

My Crown 1401

Chapter 1401: Sacred Beasts Playing Dumb

“Looking closely now, since your body is snow-white, how about I call you Whitey!”

“Y-You can’t, Master, look! This chubby squirrel is also white and furry. This name suits him more!” The snakelet immediately sold his teammate out without a second word.

“Chirp?” The little fat squirrel indicated that he completely did not understand what the others were saying, his small furry face looking foolish.

“Don’t bully Chirpy. Since it’s so small, its comprehension ability is limited,” Qiao Mu reprimanded softly.

After she said this, the phoenix, chicken, snake, and giant ape all swept a contemptuous glance at that fat squirrel that was playing dumb.

“Qiaoqiao, advanced-level mystic beasts possess intelligence, let alone the ones around you. All divine beasts are able to take on human form.” Mo Lian coughed lightly as he pointed at the little fat squirrel. “He should be a sacred beast, otherwise when the bloodfire phoenix egg entrenched himself in your conscious pool at the beginning, he would have kicked it out..”

Qiao Mu blinked her eyes. In other words, besides the giant ape and the heavenly bird Qingluan, the white snakelet, phoenix egg, and little fat squirrel were actually all sacred beasts?

Mo Lian nodded emphatically. “So do not be tricked by their cute appearances!”

“Who’s cute?” The bloodfire phoenix was the first to protest defiantly. “This one has never played cute nor dumb, so don’t lump me together with those two fools!!”

“If my guess is not wrong, this little white snake that is playing dumb should be the ancient netherworld great void serpent. He wields the energy of the netherworld.” Mo Lian swept a glance at that white snakelet whose eyes flickered.

Qiao Mu took up her small bowl and shovelled rice into her mouth. Afterwards, she looked at the white snakelet with shining eyes and said, “Then how about I call you Nethery from now on.”

The white snakelet pondered it over after hearing this. Compared to those deplorable names from earlier—Snakey, Limpy, Slimmy, and Whitey—this Nethery sounded much better.

He nodded his snake head hastily to agree, afraid that this rascally master would change her mind.

“Eggy.”

The bloodfire phoenix’s mouth twitched. “I’m not an egg anymore!”

“Oh, right, last time I named you Fiery.” Qiao Mu nodded. “The day after tomorrow, I, your master, might enter closed-door cultivation for several days to consume that bone forging pill. You all behave yourselves! You must not fight with each other, got it.”

Regardless of size, they all nodded together. They were quite obedient huh.

“Masta, that venerable immortal has come! He’s been making circles inside your bedchamber. It must be because he doesn’t know how to come in.”

“Why hasn’t he vanished yet?” Qiao Mu looked at Mo Lian in astonishment. “He’s been here the whole time?”

“Mhm!” Mo Lian nodded. “These past days, I had Hidden Flower accompany him for wine and conversation to relieve his boredom. Don’t worry, he won’t be too bored.”

“Master, do you want to pull him inside?”

“Hey, what do you all think? He should be an expert of the divine realm or something, right. Isn’t there a problem if he keeps staying here? Won’t he get into trouble with Heavenly Law?” Or was it that there actually was also some freakin’ deity-dismissing talisman, except that she didn’t know how to draw it?

“Ha.” Qiuqiu chortled. “Master, it’s not like there’s a lack of divine-realm experts around you! And isn’t it because each of them are all relying on Dharma treasures and the like to conceal their auras so as to escape Heavenly Law’s search.”

Qiao Mu was startled, and her gaze naturally shifted to Mo Lian.

Yet she heard Qiuqiu chatter on, “What the deuce is there to be afraid of. If worse comes to worst, Heavenly Law will just drag them off to make a trip through the punishment area!”

“What did you say Qiuqiu?”

“Ah? Master, did I say anything?!”

Chapter 1402: Returning Home

Qiao Mu’s expression was stoic as she stated icily, “You did, you talked about the punishment area just now.”

Qiuqiu, who had run his mouth off, peeked guiltily at Mo Lian, who had on an unsightly expression. He busily shovelled meat and mushrooms into his mouth. “N-No I didn’t. Qiuqiu did not say anything at all.”

“You guys couldn’t be hiding something from me right!” Qiao Mu keenly sensed that something was fishy.

Mo Lian quickly pulled her to his side as he placated her with a smile. “There’s no problem, Qiaoqiao. Don’t listen to the little tree’s nonsense. What could he know. He just blabs his mouth off all day, so ignore him.”

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The sapling harrumphed with a frown set into his trunk. Then, he exclaimed while flailing his branches, “Masta, I had better pull the Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal inside. He’s still searching through your bedchamber’s drawers and cabinets for you!”

