

## **NPC Become 411**

### Chapter 411: God's Gaze (2)

However, he did not give up. Instead, he changed his method.

“Wait a minute, tell me first, how much does your astrology cost? Don't raise the price on the spot!”

Seeing that he could not stop Vivian, Zhao Jie began to ask the astrologer girl about the price in a threatening tone.

From Uncle Guili's tone, it was as if he was saying, “I've seen through all your tricks. This time, we're in the wrong and admit defeat, but you can't be too ruthless!”

However, his words triggered a huge reaction from the astrologer girl opposite him.

“What? Raising the price on the spot? Astrology was such a great skill, but money was...This kind of thing was comparable! Since I took the initiative to bring it up, of course I won't take a single cent!”

“You said it yourself. You said you would divine for us for free! “Zhao Jie was stunned, but he quickly confirmed it.

“Of course, we're about to start the div. Those who have nothing to do with it, leave quickly! I don't want to be disturbed by outsiders!”

The astrologer girl's words were meant for Zhao Jie and the other passengers on the deck who were watching curiously.

Miss Vivian, if there's anything, remember to look for me. Also, I'd like to treat you to a meal when I have time, Vivian...” It could be said that the tables had turned.

The first two times, it was Zhao Jie who brought the little girl away from the "liar" astrologer girl. This time, Zhao Jie's shouts became softer and softer, while the astrologer girl brought Vivian to a quiet place on the deck.

'I really don't know why I came to such a place. As an Astrologer, I should be limiting my material desires. With the money to buy this ship ticket, I wonder how many new astrological instruments I can buy!

After getting away from the noisy crowd, the female Astrologer let out a long sigh and muttered to herself with a hint of complaint.

"Eh?" Vivian was a little confused.

"Ah, I'm sorry! The situation is like this, I actually... Uh, how should I put it? It seemed like she had lost her memory."

"Lost... Did you lose your memory?"

The astrologer girl nodded awkwardly in response to the little girl's surprise.

"Yes, when I woke up, I found myself on this ship. Other than remembering that people used to call me Maggie and that I was an astrologer, I can't remember anything else.

The girl named Mei Ji sighed sadly.

But soon, her expression changed and she hurriedly waved her hand.

"But... Uh, Miss, what is your name?"

"Vivian."

“But don’t worry, Miss Vivian! I haven’t forgotten anything about astrology. He’s definitely a top-notch astrologer in this world! I guarantee that the fate reflected by my Aqua Divination is absolutely true and reliable! The female Astrologer patted her chest with extreme confidence.

“Yes, yes, I believe you, Miss Mei Ji.

“Then... Let’s begin the process now!”

Under the watchful eyes of Vivian and the wolf cubs, Maggie took out a compass from nowhere as if she was performing a magic trick.

This compass was very different from ordinary ones. First of all, its surface was like seawater, flowing slowly. Under careful sensing, one could even find water elemental energy hidden within.

After Maggie made some preparations, she suppressed her excitement and explained to Vivian,”

‘ Miss Vivian, in astrology, we generally believe that everyone’s fate is linked to the constellation in the night sky. By divining a person’s constellation, we can pry into his future fate. ’

However, it’s very difficult to look directly at a mysterious thing like fate, and it’s also very dangerous. Therefore, my water divination is one of the branches of astrology. I rely on the surface of the water to simulate the sea of stars in the sky, and the corresponding constellation of the divination person will be reflected on my water.

” To put it simply, it’s like we can’t look at fate directly, but if we use a mirror to reflect our fate, we can safely spy on it!

Mei Ji’s last sentence made the little girl completely understand.

However, Mei Ji did not finish her explanation.

This time, even the wolf cub in Vivian's arms could not help but perk up its ears and focus.

That was because...

' And Miss Vivian, the reason why I ran to you so excitedly and wanted to help you with your divination was because I could feel that you...'

Mei Ji paused for a second or two before the astrologer girl said seriously, "You are being watched by the gods!"

"I'm being...The gods are watching?" Vivian's tone was full of confusion.

"That's right, because Miss Vivian's astrology is much stronger than everyone else's. The only reason why this is happening is because our Water God has

taken a fancy to you!

' The people of the Thousand Islands often say that when a high and mighty god cast his gaze on mortals, it usually represents the god's approval of mortals. Such people will have a smooth journey and advance triumphantly, becoming powerful figures without exception. '

Mei Ji nodded and explained. However, she hesitated for a moment before adding another sentence.

"Of course, there is also a very small chance that you are not chosen by the Water God, but by... Water God stares at the top, looks at you as an abnormal object to clear, hey, your expression, don't be so nervous, I'm just saying it!

Although I don't have a good feeling about the Water God, he is still one of the nine gods, especially the Water God who believes in the concept of 'fate'. No matter how sinful you are, as long as your death hasn't arrived, the Water God won't care about you. If your death has arrived, then you will be killed by fate even without the Water God.

“Unless...You changed your fate, so the Water God will see you as an anomaly.

But how is this possible? Sigh...”

As Mei Ji spoke, not only her tone, but even her expression dimmed a little.

“Yes... Was that so? But Miss Mei Ji, you just said that you don’t like Water God?

But I heard that the Water God is the ancestor of all astrologers.”

Vivian breathed a sigh of relief and curiously asked the girl’s first sentence.

On the other side, Mei Ji nodded.

“That’s right, because what I pursue is different from most astrologers and the Water God.

” As I mentioned just now, the Water God sees fate as something that has been set and cannot be changed. For example, Miss Vivian, you will understand.”

He clearly had a chance to bring the future sinner back to the right track, but he gave up on it because the other party’s fate was that of a sinner, so he should have walked the path of a sinner. He clearly had a chance to save the death of a respected person, but he ignored it because his fate was to die at this time.”

” According to the Water God’s philosophy, fate is a label for each person’s trajectory. Everyone is a gear on a machine. Only when every gear moves according to a predetermined trajectory can the entire huge machine not make any mistakes.

Vivian listened carefully to Maggie’s words. She came from the Flame Field, and the philosophy that their Fire God pursued was... Uh.

It was this novelty that made Vivian seriously understand the gods in foreign countries.

Opposite him.

Mei Ji puffed out her chest and looked up at the starry sky.

Now that she was done talking about Water God, it was her turn. The young Astrologer clenched her fists and said to the little girl in a determined voice, ”

‘ What I pursue is not only to reveal fate, but also to be like the great astrologer in the legend of the Astorokis.

