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In fact, she was willing to accept the sacrifice because according to the legend, if she completed the sacrifice, she could truly become one with Yae. Hence she hoped for Yae to slay her.

Except that right up to the day of the sacrifice, Yae had not returned.

On the day of the sacrifice, in the absence of a twin witch, Atsushi, who was in despair, was strangled with a rope and thrown into the Void. However, there was no room for mistakes during the ritual. It was not Yae that killed Atsushi, hence it could not suppress the Void's resentment and prevent it from erupting. The wrong ritual had caused the void to open up and create a great calamity. Hence, Atsushi descended with resentment and killed all the surviving villagers one by one. As she watched the villagers die, she laughed wildly.

Yae, meanwhile, had lost her way while journeying to the village. When she finally got back onto the path, she realized from afar that the village had disappeared.

During the destruction of the Minakami Village, because the seal of the Void had been completely removed, vengeful spirits overflowed from the Void. Once people breathed in the air, they would see the Hellish Abyss and die of the insanity that it would cause.

A dark night descended upon the cocooned village that no one who entered could escape. From the outside, the village looked like a forest shrouded in fog. However, once a person was lured in, they would never return. Hence it became known to the world as "the village that disappeared from the map".

One day years later, the Tenpei sisters, who had not returned for many years, came to the forest where they had not visited for a long time. Due to her strong spiritual perception and a similar fate as Atsushi, Bao sensed Atsushi's beckoning and was lured into the village that had disappeared from the map. The worried sister, Sasaki Tenpei, then gave chase.

The elder sister was the reincarnation of the younger twin Atsushi. She was drawn back to the village. The game would end when Sasaki Tenpei would eventually replace Yae of her previous life, to finally complete the sacrifice and kill her sister.

By the end of the game, Little Yichen was completely immersed in the game's background, taking his place in the protagonist's emotional world. In the ending scene, Sasaki Tenpei was confused and had no choice but to strangle Bao Tenpei. In the end, she ran after her sister, who had turned into a dancing red butterfly, crying in despair.

The boy couldn't imagine what it would be like to be in her shoes!

Youyou listened to the story for a long time. "That's superstition." He said, "Every country has people who are superstitious and feudal."

Little Yichen replied, "Fortunately, we don't live in that world. Actually, sacrifices like this do exist in Japanese folklore. But I think, more than shocking, it's cruel."

Youyou suddenly asked, "If it were you, would you be willing to complete the sacrifice?"

"No," the boy said angrily. "I'll kill whoever forces me to complete the sacrifice."

For once, he looked murderous. Just imagining the possibility made the boy furious.

"Well then..." Youyou half-ventured. "If given two choices in that context, either I have to kill you, or you have to kill me, which do you choose?"

Little Yichen was startled. He had not expected that question.

Youyou cocked his head to one side, expecting Little Yichen to reply that he would rather be sacrificed than kill him.

Instead, the boy answered, "I'd rather live and slay you."

"Why?" Youyou was surprised.

"No matter what, in that situation, the one living will suffer the most."

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"No matter what, in that situation, the one living will suffer the most."

Little Yichen smiled sheepishly. "I'm sure you wouldn't feel the pain if you were dead, would you? The living are the ones who carry the burden."

Youyou was greatly stunned. After a while, he exhaled and sighed. "I didn't expect you to be so much more mature than I thought."

Indeed, it would be the one alive who would suffer the most, so that in this case, there was no big difference between life and death. And the greatest contrast would probably be between pain and release.

The dead would be released, surely. And the living would have to carry all the thoughts, guilt, pain, torture... Indeed, living would be far worse than being dead.

"Why do you have to think about something so serious?" Little Yichen muttered with an odd look on his face, "It's not like we're really going to have a ceremony like that!"

"Does telepathy really exist between twins?"

"I don't know. At least, I do."

Youyou's curiosity was piqued upon hearing this. "Exactly what kind of experience is telepathy?"

"Well, it's a bit like... Somehow, I can feel your pain and your joy. When you're unhappy, I'll always be the first to know. When you're happy, I may have even more reasons than you to be happy!" The boy paused, then continued, "I didn't believe in telepathy until such a magical thing happened to me. When I was a kid, I used to get angina for no reason. I had no idea why, but all the doctors I went to couldn't

come up with an explanation. No one knew why I had angina for no reason when I was physically fine. At the time, Daddy was worried I had a heart problem and kept looking for information on heart diseases. Actually, my heart was fine."