Qiao Mu: ...

Several moments later, a certain venerable immortal's eyes brightened when he discovered himself in a land of dancing peach blossoms.

He peered around and saw the little lady and her party sitting in a circle underneath the peach trees not far away and having a cook-out.

"Wow, little fellow, your mystic domain couldn't have been created especially for me right! Look at how beautiful these dancing peach blossoms are. This is absolutely the most suitable place for me to stay."

Qiao Mu was speechless. "You don't have to return?"

"I do! But it will also be alright if I draw out my stay here at your place for a few more days." The Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal turned to glance at Qiao Mu with a pitiful look. "You don't know that in our place, everyone just cultivates and cultivates all day long. There is no delicious food nor good wine, not the least bit of pleasure at all! Since it's not easy for me to make a trip back, I must eat and drink to my heart's content before leaving."

Qiao Mu: ! In other words, you, this foodie, are brazenly provoking Heavenly Law just for food and wine!

"There won't be any problem at all?"

"There will, there is a problem. It'll be dreadful if Heavenly Law finds out. A light punishment might be getting struck by lightning, while a heavy one might mean getting thrown into... mfhm, mfhmfph!" Before the Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal could finish his sentence, the sapling Qiuqiu had already pounced over and covered his mouth with his branches.

"What are you doing!" The venerable immortal brusquely yanked off the little treant that had lunged at his face. After giving a harrumph, he turned around with a smile and sniffed several times. "What are you eating! Give me a pair of chopsticks here! Hurry up."

"Adding another person makes eating together more lively!" After the Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal forced his way into this small circle, this turned into a gathering of three humans and several beasts. They even took out several bottles of wine, planning to take a small sip.

However, Qiao Mu kept feeling that something had sunken to the pit of her stomach. When she occasionally looked up, Mo Lian would smile at her guilelessly, and this would make her swallow the words that were about to come out of her mouth.

Sigh, forget it. Since they didn't wanted to talk about it at the moment, then she wouldn't ask!

After Qiao Mu finished the rice in her bowl and wanted to ladle some soup, she discovered...

"Eh? The soup! There's no more soup!"

This pot of stew could feed at least seven to eight people, yet it was cleared off just like that. Everyone had quite the good appetite!

The next day.

Mo Lian accompanied Qiao Mu back to the Marquis of Jiayuan's Estate.

Aware that the crown prince consort would be returning today, the main door of the marquis's estate had been open since early in the morning.

Qiao Zhongbang and the family were all raising their heads expectantly in wait.

When they heard the servants come report that the crown prince consort's royal carriage had already entered Minshun Boulevard, Qiao Zhongbang, Second Uncle Qiao, and the whole family swarmed toward the main entrance, gazing out the door excitedly.

Soon, they saw a golden couple appear at the main entrance while hand in hand.

Chapter 1403: Gathered Together

"Greetings to Your Highness the Crown Prince, greetings to..." Everyone's eyes curved into smiles as they went up to give their greetings.

"We're all family, so there is no need for so many formalities."

"Sister is back, Sister has come back," Xiao Lin'er cheered. She was about to pounce over to give her sister whom she hadn't seen for days a hug.

Yet she didn't expect that someone would be faster than her in pouncing at Qiao Mu. The small figure clutched her leg and cried out, "Benefactress, Benefactress! Benefactress!"

Qiao Mu couldn't help but find it amusing, and she bent down to pick up the little monk. She then knocked on his small skull. "You missed me?"

"This young monk especially missed Benefactress. When Benefactress is not here, this young monk cannot rest or eat in peace. Wuwu..." The little monk sobbed with a nod..

"You little rascal." Wei Ziqin was both annoyed and amused as she declared, "I wonder who it was who was cooking all kinds of vegetarian food to cheer you up."

"Benefactress's mother," the little monk answered in his babyish voice.

Qiao Mu patted his little bald head in amusement. "Mom, let's go inside to chat."

The group relocated to the main room, filling the space with happy laughter and cheerful voices. When they got to the topic of the rice distribution on Xiluo Street yesterday, Xiao Lin'er pouted, "Sister didn't even think of bringing me to something so fun."

Wei Ziqin gruffly hit her daughter with her knuckle, reprimanding, "You can't just think everything is fun."

"Dad, Mom, Second Uncle, Second Aunt, Brother, and Sister. I brought you some small presents, here." Mo Lian had people carry the presents inside as he passed them out one by one.