“I want...”

“Change Fate!”

Under the contrast of the atmosphere, on one side was the high and mighty Water God, and on the other side was the little Astrologer who only knew his name and had lost his memory. However, he could have such lofty aspirations. It was like a challenge to the gods. Vivian could not help but admire him. Even the wolf cub in her arms was very excited. It seemed that she had found the right person!

Unfortunately, all of this disappeared in the blink of an eye.

Because this was an old habit of Mei Ji, she only added the key points at the end.

It was...

“Uh... Although I don’t think I’ve ever succeeded, hmm...”

The astrologer girl scratched her head..

## Chapter 412: Star Paths, Past Past Past and Present

“First of all, Miss Vivian, please put your hand on it. ”

After explaining the basic principles and some things related to astrology, Vivian officially began divination under Maggie’s guidance.

The little girl put her hand on Merji’s compass, and the flowing water on the compass seemed to have sensed something and drowned Vivian’s hand.

“Let me see, um... This, this...Eh? It was a little strange...Let me see...”

Mei Ji began to mumble as if she had fallen into a very focused state. She would sometimes frown, sometimes nod, and sometimes rest her chin on one hand as if she was deep in thought.

From the perspective of Vivian and the wolf cubs, Maggie’s fingers were pointing in the air, as if there was another star compass in the air that they could not see, spinning by the astrologer girl.

This state lasted for a few minutes.

“Hu! Alright, Miss Vivian, please think of something in your mind.

Mei Ji wiped away the sweat on her forehead. From her face, it was obvious that she was much more dispirited than before. It was obvious that she had used up a lot of energy. However, Mei Ji’s eyes were filled with excitement.

On the other side.

“Yes... What do you want?”

Vivian asked in detail. She was worried that it would affect astrology, but Maggie waved her hand and the Starfall pendant on her body made a crisp sound. She said in a relieved tone, "That's right, you can think of anything!"

"Alright..

After confirming it, Vivian closed her eyes. The first thing that came to her mind was the wolf cub jumping into Maggie's arms. It couldn't be helped. If there was no special obsession, the first thing that people would think of would be the recent events.

After Vivian confirmed that what she was thinking was her wolf cub, the astrologer girl's voice rang out at the same time.

"Alright, Miss Vivian, that's enough.

"Eh? So fast?"

Vivian opened her eyes curiously and looked down at the compass. Soon, the curiosity in the little girl's eyes turned into surprise and praise.

"Good, so amazing. It's actually what I thought!

"It's just that..."

"Why are there two of them?"

Unlike Vivian, the wolf cub in his arms did not close its eyes the entire time. Liao Zixuan saw the changes in the compass clearly.

As soon as Vivian closed her eyes, the surface of the compass rippled and quickly condensed into the shape of a wolf.

But soon, just as Maggie told the little girl that it was ready, Vivian opened her eyes. At the last second, a new wolf appeared on the astrological compass and quickly appeared on the surface of the water.

The two wolves on the surface of the compass bit each other's tails, forming a closed circle and becoming the final confirmed pattern.

"Aqua Divination is based on what you think and acts as a medium to calculate your future destiny. Therefore, it's very normal for there to be some differences.

Mei Ji explained as she stretched her head to look at the pattern on the compass.

"This is...Double Wolf?"

"Yes... What a rare constellation."

The astrologer girl sounded surprised and frowned.

"Logically speaking, this is a variant of the Gemini Constellation. However, all the Gemini Constellations should follow the law of one light and one dark, symbolizing the two sides of the person being divined."

"But why...Your two wolves are very bright? Strange, strange, this is already considered a crossing of star trajectories, a phenomenon that is absolutely impossible to happen in astrology. Hiss, could it be that you are being watched by the Water God?"

Suddenly, Mei Ji seemed to have thought of something and asked,

"Miss Vivian, do you have any dead sisters?"

"What? No..." Vivian shook her head.

“I only have one younger brother.”

“The younger brother can’t do it. His gender doesn’t match, so he can’t be considered a twin, let alone a star. “Mei Ji shook her head.

But anyway, Lady Vivian, fate has shown that you may soon meet someone who is very similar to you. It is very likely that this person does not exist in this world, but has appeared temporarily through some kind of magical power.”

“Oh, alright...”

Even though Vivian didn’t quite understand what he meant, she still replied in a low voice.

“Alright, let’s continue reading.”

As the astrologer girl spoke, she fell back into her previous state of immersion.

“Let me see, um...”

“These two wolves are chasing each other. They both want to bite each other’s tails, hmm... This is a hint, Miss Vivian. The person you are about to meet seems to be very unfriendly to you. If you don’t handle it well, it will be...”

“A situation where both sides suffer!”

Vivian and the astrologer girl did not feel anything, but the wolf cub was extremely excited after hearing the first line and the divination result. The fog seemed to have finally been dispelled. Liao Zixuan had a feeling of sudden enlightenment.

If Liao Zixuan could not be completely sure that the “similar person” in the first divination was that guy, then when the second divination came out, Liao Zixuan was completely sure.

The " similar person " here referred to the bandage witch named " Ann " who attacked Vivian in both " cycles "!

On the second night, the memory of his confrontation with Ann flashed through his mind..

Chapter 413: Intertwined Star Paths, Past and Present Life (2)

At that time, Liao Zixuan felt strange and puzzled, but now it seemed to have been explained.

Why did Anne describe Vivian as a witch who used someone else's face to disguise herself?

Why was Anne so hostile towards Vivian?

Why did Ann's sorceress power seem to be useless against him? Why did Vivian suffer the same injuries after he killed Ann and lose her breath?

And why, Ann...Will be called Ann.

No, it should be said that " Ann " was an initialism that deliberately simplified the disguise. The real full name of the bandage witch should be...

Vivian.

That's right, after the astrological girl's interpretation, it confirmed Liao Zixuan's bold and absurd guess that Ann was Vivian!

However, just like what Maggie and the System Notification had described, Ann was someone who should not have existed. She was not a person of this world. Her true identity was very likely...

The Vivian from his previous life!

That was, in the Fallen God world where Liao Zixuan was still a player in his previous life, Vivian, who was not accompanied by the wolf cub, was naturally not there!

If that was the main premise, then all the doubts would be explained.

On the last night before they left Fire Code City, Liao Zixuan clearly remembered that Liz had told him about a dream on the boat at God Splitting Lake. It was a dream about "if there were no wolf cubs".

