

The Good 81

Chapter 81: I Don't Want to be Devastatingly Gorgeous (2)

"A thousand years ago..." Shen Yanxiao stared ahead with a blank expression on her face. How would she possibly know the origin of the seal? If Xiu hadn't told her, she probably wouldn't even have noticed that there was a seal on her.

"That's right. The Seven Star Moon Seal was invented by the God Emperor of the god race to deal with the demon race. However, the demon race somehow managed to steal this invention, and that was why both races used the same seal." That was a rare occasion where Xiu had agreed with the Vermilion Bird.

"Initially, I was also curious as to why a seal like this would appear on a human."

Shen Yanxiao became confused. Both of them had fed her with too much information, and she did not know how to digest them.

"Since you have this seal on you, it means that you possess more strength than you do now. I believe that once your Seven Star Moon Seal is undone, you will be worthy of being my master." The Vermillion Bird was delighted with what he had discovered. He did not want a mediocre master who would disgrace his reputation as a mythical beast.

"Xiu will help me to undo this seal. Before then, there is something else that I have to do." Shen Yanxiao recalled that she was still short of the last batch of low-grade cores. Her trip to the Lava Valley had delayed her progress. However, since the sage had yet to leave, it was also hard for her to infiltrate the palace.

"He can undo the Seven Star Moon Seal?" The Vermilion Bird was astonished. To his knowledge, there was only a handful of people who could undo the seal. However, most of them had perished during the war between the demons and gods thousands of years ago.

Shen Yanxiao nodded.

The Vermilion Bird became even more curious about Xiu's identity.

Even though the little bird was curious, Shen Yanxiao was not in the mood to indulge him. She was anxious to gather the last batch of the demonic cores and to have Xiu help her to undo the second layer of the seal. She wanted to train her battle aura to the sixth rank before she headed to the Saint Laurent Academy.

Soon, her opportunity came. The sage's arrival not only attracted the attention of all the nobles in the capital, but it also caused the other four great aristocratic families to be restless. Everyone knew that only the sage from the God Realm could wake the mythical beasts.

The four great families immediately made preparations to invite the sage to their homes, and a few days later, he was dragged away by the White Tiger Family.

Shen Yanxiao had heard about the sage's impending trip to the White Tiger's location, and she knew that it was the best time for her to make her move.

On a dark and windy night, a heartless little thief, who had laid low for a long time, finally took action. She decided to extend her evil claws toward the heavily guarded palace.

Shen Yanxiao was careful not to take any luxury items with distinctive markings. Instead, her main objective that night was to find some cold hard cash. She even entered the Longxuan Empire's treasury and looted all the gold coins that she could fit in the interspatial ring in a wild manner.

The Emperor would not have cared about the Qilin Auction House's reputation. Once they discovered the theft, they would undoubtedly search the whole country, and she did not wish to take any goldware or jewels that could lead them to her.

When she was there, she noticed that Longxuan Empire's treasury was really... full!

She did her best to fill her interspatial ring to the brim with gold coins from the treasury.

That was a storage space of a hundred cubic meter! Even Shen Yanxiao found it hard to estimate how much gold she had inside the ring. Even so, the amount that she looted from the treasury was only one-tenth of everything they had.

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She had also discovered some items that she desperately needed in the treasury!

A total of seven hundred plus high-grade demonic cores!

That amount was probably half of all of the high-grade demonic cores in Longxuan Empire.

Naturally, Shen Yanxiao could not let her excellent fortune slip by her. She immediately removed a portion of the gold coins and squeezed those few hundreds of high-grade demonic cores into the interspatial ring.

When the ring was finally filled to the brim, Shen Yanxiao wiped her sleeves and then snuck out of the treasury.

One could only imagine the Emperor's reaction to the empty room when it was time for him to check on the status of the state treasury.

After she had returned from that little excursion, Shen Yanxiao consumed a bottle of low-grade disguise potion the next morning and visited the Qilin Auction House. When he saw the familiar customer, Qi Meng welcomed the little lad, and he was prepared to accept any goldware and jewels that he might have brought with him. If anyone else asked, he would have told them that their auction house had started a part-time business that dealt with luxury goods.

