

Spatial Ability 341

Chapter 341: Do I Talk in My Sleep?

“Here, this is for you. It’s freshly cooked.”

She reached out to Qian Jiyun and stuffed a leaf-wrapped snack into his hands.

Who could live on dry food every day? They had to eat some meat and eggs!

Qian Jiyun unwrapped the leaf and found two shelled eggs, still warm and steaming.

“What about you?” He glanced at her.

“I don’t like to eat that,” An Jiuyue said calmly.

She was telling the truth. She did not like eating boiled eggs and would not eat them unless she had no other choice.

However, since they were escorting Prince Lei Ting, Qian Jiyun had brought all the guards from the Prince Zhan Yun Residence with him. There were about 500 of them. She could not make egg custard or stir-fry a dish under these circumstances.

“Eat first. I’ll give two to Yiyun. Watching her eat dry food like that is agonizing,” she said.

“Okay,” Qian Jiyun replied.

He watched her walk toward Qian Yiyun, who had been chatting and laughing with Yan Nuo and the others.

Soon, An Jiuyue returned and sat beside Qian Jiyun.

“Here you go.”

She had just sat down when the re-wrapped leaf landed in her hands.

Caught off guard, An Jiuyue was speechless.

It’s just a leaf. Am I supposed to throw it away for him? Can’t this man even be bothered to throw away trash?

Her intuition, however, told her that it was not the case.

When she opened the leaf, she saw the two boiled eggs inside. The only difference was that the egg yolks had been removed, leaving only the egg whites.

An Jiuyue was confused. She lifted her head subconsciously and looked at his side profile.

She did not remember expressing her preferences to anyone, and she was certain she had never mentioned that she only ate egg whites and detested eating egg yolks!

Yet, Qian Jiyun ate the egg yolks and gave her the egg whites. How did he know?

“Do I talk in my sleep? Wei Na, have you heard me talk in my sleep?” She could not help asking Wei Na.

If I really talk in my sleep, I have to treat it quickly! Otherwise, I’ll reveal all my secrets!

Wei Na almost rolled its eyes.

Is there a need to talk in your sleep? Anyone can tell.

“Master, if you don’t only eat parts of the fried egg with more egg whites, then you might have said it in your sleep,” it replied.

An Jiuyue remained silent.

So one could be so meticulous in analyzing the preferences of another? She would remember that.

Qian Jiyun’s observation skills were extraordinary! As one would expect of someone who could become a general and be conferred the title of Prince of the Second Rank.

“I didn’t even notice it.”

“That’s why he’s your man,” Wei Na interrupted.

An Jiuyue was surprised.

She was not even sure if she wanted this man. Why did Wei Na have to keep saying that?

“Shut up and draw circles in a corner,” she replied angrily.

Wei Na did not argue with her and continued tending the crops. There were so many crops in the space, so it had to keep an eye on them.

After communicating with Wei Na, An Jiuyue thanked Qian Jiyun.

“Thank you.”

Qian Jiyun only smiled before turning to look at Prince Lei Ting.

Prince Lei Ting had been staring at them fiercely. But when he locked eyes with Qian Jiyun, he quickly looked away, frightened.

If one was unlucky, everything could go wrong.

Chapter 342: Each Hugging One of Her Legs

He had always stood tall and proud in front of Qian Jiyun. He had never been looked down on like this.

Meanwhile, Qian Yiyun wanted to secretly share one of the two eggs with Yan Nuo. However, how could a grown man like Yan Nuo take a young lady's food?

In the end, Qian Yiyun ate the two eggs, and they continued on their way.

“Big Brother, you're bringing Sister-in-law back to the capital. But is everything there... ready?”

Qian Yiyun got out of her carriage when she noticed An Jiuyue had fallen asleep. She got a horse and rode alongside her brother.

That old woman in the Prince Zhan Yun Residence had always dreamed of dominating the residence. She had done many things, and even Qian Yiyun was not spared from her schemes.

Xue Ling, whom she valued, had died, but An Jiuyue had returned. That old woman would probably vent all her anger on An Jiuyue, right?

They could thwart most of her schemes, but they should not underestimate her methods.

“She's not capable of going against your sister-in-law,” Qian Jiyun said with a chuckle.

He turned around and looked at the carriage.

As long as Qian Yizheng and Qian Yirong were fine, no one would be able to hurt her. He was sure of that.