Mom and Second Aunt got head ornaments and jewelry, Dad and Second Uncle got master paintings and calligraphy, Young Brother got the four treasures of the study¹, Brother Xiao Hu got a famous sword, and Xiao Lin'er got a pair of gold-weave brocade wrist guards.

Everyone was delighted beyond measure as they held their presents, so giddy that they were unable to stop smiling.

“This is for Eldest Aunt and Cousin Ruolan. Mom can bring it over when you go visit them.”

“Okay, okay.” Wei Ziqin nodded continuously with a smile.

Meanwhile, the little monk sat on Qiao Mu’s lap and gazed anxiously at the large and small gift boxes in everyone’s hands. He asked weakly, “I-I, don’t get one?”

Qiao Mu couldn’t help but find it funny. With a shake of her wrist, she took out a furry, pink and yellow cap from her inner world and put it on the little monk’s bald head. “Looks good!”

“It looks good, it looks good, hahaha!” Qiao Lin was cracking up.

“Do you see, Sister embroidered the lotus flower on it! Do you like it.” Qiao Mu’s eyes curved as she looked down and asked the little monk.

On the side, Mo Lian could only silently twitch his mouth.

He didn’t know whether or not he should praise his wifey for her hobby of embroidering lotus flowers.

The little monk nodded his small head reluctantly. “It looks a bit ugly.”

“Pfft...” Everyone hastily stifled their laughter by pretending to cough and picking up their teacups for a sip.

“Don’t complain about this and that, I tell you.” Qiao Mu flicked his small forehead. “Wear it next time when we go out on a stroll. Don’t just keep showing your bald head.”

“But it’s a bit hot.”

Second Uncle Qiao choked on his tea. The weather was about to turn hot, yet his young niece actually gave the little monk a furry cap, this was simply...

“Have you done your morning recitation today.” Qiao Mu changed the topic.

“I finished it yesterday,” the little monk mumbled. He immediately forgot all about his protest just now, throwing it to the back of his mind.

Chapter 1404: We Will Fulfill Their Death Wish

After eating lunch, Qiao Mu returned to the Eastern Palace with Mo Lian.

Because she didn’t have anything to do in the afternoon, Qiao Mu took out the bone forging pill and inspected it.

“Are you taking it right now?” Mo Lian set down the book in his hand and asked.

“Qiuqiu says that it will take three days, but I feel skeptical, so it will probably take five to seven days.”

“Sure. After you finish forging your bones, there won’t be problems after that.” Mo Lian would not stop her from bettering her capabilities. In fact, he fully supported her.

Qiao Mu nodded. "After I finish forging my bones, I hope that my body at least won't be so vulnerable when I battle people in the spiritual realm next time, spitting blood out after only getting struck twice."

"Qiaoqiao, you will definitely succeed." Mo Lian nodded with a smile. "Come, I'll bring you to the cultivation room in the back room of the bedchamber for closed-door cultivation."

Qiao Mu gave a mhm and got up. He then led her to the secret room while holding her hand.

As the stone wall slid back to its original position, Mo Lian smiled and turned to walk out of the secret room.

At this time, Huifeng flipped inside from the window and said while cupping his hands, "Your Highness."

"How is the investigation going?"

Huifeng nodded. "According to the information that the Hidden Night Pavilion has collected during the past few days, we are basically able to confirm that the person who arranged for a group of local thugs to block the way and create a disturbance on the day of Your Highness's wedding is precisely Commandery Princess Yi'an."

A harsh glint flashed past Mo Lian's eyes.

It was this crazy woman as expected! She actually dared to sabotage his big day!

It was simply hateful!

"Your Highness."

Mo Lian ordered coldly, "Continue."

"But that day when the crown prince consort was serving tea, the person who bought off the royal maid Caiqin to poison Her Majesty the Queen Dowager was not Commandery Princess Yi'an." Huifeng stated, "But Her Majesty the Queen Dowager seems to wholeheartedly think that Commandery Princess Yi'an was the one behind the poison."

"Was it the Vassal King of An'nan's Estate's handiwork?"

Huifeng nodded. "That is correct. There is a maidservant in Vassal King Consort Wu's Estate who is royal maid Caiqin's sister by blood. After controlling this person, the Vassal King Consort of An'nan has been secretly giving Caiqin orders."

Mo Lian snickered. "There is no need to spell out the truth. Just let Grandmother believe that this thankless wretch did it."

In this way, Grandmother would not get softhearted and hamper him from taking action against them.

Before dusk, the crown prince went to the king's royal study and talked with his old father about something.

That very night when dusk fell, a sudden royal betrothal edict was sent to the Vassal King of An'nan's Estate.

