Secret Love 2271

Chapter 2271 His survival instincts are simply!

When Lin Que heard this question, his heart skipped a beat before his heart rate quickened.

They better not let that little ancestor find anything out...

"Both male and female," Si Yehan replied.

"Eh? There are women? What do they do?"

"She was related to the Arbitration Council's Vice President."

"Oh? How old is she? Is she pretty?"

"Nearly 40. I didn't pay attention to her looks."

Ye Wanwan seemed to finally be assuaged. "Alright~ It can't be helped since it's seriously too dangerous for you to be in Tianshui City by yourself! What if you catch someone's eye?!"

Si Yehan: "..."

Lin Que thought: He's already caught someone's eye!!!

"Ah-Jiu, I'm telling you. Gong Xu sent me a message yesterday to help him choose a script, and then I found an especially melodramatic script!"

"The male lead's mother didn't like the female lead and didn't want them to be together. To break them up, she arranged for a prettier girl to seduce the male lead, and then, tsk tsk, the male lead couldn't withstand the test. And that made me think of us—our situation is practically identical..."

When Lin Que, whose ears were perked up, heard that, his heart raised to his throat. He nervously turned to Si Yehan.

Si Yehan's voice managed to stay composed. "That's just a script. Such a thing wouldn't happen in reality."

Ye Wanwan instantly retorted, "Why wouldn't it happen? This might be a script, and the story might be very melodramatic, but it's extremely possible it'd happen, alright?"

"There can't be a girl better looking than you," Si Yehan stated.

Ye Wanwan: "..."

Lin Que: "..."

Ye Wanwan said, "Hehe, baby, I like it when you speak the honest truth!"

After Si Yehan said that, Ye Wanwan was completely placated and elatedly kissed the phone before ending the call.

Lin Que was amazed as he listened to this couple's conversation. Ninth Brother's survival instincts were simply...

There wasn't a problem with any of the answers, but he managed to avoid the important things and dwell on the trivial with every answer.

What made it even more remarkable was that he actually said Qin Xiyuan was nearly 40.

However, Si Yehan also said he didn't pay attention to her, so you couldn't say he was wrong for not knowing the age...

Those final sweet words were the cherry on top...

Lin Que couldn't help but muse that Ninth Brother had dramatically improved in a certain area after getting a girlfriend.

After hanging up the call, Si Yehan pinched his brows, releasing an obvious sigh of relief.

He uneasily managed to pacify Ye Wanwan and made her obediently wait for his news, so he naturally couldn't tell her about the events tonight...

This minor trouble would be resolved very soon. He believed that Qin Zong would change his mind after he expressed his attitude clearly.

He knew that this decision would greatly increase the difficulty of his future plans, which was why he didn't intend to take the Qin Zong method.

However...

This time, Si Yehan hadn't anticipated an even trickier situation to arise.

The next day, early in the morning:

Qin Zong brought Qin Xiyuan to the Arbitration Council's office building for a tour and learning experience.

Qin Xiyuan not only studied the Twelve Independent States' laws thoroughly but was also well-versed in the laws of the other countries in the world, so she had the title of senior consultant in the Arbitration Council.

Qin Zong evidently wanted to elevate her to the position of Director too.

In the hallway, Qin Xiyuan was surrounded by a gathering of employees like planets revolving around the sun.

However, Si Yehan was currently inside the archive room on the top floor, so Qin Xiyuan didn't run into him despite walking through the building once.

It wasn't until nighttime that Qin Xiyuan caught him at the entrance.

Chapter 2272 The sky has collapsed!?

"Director Si!" Qin Xiyuan immediately called out.

Si Yehan paused in his steps. "Miss Qin."

"I heard Director Si has recently been arranging law proposals and suggesting great reforms. I've been wanting to discuss them with you. Are you free tonight?" Qin Xiyuan extended the invitation with a charming smile and a confident expression.

Qin Xiyuan's suggestion was clearly very enticing. In other words, if he wanted to pass the bill, she'd be of great assistance regardless of how you looked at it.

"I am not." Si Yehan didn't consider it for even one second.

"What about tomorrow night?" Qin Xiyuan was persistent.

In contrast to his careful deliberation of every word when it was Ye Wanwan, Si Yehan was evidently too lazy to even make an excuse when it was Qin Xiyuan.

Hence, Si Yehan directly glanced at Lin Que.

Lin Que had no choice but to clean up after him. He cleared his throat and said, "I'm truly sorry, Miss Qin. The director has been busy with preparations for the summit recently, so he really doesn't have any free time."