"So it's because..."

"It's because I can feel your pain!" The boy continued, "I used to know a teacher when I was in school. He had a twin brother, too, but his brother passed away when they were in high school. I asked him once if there was really telepathy between twins. He starting crying right in front of me."

"Why?"

"The teacher told me about his high school days. At that time, he often fought with his parents because he was rebellious. One time, they instructed him to run an errand and after that slammed the door behind them. His brother saw that he was in a bad mood and offered to run the errand instead. He agreed. And then..."

Youyou guessed the ending. "Then something happened on the way."

"Uh huh, he fell asleep at his desk, and all of a sudden, he felt a searing pain in his heart. He didn't know why, but that was when he realized that something had happened to his brother. So he decided to go out and look for him. He was just stepping out when he got a call from his uncle, informing him that his brother had been in a car accident and that things weren't looking good. He cried all the way to the hospital, but all he saw was his brother's dead body... He couldn't get over it for years after that."

The bond between twins is generally stronger than in ordinary kinship. This is because twins originate from the same ovum. They are part of each other, the same flesh and blood, the same spirit.

As a result, whether to Youyou or Little Yichen, they were inseparable from each other.

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As a result, whether to Youyou or Little Yichen, they were inseparable from each other.

Little Yichen was overcome with emotion. Suddenly he hugged Youyou tightly and sighed. "Let's stop overthinking and go to bed early?! Don't worry, I'll stay here with you."

Youyou was exhausted, but he was reluctant to fall asleep. He was afraid that if he did, he would have a nightmare again.

Little Yichen patted him gently on the back and sighed again. "Don't think too much about it. You can't stay awake all the time, Youyou. Trust me. I'll never let anyone hurt you."

With that reassurance, Youyou felt an inexplicable sense of confidence! He grunted, then closed his eyes briefly.

...

When the first rays of the morning sun shone through the windowsill, Little Yichen half-opened his eyes and saw that the other side of the bed was already empty.

"Youyou?"

Where has he gone? Waking up so early?

Muttering to himself, Little Yichen rolled off the bed and was just leaving the room when he noticed that, for some reason, there was something alien about the familiar surroundings.

"Youyou?" He called out tentatively, but was greeted by the sound of silence.

"Mommy?"

"Daddy ...?"

Little Yichen walked towards the door and pushed it open. The huge villa was cold and deserted.

"What was going on..." Little Yichen's suspicion grew. Where had everyone gone?

He hurried to the door of Yueyao's room and called out her name as he pushed open the door. It was empty. The lonely crib was still there. On the bed was the handmade wind chime that Yun Shishi had made especially for the girl. The morning breeze blew it in, making it flutter, but it actually sounded desolate in such a lifeless room.

"Yueyao..."

Little Yichen felt strangely uneasy. For some reason, he had a bad feeling.

There was a sudden rush of footsteps outside the door.

The boy heard a small movement and flung open the door. As he stepped outside, he caught the faint scent of blood. He frowned slightly, and felt his heart rate suddenly increase.!

"Youyou...!" He called out again, but suddenly heard voices coming from the kitchen.

Drip, drip, drip...

Drip, drip, drip...

There seemed to be the sound of some water dripping onto the floor. He walked slowly to the kitchen door and saw Youyou standing alone in the kitchen. His stiff, cold back seemed unfamiliar to him for a moment.

"You..." He had just opened his mouth when the boy's right hand suddenly loosened. Then, a bloodstained fruit knife fell to the ground!

"Ahh..." Little Yichen almost cried out in surprise. The boy turned to him with a cold expression that bore a hint of an icy smile.

"No one should even think of possessing what I cannot have."

"What... what are you doing!?" Little Yichen was instantly alert. "You're not Youyou!"

Youyou's lips curled as he sneered and pressed towards the other boy. "Sooner or later, this body will belong to me! When that happens, Mommy will be mine, and this family will be mine! I'll never have to be trapped in that cold world again..."

