

## Secret Love 2221

### Chapter 2221 This subordinate admires you

Logically speaking, this shouldn't be related to Yi Shuihan.

It was just that...

Ye Wanwan couldn't be certain since the black-robed man's martial technique did hold some resemblance to Yi Shuihan.

"However, it probably isn't Piece of Sh\*t. After all, Piece of Sh\*t only holds a grudge against the ancient clans!" Big Dipper said after a moment of silence.

"Not necessarily." Seven Star shook his head. "Piece of Sh\*t is Young Master's teacher. So it would make sense if the black-robed man didn't kill you guys because of that relationship."

Silence draped over everyone in the room.

On the surface, Piece of Sh\*t only hated the collateral ancient clans, but behind the scenes, no one knew the true story.

Ye Wanwan sat in her office chair, pensive.

Indeed, Yi Shuihan's biggest target should be those Collateral Branch ancient clans.

However, many years had passed, yet Yi Shuihan still hadn't eradicated those ancient clans.

Regardless of how strong Yi Shuihan was, he was merely one person and those collateral ancient clans possessed an abundance of experts and immense power, so it wasn't realistic for Yi Shuihan to eradicate every ancient clan by himself...

If Yi Shuihan learned about the Rose of Death's secret and knew about the ring in her possession, which represented the supreme power in the Rose of Death... then would Yi Shuihan want to obtain that ring, become the new leader of the Rose of Death and use the Rose of Death's power to annihilate every ancient clan in the Independent State in one move?

Of course, all of this was mere conjecture. Ye Wanwan couldn't determine whether the black-robed person and Yi Shuihan were connected and the same person or not yet.

"Regardless of who it is, don't publicize this matter for now."

Ye Wanwan looked at the people in her office as she made the order.

"Sis Feng, of course we can't publicize it! The mighty President of the Fearless Alliance was crushed by an unknown man in black. If news of this got out, where would I put my pride... I mean, where would the Fearless Alliance put its pride? And how would we stand tall in the Independent State from now on? It's too humiliating!" Big Dipper said.

Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper. What can you expect from a hog but a grunt?

Prohibiting them from spreading it had nothing to do with being humiliated.

If other people learned about such a formidable expert guarding the Direct Line, their morale would definitely be affected. What would those groups who had joined the Collateral Branch already think?

Moreover, an expert from the Direct Line sought out President Fearless in the Fearless Alliance simply to steal something. What did he steal? Did he steal it? A lot of speculation would brew, which would damage the Collateral Branch.

Hence, this type of information absolutely couldn't spread and sealing off any leaks of the information was the best strategy.

"I understand your meaning, President. Everyone present today, lock down the information and don't let it get out." First Elder immediately understood Ye Wanwan's thoughts at a glance.

"Haha, I have to say that the President might be young but she's careful and meticulous. This subordinate truly admires you! Truly, truly admirable!" Third Elder immediately exclaimed.

Ye Wanwan turned to Third Elder. "I believe First Elder knows what I mean... but are you certain you also know, Third Elder?"

"Of course this subordinate knows. How can I not know what First Elder knows?!" Third Elder hastily replied.

"Then... what did I mean?" Ye Wanwan asked.

Third Elder: "..."

### **Chapter 2222 Video tape**

Third Elder looked at Ye Wanwan with a somewhat embarrassed expression. "It's actually like this, President... What the President means isn't important; what's important is that the President is wise and gallant and thoughtful and meticulous..."

Ye Wanwan sighed. This was still truly the Fearless Alliance. Nothing had changed despite the transfer to the Rose of Death.

"How long will it be until the Direct Line and the Collateral Branch start fighting?"

Ye Wanwan asked First Elder a moment later.

"In the next few days probably. These past two days, the Direct Line and the Collateral Branch have been testing each other's waters and had several skirmishes already," First Elder replied.

Ye Wanwan nodded. The Independent State's peaceful days were completely over... However, strictly speaking, the Independent State had never been peaceful.

"President, what are our plans?" First Elder inquired.

Third Elder glanced at First Elder. "Keep wasting time. Lord Asura is a member of the Collateral Branch, so of course we have to support the Collateral Branch. What other plans could we have?"

"Then the President is intending to support the Collateral Branch under the Rose of Death's name?" First Elder asked.