However, Shen Yanxiao did not have any items for them to sell on her behalf. She had brought a large sum of money and tasked them to continue to purchase more low-grade demonic cores for her. She even prepared a considerable amount of money to commission Qi Meng to proceed with the purchases for an infinite duration.

Qi Meng still could not figure out why that little lad would need so many demonic cores.

Despite his doubts, it was pretty easy to accomplish tasks with money. In only less than two days, Qi Meng had already purchased the last batch of the low-grade demonic cores that Shen Yanxiao needed.

When she was back in her room, Shen Yanxiao absorbed the few thousands of low-grade demonic cores on Xiu's behalf. Just as she consumed the last demonic core, a blurred silhouette suddenly appeared in her mind.

Then, she heard Xiu's voice from that blurry figure.

"It's time to undo the second layer of seal for you."

Shen Yanxiao was shocked. Did the demonic cores help Xiu to recover his strength and his physical body?

"This is only a mental illusion. It's not that simple to rebuild my body." Xiu answered the question in Shen Yanxiao's mind.

The Vermillion Bird had enjoyed the filial respect that everyone in the Vermillion Bird Family had shown him. He sat cross-legged on the chair lazily as he looked at the gradual change on the Seven Star Moon Seal on Shen Yanxiao's arm.

It took them an entire night to undo the second seal. When Shen Yanxiao woke up the next day, she felt as if she had been fished out from the river as she was drenched from head to toe. She realized that the water was quite dirty and quickly asked for a servant to prepare a bath for her.

However, the servant maid seemed to be in shock when she saw Shen Yanxiao. The servant maid even went inside her room, as if to take a closer look at Shen Yanxiao. Her behavior rendered Shen Yanxiao speechless. The servant maid finally recovered from the trance and left the room after Shen Yanxiao passed down an order.

"What's wrong with her? Is it that troublesome to fetch water?" Shen Yanxiao was baffled with the servant maid's attitude.

The Vermillion Bird also woke up around that time. As he sat up and rubbed his eyes, he was immediately shocked as he saw Shen Yanxiao, who stood in front of him.

Tender fair skin that was similar to the silk of the highest quality. A sharp protruding nose and naturally rosy lips, with a pair of bright eyes that became even more lively with every blink as if it could speak.

If he had not established a mental connection with Shen Yanxiao, he would not have believed that the gorgeous woman in front of him was the ugly duckling!

Chapter 83: You Must've Had a Blurred Vision (1)

"You... hurry up and look in the mirror!" The Vermilion Bird pointed toward Shen Yanxiao's face that would amaze anyone who looked at her.

Shen Yanxiao was confused by the Vermilion Bird's words, but she picked up the mirror on the table anyway.

She took one look, and she was utterly astounded with what she saw in the mirror.

No matter how she angled the mirror, the reflection of the little girl was so beautiful that it would make everyone's heart go wild. She also noticed that her skin was flawless!

However, she was so stunned by what she saw that she accidentally let go of the mirror and it crashed to the ground.

"What's going on?" Where was the ugly duckling? Who was that incredibly gorgeous beauty in the mirror?

"We undid the second seal, and its effect was stronger than the first seal. It seems that you have recovered your original appearance." Xiu's ice-cold voice echoed in her mind.

With that information, Shen Yanxiao did not know whether to laugh or to cry.

'Well, an ugly duckling had turned into a swan. This is even more effective than plastic surgery!'

No wonder the servant maid had such a strange reaction when she saw her.

Shen Yanxiao thought about the viciousness of that seal that sealed both her strength and appearance.

She appeared to have inherited all of Shen Yu and Wen Ya's good genes, and she was even comparable to her parents. If Shen Yue and the rest of the family were to see her, they could no longer say that she was not part of the family.

However...

"This is not good!!!" How could she disguise herself as a commoner with a face like that after her night time excursions in the future?

Shen Yanxiao was annoyed. She had not expected that the removal of the second layer of Seven Star Moon Seal would bring such a huge change, and that was not something she needed at that time.