Little Yichen backed away in horror.

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Little Yichen backed away in horror. He clenched his fists and looked down at the other boy's blood-soaked wrists!

"Your ... your hands..." Little Yichen furrowed his brow deeply, anger surging through him. Frustrated, he dashed towards the other boy and grabbed him by the collar. "This is not your body," he said through gritted teeth. "You have no right or right to touch him!"

"Oh? Your heart aches for him?" Youyou raised an eyebrow, his gaze coldly sizing him up like an icy knife. "And who are you to interfere in my affairs with him? Who says this body doesn't belong to me? You see, I can manipulate him quite freely." As he spoke, he grabbed Little Yichen's wrist! "I'll do what I want, and no one can interfere! Since I'm not meant to have it, I'd rather destroy it. Don't go thinking you can get rid of me!"

With both hands, Youyou violently shoved Little Yichen forward. Little Yichen had no idea how the other boy got so strong. He was slammed into the wall forcefully and fell awkwardly to the floor. Just as he was about to pick himself up, he saw a hand behind the cupboard door which had been left ajar.

His eyes widened in shock. He reached out and touched it lightly. The hand... The diamond ring on the ring finger made him recognize it as belonging to Yun Shishi.

Her hand hung weakly out of the cupboard. There was no life in it. Little Yichen looked at Youyou in disbelief, then at Yun Shishi's hand. Swallowing hard, he opened the cupboard door and was shocked to see her twisted cold body in the cupboard...

...

"Ahhhhh!" Little Yichen yelped and sat bolt upright in bed. The jerk brought him out of his nightmare into reality.

The boy opened his eyes, gradually making sense of the world in front of him. The familiar bedroom, the familiar furnishings, the familiar windowsill. The sunlight streaming in through the window finally warmed his body that was drenched in cold sweat.

Except he could no longer tell if it was a dream or a dream within a dream.

Although it was a dream, he still had a deep impression of the earlier scene. It was imprinted in his mind, especially the scene in the kitchen, which ruthlessly haunted him!

How could he have such a dream?!

Youyou... He quickly turned around and saw that the bed was empty. He couldn't help but wonder if this was a dream or reality.

Painfully, the boy put his hand to his forehead. In a daze, he threw back the covers and got out of bed, shuffling in his slippers. He opened the door and stood in the doorway of the room, feeling a little out of sorts.

He finally understood how tormenting a nightmare could be. Just recalling the scene in the dream made him afraid to imagine what would happen if he hadn't woken up...

The boy leaned against the wall in agony. He finally understood why Youyou had refused to go to sleep last night even though he was exhausted. A nightmare could drain everything out of a person. Even though he had slept all night, he still felt extremely tired. It was probably because his brain was not in a resting state during the dream!

But why would he have such a dream? There was no reason at all. He usually slept well and would never have such dreams. Could it be... Was it because of telepathy?!

Unless...

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Could it be... Was it because of telepathy?!

Unless... Gong Fan wanted to betray Youyou so that he could fully control the body. He had sensed such ambition through telepathy, was that why he had such a dream?

Little Yichen was suspicious, because the dream was too real. He clenched his fists in fury! However, if Gong Fan dared to hurt Youyou... He would never allow such a thing to happen.

Little Yichen made his way into the living room, where he found Youyou sitting on the sofa, his posture ramrod straight, his face expressionless. In that instant, the boy recognized, this was not Youyou, but Gong Fan, who had been missing for some time. He could now easily distinguish between Youyou and Gong Fan!

Why was he here?

!!

If it had not been for the dream last night, Little Yichen would have been overjoyed by Gong Fan's reappearance. However, with last night's dream fresh in his mind, his feelings about Gong Fan's reappearance suddenly became complicated.

"Gong Fan..."

Gong Fan turned to look at him, but there was no noticeable change in his expression.

"You're up?" Little Yichen spoke awkwardly to the boy, and even though he went to sit down beside Youyou, he felt some distance between them. "Why are you up so early?"

Gong Fan took a sip of milk and said indifferently, "I wanted to bask in the sun for a bit."

Perhaps because he had been asleep for too long, Gong Fan was unwilling to waste time sleeping. Hence, he was up early in the morning.