Ye Wanwan nodded. That was indeed her plan.

Before Ye Wanwan could act though, the Nie family suddenly announced their support for the Collateral Branch in their war with the Direct Line.

Following the Nie family's announcement, the Ji family also announced their support for the Collateral Branch.

Amongst the four great clans, only the Shen family and the Ling family hadn't acted yet.

It wasn't hard to understand the Shen family's silence though.

In the Independent State, the Shen family were mainly businessmen, so they didn't wish to get entangled in this war between the Direct Line and the Collateral Branch. If they rashly expressed their support, they'd not only have to provide a large sum of money but would also be greatly impacted if the side they supported was defeated.

As for the Ling family, Ye Wanwan knew little about them. The Ling family did originally intend to support the Collateral Branch, but now that Patriarch and Madam Nie had returned and announced their support for the Collateral Branch, the Ling family didn't seem to want to be in the same camp as the Nie family due to their previous conflicts.

However, two days later, the Shen family and the Ling family both announced their support for the Collateral Branch at the same time.

Three days later:

"Sis Feng, there's someone here from the Martial Arts Union... They say their president is inviting you to meet at their headquarters," Big Dipper reported to Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan wrinkled her brows.

Si Xia hadn't appeared since his escape from the remote island. She didn't expect him to invite her to visit the Martial Arts Union today.

"Sis Feng, you aren't really planning to go, right?" Big Dipper looked at Ye Wanwan. "I bet the Martial Arts Union is up to no good, seeking you out at a time like this!"

"Of course I won't go." Ye Wanwan snorted. "Tell their president if he wants to see me, then he has to come here personally."

"Okay!" Big Dipper nodded and left.

...

Half a day later, Big Dipper entered the office with a videotape in hand.

"Sis Feng, this was sent here by the Martial Arts Union. They said there's something you're interested in on the tape and told you to take a look." Big Dipper placed the videotape on the desk.

Ye Wanwan was startled by Big Dipper's words. A videotape sent by the Martial Arts Union?

"Alright, got it." Ye Wanwan nodded.

After Big Dipper left the office, Ye Wanwan picked up the videotape and carefully examined it. Based on its appearance, this seemed to be a normal videotape without anything special to it.

### **Chapter 2223 Grandpa**

Ye Wanwan quickly placed the videotape in the machine. She would like to see what the heck Si Xia was up to.

...

Ye Wanwan turned pensive as she watched the television. This videotape actually contained copies of surveillance footage, but the video quality was fairly clear.

“It’s me...”

Ye Wanwan frowned as the video played.

The girl who appeared on the TV screen was Worryless Nie from a few years ago.

Several seconds later, a white-haired elderly man appeared.

“Grandpa?!”

Ye Wanwan was astonished. Why did this videotape contain... her and Grandpa?

Judging from the surveillance footage, it was probably the inside of the Martial Arts Union. Going by the time, it was probably surveillance footage from several years ago.

Before Ye Wanwan could regain her wits, the girl in the video and the elderly man erupted into an intense argument. In the end, the dagger in the girl’s hand pierced the elderly man’s chest...

As Ye Wanwan watched the video, she froze in her spot, incredulous.

She... used a dagger... and pierced Grandpa’s chest...

Instantly, Ye Wanwan knelt down and both familiar and strange memories rushed into her mind.

...

In the Martial Arts Union:

The girl pursed her lips as she looked at the strategic elderly man. “Grandpa, when will you let me come and help? All my martial techniques are utterly useless! Don’t you find it a terrible loss?”

The elderly man glanced at the girl. “if my intelligence is correct, you’re the one who built that Fearless Alliance.”

The girl’s expression shifted. “No way... Grandpa, how could I have built it...”

“Hmph, are you saying my intelligence is wrong?” The elderly man was displeased.

“D\*mn Si Xia... He’s the one in charge of the intelligence network. He actually sold me out...” The girl fumed with rage.

“Si Xia had nothing to do with it. Tell me, why did you build some bullsh\*t Fearless Alliance and recruit a bunch of ignorant and incompetent old men to act as elders? What in the world were you thinking?”  
The elderly man frowned at her.