“Your sister-in-law will be in charge of dispatching the shadow guards in the residence.”

Qian Yiyun raised her eyebrows.

Does this mean that my brother will send all the shadow guards to ensure my sister-in-law’s safety?

That’s a good idea. I’m just worried that if that old woman keeps failing to harm her, she’ll become desperate and do something even more vicious.

That’s what happened back then. I’m sure she has something to do with the war at the southern border in order to prevent my brother and sister-in-law from consummating their marriage. Or rather, it must have something to do with the woman who has her back.

...

An Jiuyue did not fall asleep in the carriage. She only pretended to sleep for a while.

After Qian Yiyun left, she quickly entered her space and arrived at the residence.

The two children were memorizing words from a book intently, nodding their heads as they read. She wondered who had taught them that.

She went to the Points Mall and exchanged her points for two dictionaries to help them learn to read on their own. The dictionaries were based on the orthography of this era.

However, she did not expect the two boys to learn the words so quickly. They had memorized half the dictionary in a short time.

She also used her points to purchase some books with phonetic writing. Her children were no longer interested in playing with toys. They would rather read every day.

“Zheng’er, Rong’er!”

When she arrived in the courtyard, she called out to the two children who were studying diligently.

“Mother!”

“Mother!”

The two boys looked up at An Jiuyue in surprise when they heard the familiar voice.

They tossed the books aside in unison and ran towards An Jiuyue, each hugging one of her legs.

“Mother, aren’t you hurrying on your way? Why did you come here now?”

“I miss you.” An Jiuyue squatted down and pinched the child’s smooth face. “You’re reading again. You have to rest every hour or you’ll damage your eyes.”

“Okay! We’re very obedient.” Qian Yizheng nodded quickly.

They had some rest. Besides reading, Warrior-Servant One and Warrior-Servant Two also taught them how to cook.

Chapter 343: Pulling a Shoot to Help It Grow

They would be able to cook for An Jiuyue after a few more lessons.

“Good. Behave well.”

An Jiuyue stood up and led the children toward An Yilu.

The youngest twins could not speak or walk yet, but An Yilu could already walk very quickly after some practice.

There was no stopping him, and he liked chasing a few rabbits in the courtyard.

“Bunny, bunny... Mother!”

While An Jiuyue was talking to the older two, An Yilu, who had been chasing after a rabbit, ran over and hugged her calf.

An Jiuyue was stunned. She felt her body, and even her breathing, stop.

She finally lowered her head stiffly after some time and looked at An Yilu, who was still hugging her calf. She bent down and picked up the child.

“Lu’er, what did you call me? Say that again?”

The child had called her “mother” indistinctly in the past. This was the first time he said it so clearly.

“Mother, Mother, kiss me.”

The child called out to her softly in her arms as he planted a kiss on her face.

Qian Yirong looked at An Yilu with a smile and said, “Mother, Lu’er can speak now. Brother and I were just discussing whether we should teach him to read in a few days.”

“Yeah! Mother, let’s start teaching him tomorrow, okay?” Qian Yizheng nodded excitedly.

An Jiuyue remained silent.

She felt like her head was burning and needed some peace and quiet.

Aren’t you being too anxious? He just started talking! Even if they’re pulling a shoot to help it grow, they’re acting as if this young shoot is ready to bear fruit! How is that even possible?

Most importantly, you two are still children! You can’t even recognize all the words, but you want to be a teacher and teach others? Why are you so ambitious?

“Lu’er is still young. He can still play for the next year. After a year, you can teach him to read. You’ll have learned more words by then and won’t make mistakes when teaching Lu’er, right?” she suggested earnestly to her sons.

The two boys thought for a moment and agreed. They exchanged looks and understood each other through their eyes.

“Okay, we’ll wait another year.”

Everything their mother said was right. They would teach him a year later.

However, this would not stop them from reading and memorizing words every day next to Lu’er in the meantime, right?

They believed Lu’er would be as intelligent as them and would start reading with them soon.

...

Qian Jiyun knew An Jiuyue had entered her space, so he dragged his sister along and chatted for a while.

He only allowed Qian Yiyun to return to the carriage when he sensed that An Jiuyue had reappeared in the carriage.

After more than 20 days of traveling, they finally arrived outside the capital.

“Qian Jiyun! Qian Jiyun, it’s all your fault!”