Sunlight spilled into the living room and fell on him, as if coating him in a glowing layer of gold.

Little Yichen's eyes met his briefly, and even as he stiffened his posture, he heard the sound of running water in the kitchen. For some reason, he recalled that scene in his dream. The boy stood up nervously and hurried towards the kitchen!

"Mommy..." He hurried to the entrance of the kitchen, and saw that she was at the kitchen counter, preparing breakfast.

She jumped at the sound of the boy's startled exclamation and turned towards the door to observe him letting out a sigh of relief, when he saw that she was only washing the glasses. It gave him a fright!

"What's up?" Yun Shishi became nervous, thinking something had happened. "What... what's the matter?"

"Oh ... no, nothing ..." The boy went up to her and lowered his voice. "It's... Gong Fan..."

"Uh... uh huh." Yun Shishi was aware too, that it was Gong Fan who had woken up today, but she did not look too surprised. Instead, she looked vaguely worried. She was obviously worried about Youyou.

Last night, she had personally witnessed how Youyou had struggled to wake up from his dream, and looking spent, he had told her that in the dream, Gong Fan had stabbed him in the heart with a knife.

Even though she had consoled him at that time that it was just a dream, no one dared to say for sure if it was a dream, or that Gong Fan's personality had entered his dream and created such a terrifying nightmare.

Now, early in the morning, she realized that the boy had not woken up. It was Gong Fan who had woken up, which made her even more inexplicably uneasy.

The dynamics between Youyou and Gong Fan had become a pressure that sat heavily in her heart.

A sense of anxiety was eating at her.

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"Mommy, yesterday I..." Little Yichen had mulled this over for a long time, wondering how best to tell her about the dream.

Firstly, he was afraid that she would worry. Secondly, he was afraid that such an unrealistic dream would give her a psychological cue.

He had suspected... Everything in the dream must be related to Gong Fan. Could it be that Gong Fan really wanted to take over Youyou's body, and so he had the dream for this reason? And he had this dream because he had telepathic communication with Youyou.

Little Yichen was worried. Would Gong Fan really be like this? Would he hurt the boy in order to possess Youyou's body? Both he and Yun Shishi welcomed and accepted him. The family got along well, and even Youyou was tolerant of Gong Fan. How could he do anything to hurt Youyou? Little Yichen found it hard to believe.

At the dining table.

!!

Yun Shishi served up breakfast. Little Yichen and Gong Fan sat facing each other.

Little Yichen hesitated as he studied Gong Fan while eating breakfast. He had many questions for Gong Fan, but he was also worried that Gong Fan was indeed as cruel and ruthless as he appeared in the dream. If that were the case, asking these questions would only serve to alert the enemy.

Little Yichen was surprised to find himself seemingly more on guard against Gong Fan since he had woken up from the dream. It was as though he was on the alert against him! It was a subconscious precaution, not something deliberate on his own part.

Gong Fan took a bite of bread and raised his eyebrows when he saw that his brother was clearly troubled. "What's the matter?"

"Oh ... oh, nothing!" Little Yichen shook his head and casually picked up two slices of bread. He spread a layer of blueberry jam on them and absentmindedly took a bite.

"You don't look like you slept well." Gong Fan's unintentional words made Little Yichen's heart skip a beat.

"N-no, of course not!"

"But I sense that you're not in a good state of mind."

It was not deliberate concern. Although Gong Fan's tone was not so friendly, one could tell that he cared. He saw that Little Yichen looked a little worn and had a feeling that the boy had not had a good rest. He looked tired and out of sorts.

Little Yichen touched his own face and replied perfunctorily, 'Maybe it's the nightmare...'

"Nightmare?" Gong Fan didn't look convinced. What kind of nightmares could an optimistic boy like Little Yichen have? "Got captured by the enemies?"

Little Yichen replied, "... I haven't been playing PUBG lately."

"As I recall, you acted as if you were a game addict. There was a time when you were gaming round-theclock, even in your dreams." Gong Fan paused and took a sip of milk. He teased, "Did you dream that you were being pursued with a frying pan?"

"Cough... cough..."

Gong Fan actually had the mood to joke with him. Little Yichen relaxed a little, thinking that a dream was just a dream after all. He didn't have to make a big deal out of it, translating the dream into some other things in reality!