The girl latched onto the elderly man’s arm. “Ah... Grandpa, don’t you think it’s because I’m bored? Anyway, the people I recruited might be ignorant and incompetent and fool around a lot, but at least they’re all truly capable. Moreover, I built a group because of you, Grandpa!”

“Because of me?” The elderly man glanced at the girl. “Tell me, how was it because of me?”

“Grandpa... look, after my faction grows strong, if Grandpa runs into trouble or difficulties one day, I can help you out. Also, didn’t you teach me, Grandpa? The strength of one person isn’t true power. It’s gathering strong people to your side and banding them with you like strands of a rope which represents true power. I’m just acting as Grandpa taught me,” the girl explained cheerfully.

The elderly man exasperatedly looked at the girl. “I probably won’t be able to find another person with a mouth like yours in the entire Independent State. You can turn the dead into the living and have a skin thicker than the Independent State.”

“Grandpa, it’s not news that I’m thick-skinned. Don’t tell me you just found out,” the girl retorted.

The elderly man shook his head and didn’t say anything else.

...

The scene changed.

In some command room, the elderly man was sitting in the center while Si Xia was sitting in the assistant position.

“Woriless, I have a task for you.”

The elderly man spoke while looking at the girl.

### **Chapter 2224 Recalling the pas**

The girl glanced at the nearby Si Xia. “Grandpa, I’m not the right one to ask. You should ask the one sitting next to you. You give every good thing to him—is he your real grandson?”

“Sister, what you’re saying is wrong.” Si Xia looked at Ye Wanwan. “I’m Grandpa’s deputy, so that’s not much different from a real grandson.”

“Blah, you shameless thing! Were you the one who told Grandpa I built the Fearless Alliance last time?”  
The girl fiercely glared at Si Xia.

“We might be sister and brother, but work is work, and there needs to be a line between public and private matters. Grandpa told me to investigate it, so what could I have done? Don’t blame me if you want someone to blame. Blame Grandpa,” Si Xia replied placidly.

The girl’s expression changed at once and she pointed at Si Xia. “Good lad, your wings are fully grown now, huh... Alright, just wait! If I don’t skin a layer from you, I’m your younger sister, and you’re my elder brother!”

"I was wrong," Si Xia immediately replied.

"Quiet." The elderly man swept his eyes over the girl and Si Xia.

The girl and boy instantly turned silent.

"Asura is brazen and audacious and is publicly resisting the Martial Arts Union. I need the Fearless Alliance to act as a spearhead and recruit more factions," the elderly man said to Ye Wanwan.

"Asura?" The girl was startled. "That's one of the three core factions of Prison, right?"

"Mn, that's right. That's what my intelligence says." Si Xia nodded.

"Grandpa... Si Xia's martial arts skills are good, so how about I pull some elites from the Fearless Alliance and have him lead the team? Si Xia is part of the intelligence department anyway, so he rarely shows his face and not many people in the Independent State know him," Ye Wanwan suggested.

"No." Si Xia nodded without any hesitation.

"No? What? You've learned how to resist now? I, your sister, want you to do something, and you can't. What use are you?" Ye Wanwan yelled while pointing at Si Xia.

"Sister, that's not what I meant," Si Xia exasperatedly replied. "Actually... the leader of Asura is my ninth uncle... Although we haven't met many times and don't have much affection between us, he's still my uncle, so I won't participate in the war between the Martial Arts Union and Asura."

"Your uncle?"

The girl was stunned. "D\*mn, that's too explosive..."

"Worriless, what did Grandpa teach you? Look at you! Do you resemble a girl at all? You say d\*mn every other word. Where's your propriety?" The elderly man looked at the girl with displeasure.

"What about it? It's not like you've raised me like a girl since I was young, Grandpa," the girl rebutted.

"You..." The elderly man wanted to say something but ended up forcibly stifling it.

"Alright, Grandpa, don't be angry... I'll lead the team alright. It's just Asura—I'll annihilate them for you, Grandpa!" The girl's lips curled up into a bone-chilling smile.

"No, you can't underestimate Asura's power. Out of concern for your safety, you can't lead the team. You just need to find a capable person to lead the team," the elderly man refuted.

"Grandpa, no way! Everyone inside the Fearless Alliance is like my brother. Whether they're old or young, male or female, dumb or clever... I treat them all the same, alright? You're only worried about my safety, but my brothers' lives are also lives," the girl said.