The closer they got to the capital, the more uneasy Prince Lei Ting became. He was even more afraid since he had been sitting in the prisoner’s cart covered with a black cloth every day.

His heart burned with hatred for Qian Jiyun. He would not have ended up like this if Qian Jiyun had not caused so much trouble.

If not for Qian Jiyun, he would have been sitting in the 18 Stockaded Villages while Shen Yan and the others called him Master.

Chapter 344: You Faked the Emperor’s Oral Decree

Unfortunately, Qian Jiyun ruined his beautiful plan.

Prince Lei Ting’s gaze was as intense as poison, piercing through the black cloth and drilling several holes in Qian Jiyun’s body.

As the defender of the southern border, Prince Zhan Yun’s fame in the capital was immense.

Many people gathered outside the capital's city gate, most of them noble children, to watch the commotion. After all, they had heard Prince Zhan Yun was escorting Prince Lei Ting, who had made a mistake, back.

Of course, they were only ordinary nobles and did not know what Prince Lei Ting had done.

However, they were dumbfounded when they saw a prisoner's cart among the 500 soldiers. No matter what mistake Prince Lei Ting made, he was still a member of the royal family.

Why would Qian Jiyun use a prisoner's cart? And there was a black cloth covering it!

Was he trying to deceive them? Did he think they would not know that the person in the prisoner's cart was Prince Lei Ting?

"Who is that?"

"What kind of question is that? Other than Prince Lei Ting, who else could it be?"

"Prince Lei Ting? No way. He's from the royal family. How can they use a prisoner's cart?"

"They're even using a prisoner's cart? What crime has Prince Lei Ting committed? Did he sell the border to an enemy kingdom?"

The people who came to welcome Qian Jiyun began to whisper among themselves.

Even commoners like them cared a lot about their reputation, let alone the royal family. Prince Zhan Yun was really bold to escort Prince Lei Ting in a prisoner's cart.

However, although they thought so, they did not say that.

Everyone began to speculate what crime Prince Lei Ting had committed for Prince Zhan Yun to be undaunted by the Emperor's wrath and drag him back in a prisoner's cart openly.

Prince Lei Ting, who was in the prisoner's cart, was not as embarrassed because he could not be seen.

But his face burned when he heard their words. He had always been high and mighty in his life. He had never been so embarrassed!

He decided he would take Qian Jiyun to court for insulting the royal family when he met the Emperor later, regardless of whether he would be convicted!

However, unexpectedly...

After they entered the city, Qian Jiyun instructed Yan Nuo to bring An Jiuyue and Qian Yiyun back to the Prince Zhan Yun Residence. Then, he got ready to enter the palace to meet the Emperor.

The prisoner's cart arrived outside the palace. The Emperor's personal servant was already waiting there.

Qian Jiyun dismounted his horse and walked up to the servant.

"Thank you for your hard work, Eunuch Zheng."

"Prince Zhan Yun, you're too polite. It's not hard work. You must be the one having it hard."

Although Eunuch Zheng had always served the Emperor, he was very upright.

The royal family's blood ran through Prince Lei Ting, who lived in luxury and privilege, but he still sought out those who plotted against them. Eunuch Zheng looked down on him.

“Your Highness, I’m here to relay the Emperor’s oral decree. Prince Lei Ting shall be sent to the prison of the Court of Judicial Review. You may bring the evidence into the palace to meet the Emperor.”

“What?!”

Before Qian Jiyun could reply, Prince Lei Ting screamed in horror.

If he could not meet the Emperor, Qian Jiyun could fabricate stories about him in front of the Emperor, and he would not be able to defend himself!

“You old thing, are you going against me on purpose? How can the Emperor say such things? You must have faked his oral decree, right?”

Chapter 345: Should We Give Her Some...

Qian Jiyun frowned.

Regardless of the Emperor’s intentions, he admired Eunuch Zheng’s character.

Eunuch Zheng was probably the only person in the vast palace who could maintain his impartiality and speak up when the Emperor did something wrong.

When Eunuch Zheng heard Prince Lei Ting’s words, his face paled.

However, it only lasted for a moment. His expression relaxed, and he smiled at the prisoner’s cart covered by the black cloth.

“I’ll have to trouble Your Highness’s men to escort Prince Lei Ting to the Court of Judicial Review with my people.”

“It’s no trouble.”

Qian Jiyun smiled and turned to look at the soldiers he had brought.