The edict started with praising the Vassal Prince of An'nan profusely, both directly and indirectly. It then stated that as the vassal prince had already reached marriageable age, the king would betrothe Commandery Princess Yi'an to him as his legal wife and so on.

This royal edict came so out of the blue that it caught them unprepared, but the Vassal Prince of An'nan was delighted.

Previously, he had been contemplating how to have his father to beseech the king for a royal betrothal edict. He did not expect for the royal edict he was hoping for to come like this. Although it did come suddenly, it did not impede him from achieving his goal at all.

The Vassal Prince of An'nan, Chou Fu, was ecstatic, and he led his whole family in kneeling and respectfully receiving the royal edict.

Yet the Vassal King and Vassal King Consort of An'nan looked at each other in dismay, confused as to how strangely this royal edict was issued.

When Huifeng reported this event to the crown prince, the crown prince was resting inside the study's partitioned bedroom. He merely gave a nod after hearing the report.

As he was the one who went to beseech for the royal betrothal edict, he was already aware.

"But why did the crown prince fulfill the Vassal Prince of An'nan's wish?" Huifeng could not make heads or tails of it. It had to be known that the Vassal Prince of An'nan had always been devoted to Commandery Princess Yi'an's affairs. It had already gotten to the point of expressing his wish to marry Yi'an.

However, the crown prince sniggered. "We will fulfill their death wish."

Chapter 1405: It's Bad News

Wasn't it perfect for this scumbag and hellcat to make a couple!

Certainly, he could not do anything to the Vassal King of An'nan's family for no apparent reason. After all, the Vassal King of An'nan's ancestor had fought alongside the former king to win state power.

If he targeted the descendants of officials who had rendered outstanding merit, not only would the common people drown their Mo family with their spit, even the royal censors would definitely send in memorials and remonstrate to the death!

However, the Vassal King of An'nan's Estate had recently been making underhanded maneuvers nonstop. Yet the most hilarious thing was that they thought that he, the crown prince, was clueless!

It was fine. He'd just let them proceed with their movements and hatch up a bigger incident. By that time, Yi'an would have married into the estate, which was perfect. When everyone in the entire estate got beheaded, they would have company while traversing the Yellow Springs1!

At that time, he could not be blamed for being ruthless. It was all their own doing!

Huifeng peeked at Crown Prince Mo's expression and then quickly lowered his head. "Your Highness, there is one more thing.. The several dozen men who caused trouble on South Xiluo Street previously were most likely hired thugs."

"Someone wanted to cause a large number of casualties, but they did not expect Your Highness to arrive so quickly with the royal guard."

The crown prince narrowed his eyes. "Continue investigating and ferret out the mastermind."

He had a premonition that this was a prelude to the shady organization striking again after it had failed to contaminate all the water sources.

This time, perhaps, they were coming for the Mo capital base.

After all, the Mo capital base was the most perfected fortification, with the greatest flow of human traffic. As long as they could wipe out the Mo Capital Fortification, then it was easy to disintegrate the fortifications elsewhere!

He acutely sniffed the scent of storm clouds approaching, and he closed the book in his hands.

On the other hand, when news of the betrothal edict travelled to Commandery Princess Yi'an's Anya Pavilion, she simply did not dare believe her own ears.

"You, what did you say? Say it again!" Commandery Princess Yi'an unwittingly dropped her fine-toothed comb to the ground with a clatter.

At this time, she was sitting on a small square stool with her long hair loose. Her eyes were stretched wide open, and her complexion, which had turned pink after her bath, was now evidently as ghostly pale as paper.

Xu'er immediately wailed, "My lady, the king's edict has already been sent to the Vassal King of An'nan's Estate, and the Vassal Prince of An'nan has already received the edict. The wedding is set to be in one month, right after the queen dowager's birthday feast concludes."

Commandery Princess Yi'an felt her sight turning black, and she nearly toppled from her stool.

Luckily, Xu'er had immediately rushed up to support her when she discovered her abnormal condition. "My-my lady, you have to hang in there. You must not collapse!"

"What did the queen dowager say? Is the queen dowager also aware of the king's betrothal edict?" Commandery Princess Yi'an screamed, "How could the king act on his own, deciding on my marriage without asking the queen dowager?"

"Please use discretion in your speech, Commandery Princess." On the side, the senior maidservant Ming Qian who had an oblong face analyzed calmly, "The king has not brought disgrace to your title of commandery princess by betrothing you to the Vassal Prince of An'nan. Even if the queen dowager was to know, she would most likely not object."