Youyou was his brother. Similarly, Gong Fan was his brother. How could he not trust Gong Fan and suspect that he wanted to hurt the boy?

It was just a dream...

Little Yichen kept pointedly ignoring everything that seemed troubling in his dreams. He continually tried to reassure himself. He gulped down his glass of milk and finally felt better.

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Little Yichen was distracted, and Gong Fan was clearly in a daze.

He kept savaging the egg yolk on his plate with his knife and fork, as if thinking about something.

When Yun Shishi saw how distracted he looked, she was naturally rather worried. "What's on your mind?"

Gong Fan only came back to his senses after a long while. He looked up at her and replied, "Oh, I feel... a little unfamiliar. I feel like I've been sleeping for a long time."

Little Yichen smiled at that. "You're right. You were indeed sleeping for a long time."

Gong Fan frowned as Yun Shishi tried to probe further, "Do you remember where you were before you fell asleep?"

Gong Fan recalled for a moment and looked up. "In Mommy's arms?"

"Eh? You remember."

"Well, I seem to remember Youyou promising someone that he'd make a series of desserts, and then... I don't know what happened that day, but I suddenly passed out..."

"You... didn't think there was something odd about it? Why did you suddenly pass out for no reason?" She deliberately asked this question to uncover a clue from Gong Fan.

When Gong Fan heard this, he cooperated and tried to search for his memories. However, no matter how he thought about it, a portion of his memories from that day was indeed missing.

"I can't remember..."

"I see..." Yun Shishi could not help feeling disappointed, but she tried to hide it.

Gong Fan, however, could clearly sense the disappointment in her expression and asked worriedly, "What's wrong? Did something happen that day?"

"Nothing!" Yun Shishi sat down and smiled. "Let's eat! The sooner we're done, the sooner we can take a walk outside, eh?"

"Alright!" Gong Fan's expression immediately relaxed. He relished the time he spent with Yun Shishi, for it made him feel as though the world quietened down and everything was blissful.

Little Yichen, however, still looked troubled. He had had an exhausting nightmare the night before, and had not been able to recover even long after waking up.

...

In the backyard, the actor stood by the swing and gazed quietly at Natalia, who was sitting on it, minding her own business. It was quiet and leisurely.

"Can you push me?" Natalia suddenly asked for a hand from him.

Hua Jin gave her an amused half-smile. "Why? I tried to push you earlier, but you said you wanted to do it yourself."

"I want to swing higher, but I've been swinging for a long time and I can't get higher."

Resigned, the actor came around behind her and gave her a gentle push. "Let's keep it that way. What if it swings too high and you fly out of the seat?"

But Natalia shook her head like a rattle. "No, no, I want to swing higher. Don't worry! I'll hold on tight!"

Hua Jin could do nothing to convince her otherwise, so he repeatedly reminded her, "You have to hold on tight. Otherwise, you'll fall and it's going to give you a concussion."

"Okay." Natalia nodded and gripped the rope.

The actor pushed a little harder, and the swing swung high.

"Wow!" Natalia smiled through narrowed, excited eyes.

The swing slowed gradually after that. After experiencing the thrill, Natalia settled down and sat on the swing, letting the gentle breeze caress her face.

"When is Daddy coming back?" she asked out of the blue.

The actor looked startled by her question. "Why?" he asked, raising an eyebrow. "Do you miss Daddy?"

"Uh huh!"

"Didn't you just video call him a few days ago?"

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"Didn't you just video call him a few days ago?" The actor added, "Daddy's so busy. He might not have time to come back!"

"Why don't you call him and ask when he'll be back?" Natalia widened her eyes with anticipation.

The actor couldn't bear to disappoint her, so he stepped to the side and took out his cell phone. He looked at Gong Jie's FaceTime icon and after a moment's hesitation, he finally dialed.

...

Hurricane Group.

Gong Jie stepped into the maintenance hall, still in his trench coat, and stared at the huge beast parked on the tarmac—a military helicopter.

It was his personal vehicle.

Military helicopters were armed helicopters developed for combat missions. They were categorized into ordinary armed helicopters, stealth helicopters, and high-speed armed helicopters. They could also be specialized or multi-purpose aircrafts.