Back then, Liao Zixuan had only thought of it as listening. He thought that Liz had thought too much and was too afraid, causing her to have a nightmare, so he didn't take it to heart.

But now it seemed like...

Liz's dream was not that simple!

The most direct evidence was that Liz had told him that in the dream world, Vivian, who did not have any wolf cubs, had also embarked on the path of a witch. However, compared to the little girl now, it could be said that one was heaven and the other was earth. It was quite miserable.

In the dream, she was framed as the scapegoat for the murder of the Earl. She was tied to a pillar, drenched in oil, and tortured at the stake. It was because of Elena and the maid who flew into the sea of fire and injected Vivian with the potion that Vivian was truly awakened as a witch.

Bandage Witch, Bandage Witch...

This was the code name that Liao Zixuan had come up with based on Ann's appearance and characteristics.

Now that he knew the most likely truth..

His heart suddenly clenched.

Because if Vivian's original world line really developed according to Liz's dream, the bandages that "Ann" wrapped around her body were likely to cover up the burn marks that were beyond recognition after being burned at the stake!

"Xiao Hei, what's wrong?"

Vivian could feel the little wolf cub trembling in her arms. She lowered her head in concern. Vivian did not expect that the proud little wolf cub would rub against her hand as if it was afraid of losing her.

The little girl's heart warmed. Vivian thought that the wolf cub was worried about her after hearing Maggie's divination. She stroked the wolf cub's head affectionately and comforted him,"

"It's fine, it's fine. We've experienced so much in the Flame Domain. I believe that there's nothing that can stump us!"

"Moreover..."

"We still have a very powerful astrologer helping us!"

After she finished speaking, Vivian turned her trusting gaze to the astrological girl, and after Mei Ji finished listening, her whole body quivered, after being praised, she seemed to be enjoying it, revealing a "give it to me" expression.

The little wolf cub also suppressed his nervousness. Indeed, finding this Astrologer as a breakthrough point was the right choice.

But then...

"Oh... Ah! How could this be? My Water Divination Technique...!!

Meji suddenly exclaimed and looked in the direction of the astrologer girl's gaze. She saw that Vivian's "Double Wolf Constellation" on the compass began to waver, as if the calm water surface that was originally used as a carrier began to have waves, which became more and more violent. Finally, it turned into a turbulent wave, and a wave directly washed away the constellation.

"This...

"Damn it! This is the Water God. It's because the gaze of a god on you is too strong. When I tried to pry deeper, the Water God's authority erased it and prevented me from continuing."

Mei Ji gritted her teeth. From this astro-telling girl, it seemed that there wasn't much worship and respect for the Water God. On the contrary, it was more like she was regarded as a... A strong competitor?

"I'm sorry, Miss Vivian. I really don't have the ability to divine for you again. The previous divination had exhausted my energy. I... I have to go back to my room to rest."

Mei Ji said weakly. After the excitement subsided, a strong sense of fatigue emerged, making the girl look weak.

"It's fine, it's fine. I'll send you back to your room, Miss Mei Ji." Vivian quickly waved her hand at the situation.

The little girl was not greedy since she had just obtained someone else's astrology for free. However, to Vivian's surprise, before Maggie could speak, the wolf cub in her arms reacted very violently.

Vivian only felt that the wolf cub had sent her a very, very strong word. NO!

After the previous two "cycles", Liao Zixuan certainly would not let Vivian leave on her own.

This was especially so when the most critical part of Mei Ji was disconnected, which made Liao Zixuan happy for nothing. At the same time, the dark clouds in his heart became even thicker because he did not expect that there was a shadow of Water God in this..

## Chapter 414: Intertwined Star Paths, Past and Present Life (3)

Liao Zixuan initially thought that they were being watched by the God because they had the mission of the Fire God and belonged to the "relationship" level. It was natural for the Water God to take care of them.

But now, it seemed that, combined with what Mei Ji had said, the concept of "fate" that the Water God pursued, it was very likely that their situation was not so optimistic. In fact...

It really happened. The extremely low probability that Maggie mentioned, the divine gaze on Vivian, was not on her, but...

The Water God regarded it as an "anomaly of fate" and kept a close eye on it!

This also explained the appearance of "Ann". She could materialize the original Vivian from another world line into this world. Such an incredible ability could only be done by the Water God.

In other words...

Liao Zixuan had thought that he would be able to defeat all three of his opponents in the Thousand Islands, and that he would be able to bring his super minions along to defeat his opponents. However, the tables had turned. It turned out that his opponents were the ones who had lost all three of their high grounds. This was not a winning game, but a heaven-sent headwind game!

I'm done. Let's go home!

This was Liao Zixuan's first reaction, but this path was quickly blocked because Luzi said that the Astorokis was not controlled by humans, but by the Heart of the Sea. Once the destination was determined, it could not be changed.

Motherf \* cker!

Liao Zixuan really wanted to curse at the old hag Fire God!

Because he didn't believe that the Fire God wouldn't have expected this. In the end, he still smiled and urged them to go. Wasn't this clearly pushing them into the fire pit?

It was too late to say that now.

Liao Zixuan knew that not only was there no turning back, but they had also fallen into a strange cycle due to the " God's gaze."

However...

Since Water God didn't make a move directly and only cast a glance, it proved that Mei Ji was right. It was precisely because Water God pursued " fate " that he wouldn't interfere casually.

Instead, he used the form of "Ann" to...Test them?

Even though Mei Ji did not give him any hints on how to counter this, since he had already figured out the enemy, it was much easier.

What he was sure of was that he absolutely could not fight or become enemies with her. After all, in the " second time ", he had already verified that harming "

Ann " was equivalent to harming Vivian.

Since that was the case, a new strategy would follow.

Since he couldn't fight...

Then why couldn't he hide?

It was only after Ann ran into Vivian that the night attack was triggered. In other words, as long as Ann did not see the "other her" on the ship, the "night attack" plot would not be triggered.

That was why Liao Xuan immediately stopped her. Vivian went to accompany the astrologer girl back to her room. If they ran into the "An" who was moving the goods, everything would be over again.

The Astorokis only had three days at sea.

This also meant that as long as they could survive these three days, once they got off the ship, they would be considered to have completely passed the test!

Moreover, he had to be careful.

Liao Zixuan suddenly thought of a prop that he had neglected.