"No, I'm not getting married! I'm not getting married to Chou Fu! I won't!!" Commandery Princess Yi'an stood up with her emotions out of control. This was the first time she revealed such frenzied wrath. "I am going to see the queen dowager! Xu'er, accompany me to see the queen dowager!"

“Yes!”

“Please think thrice my lady!” Miss High and Mighty quickly strode up and exhorted, “From the current circumstances, since the king has already issued his edict, it is impossible for the queen dowager to go and humiliate the king for the commandery princess.”

Commandery Princess Yi’an flumped limply onto the small square stool.

Chapter 1406: Bone Forging

Yet she was not able to support her weight and slid down flaccidly to the ground.

Xu’er’s heart ached when she saw this, and she shouted nonstop, “My lady, my lady!”

“Help, help me over to the queen dowager’s! Help me over!” Commandery Princess Yi’an said tearfully with reddened eyes.

No matter what, she had to go and try, regardless of how slim the hope. She could not just entrust her future life to a stranger so casually like this.

She refused to resign herself to this, she refused to!

A summer rain suddenly came down at nightfall. The pouring rain gushed down like a hole had opened up in the sky.

Soon, thunder rumbled through the sky.

Two people were kneeling in the rain, with the water spraying at their faces. They were unable to open their eyes from how hard the rain was hitting them.

Feng Gu strode up to the two people while holding an umbrella. She looked down at the two frail women kneeling on the bluestone tiles and shook her head, advising, “Commandery Princess, it is raining hard outside. You had best return as early as possible.”

“Nanny Feng, I want to see the queen dowager! Nanny Feng.”

“The queen dowager has already turned in to rest.” Feng Gu looked at her coldly before saying to Xu’er, “Why aren’t you quickly bringing your master back?”

“Nanny Feng, I want to see the queen dowager, I want to see the queen dowager, Nanny Feng!”

“Do not forget your place, Commandery Princess. Who is Her Majesty the Queen Dowager? Is she someone at your beck and call, whom you can see whenever you want to?” Feng Gu swept her an indifferent glance and said, “You are not leaving? Do you want me to command the royal guards to come carry you back?”

These words were extremely blunt.

Commandery Princess Yi’an turned limp at once. In her shock and rage, on top of getting exposed to the wind and rain, her eyes rolled back as she fainted in Xu’er’s arms.

“My lady, my lady!!” Xu’er screamed.

Feng Gu snickered on the inside while wearing a sneer on her face. She turned to a junior royal maid behind her and instructed, "As the commandery princess is unwell, go to the Royal Physician Building and request for a royal physician to come take a look."

"Yes."

As Xu'er supported her miss who had fainted, she shouted toward Feng Gu's leaving figure. "Nanny Feng, Nanny Feng!"

In the end, Xu'er's heart turned cold.

It turned out that after losing the queen dowager's favor, every step she and her master took in this palace was so difficult.

—My Lian's section break—

After Qiao Mu consumed the bone forging pill, she delved into a marvellous state.

When she activated her inner sight, she could see the bone marrow and meridians in her body rapidly being forged and enlarged at a speed visible to the naked eye.

This process was naturally not a wonderful one, but after experiencing the pain of fusing the secret realm into her dantian, all of this did not amount much to Qiao Mu anymore.

She stilled her breath and mind as she sat there cross-legged, and she just watched with rapt attention as her bone marrow and meridians transformed inch by inch under the forging of the bone forging pill.

At this time, her bone marrow was gradually enveloped with a white glow from her leg bones to her ribcage all the way to her skull. The look of it was extremely sacred and holy.

If there were someone else present, they would certainly be extremely astonished to see the young crown prince consort emitting a sacred white halo from her body.

When her skeleton completely turned into a shimmering white, Qiao Mu understood that this should be the transformation that the sapling Qiuqiu was talking about, the remolding of a mortal skeleton to a mystic skeleton.

At this time, the changes in her body were very obvious. Not only was she able to withstand greater pressure, but her offensive power had already reached the point where she could hurl a level-15 mystic cultivator flying with a heavy punch, as well.

It was difficult for her to find a match beneath the spiritual realm!

Chapter 1407: Quasi-Celestial Skeleton

No, perhaps she could even disregard attacks from people in the lower levels of the spiritual realm, as well.

Moreover, this kind of bone marrow transformation was still progressing as time passed.

This time, Qiao Mu genuinely experienced the dread of her skeleton breaking down and then being reconstructed. That was the pain of getting her bones reforged after they were snapped inch by inch.

Even the veins in her body couldn't resist howling madly.