The specialized model had a long and narrow fuselage and a stronger combat ability. In addition to being used in attack missions, the multi-purpose model could also be used for transportation, landing, and other missions. Not only did modern military helicopters carry a wide variety of weapons, they also carried large loads.

As far as single aircrafts were concerned, a helicopter with a large takeoff load could carry more ammunition. For example, the Mi-24 assault helicopter, which was used extensively in the Eton P2H and Afh wars, had a four-barreled 12.7mm machine gun with a 1,500-round ammunition reserve, four antitank missiles could be hung on the short wing tips, and four 57mm rocket launchers could be hung on four racks under the short wing. A total load of 128 rockets. If not rockets, a 1,500-kg bomb can be hung.

Another example is the AH-I attack helicopter, which was put into use on the battlefield in Vietnam. Its nose is equipped with an L-20mm or 30mm aerial gun, and the sides of the fuselage can be loaded with 8 anti-tank missiles or 76 70mm rockets. The A-129 helicopter, which takes off less than 4t, is equipped with a 12.7mm machine gun. It can carry eight "Holt" missiles or 52 70mm rockets, and the air-combat type can carry eight "Northwest" air-to-air missiles. For an established attack helicopter unit, its attack firepower is not to be underestimated.

Right now, this huge military monster was undergoing daily maintenance.

Men have an innate desire to conquer. As such, they like cars, tanks, and firearms. But not everyone had the privilege of owning such a huge military monster. This military helicopter was a coming-of-age gift from Gong Shaoying to Gong Jie. So far, it had served him for about ten years.

Depending on the outcome of this inspection, he may well have to retire it. Gong Jie felt a pang of reluctance. 10 years. It was impossible to say that he had no feelings for this "comrade".

This was the most precious gift he had received when he turned 18. For so many years, he had treated it like a treasure. However, now that it was facing retirement, he could only lament that time had passed too quickly.

The monstrous beast was an AH-1 Cobra attack helicopter. After the end of the LZ in 1990, in order to adapt to a harsher and more variable environment on the battlefield in the future, and to accomplish their mission faster and more effectively in various regional conflicts, the Marine Corps of M nation decided to use the AH-1W Super Cobra as the basis for a comprehensive upgrade. The result was the AH-1Z Viper.

The first prototype of the AH-1Z was successfully tested in 2000. Although nominally this was just a performance boost for the Super Cobra.

Throughout its lifespan, maintenance alone, including the cost of training, would be in the hundreds of millions of dollars, or even more than a billion.

The Hurricane Group was especially strict about the maintenance of equipment maintenance and lifespan.

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The Hurricane Group was especially strict about the maintenance of equipment maintenance and lifespan.

Gong Jie walked over to the helicopter and gently stroked it. He had named it Robin. The reason it was given this name was because Gong Jie had also had an idol when he was young. His favorite Marvel comic book hero was Batman. As a kid, he loved collecting Batman memorabilia.

Robin, also known as the Boy Wonder, was Batman's partner and assistant. Together with Batman, they were known as the Dynamic Duo.

As a young man, Gong Jie had hoped to have a close friend and assistant like Robin. When Gong Shaoying gave him this armed helicopter, for some reason, his first thought was Robin's name. That day, when he sat in the brand-new pilot's seat for the first time and touched the controls, he felt as if the AH-1Z had come to life.

"How about I name you Robin?" He actually muttered to himself and thus gave the big guy a name.

For 10 years, Robin had shuttled him through the heavens, over the Aurora and the horizon. It had been his most loyal companion when caught in a hail of bullets. It had shot down air-raid missiles that had attempted to ambush him. Its hard shell had taken countless bullets for him. They had braved danger together, in life and death situations.

"Young Master Jie." The technician walked over with a thick stack of test reports in his hand.

Gong Jie walked towards him, asking somewhat anxiously, "Well?"

"The test report came back. Robin meets all the benchmarks and can continue his service."

Gong Jie's eyes lit up at that, and he turned on his heel and threw himself onto the big animal with the jubilation he'd felt when he'd first seen it as an adult, as surprised as a child.

"Great, Robin."