At the continual rejection, the smile on Qin Xiyuan's face finally ebbed. "Perhaps Director Si doesn't know, but your adopted brother, Yin Heng, has been asking me out recently. Director Si is a smart person, so you should know what that means."

If he married her, he'd advance smoothly in his career. Moreover, she was the most beautiful woman in Tianshui City, so there wasn't a man in the Twelve Independent States who didn't want to marry her.

Hence, if she chose Yin Heng, Si Yehan would lose his right of inheritance and might even ruin his career path.

At the same time, in the Yin residence:

"How are things?" Yin Yuerong had a teacup in hand.

"Madam, Miss Qin looks fondly on the Young Master, but unfortunately, the Young Master, he..."

"Hmph! I knew it! He's been bewitched to the point of losing all logic by that wild girl! He'll willing to forfeit his clan and future for a mere woman!"

After some hesitation, the steward furtively said, "Madam, actually, Miss Nie's family background is decent. I also heard that her performance in Scarlet Flames Academy was excellent too.

"Although her personality is a bit eccentric, Young Master has a reticent personality, so he'd be a good contrast. Since Young Master and Miss Nie are earnestly in love with each other, why must you separate them? You're deepening Young Master's misunderstanding toward you for nothing..."

When Yin Yuerong heard that, it was like she'd heard some absurd joke. "Earnestly in love with each other? Love is the most ridiculous and fake thing in this world! I told him a million times but he insists on walking my old path!"

"Ah, Madam, even if you punish me, I have to say this. Your thoughts are truly too radical. Young Master isn't you. He might not follow the same old disastrous road..."

Yin Yuerong snorted. "Heh, sure. Then I'd like to see how deeply in love they are with each other and how great a test they can withstand!"

...

Late at night, in a mansion on the outskirts of Tianshui City, Si Yehan spent the whole night taking care of business affairs.

In the early morning the next day, Lin Que suddenly rushed into Si Yehan's study, his expression looking like the sky had collapsed.

"Ninth Brother! Ninth Brother! It's over! We're truly dead this time!" Lin Que was gasping for air with a newspaper in hand.

Si Yehan had dark circles under his eyes from staying up all night. He continued to read the documents without looking up.

Lin Que couldn't be any more hasty. "Ninth Brother, stop what you're doing! The sky is about to collapse! Hurry and look at this newspaper!"

Si Yehan finally looked up, glancing at the newspaper Lin Que was handing to him.

The next second, Si Yehan's expression changed.

Chapter 2273 She"s been cheated on

A giant photo was plastered on the front page of Tianshui City's daily newspaper

It was a photo of Si Yehan dining with Qin Zong and Qin Xiyuan that night.

The headline read: Tianshui City's #1 Beauty and the newly promoted director meet the parents! Marriage near?

"Sh*t! Sh*t! What's worst is that this piece of gossip has spread throughout all Twelve Independent States!" Lin Que gulped with a panicked expression. "In other words... Ninth Sister must know she's been cheated on!!!"

As Si Yehan stared at the front page news, his aloof expression finally shattered.

It just had to be this photo. Moreover, the date and time of this photo were marked clearly.

That night, Wanwan happened to call him, and he didn't tell her the truth so that she wouldn't misunderstand and worry...

If she saw this newspaper and learned he lied to her, the consequences... were unimaginable!

...

Meanwhile ...

In Yun City, Ye Wanwan was accompanying Grandpa and fishing in a lake.

"Worriless, go elsewhere and have fun, alright? You keep moving about and scaring all my fish away!"

"Eh, fine. I won't move, I won't move!"

"Forget it. Your mind isn't calm, so how could you get any fish?" Grandpa gave her a meaningful look. "You miss Ah-Jiu?"

"Mm... I miss him!" Ye Wanwan nodded without any reserve, a dog's-tail grass between her teeth.

Worry was predominantly on her mind—worry that his mother would make things difficult for him...

Unfortunately, before he left, she solemnly promised that she would obediently wait for him, so all she could do now was wait for his news.

As Ye Wanwan conversed with Grandpa, Big Dipper, Seven Star, First Elder, Third Elder, and Fu Mingxi were secretively gathered together nearby. They shoved each other and quarreled incessantly, nearly breaking into a fight.

Third Elder: "Big Dipper, you were the one who first heard this news, so of course it's you who should inform the President!"

