apologize to you? I shouldn’t have scolded you in your dream.”

This accusation had come out of nowhere, yet he still had to apologize.

After all, this was the little ancestor that he had spent so much effort to bring back.

“Then did I do anything else in my dream that made you angry, hmm?”

Shen Li shook her head. “No.”

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows slightly. “Really?”

Shen Li nodded. “Really.”

Lu Huaiyu smiled faintly.

“Alright, then let’s talk about the second thing: When did I ever wash your hair?”

Shen Li's body stiffened.

She had actually forgotten about this!

Actually, this question was not about washing her hair, because there had been another sentence in front of it.

It seemed that she had said that she wanted to take a shower first.

This sentence was the main point!

She did not move. Lu Huaiyu dug her out of his embrace and cupped her soft face.

"Huh?"

Shen Li's small face quickly turned red.

How, how should she put this...

He had done these things in her previous life, but that had been her previous life!

What was the situation then, and what was the situation now?

When she was confused, she would tacitly assume that these things were all done by him, but—

How should she explain it now that she was awake?

"It seems like you still remember?"

The tips of Lu Huaiyu's brows raised slightly, and the corners of his lips curled into a casual smile as he spoke slowly.

"Shen Tangtang, thanks to you, Old Master Gu and the others already know how far my relationship with my girlfriend has progressed. Of course, I only found out about this last night."

Shen Li was shocked.

Had anyone else been there when she said that?!

She frantically recalled the scene in her mind.

She seemed to have been in the living room when she told Lu Huaiyu—

In the living room...

In the living room!

Shen Li's mind momentarily went blank.

She did not have many remaining memories, only those few scenes.

When she recalled that she had made a call from Hong Kong City all the way to Lu Huaiyu who had been in the Capital in the middle of the night and said that sentence to him, she had not known how to face Lu Huaiyu anymore. All she could think of was how to explain it to him.

Thus, she had ignored the other circumstances.

So... everyone had been there at that time?!

Shen Li grabbed the corner of his shirt, but her fingers felt numb.

“I... I...”

Lu Huaiyu looked at her calmly. He wanted to hear how the little girl would explain herself this time.

With a simple sentence, he had completely challenged her.

Shen Li did not dare to think about what had happened last night, and she did not dare to ask Lu Huaiyu what he had talked about with Old Master Gu.

After a long while, she finally found an excuse.

“... I... didn’t I tell you just now that I had a dream? You... at that time, you...”

Even though she did not finish her sentence, Lu Huaiyu was smart enough to guess what she meant.

He lowered his head to look at her. Her cheeks were burning hot, and her ears were red. The scorching temperature seemed to spread from between his fingers all the way to the bottom of his heart.

He stared at her for a few seconds before he asked with a smile, “Shen Tangtang, what kind of dream did you have?”

Asking her to take the medicine, but her refusing to take it. Him being angry with her... How could he bear to do that?

She had been sick, and he had been helping her...

“Then can I ask, Shen Tangtang, what kind of illness did you have in your dream?” He cupped her face.
“A fever?”

She had been complaining that she had a fever the night before.

When he said this, Shen Li vaguely remembered this matter.

She nodded, averted her gaze, and softly said, “Hmm”.

Lu Huaiyu said with a low laugh, “You’re so delicate when you have a fever. Who spoiled you, Shen Tangtang?”

Shen Li’s eyelashes trembled slightly as she met his gaze.

The bright and mottled light reflected in his eyes, making his brows and eyes appear even more clear and bright, noble and pure.

There was a smile lurking on the corners of his mouth, showing his obvious favoritism and indulgence.

He was still as arrogant and untainted. His body exuded the cool smell of cedar, and his voice was low and gentle.

It was not like that time when he had been thin and dejected, and the smell of smoke clinging to him could not be dispersed. His voice had been hoarse as he stubbornly called out to her.

What was so good about that?

What was so good about Lu Huaiyu in that condition?

He could not know.

He did not want to know.

The corners of her lips curled up. She held his hand and interlocked her fingers with his.

Just like that, it was very good.

“You.”

Chapter 1018: I Take Full Responsibility for You

Lu Huaiyu raised his eyebrows.

This little girl would really... be the death of him.

Once these words were said, how was he going to settle this score?

Time and time again, every time she caused any trouble, she would act coquettishly and shamelessly, clearing herself of everything.