"Brothers or not, I don't care. I don't care about whether other people live or die, but you have to restrain yourself. Your life is most precious. And it's improper for a girl like you to keep hanging out with those people and calling them brothers! How will you get married in the future?!" the elderly man reprimanded her angrily.

**Chapter 2225 Am I your real granddaughter?**

At the mention of getting married, the girl was immediately riled. "Grandpa, I absolutely won't get married in my life!"

"What are you saying?!" the elderly man shot up from his seat.

At the sight of the elderly man's fury, the girl cowered instantly. She looked at her grandpa and grinned. "Grandpa... I won't get married... but I'll marry someone, alright? I'll marry someone who's both handsome and filial. I guarantee you'll be satisfied!"

"Sister... if you keep acting like this, I think it'll be hard for you to find someone." Si Xia shook his head.

"Come here, say that again." The girl sneered as she pressed down on Si Xia's shoulder.

"Sister, I'm just telling the truth. With your good looks, there aren't many people in the Independent State who are worthy of you. Is there a problem with that? It really will be hard for you to find someone," Si Xia expressionlessly said.

"Lad, you're clever. Or else I would've beaten you to death already." The girl snorted.

Upon seeing the elderly man about to say something again, the girl continued, "Grandpa, don't rush it, alright? I have someone I like already, you know that... I won't marry anyone but him in my life!"

"Oh?" The elderly man was interested instantly, as though the girl's romantic affairs were more important than the battle with Asura.

"Tell me about it, whose child is it?" the elderly man asked the girl with a smile.

Si Xia answered before the girl could: "Grandpa, it's Emperor Ji."

"Who told you to answer? Don't I have a mouth? Can't I answer?" The girl fiercely glared at Si Xia.

"Sorry, it's a habit..." Si Xia replied.

"Ji Xiuran, is it?" The elderly man was pensive.

"Grandpa, of course it's Ji Xiuran. Who else in the Independent State but Ji Xiuran could catch my eye?" the girl asked.

"Um... Ji Xiuran... would take a liking to you?" The elderly man looked doubtful.

The girl: "..."

Si Xia: "..."

"Grandpa, can I confirm something?" The girl looked at the elderly man.

"Confirm what?" The elderly man was puzzled.

"Am I your real granddaughter? You didn't pick me up from a garbage can, right?" Displeasure was written all over the girl's face. "What do you mean 'would Ji Xiuran take a liking to me'... Why wouldn't he take a liking to me? I'm a daughter of the Nie family, the real granddaughter of the Martial Arts Union's president, and also the President of the Fearless Alliance! Would my identity be a loss to Ji Xiuran, huh?!"

“Grandpa, Sister won’t have a hard time getting married, so don’t be so worried. It’s a generational gap thing.” Si Xia spoke up.

Half a year later, the conflict between the Martial Arts Union and Asura completely erupted, and the Fearless Alliance was at the forefront, launching a ferocious attack on Asura.

Following the addition of the Fearless Alliance, many different factions joined as well, wanting to take a share of the loot.

Ye Wanwan didn’t recognize the memories after that.

...

The scene changed again.

Inside the command room, the girl looked at the elderly man, her fists tightly clenched. “Grandpa... how can you be like this? No, you absolutely can’t!”

The elderly man glanced at the girl. “Don’t interfere in this matter.”

“Grandpa... Aren’t we blessed right now? Why do you want to start a war?” The girl couldn’t understand anything as she looked at the elderly man.

“Hmph, I told you, it’s not your business!” the elderly man shouted.

“But... Grandpa, the Nie family has my parents and my brother...” The girl shook her head.

“Grandpa naturally has plans for your brother. He’s your brother but also my grandson. Do you think Grandpa would harm him?” the elderly man asked apathetically.

“Even if you won’t harm Brother... Grandpa, what about... my parents?” the girl pressed.

### **Chapter 2226 The zenith of power**

“How many times have I told you? They aren’t your parents! They aren’t worthy!” The elderly man shouted harshly, “Why do you care for disloyal and dishonest people like them?!”

“Grandpa, I know what happened between you and Dad and Mom, and they were in the wrong, but so many years have passed. I believe they also want to sincerely apologize to you... Grandpa, let’s go home, alright? Let’s go to the Nie residence and reunite with Dad, Mom, and Brother... If we’ve lost even our home, what point is there for you to dominate the entire Independent State?!” The girl looked distressed.