Big Dipper: "You rotten old man, do you want me to die?! Such a dangerous task should of course be given to... given to the person best at martial arts here!"

Everyone's gaze landed on First Elder.

First Elder instantly said, "I think that Third Elder is intelligent and resourceful and has a shrewd tongue, so having Third Elder relay it would be the most sensible."

Third Elder immediately pointed at First Elder and cursed. "Don't talk nonsense! When I went to my physical exam last time, the doctor said I had signs of Alzheimer's disease! I think Seven Star is the most suitable since he's most trusted by the President!"

Big Dipper spat at Third Elder. "Old Seven talks so directly and doesn't know how to bend his words at all. By making him go, are you trying to send chaos into the world? I think we should forget it, we better not tell her! After all, none of us wants to die, right?"

Big Dipper's words received unanimous agreement on this rare occasion... except for Fu Mingxi.

"No way! Aren't we keeping the President in the dark?! No way, we must inform the President and let her see that scum's true face!" Fu Mingxi exclaimed emotionally.

"Then you go! Go and tell her!" Big Dipper returned.

Fu Mingxi: "I won't go... I still have to live so that I can stay by the President's side!"

"What are you guys talking about over there? I can hear you all!" Ye Wanwan had walked over unbeknownst to them.

When the group heard Ye Wanwan's voice, they jolted in fright and all kept their eyes downcast, no one willing to speak.

"Just what happened?" Ye Wanwan asked.

Chapter 2274 The calmness of the legitimate wife

Seeing as none of them were willing to talk, Ye Wanwan could only name someone. "Big Dipper, speak."

At being called by name, Big Dipper had no choice but to walk forward with a miserable expression. He scratched his face, dithering for an eternity before finally pointing at the grass underneath Ye Wanwan's feet. "Um... Sis Feng, look, what are you stepping on?"

Ye Wanwan was dumbfounded. "I'm stepping on... grass?"

Big Dipper pointed at the nearby leaves. "Sis Feng, look at the color of these leaves, aren't they especially... especially..."

Ye Wanwan finished his sentence for him: "Lush ...?"

Big Dipper nodded frantically. "That's right, that's right! The grass, the leaf! They are both so lush and so green!"

Veins popped on Ye Wanwan's forehead and she served him a kick. "Speak, human!"

Big Dipper immediately howled, "Sis Feng, you've been cheated on[1]!!!"

Ye Wanwan: "..."

After three seconds of silence, Ye Wanwan looked at Big Dipper with a baffled expression, unable to understand his meaning. "What are you saying?"

At this moment, Fu Mingxi cautiously walked up and handed her a phone. "President, see for yourself!"

Ye Wanwan quickly clicked the screen and skimmed it. She was met with that gigantic newspaper headline and the photo paired with the article.

Big Dipper, Fu Mingxi, and the others held their breath as they intently watched Ye Wanwan's reaction and involuntarily took a step back.

As Ye Wanwan read the article, she recalled how she called Si Yehan during the time mentioned here...

Si Yehan clearly said the woman at the business dinner was nearly 40...

Now though, there was both a picture and the facts, which meant Si Yehan purposefully concealed this from her...

Swish! Ye Wanwan lifted her hand.

"AHHH, Sis Feng, calm down!!!" Big Dipper jumped up in his fright.

Ye Wanwan peered at him from the corner of her eyes and tossed the phone toward him. "What are you screaming about? Isn't it just some gossip article?"

"Eh... Sis Feng... aren't you mad...?" Big Dipper asked weakly.

Fu Mingxi also piped in. "President, have you become muddled from your rage?"

Ye Wanwan leaned her shoulder against a nearby tree and nonchalantly patted the trunk of the tree as she said, "What's there to be angry about? It's obviously groundless, fake news meant to catch people's attraction!"

Third Elder and First Elder met each other's eyes, evidently not expecting their president to remain this calm.

"You're brilliant, President! You're absolutely right!" Third Elder immediately echoed ingratiatingly.

First Elder also looked comforted her and mused, "You're becoming more and more like a leader, President!"

Fu Mingxi incredulously asked, "But President, a photo was published! If it was just a normal business dinner, why would Vice President Qin bring his daughter along? And there's only the three of them! It's definitely a case of meeting the parents! Do you really not mind, President?"

Ye Wanwan snorted, carrying the calmness of the legitimate wife. "It's unavoidable for men to encounter this type of situation when they attend social functions. What's there to mind? In your eyes, am I someone who'd turn the world upside down without any care just over a minor matter?"