Yet he really could not do anything to her.

Wasn't he used to her temperament by now?

Other than pampering her, what else could he do?

He held her hand tightly.

“Then shall we go down and wait for Teacher Shen?”

Shen Li nodded and followed him down the mountain.

After walking for some distance, she thought of another matter— How on earth had Shen Zhijin agreed to bring Lu Huaiyu to Seven Treasures Mountain today?

Especially after all the trouble she had caused last night.

Lu Huaiyu noticed her gaze and turned to look at her.

“What’s wrong?”

Shen Li hesitated for a moment before asking, “Second Brother, my dad brought you here today...”

Lu Huaiyu smiled faintly.

“Didn’t you say that you didn’t want to know just now? Why are you asking about it again?”

Shen Li pursed her lips slightly.

Gu Tinglan had been punished just because she had tasted a few bottles of wine, and Lu Huaiyu—

His situation was very likely worse than Gu Tinglan’s.

However, Lu Huaiyu being allowed to come to Seven Treasures Mountain today proved that not only Shen Zhijin, but even the Gu family had relented.

Throughout the entire night, she did not know what he was exactly...

She hesitated for a moment.

“Second Brother, are you... okay?”

It was rare for Lu Huaiyu to see her behaving so carefully, so thoughts of teasing her played in his mind.

“What if I say that I’m not feeling very good?”

Shen Li frowned slightly.

“What’s wrong?”

Surely he was not... injured or anything like that, right?

But she really could not imagine what had happened last night.

However, judging from Gu Siyang’s reaction, it should be...

Without saying anything, Lu Huaiyu merely looked at her quietly.

Shen Li paused for a moment and asked tentatively, “Then... should I take full responsibility for you?”

Lu Huaiyu’s eyes were filled with smiles.

Well, at least she knew that she could not go back on her word.

He asked again, “Then what if I say that I’m fine?”

The young girl lowered her head and thought for a while. Then, she raised her head. Her eyes were clear and her ears were slightly red.

“Then... you’ll take full responsibility for me?”

Lu Huaiyu stared at her. His thin lips slowly curved into a perfect arc as he leaned forward slightly.

The distance between the two instantly shortened, and they could hear each other’s breathing clearly.

“Shen Tangtang, now that you know that you’ve caused trouble, do you have a guilty conscience?”

Shen Li met his deep gaze but did not say anything. However, this one glance was enough to compel him to go through fire and water for her.

He laughed.

He had been willing to do it, and it was something he could not ask for.

How could he blame her for anything?

He kissed the space between her eyebrows.

“You don’t know just how much Teacher Shen and the others care about you.”

Everything was just for this.

Shen Li blinked.

Lu Huaiyu lowered his gaze and looked into her eyes.

“However, what you said just now still has to be counted, understand?”

...

Shen Li and Lu Huaiyu went down the mountain first and waited in the car for half an hour before Shen Zhijin came back.

Then, the group returned to the Gu residence.

By the time they arrived at the Gu residence, it was noon.

Old Mrs. Gu invited Lu Huaiyu to join them for lunch.

Apart from that, Gu Siyang was also there.

Oh, and Gu Tinglan.

He had rested for the whole morning before finally waking up.

It was just that he was clearly not in a good state. He did not say much at the dining table, and he did not eat much.

He had drunk five bottles of wine altogether. The effects had been too strong.

Old Master Gu did not bother much about him. Only Old Madam Gu instructed the servants to prepare an extra portion of sobering soup for him.

“Ah Li is returning to the Capital this afternoon?”

Old Master Gu asked.

Shen Li nodded.

“I still have to take an exam tomorrow.”

If it were not for the fact that she was in a hurry, she would not have wanted to go back and forth like this.

Her original plan had been to come back for a day and wait for the July holiday before coming back to stay longer.

Of course, reality proved that no matter how short the time was, she still had not been able to avoid getting into trouble.

However, Old Master Gu and the others doted on her. Seeing that she had been so drunk the night before, they did not have the heart to say anything more. They had only told her to go back and have a good rest, not to be nervous about the exam, and so on.

Gu Siyang was beside him as he looked at Lu Huaiyu, then at Gu Tinglan, and finally at Shen Li, secretly sighing in his heart.

Look, what was the point of class or status?

The only one who had gotten drunk had not faced any consequences.

Then, he looked at the remaining two...

No, he would have to be on really good terms with his cousin in the future!