Before sending them off, the maid, Elina, had repeatedly reminded them to bring a prop.

[Elena's Diary]

"When you are in danger, it will definitely come in handy."

That was what Elena, the Demoness of Truth, who had the authority to analyze all things, said..

Chapter 415: The Third Heaven

"That's the situation. Miss Luzi, I'm really sorry to have troubled you to co

“That’s the situation. Miss Luzi, I’m really sorry to have troubled you to me r,vpr

In the room, Vivian looked at the woman in the Thousand Islands costume with an embarrassed expression.

The woman shook her head.

No, I should be the one thanking Miss Vivian for being willing to tell me this news in advance so that I could be prepared, but... Are you sure you don’t need me to send someone to deliver food to you every day?”

Lu Zi hesitated for a moment and asked the little girl opposite her again.

A few minutes ago, she received a summons from Vivian. No, to be precise, the wolf cub in Vivian’s arms suddenly found her on the ship.

At that time, the warriors of the Thousand Islands who were following her were shocked. Fortunately, Luzi quickly recognized the identity of the wolf cubs and understood what they meant. She followed them to Vivian’s room.

After that, Roko was very nervous and worried, thinking that something had happened to Vivian. Later, after the little girl in the room explained, Roko was relieved.

Perhaps it was because she had been exposed to a lot of new things or for some other reason, Vivian told her that she would be in seclusion in her room for the next three days to cultivate and comprehend magic. She had called her over just to say hello in advance.

“It’s fine, it’s fine. There’s no need. I’ve brought some rations with me, enough to last me until I get off the ship. In addition, most of the time when I’m comprehending magic, I’m in a meditative state, so I don’t really need to eat.

Vivian waved her hand and declined Lu Zits suggestion.

Seeing that the little girl had said so, Lu Zi could only nod. She asked a few more questions if there were any other instructions and left the room.

Vivian was the only one left.

“Xiao Hei, is this okay?” The little girl turned around and asked the wolf cub on the table.

The wolf cub nodded. Beside his paw was an open diary.

Chirp... Ji!

The little sparrow, Xin Yan, let out a cry of discontent and flew around the room, expressing her depressed mood. It was not easy for her to come out to play and see the sea and such a big ship, but now she was told that she had to stay in this small cabin for the next three days.

Of course, Xinyan was a little unhappy.

She flew to the side of the little wolf cubs on the table and started chattering as if she was questioning why they had to do this.

“Alright, Xinyan. Xiao Hei must have his reasons. Furthermore, the Astrologer we met on the ship did say that I might run into some trouble. I feel that Xiao Hei wants us to be more cautious.

Vivian came to the side of the little sparrow and held the puffy Xinyan in her palm, stroking it a few times.

When Xinyan saw that the little girl had spoken, and that the little wolf cub seemed to be very serious, he became listless. After making a few symbolic chirps, he tactfully quieted down and stopped throwing tantrums.

After repeatedly reminding Vivian not to leave the house, no matter what happened, the wolf cub disappeared from the room. The diary on the table disappeared along with it.

If that was the case...

This time, there shouldn't be any problems with the Grand Primitive.

The little wolf cub guarding the door thought to himself.

After ending the divination with Meji on the deck, Liao Zixuan calculated the time and asked the little girl to stay on the deck for a while. He also went to scout the corridor first to make sure that he would not bump into Ann who was moving the goods like the previous two times. Then, he quickly returned to the room with Vivian.

Liao Zixuan was the one who planned the next scene. After all, he only had the memory of the first day.

Although it was indeed a little unfair to the little girl, it was a matter of life and death. Liao Zixuan had no choice but to do so. Of course, he would always be guarding the door. He even had a "trump card" to use if Ann really came to him for some unknown reason.

Thinking of this, Liao Zixuan confirmed again. In the inventory space, there was an item lying quietly-[Elena's Diary].

Liao Zixuan had two reasons why he didn't take the diary directly to Anne. Firstly, it was too risky. It would be equivalent to exposing their identities. The Anne of his previous life was obviously very different from the current Vivian in terms of personality and experience. She was a real witch. Furthermore, he had indeed been through two cycles because of Anne. Liao Zixuan didn't trust Anne and didn't have a good impression of her.

Secondly, their goal was only to reach the Thousand-island. As long as they could survive the three-day voyage, it would be fine if no one came to find trouble with them. In that case, why did they have to take the risk when there was a safe way now?

In conclusion, Liao Zixuan only used [Elena's Note] as a trump card just in case. If it was really a coincidence of " fate " that Ann would discover them no matter what, then it wouldn't be too late to take it out.

Just like that.

As the hourglass began to turn, the light outside the window dimmed and was shrouded in darkness. The number of people moving in the corridor decreased until it was silent..

Chapter 416: The Third Day

Night fell.

In the dark corridor of the cabin floor, there was a yellowish-brown light every three or four rooms. At this moment, the wolf cub was still squatting in the shadows not far from Vivian's room, just like the second time.

It was time to test the effectiveness of his strategy.

The wolf cub held his breath and focused all his attention on listening to the movements in the corridor.

And this time...

It was not only the time when Zhong An would appear in the "previous two times".

Even though the wolf cubs did not sleep the whole night just to be safe, they did not hear any footsteps in the corridor. There was nothing unusual on Vivian's panel.

It was not until the first ray of sunlight shone through the window outside the cabin, symbolizing the arrival of the " second day," that Liao Zixuan's tense nerves finally relaxed completely.

Whoosh!

Finally...The first day had passed!

Finally...Didn't you hear the words " Miss, do you want to do an words.

The wolf cub heaved a long sigh of relief.

He had not slept for the entire night. Although his bloodshot wolf eyes were filled with fatigue due to his intense concentration, it was more of...Happy face.

As expected, it was exactly as he expected.

The storyline of the two world lines overlapped and was used by the Water God, resulting in the reappearance of fate and the intersection of star trajectories.

The success of the first day gave Liao Zixuan great confidence. As long as he continued to strictly follow the rules and did not let " Ann " notice Vivian's existence, he would be able to survive the next two days!

So, the wolf cubs continued to guard the place, and the little girl in the room obviously had unlimited trust and execution of Liao Zixuan's words. This could be seen from the "second time" experience.

Even though Vivian had suffered the " collateral " damage from Ann and was bleeding profusely, she still stayed in her room until Liao Zixuan rushed back.

This time, it was naturally the same.