Fu Mingxi: "..."

Big Dipper: "..."

First Elder: "..."

Third Elder: "..."

Wasn't she?

Ye Wanwan waved her hand. "Alright alright, disperse, all of you. It's just a rumor. I don't like to get jealous for no reason."

After Big Dipper and the others ascertained that Ye Wanwan really didn't intend to wreak havoc, they finally relaxed.

Only Seven Star shifted minutely and glanced at the tree trunk that their president touched earlier.

On the side of the tree trunk was evidently the deep indent of a handprint...

Seven Star: "..."

[1] Green is slang for being cheated on in Chinese

Chapter 2275 Did you take the wrong medicine??

"President, are you really not angry?" Fu Mingxi pressed again, unwilling to give up.

Ye Wanwan irritatedly waved her hand. "Stop the noises and go play elsewhere. Is your president the same as those unreasonable and annoying women who pester endlessly and cry their eyes out, threatening to hang themselves? Don't you all have some misunderstanding about me?!"

"Ahem. You're right, President..."

•••

At Tianshui City:

When Si Yehan saw the news article, he wanted to give Ye Wanwan a call.

But as soon as he picked up his cellphone, it started ringing. Ye Wanwan had called him first.

Lin Que's hair stood on its end. "It's over, it's over..."

Si Yehan calmed his mind and pressed the answer key. "Wanwan..."

Before Si Yehan could finish speaking, he heard Ye Wanwan say in an especially gentle tone, "Baby, don't worry and you don't need to give me an explanation. I won't rashly misunderstand or wildly get jealous. Focus on doing your own thing, and don't worry about me!"

Si Yehan: "..."

And so, Si Yehan swallowed back everything he wanted to say.

"You aren't mad? That night, I..."

"I'm not! They definitely tricked you so that they could create conflict between us and achieve some ulterior motive! No way would I be duped! Alright, I will talk to you later. I'm fishing with Grandpa!" On the other end of the phone, Ye Wanwan said cheerfully as she crushed a piece of rock under her feet.

She wasn't mad! She wasn't mad in the slightest!

Si Yehan: "..."

•••

After the call ended, Lin Que, who had leaned close and heard the whole conversation, was dumbstruck. "Ninth Brother, did Ninth Sister take the wrong medicine? Why is she suddenly so understanding and reasonable?"

Si Yehan didn't say anything, clearly also not anticipating Ye Wanwan to be so calm and continue to fish with Grandpa as though nothing happened.

Yu Shao entered at this moment. "I said before that Miss Nie wasn't unreasonable."

Lin Que grumbled in bewilderment, "Did she really change her personality?"

Ye Wanwan wasn't mad at all. Si Yehan peered down, inexplicably feeling an emptiness in his heart before promptly gathering his emotions. He looked at Yu Shao. "Did something happen?"

Yu Shao quickly reported, "I just got the news that President Yi has returned."

"Prepare the car," Si Yehan ordered.

"Yes!"

•••

Meanwhile ...

Ye Wanwan returned to the mansion and handed over the Alliance's business affairs to Seven Star. She did a little packing before going back downstairs and telling everyone, "I'm going on a trip to Tianshui City. Call me if anyone comes up."

The second Ye Wanwan finished speaking, everyone's nerves turned taut.

Big Dipper tentatively asked, "Sis Feng, you're going to Tianshui City?"

Ye Wanwan raised her brows. "Yeah, what about it? I can't go?"

First Elder and Third Elder met each other's eyes. First Elder swallowed his spit before asking, "President, why are you going to Tianshui City? Are... are you going there to find Lord Asura?"

What First Elder didn't dare to say was: She really is going to crash the scene after all...

Ye Wanwan retorted, "Who said that I have to go see him just because I'm going to Tianshui City? I'm going there to travel!"

Third Elder fearfully stared at the Tang backsword that Ye Wanwan carried everywhere. "Eh... why are you bringing Silence if you're traveling?"

Silence was the name of this Tang backsword, which was once used by Ye Wanwan's grandpa. Back at the charity auction banquet, Ji Xiuran won it.

Later, Ji Xiuran tasked Autumn Water to give this backsword to Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan patted the body of her backsword. "It's just protection!"

Fu Mingxi then sharply detected the liquor jars in Ye Wanwan's backpack. "President, what about that liquor?"

"I'm not drinking any; I'm giving them to someone. Can't I do that?" Ye Wanwan responded.

Fu Mingxi: "..."