This was the real trump card!

As for those two— Unfamiliar! Really not familiar!

“Will Doctor Gu return to the Capital this afternoon?”

Lu Huaiyu suddenly asked.

Gu Tinglan raised his eyes to look at him, his heart secretly alert.

“I haven’t decided yet. Why do you ask?”

Lu Huaiyu smiled slightly.

“It’s nothing, it was just a casual question. If Doctor Gu returns to the Capital this afternoon, we can go together.”

Gu Tinglan instinctively rejected the suggestion.

“Thank you, but I suddenly remembered that I still have some unfinished business here. I don’t think I can go with Second Master.”

Lu Huaiyu understood.

“In that case, it’s a pity.”

Gu Tinglan’s heart relaxed.

To be honest, he had known Lu Huaiyu for quite a long time, but this was the first time he felt this... sense of danger from him.

He had not been there the whole of last night. After drinking the wine, his consciousness had quickly blurred, so he had gone to sleep. He had not woken up until it was close to noon today.

So... he did not really know what was going on with Lu Huaiyu.

But judging from Gu Siyang's reaction, it should be... not much better.

His intuition told him that he should stay as far away from Lu Huaiyu as possible.

However, just as this thought flashed through his mind, Lu Huaiyu changed the tone of his voice and said with a faint smile, "However, I'm quite interested in those bottles of wine. I wonder if it'd be convenient for Doctor Gu to gift me a few bottles for my collection."

Why had he mentioned those bottles of wine again?

Gu Tinglan's heart tightened. Seeing that Old Master Gu and Shen Zhijin did not express their opinions, he said, "It's just an ordinary wine produced by the winery. Second Master Lu has a lot of wine. These shouldn't be of interest to you."

"How can that be?"

Lu Huaiyu said slowly,

"I think this wine is very rare. Besides... I've come all the way here for these few bottles of wine. Wouldn't it be a pity if I didn't treasure them properly?"

Gu Tinglan's eyes twitched.

Chapter 1019: Unique

This was all his fault.

Regardless of anything else, those bottles of wine had indeed been brought by him, and he was the one who had suggested that Shen Li drink them.

So now, he was really in no position to refute.

He gently exhaled.

“Okay.”

...

In the afternoon, Shen Li and the others left Hong Kong City.

Because she still had an exam to sit for the next day, both she and Shen Zhijin directly returned to Skyleaf City. Lu Huaiyu sent them off before returning to Rongyue Mansion.

Fang Qingyun looked in the rearview mirror.

“Second Master, is Ah Li alright?”

He had received a call last night and flown straight to Hong Kong City. He had looked very anxious, not knowing what was going on.

Lu Huaiyu crossed his long legs and leaned against the back of the seat, his posture lazy and elegant.

When he heard this, his thin lips twitched slightly.

“She’s fine.”

Only then did Fang Qingyun heave a sigh of relief.

“That’s good, that’s good.”

At this moment, Lu Huaiyu’s phone rang. It was a call from Yi Bin.

He picked it up.

“Second Master, will you be going to attend the auction at Bo Xing Auction House next Saturday?”

Lu Huaiyu replied calmly.

“I’m not going.”

Yi Bin reminded him, “Second Master, Miss Shen’s painting will be at the auction this time.”

Lu Huaiyu paused.

“Alright, I’ll go.”

Before this, all of Shen Li’s paintings that circulated in the market had been bought by him anonymously.

All the outside world knew was that someone had bought those paintings at a high price, but they did not know that they had been bought by the same person, much less that the person was Lu Huaiyu.

However, now that everyone knew that Shen Li was Tree’s Shadow, and Lu Huaiyu had already admitted that he had bought her paintings before, there was naturally no need to hide it this time.

Yi Bin immediately agreed.

“Alright, Second Master. I’ll make the arrangements right away.”

Lu Huaiyu hung up the phone. After a moment of silence, he laughed.

This time, it would probably take a lot of effort to get the young lady’s painting.

...

After arriving home, Shen Li took a simple shower and changed her clothes. She sat down in front of the desk and prepared to read.

Out of the corner of her eye, she spotted the black backpack. Only then did she remember that Shen Zhijin’s birthday present was still inside.

Because there had been so many things for her to do today, she still had not had the time to open it.

Thinking of this, she took the backpack, unzipped it, and took out the blue box.