It hurt!

It hurt!!

It f*cking hurt so badly!

However, she could not fear this kind of pain. The more she thought about it, the more it would hurt. Only by facing it directly could she overcome this kind of psychological fear..

Hence, Miss Qiao just blocked off her senses and eliminated any distracting thoughts, letting her mind go completely blank.

Yet blocking off your senses did not mean you would automatically be oblivious to this kind of pain that came from your bone marrow. That kind of pain that was ingrained within actually still existed but was just more tolerable now.

Qiao Mu suddenly opened her eyes. From her inner sight, she discovered that her bone marrow, which was originally glowing white, was now enveloped with a light purple.

This kind of shining purple glow was still transitioning into a faint pinkish-yellow color.

However, her forehead was dripping with cold sweat. She could feel that she was nearly turning numb to the pain from the bone marrow in her body.

Suddenly, a pink figure appeared beside her, and the little lady plopped to the ground with a flick of his sleeve.

A certain venerable immortal gave a sigh and flicked his sleeve again to catch her body.

The sapling Qiuqiu's treant face was filled with remorse as he bounced out from the paradise. "Master, Master. Master."

"So d*mn noisy." His Excellency the Venerable Immortal irritably flicked away this garrulous treant. "You truly are too brazen. You actually gave her a divine-rank bone forging pill. Do you know what could have happened if she couldn't endure it?"

"Tha-That wouldn't hap-happen to Ma-Master."

The Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal gave the treant a fierce glare. "She has now already attained a quasi-celestial skeleton. What do you say will happen if she takes it up one more notch? Her mystic realm cultivation simply cannot endure this kind of vigorous metamorphosis of flesh and bone, she will..."

"It won't, it won't, it won't!!" The little treant made circles on the spot as sweat streamed down his head. He then bawled, "I-I was wrong, I was wrong, Venerable Immortal, qui-quickly save her, Your Excellency."

“She’s fine.” The Venerable Peach Blossom Immortal glared at the sapling. “You had best firmly bear in mind that haste brings no success.”

The little treant wilted, his head drooping.

Five days later, when Qiao Mu opened her eyes dazedly, she got thunderstruck by the bawling little treant that suddenly jumped in front of her.

What exactly had the sapling gone through? The leaves on his head had gotten burnt, and he had dark circles around his eyes like a panda. It looked as if he had gotten beaten up multiple times.

Qiao Mu instantly turned speechless, and she stroked the scorched leaves on the sapling’s head. “What happened to you.”

“Master!!” Just as the sapling was about to hop joyously onto the bed, he got cuffed and kicked to the corner by the water child that suddenly jumped forward. Thus, the sapling could only hold his head and count mushrooms in the corner while whimpering.

“Master!” Tears splattered from the water child’s cheeks. Yet with a flip of her hand, Qiao Mu took out a bottle from her inner world to catch the sacred water in a practiced fashion.

The water child: ...

“Master, Master, you worried us to death.” A cubic dirt clump suddenly popped out from behind the water child. He spoke loudly, “You don’t know, you’ve been unconscious for four to five days. It could simply scare a person to death.”

Chapter 1408: Reckless

“Are you a person?” Mo Lian flicked his sleeve, brushing all these little ones to the side.

He sat down on the side of the bed and caressed Qiao Mu’s forehead, his eyes worried. “Qiaoqiao, you’re too reckless.”

Qiao Mu blinked as she gazed at him quizzically. When she caught a glimpse of the little treant who was hiding next to a cabinet, she had a hunch.

“I thought you were only forging your skeleton from a mortal one to a mystic one. I didn’t expect you to have actually consumed a divine-rank pill.”

Qiao Mu promptly peered at the little treant who had snuck behind the cabinet and was looking at her guiltily.

It went without saying that it was the handiwork of this gremlin.

Like she said, this little fellow was unreliable! Sure enough, he wanted her to reach the heavens in a single bound!

Yet did he not consider that she was a mere elementary level-14 mystic cultivator. If she did not reach the heavens, her body would explode!

But when she peeked at her skeleton right now using her inner sight, she saw that it was glowing an extremely faint light yellow.

“I forged my bones into a spiritual skeleton?”

“More than that.” Mo Lian shook his head as he informed, “You forged your bones into a quasi-celestial skeleton.”

Mo Lian stroked his head helplessly. “With your body’s present defense, as long as you are not besieged by a dozen great spiritual cultivators at the same time, common spiritual cultivators level-10 and below will not be able to harm you.”