"What are you doing?" As he basked in the joy at his master's new appearance, he noticed that Shen Yanxiao had rapidly shut the doors and the windows to her room. She then sat at her dressing tables as she took out numerous bottles with unknown contents to attempt to disfigure herself.

"I'm doing what I should be doing!" At that moment, Shen Yanxiao rejoiced at her foresight. In order to disguise herself in the past, she had bought a few items for her previous disguises. Even though the low-grade disguise potion was useful, the price restriction made it unfeasible for regular usage. For the sake of convenience, she purchased some items from the cosmetic shops in the capital so that she could do something with her appearance.

She did not want to go outside with her new and gorgeous appearance. She was already very prominent in the Vermilion Bird Family, and Shen Feng had also arranged for her to enter the Saint Laurent Academy. She knew that if she were to go to the academy with that face, she would not have any free time to herself in the future.

Beauty was every woman's lifelong pursuit. However, Shen Yanxiao had little interest in it, and she wished for her appearance to assist her in her objectives instead.

She thought that her previous plain features were pretty great. No matter where she went, no one would give her a second look, and that made it more convenient to steal.

Fortunately, Shen Yanxiao had never had any problems with disguises. In her former life, she was a professional thief, and it was not difficult to change her appearance on a whim. If she had access to her usual pieces of equipment, she would not even need any disguise potions to alter her looks entirely.

It was impossible to thoroughly change her face with only the items that she had then. However, she would have no problems with attempts to make herself ugly again.

There were no extraordinary changes to Shen Yanxiao's facial features. It had merely become more exquisite. The most significant change in her appearance was her flawless skin.

Chapter 84: You Must Have Had a Blurred Vision (2)

There was a saying that if one had fair skin, then it would cover their ugliness. However, Shen Yanxiao was also about to be as white as a sheet of paper!

As for the issue of the overly-fairness of her skin, there was a simple solution to that! Would it not solve the problem if she turned her skin to a darker shade?

The ladies in the twenty-fourth century had spent a sizable sum of money on their faces and bodies to fulfill their lifelong pursuit of beauty. However, all she wanted to do was to ruin the appearance that most women would kill for.

If anyone were to know about Shen Yanxiao's 'cruel' acts, they would probably jump out to strangle her.

In that room, however, apart from Shen Yanxiao who was the mastermind behind the 'cruel' acts upon herself, there was only the Vermillion Bird who also had a somewhat distorted perception of aesthetic.

In his eyes, Shen Yanxiao had indeed become much prettier than before, but she was not so beautiful that a mythical beast would worship her. Furthermore, he cared more about his master's strength than her looks.

Was it useful to be beautiful? Did you not have to pay for anything if you were good-looking?

Thus, the only other person who could prevent Shen Yanxiao from her attempts to disfigure her face sat silently at one side as he looked at her 'ruthless' actions toward her face with interest.

Outside the door, the muddle-headed servant maid carried a big bucket of warm water with her as she stood at the door and panicked. Another servant maid with a bucket of water stood beside her.

"Are you sure you didn't see it wrongly?" The curious servant maid asked her companion. When the other servant maid returned from the seventh young miss' room, she behaved weirdly, as if she was mentally confused. She only revealed the shocking news after a short bout of silence.

Their family's unattractive seventh young miss had apparently turned into a beautiful woman in just a single night.

Initially, she did not believe in her friend's words. Even though one would dream about how one could turn into a gorgeous woman in just a single night, however, a dream was only a dream. If that had happened to a person in real life, would that not be a scary thing?

However, the servant-maid who had returned from the young miss' room that morning was sure of what she had seen. In the end, she could not contain her curiosity and followed her to the room.

"I'm sure I wasn't mistaken." The servant maid who had come by earlier said decisively.

"I really did see it. If the Seventh Miss voice had changed, then I probably wouldn't dare to be so sure."

"The Seventh Miss had turned into a gorgeous beauty overnight? I still find that hard to believe."

The two servant maids stood outside Shen Yanxiao's door as they discussed, and they did not dare to knock on the door. While they conversed, the door slowly opened.

Shen Yanxiao stood inside the room and looked at the petrified servant maids as she pursed her lips discreetly. It seemed that she still looked as unattractive as she did before.