She didn’t know why her grandpa would have this kind of ambition and why he wasn’t satisfied by his position as the President of the Martial Arts Union. He actually wanted to dominate and rule over the entire Independent State...

The Martial Arts Union’s power was above the four great clans and was merely beneath the collateral ancient clans. Wasn’t this enough?

“Grandpa, what’s so good about dominating the Independent State? The zenith of power... will make people lose their reason...” the girl advised earnestly.



“Domination...” The elderly man’s eyes sparkled with an indescribable light.

The elderly man turned to the girl. “Worriless, do you know what the zenith of power is...? It’s freedom.”

“Grandpa, aren’t we free right now? We can do whatever we want, so why must we reach the zenith of power?” The girl couldn’t understand.

“Freedom isn’t doing whatever you want.” The elderly man shook his head. “True freedom isn’t doing whatever you don’t want to do.”

“Grandpa, you’re speaking too profoundly. I don’t understand,” the girl responded. “Even so, why do we need so many sacrifices? Why does it have to be the four great clans? Moreover, if you really did this, Grandpa, the Arbitration Council absolutely wouldn’t let you go...”

“The Arbitration Council?” The elderly man mockingly chuckled. “Every state in the Twelve Independent States is under the Arbitration Council’s governance, but what have they contributed to the Twelve Independent States? Why do they get the say in every state’s rules and systems?”

“Um...” The girl was at a loss for words.

“Worriless, remember, aside from dominating the entire Independent State, Grandpa also wants to completely lockdown the Independent State and seclude it from the world so that the Arbitration Council can’t interfere with anything in our Independent State anymore,” the elderly man calmly said.

The girl didn’t object to this.

If Grandpa really started implementing his plan, he’d definitely succeed.

He had purchased a lot of weapons and explosives from the outside world, so the Arbitration Council would be at the end of their tether even if they wanted to interfere at that time.

“Anyway, Ji Xiuran, that b\*stard abandoned you too, so I’ll bomb the Ji family too! I’ll turn the four great clans into ash!” The elderly man’s eyes shimmered coldly.

“No... Grandpa, you absolutely can’t!” The girl looked resolute.

“Hmph, why can’t I? If that b\*stard comes here right now and kowtows and apologizes to you, I might consider sparing his life. Is my granddaughter a person other people can bully however they want?!” the elderly man yelled.

“Grandpa, you purchased a lot of explosives saying you wanted to annihilate the four great clans, but in truth, you wanted to intimidate people... The ancient clans have the advantage in numbers and are divided into the Direct Line and the Collateral Branch. Grandpa, you want to use the destruction of the four great clans to intimidate the Direct Line and the Collateral Branch and make them submit to you...” The girl’s voice wavered as she spoke.

“Worriless, you’re right.” The elderly man didn’t deny it and nodded. “The Direct Line and the Collateral Branch are considered the strongest fighting forces in the Independent State. As long as they submit to Grandpa, help Grandpa resist the Arbitration Council and we use Grandpa’s supply of weapons, we can lock the Arbitration Council out and keep the entire Independent State under lockdown. From then on, Grandpa will determine every rule in the Independent State.”

## Chapter 2227 Bomb me along with?

“Grandpa, is what you’re saying all there is?” the girl inquired.

Grandpa’s ambitions were truly too great. He absolutely wouldn’t be doing all this just to take over the Independent State.

The elderly man sank into silence. A while later, he finally responded, “Worriless, Grandpa’s objective wasn’t just the Independent State naturally...”

“Just what in the world are you trying to do, Grandpa?” The girl realized that the grandpa in front of her had suddenly turned into a stranger.

“I want to rule over the Twelve Independent States and drive out or destroy the Arbitration Council,” the elderly man answered.

“I understand.” Ye Wanwan nodded. “Grandpa... You want... to turn the Twelve Independent States into one country... Grandpa, you... you want to become the emperor!”

“Is that bad?” the elderly man asked. “Since ancient times, the Son of Heaven has been venerated. Grandpa’s old, so how many more years can I live? It will all belong to you in the future.”