Qiao Mu’s eyes lit up. Her initial goal was to be able to defend against spiritual cultivators level-five and below without getting hurt. She did not expect that her bone forging this time would be this successful.

“What do you mean successful.” Mo Lian swatted her forehead. He gruffly scooped her up and nibbled her petite face. “You just become so reckless when I don’t keep an eye on you.”

“How about I keep watch next to you when you enter closed-door cultivation in the future.”

However, Darling Qiao promptly shook her head like a rattle-drum. “No can do, no can do. How can I settle my mind with you beside me.”

When Mo Lian heard this, his phoenix eyes brightened, and he cuddled her in his arms. “Why? When you see me, your heart flutters right?”

Qiao Mu was both irritated and amused as she whacked him. “Stop spouting nonsense.”

“How am I spouting nonsense. Why aren’t you admitting it.” Mo Lian nuzzled her head. “How about now, how are you feeling right now.”

“How am I feeling?” Qiao Mu tilted her head before suddenly pinching his face. “I feel a bit hungry!”

“You haven’t eaten for four to five days.” Mo Lian pulled her up from the bed while staring straight at her.

Qiao Mu looked down at herself. “What are you staring at me like this for.”

“Look.” Mo Lian stuffed a bronze mirror in her hands. When Qiao Mu took a look, she couldn’t help but be stunned too.

It turned out that after forging her bones, her skin became even more fine and smooth, and her fair and tender petite face glowed. Her almond eyes, with light fluttering through them as she glanced about, were gorgeous.

“So delectable.” Mo Lian lifted her up with one arm, but then he creased his brows. “You got skinny again.”

“Someone, prepare a meal!” Mo Lian muttered as he carried her to the table, “Qiaoqiao, you have to eat an extra bowl of rice every day. That way you can quickly grow tall and plump.”

Even so, she already didn’t harbor any extravagant hopes of growing tall.

After rolling her eyes at him, Qiao Mu dragged a stool over and sat down next to him. “No incidents occurred while I was in closed-door cultivation right.”

“Nope, it’s been so tranquil that I’ve been bored from doing nothing.”

“If you must say that there was a big affair, then it might be that the king has betrothed Commandery Princess Yi’an to the Vassal Prince of An’nan.”

Chapter 1409: Like?

Qiao Mu almost choked on the soup that she was drinking.

“You did that?” Her expression was quite peculiar.

“Mhm-mhm.” Mo Lian nodded emphatically as he looked to her expectantly for praise. He explained to his wife with a grin, “It’s all that Yi’an’s fault for being so annoying and buzzing around us like a fly. There’ll be less trouble the earlier she gets married off. What do you think of my arrangement?”

“It’s not bad.” Darling Qiao also nodded in approval. “I don’t know what her problem is to always be approaching me purposefully. Do I look so stupid that she thinks she can just beguile me into being good sisters with her? How can there be such a ridiculous thing in the world.”

“I don’t like her. She has too many freakin’ ulterior motives.” Qiao Mu scooped up some rice and swallowed it. When she looked up, she saw Mo Lian staring straight at her with his shining phoenix eyes.

“You don’t know why she has been approaching you?”

“How would I know.” Qiao Mu scooped another spoonful of rice as she swept him a doubtful look.

“Cough, then let me ask you about something.” Mo Lian coughed lightly. He scooted his stool next to his wife and asked gingerly, “That day when we bumped into Old Fourth, the Fourth Princess. You still remember that incident, right?”

“I remember. She even ran over to your dad to lodge a vehement complaint against me, saying that I beat her up so badly that she couldn’t show her face outside!” Qiao Mu was infuriated upon thinking of this. “Tell me, when and where did I ever beat her up??”

The crown prince couldn’t resist facepalming. “My darling, you really don’t remember?”

Whenever Qiao Mu heard the words “you don’t remember” nowadays, the hairs on her body would stand on end. After experiencing “passive amnesia,” she would constantly be stubborn, telling other people that she remembered everything...

“How is it possible for me to not remember.” Mo Lian just wanted to laugh at her shifty gaze.

Consequently, he nodded repeatedly and concurred with the attitude that “everything my wife says is correct,” “Right right. You remember everything. It was that time when you rescued Eldest Qin on the main street. You beat up Old Fourth then.”

Realization dawned on Qiao Mu. “Why didn’t you tell me at that time.”

Mo Lian couldn't help but be speechless. It seemed like some people were ignored no matter how many times his wife saw them at royal banquets...

"No wonder I felt she looked somewhat familiar," Qiao Mu mumbled to herself. She held her small rice bowl and munched on some veggies. "But she actually had the cheek to wail to your dad! Could she be justified in committing daylight robbery?"