The two servant maids were dumbstruck with the situation. The servant maid who came by earlier rubbed her eyes in disbelief. The seventh young miss who she saw earlier obviously did not look like that!

The curious servant maid who had followed her to the room nearly choked to death by the disappointment that she felt in her heart.

Where was the Shen Yanxiao who had turned beautiful? She only saw dark and dusky skin, complete with a dull complexion. She was not even worthy to serve as the Vermillion Bird Family's maid, let alone to be called a gorgeous lady.

The curious servant maid must've been a fool to believe that a person could turn beautiful overnight. It was simply a joke.

The other servant could not even distinguish the difference between a swan and an ugly duckling.

Due to someone's 'ruthless action,' the Vermilion Bird Family's most beautiful member of the third generation was hidden away, just like that.

As per Shen Feng's arrangement, Shen Siyu would guide her to familiarize herself with the Vermilion Bird Family's affairs.

Chapter 85: You Must Have Had a Blurred Vision (3)

Other than the main house in the capital, the Vermilion Bird family had three other branches in the Longxuan Empire. Every year, the families from the other branches would report various situations to Shen Feng. The money and treasures that they had profited that year would also be handed over to the main house for distribution. Other than the Qilin Family, the main house of the other four aristocratic

families in the Capital had only the appearance of luxury and richness. The other branches of their families were the ones who turned profits for them.

It was similar to organizations in the modern era. All businesses had workers who ran things for them while the president would sit in his office to devise new strategies for the company.

Soon enough, Shen Yanxiao had grasped the general principle of the Vermillion Bird Family's operations. Shen Yue and Shen Duan were very displeased with her involvements. However, due to Shen Feng's pressure and Shen Siyu's presence, they did not display their dissatisfaction in front of Shen Yanxiao. Furthermore, the Vermillion Bird had also strolled around the estate during that period, but he had managed to cause disturbances to everywhere he went.

The Vermillion Bird, who had disappeared for hundreds of years, had suddenly appeared before everyone. That was why they thought it was the proudest moment of their lives when they met him. People had started to linger around the mythical beast longer too. If the Vermillion Bird had dropped a single strand of hair, everyone else would scramble to get it. They claimed that they had wanted to collect it for that their descendants would be able to admire it.

The crazy reverence reminded Shen Yanxiao of those crazy idol fans in the twenty-fourth century.

After Shen Jiayi and Shen Jiawei returned home, they had to rest for five days before they could even walk again. When they finally could move around, they learned Shen Feng had appointed Shen Yanxiao to be his successor. The two unruly kids were dumbstruck when they learned of the news. The thought of the idiot who they had bullied frequently in the past would become the next Family Head was worse than if an outsider were to take that position.

Both of them remembered the Vermillion Bird's brutal actions toward them, and so they passed their days with their tails tucked between their legs. Every time they saw the Vermillion Bird, they would make excuses to escape his sight. They were afraid that Shen Yanxiao would use the Vermillion Bird against them as revenge for their past actions.

As for Shen Yifeng, he did not react to the news at all. Instead, he had left the Vermillion Bird Family in haste after his return, and no one knew where he went.

Shen Yanxiao did not fare any better. After they undid the second seal, Xiu had started to instruct her even more ruthlessly. During the day, she had to spend her day with Shen Siyu to learn about their family's affair, and Xiu would keep her in the room to undergo various types of training during the night.

Shen Yanxiao have not had a good night sleep for twenty days. However, her battle aura had broken through to the sixth rank. She had to choose between training as a swordsman, a knight, or an archer, and so she decided to train in the archer class because it was a class that had the highest flexibility. However, she had been unable to begin her training even after she had selected to train as a warlock and an archer due to the lack of systematic guidance. She could only persist in training her magic and battle aura daily.

As for the specialized learning in the classes that she had chosen, she decided to place her hopes on the academy. Saint Laurent Academy was the largest academy in the Longxuan Empire, and regardless of the facilities or the qualifications of the teachers, they were the top-ranked academy in the entire Brilliance Continent. Even though Shen Feng had arranged for her to enroll as an herbalist, she knew

that it would be easy to obtain the skill books for magic and battle aura specializations after she entered the academy.