“Grandpa, I don’t want it... I’m not interested! My biggest wish is for our family to live safely and harmoniously together. Domination, Son of Heaven, Emperor—I’m not interested in any of that!” The girl frantically shook her head. “Grandpa, stop this mistake!”

“Mistake?” The elderly man frowned deeply. “Are you saying Grandpa has made a mistake?”

“That’s right!” the girl firmly insisted.

“Then tell me—what mistake did Grandpa make?” The elderly man looked at the girl. “An achiever doesn’t bother with trifles. Since ancient times, countless achievers stepped across piles of skeletons to ascend to the peak. Did they all make a mistake?”

Before the girl had a chance to respond, the elderly man continued, “If Grandpa governed the Twelve Independent States, things would only improve.”

The girl wanted to say something but couldn’t find a good rebuttal.

The girl didn’t think the Twelve Independent States would decline under Grandpa’s governance, considering his abilities. The girl also believed it would only improve if Grandpa governed it.

But...

The price for it was too great...

And the people who would be sacrificed included her family.

“These past few years, the Arbitration Council held iron control over the Twelve Independent States and ruled over it without dissent. They can’t provide the freedom that Grandpa wants, so Grandpa has to take it himself. Your parents are disloyal and dishonest and don’t deserve to be people. They’ve never taken care of you since you were young, and it was Grandpa who raised you, grain by grain. Now, you

want to turn your back on Grandpa for those parents who never cared about you?" The elderly man's brows furrowed deeply.

"Grandpa... I know you haven't done anything wrong..." The girl stared at the elderly man. "From your viewpoint and position, you have your reasons and there aren't any issues with destroying the four great clans... But from my position, I'm not wrong either. Regardless of whether they've cared for me and regardless of whether I hold affections toward them, they are my parents after all, and I'm just a normal person. I don't have Grandpa's great ambitions and lofty aspirations. I will return to the Nie residence now. If Grandpa wants to bomb it, then you will have to bomb me along with it."

After saying that, the girl turned to leave.

"Stop right there!"

The elderly man blocked her path immediately. "Why do you have to make Grandpa worry?! You're my granddaughter. Grandpa wouldn't harm you even if it meant I died, don't you understand?!"

"But... what about my parents...? They're also Grandpa's children," the girl said.

"Shut up!" The elderly man's face filled with rage. "They don't deserve to live!"

### **Chapter 2228 Can't give it to you**

The girl looked at the elderly man in incomprehension. Even if Grandpa didn't care about Father's life, what about Mother...? She was his real daughter...

"Worried, I never told you this, but do you know what your parents did?" The elderly man looked at the girl a moment later as he tried to calm down.

The girl shook her head.

She always thought this hostility originated from Grandpa disagreeing with Mother and Father's marriage.

"You should know that I managed the Nie family single-handedly, right?" the elderly man asked.

"I do."

"Back then, the Nie family declined, and I used everything I had to drag the Nie family out of the mud. At that time, the Ling family caused all sorts of trouble for the Nie family. Since the previous generation, the Nie family and the Ling family have been enemies and your grandma was killed by someone from the Ling family during one of our battles..." the elderly man explained calmly.

The girl was clearly startled. She really didn't know about this incident.

"After your parents got married, your mother actually handed the position of the Nie family head to your father... and the two of them teamed up to kick me out of the Nie family... What right do disloyal, unfilial, and corrupt people like them have to be worthy of being my children and your parents? Tell me." The elderly man looked at her.

The girl was silent. She hadn't known about these past events.

However, no matter what, Father's surname was Nie now. Even if her parents got married, it didn't mean the Nie family had fallen into the hands of the Ling family, especially since Father had severed his ties with the Ling family.

Before Ye Wanwan could continue, the elderly man seriously said, "Give your ring to me."

"The ring..."

The girl frowned deeply.

The ring she had represented the most supreme leadership in the Rose of Death... It absolutely couldn't fall into Grandpa's hands.

"Grandpa... I can't give this ring to you..." The girl shook her head.

Once this ring ended up in Grandpa's hands, the consequences would be inconceivable.

"Worriless, if you don't want to die, then hand the ring over to me." The elderly man marched toward the girl.

"I can't... Aunt gave this ring to me. Aunt said no one else can get a hold of this ring..." The girl gritted her teeth and moved back.