The next morning, the passengers on the Astorokis became active again. Many of them got up early in the morning and went to the deck as soon as the sun had just risen. They couldn't wait to enjoy a new day of sailing.

On the other hand, Vivian's door was still tightly shut and showed no signs of opening.

The little wolf cub guarded until noon, and nothing unexpected happened. The only thing worth mentioning was that Zhao Jie's figure had appeared in the little wolf cub's line of sight several times.

This middle-aged merchant who had no choice but to leave his hometown because of his debt kept wandering around the corridor as if he was looking for someone.

Liao Zixuan was sure that the two were looking for Vivian and trying to get close to her.

The little wolf cub did not pay any attention to this, which was within his expectations. After all, in his "second" experience, he had already interrogated Zhao Jie and found out his background. The other party was counting on Vivian to make a windfall and make a comeback. Naturally, he would pay special attention to the little girl.

Unfortunately, the wolf cubs had seen it several times. Zhao Jie passed by Vivian's room. It was obvious that he did not know the room number of the little girl.

Just as Liao Zixuan was hesitating whether he should give Zhao Jie a little "beating" this time, a commotion suddenly came from the third deck.

Many of the passengers who were chatting in the corridor were attracted by the sight. Zhao Jie was one of them.

The wolf cub frowned. He didn't want to see any more accidents happen, because all of these would become variables. After hesitating for a moment, he finally chose not to follow them.

The first option was to guard Vivian's door.

After about ten minutes, the curious passengers who had joined in the fun gradually returned. From their conversation, Liao Zixuan learned that the disturbance on the deck was because someone had fainted.

And this fainted person was a big deal.

To the little wolf cub's surprise, it was actually Maggie, the young Astrologer!

Listening to the passengers' discussion, it seemed that Meggie had fainted from hunger. People dug out her wallet and found that there were only a few pitiful copper coins in it. She could not even afford a glass of water on the Astorokis!

This time, from a mysterious astrologer, he had become a poor man who couldn't even enter a restaurant. Many people saw him as a swindler and felt that he had brought this upon himself. After all, a real astrologer wouldn't be so poor even if he wasn't extremely rich, right?

To Liao Zixuan's surprise, none of the passengers on the Astorokis were willing to help the starving girl. Some even doubted the authenticity of Meiji's ticket and thought that the girl had sneaked onto the ship. They requested to imprison Meiji as a prisoner.

In the end, the person who really helped Mei Ji was actually...

Zhao Jie?

Uncle Guili, who was the first to be hostile to the astrologer girl and insisted that he was a liar, could also be the only passenger on this ship who did not belong to the "rich" category.

He shook his head.

The little wolf cub heaved a sigh of relief. At least Mei Ji was fine in the end. It was a false alarm, and there was no connection between her and "An". Moreover, after this incident, it also indirectly proved that although this middle-aged uncle from Gui Li, Zhao Jie, had the nature of a businessman, he was at least a good person. His heart was not bad.

And so, night fell quietly until the next day.

Other than the incident that happened in the morning, today was also a calm day.

Night came again. This time, the wolf cub's mental state was obviously not as good as the first day. After all, he had not rested for two days. Tonight, he would have to keep an eye on him all night.

After secretly yawning, the wolf cub perked up and guarded the corridor in the dead of night.

There were still no footsteps.

Vivian and his own interface were also very normal.

This time, there was no problem. It seemed that as long as they did not come into contact with Ann, there would not be any trouble.

When the morning sun shone into the cabin on the third day, the sound of activity on the ship was accompanied by the growling of the wolf cubs' stomachs.

Liao Zixuan felt a little thirsty. If someone were to look from the outside, they would find that the brightness of the wolf cub's fur had obviously decreased. It had gone from being energetic to being listless and weak.

The most direct manifestation was that even its tail was like a withered sunflower, casually drooping.

Although he had a strong physique as a Forbidden Demon, don't forget that Liao Zixuan was still in the "growth period". Sleep and rest were still very important.

Or rather, it was fortunate that he had a demonic physique. Otherwise, after such a high intensity for two days and two nights without sleep and concentration, humans might have already become immortals. However, Liao Zixuan only felt a little tired and did not feel any more discomfort.

Then... One more day, and there was only one more day left!

He cheered himself up in his heart and prayed at the same time that he would not cause any more trouble at this critical juncture.

However, the reality still disappointed Liao Zixuan. Or was it fate's teasing?

In the morning, there was a commotion coming from the third floor deck again. This time, it was much louder than the next day.

Originally, the wolf cubs had planned to stay where they were and eavesdrop on the conversations of the passengers to obtain information.

But this time, Liao Zi Xuan really couldn't sit still.

Even the Thousand-island Warriors who were in charge of security on the ship had taken action. Many of the passengers on the ship were not as relaxed as they were yesterday. Many of them even had a hint of fear and panic.

There was only one reason.

On the third day, on the Astorokis...

Someone had gone missing.

The person who reported the case was the astrological girl, Mei Ji.

And the missing person was...

Zhao Jie..

Chapter 417: Then I'll Call You... Little Black!\_I

“After our investigation, we can basically confirm that Mr. Zhao Jie’s disappearance was most likely due to him accidentally falling into the water on the deck last night. We remind all passengers once again that for your safety, please do not walk around on the deck at night.”

Soon, the crew members of the Astorokis issued an official notice, indicating that it was just an accident, which slightly calmed the nervous passengers.

Most of them were just alarmed. It wasn’t as if there were any dangerous people on the ship. There were also some people who were discussing animatedly, pointing their fingers at Mei Ji, the astrologer girl, thinking that she was the one who brought bad luck.

After all, Zhao Jie was the only one who had lent Mei Ji a helping hand yesterday. Yet, he had ended up like this today.

The calls to imprison Mei Ji grew louder and louder. The sailors and warriors in charge of public security, under the strong demands of everyone, could only send a notice to the astrologer girl. Before they arrived at the Thousand Islands today, they had to be placed under house arrest and were not allowed to come out.

Mei Ji did not resist at all. Or rather, the astrologer girl was in a daze.

While Mei Ji was being escorted away by the samurai on the ship, the wolf cub heard the trembling voice of the girl.

“Why...I clearly succeeded in changing my fate for the first time, but in the end...

“Could it be...Could it be that fate really should not interfere...” “If I hadn’t suggested to him to go to the warehouse at the bottom yesterday...lf...’