He'd assumed Robin's term of service would come to an end. To his surprise, Robin would still be able to serve as his comrade-in-war.

At this point, his phone rang. Gong Jie took the call. Hua Jin's face appeared clearly on the screen.

At the same moment, Hua Jin saw his Gong Jie on the screen.

The actor noticed that for some reason, there was a smile on Gong Jie's face. It was a rare sight to see the man smiling so happily. Usually cold and expressionless, he was like a demon king. But now his smile was pure and innocent like a child's.

Gong Jie's smile faded immediately at the sight of Hua Jin. He cleared his throat awkwardly.

"Why? What's up?"

The actor was stumped. Was it so disappointing to see his face? Hua Jin became inexplicably unhappy at that.

"Um... do you have much free time these days?"

Gong Jie thought for a moment. He didn't seem to have much free time. His schedule was full. "What's the matter? Has something come up?"

"Natalia misses you. She's been pestering me... asking when you'll be back."

"Get her on the phone."

"Okay." The actor handed the phone to Natalia. When she saw Gong Jie's face, her eyes became like crescent moons as she smiled. "Have you been busy, Daddy?"

She looked at him eagerly. Despite her smile, the anticipation in her eyes prevented the man from telling her that he was busy.

"Daddy, do you miss me?" Natalia asked.

Gong Jie raised his sword-like eyebrows and leaned closer to the screen. "What do you think?"

"I guess you don't."

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"What makes you think I don't miss you?"

"If you miss me, you'll be eager to come back to visit." Natalia pouted, looking aggrieved.

Gong Jie found that rather difficult to bear. He ran his fingers lightly over the screen, as if he was touching her face.

"Daddy will come home and spend some time with you in a while, okay?"

Natalia didn't seem satisfied with the answer. "And when will you come home?" she pressed on.

"Um, in a few days."

"Well... how many days?"

Gong Jie creased his brow slightly. He didn't know what his schedule would be like in the coming days, so it was impossible to give her an immediate answer. But if he tried to be perfunctory and made an appointment with the girl that he couldn't keep, she would end up disappointed in him and he would lose credibility with her.

So he had to answer that question with due consideration.

Thus, he replied, "Can Daddy call you back tomorrow? Daddy will have to organize my work and take some time to go back to see you."

"If Daddy is really busy, you don't have to come back to visit me." Natalia felt a little embarrassed. She could see that the man was busy. She missed him, but she couldn't possibly insist. Natalia was a sensible, well-behaved and thoughtful girl who didn't like to put others in a difficult position.

Gong Jie's heart softened further at this. "Good girl. I promise, I'll make time to go back to see you, and I'll keep my word. But I'm not sure how my work is going to pan out in the next few days. Why don't you pass the phone to Uncle and I'll explain things to him?"

"Okay... alright." Natalia reluctantly handed the phone to Hua Jin.

The actor stepped away, phone in hand. Before Gong Jie could say anything, he lowered his voice and asked, "Has Alice told you?"

"Tell me what?"

"About Natalisa."

Natalisa? Alice had not contacted him during this time. Who was Natalia?

Sensing his confusion from his expression, Hua Jin realized that Gong probably didn't know about this. "Alice suspects that Natalisa's personality has shown up, but, according to Alice, Natalisa is a dangerous personality, even capable of hypnosis techniques, so Natalisa is not safe to be around."

"Dangerous?"

"It won't be wrong to say she's a danger to us. She's like a time bomb. It's a matter of when, and not if, it goes off."

Gong Jie's brows drew together at that. "Alice did not mention that to me," he replied immediately.

"I think the girl's too suspicious." The actor paused, then said, "I've been under some stress lately. Not because I'm afraid, but because I'm afraid that if I don't take good enough care of Natalia, something might go wrong. After all, I don't have the experience of taking care of patients, and my reflexes are always slow."

"Don't worry. There's no need for all that stress. Just pay more attention to how she's doing. I'm sure that with Alice around, the situation will be under control. I'll get my work organized and try to get back home as soon as possible."

Because Alice was with Natalia, Gong Jie had not been so worried. But having heard what Hua Jin had said, he realized things may not be that simple. Therefore, he decided to make time to return to the country as soon as possible and see how Natalia was doing.