Chapter 2276 Bring me with you, woof woof!

Fu Mingxi stared at Ye Wanwan, wanting to say something but ended up tactfully closing his mouth.

No matter how you looked at this, the President didn't look like she was going on a vacation. She looked more like she was going to catch a cheating partner in the act then chop the adulterous couple into pieces.

When Fu Mingxi thought of that, his eyes sparkled and he hastily said, "The President is doing the right thing! Hack that adulterous couple into pieces and feed them to the dogs!"

"What did you say?" Ye Wanwan furrowed her brows.

"Nothing. He was just asking if you wanted to bring a dog with you for your trip." Big Dipper clutched Fu Mingxi's mouth.

This idiot might not want to live, but they still wanted to live, alright? Why did he have to touch a sore spot?

"Why would I bring a dog?" Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper.

Big Dipper mulled it over for half a day but truly couldn't find an appropriate response, so he grinned and said, "Sis Feng, bring me with you. Woof woof woof!"

Ye Wanwan: "..."

The Independent State's purebred Alaskan Husky title was truly justified...

That day, Ye Wanwan led a group of Fearless Alliance members and rushed to Tianshui City in a whirlwind.

As soon as Ye Wanwan arrived in Tianshui City, she couldn't help but shake her head in marvel. The major city of the strongest state in the Twelve Independent States was extraordinary indeed. The only city that was comparable was probably China's most prosperous Imperial City. Every corner here exuded the feeling of luxury.

Super sports cars littered the streets, and Ye Wanwan actually couldn't name any of them.

Ye Wanwan even forgot she was currently in the Independent State.

"D*mn, our state really can't compare to this state's Tianshui City... None of our cities can hold a candle... Ah, Sis Feng, I don't want to go back. I want to slowly rot in the decadence of this colorful city..." Big Dipper exclaimed as he surveyed his surroundings.

Ye Wanwan glanced at Big Dipper. "It won't be easy to rot in decadence, so how about you rot into a corpse? I can fulfill that wish right now."

Big Dipper turned silent as he stared at the Tang backsword in Ye Wanwan's arms. He suddenly smiled. "Sis Feng, what's good about this lousy place? If I stay in this city for too long, I reckon my martial arts would waste away. This city is an entire galaxy inferior to our Yun City."

"Nonsense." Fu Mingxi rolled his eyes at Big Dipper. "My grandfather said that Tianshui City isn't a place Yun City could compare to. The headquarters of the Arbitration Council is located here. Their current president is named Yi Lingjun, and he's the head of the Yi Clan. You should know the Yi Clan, right... They're the strongest and also oldest martial-arts patrician clan in the Twelve Independent States."

"There really isn't anyone who doesn't know the Yi Clan in the Twelve Independent States." Third Elder nodded in agreement. "The current head of the Yi Clan is especially extraordinary."

"Is he really strong in martial strength?" Ye Wanwan asked Third Elder with a tilt of her head.

Ye Wanwan had only heard of the Yi Clan and didn't know them well. If the Yi Clan claimed to be number two in terms of prestige in the Twelve Independent States, no other clan would dare to claim to be number one. They were a genuine, great martial-arts patrician clan.

"President, this isn't a matter of martial strength. The main point is that their theoretical foundation is very strong and they have a profound repertoire of knowledge. The current head of the Yi Clan is a true well-respected great scholar and often gives lectures on the outside frequently," Third Elder said.

"So what you're saying is that the Yi Clan knows how to talk glibly..." Ye Wanwan was pensive.

Third Elder's expression changed, and he shook his head. "That's not what I meant, President. Moreover, the current head of the Yi Clan isn't only strong in theory but is also extremely strong in terms of strength. None of you are unfamiliar with the old man, He Lianjue, right..."

Chapter 2277 Public enemy number one

At the mention of He Lianjue, Ye Wanwan's lips twitched.

Back then, she provoked He Lianjue somehow, and he followed her wherever she went, forcefully wanting to take her in as his personal disciple. She merely never agreed.

After all, she had Grandpa already, so there was no way she would acknowledge anyone else as her master.

"Who doesn't know He Lianjue... he's an old freak and loves to challenge people the most. Regardless of whether a group provoked him or not, as long as there's someone strong among them, he'd go to cause trouble and challenge them. What's most infuriating is that after he defeats them, he calls them trash... And what's even more infuriating is that there hasn't been anyone who has defeated him yet. And of course, they can't out-curse him either. In the Twelve Independent States, He Lianjue is simply public enemy number one..." Big Dipper explained.