Liao Zixuan could see the pained expression on Mei Ji's face. Combined with what the girl had said, all the clues pointed to Zhao Jie's disappearance. However, the attitude of the samurai on the ship was very abnormal, as if they were deliberately trying to cover something up. They did not even interrogate Mei Ji, who was very suspicious.

In addition... After such a big incident, the wolf cubs looked around, but they did not see the figure of the Astorokis's current largest supervisor, Lu Zi.

Wait a minute.

Liao Zixuan suddenly remembered that in his "second" experience, Zhao had told him that Luzi had imported a large batch of goods while it was docked at Red Plume Harbor. The reason why Zhao Jie wanted to get close to Vivian was to find out what the goods were so that he could buy them and make a lot of money.

Coupled with what Mei Ji had said to herself just now, she suggested that Zhao Jie go to the warehouse at the bottom level...

Could it be that Zhao Jie had really found something in the warehouse last night, which led to his 'disappearance'?

Something was wrong...

After this, the number of passengers on the deck decreased significantly. The wolf cub hesitated for a moment and finally chose not to return to Vivian's room to continue waiting. Instead, he set off for the bottom floor of the

Astorokis.

Today was the third and last day of the voyage. They might reach the Thousand Islands in the afternoon, so there was no night. Therefore, he did not have to worry about triggering the "night attack" plot. Moreover, based on the experience of the previous two days, as long as Vivian did not go out, everything would be fine. His guard was actually a little redundant.

Then, Liao Zixuan decided to take advantage of the last half a day to investigate.

Helplessly, the wolf cubs could only choose another path, to the bottom of the cabin, where the laborers lived.

Creak... Creak...

The old and cracked floor shook and cracked when the wolf cubs stepped on it. It wasn't because the wolf cubs were heavy, but because the wood here was too poor. It was extremely wet and more than half of it had been corroded.

The bottom level of the cabin was originally filled with cargo holds. A small space had been forcefully opened up to store laborers.

Yes, the wolf cub only chose to use the word "loading" to describe it after arriving here.

This was because as long as one had seen this place, they would never say that this was a place where they could "live".

The first was the light. It was extremely dim, and only the faint light coming from the gap in the ceiling prevented the place from being completely enveloped in darkness.

Secondly...

The wolf cub waved his paw in front of his nose. He had only taken a few steps inside when a foul smell surrounded him.

Because it was a cargo hold, there were no windows, let alone ventilation.

Even if it was a normal room, if it wasn't well vented for a few days, the smell would be very strong, not to mention the warehouse at the bottom of the building that was used to store laborers.

After a tiring day, the smell of sweat, the rotten smell of leftover food, and the moldy smell of moss and fungi mixed together to form this kind of smell. It was almost impossible for people to stay. A few breaths would make them dizzy.

Not to mention, there was also the damn feeling of the sea shaking. It seemed that the Astorokis 'Heart of the Sea' power only took care of the top three layers, and the bottom layer was not within its protection range.

No wonder...

Liao Zixuan recalled his "first" experience. Zhao Jie had mentioned this place to them. At that time, it was described as a pigsty, not a place for humans to stay.

From the mental state of the surrounding coolies, it could be seen that most of them were very dispirited. There was no light in their eyes. They were thin and tattered. Only when they were called by the supervising warrior from the first floor did they wake up from their daze and move mechanically..

Chapter 418: Then I'll Call You... Little Black!\_2

Even so, the supervising warriors would use these low-level laborers as sandbags to vent their anger. If they made a slight mistake or made the supervising warrior unhappy, they might starve for an entire day.

He had no choice.

In fact, from the living conditions of the people at the bottom of every country, one could see the degree of governance of the gods in that country. It was obvious that even a ship of such a level as the Astorokis existed in such a dark corner. One could imagine the entire Thousand Islands.

Sigh...

Shaking his head and sighing, the wolf cub also walked to the end of the coolie activity area, which was connected to the cargo hold.

After all, no warrior could stand standing guard in this environment.

Even the sealing method was very perfunctory. They only took a few wooden boards to block the passage and knocked some nails on each of them.

The gap between the wooden planks and the seal was definitely not big enough for a human to pass, but for the little wolf cub, it was not big enough.

It was not difficult.

The little wolf cub bent its hind legs slightly and prepared to jump. However, in the next second, a hand suddenly reached out from behind and stopped the little wolf cub's body that was about to take off. It picked it up halfway.

"You can't go there."

A hoarse female voice sounded.

It wasn't hard to tell that the owner of the voice wasn't very old. It was just that his throat had been injured, which caused the tone to be distorted. The wolf cubs had only heard this unique sound from one person on the ship.

He suddenly turned around.

What appeared in the little wolf cub's line of sight was a face covered in bandages. The only eye that was revealed to the little wolf cub was...

Care?

Because of this, when the wolf cub sensed that someone was approaching from behind, he immediately restrained himself. His instinctive reaction was to let the other party hug him.

And the eyes that corresponded to this moment...

It was this puppy that she had raised high with both hands. It looked like it had been hungry for countless days. It was listless and had gray fur. However, it did not struggle or resist. It was just like her... Mengmeng looked at each other.

“You want to find food, right?”

Unconsciously, Ann did not even know why, but she hugged this little wolf cub that she had accidentally met.

She poked the wolf cub’s nose with her finger.

“Remember this in the future. There are only sealed wooden boxes there. There won’t be anything to eat. If you get lost in there and can’t get out, you’ll starve to death!

“Also, I don’t know what happened there last night. It seems that there were thieves. In the end, someone came in the middle of the night and specially sealed our place. In short, it’s very dangerous there.”

Ann was seriously disciplining this puppy that was running around.

However, as soon as she finished speaking, she shook her head and wondered what was wrong with her. Why did she say so much? How could a stray dog on a boat understand what she was saying?

Or could it be...

Could it be that he was so lonely that he could not help but talk to a stray dog?

At the thought of this, the light in Ann's eyes dimmed.

However, before she could finish mocking herself, her eyes widened in the next second, and the light shone again. Although her face was bandaged, she could still see that the other party's mouth was wide open.

Because Ann only saw...

The puppy in her arms actually...

He nodded his head like a model!

From the puppy's eyes, Ann could even see a " I know I was wrong, thank you! "His expression?

After a few seconds of shock.

It was as if he had discovered a new continent.

"You... You can understand me?"

Ann's eyes flashed with excitement. She immediately grabbed the

front paws from her arms and raised it up high. She kept looking left and right, filled with excitement and novelty.