Chapter 86: Saint Laurent Academy (1)

The Saint Laurent Academy was quite far from the capital of the Longxuan Empire. To ensure that she could have more time for training while she was at the academy, Shen Yanxiao decided to make a trip to Qilin Auction House three days before her departure. She gave Qi Meng another large sum of payment and asked him to arrange periodical delivery to the Saint Laurent Academy after he had managed to gather enough demonic cores.

“You’re also a student at the Saint Laurent Academy?” After Qi Meng had heard Shen Yanxiao’s request, he looked at the ordinary-looking little lad in surprise.

The Saint Laurent Academy had a prominent reputation in the Longxuan Empire. Their status was not only due to its high educational standards but also because of its exceptionally harsh enrollment criteria. Their expensive tuition fees alone was already a deterrent for children from ordinary families.

Furthermore, the Saint Laurent Academy had several requirements for the students’ talents. Regardless of the division, they had to reach a certain standard in the enrollment test. Otherwise, the Saint Laurent Academy would overtly refuse you even if you were the future heir to the throne.

Qi Meng knew how to read people, and the young lad had been to Qilin Auction House numerous times. However, he still could not discern any unique talents that Shen Yanxiao might have, other than his status of a ‘nouveau riche.’ It was quite impossible for him to train battle aura with his thin waist, and his dispirited appearance was something that no one would associate with magic.

Shen Yanxiao nodded. Xiu had commented that the low-grade demonic cores would not be enough to undo the third layer of the seal. That was why she specifically tasked Qi Meng to keep a lookout for mid to high-range demonic cores. Since she did not know how long she would be at the academy, she would rather have Qi Meng to arrange the delivery to her there. As the saying went, ‘Money can solve everything.’ As long as she kept them in her pocket, Qilin Auction House would remain her best partner for that collaboration.

“What a coincidence.” A slightly lazy voice echoed from behind her.

Unknowingly, Qi Xia had arrived at the back hall of Qilin Auction House, and he leaned lazily against the doorframe. He just happened to overhear their conversation, and his pair of long and narrow fox-like eyes squinted as he smiled.

‘It’s him?’ Shen Yanxiao recognized Qi Xia’s appearance. As she recalled her first trip to Qilin Auction House, she remembered him as the young man who sat in the back hall and had stared at her with interest while she was there. However, she did not see him there in her subsequent visits, and she also did not expect to see him there that day.

“According to your age, you should be a first-year student who’s about to enter the academy. In this case, you should be addressing me as a senior.” Qi Xia smiled and looked at the little lad. Qi Meng had

informed him of the business that they had done with the young customer. He did not expect to see him there as he dropped by Qilin Auction House for a short patrol.

“Huh?” Shen Yanxiao blinked. Could it be...

“I am a second-year student at the Magus Division of Saint Laurent Academy.”

Shen Yanxiao immediately said, “Hello, senior.”

If the Vermillion Bird were there with Shen Yanxiao, he probably would have jumped out and slapped his master for her lack of moral integrity. Otherwise, why would she call someone a ‘senior’ just because they said so? She did not even know him well.

Shen Yanxiao was curious about the young man in front of her. She could vaguely sense that he had a complicated background the first time that she saw him, because she knew that Qilin Auction House rarely allowed outsiders in their back hall.

Chapter 87: Saint Laurent Academy (2)

When she saw Qi Meng’s respectful attitude toward him, Shen Yanxiao could already guess that he was possibly a young master of the Qilin Family. Since she still needed to collaborate with Qilin Auction House, she decided to not offend her partner.

Furthermore, it did not hurt anyone if she were to address him as a senior, as more friends meant more pathways. In any case, they were both students at the Saint Laurent Academy, and he might be a useful ally in the future.

Shen Yanxiao’s mind started to spin, and she started to assess his exploitation value with a simple two-sentence conversation. She then pondered about how she could squeeze him dry.

“You have been very good to our business, but it seemed like I haven’t gotten your name. I am Qi Xia from the Qilin Family. What is your name?” Qi Xia smiled and looked at Shen Yanxiao.