“The group of you must personally escort Prince Lei Ting to the prison of the Court of Judicial Review,” he instructed.

The soldiers replied, “Yes, Your Highness.”

They were most willing to take a traitor like Prince Lei Ting away under escort.

They were even more delighted when a young eunuch ordered them to remove the black cloth from the prisoner’s cart after Qian Jiyun followed Eunuch Zheng into the palace.

It seemed like the Emperor hated Prince Lei Ting to the core. Otherwise, he would not have disregarded the royal family’s reputation and allowed Eunuch Zheng’s people to do this.

Of course, he could be punishing Prince Lei Ting to serve as a lesson to others!

...

The Prince Zhan Yun Residence was not remote, but it was not a particularly good courtyard residence either.

“A servant has reported that Prince Zhan Yun has entered the palace, Old Madam.”

A woman dressed in pink bowed respectfully to an elderly woman with white hair on her head but no wrinkles on her face.

“Hmph! How dare he come back!”

Old Madam Xue Yingyue slammed the prayer beads in her hand on the table, her eyes glowing.

She had already learned that, while Xue Ling did not die at Qian Jiyun’s hands, he had deliberately allowed those people to take her life.

She was her niece. Even if they were not biologically related, Xue Ling had shown her face around, and everyone in the capital knew Xue Ling was hers. She represented her reputation.

Now that Xue Ling had died, and she had died so tragically, how could she let it go?

“I heard he brought back a woman?”

The maid replied, “Yes, Old Madam. The Princess of the Third Rank has already moved into Qiongzhi Courtyard with that lady. Prince Zhan Yun’s motives are clear. I’m afraid he wants to make that lady the mistress of the Prince Zhan Yun Residence.”

She snorted internally. How could a woman of unknown origin be allowed to become the mistress of the Prince Zhan Yun Residence?

“Old Madam, should we give her some...”

“Hm?” The old madam’s gaze sharpened as she glanced at the maid. “Idiot, he just returned to the capital. Do you want me to fall out with him?”

No matter how much she disliked Qian Jiyun, that bastard, she would not oppose him openly.

Qian Jiyun was the one who earned the Prince Zhan Yun Residence. Even if she referred to herself as the Old Princess Consort in public, it did not mean she actually held the title.

Qian Jiyun had made numerous contributions, but he had never requested the Emperor to bestow her with a title.

Even Qian Yiyun, that little girl, was bestowed the title of Princess of the Third Rank because of Qian Jiyun's meritorious service. Meanwhile, she could only be addressed as "Old Madam" in the large Prince Zhan Yun Residence.

Chapter 346: Win Her Over!

She was only occasionally addressed as "Old Princess Consort" when she went out.

She did not want to live like this, but she would never bow down to that bastard, Qian Jiyun.

"Please forgive me, Old Madam. I was wrong." The maid quickly blamed herself, completely disregarding her master's venomous glare.

"Then what should we do now?"

We can't possibly do nothing—Miss Xue's death would be in vain! That vixen could have coaxed Qian Jiyun to kill Miss Xue! She wanted his favor!?

"I think Miss Xue's death has something to do with the woman Prince Zhan Yun brought back," the maid remarked.

The Old Madam stayed silent and only glanced at her indifferently.

She knew that, of course!

But knowing that was pointless. If Qian Jiyun wanted to kill someone, he would not show mercy to her, let alone Xue Ling.

However, Qian Jiyun would not dare to kill her yet. If she died, he would never be able to get what he wanted!

“Since Yiyun is back, go to my private storehouse and choose a few items to send to her. Send a set to that woman too. I want to see how capable she is!”

The word “capable” was rather ambiguous.

She had learned from Xue Ling’s letters that Qian Jiyun became acquainted with the young lady who had rescued them from the flood.

She was quite attractive but did not come from a good family. She was from a mountain-dwelling household of hunters.

The Old Madam was curious to see what kind of expression she would have when she saw so many good things offered to her!

“Well...” The maid was stunned.

Send a set to that woman too? Old Madam knows that that woman is involved in Miss Xue’s death, right?

“Yes, I’ll do it now.”

No matter how puzzled she was, she could only obey the Old Madam’s instructions and arrange for items to be sent to Qian Yiyun and An Jiuyue.

After the pink-clothed maid left, a yellow-clothed maid entered and bowed to the Old Madam.

“Old Madam, why did you ask Ling Yi to send something to that woman?”