Mo Lian: ...

"Darling, she really didn't come to rob us that day. She had come to capture Eldest Qin."

Mo Lian felt that there was a need to chat with the little fellow about these matters between men and women so that she wouldn't just be thinking about fighting or cultivation all day long...

If they talked about it more, she would understand these things some day, Crown Prince Mo thought.

"Why?" Qiao Mu asked Mo Lian curiously.

Why...

Mo Lian coughed lightly. "You've heard about Mo Shuang wanting to get married to Eldest Qin right. There is no doubt that it is because Mo Shuang likes him."

Qiao Mu set down her utensils. "But didn't Eldest Qin reject her long ago?"

"Right, but there are many besotted men and resentful women in this world. It does not mean that they will give up when the other party rejects them?"

Qiao Mu understood instantly. She judged with a nod, "The fourth princess is being obstinate."

Mo Lian: *If you say that this little fellow didn't understand, she understood instantly once you tipped her off. But if you say that she did understand, she was normally so clueless. It really was agonizing.*

Chapter 1410: Pespicious

"You're saying that. That Commandery Princess Yi'an likes you and wants to get married to you? So that's why she's been approaching me and has been attempting to act like good sisters with me?"

Look, this little fellow was just so perspicious, being able to learn by analogy.

She was able to understand completely with just a hint.

It looked like guiding her to cognizance was a promising idea. He had to push it up the agenda as soon as possible!

Meanwhile, Qiao Mu was feeling vexed.

For some reason, when she heard Mo Lian say that that whoever commandery princess had actually wholeheartedly wanted to get married to him, she felt as if she had swallowed a fly. She felt disgusted all over!

"When is she getting married?"

Wasn't this topic shifting too abruptly? Mo Lian replied while being unable to restrain his smile, "After the queen dowager's birthday feast."

"You can't let her get married right away?" Darling Qiao deadpanned.

Mo Lian let out an uncontrollable chortle. "It is already considered a slapdash wedding for a vassal prince and commandery princess to get married in one month."

Darling Qiao frowned. "Then fine, I wish them a long and happy life together."

Look at how awkward she was acting with her cheeky expression.

Laughing out loud, Mo Lian scooped her up onto his legs. "Qiaoqiao, so you're not happy?"

"I am indeed not happy." Qiao Mu nodded candidly. "I don't like that she likes you."

Mo Lian's eyes shone brightly as he looked down at her. "Darling, do you know why?"

Qiao Mu nodded and replied straightforwardly, "Because you are mine. I prohibit her from liking you."

Oh my, goodness. This answer simply made Crown Prince Mo wild with joy...

"What should I do, darling. You mesmerize me to death."

This guy had drawn up to her so closely that she could see the light flitting through his beautiful eyes. Sure enough, his handsomeness made her heart flustered.

Qiao Mu coughed dryly and chided herself for being a failure, while her large eyes glanced around skittishly in embarrassment.

"Do you know Qiaoqiao." Mo Lian cupped her petite face and turned it back to him. He then looked straight at her as he asserted seriously, "My like for you cannot be described in words."

Qiao Mu contemplated before responding with a nod, "Me too."

Crown Prince Mo restrained his smile as he continued seriously, "You cannot begin to imagine the depth of my love for you."

Darling Qiao tilted her head and contemplated again before nodding subsequently. "Me too."

Look, this little fellow was too interesting! She was just someone who didn't commit herself until success was certain.

You had to make a big stride first before she would follow suit with a small step. Some day, her small steps would catch up to him, and they would walk abreast.

Crown Prince Mo once again praised himself in his heart. Thank goodness, how was he just so brilliant and wise back then. He admired his quick wit very much.

Qiao Mu reached out to knead his face. "I just don't get it. Since the fourth princess had already been given a clear rejection, then why can't she just switch to another path. Must she bash her head against Eldest Qin, this iron tree?"

“Not everyone is as resolute as you.” Crown Prince Mo’s heart throbbed, and he hugged her tightly while stroking her hair.

You say she didn’t understand love, yet sometimes she was so perspicacious about it.

Mo Lian bent down to kiss her cheek. “Qiaoqiao, let me ask you something. The small illustrated booklet I found in your trunk yesterday, was it for you to learn... mfhm, mhfp! Hmfph?”

Mo Lian’s phoenix eyes opened wide as he aimed a perfectly guileless look toward Qiao Mu, who was covering his mouth.

He watched as the little fellow spat in annoyance before she immediately hopped off his thigh and ran outside with a reddened face...