The palm-sized square gift box was the color of the sky. It was pure and simple, and there was no logo on it.

She did not know what was inside, but it was quite heavy.

She opened the box and was immediately stunned.

What was inside was actually... a meteorite.

It had an irregular shape and was suffused with specks of faint blue crystal light. It was like a brilliant galaxy in the vast night sky.

No, this was not an ordinary meteorite.

This was... an extremely rare and extremely expensive meteorite diamond.

There was only one piece that had officially been recognized in the country and it was currently stored in the National Planetarium.

There was one piece in the foreign market, and it was valued at more than 25 million US dollars.

Had Shen Zhijin actually given her such a gift now?!

Shen Li took the box and got up to leave her room.

Shen Zhijin was changing the water in the vase for the camellias in the dining room.

“Dad.”

Shen Li called out to him.

Shen Zhijin turned around and saw the box in her hand. He had already guessed something.

“What’s the matter, Tangtang?”

Shen Li’s lips moved and she raised the box in her hand.

“This...”

Shen Zhijin put the bunch of camellias back into the vase. His beautiful and indifferent eyes relaxed and she smiled faintly.

“This was originally meant for your mother, but she happened to be pregnant with you at that time. She said that she wanted to leave this unique gift for you.”

That was because, compared to everything else, you were the most unique gift we would ever receive.

Chapter 1020: Auction

Shen Li tightened her grip on the box.

“Thank you, Dad and Mom.”

...

Over the next few days, Shen Li sat for a few more exams.

That went on until July 6th when all of her freshman exams finally ended.

Compared to the other departments, the Institute of Physics’ holidays started relatively late. Especially on the last day of exams, the entire campus was much quieter.

Many students had already gone off for their holidays before this. As the students walked around the campus, they would occasionally see people carrying their luggage to go back home.

However, Shen Li did not need to consider this problem.

When she came to Xijing University to attend university, she had come from Yunzhou. But now, her home was in the Capital.

After the holidays, she had a lot of free time, a lot of which she spent in the laboratory.

On Friday afternoon, she received a call from Fang Yunyi.

“Ah Li, there’s an auction tomorrow morning in the central building of the Capital. Would you like to go with Auntie?”

“An auction?”

Shen Li was a little surprised. She thought about the contents of the experiment the next day. This time, it was Fang Yunyi who had taken the initiative to invite her. There was no reason for her to refuse.

“Sure.”

Fang Yunyi was very happy.

“Then I’ll pick you up at nine tomorrow morning.”

Originally, Shen Li felt that this was a little troublesome, but Fang Yunyi had clearly made up her mind. She hesitated for a moment, but still agreed.

“Okay, thank you, Aunt Fang.”

Fang Yunyi coughed lightly.

“Oh, right, Ah Li, there’s one more thing. Previously, you said that you liked the pair of ear studs. How do you feel about wearing them?”

She was talking about the pair of square ruby earrings from CHUIN.

However, ever since Shen Li had gotten the pair of earrings, she had not found a suitable opportunity to wear them.

Fang Yunyi's thoughts were clear as day.

Shen Li could not help but smile.

"I haven't worn them yet. Shall I show them to you tomorrow?"

Fang Yunyi forcefully suppressed her excitement. Her smile was elegant, and her tone was reserved.

"Well, jewelry is meant to be worn often. So, is that settled?"

Shen Li answered in the affirmative and then hung up the phone.

But soon, she received another call from Gu Tingyun.

Shen Li picked it up. "Third Uncle?"

"Ah Li, would you like to have dinner with me tonight?" Gu Tingyun asked with a warm smile.

Shen Li was stunned. "You're in the Capital?"

"Yes, I'm here to settle some matters."

He usually spent most of his time in Hong Kong City, so Shen Li and he did not see each other often. Now that he was here, of course, it was natural that he would want to have dinner together with her.

However—

"Third Uncle, my experiment here will only end in two hours. I think it'll be a little late—"

“It’s fine. I’ll pick you up at your school.”

Gu Tingyun was rather casual.

Hearing him say this, Shen Li thought about it and agreed.

“Then I’ll try to work faster here.”

...

Two hours later, Shen Li finished recording the last set of data. She picked up her backpack and left the laboratory.

When she got out of the elevator, she called Gu Tingyun as she walked. The other party quickly picked up.

“Ah Li?”

“Third Uncle, my experiment has ended. You— Dad?”