The little wolf cubs are all in control.

Liao Zixuan was actually sweating in his heart.

This was...He did not expect this unexpected development at all. However, looking at Ann now, it seemed that she did not smell Vivian's witch scent on him like in the previous two experiences.

Or could it be...

Was it because he hadn't been with the little girl for the past two days and had been standing guard outside the door, so the smell on his body had faded?

However, no matter what.

At this moment, the attitude that Ann showed could be said to have completely subverted Liao Zixuan's inherent image. It belonged to another side.

Looking at this familiar foolishness, this familiar look of surprise when she realized that she could understand human language, it was exactly the same as the little girl back then!

This time, Liao Zixuan did not nod again. Just in case, he continued to pretend to be an ordinary wolf...The puppy was good, at most, it had some intelligence.

Ann looked at the little wolf cub who was looking at her blankly. Her surprise quickly subsided. She felt a little disappointed and relieved.

Now that she thought about it carefully, it was true that if this puppy could really nod and understand human language, then she would have to be vigilant and think more.

But now...

"You must be hungry, hmm... I'll look for it."

After Ann put the wolf cub in her arms, she began to feel around her body with both hands. After feeling around a few times, she finally took out a carefully wrapped cloth bag from a very inner place.

When the little girl opened it, the little wolf cub realized that inside was...

A blackened pancake

It was this kind of black pancake made of unknown materials. A pained look flashed across Kedi's eyes, but she quickly broke the pancake into two halves and handed one of them to the wolf cub.

"Come, eat quickly."

Err...

Liao Zixuan looked at the black pancake in front of him. He had indeed not eaten for three days, and his stomach was growling, but for this kind of food...

Perhaps it could be seen that the wolf cub was subconsciously unwilling and disgusted. Ann's low voice sounded. She pursed her lips and said,

"Sorry, I... This is all I have."

If you're not willing..." Ann said and was about to take back the half black pancake in disappointment. But in the next moment.

I'm going all out!

This should be a great opportunity to get to know "Ann" better. In order to gain more favor, he had to swallow whatever Ann offered!

Hence, the wolf cub directly grabbed the black pancake that had been retracted halfway with its claws and stuffed it into its mouth.

He only heard...

Crack... Crack!

It was hard to imagine what the ingredients of a black pancake were when it could make a cracking sound.

But in short...

The little wolf cub quickly wolfed down the half black pancake that Ann handed over.

However, how could Ann not see it? After all, although the wolf cub ate very quickly, the word “unpalatable” was almost written on its face. Under such a

contrast, Ann could not help but laugh out loud.

This was also the first time Liao Zixuan heard An’s laughter.

It was hoarse, but...For some reason, it sounded very nice.

Soon after.

Ann stroked the wolf cub’s head.

She did not know why, but in the short few minutes that had passed since the first time she had laid eyes on him, Ann had grown to like this stray puppy that she had met by chance.

“Nice to meet you. My name is Vivian. What’s yours?”

“Oh... I forgot that you can speak. Looking at your pitiful appearance, you don’t seem to have an owner. Then I’ll make the decision on my own and give you a name !

At the end of the dark cabin, Ann, who was dressed in tattered clothes, hugged the tired wolf cub who had not slept for three days and two nights. She curled up in a corner and stroked the wolf cub's fur, deep in thought.

'What should I call you?' 'Yes...'

Two to three seconds later.

"I got it!" Ann's happy voice sounded.

"Seeing that you're pitch black, I'll call you.... Little Black is done!"

Chapter 419: Three Wishes, One Curse

Ann felt the puppy in her arms stiffen after hearing the word "Blackie."

"You don't like it?"

An mistakenly thought that she was dissatisfied with the name she had given him.

After all, it sounded too simple.

"Then, then I'll get you another one. How about Xiao Hui? Little Brown?"

Little..."

Ann looked embarrassed and started to jump out names, but she still vividly reflected the "uncultured". She started with "little something something something" and added a single word.

After the wolf cub recovered from the complicated emotions of " Little Black, " he quickly stopped Ann. No matter from which perspective, the name " Little Black " was irreplaceable.

Ann seemed to have the same feeling.

"Yes, yes, I think so too. It's best to call him Little Black! Hey... \* Cough cough \* Cough.

Seeing that the puppy seemed to be very satisfied with its name, a smile appeared on Ann's face again. For some reason, in the short few minutes she had met this stray puppy, she felt inexplicably happy. All the things that had been suppressed in her heart seemed to have temporarily disappeared.

However, although the psychological feelings had disappeared, the physical feelings had not. Instead, it was as if they had to jump out at this time to break the rare warmth and let Ann return to reality.

"Ahem...Cough cough..." Ann's laughter soon turned into a severe cough.

She quickly put the wolf cub in her arms aside and quickly turned her back to cover her mouth with her hand.

When she realized that the wolf cubs were still running over and looking at her with worried eyes, Ann waved her other hand repeatedly to stop the

from coming closer.

After a long while, Ann's cough finally eased up and became less violent.

Through the faint light from the ceiling, the wolf cubs could see that on the ground, the bandages on Ann's hands were stained with a few dark red fluids.

"No... It's fine, I'm already used to it."

Seeing the anxious look on the wolf cub's face, Ann forced a smile. However, it was obvious from its voice that it had become much weaker.

She leaned against the corner of the wall. Then, as if recalling some memories,

Ann muttered to herself in a very soft voice,"

"This is what I should repay and bear...The price..."

Under her simple cuffs, Ann's bandaged hands clenched tightly.

Fragments of memories flashed through her mind. Ann would never forget that it was Liz who sacrificed herself so that she and Elena could escape from the clutches of that organization. It was also Elena who sacrificed herself so that she could be reborn from the ashes.

Unfortunately, only the legendary phoenix could be reborn from the ashes unscathed. She was not a noble phoenix. How could she be?

Bathing in flames had indeed given her great strength, but it had also caused her to lose more. Whether it was the burn scars that could only be covered with bandages, the internal organs that would burn a few times a day, or...

The friendship, life, and future that she had worked so hard to obtain had all turned into ashes. Not only could she not avenge her friend, but she had also become a scapegoat. She had to bear the infamy and leave her hometown for that fleeting opportunity to go to the Thousand Islands to find the Water God.

However, very quickly.

Perhaps it was because she wasn't alone in a dark corner when the burn acted up this time. This time, when she was eroded by the painful memories, there was a wolf cub beside her.