‘Qi Xia?’ Shen Yanxiao had learned about the other four aristocratic families from Shen Siyu. She had heard that the Qilin Family was the first family to confirm their next Family Head and the person that they had chosen as the heir was the young man who stood in front of her, Qi Xia.

It was said that Qi Xia’s talent in commercial trade could ‘insta-kill’ all the other merchants in the Longxuan Empire.

Shen Yanxiao no longer saw him as a mere handsome young man when she learned that his real identity was the Qilin Family’s future Family Head. What she saw was a walking gold mountain instead!

“Shen Jue.”

Shen Jue was the identity that Shen Feng had arranged for Shen Yanxiao to use when she enrolled in the Saint Laurent Academy. Only the Vermilion Bird Family knew about Shen Yanxiao’s recovery and because of the Vermilion Bird by her side, Shen Feng had also sealed off every single piece of

information about Shen Yanxiao. He even arranged for her to use the unremarkable identity of a younger member from another branch of the Vermillion Bird's family.

She was bound to meet Qi Xia again in the academy, and she knew exactly what she had to say to him.

"School will start in two days. Feel free to come to me if there's anything that you're not accustomed to in the academy." Qi Xia generously offered.

"Then, I'll have you thank you in advance." Shen Yanxiao decided not to be modest.

"Which division are you applying for?" Qi Xia asked with a smile.

"The Herbalist Division." Shen Yanxiao did not bother to conceal anything.

Qi Xia stared blankly for a moment and smiled soon after. "Herbalists are very popular. I look forward to seeing you when you've become an Advanced Herbalist in the future. When the time comes, do remember to give priority to the Qilin Auction House to sell your potions. I guarantee that we'd be able to give you the most satisfactory price."

"Naturally." Shen Yanxiao smiled in reply.

Both of them exchanged conventional greetings, and Qi Meng did not dare not say another word. He could not understand the reason behind his young master's generosity with the young customer. He already thought it was strange when Qi Xia had asked him to pay more attention to that customer. He even offered his help to the young customer at the academy. Qi Meng thought it was a little inconceivable.

Even though a majority of herbalists were influential figures that most would not even dare to approach, what kind of status did the Qilin Auction have? Many herbalists had wanted to work for them, but a junior herbalist could not even take a single step across the Qilin Auction House's threshold. The little customer was still so young and had yet to successfully enter the Herbalist Division, but the young master was already so polite toward him. It was quite different from his usual style.

Who would know how well the young customer would turn out in the future? Even if the young master had wanted to invest in his potential, was that not a little unreliable?

Qi Meng had lots that he wanted to say, but he did not dare to voice his opinions. He thought that it was better to stand at one side and to listen obediently.

Chapter 88: Saint Laurent Academy (3)

Two days went by very quickly and Shen Yanxiao was about to set off for Saint Laurent Academy. The two unruly kids, Shen Jiayi and Shen Jiawei, would set off on the same day too. They had enrolled in the academy's Magic and Battle Aura Division respectively a year ago. However, since they had yet to break through to the sixth rank, they had to stay at the outermost circle in the academy. The Herbalist Division that Shen Yanxiao had wanted to join was located at the core of Saint Laurent Academy, and it was some distance away from where they were headed. Shen Feng did not wish for Shen Yanxiao to attract any unwanted attention. Therefore, he had ordered the carriage that she was in to set off first.

The Saint Laurent Academy would accept new students every spring and autumn. It would always cause an upsurge in the Longxuan Empire during that period.

One would see many new students who wanted to enroll in the Saint Laurent Academy in spring. The carriages would always crowd the academy gates even though it had tens of meters of width. It would be so crowded that it was almost impossible for the students to go through the gate. The students would bustle with activities, similar to ants that were densely packed, as they walked around the public square of the Saint Laurent Academy.

“Hey, have you heard? The young master of the Black Tortoise Family, who came every year, is here again.” A few students who participated in the enrollment test were bored and had gathered together to gossip.