She had the most interactions with Miss Xue in the Prince Zhan Yun Residence and received many good gifts from her. She felt the Old Madam did not take Miss Xue’s death to heart.

The Old Madam shouted at her, “What do you know!”

She had kept Xue Ling by her side for many years, but Xue Ling never won Qian Jiyun’s heart. Qian Jiyun was clearly guarded against her.

However, the woman Qian Jiyun brought back was different.

If she could bring An Jiuyue to her side, she would be able to deal with Qian Jiyun in the future.

She only had to give up a few insignificant items. She had no doubt she could win over a little girl from the countryside with money!

If money did not work, she would use emotions to gradually win An Jiuyue over to her side!

“Ling Er, walk around Qiongzhi Courtyard more and tell that little girl about Qian Jiyun and that woman with the surname Lan whenever you’re free. Also, tell her about my difficulties in the Prince Zhan Yun Residence, and find out what she likes.”

Chapter 347: Aren’t You Black-hearted!

Ling Er understood what her master was up to.

“You’re wise, Old Madam. I’ll definitely go to Qiongzhi Courtyard more often.”

She bowed to the Old Madam and left.

She was eager to find out what An Jiuyue liked and have a chance encounter with her to show herself.

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Many people gathered in groups on the streets and alleys of the capital, whispering to each other.

“Have you heard? Prince Zhan Yun brought a woman back.”

“Nonsense! I didn’t just hear about it—I saw it with my own eyes! Prince Zhan Yun returned with a carriage with two ladies inside!”

“Two ladies? Isn’t there only one?”

“The other one is Princess Yun! I saw them enter the Prince Zhan Yun Residence. Princess Yun even called her her sister-in-law. They’re very close.”

“Really?”

“Didn’t they say Prince Zhan Yun is infatuated with the Princess Consort? That old... that person from the Prince Zhan Yun Residence chased her away years ago. He’s been searching for her all these years. Why did he suddenly bring a woman back?”

Several people gathered below a restaurant and chatted. Above them sat a group of men in luxurious clothes around a table of delicious food. They drank wine as they discussed Prince Zhan Yun’s return.

“Is Qian Jiyun serious this time? Did he really bring a lady back?”

“Everyone said so. How is it false?”

“It’s probably true. Look at what they’re saying. They’re claiming she’s as beautiful as a fairy. But on second thought, she must be a vixen if she can charm Qian Jiyun into bringing her back without caring about the rumors going around.”

Someone sighed regretfully.

“No matter how devoted a man is, he will change. I thought Qian Jiyun would become a monk if he couldn’t find Lan Zhitong. But in the end— Ah!”

Before he could finish speaking, someone threw a large handful of peanuts at his face, and he cried out in pain.

“Fifth Brother Xia, say that in front of Second Brother if you dare!”

Fifth Brother Xia was speechless. No, he did not dare to do that.

“I knew you were a ruthless person! Why would you ask me to court death? Sixth Brother Gong, aren’t you black-hearted!”

“I am!” Sixth Brother Gong replied. “But I think Second Brother won’t bring her back without reason. He either did it on purpose or...”

That old woman in the Prince Zhan Yun Residence had to be kept alive, but she was revolting. He would not have been able to stand her if it had been him. Only someone like Qian Jiyun could tolerate it.

Did Qian Jiyun finally give up and decide to compete with the old woman?

Xue Yingyue was not capable at all. Her tactics against Qian Jiyun were all underhanded.

However, she had someone backing her up. If Xue Yingyue died, there would be havoc in the capital.

Qian Jiyun was not afraid of that. Even if he was no match for that, he had his brothers.

If anything happened to Qian Jiyun, even if it were minor, it would be over at the southern border. There would probably be problems for years, if not decades.

The commoners would be the ones suffering in the end!

Fifth Brother Xia could not stand being interrupted and asked immediately, "Or what?"

Chapter 348: Find 20 Packets of Spicy Bars

What other reason could there be? That old woman in the Prince Zhan Yun Residence must have been butting heads with Qian Jiyun frequently recently. She even made Xue Ling convince Qian Yiyun to go to the southern border.

The others also looked at Sixth Brother Gong curiously.

"Lan Zhitong," murmured a man in black sitting on a rattan chair next to them.

Everyone looked at him in unison and widened their eyes.

"Eldest Brother Yan, you mean... Second Brother really found her?"