"..." Ye Wanwan agreed very much with what Big Dipper said.

Her thoughts drifted to the past. She didn't provoke He Lianjue at all but was sent crashing to the ground by him and called a piece of trash...

Back then, Ye Wanwan wished nothing more than to skin He Lianjue, but she wasn't a match for him, and the difference between their strength was too enormous.

Later, He Lianjue said she had decent potential and hassled her to become his disciple.

"Several years ago, before Yi Lingjun became the president of the Arbitration Council, the Arbitration Council sought out Yi Lingjun and hoped he could eliminate He Lianjue. People said they fought for three whole days but still couldn't determine a winner... Since he was able to come to a draw with He Lianjue, the strength of Patriarch Yi was apparent," Third Elder added.

Ye Wanwan was well aware of He Lianjue's strength. She was beaten so terribly even when she fought with Piece of Sh*t...

"Moreover, no one in all of the Twelve Independent States has seen He Lianjue's face. Every time he appears, he's wearing a mask, so He Lianjue's true appearance is still a major mystery in the Independent States right now..." Big Dipper said.

Ye Wanwan nodded in great agreement. Forget about them, but even she hadn't ever seen He Lianjue's true appearance. Every time they met, He Lianjue wore that terrifying mask.

However, Ye Wanwan might say He Lianjue was an old demon, but she admired him greatly. They weren't master and disciple in name, but He Lianjue taught her many things.

"Do you think Yi Shuihan is related to the Yi Clan...?" Ye Wanwan suggested pensively.

First Elder smiled faintly. "They aren't related at all. Yi Shuihan's surname is from a collateral branch of our state's Direct Line, while Yi Lingjun's surname is a true noble surname. They can't be compared at all."

"Third Elder, First Elder." Ye Wanwan's expression turned serious.

The two elders walked forward immediately.

"The two of you, go and scout the Yin residence for me," Ye Wanwan instructed.

"The Yin residence...?" Third Elder was startled. "President... which Yin residence?"

"Yin Yuerong's," Ye Wanwan clarified.

First Elder and Third Elder's expressions changed simultaneously.

"President, I think that a task like this can be completed with just one person." First Elder looked at Ye Wanwan. "Third Elder is talented and courageous as well as adaptive and multi-talented, so I think Third Elder alone would suffice."

Before Ye Wanwan could say anything, Third Elder hastily said, "No no no, President, amongst us, First Elder is the strongest and he's also the First Elder, so I think that this important task belongs to no one but First Elder!"

Ye Wanwan was dumbfounded. They merely had to scout the situation in the Yin residence. Did these two really have to shove each other to the front like this...?

Chapter 2278 Tracked?

"Third Elder, you have to be confident in yourself. You can easily accomplish this task," First Elder encouraged.

"Heh, First Elder, as people commonly say, you don't need a sledgehammer to crack a nut... No wait, it's don't try to fix porcelain without a metal clamp. I don't have the metal clamp, but you do, so you're the one to go," Third Elder retorted with a snort.

What kind of cosmic joke was that? Who didn't know Yin Yuerong was a poison master and had poison covering every inch of her home? He didn't want to die without knowing the cause, so whoever wanted to go could go, but he wouldn't go.

"Say, I think you two..."—Ye Wanwan was expressionless—"...should change your names to Shen Gongbao."

"President, what do you mean?" Third Elder was confounded.

"What do I mean?" Ye Wanwan pursed her lips. "Do you need to ask? 'Better a friend to die than me'."

Third Elder was still confused.

"Hahaha, haven't you read Investiture of the Gods... It's that Shen Gongbao who sends other people to their deaths every time..." Big Dipper broke into guffaws.

Third Elder: " ... "

First Elder: "..."

"The two Taoist Shens, I think you should go together so that you can look out for each other. I'm not telling you to sneak into the Yin residence; you just need to scout for the Yin residence's current situation."

And so, First Elder and Third Elder had no choice but to agree.

Big Dipper secretly said to Fu Mingxi, "D*mn, isn't Yin Yuerong Sis Feng's future mother-in-law...? Sis Feng was saying she didn't care, but she's now scouting her future mother-in-law's house!"

"Judging from Yin Yuerong's personality, she will probably be a difficult person to get along with. Sigh... this relationship between mother and daughter-in-law will be very tense in the future," Fu Mingxi responded quietly.

"What are you saying?" Ye Wanwan asked.