“He’s still unwilling to admit failure, how many years has it been? He should be sixteen this year, right? I remember that he had wanted to enroll for the Herbalist Division when he was fourteen years old. It has been two years, but he did not pass a single one of those four tests. This should be his fifth attempt, and he’s still unwilling to give up?”

“Well, I’m sure you know. Among the members from five great aristocratic families, that kid from the Black Tortoise Family is the only one who hadn’t successfully passed the test. I’m sure the Black Tortoise Family feels embarrassed and so, they made him repeat the test over and over again.”

“You’re right. I heard that the two youngest members of the Vermilion Bird had successfully entered the Magic and Battle Aura Division last year. Right now, only that little young master from the Black Tortoise Family is still rejected by the academy. Why is he taking things so hard? Any division would be good enough for him, but why does he insist on enrolling for the Herbalist Division? With Black Tortoise Family’s power, it isn’t impossible to get him a place in other divisions!”

“Who knows? However, it seems like none of the members from the five great aristocratic families had been able to enter the Herbalist Division. He’s probably thinking of an unconventional gambit?”

“Wait a minute... why do I remember as if there’s someone else other than that little young master who hadn’t entered Saint Laurent Academy yet?”

“Hahaha, you can’t possibly be talking about that humiliation of the Vermilion Bird Family? Stop joking. Who doesn’t know that she’s a good-for-nothing and an idiot too? She can’t even get into the subsidiary Magic and Battle Aura Division, let alone the other divisions. Don’t tell me that you expected the Vermilion Bird Family to send that idiot here to disgrace them?”

A group of some first-year students happily discussed the five great aristocratic families who had received the most attention in the Longxuan Empire. A petite figure silently stood beside them and eavesdropped on their gossips as a friendly smile surfaced on her unattractive face.

“Is it that hard to get into the Herbalist Division?” The certain someone who had eavesdropped on the gossip suddenly asked.

It was only then that the group had noticed the presence of a young lad who stood beside their group.

When did he get there? How come none of them had noticed him? Wasn’t his sense of presence a little too low?!

Chapter 89: Enrollment Test (1)

The group of youngsters looked at that slender little lad. As they appraised him, they found that he was unremarkable, and even his wardrobe was ordinary. Since he also had a small build, it was no wonder why no one noticed his presence.

From the way he looked, he seemed like a little boy from some random commoner family. Even if he had passed the enrollment test, they doubted that he would be able to afford the school fees.

Even though their families were not very prominent, they were still wealthy. That was why the group of youngsters was snobbish toward him as they thought that he was poor.

“That is a rather strange question. Who doesn’t know that the Herbalist Division of Saint Laurent Academy is famous for its difficult enrollment test? Not many can pass their tests, not even if they gave it their all. The Herbalist Division had trained many advanced herbalists for our empire, so how can it be a place that anyone and everyone can enter?” One of the young men had arrogantly said.

The Saint Laurent Academy was famous for its Herbalist Division. To a certain degree, it was much more challenging to train an herbalist as compared to other roles. One would require talent and powerful influences if one were to nurture an outstanding herbalist.

Before one could become a famous herbalist, they would require an astronomical sum of money to cover their expenses to produce potions. A wealthy family might not even be able to support a budding herbalist, let alone an ordinary family.

The accumulated expenses required for the apparatus and medicinal ingredients for the students to produce potions was definitely not something the ordinary folks would be able to afford.

Everyone knew that an herbalist would be able to earn good money, even if they were just a junior herbalist. However, they also know that the apprentice would need a considerable sum of money to transition to a junior herbalist. One could say that it was a profitable profession, but one could also describe it as a way to use one’s wealth to create a talent forcibly.

Another reason for the rarity of herbalists was because of the high expenses that it would incur. Therefore, most people would be intimidated by that.

‘The economic base determines the superstructure.’ That saying was practically tailor-made for the herbalist profession.

No wonder those group of youngsters looked down on the little lad. No matter how they looked at the situation, they thought that there was no way he would become one of their future classmates. There were no children from low-income families in the Saint Laurent Academy.

Even though the young lad did not seem poverty-stricken, his wardrobe was very similar to what their servants would wear. How could he possibly afford the school fees then?