If it was true, Second Brother Qian must have gone to great lengths. They had to be happy for him! He had finally found the person he had been searching for for years.

Eldest Brother Yan hesitated for a moment and added, "Maybe."

How could he be certain? They had never fully grasped Second Brother Qian's personality.

"Eldest Brother Yan, when is your youngest brother setting off?" another person asked.

Eldest Brother Yan raised his eyebrows and sneered.

His old man doted on that good-for-nothing as if he was his treasure. No one knew when he would set off for the southern border.

"Maybe when the sky collapses," he replied.

"Pfft!" Everyone laughed.

"I think it's not even a matter of the sky collapsing. Your youngest brother just doesn't want to go, right?"

After all, the southern border was not like the capital. They could not get or do everything they wanted. There were soldiers there!

"He doesn't want to go?"

Eldest Brother Yan raised his eyebrows again and thought to himself, "Is it because he doesn't want to go? He clearly doesn't dare to go!"

There was a big difference between not daring and not wanting.

"He's probably afraid of Second Brother because he beat him up," he said.

Everyone was speechless.

It was true. Qian Jiyun had beaten up Prince De on more than one occasion.

Prince De would enter the palace to complain each time he was beaten up.

Unfortunately, Qian Jiyun had just been conferred the title of Prince of the Second Rank. Aside from the 18 Stockaded Villages, he controlled the majority of the forces on the southern border.

Therefore, as long as Prince De was not seriously hurt, the Emperor could only turn a blind eye.

This time, the Emperor sent Prince De to Qian Jiyun's territory. Qian Jiyun could rally multitudes with a single call there. If he went, he would probably be skinned alive.

It would be strange if he dared to go.

"But Second Brother is back," Sixth Brother Gong said.

"You're stupid!" The man in purple rolled his eyes.

"Prince De might be a troublemaker, but he's not a fool. It doesn't matter if Second Brother Qian returns to the capital! Prince De will still suffer if he goes to the southern border!"

"That's right. He might have already instructed people in the military camp to torture Prince De. He would definitely do that."

Fifth Brother Xia nodded repeatedly.

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At Qiongzhi Courtyard...

Ling Yi had already sent everything to Qiongzhi Courtyard. She even introduced each item to An Jiuyue to show off the Old Madam's generosity.

An Jiuyue remained silent.

Are they trying to show off their wealth or experience? Is it wrong of me to come from the countryside? Do you need to look down on me like that?

She was furious and instructed Wei Na, "Wei Na, find 20 packets of spicy bars. I want the super spicy kind. Unwrap them all and put them on a plate!"

Wei Na was speechless.

Master, we may be angry, but we shouldn't be wasteful, right? Spicy bars are good stuff! Are you sure you want to give it to them?

Chapter 349: Underestimating Her

However, Wei Na obeyed An Jiuyue's instructions and unwrapped the spicy bars. They would make that darn old woman suffer from the spice later!

After a while, An Jiuyue went to the courtyard. When she returned, she was carrying two plates filled with spicy bars.

"Princess, you..."

Ling Yi was still trying to cozy up to Qian Yiyun. Now that Xue Ling was gone, no one could coax her anymore. She could only rely on herself and get closer to Qian Yiyun.

She was stunned when she turned around and saw the red things An Jiuyue was carrying in her hands.

“Miss Ling Yi, I brought these from home. They’re delicious. Old Madam gave me so many good things, but I’m unable to repay her kindness. Please bring this snack to Old Madam and thank her on my behalf.”

An Jiuyue handed the two plates to Ling Yi with a smile. It frightened her so much that she took a step back and almost stepped on Qian Yiyun’s foot.

What is this? It looks so oily and scary!

“This... An Jiuyue, what... what is this?”

“This is a specialty snack from my hometown. It’s very delicious. There may only be two plates, but they’re very expensive. Besides, ordinary people can’t buy them.”

An Jiuyue looked at the spicy bars on the plates exaggeratedly.

“You have the gourmet’s luck. That’s why you can meet me and eat the most delicious food in the world.”

Ling Yi was speechless.

Why does this sound so familiar? I’ve heard this somewhere.

Oh, right! I remember saying something similar when I introduced the things I took from Old Madam’s private storehouse to An Jiuyue.

I didn't expect this village girl to twist my words and retort!

Her eyes narrowed. This young lady did not seem powerful, but she was far from ordinary!