Ann suddenly felt something furry nudge her tightly clenched fist.

Her attention was instantly diverted. She looked down and met the concerned gaze of the little wolf cub. The fluffy touch was naturally the little wolf cub's head.

"Thank you, Xiao Hei." It was such a simple action, but Ann seemed to be instantly healed.

The burning pain in his chest seemed to have eased a lot.

She opened her clenched fist and patted the wolf cub's head again to show that she was fine. Then, Ann stood up from the corner and walked a few steps with the wolf cub to her bed on the floor.

Yes, the floor.

The coolies at the bottom floor of the cabin had beds that were too luxurious for them.

After laying a tattered blanket on the cold floor, which looked like it had been picked up from some garbage dump, this was the place where they would rest and sleep during the voyage.

Ann quickly found a rusted kettle in the small area that belonged to her. After opening the lid, she was about to take a sip, but her movements stopped in mid-air. Ann quickly put the kettle down.

After rummaging left and right, she finally found another broken small bowl. After that, Ann carefully poured out more than half of the pathetically little water in the kettle.

"Come, Blackie, it must have been a long time since you drank water. "

Ann carefully pushed the small bowl of water in front of the wolf cub, afraid that it would spill.

The freshwater that could be seen everywhere on the continent was considered a scarce resource on ships sailing on the sea. It was even more so for the lowly laborers. It was extremely precious.

“What’s wrong? Don’t worry, this isn’t seawater. It’s drinkable. It’s very clean. “Ann saw that the wolf cub didn’t do anything to the water bowl. While explaining, she pushed the water bowl towards the wolf cub..

Chapter 420: Three Wishes, One Curse (2)

But what Ling An did not expect was...

The other party’s little paws had pushed the water bowl back to her again!

Moreover, from the way the wolf cubs stared at her, Ann seemed to be able to understand what they were trying to say.

I’m not thirsty, you drink.

Her heart warmed up. She knew that it had been a long time since she had felt this way ever since she started running. She had never thought that she would feel this way again from a stray dog.

“Alright, then I’ll drink half and you drink half.

After Ann finished speaking, she picked up the small bowl with one hand and skillfully untied the bandage on the lower part of her face with the other.

Only then could the wolf cub truly see An’s face hidden under the bandages.

Although Ann drank the water very quickly, it only took a few seconds, and only her chin and lips were exposed.

However, even though it was only a flash of half of the scene, it still made the wolf cub's heart surge with indescribable... A feeling of blockage.

Liao Zixuan spent almost every day with Vivian. The little girl's appearance was imprinted in his mind.

Therefore, the moment Ann removed the bandage, Liao Zixuan recognized it at a glance. This face belonged to... Vivian's.

However, it was also because of this that the damage that the scene brought to Liao Zixuan was even greater.

That was because the chin that should have been small and delicate, with smooth and fair skin that made people unable to resist pinching it in their hands and properly touching it, was now completely unrecognizable.

The skin was scorched by the flames, exposing the blood vessels. They were like the roots of an old tree, ugly and ferocious.

After some time, most of the wounds had already formed scabs, but it was still a shocking sight. At first glance, it looked very terrifying. No wonder Ann had been wrapped in bandages to cover it up. Otherwise, it would not be too much to be treated as a monster.

“Alright, look, I've already drunk it. You should drink it too!”

Ann's voice pulled the wolf cub back from his complicated emotions.

Looking at the remaining half of the water, although the body instinctively felt parched, the little wolf cub had seen Ann under the bandages, how could he still be in the mood to drink?

“What now? Little Black, since we have agreed on something, we must complete it well. Drink up!” Seeing that the little wolf cub was still staring at the water bowl in a daze, Ann's tone could not help but become more serious.

She couldn't stand it anymore. She grabbed the back of the wolf cub's neck with one hand, then held the water bowl with the other hand and began to force it.

It was obvious that Anne was not Vivian, because the little girl would not do such a thing. Different experiences had caused their personalities to be different.

But perhaps, no matter how much her personality had changed, at least in the current Ann, there was still a high degree of similarity with the little girl, the initial quality of a certain human being.

"Open your mouth, ah..." Ann opened the mouth and poured the water down its throat.

At the same time, it also meant that she had consumed more than half of her water today. Even if her illness relapsed or she did manual labor, she would not have any water to drink. On the other side.

Gulp..

The fresh water flowed down his throat and moistened his dry body, bringing a cool feeling. It was very comfortable. However, the wolf cub's expression was completely opposite to the feeling coming from his body.

That little frown was so deep that it was as if she had written the word "unwilling" on it.

Liao Zixuan began to think.

If he took out all the water and food he had bought from the Flame Field from his inventory and brought them to Ann, how would he explain it?

The answer was that there was no explanation. He couldn't rely on cuteness to pass the test, right?

Although Ann seemed to be very good to him now, it was most likely because of the " karma " buff. In fact, Liao Zixuan could feel that Ann still maintained a vague sense of vigilance.

This wasn't directed at the wolf cubs. It was obvious that Ann's experience had forced her to develop this habit of self-defense that was extremely insecure.

Liao Zixuan was afraid that once he did something beyond the non-threatening identity of a "stray dog," Ann's attitude towards him would instantly change.

At that time, not to mention being so close...

In the first two experiences in the middle of the country, Ann had decisively killed people without hesitation, which left a deep impression on Liao Zixuan.

so...

Why did she always put others first and not care about herself? Damn it!!

Liao Zixuan was still angry. He poked the wolf cub's nose with Ann's finger.

At the same time.

An inexplicably familiar snort sounded, followed by Ann's dissatisfied grumbles.

"Hmph, what do you mean? Little Black, I didn't even despise you, but you actually despise me! Isn't it just drinking the rest of my water? Is there a need to show such an unwilling expression? Seriously, don't look at me like this, but I-I'm actually very clean..."

This was...

The main point was completely wrong!

Such relaxing and happy time was very expensive and short for Ann. The residual energy from her illness just now surged up. She returned to the corner and wrapped herself in the blanket.

“Xiao Hei, I’m a little sleepy. I’ll sleep for a while. You... Remember not to run around, especially not to go to the place where you started, Imow... Do you understand?”

Ann’s upper and lower eyelids were already fighting, but she still endured the fatigue and reminded the wolf cub. After seeing the wolf cub nod, she closed her eyes with relief..