As for someone like him that had overestimated themselves and asked about the Herbalist Division, they were simply a joke.

“Don’t tell me that you wanted to take the Herbalist Division enrollment test?” The group of youngsters sniggered as they looked at the little lad.

The young lad smiled at them and nodded. His genuine smile added a trace of gentleness to his common facial feature.

“Haha, this is the biggest joke that I’ve heard this year. Little kid, do you know how much is the annual fees for the Herbalist Division? You can’t even afford it even if you sold your entire family. You should get rid of your unrealistic hopes and get lost.”

The group of youngsters had openly mocked the little lad as they did not care about the opinions of a commoner.

Instead, the little boy, who still stood at the side as they mocked him, stroked his nose.

‘Can’t afford it even if I sold my entire family?’

‘I wonder how much I would get if I sold the Vermilion Bird’s main family and their other branches.’

Chapter 90: Enrollment Test (2)

That was right, the little lad that they had mocked was none other than Shen Yanxiao in disguise. Before she left for the academy, she had explicitly asked Shen Feng to change her luxurious carriage into a normal one. Her fancy clothing was also replaced with ordinary ones, and that had helped with her disguise as a young man. Even the attendant that Shen Feng wanted to assign to her had been left behind at the Vermilion Bird Family’s compound.

It was clear that Shen Yanxiao’s low-profile outfit had caused her to be looked down upon by the people at the academy.

If those young men knew that the person that they had ridiculed was the Vermilion Bird Family’s future Family Head, they probably would have peed in their pants.

Who would expect an heir of one of the five great aristocratic families would appear in the Saint Laurent Academy’s enrollment venue with commoner’s clothing?

However, Shen Yanxiao did not have the energy and time to care about those ignorant and narrow-minded kids. She merely treated their ridicule as an ignorant person’s foolishness. After she inquired about the Herbalist Division’s admission site, she immediately made her way there.

True to what those few young men had said, every student of the Herbalist Division was extremely wealthy. There seemed to be no exception. Every student at the admission site seemed to be dressed in fancy clothes, and their lavishness was even comparable to fashion shows in the modern era.

Shen Yanxiao could see jewels that glistered with luster and bright gold ornaments that could dazzle one’s eyes. It seemed as if those new students wished that they could cover themselves from head to toe with luxury items so that they could show the wealth of their family. They probably thought that they could use their wealth to train their talent as an herbalist.

When she saw those wealthy young men and women, Shen Yanxiao's hand... itched.

'Fat sheep! Fat sheep everywhere!'

To place a peerless thief goddess amongst a defenseless group of wealthy members of the younger generation was like to throw a starved rat into the rice pot.

Actions spoke louder than words. Shen Yanxiao immediately lowered her face and shuffled back and forth in the crowd of humans.

Since she decided to be excessively low-profile, no one at the admission site noticed the ugly duckling's presence. They continued to mind their own businesses as they waited for the test. Unfortunately, they did not notice that the pouches that they tied around their waist had disappeared as a certain heartless thief made her way around the site. Any luxury items they had on their wrists also disappeared without a trace.

Money was a good thing, and no one would object to more money.

The Herbalist Division's enrollment test was still ongoing, but the speed was practically negligible when there were over a thousand participants.

That had also given someone sufficient time to slaughter those fat sheep.

Shen Yanxiao made an effort to shuffle back and forth between the crowd. The interspatial ring was once again filled after it was depleted of the gold coins that were used to pay Qi Meng as advanced payment.

There was only one word to describe the return from a worthwhile journey, and that was 'great'!

It was already afternoon when the groups that waited at the Herbalist Division finally made some progress.

After Shen Yanxiao decided that she could no longer fit anything else into the ring. She then proceeded to stand obediently at the queue to wait for her turn at the test.

Not long after that, she moved to the front of the queue. Dozens of teachers from the academy were there to arrange the test for the students.

The teacher in charge of Shen Yanxiao's group was a serious-looking middle-aged man. He glanced at the new students before him and casually gathered about twenty students, Shen Yanxiao included.

"All of you, follow me inside."

After he spoke, he turned and walked toward the test venue.