An Jiuyue was grinning as she introduced her to the items. She thought An Jiuyue was a foolish lady and did not care about her.

However, she realized that An Jiuyue was not grinning. She was smiling sinisterly!

Ling Yi admitted she was less composed than An Jiuyue. An Jiuyue had been grinning just now. Meanwhile, she did not look so good after hearing what An Jiuyue said.

"On behalf of Old Madam, thank you, Miss An."

She relaxed and smiled stiffly. She reached out to take the two plates of unknown food.

"Princess, Miss An, if there's nothing else, I'll take my leave."

Qian Yiyun looked at Ling Yi meaningfully and nodded at her. "Okay, go ahead. Take good care of Old Madam."

After Ling Yi left, she stood up from her chair and walked towards the gifts they received.

"Tsk tsk, that old woman is really generous!"

These were all valuables! There were complete sets of high-quality jade jewelry and other things. Every piece would usually only be within sight but beyond reach.

"Sister-in-law, what do you think that old thing is trying to do? Curry favor with you?"

An Jiuyue sneered and retorted, "What do you think?"

"It doesn't seem like it." Qian Yiyun shook her head.

Would that old woman curry favor with them? Even if she did, she would curry favor with them openly and kill them secretly.

"I think she must have poisoned these things, right?"

"You're underestimating her." An Jiuyue shook her head and glanced at the items.

The gifts were good, but it was a pity that they were not what she liked. It was a good idea to try to win her over.

Chapter 350: Have You Figured It Out?

"Then why?"

Qian Yiyun still did not understand.

The old woman would not give her belongings away for no reason. She must be heartbrokenly giving these to them, right?

"Don't you understand? Xue Ling is dead. She lacks a chess piece, particularly one that can get close to your brother," An Jiuyue reminded her.

"Ahem!"

Upon hearing that, Qian Yiyun choked on her saliva.

This old woman is really greedy! She put her chess piece near my brother, and now she wants to win my sister-in-law over!

“Is she crazy? Does she not consider the status of the person she’s trying to bribe?”

“She didn’t say it out loud either.”

An Jiuyue shrugged and looked at the items.

The Xue Yingyue of today was far more complicated than the Xue Yingyue of five years ago.

This was a strategy to kill two birds with one stone. She could either use these items to bribe An Jiuyue or to sow discord between her and Qian Jiyun.

“Your brother rose to his current position not only through military achievements but also through wisdom. He can be considered someone who is scheming.

“What do you think he’ll think if he hears that I accepted so many gifts from Old Madam more than once?”

“Oh!” Qian Yiyun was stunned.

What a cunning plan! Her brother would definitely suspect An Jiuyue if she were a regular person.

Even if An Jiuyue did not want to be bribed, she would gradually lean toward Xue Yingyue if she forced her into a corner. Only that old woman would benefit.

These valuables might return to her after her chess pieces were squeezed dry.

“She’s an old woman with one foot in the grave. Why is she still so troublesome? She’s ruthless. Is she not afraid of being cast to the 18th level of hell after death?”

“Everyone has desires and greed, regardless of age,” An Jiuyue said.

...

“Have you sent the... What is that?”

Xue Yingyue saw Ling Yi enter from the corner of her eye and instinctively glanced over, wanting to ask if she had delivered the items.

However, her face paled when she saw the two plates in Ling Yi’s hands.

What is that? When did I instruct her to bring these dreadful things in?

“Old Madam, this... this is a gift from Miss An, whom His Highness brought back. I didn’t dare to throw it away casually. Please punish me.”

Ling Yi looked at the things in her hand with disdain, but she did not dare throw them away without Old Madam’s permission.

She also wanted Old Madam to know what kind of person An Jiuyue was.

She’s so poor she can only give these unappealing things! And she still acted clever about it.

Old Madam took a deep breath.

“Have you figured out that woman’s personality?” she asked.

“Old Madam, this woman is not easy to deal with.”

Ling Yi told Old Madam everything about her conversation with An Jiuyue and what An Jiuyue had done without leaving out a single detail.

“In that case, that woman is scheming?” Old Madam murmured after listening to Ling Yi.

It seems like this woman is not easy to deal with. I have to be steady.

“But it makes sense. If she isn’t capable, how can she make that devoted Qian Jiyun so infatuated with her that he disregards his princess consort?”

“Old Madam, what should we do now?”