"Nothing. We were just discussing what to eat tonight." Big Dipper chuckled.

After First Elder and Third Elder left, Ye Wanwan was about to lead the others elsewhere when she sensed something and frowned.

Big Dipper's expression also changed.

"Sis Feng, someone's following us," Seven Star said.

"Whether you're human or a ghost, reveal yourself," Ye Wanwan demanded coldly with an aloof expression.

A man and a woman walked out of the darkness with inexplicable smiles on their faces. "Miss Nie, we're very apologetic for not being good hosts by welcoming your arrival to Tianshui City."

"Who are you?" Ye Wanwan asked the two young people.

"Miss Nie, it's unimportant who we are, but there's someone who would like to meet Miss Nie," the young man said in good humor.

Ye Wanwan's brows locked together. She had just arrived in Tianshui City but was already discovered and tracked. The person who wanted to see her must be immensely powerful...

It couldn't be... Ah-Jiu's mother, Yin Yuerong, right...

"Are you from the Yin family?"

Ye Wanwan furtively probed.

Big Dipper and Fu Mingxi were shocked and reflexively backed away.

If they were really freaking from the Yin family, then they were poisonous people... and carried lethal poison in their every pore.

The young man and woman met each other's eyes before shaking their heads at Ye Wanwan. The man said, "You've misunderstood, Miss Nie. We aren't related to the Yin family at all. We belong to the Arbitration Council. It's President Yi who's inviting you."

"Yi Lingjun?" Ye Wanwan was suspicious. She didn't know Yi Lingjun, so why did he want to meet her?

"You say you're from the Arbitration Council, but do you have proof?" Ye Wanwan demanded.

The young man pulled out a work ID from his clothes.

Chapter 2279 The President"s invitation

"They are from the Arbitration Council indeed," Seven Star quietly said to Ye Wanwan.

They didn't even need to differentiate whether this work ID was real or not since there wasn't anyone who'd dare to impersonate a member of the Arbitration Council in the Twelve Independent States, especially in the Arbitration Council's headquarters, Tianshui City.

"Since President Yi wants to see me, I naturally can't refuse him. However, I don't know President Yi at all, so may I ask... why does President Yi want to see me?" Ye Wanwan questioned curiously.

"Unfortunately, we don't know the answer to that, Miss Nie. The President naturally has his objective for seeing you. If Miss Nie wants an answer, you can only ask the President. We can't tell you anything," the young man said.

Ye Wanwan secretly sneered. Yi Lingjun was seriously haughty!

On second thought...

He was the President of the Arbitration Council—the symbol of pinnacle power in the Twelve Independent States!

She was indignant... This seriously wouldn't do!

Forget about a minor President Fearless like her, but the President of the Arbitration Council probably only needed to utter a word and he could see anyone he wanted.

"Alright."

Ye Wanwan had no choice but to nod and agree in the end. After all, this was the President of the Arbitration Council she couldn't refuse even if she wanted to. And it was perfect for her to go and complain about the Direct Line!

"Please halt."

The young woman blocked Big Dipper, Seven Star, and the others and said expressionlessly, "Apologies, but President Yi solely wants to see Miss Nie and didn't invite the rest of you, so you cannot follow."

"My temper!"

Big Dipper turned furious immediately and drew up his sleeves. "Are you looking down on us? What about your Arbitration Council President, huh? He's awesome and a big deal, huh?"

However, when Big Dipper saw the young woman's expression gradually turning displeased, he suddenly smiled. "That's right, the President of the Arbitration Council is awesome and a big deal! Please send my goodwill to President Yi. I love him, I respect him, he's my idol..."

Ye Wanwan: "..."

What kind of sin did she commit? Why did she want to bring Big Dipper here?!

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A moment later, Ye Wanwan boarded the car, and they drove toward the center of Tianshui City.

Halfway there, Ye Wanwan asked, "We aren't going to the Arbitration Council's base, right...?"

The man smiled faintly. "No need to be nervous, Miss Nie. We aren't going to the Arbitration Council. President Yi is giving a lecture right now, so we're heading to where President Yi is giving a lecture."

Ye Wanwan didn't say anything else but entered a cautious and defensive mode. The second either of these two acted abnormally, she would attack.

However, the reality proved that she was overthinking it.

Soon, the car stopped in front of a lecture hall.

Ye Wanwan followed the two people inside.

What met her was an exquisite-looking man with a head of long black hair giving a lecture with a dignified and solemn expression.