"I told you to give it to me!"

The elderly man was enraged and made to grab her.

The girl swiftly evaded him.

"I heard you went under the tutelage of a master on the outside. Your martial arts skills have indeed improved rapidly these past two years." The elderly man pensively surveyed the girl.

"Grandpa... Don't force me. I really can't give this ring to you!" the girl cried.

If she allowed Grandpa to have this ring, it wouldn't only be a disaster for the Independent State; all Twelve of the Independent States would be implicated... She absolutely couldn't give this ring to Grandpa.

"Worriless, are you bent on opposing Grandpa?" the elderly man asked.

"Grandpa, I'm not opposing you..." The girl shook her head.

"Nice, Worriless has grown up." The elderly man suddenly tossed a dagger to her. "If you can defeat Grandpa, then Grandpa will listen to you."

"Are you serious?!" The elderly man's words caused the girl's eyes to brighten.

She frequently sparred with Grandpa. Although she had never won, she had to fight even if she only had only one-thousandth of a chance.

She couldn't allow Grandpa to keep sinking into the pit and continue his mistake!

**Chapter 2229 The truth behind domination**

“Of course,” the elderly man replied. “Correspondingly, if you lose, you have to hand over that ring which represents the supreme power in the Rose of Death to me.”

The girl was silent for a moment before nodding and finally agreeing.

“Grandpa, be careful!”

The girl turned into a shadow and charged toward the elderly man with the dagger in hand.

However, the girl had just reached the elderly man when he attacked with his shoulder and slammed the girl into the air.

After she stabilized herself, she didn’t retreat and swung her dagger again to attack him.

“How about this—if you can strike me within three blows, it’ll be considered my loss.” The elderly man stood in his spot with his arms behind his back.

“Okay!” The girl agreed, her moves turning swifter and fiercer.

However, the first two moves were all easily broken by the elderly man. She didn’t appear to have any winning chance against Grandpa.

“You have one remaining chance,” the elderly man declared coldly.

The girl gritted her teeth. She was well aware that she had to attack a third time or else... she would lose without a doubt.

In the blink of an eye, the girl pulled off the ring from her finger and wanted to destroy it with the dagger.

“You dare?!”

The elderly man grew furious and struck the girl, putting every bit of strength in his hand.

The elderly man was as fast as a breeze of wind, difficult to locate with the naked eye.

In a fraction of second, the girl reflexively counterattacked with the dagger.

However, the elderly man suddenly stopped his ferocious attack a millisecond before his palm hit the girl...

Under the girl’s incredulous gaze, she couldn’t control the dagger in her hand as she wanted and it penetrated his chest.

Blood trailed down the dagger and dripped onto the ground.

The girl started shaking, her hold around the dagger loosening at once.

At that moment, feather-light and odd-sounding footsteps came from outside the door. Her mind turned blank, and she immediately dashed outside without a clear direction.

...

The scene changed.

At some wild area in the Independent State:

“Worriless Nie... you killed Grandpa...”

Si Xia’s figure was akin to a glacier. “My debt to Grandpa was heavier than a mountain. He raised me to adulthood... and I hadn’t had time to pay him back yet... and you killed him!”

“Grandpa’s dead?!”

The girl’s expression became terrified, and she frantically shook her head. “Impossible... Although I hurt Grandpa with the dagger, it absolutely couldn’t have been fatal with the condition of Grandpa’s body! Also, the dagger didn’t pierce any vital spots, so how could Grandpa be dead?!”

She continued, “Si Xia, did you know Grandpa’s plan? Why didn’t you stop Grandpa?!”

“Worriless Nie, none of this is important anymore.” Si Xia stared at the girl and knelt down in front of her a second later. “Worriless Nie, back then, it was you and Grandpa who saved me, so I also owe you a life.”

As Si Xia spoke, he kowtowed three times to Ye Wanwan. “This time, I won’t make you pay. Consider this as me repaying you with your life... These three kowtows represent the severance of our ties.”

The girl stood in her spot and didn’t say anything.

“Worriless Nie, you’re a traitor. You betrayed Grandpa and me. You could bear to even kill Grandpa, who loves you the most. You aren’t human—you’re a demon. You’re a demon who climbed out from an abyss,” Si Xia declared coldly.