Shen Li was walking when she saw Shen Zhijin walking towards her from the other end of the corridor.

“Who are you talking to?” Shen Zhijin saw that she was carrying a backpack. “Are you going out?”

Shen Li usually would not leave at this time.

Shen Li nodded and pointed at her phone.

“Third Uncle is in the Capital.”

Shen Zhijin nodded lightly. “Shall I send you there?”

“There’s no need. Third Uncle is here at the school.” As Shen Li spoke, she spoke to Gu Tingyun on the other end of the phone. “Third Uncle, where are you now?”

Gu Tingyun smiled and said, “I’m outside the laboratory building of the Institute of Physics.”

Shen Li was stunned. She took two steps forward and looked outside. As expected, she saw a black sedan parked outside the main door.

He had actually come here directly?

Shen Zhijin saw her reaction and followed her gaze. What else could he not guess?

Shen Li said, “Then please wait a moment. I’ll be there soon.”

After saying that, she hung up the phone and looked at Shen Zhijin.

“Dad, Third Uncle is outside. Do you want to meet with him?”

After all, they were all here.

Shen Zhijin nodded.

Then, the father and daughter left the institute’s experiment building together.

...

Gu Tingyun put away his phone, lowered the car window, and looked outside.

Shen Li and Shen Zhijin came over together.

It was as expected since he had already heard Shen Zhijin's voice on the phone just now.

"Third Uncle."

Shen Li walked closer and saw Gu Tingyun sitting in the car, so she greeted him.

Gu Tingyun smiled.

"Ah Li."

Then, he nodded to Shen Zhijin.

Shen Li said, "Why did you come here directly? Isn't it quite troublesome?"

It was not easy for foreign cars to go in and out of Xijing University.

She had asked him to wait at the west gate, thinking that she could go there herself.

"It's no trouble," Gu Tingyun said. "Besides, it's too far for you to walk from here to the school gate on such a hot day."

As he spoke, he let Shen Li get into the car.

Shen Li opened the car door and got into the backseat.

She had just sat down and was about to say goodbye to Shen Zhijin when she heard Gu Tingyun say, "Oh right, let's make a trip to Skyleaf City first."

Shen Li was stunned. "What?"

Shen Zhijin looked over as well, and his gaze landed on Gu Tingyun's face.

Gu Tingyun smiled slightly and said, "I've brought you and Zhijin some Iberian black pork ribs this time. It's better to put this in the refrigerator as soon as possible, otherwise, the meat won't be good if it is defrosted and refrozen again."

Shen Li was at a loss for words.

Gu Tingyun often gave her gifts, but she really had not expected him to bring her ribs this time.

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She hesitated.

"Then... why don't we eat at home tonight?"

Since they were going back to Skyleaf City anyway, it would be much more convenient for them to eat at home since he had brought this.

Gu Tingyun seemed a little surprised, but he quickly agreed with a smile.

"Sure. It just so happens that I haven't thought of where to take you to eat yet anyway."

Shen Zhijin gave him an indifferent look.

He had already received someone and was about to go eat, yet he said that he had not thought of what to eat yet.

He was really able to say these words.

Gu Tingyun did not seem to notice Shen Zhijin's scrutiny at all. Instead, he smiled and said to him, "Then, Zhijin, would you like to go back together?"

...

Ten minutes later, the black car arrived at Skyleaf City.

Shen Li took the ribs to the kitchen and began to prepare to blanch them.

In the living room, Shen Zhijin and Gu Tingyun sat facing each other.

Actually, this was Gu Tingyun's first time here, but he looked so comfortable that it seemed like he had been here many times.

Shen Li looked at the bubbling water and suddenly felt her phone vibrate.

She took it out and took a look. It was a message that had been sent by Gu Tingyun in the family group chat.

[What is the best way to make Iberian black pork ribs?]

Shen Li was puzzled.

Gu Siyang quickly replied.

[???]

The third master of the Gu family had eaten practically everything before. Why would he ask this question?

Soon, Gu Tingyun quickly retracted the message.

[Sorry, I sent the wrong message.]

Gu Siyang became even more curious.

[Third Uncle, are you cooking ribs yourself? [shocked][shocked]

After a while, Gu Tingyun replied calmly.

[No, Ah Li wants to do it. But it doesn't seem like there are many kitchen utensils here in Skyleaf City, so it's better to choose a simpler method.]