"Eh..." Confusion instantly covered Ye Wanwan's face when she saw the man.

Wasn't this man the silver-haired man she met back in China?!

Ye Wanwan surmised that the silver-haired man was He Lianjue. But she never saw He Lianjue's face before since he wore a mask every time they met. Back in China, the silver-haired man appeared and they met. The silver-haired man's QQ signature clearly stated that Worriless Nie was his disciple.

Hence, Ye Wanwan guessed that the silver-haired man was probably He Lianjue...

However, upon closer examination, the man in front of the lecture hall might look identical to the silverhaired man from China, but their demeanor was as different as day and night. This type of aura emanated from someone's bones, so it absolutely couldn't be feigned...

As for He Lianjue, he was an utter old demon and incomparable to this man before her.

Chapter 2280 No one was capable of pummeling him

Ye Wanwan was stunned and murmured to herself, "Could they be the same person... or perhaps... He Lianjue is President Yi's twin brother...?"

Otherwise, there was no way they could look so similar, right?

Ye Wanwan was deep in thought when the young man said, "Miss Nie, the President's lecture hasn't finished yet. Please wait momentarily."

"Okay."

And so, Ye Wanwan found a spot in the back to sit down and started listening to President Yi's lecture since it was a rare opportunity.

Yi Lingjun was extremely prestigious, and no one in the Independent State didn't know him. Ye Wanwan was no exception.

The man on the stage looked to be in his 40s. His long, black hair was casually tied behind him. He wore a long, white robe with silver embroidered borders, contributing to his immortal Daoist persona.

No wonder he was the top master of the Twelve Independent States. He truly had the demeanor of one.

"In martial arts, although there are differences in talent, what remains unchanged is morals. In the realm of martial spirit, martial morals are at the peak. Regardless of how martially talented someone is, if their morals and virtues are lacking, they won't be considered the best. What a martial practitioner trains is their temperament and what they should avoid the most is being aggressively competitive..."

On the stage, Yi Lingjun's lecture won everyone's reverence, and even Ye Wanwan felt her spirit elevate and started feeling ashamed of her previous competitiveness.

At the same time, Ye Wanwan was more certain of one thing.

The man on the stage absolutely couldn't be that old freak that everyone loathed in the Independent State, He Lianjue!

He Lianjue might be extremely accomplished in martial arts, but his virtue and character were truly too terrible.

In Ye Wanwan's memory, that guy was so abominable that everyone wanted to hold him to the ground and pummel him, but unfortunately, no one was capable of pummeling him.

After the lecture ended, Ye Wanwan followed the young man and woman to the backstage.

A moment later, Yi Lingjun slowly entered the backstage.

"President," the young man and woman immediately greeted him as they walked forward.

"So this is Miss Worriless Nie from Yun City?" Yi Lingjun's gaze landed on Ye Wanwan.

Although the man carried the imposing aura of a leader around him, it wasn't imperious or overbearing and didn't make people feel too suppressed.

"That's right. We've invited Miss Nie here." The young man nodded.

Ye Wanwan turned to Yi Lingjun and imperceptibly surveyed him before promptly standing up. "Hello, President Yi... Um, may I boldly ask you a question..."

Yi Lingjun nodded. "Of course you can. What do you want to ask, Miss Nie?"

Ye Wanwan was seriously too curious and couldn't help but ask, "May I ask... do you have a twin brother or something?"

When Yi Lingjun heard this, his expression didn't shift at all, and Ye Wanwan couldn't detect any flaws. "I don't. Why do you ask, Miss Nie?"

Ye Wanwan shook her head and stifled the question in her mind. "Nothing. Why did you have someone bring me here, President Yi?"

"I heard that you provoked quite the wave in Yun City and declared that you would amend the rules and structure of the Independent State. Is that correct?" Yi Lingjun asked Ye Wanwan.

Ye Wanwan was startled.

In the end, Ye Wanwan nodded. "That's right. Doesn't President Yi also think that the Independent State's rules and system are too decrepit?"

"Some of the rules and structure of the Independent State were passed down from ancient times to the present. They aren't something you can amend simply because you want to," Yi Lingjun responded indifferently.

"I don't think so. For example, the rule that residents of the Independent State can't marry outsiders why? What's wrong about deciding one's own life partner?" Ye Wanwan retorted with a frown.

"These are rules left behind by our ancestors. We must obey them and can't change them merely because of an individual," Yi Lingjun said.

"Even though they aren't reasonable?"