“Bullsh\*t!” the girl screamed angrily.

“Heh...” Si Xia’s lips turned up. “Do you know why Grandpa wanted to dominate the Twelve Independent States and why Grandpa wanted to destroy the Arbitration Council?”

Si Xia continued, not giving the girl a chance to respond: “The Arbitration Council is extremely wary of the Rose of Death, and the Arbitration Council knew the previous Black Widow was a distant relative of the Nie family. Hence, the Arbitration Council laid pressure on Grandpa and made Grandpa eliminate the Black Widow no matter what. Some time ago, Grandpa set up a plot and trapped Black Widow, and she finally died in the Independent State. Originally, this matter would’ve been settled, but you—you accepted that d\*mn ring!”

### **Chapter 2230 Break all ties**

“What do you mean?!” the girl asked.

“What do I mean?” Si Xia snorted. “You accepted that ring, which means you’re the new leader of the Rose of Death. The Arbitration Council learned about this... so they wanted Grandpa... to personally kill you, snatch the ring and hand it over to the Arbitration Council.”

“What...?” The girl was stunned.

“The first time, Grandpa had no choice. As the President of the Independent State’s Martial Arts Union, he was bound by the Arbitration Council and couldn’t resist... But this time, because of you, Grandpa

finally decided to take over the Independent State and oppose the Arbitration Council..." Si Xia coldly explained.

"What... Why didn't Grandpa tell me?!" the girl exclaimed in shock.

"Tell you?" Si Xia shook his head. "Because Grandpa didn't want you to know this matter was related to you and didn't want you to get involved. This plan might've succeeded, but it might've also failed. He didn't tell you because he was afraid you'd feel guilty and blame yourself if it failed and was afraid it'd bring harm to you. But... Grandpa's concerns were unnecessary. How could an apathetic and heartless person like you feel guilt and self-reproach?"

...

Soon, everything turned into nothing and darkness returned.

Ye Wanwan felt someone madly shaking her.

"Sis Feng, what's wrong with you? D\*mn... You aren't dead, right, Sis Feng? Don't scare me! Sis Feng, are you okay?"

Ye Wanwan slowly opened her eyes and saw the panicked Big Dipper.

"Stop shaking, alright?" Ye Wanwan's brows furrowed deeply.

"Sis Feng, you aren't dead!" Big Dipper's expression turned joyous when he saw Ye Wanwan opening her eyes.

Ye Wanwan didn't say anything and stood up from the floor, sitting on the sofa.

She finally remembered everything...

However, this type of memory... she neither wanted it nor was willing to accept it.

How could she have killed Grandpa...? That dagger was the weapon she typically used to spar with Grandpa and wasn't sharp at all...

Although Ye Wanwan felt agony and self-reproach inside, she was incredibly calm.

On the island, Si Xia claimed she wanted to gain domination over the Independent State, but it appeared he merely wanted to enrage her. There was only one sincere line that Si Xia said on the island: She was a demon.

...

When she first discovered she killed Grandpa, she couldn't endure the pain and didn't think deeply about it, intent on seeking death.

However, many years had passed, and Ye Wanwan could calmly ponder it now.

There were indeed too many unanswered questions.

In the video, although her grandpa was pierced in the chest by her dagger, he didn't die immediately. After she escaped, Grandpa used the walls and door to walk out very weakly.

Based on what Si Xia said, Grandpa died outside the door.

Back then, she thought Grandpa died from losing too much blood after being pierced by the dagger.

Now though...

“That’s not right!” Ye Wanwan suddenly shot up.

Big Dipper jolted in fright. “What isn’t right? Where isn’t it right?!”

Ye Wanwan frowned deeply. She still recalled one particular detail.

After she injured Grandpa with the dagger back then, she distinctly heard feather-light footsteps coming from outside, which was why she lost her cool and fled in her blank state.

Back then, she thought these footsteps belonged to someone from the Martial Arts Union who needed something from Grandpa.

If it was really a member of the Martial Arts Union, they definitely would’ve realized Grandpa was injured and saved him, so dying from losing too much blood was impossible!

However, if it wasn’t a member of the Martial Arts Union, who could it have been...?

Outsiders couldn’t enter the Martial Arts Union; only members could unless a top-notch expert snuck inside without anyone noticing...